Dear Parents, Children and Friends,

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS
Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent. It is a season of penance, reflection and fasting which prepares us for the resurrection of Christ on Easter Sunday.

During these days of Lent we are called to commit ourselves to renewing our faith and spiritual life. We are called to help others and try to make a difference to our family, ourselves and our world. The school community, with the children of St Mary's, will celebrate mass on Wednesday morning at All Hallows at 9.30am to mark Ash Wednesday. All are welcome to attend.

THE WITNESS
I was among the crowd
Who followed Jesus up the hill -
I watched the soldiers nail Him to His cross...
And I saw Mary weeping when they crucified her son,
I viewed firsthand the anguish of her loss...
I was one of many who looked up into His eyes,
expecting to see nothing there but grief...
But when His gentle gaze met mine,
it struck me like a blow that this Man was no ordinary thief...
I stood by and listened as He gasped His final words -
I heard no blame or anger in His voice...
Instead, He cried, “Forgive them!”
And then suddenly I knew that He was hanging there by His own choice...
I'll never know for certain what He whispered at the end,
when all His agony was finally through...
But I believe, with all my heart, I heard the Savior say,
“My child, I lived and now I die - for you…”

BJ Hoff

MEET AND GREET FAMILY GET TOGETHER
This Sunday is our annual Meet & Greet for our school community. The P&F have a wonderful afternoon of interactive events planned for parents and children, as well as a meal to share and drinks for sale all afternoon. The event takes place between 4-6pm and will be held on the oval. Please bring your picnic blanket and fold up chairs. I look forward to seeing you all there! RSVP by Thursday please.

HOMEWORK CLUB
We continue to run Homework Club in the Library three times per week. The Homework Club is open to all children across the school from Year 1 to Year 6 and is an opportunity for children to complete their homework in a quiet, supportive environment. It is run on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoon from 3.00pm to 3.30pm. Each session will be staffed by Teachers and Education Assistants who have generously donated their time to assist the children. I look forward to seeing your children there.

ANNIVERSARY FOR THE NATIONAL APOLOGY TO THE STOLEN GENERATION
Last Friday 13 February was the Anniversary of the National Apology to the Stolen Generations. The term ‘Stolen Generations’ refers to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians who were forcibly removed, as children, from their families and communities by government, welfare or church authorities and placed into institutional care or with non-Indigenous foster families, based solely on their race alone. For many of the children, removal meant that they lost all connection to family, traditional land, culture and language and were taken to homes and institutions where they were often abused, neglected and unloved. We continue to pray for them and we remember and acknowledge the difficulties they experienced.

Keep in Our Prayers
Please pray for members of our community who are sick or in need or our prayerful support:
♦ Mrs Hoyne and family as her mother passed away recently.

PUPIL FREE DAYS 2015
Term 2
20th April

Term 3
20th July
17th August
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY
Our teachers and education assistants joined with staff from St Mary's Kalgoorlie, Our Lady Star of the Sea Esperance and St Joseph's Southern Cross to take part in a regional conference entitled GEMS: A Quest for Excellence. The first day focused on continuing to explore and develop the role of ICT in engaging children and in improving teaching and learning through the use of Google Apps for Education. This is an area we continue to explore and develop as a school.

Our second day saw a number of presenters from the Catholic Education Office present a variety of session on Education, Health and Wellbeing, Student Engagement, Essential Elements of the Numeracy Block and Discipleship and Christian Service. Both days were informed by latest pedagogical practice, were empowering and highly reflective.

Key learnings from these two days can be found on our Twitter page: @stjosephboulder.

NEW SCHOOL JUMPERS
Our lovely new ‘V’ neck school jumpers are for sale in the uniform shop at a cost of $55.00. The Uniform Shop is currently offering families the opportunity to laybuy this item over the term in preparation for the arrival of the cooler weather. Should you wish to laybuy a jumper, please see Mrs King or Mrs Miller.

Please be mindful that the knitted jumper is the only jumper that can be worn with the formal school summer or winter uniform. The current zip up sport jacket is to be worn with the sport uniform only.

May God bless our school and those within it.

Mrs Miranda Swann
Principal

CURRICULUM NEWS

MATHLETICS
Students from Pre-primary to Year Six should now have their 2015 log in details for Mathletics. It is important that these remain in a safe place (as directed by your child’s teacher) and that the details remain private. This is a fantastic learning tool that allows students to revise concepts learnt in class in an engaging way that is differentiated to suit the needs of each learner.

LITERACY PRO
The rollover for Litearacy Pro (formerly Lexile) is now complete, for the majority of Literacy Pro users. Students who are reading above level 30 have, or will soon have, access to Literacy Pro for the new school year, after completing their term one placement test. This reading programme helps to motivate, monitor and encourage independent readers with a focus on comprehension.

