

DATES TO REMEMBER

****Newsletter is published fortnightly in odd weeks****

Mondays – Ice blocks for sale

Band Lessons every Wednesday

French Language Lunch Club Mondays 11:10am



Infants and Primary: Monday and Friday

P & F BBQ - Friday 12/3 6-7:30pm

School Cross Country Friday 12/3

Kinder 2022 – Meet the Principal, Kinder Teachers and Tours Monday 15/3

Harmony Day/Say No to Bullying – Tuesday 16/3- Wear orange or cultural costume

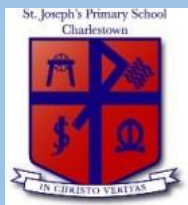
Feast of St Joseph Liturgy and Caritas Fundraiser Friday 19/3

ALL UNIFORM ENQUIRIES:



ORDER VIA QKR APP

All enquiries to email: chl.uniformshop@mn.catholic.edu.au



St Joey's News

'Truth in Christ'

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School,
32 Shelton Street, Charlestown NSW 2290
Ph 02 4943 5414 Fax 02 4942 3218
Email: admin@charlestown.catholic.edu.au
Website: <https://www.charlestown.catholic.edu.au/>

*We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Awabakal people.
We pay our respect to their elders past and present.*



12th March 2021



Dear Parents and Carers,



On Wednesday we received updated **COVID Safety Guidelines** from CSNSW and our Diocese. Please read the letter and message posted on Compass. We will keep our pick up and drop off arrangements as is, but if parents want to park in the surrounding streets and come into the school to pick up or drop off before and after school, please sign in using the QR code at the gate. Please maintain the 1.5m social distancing rule when talking with other adults and follow the parking rules in our streets. When entering the school grounds to sign your children in late or pick up early for appointments please come to the office and use the Compass Kiosk and QR code as well. A reminder that we have opened the **back gate** to parents who wish to walk up and drop off their children in the morning and pick up from a teacher on duty in the 5/6W courtyard in the afternoon. Our basketball court was previously used for parking, but we have been advised from our CSO WHS team that a traffic management plan needs to be in place before we can reopen. We have an advisor visiting the school next week. Parents may attend our Friday assemblies as of next week, please sign in using the QR code and maintain social distancing.

We are looking forward to our **P & F BBQ** this evening, 6-7:30pm. Please sign in at the gate using the QR codes, use the hygiene stations and maintain 1.5m social distancing. Our Year 6 students will have some games organised for the Kinder students and our wonderful parent volunteers will have the BBQ ready.

This week we held our **Parents & Friends Annual General Meeting**, thanking outgoing members and electing a new committee for 2021. We are blessed at St. Joseph's to have a positive and operational P & F group. Many schools struggle to have this type of positive parent engagement. Within our committee there are many subcommittees such as the Uniform Shop, Canteen Committee and Fundraising Committee. All the people involved volunteer their time and energies to serve our community, to provide services for our students and parents and to fundraise for resources to support the students and staff at St. Joseph's.

I sincerely thank our outgoing committee members; Anna Pearson who has held 2 Terms as Treasurer committing 6 years and Brooke Sievert as Canteen Coordinator for 3 years. Brooke worked tirelessly to gain our Canteen's certification as a Healthy Canteen which has been a great attribute for our school. We are truly grateful to both Anna and Brooke for their time and efforts with our Committee over the years.

Congratulations to our newly elected committee for 2021, we look forward to working with you as the year progresses. Meetings are held at 6:30pm, the 2nd Monday of the month in the staffroom. All are welcome to attend.

