Dear Friends of the St Joseph’s Community

The new School Vision Statement, To Learn, To Challenge, To Transform, can have many different interpretations depending on particular circumstances. In a broader sense there was no better example of this than at the working bee on Tuesday evening this week. The many, many participants learnt what teamwork was all about as they approached the many tasks; some less skilled gardeners also learnt the difference between a weed and a shrub. The challenge component saw enormous amounts of energy expended in cutting, pruning, raking, cleaning and sweeping, and of course the transforming aspect is there in front of us to see – the school grounds look stunning after an incredible effort lasting just 2 hours! St Joseph’s may be the smallest school I have worked in but it has the biggest heart and the roll up of parents, staff and children was the best I have ever seen at a working bee! Thank you to everyone who helped out and to the SCC for coordinating the event and the BBQ afterwards.

A great supporter of St Joseph’s over many years, Mrs Elizabeth Moroney from Catholic Education, is retiring at the end of this year and we will be having a farewell morning tea for her on Wednesday next week to express our gratitude and to wish her all the best for the future. The morning tea will be at 11.15am in the Parish Room for parents, friends and parishioners and this will be followed by a special presentation by the students to Mrs Moroney on the assembly area. Elizabeth has continued her passionate support for the school this year and I have very much appreciated her wise counsel on several occasions; in fact, her lobbying on behalf of the school I am sure had an influence on the allocation of a third class for 2015. If you did not receive the letter about this event could you please confirm your attendance by contacting the school on Monday 24th.

There is now a brightly coloured box in the foyer to place your contributions in for the St Vinnies Christmas Appeal before 10 December. Non-perishable food items and Christmas treats will be collected and then distributed to those needy members of our community in time for Christmas.

Today we had a visit from the Director of CEO Facilities and Planning, Mr Jeff Yates, as well as an architect from Bega to discuss options for some shade structures and physical enhancement of our classrooms in the not too distant future so I am hoping to present some concept plans to the school community for discussion before too long.

With the end of the school year looming we are working on a new framework for the Graduation, Awards and Christmas celebrations so please mark Wednesday 10th December on your calendar as the St Joseph’s special evening from 6 pm. More information will be provided in coming weeks as preparations are confirmed. As you can imagine it is a very busy time for staff with reports, planning for 2015, setting up a new classroom and end of year celebrations all being part of the mix.

Don’t forget the Christmas Carols next Saturday evening (29th) at the railway from 7.30 pm with our singers presenting the very first item at the community gathering. All parents should have received the letter about this event and we are looking for as many students as possible to represent the school.

May God bless you,

Phil Stubbs,
Acting Principal

St Mary MacKillop (1871)
Working Bee

Wow, what a transformation!

Thank you to all the parents and students who assisted with Tuesday afternoon’s working bee, it has made a remarkable difference to visibility and presentation of our school.

Our School Vision Statement in action

With the end of the year approaching, we are focused also on 2015 to ensure that the teaching programs are sequential, relevant, compliant and collaborative. Mrs Shannon and Mr Bennett were involved all day today in developing Scope and Sequence plans for K-6 for 2015 to ensure that each of the 3 classes is meeting the requirements of the new Australian Curriculum and that classroom resource levels are satisfactory right from Day 1 next year on Wednesday 28th January.

Bombala Blue Heelers OzTag

Please note that the Bombala Blue Heelers Oztag Competition will commence 4.30pm Thursday 27th November 2014 on the Recreation Ground (opposite the Visitors Information Centre).

The first two weeks will be introduction sessions where ball skills and game development will occur.

It’s not too late to register your child. Contact Simone Hillyer 0411 597 686

St Vinnie’s Christmas Thanksgiving Drive

We have commenced a St Vinnie’s Christmas Thanksgiving drive.

Any non-perishable tinned or packaged food items, as well as Christmas treats, will be gratefully received in the boxes which are placed in each classrooms and the school entrance foyer. Items will be received up until 10 December 2014.

School Fee Reminder

A friendly reminder that Term 4 School Fees are now due.

If you are experiencing financial hardship please arrange a time to talk with Acting Principal, Phil Stubbs about possible options or payment plans available.