We want our children to be able to choose books that they will enjoy reading and understand what they read. Understanding what you are reading creates satisfaction and leads to a love of reading. To achieve this it is vital the children choose books that are age appropriate and are at the right level of difficulty. Literacy Pro matches books with students, through the completion of a termly placement test, which provides each student with a Literacy Pro level. This level relates to the complexity of the concept, vocab, sentences, grammar etc in the book.

Students are expected to complete a minimum of one Literacy Pro quiz every fortnight and will borrow their book during class library time.

Have a great week,

Mr Luke Shaw
Assistant Principal - Curriculum
SHROVE TUESDAY

Shrove Tuesday is the day before Lent starts: the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday. It's a day of penitence, to clean the soul, and a day of celebration as the last chance to feast before Lent begins.

Shrove Tuesday is sometimes called Pancake Day after the fried batter recipe traditionally eaten on this day. To ensure that no food was wasted, families would have a feast on the shriving Tuesday, and eat up all the foods that wouldn't last the forty days of Lent without going off.

The need to eat up the fats gave rise to the French name Mardi Gras ('fat Tuesday'). Pancakes became associated with Shrove Tuesday as they were a dish that could use up all the eggs, fats and milk in the house with just the addition of flour.

But there’s more to Shrove Tuesday than pigging out on pancakes or taking part in a public pancake race. The pancakes themselves are part of an ancient custom with deeply religious roots.

ASH WEDNESDAY

On Wednesday 18th February we begin the church season of Lent. Students from Pre-Primary to Year Three will be catching the bus and celebrating this occasion at St Mary’s at 10.00am, while all students from Years Four to Six will attend Mass at All Hallows Church, beginning at 9.30am. All are invited to join us for these two events.

Mrs Tanya Stafford
Assistant Principal - Religious Education

IPAD PARENT WORKSHOP

We will be holding an iPad Parent Workshop in the Year Four classroom on Wednesday 25th February from 4.30-5.30pm for parents and students in Years 4-6.

The purpose of this workshop is to provide parents with support and a greater understanding of how the iPad is used in our classroom as a creative learning tool. We will also provide time for you to ask any questions relating to your child’s iPad and/or use of apps.

This is an informal event where we will be using a number of apps that your child has used in class. Parents are invited to bring their child along to the workshop, in order to collaborate when creating. This workshop is for parents and students in Years 4-6 only; please do not bring siblings.

Lord God,
Help me to strive for peace, strength and courage in my life.
To set priorities and to allow my heart and soul to be warmed by your tenderness and love.
Amen

I feel that at times we often get overwhelmed and caught up in moments that, when put in to perspective, are really quite insignificant. I know myself that I often need to pause, take a breathe and re-evaluate what my priorities really should be. Life is too short!

Lara Miller
Admin Officer

A philosophy professor stood before his class and had some items in front of him. When class began, wordlessly he picked up a large empty mayonnaise jar and proceeded to fill it with rocks right to the top, rocks about two inches in diameter. He then asked the students if the jar was full? They agreed that it was.

So the professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them in to the jar. He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles, of course, rolled into the open areas between the rocks. The students laughed. He asked his students again if the jar was full? They agreed that yes, it was.

The professor then picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. "Now," said the professor, "I want you to recognize that this is your life. The rocks are the important things – your family, your partner, your health, your children - anything that is so important to you that if it were lost, you would be nearly destroyed. The pebbles are the other things in life that matter, but on a smaller scale. The pebbles represent things like your job, your house, your car. The sand is everything else. The small stuff.”

"If you put the sand or the pebbles into the jar first, there is no room, for the rocks. The same goes for your life. If you spend all your energy and time on the small stuff, material things, you will never have room for the things that are truly most important.”

"Pay attention to the things that are critical in your life. Play with your children. Take your partner out dancing. There will always be time to go to work, clean the house, give a dinner party and fix the disposal.” Take care of the rocks first - the things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just pebbles and sand.”
**Week 2 Merit Award Winners**

**Pre Primary**
- Tahnee Zorzi

**Year 1**
- Ava Gregg

**Year 2**
- Hana O’Halloran

**Year 3**
- Hunter Dadd

**Year 4**
- Isabella Farley

**Year 5**
- Samara Hansen

**Year 6**
- Jacob Wren

**SWIMMING PRACTICE YRS 4-6**

We will be holding swimming practice sessions at the Oasis Recreation Centre in preparation for the swimming carnival and the inter-school swimming.