Position	2020 P & F Executive	2021 P & F Committee
President	Joshua Hartcher	Joshua Hartcher
Vice President	Lisa Evans	Lisa Evans
Secretary	Kim Smith	Kim Smith
Treasurer	Anna Pearson	Kellie Grice
P & F Federation Delegate	-	Anna Pearson

Sub-committees	2020 P & F Executive	2021 P & F Committee
Canteen Coordinators	Brooke Sievert & Jenny Whitby	Natalie Evans & Jenny Whitby
Uniform Shop	Michelle Clout, Jodie Healey & Lindsey Dragosavljevic	Michelle Clout, Jodie Healey & Lindsey Dragosavljevic
Fundraising	Katie Turnbull, Jacquie Sneddon, Jenny Whitby	Katie Turnbull, Jacquie Sneddon, Jenny Whitby, Fiona Wade & Nicola Gillies



Congratulations to Levi G. who has advanced to the NSWCPs Swimming Carnival representing our POLDING region. Levi will be competing in the All Age 100m Freestyle, 11 Yr 50m Freestyle, Breaststroke, Backstroke and Butterfly, and Senior 200m Individual Medley. An amazing achievement Levi! We are so proud of you! We wish Levi and Jeremy all the best as they compete at this event on Monday 22/3.

Deepest sympathy to the Lloyd family on the loss of their dear niece and cousin. We pray that God continues to support the family and friends in their loss and grief.



Principal Awards

Congratulations to the following students who have been demonstrating our SJC values: Neve T, Julian W, Neva K, Billie E, Jesse W, Jacob S, Ashlyn M, Felix C and Flynn L.

Each newsletter we will add **teacher and support staff profiles** for you to get to know our wonderful SJC staff. This week see below for our Stage 1 team and our Learning Support Assistants.

God Bless,
Kate Drake
Principal

NEWS FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL



A focus on Learning, Collaboration & Improving Student Outcomes

Earlier this week I was revising the links between multiplication and division to my son. I found the peg basket and spent time with him creating 'groups of' pegs and counting 'how many' in the group. It was one of those "ah-ha" moments for us. He understood the concept and I was reminded of the valuable role I play as his parent and first educator.

Here are some simple ways to encourage a love of Maths using simple every situations and items.

Encourage creative problem-solving. Problem-solving is the basis of good mathematical thinking and the problems don't have to involve numbers.



- “How many different ways are there to walk to school?”
 - What’s another way to arrange the furniture in this room?”
 - “How many different ways can I measure flour to get half a cup?”
- Try to come up with more than one solution for everyday problems.

Choose gifts that develop problem-solving skills. Blocks, building sets, geometric tile sets, puzzles, board games, weather stations, maps, puzzle books, calculators, strategy games, scales and origami are just a few of the gifts that will give your child pleasure and knowledge at the same time.

Be positive about math. Express confidence in your child’s ability to do maths. Don’t stress either your own fear of maths or how difficult maths is or how much you admire any-one who can do math. Remember, everyone can and does use maths **all the time**.

Show your children maths at work in their world. Get your children use to maths by thinking out loud when making calculations. Then, let your children work out some real-life puzzles themselves. For example:

- Let them measure when you bake.
- Ask them to figure out how long a hose you need to reach from the tap on the side of the house to the garden.
- Let your child figure out how many kilometres you’ll be driving on your next trip by using the information on a map.
- Sort cutlery by knives, forks and spoons. Sort cards by suit or numbers.

Make maths a game. Maths games are fun and inexpensive. They are a wonderful way to get your children to enjoy working with numbers, as well as improve their number skills. Here are a few suggestions:

- Many games that we take for granted are excellent maths lessons. “Go Fish” teaches counting and grouping in sets. Games that use play money teach how to make change. Board games that use dice teach addition and counting. Backgammon teaches addition, subtraction and strategy.
- Beans, stones, or marbles can be used to play number games. Let your child develop his or her own games by sorting beans into different sizes or types, setting up the rules for a counting game, or using different types of pasta to make a picture.
- Give your children a geometry lesson by letting them create a collage of circles, squares, and triangles. Challenge them to come up with as many different shapes as they can using only triangles.
- Play ‘shops’ with the items in your cupboard
- A container of water and some jars or cups of different sizes will amuse a child for hours while teaching capacity and volume.



Maths is everywhere, everyday...we just need to be aware of the opportunities.

Next Tuesday, we look forward to celebrating Harmony Day. Let’s be role models for our kids; wear orange and embrace the diversity of our nation. Together I hope we can show our children the importance of recognising and celebrating the gifts and talents diversity brings in all aspects of our lives.

