

st JOSEPH'S SCHOOL Mernda

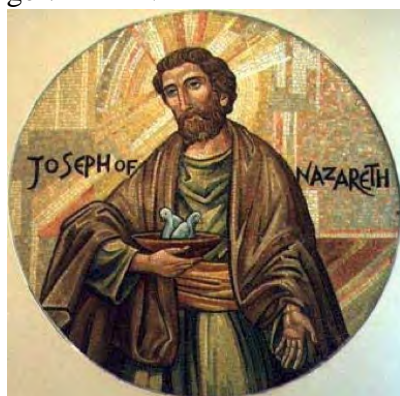
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We Reflect:

United in Christ

Last week we celebrate the feasts of St Patrick and St Joseph. We reflect on St Patrick, his office as bishop and teacher and we celebrate the Irish Catholic heritage of the Catholic Church in Australia. We also remember the great love, protection and self-sacrifice of St Joseph, husband of Mary and foster father of Jesus. Both saints found their purpose and strength in the service of Christ. May our lives be in deep communion with Christ.

We pray: Christ be with me: Christ within me: Christ behind me: Christ before me: Christ beside me: Christ to win me: Christ to comfort and restore me: Christ beneath me: Christ above me: Christ in quiet: Christ in danger: Christ in the hearts of all who love me: Christ in the mouth of friend and stranger. AMEN




2017 Important March/April Dates

MARCH

- 1st – Ash Wednesday 9:15am.
- 1st – 3rd -Year 5 and 6 Camp.
- Thursday 2nd – Celebration of Learning lead by Year 3
- Friday 3rd Interschool sports
- Monday 6th – Preps full time
- Tuesday 7th – Curriculum night – Nazareth Centre
- Wednesday 8th National Children's Theatre Incursion.
- Friday 10th - Interschool sports
- Friday 17th – St Patrick's Day
- Friday 17th - Interschool sports
- Thursday 23rd - 9:15am Mass and Family Day St Joseph's
- Friday 24th Interschool sports.
- Monday 27th – School Photos
- Wednesday 29th –
- Friday 31st – Station of the Cross 12:15am
- Friday 31st – Term one Ends

APRIL

- Wed 19th -Students start Term 2
- Sun 23rd – Presentation of 'Our Father.
- Tues 25th –Anzac Day
- Fri 28th – Volleyball & tennis
- Sun 30th – Presentation of 'Our Father'



Principal's Message

Dear St. Joseph's Community,

It is just incredible that the Term One is slowly drawing to a close and we still have some important events before we see the end of Term One.

St. Joseph's Feast Day was celebrated on Tuesday 21st March. This was a time for our school community to reflect upon our Patron: Saint Joseph. He is viewed as a father, mentor and a 'just man' of integrity and faith. We uphold these dispositions as we strive to be like him as a father and protector of our Lord Jesus Christ. He is our inspiration as a school community. Teachers and students were immersed in activities throughout Tuesday with the day ending in giving thanks by celebrating Mass. It was a wonderful way to acknowledge and recognize the spirituality of our school. Please feel free to wander through the Learning Villages and view the work the children have created.

Thank you to Antoinetta and Julie Ann, our school councillors, who explored anxiety in children last Wednesday in a workshop for parents. Fearful and anxious behaviour is common in children and most learn to cope with this. Extra help may be required if anxiety stops children participating in events at school or at home or if this proportion seems to outweigh issues in their lives. Workshops similar to this will be offered to the school community throughout the year. We will advertise these events closer to the date so watch this space.

Don't forget that on **Monday 27th March School Photos** will take place throughout the day. All children are required to wear their full school uniform.

To end our first Term children will take part in the **Stations of the Cross on Friday 31st March**. This is a most reverent time and everyone throughout our community is most welcome to attend. The Stations will be a prayerful event and parents are invited to walk through the school as the children dramatise each station.

I will be going on long service leave for the first few weeks of Term 2. Please be aware that Cheryl will be Acting Principal and Mat will be Acting Deputy. I place great faith and care in these people to guard and guide our community. **Please be aware that students commence school for Term 2 on Wednesday 19th April**. Our staff will be immersed in a professional learning day on Tuesday 18th April with other schools focussing on learning and teaching. We will be sharing our journey of learning over the last few years.