The dates and times are: **7:00-7:30am**
- Thursday 19th Feb
- Thursday 26th Feb
- Tuesday 3rd March
- Thursday 5th March
- Thursday 12th March
- Tuesday 17th March
- Monday 23rd March
- Tuesday 24th March

Please note that these are swimming SESSIONS, not lessons. **Parents need to remain on the premises throughout the sessions.** I will be there as a duty of care too.

Kelly Woolley
Physical Education Teacher

**TRIPLE P GROUP - POSITIVE PARENTING PROGRAM**

The next round of Positive Parenting Programs commences on Wednesday 4 March 2015.

The program aims to enrich your parent/child relationship, explore effective discipline strategies and offer individual help with specific issues in a small group setting.

Topics include positive parenting, promoting development, managing misbehaviour and survival tips for those tricky situations.

There is no cost to attend, however, bookings are essential. A crèche is available by arrangement.

For more information or to register, please contact Kim Cooper on 9080 8200

**HOMESWORK CLUB**

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday
3.00pm – 3.30pm in the Library

**CANTEEN NEWS**

**WEDNESDAY SPECIAL**

- Fish & Chips $5.00
- Weekly Special Pizza sub & juice box $5.00

**VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED FOR THE CANTEEN.**

**LIBRARY NEWS**

We are looking for parent helpers to assist in a variety of roles in the library. Please see Chantal in the Library if you are interested.

**SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB**

Orders for the Scholastic Book Club are due Wednesday 18th February.

**30 For 30**

Does your child have a birthday coming up or any special occasions? Don’t have the time to make cakes?

Celebrate in style with home made cup cakes designed by the canteen.

**30 decorated cup cakes for $30!!!**

We need one weeks notice.

Please place your orders with Marie at the canteen.

**P&F NEWS**

The first P&F event of the year is our annual ‘Meet and Greet’ afternoon being held on **Sunday 22nd February from 4pm - 6pm.** We will be cooking a BBQ for you to enjoy, there will be outdoors games set up and bouncy castles! It is a great chance for all St Josephs families to get together and share an afternoon of fun. As this is a school event, we ask that you refrain from bringing alcohol to school. We look forward to seeing you there!

Have you seen our wonderful school cookbooks? We have a limited number available for sale for $20. Please see the front office for details.
ST. JOE’S KALGOORLIE SOCCER CLUB INC

AGM

Friday 20 February 2015

At

St Joseph’s School Kamballie Hall

Commencing

3.15pm

All Committee positions are vacant!
New committee members needed!!!!!!

Come along and join our Committee and be part of your child’s football club.

We Welcome All Old & New Players, Parents & Carers!
Kids testing your patience and limits? Struggling to get them to listen?

**Brad Williams from Behaviour Tonics** is visiting Kalgoorlie and will be running the very popular **1-2-3 Magic and Emotion Coaching Parent Course**. This is a flexible and effective approach to discipline and is rated highly by participants. It is full of information, tips & practical strategies’...delivered in Brad’s humorous and ‘down to earth’ way, parents actually enjoy it...and there’s plenty of opportunity to ask questions. Also, you don’t have to have ‘naughty’ kids to benefit from this course. Places are limited.

**When:** Mon 16th & Wed 18th March.  
**Time:** 6.30 to 9.15pm.  
**Where:** South Kalgoorlie PS, Lionel St.  
**Fee:** $120 for one person OR $190 for a couple.  
**Register online at behaviourtonics.com.au**

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**Getting Organised and Resilience Parent Workshop on Monday 23rd February**  
**5pm in the Library**

Tips to help your child/children to be organised…

- Allowing your child to pack their own school bag in the morning - Have I packed my ....
- Having your child carry their own school bag and organise their belongings themselves at the start of the school day e.g. unpack their lunch box and water bottle.
- Allow your child to experience being unorganised and learning from their mistake in line with our core value 'We accept and learn from our mistakes'.
- Create organisational goals with your child/ren.
- Allow your child the time to show you the items they need for their beginning lesson and celebrate their organisation when they show improvement.

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- Allow your child the time to show you the items they need for their beginning lesson and celebrate their organisation when they show improvement.
Are you wondering whether or not to put up your hand to join the P&F Association/Parent Group? Wondering what the benefit to your child might be?

Significant research over the past 40 years shows clearly and consistently that if you are involved/engaged in your child’s education, that the benefits will include:

- Improved school readiness
- Higher academic achievement
- Higher graduation rates
- Greater ability for your child to self-regulate their behaviour
- Better social skills
- Enhanced student wellbeing
- More consistent completion of homework
- Better transitions to high school and beyond
- More realistic planning for the future
- Better attitude towards school
- Better attendance
- Higher retention rates

Hopefully you will agree that even one of these outcomes is worthwhile attending a meeting for. Come along and help to build a positive, vibrant community at your school and watch your child reap the benefits!