With every best wish,

Nikki Norley
Assistant Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Last week our school councillors were part of a Diocesan team that re-enacted the Stations of the Cross. This was professionally filmed and will be shared across the Diocese in the lead up to Easter. Bishop Bill was also part of the filming and team of actors. The Way of the Cross is a mini pilgrimage through the events that covered the final hours of Jesus’ life on earth. We are very proud of the performance from our leaders.



Sacramental Program

The sacramental program has recommenced with the focus on the first sacrament reconciliation. The second rite of reconciliation will occur at St Mary's Immaculate Charlestown Wednesday 31 March 7.00pm. Please pray for families involved in the program.



St Joseph's Day/ Project Compassion Fundraiser

Next Friday we will celebrate the Feast of St Joseph. This year is a particularly special celebration as the pope has declared it the Year of St Joseph. We will be having a liturgy with Fr Tony and led by 3 red and 3/4blue. The Mini Vinnies will also be hosting a Project Compassion Fundraiser. A range of cakes and slices will be available as well as activities such as hair colouring and games. Activities and treats will be accessible via tokens which can be purchased on Qkr for \$6 per student or \$10 per family. Payments need to be made by 6pm on Wednesday 17th March. Please see flyer below.



Mini Vinnies are raising money for Project Compassion and have planned a fun day to celebrate St Joseph's Day on Friday the 19th of March 2021.

There will also extra activities to help us celebrate St Joseph's Day.

Your donation will include tokens for the cake stall/ activities.



Please pay \$6 each or \$10 per family on QKR to join in the fun and support Project Compassion!

Many Blessings,

Clare Paff
Religious Education
Coordinator

PROJECT COMPASSION
BE MORE

NEWS FROM THE PRIMARY COORDINATOR

PBL

Each week our school focuses on a particular area to support our school values. Our school PBL focus for week 8 is: to include others. We can encourage our children to include others by inviting everyone to play, smiling, helping, being kind, letting someone sit next to you, asking questions and allowing others to go first.

Week 9 it is: Keep our school clean. This PBL focus reminds us of the importance of reducing plastic package to avoid the rubbish at school. We also encourage the children to pick up rubbish, especially when we walk past rubbish on the grounds.

PBL Awards Term 1 Week 5

BRONZE 30	SILVER 60	GOLD 90	PLATINUM 120	MEDAL 150
Lily M Ivy M Jack G Neve T Nyah C Laura S Maddi G Lucy C Keanu C Remi D				

Word of the week for weeks 8 & 9-

Infants: dependable (trustworthy and reliable)

Primary: effervescence (vivacity and enthusiasm)

Big Write:

Literacy is a major focus at St Joseph's, and in particular the craft of writing. Our students are benefiting from a respected model of teaching writing and raising writing standards, known as the Big Write. The Big Write model is based on the premise that 'if you can't say it, you can't write it'. Big Write is an opportunity for students to learn how to generate ideas through conversation and fun activities in the classroom and at home, before engaging in independent writing tasks in soothing settings that promote calm and creativity. Students simultaneously learn skills in VCOP (vocabulary, connectives, openers and punctuation) to support their writing confidence and engagement. Big Write gives every student the tools and support to develop their literacy skills and become proficient and enthusiastic writers.

WHAT THE STUDENTS SAY:

I enjoy Big Writes because they help to show me exactly where I'm at with my writing. - Emily S

Big Writes are awesome because they help me to achieve my goals- Levi S

I love Big Writes because they give me a chance to improve my writing skills and to celebrate my success when I have met my goal. - Laura S

Ice Blocks for Sale!! We are selling ice blocks for our Year 6 fundraiser every Monday for \$1. Thank-you for your support. The warmer weather is the perfect excuse to cool down with an ice-block.



*Warmest regards,
Kathryn Hill*

SPORTS NEWS



Congratulations to Levi in year 5 for his outstanding achievements at the State Nippers Championships- held at Blacksmiths. Levi won the Surf Swim under 11's race and he also won the Surfboard Relay. Levi placed 3rd in the Surfboard competition, and he placed 4th in the Iron Man (swim and board) under 11's. We are so proud of his achievements!!