Thank you to all our community, students, teachers, parents and careers, for a productive and exciting start to the year of Walking Forward Together at St. Joseph's. I wish you all a safe and relaxing holiday and a Blessed Easter.

Looking forward to walking with you in partnership during Term Two.

Marita Richardson

EDUCATION IN FAITH

It has been quite a busy few weeks in Religious Education. Last week was Catholic Education Week. During this time, Gen, myself and our young leaders, Mariana, Charlotte, Madeleine, Alana, Mary, Zoe, Indiana, and our artists: Charlie and Shaun had the opportunity to attend St Patrick's Day Mass at the Cathedral. Our School Captains, Mariana and Charlotte were specially invited to accompany the VIP guests. We then went onto Treasury Gardens for some entertainment, followed by a visit to Catholic Leadership Centre, to view the artistic work of our students. Charlie Matheson was presented with the 'Serra Portraiture' award on Sunday at the Catholic Leadership Centre.



St Patrick's Day is closely followed by St Joseph's feast Day. This was a great occasion to celebrate our Patron Saint with a day of festivities and Mass. As St Joseph was known to be a carpenter a group of students worked with John Knee, our maintenance officer to construct a wooded xylophone: which is positioned in the Discovery Garden. Another aspect of the day was listening to parishioners talk to the students about life in the St Joseph's Community. For more information and photos please go to Twitter – @StJosephsMernda



LEARNING AND TEACHING

Literacy: Writing at Home

“When parents and educators collaborate to assist children’s reading and writing, children benefit.”
(Primary English Teaching Association Australia)

Encourage your child to write by providing writing materials in a special box or container. Include paper in various colours, shapes and sizes, scrapbooks and notebooks, together with items such as textas, coloured pencils, crayons, glitter pens, etc. Such items can be purchased at discount stores at reasonable prices.

Provide opportunities for your child to write shopping lists, letters, emails, cards, and notes, as well as writing stories and diary writing. Write notes and letters to your child and ask for a reply in writing. Leave notes for each other (post-it notes are great for this); send messages in your child’s lunchbox. The list of possibilities is endless and is only limited by your imagination. Be a writing role model for your child.

Children engage best when the learning is relevant and meaningful. Writing for a purpose is better than “writing for the sake of writing”. *Have fun and happy writing!*

On Wednesday 15th March we commenced our workshops ‘Walking With Our Parents’ in Literacy and Numeracy. These were held in the Nazareth Centre and were well attended. Karen and Rod offered many ideas and strategies about engagement and support with English and Mathematics. Future relevant sessions will be offered, so make sure you enter the dates in your diaries.





Numeracy at Home

Sincere thanks to those that were able to make it to the 'Walking with Our Parents' Mathematics workshop. It was a great opportunity to explore some strategies on how to best assist your children at home with Maths.

Also what a fantastic response to last week's quizzes. The boxes were full of entries and prizes were awarded to the following students:

Purple – Quiz answer was \$100. Congratulations to Jakob Steinhauser and Agnes Thomas.

Green - Quiz answer was 24. Congratulations to Chelsea Smith, Panni Pakay and Chelsea Butterworth.

Blue – Quiz answer was 11.45am. Congratulations to Angus Whitford and Felicity Ramadge.

This challenge quiz for BLUE VILLAGE

First name: _____ Surname: _____ Year level: _____

Frank mows lawns for extra money. If he mows 5 lawns in one hour and has 30 lawns to mow, how long will it take him to mow all of them?

Answer: _____

This challenge quiz for GREEN VILLAGE

First name: _____ Surname: _____ Year level: _____

Lia's car broke and she used \$111 from her savings to have it repaired. After that, she had \$594 left in savings.

How much money did Lia have saved before her car broke?

Answer: _____

This challenge quiz for PURPLE VILLAGE (PREP)

First name: _____ Surname: _____ Year level: PREP _____

Starting at 0, write as many numbers (in order) as you can:

Answer: 0

This challenge quiz for PURPLE VILLAGE (YEAR 1)

First name: _____ Surname: _____ Year level: 1 _____

How many hundreds, tens and ones are there in the number:

Answer: 486 = _____ hundreds _____ tens _____ ones

Performing Arts

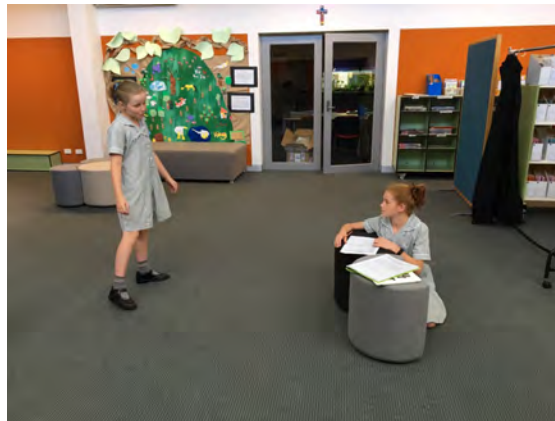
Recently, we were excited and entertained by the National Theatre for Children, who presented 'The Water Pirates of Neverland - A Boatload of Trouble'. Two talented actors transformed themselves into various characters, engaging the audience with their body gesture, facial expression and sending a message home about practical ways in which we can conserve water.

The detailed stage and backdrop set the scene for an informative story. The costumes and props enhanced the characters and kept us entertained!

Afterwards, many students worked in their Studios unpacking ideas and collaboratively completing tasks using their 'Neverland Student Workbooks'.



Drama Club is an extra – curricular activity for our St Joseph's students to further extend their dramatic skills. Deb.C opens the galleria during lunchtime for those students who wish to extend and 'stretch' their performance abilities.



Visual Arts



As an extra- curricular activity the Visual Arts Studio will be opened each Tuesday during the first half of lunch-time. Students are encouraged to come in and work on personal projects, or work on unfinished pieces. Due to amount of space numbers will be limited.



St Joseph's School Choir has been busily training their vocal chords. The first public display of their beautiful singing was at the St Joseph feast day Mass. The celebration was enhanced by the beautiful sound of our choir. Luisa invites students from Blue Village, as an extra curricular activity, to meet on Wednesdays at 11:10am

Fitness Program

This term the Physical Education Department has been running an extra curricular activity every Thursday morning at school.

This program was designed to improve the sporting capability of the school and a chance for parents to join students in a free morning fitness class. The training has consisted of both running and body weight circuits and has been a great opportunity for parents and students to learn how easy it is to keep fit. Our future directions is to keep parents informed with 'quick fitness tips' to do with their child.

Sport



On the 24th of March St Joseph's sports teams versed the Mill Park Lakes and it was our last game for the season. Everyone did a great job and gave it their best; the girls soccer unfortunately lost and the scores were 6-0 and the boys also lost and the scores were 1-10. Overall, we believe we have come so far in the competition and our girls and boys have improved so much and must be congratulated.

The cricket sports team also versed Mill Park Lakes; the girls won. The scores were 85-33 and the boys lost 91-99. Well done to our cricket teams for showing great sportsmanship and always giving it there best! We look forward to term 2 and competing it our new sports Netball and Football.

Marissa (grade 6 sport captain)

DISPOSITION AWARDS

As part of our Dispostional Curriculum we will be acknowledging children who have shown these dispositions of Respect, Curious, Resilient, Self Managing, Creative and Reflective during our Celebration of Learning.

PRINCIPAL'S AWARD - YEAR 5 JAMES

The following children from Blue Village are:

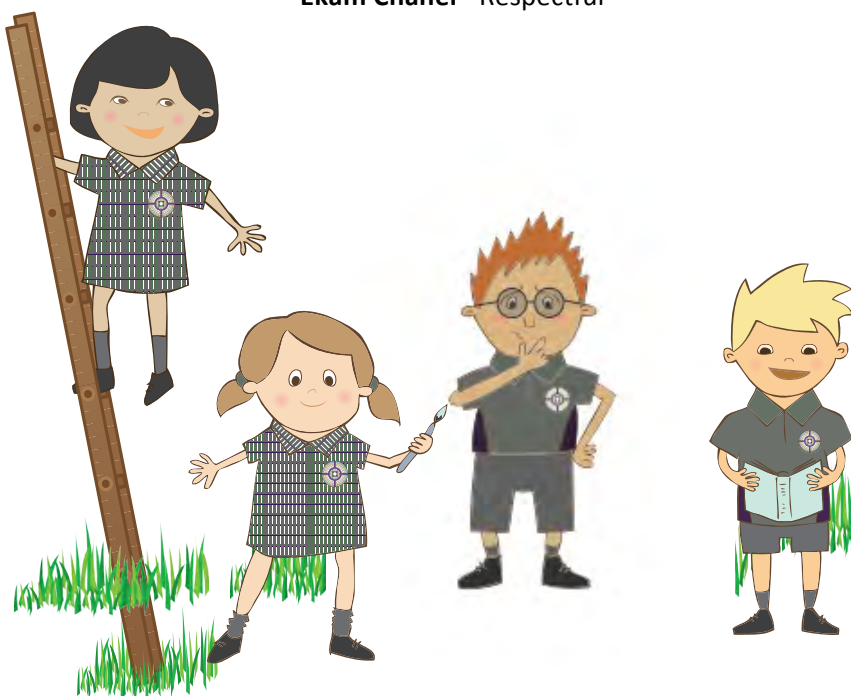
Kiara Merluzzo– Self Managing
Charlotte Beadle – Respectful
Katelyn Rankin – Respectful
Riley McBrien – Self- Managing
Baneet Kaur - Reflective

