Dear Friends of the St Joseph’s Community

Throughout this year I have heard the word ‘community’ mentioned very frequently in conversations about St Joseph’s and it is one of the strongest elements of the school that I have experienced in my time here. Whether it is within the school, as staff and students, or beyond, with parents or the wider Bombala community, that sense of community identity with St Joseph’s is something to treasure. The fundraising efforts of the School Community Council over last weekend are a prime example. Their significant efforts at the Bombala Races have helped raise funds that will directly benefit our students; our SCC meeting on 5 November will determine resource priorities for next year and beyond. Thank you to all the parents and friends who helped out last weekend.

At this time of year, with such a good spring, the sound of slashers and mowers is part of country life and true to form we heard the sound of mowers this week to maintain the safe playground environment that the students enjoy. Thanks to John Bedingfield and Daryl White, both ex-students of St Joseph’s, for transforming the playground and school surrounds earlier this week. We really appreciate your assistance!

An email I received on Monday this week complimented our Year 6 students on their spirit, enthusiasm and cooperation during last week’s Melbourne excursion. Congratulations to Baidon, Tayla and Jasper on their efforts and for being great ambassadors for the school. They summed up the excursion in 3 words: “Exciting, fun, tiring!” Excursions such as this have many indirect benefits apart from the actual sightseeing and tour visits. Additional benefits often come from the broader social interactions that occur, the need for personal organisation and greater independence as well as the resilience and stamina required to get through the 5 demanding days.

We welcomed our Kinder 2015 students again today and they are as enthusiastic as ever to get involved in the life of ‘big school’. Don’t forget the Book Parade tomorrow afternoon at 2 pm. We’re looking forward to students (and staff) coming as their favourite book character. I must admit that I’m having problems in this regard as the book I refer to most is my Macquarie Dictionary!

On Thursday 30th October you are invited to the District Year 6 Public Speaking competition to be held at Bombala High School at 6 pm for a light supper, followed by the speeches at 6.30 pm. The cost for guests is $10 per person and we would like to get as much support as possible behind our speaker, Tayla Ventry. If you wish to attend could you please contact the school as soon as possible.

May God bless you,

Phil Stubbs,
Acting Principal
Our year six students participated in the annual Year 6 Excursion to Melbourne last week. Their itinerary included visits to the Eureka Tower, Sky Deck, Old Melbourne Gaol, Melbourne Cricket Ground, the Art Gallery, Sovereign Hill the Aquatic Centre and more!

Thank you Baidon, Tayla and Jasper for the commendations on your representation of St Joey’s throughout this week.

This week we welcomed back the Kinder Class of 2015. Today’s focus was on numeracy. The students incorporated art into their numeracy session. Each child made their own fish and then as a group they counted the number of fish. They also continued with a library session and each child borrowed another book for the week. We look forward to welcoming the students back next week for an afternoon session which will be focused on Art.

As part of our preparation for re-accreditation we are seeking that all school keys be identified, returned and acquitted against the key register. If you currently have or previously had a key to the school could you please return it to the school or contact Mr Stubbs or Simone in the Office.

Thank you.