FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to school for 2016. I hope the year is a very fulfilling and happy one for both you and your family.

This week we had many new staff and students starting with us, with myself one of those. All nerves and anxieties were quickly dispelled, once the school gates opened and our students arrived. It soon became apparent what a welcoming, hospitable and kind place St Joseph’s is. As the new principal, this excites me very much!

Mrs Ketteringham has been seconded to the East Kimberly for six months and I have been given the privilege to lead this school community in her absence. I say privilege, as it is a truly special opportunity for me and one that I take with great pride and pleasure. I will therefore be amongst you in this capacity for the remainder of this semester.

In this role, I aim to continue to work hard in fostering the schools vision. A God centred environment where each school community member is nurtured spiritually, academically, socially and physically. I know there is a very committed and willing staff working towards this as well.

Over the holiday period Mr Harold Battye tendered his resignation from St Joseph’s. Harold has been the Groundsman of St Joseph’s for well over twenty years. On behalf of the school community I thank Harold for his loyal service to our school.

Beside myself, there are many new staff members joining our community:

Miss Charlotte McCartney - Year Two
Miss Abigail O’Loughlin - Year Four
Mr Jake Papp - Year Five
Mrs Mary Miller - Year Six
Mrs Debbie Gundry - Physical Education
Mr David Miller - Grounds / Maintenance

(continued overleaf)
To the new families who joined us this year I hope they experience the warmth and friendliness that St Joseph’s is known for. We welcome …

the Griffin family, the Harris family, the Phillips family, the Cornell family, the Dilley family, the Hooper family, the Hull family, the Berrelly family, the Judd family, the McMullen Family, the Robertson family, the Smith family, the Jones/McGifford family, the Nelligan family, the Hooton family, the Ieraci family, the Marriott family, the Newick family, the Williams family, the Moore family and the Wilson family.

On Monday I had the opportunity to address the school assembly and hinted at some key messages for our students and staff to connect with. In essence, these were to:

- Be the best you can be - dream big, work hard and aim to fulfil your potential;
- Understand we all make mistakes - it is how we handle these and learn from them that helps us grow;
- See problems as opportunities with prickles on them - it may be difficult, it may seem unachievable or out of reach, but it can be solved;
- Work with your teachers, work with your friends, and work with your parents. Have a go, it just might open up exciting and interesting things for you;
- Connect with the ‘Spirit of Jesus’ constantly - don’t leave him as a person in history but welcome him into your own life through deeds, words and actions;
- Look for God and the goodness in others as often as you can;
- Get into the ‘heart room’ with Jesus - welcome, encourage, forgive and be thankful;
- Act with kindness to all that you meet - it all starts with a simple ‘hello’.

They are simple messages, only achievable when our thinking aligns to our behaviours.

I have attached a welcoming letter from Dr Tim McDonald, The Executive Director of Catholic Education in WA. In his letter, the Executive Director details the importance of 2016 within our Church as the ‘Year of Mercy’. This needs to be a theme that we should all endeavor to embed in our daily encounters and practices. Let us all work together, people of all ages, to make it a year of grace, peace and joy.

I look forward to meeting many more of you in the near future and enjoying the exciting journey of education with you and your child along the way. As the primary educators of your children the role of parenting carries a huge responsibility. This partnership with the school and our dedicated staff makes for a very exciting and rewarding collaboration we can all share.

Enjoy 2016, engage with your children and work with their teachers. Celebrate their successes and importantly help to develop humility, as well as resilience, when dealing with the celebrations and challenges of life in the school setting. Above all support and love them in all that they do.

Let us all lead by example and in the spirit of MJR (Making Jesus Real), one of our school based programs, develop tolerance, understanding and patience as we always aim to look for God and the goodness in others.

Have a safe and happy week.

