Dear Parents,

To all new and existing families, a very warm welcome to the 2017 school year. Thank you for choosing the beautiful community of St Joseph’s to educate your precious children and thank you also for the way you have welcomed myself and my family to St Joseph’s, the Sacred Heart Parish and the local area. We feel truly blessed to be a part of each of these communities.

It was with sadness that we farewelled Michelle Brumwell who made the very difficult decision in the New Year to move to Brisbane to continue her Education Studies full time. It was lovely for all of us to be able to say goodbye to Michelle and Heidi in person. Following Michelle’s resignation, we were very fortunate to be able to welcome Julie Green as our Prep Assistant. Julie brings great enthusiasm and many years of experience in both the early childhood field and the local area to her role and provides a lovely complement to our wonderful graduate teacher Chiara Koury.

We also continue to hold in our thoughts and prayers the Mammino family as they farewelled Anthony Mammino in the parish on the 25th January. Anthony touched the lives of so many in this community and we are particularly mindful of his daughter Amba Randall and his cousin Carol Marvell who are both valuable members of our staff. May Anthony’s inspiring legacy continue to live on through this community and his very loving family.

This year as a school we will be giving a special focus to the area of writing. Research continuously reinforces the link between good readers and writers – the more children read and are read to, the higher their chances of becoming proficient writers. Similarly, the more children write the faster their writing progresses.

Each of the children (including our Prep students) have created a learning journal in which they identify and record one goal each morning that they are going to make a conscious effort to strive for. They also commit to paper their own measure of success. In the afternoon, the students reflect on how far they have come in the day in working towards that personal goal. The children decide what the goal will be – personal, social, emotional, academic or spiritual and they each appreciate that some goals take time to fully achieve. The practise though is important – to be goal orientated, reflective learners who share ownership for their learning. Ask your child about the goals they have been setting for themselves and how these goals are progressing.

Kind Regards,

Petrea Hass
Newsletters
School newsletters will be emailed to parents, usually on Monday of each week. If you desire a hardcopy and do not have access to a personal printer, please contact the office to make arrangements.

We are always happy and pleased to include the personal achievement of students (past and present) in the newsletter. We rely on parents to inform us of these details and request that it be put in writing to ensure accuracy. We need articles/information for inclusion in the newsletter by the previous Friday afternoon.

School Times
School begins each day at 8:35am. Drop off can be any time after 8:15am (morning supervision begins at this time). Pick up time is 2:50pm.

Student Information Update
Please notify the office if you have changed your address, email, phone numbers or emergency contacts.

Instrumental Music
Strings instrumental music lessons will begin with Beeke this Thursday, the 2nd of February.

School Banking
School banking will be on Wednesdays this year. Please ensure that your child’s banking is handed into the office on their arrival at school. Packs are available for any new students who wish to join School Banking. Please enquire at the office. The Banking Rewards program will be running again with some great new rewards to collect.

Term 1 Swimming
Swimming lessons begin this Friday, 3rd February and continue on the following Mondays and Fridays as listed below. Friday lessons will begin at 11:45am. 1/2 will go first, then 3/4 followed by 5/6. All lessons will run for 40 minutes. Monday lessons will commence at 12pm.

| Mon 6th Feb  | Fri 10th Feb |
| Mon 13th Feb | Fri 17th Feb |
| Mon 20th Feb | Not 24th Feb |
| Mon 27th Feb | Fri 3rd March |

Mon 6th March - St Joseph’s Swimming Carnival

Tennis
Due to the resurfacing of the multi-purpose court, Mr Banner will commence tennis lessons on Thursday, 23rd February. If you would like your child/children to have tennis lessons, please contact the school office.

Special Awards Recipients
During the Graduation dinner of 2016, the special awards recipients were announced. These award categories align with the school’s motto – Christian Values, Catholic Family and Individual Growth. The recipient of each award had their name inscribed on the perpetual shield that remains at school, received a framed certificate to keep and received a $75 cash prize from Isis Central Mill and St Joseph’s School. Our sincerest thanks to Isis Central Mill for this community sponsorship.

2016 Recipients were:
Catholic Family  – Bridget Woodman
Christian Values  – Teagan Hass
Individual Growth – Tarrian Breznikar
Welcome BBQ & Parent Information Evening.
On Wednesday, 8th February, parents and carers are invited to a welcome BBQ, followed by a parent information evening. The BBQ is a social opportunity to meet and welcome new families.

The purpose of the information evening is for all parents to meet their child’s teacher, see the classroom and hear about some of the expectations each teacher has for their students. One of the greatest influences in your child's learning progress is you, the parent. The more interest you show in what is happening at school, the more influence you have on your child’s learning.

A complimentary sausage sizzle will commence at 5:00pm. All parents will be invited to hear from the Principal at 5:45pm in the hall. Parents and carers are then invited to attend the classroom information session. Each class teacher will run two sessions: Session 1 is from 6:00pm; Session 2 is from 6:30pm. Each session is the same. This gives parents and carers who have children in more than one class the opportunity to visit each class.

School Mass – 9am Friday 3 February
All families are invited to join our school in the church for our Welcoming Mass at 9am this Friday. All new students and staff will be presented with a small El Salvadorian Crucifix and a certificate of welcome.

Week 1, Term 1, 2017 – A Great Start
Student of the Week

Sophie Bretherton 2\textsuperscript{nd} Jan
Slater Wilkin 8\textsuperscript{th} Jan
Keanu Punch 11\textsuperscript{th} Jan
Xavier Freeman 18\textsuperscript{th} Jan
Nadia Bodnar 23\textsuperscript{rd} Jan
Asha Sullivan 23\textsuperscript{rd} Jan

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<th>CHRISTIAN VALUES</th>
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<th>INDIVIDUAL GROWTH</th>
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<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Ellouise Green</td>
<td>Jessica Holthouse</td>
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<td>Yr 1/2</td>
<td>Jerome Breznikar</td>
<td>Raymond Sales</td>
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<td>Yr 3/4</td>
<td>Deon Kennedy</td>
<td>Nathan McHugh</td>
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<td>Yr 5/6</td>
<td>Luke Maroney</td>
<td>Manu Gill</td>
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Enhance Family Day Care
Enhance Family Day Care (Isis Family Day Care) have vacancies for 2017 in Childers and surrounding areas. Our early childhood educators are qualified and experienced, offering developmental programs for children’s learning, through play experiences, in a home environment with small groups of children. All government subsidies including CCB & CCR are available as we are an Approved Early Childhood Education and Care service. If you are needing high quality education and care for your children this year, please contact Leanne in the office on - 4126 2856.

Karate 4 Kids

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