



# ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL

**NEWSLETTER NO 38 WEEK 9 TERM 4 DECEMBER 6 2017**

## **VISION STATEMENT**

We at St Joseph's Primary School Queens Park are a faith based community which strives to recognise and respond to the image of Christ in us all, as we grow through work and prayer.

**THE ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL COMMUNITY ACKNOWLEDGES  
THAT WE COME TOGETHER ON THE ANCESTRAL LANDS OF THE  
WHADJUK PEOPLE**

### ***2<sup>ND</sup> Candle – ( purple )***

***The BETHLEHEM Candle or The Candle of PREPARATION – God kept his promise of a Saviour who would be born in Bethlehem. Preparation means to 'get ready'. Help us to welcome YOU, O God! ( Luke 3:4-6)***



## **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

### **PRAYER FOR THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR**

***God of wisdom***

***We thank you for the gifts that you have given us***

***Throughout this school year.***

***We praise you for giving us life***

***For saving us in Christ***

***And for choosing us to be your people.***

***As we come to the end of the school year***

***We voice our gratitude for the good things you have done for us***

***And we praise you for all who have shared in the work of this school.***

***We ask you to bless them in your love***

***And give them peace.***

***We praise you God***

***Through Jesus Christ our Lord.***

**END OF YEAR:** Students finish school this Friday 8 December 2017. The Year 6 children will be having their final assembly at 12.00 noon on Friday. They have been an exceptional class and we wish them all the best for their future at the secondary schools that they are attending.

This morning at the end of our Thanksgiving Mass we had the opportunity to farewell Maureen Carter who retired this year after taking Long Service Leave earlier in the year. Maureen Carter has been a teacher at the school for 21 years and prior to that she was a teacher assistant for special needs children for 4 years. We know Maureen is already enjoying her retirement but we would like to thank her for her years of dedication to the students and her wonderful support for her colleagues.

At the end of the year it is difficult to say goodbye to quality workers and quality people. Georgia Laird and Liana Ottobriano have each been with us for about the same amount of time and have both shown the school what dedicated and hardworking professionals they are. I know they leave a little reluctantly and we reluctantly say

goodbye to them. Mrs Geri Martin has been with St Joseph's as our Aboriginal Teacher Assistant for the past twelve months. This is the second time that Geri has been employed at the school and her contribution to our cultural awareness will be greatly missed. Kathlyn Tay has been working in the Kindy for almost two years and as a trained teacher has done a lot of relief teaching for the school as well. Kathlyn has been a maternity leave replacement and is leaving us to pursue her teaching career. We wish her all the best. Candice Learmonth has been assisting in the area of special needs support this year and has done a tireless job. We thank her for her efforts and wish her all the best.

**2018 TERM 1:** The commencement day for children from Pre-primary to Year 6 is Wednesday January 31. Kindergarten children have been informed separately of their commencement dates.

Year 1 to 6 classes will have a warning bell at 8.45am with classes starting promptly at 8.50am.

**REPORTS:** These go home this Friday with the children. Teachers will be in their classroom from 8.45am on Monday December 11 if parents have any queries about the reports.

**UNIFORM SHOP:** The uniform shop will be open on the following dates and times during the holidays.

**Monday January 22 2018 3.00pm -5.00pm**

**Monday January 29 2018 2.00pm -3.30pm**

**FAREWELL:** After 12 years as Principal of St Joseph's School it is time for me to pass on the Principalship to Mr Rose. He is a gentleman with outstanding qualities and I know the school is in very good hands. I look forward to hearing about all the future wonderful stories that will come out of St Joseph's in the future. I thank all in the community for making St Joseph's such a special place to work and the well wishes I have received over the last few weeks. I wish all the staff and families a safe and Holy Christmas. I will miss you all and will keep you all in my prayers and thoughts in the future.

