



Tuesday 11 August 2026

Dear parents and caregivers

Welcome to Week Four. I would like to begin this fortnight's newsletter with a prayer in the spirit of 'The Assumption of Mary' Feast Day, August 15, where we celebrate Mary's bodily assumption into heaven at the end of her earthly life.

'Heavenly Father, you chose the Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son, and through her, you gave us the gift of salvation. As we celebrate the Assumption, may we follow her example of faith, humility and obedience. Grant us the grace to seek your will in all things and to look forward to the day when we too will share in the glory of the resurrection. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.'

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Mass

A sincere thank you to Mrs White, Mrs Waters, our Year Five students and the magnificent choir for their wonderful contributions to the St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Mass. The reverent and thoughtful way the Year Five students led the Mass, together with the choir's beautiful singing, helped make the celebration a meaningful and memorable occasion for our school community.

Thank you!

I would like to sincerely thank our wonderful school community for the many kind wishes, thoughtful cards and generous gifts I received for Principal Appreciation Day. Your kindness and support mean so much to me. It is a privilege and a joy to be the Principal of St Joseph's. I am grateful every day to work alongside such amazing students, families and staff. Thank you for making our school such a special place to learn, grow and belong.

Interschool Cross Country Carnival news...from Mr Henry

On Wednesday, 29 July, students from Years 3 to 6 represented St Joseph's Primary School at the Interschool Cross Country Carnival held at the Meadow Springs Sports Facility Complex. This year marked a significant milestone, with Year 3 students participating in the event for the first time.



Ten schools competed within our division, with each school entering up to five boys and five girls in their respective races, resulting in fields of 50 runners per event. Conditions were ideal, with beautiful sunshine creating a vibrant atmosphere rarely experienced at the carnival in recent years. The stands were filled with enthusiastic spectators, providing wonderful support and encouragement for all competitors.

St Joseph's Primary School finished 7th overall and celebrated several outstanding individual performances. A special congratulations goes to Maxwell Forman (Year 4), who achieved an impressive 2nd place finish in his race, and Harrison Greenham (Year 5), who secured 3rd place in his event.

Congratulations to all students who represented the school with determination, sportspersonship and enthusiasm. The day was filled with fun, encouragement and memorable experiences, making it a rewarding event for all involved.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Henry for his outstanding organisation of the Interschool Cross Country. His exceptional planning, attention to detail and unwavering commitment ensured a highly successful event, providing a wonderful experience for all students involved. We are incredibly grateful for his dedication and leadership.

St Joey's Got Talent

Last week saw the first round of St Joey's Got Talent, and our students were absolutely amazing! Their confidence, creativity and outstanding performances showcased the incredible range of talent we have here at St Joseph's. A special thank you to Mrs Ramsay for coordinating the event and to the staff who generously gave up their lunch breaks to judge. We can't wait for the next round!

Assumption of Mary Mass

You are invited to join the parishioners from St Augustine's Parish and our Year Four, Five and Six students on Friday 14 August at 9:30am to celebrate the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Assumption Day commemorates the belief that when Mary, the mother of Jesus Christ died, her body was 'assumed' into heaven to be reunited with her soul.

**All things Athletics!**

Week Five is all things Athletics here at St Joseph's!

Date	Event	Year Level(s)	Location	Time	Attire
Monday 17 August	Jumps and Throws	Year Six	School Oval	11:20am to 1:20pm	Sports Uniform (Faction Polo)
Wednesday 19 August	Jumps and Throws	Year One to Five	School Oval	8:45am onwards	Sports Uniform (Faction Polo)
Friday 21 August	Faction Athletics Carnival	Pre-primary to Year Six	Sir Ross McLarty Oval	9:00am onwards	Sports Uniform (Faction Polo)

We're looking forward to a fantastic week, filled with fun, community spirit and great sportspersonship! Parent help is needed on both days, so if you're available, we'd love your support to make the events run smoothly. Please contact the school office on 9530 5500 if you can help. Further details will be provided by Mr Henry soon.

A huge thank you to our wonderful P&F Committee for helping make our Faction Athletics Carnival a fantastic day for our families and spectators! Throughout the day, parents can enjoy barista-made coffee and other hot beverages, along with a delicious selection of baked goods from the Black Velvet & Honey Coffee Van. From 11:30am to 12:00pm, the P&F will also be selling a limited number of 150 meat and salad roll meal deals, including a soft drink, for \$15. This offer is available to parent spectators only. A special thank you to Kim's Bakery for supplying the delicious rolls. With numbers limited, it's first in, best dressed and both cash and card payments will be accepted. We look forward to seeing you there and cheering on our students!



Write a Book in a Day Competition

Selected students from Years Five and Six will be writing a book in a day, Tuesday 18 August. Our St Joseph's Team, under the guidance of the wonderful Mrs O'Dwyer, will write and design an entire book in just 12 hours and raise vital funds to support kids' cancer research. Not only does this challenge develop collaboration, creativity and time management skills, but gives our students the opportunity to make a difference to the lives of kids with cancer. I wish our team all the very best!

Book Week

The 2026 Book Week Parade is almost here!

We're so excited for the Book Week Parade, Tuesday 25 August and we can't wait to see our students dressed as their favourite book characters! This year's theme, "Symphony of Stories", celebrates how unique stories and backgrounds blend to create a shared love of reading.

Our incredible P&F will be running a sausage sizzle on Book Week Parade Day! Students can purchase a sausage sizzle for \$3.50 or a meal deal for \$5.00, which includes a sausage sizzle and a juice box. All orders can be made conveniently through CDFpay. Thank you to our P&F for organising this special treat for our students!

We also have a fabulous dress-up theme for the staff... so make sure you come along to the Assembly Hall at 9:00am and see what we're dressing up as-it's going to be a lot of fun!

P&F Quiz Night

Our amazing P&F are seeking raffle prize donations from local businesses for their Quiz Night on 29 August. If you or someone you know can help, please contact Tara Cabassi on 0414 851 563. All donors will be acknowledged on the night. Thank you for your support!

Uniform Reminder for 2027

As previously communicated, from 2027 all students from Kindergarten to Year 6 will be required to wear fully black sports shoes as part of the St Joseph's school uniform. This change will help promote a consistent and neat appearance across the school, and we encourage families to keep this in mind when



purchasing new shoes.

I have already had many excited students come to see me at recess and lunch, proudly showing off their fully black sports shoes in readiness for next year! Thank you for your support in helping our students take pride in their presentation and in maintaining our high uniform standards.

As we head into another exciting fortnight, we're looking forward to seeing everyone at our Book Week Parade and Athletics Carnival. These events are wonderful opportunities to come together, celebrate our students and strengthen our school community. Thank you for your continued support-we can't wait to share these special moments with you!

God Bless

Ms Vanessa Gangell

Principal