Dear Friends of the St Joseph’s Community

With Term 3 coming to an end next week we continue to enjoy very busy times at St Joseph’s. Tomorrow we have a ‘Mad Hair’ day, including a fundraising lunchtime BBQ organised by our school leaders, Tayla and Baidon. The funds raised will be going to the Cystic Fibrosis Association so we ask that students bring along a gold coin donation to show their support of this very worthy cause. Tomorrow will also be a chance to again welcome Mrs Elizabeth Moroney from the CEO to the school, prior to her retirement at the end of the year. Elizabeth has been a great supporter of St Joseph’s over many years; we will have a formal farewell for her in Term 4 to acknowledge her significant contribution to the school.

Next week is looking especially busy with our School Liturgy taking place on Wednesday morning followed by the School Assembly on Wednesday at 2 pm. No doubt all our students are also thinking about what to wear to the Disco on Thursday evening at 6 pm; the theme is the letter “P” so the possibilities are endless….. punk, pink, policeman, postman, polar bear, pop star…. or maybe a politician or principal!

All of the St Joseph’s staff has been busy over the last few weeks developing our School Vision and Mission Statements. A vision statement is a brief statement or phrase that guides a school in terms of what we aspire to do in all aspects of school life. While it can be expressed in few words, in practice it can have many layers of meaning; it also complements the school motto of ‘Grace and Justice’. The St Joseph’s Vision Statement that we have refined is:

To Learn
To Challenge
To Transform

The mission statement expands on the core ideas of the vision statement and explains more fully how our vision can come to fruition. A mission statement guides practices and the culture throughout the school and is a series of ongoing aspirations. The St Joseph’s Mission Statement that we have developed as a staff is:

At St Joseph’s we aspire to be a Catholic community in the spirit of St Mary MacKillop that challenges, transforms and learns together by:

- Encouraging and reflecting Gospel values
- Promoting and modelling respectful relationships with and between students, teachers, parents, parishioners and the wider community
- Providing a stimulating and challenging teaching and learning environment that addresses the diverse needs of our students
- Focusing on developing an inclusive, accepting and nurturing environment
- Building resilience, creativity, individuality and a sense of purpose in our children
- Providing a safe, secure and stable environment where our students can be guided in making and taking responsibility for decisions and can work towards realising their full potential

Please feel free to comment on this integral aspect of life at St Joseph’s and/or contact me to pass on your views.

May God bless you,

Phil Stubbs, Acting Principal
Our Impressive Public Speakers

Last Friday, two of our students, Tayla Ventry and Jaimie Farrell, competed in the Archdiocesan Southern Region Stage 3 Public Speaking Competition in Cooma. They were great ambassadors for the school and both presented speeches of the highest order. The adjudicator, who has judged public speaking for more than 20 years, particularly commended St Joseph's for the standard of Tayla and Jaimie's public performance. In fact, Jaimie was runner-up in the Impromptu Speech section of the very competitive Premier Division. Well done girls!

Infants - Literacy

The Infants class completed their first publishing session last Friday. Each student chose one piece of writing to take to the publishing stage. They were allowed to be as creative as they liked with the presentation of their work and many options were given to them. A few students even chose to use a typewriter. We had some very interesting and entertaining conversations about typewriters and many students were quite shocked at how they worked and how hard errors were to fix. We look forward to sharing some of the students published pieces at the assembly next week.

Tissue Box - Reminder

St Joey’s has exhausted our supply of tissues. We kindly request that each student donate a box of tissues to restock the cupboard.

Thank you to those families who have already brought in a box.

Have you got some room in your Trailer?

We have been doing some early pruning of trees in the upper playground and there are a couple of piles of cuttings that we would like to get rid of from along the side fence and in the far back corner of the playground. If you can help in getting rid of the cuttings please contact the school.

Reminder: Instagram

St Joey’s has just opened up our Instagram account. Please follow us to keep up to date with all that is happening. Account Name: stjoeys_bombala