The following children from Green Village are:

Ryoni Mission– Creative
Panni Pakay – Resilient
Will Paino– Reflective
Mikayla Merluzzo – Self Managing
Chelsea Smith – Curious
Duke Wimalaratna– Respectful

The following children from Purple Village are:

Holly Middleton– Creativity
Aarnav Pannu– Self Managing
Talia Alderson– Respectful
Jakob Steinhauser – Reflective
Ekam Chahel - Respectful



Congratulations for setting a wonderful example to our community.



COMMUNITY

Easter Raffle

As we are coming to the end of Term and Easter is closer to the start of Term 2 this year, we have decided to hold and draw our Easter raffle on Thursday 27th April at our first Celebration Of Learning for Term 2. We are seeking donations from families to go towards our Easter raffle. Donations will be accepted from today until Thursday 20th April.

Raffle tickets will be issued on Friday 21st April with prizes on display for families to view. Your support in fundraising for the school is greatly appreciated and acknowledged by the students of St Joseph's. We ask that all donations be left at the office.

Parents and Friends / Community Committee

A special ThankYou to all the students, families and Learning Advisors that generously gave up their time on Saturday to assist in the Bunnings Barbeque. The Barbeque raise \$1000 dollars, this money will be added to the shelter and seating fundraising efforts.

Ferguson Plarre

Please be aware that our upcoming Easter Fundraiser has been handed out. This year we are teaming up with Ferguson Plarres' to offer the St Joseph's Community Hot Cross Buns. These Hot Cross Buns will be sold at a discounted price, with all profits going towards facilities at St Joseph's. If there are any families that didn't receive this fundraising notice or have any additional questions, please contact Mat; via phone 97176480 or email mharding@stjmern.catholic.edu.au

Key Dates include:

Orders Due into the office: **Wednesday 29th of March**

Orders will be handed out to students: **Friday 31st of March**

Run 4 the kids



Run 4 the kids will be held on Sunday the 9th of April. If you would like to participate; St Joseph's Mernda are putting a team together for staff, students and parents/friends. All details are on the website: <http://www.runforthekids.com.au/> The password for our team is SJM. Hope to see you there!

Thankyou – A belated and sincere thanks to those wonderful parents who gave up their time throughout the holiday break and the term to water or weed our garden.



It been a fantastic start to the season for the Jaguars. The children's smiles tell the story for us! Each game we are seeing continued improvement from each team and our focus on team work has drawn regular positive comments from opposition parents. This month we have given away a new basketball to one member of each team who has displayed fantastic teamwork through their passing, defensive play and encouragement of their team mates. The following player's won the award for their team

Under 8 girls- Eve Bartos

Under 8 (1) boys- Duke Wimalaratna

Under 8 (2) boys- Zavi Perfecto

Under 10 boys- Jaideep Sandhu

Thanks to the generous sponsorship of Window Tinting Solutions in Mernda we will be giving away another basketball to each team in term 2 for great team work!!

We are also very grateful to our other sponsors in Barry Plant Doreen, Rokon Constructions and Future Smiles who have donated generously to help us build our club and school community.

Early in term 2 we will begin our spring season enrolment process. The spring season runs during terms 3 and 4. If your child is 6 or above and would like to join a team please keep your eye out for more information in the newsletter.

If you have any questions or queries about the club please don't hesitate to contact me on 0404 483 866.

Melanie Paino

President