Darrin Croft
Principal
UP COMING EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SUNDAY</td>
<td>07/02/2016</td>
<td>10am</td>
<td>Mass at St Augustine’s, Pinjarra</td>
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<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY</td>
<td>10/02/2016</td>
<td>9am</td>
<td>Ash Wednesday Mass at St Augustine’s</td>
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<tr>
<td>THURSDAY</td>
<td>11/02/2016</td>
<td></td>
<td>FREE DRESS to support victims of the fires - Gold coin donation</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRIDAY</td>
<td>12/02/2016</td>
<td>6pm</td>
<td>Stations of The Cross at St Augustine’s Parish Church</td>
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BOOKCLUB ORDERS DUE ON MONDAY 15th FEBRUARY

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

Uniform Shop is located in the Convent building towards the back of the school. The shop opens on Mondays 1:30pm-2:20pm during the school term.

It is not open during school holidays.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

St Augustine’s Parish will begin celebrating Stations of the Cross on Friday 12th February at 6pm.

MURRAY DISTRICT RANGERS SC INC

REGISTRATION DATES

Friday Feb 5th, 12th and 19th 3:30pm to 5:30pm
Monday Feb 22nd 3:00pm to 5:00pm
South Yunderup Oval, Delta Drive South Yunderup.

Please complete your online registration at www.myfootballclub.com.au prior to attending any of our registration dates as we cannot process your registration without the receipt from there.

Don’t forget to log onto our Facebook page to get all instructions OR please call Hannah (0403 641 707) or Donna (0427 476 614) for full instructions PRIOR to attending.

REMEMBER—if you want to play for MURRAY DISTRICT RANGERS SC in 2016 then you register with us BEFORE Feb 26. After this date all registrations go through the PJSA and we cannot guarantee you a spot after that.

We look forward to seeing you all.
FREE DRESS TO SUPPORT THE VICTIMS OF THE FIRES

The recent fires caused much devastation and heartache within the Peel region.

St Joseph’s will be having a fundraising day in a small bid to show our support and care for those affected.

Please support this day for the cost of a gold coin donation.

WHEN: Thursday, 11 February 2016

DRESS: Wear bright, happy, uplifting colourful clothing - mix and match as best you can

WHY: In the midst of the devastation of the fire we have witnessed acts of kindness, bravery and giving of the human spirit.

Colourful clothing is a way for us to symbolise hope, love and the virtues of generosity and kindness.

By wearing the bright clothing we are offering a symbolic gesture to those affected that St Joseph’s is thinking of them in this difficult time.

As a school community we offer our support, prayers and thoughts to the various families and organisations affected by the fires.
Dear Parents/Caregivers

Welcome to the start of the 2016 school year. The year promises to be full of possibilities in all our 163 vibrant, faith-filled learning communities each of which are centred on the person and teachings of Jesus Christ.

Pope Francis has declared 2016 the ‘Year of Mercy’. This challenges us all to be ‘merciful like the father’ in our daily lives. Imagine the transformative effect our school communities could have on society, if we were to take up Francis’ challenge, in our families and those we work with, as well as those who find themselves alienated, lonely and despised in society. Your school community will be creating a range of opportunities for students and families to honour and celebrate this special year and I encourage you to get involved.

If you are new to our system I would like to extend a very warm welcome to you and your family. You are joining Catholic education at an exciting time. We are in a period of significant growth and we have once again demonstrated sustained system-wide improvement in last year’s WACE results.

In the last three years we have opened seven new schools and colleges and 2016 marks the opening of Salvado Catholic College for the first time. I wish the students, parents and caregivers involved in the College’s foundation year all the very best.

All Catholic schools rely on the contribution of the parish, staff, students and parents working in partnership to sustain their vibrancy, educational excellence, and faith life. With your support and involvement in your child’s learning, the efforts of more than 11,000 dedicated school staff and principals can ensure that our Catholic schools help students across the state reach their God-given potential.

Thank you for your continued support and I wish you all the best for the year ahead.

Yours sincerely

Tim McDonald