God Bless  
Peter Yensch  
Principal

#### **ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL RE**

**MISSION:** I would like to take this opportunity to thank the St Joseph's School Community for their generous support of the four Mission Appeals we have throughout the year. Over the course of the year we have supported Caritas, LifeLink, Catholic Mission and St Vincent de Paul. As a Catholic School it is part of our Social Justice to help those in need. We do it in incidental ways when a specific need arises but each year we continue to support these larger missions. The community of St Joseph's School has always been outstanding in their generosity and I sincerely thank you. God Bless to you all and may you have a joyous Christmas.

#### **CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES - St Joseph's Parish**

**Vigil Sunday 24 December.**

7.30pm Carols 8.00pm Mass

**Midnight Sunday 24 December**

11.30 pm Carols Midnight Mass

**Christmas Day Monday 25 December**

9.30 am Mass Carols 9.00 am

All Masses will be preceded with carol singing – come along early and join in

In Faith

Kaye Savage-Morton

#### **ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL ADMIN**

**REFLECTING ON A GREAT YEAR:** As we come to the end of another year it is satisfying to look back upon everything that has been achieved in the area of ICT and Cyber Safety at our school in 2017. In January we launched our new school website which is a wonderful reflection on our school and everything that happens within. If you haven't done so already, please check out our "Galleries" page for videos of recent events that have taken place throughout

the year. In February we hosted Cyber Safety guru Paul Litherland of Surf Online Safe. Paul spoke with our students in Years 5 and 6 before running a very informative session for our parents and wider community members about keeping our kids safe in this digital age. Feedback was positive from both sessions and Paul visits again in 2018. In Term 3 we hosted the Constable Care Child Safety Foundation. They presented two plays to our students about Cyber Safety and Bullying. This visit was well received by the students and further reinforced our emphasis on staying safe when using the internet. In between all this we had lots of fun learning in the computer lab. I purchased more Sphero robots as well as chariots, rubber covers for outdoor use and some courses to program the robots around. I am planning lots of fun and exciting activities with these in 2018. A typing program, Typing Tournament, has been purchased to help students across all year levels to learn how to type properly. This was used in Term 4 from Year 1 to Year 6 and will be used extensively in 2018. I maintained a strong emphasis on Coding in the computer lab. All students from Year 1 to Year 6 have a coding account on code.org and learn at their own pace. Some of our students have really taken this to the next level and we definitely have some future Steve Jobs' and Mark Zuckerberg's in our ranks. I look forward to 2018 when the new Technologies curriculum kicks in. This focuses on two main areas: Design technologies and Digital technologies. I will be reporting on this in 2018 so the ICT section of the school report will look a little different next year. All in all, we have gone from strength to strength in the lab over the last 12 months and I look forward to another exciting and challenging year of fun and learning in 2018.

**SPHERO'S GO OUTDOORS:** I had my last class with 6 Blue on Monday morning. We took the opportunity to use the new rubber covers for the Sphero's and test them out on the basketball courts. The covers protect the Sphero robots from being damaged when being used outside. This opens up a whole new world of possibilities. I challenged the class to attempt to program the robot around the lines on the court but unfortunately the rain cut the lesson short. I look forward to attempting this again in the future.

**HAVE A GREAT BREAK:** I would like to wish all of our students, parents, family members and wider community a Holy Christmas reflecting the true meaning of this wonderful celebration: the birth of Jesus. It is a privilege to work at this school and I look forward to 2018 with great anticipation. Have a relaxing summer break, get some well-deserved rest and please, be safe!!

Ronan Kelly



**READING EGGS & READING EGGS PRESS:**

Please note that Reading Eggs & Reading Eggspress will be available during the holidays.

Mrs Vivienne Ward

**CANTEEN**

Maria and Yuli would like to thank all the wonderful people who have helped throughout the year. Merry Christmas and a Happy Blessed New Year.

**P & F NEWS:** Congratulations to everyone who has taken positions on the P & F for the coming year.

The P & F would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year. We look forward to what 2018 brings to our wonderful school.