Congratulations also to Laura S who has advanced to the Diocesan Netball trials. Well done Laura!

*Kind Regards,
Natalie Davis Sports Coordinator*

Cross Country

We were so blessed with the weather today for our 2021 School Cross Country event. It was also so lovely to be able to start to return to normal sporting events, and it was obvious that the students were also happy about the resumption of events such as these.

The children were real troopers- tackling our challenging course with grit, enthusiasm, and a smile (mostly!!). It was great to hear students encouraging everyone no matter their position in the race. We do have some talented runners at St Joseph's, and we will present ribbons at next week's assembly to those children who placed at our event today. When we hear from CSO about 2021 qualifying times we will advise which students will form our school team for Dio.

A big THANKYOU to our parent helpers- we are very grateful for you coming on board at such late notice. We also hope those parents who were able to come and watch enjoyed the event. Here are just a few images from the day.



Thank You

These events take considerable time and effort and we thank Ms Karen Nolan, Mrs Angela Foxon and their team for organising this annual event for our students.

P & F Committee News

Uniform Shop News – We are waiting for winter uniform back orders to arrive. Please don't place orders yet for the winter uniform as stock is limited. We will have a transition period to winter uniform in about Week 5 or 6 next term dependent on the climate. Mrs Drake will announce when children can start wearing their winter uniform in May. So there is plenty of time for ordering next term.

Fundraising News – Our annual **Easter Raffle** will take place at school on Tuesday 30/3. We are asking for a donation of an Easter egg per child to be sent into the school office by Friday 26/3. Raffle tickets will be sent home next week and can be purchased on QKR up until Thursday 25/3. See the flyer sent out on Compass.

Entertainment Books are now sold online with a year's subscription for purchase starting at \$69.99 There are some great offers for activities, dining, travel, services and shopping. If you purchase, please identify St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Charlestown as your preferred fundraising agent.

Thank you for your support of our upcoming fundraisers. Last year despite the COVID restrictions limiting our fundraising opportunities, the P & F committee were able to contribute an outstanding **\$44 642** to SJC for the purchase of the following resources: *30 laptops, cricket nets and resurface of pitches, 1 interactive screen, mud kitchen, furniture for Kinder, 2x Literacy centres, Gift vouchers for Annual Awards, Sporting equipment, Yr 6 Farewell and pastoral care support to families.* This is a wonderful community effort!

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS



Congratulations to the following children who celebrate their birthday this fortnight.

Taj A- 10 th March	Gus F- 15 th March	Kipp H- 15 th March
Jack B- 16 th March	Summer- 17 th March	Alexander B- 20 th March
Flynn L- 20 th March	Maxwell L- 20 th March	Oscar W- 20 th March
Sam W- 20 th March	Zoe S- 21 st March	Matthew M- 22 nd March
Julian W- 23 rd March	Eden J- 25 th March	Lily M- 26 th March



Meet our School Support Staff

Our wonderful Support Staff assist our teachers in the classroom.



Mrs Chapman -
Learning Support Assistant



Some of my favourite things: family time,
netball & chocolate.

Mrs Dawson -
Learning Support Assistant



Some of my favourite things: dogs, friends,
comedy & music.

Our Learning Support
Assistants, work in
the classrooms K-6,
supporting teachers.
They can work in
small groups or 1:1
with students.

Mrs Hanrahan -
Learning Support Assistant



Some of my favourite things: spending time
with family, hiking in the bush & having
weekends away with friends.

Mrs Hines -
Learning Support Assistant



Some of my favourite things: spending time
with my children, playing board games &
watching movies.

Mrs McAlister -
Learning Support Assistant



Some of my favourite things:
bushwalking, plants, gardening, skiing, the
beach & spending time with family.

MEET THE TEACHER

Meet your Teacher for 2021!

Sue Woodward

1 Red

Teaching Experience & Education

I am an experienced teacher who has taught in several schools throughout the Maitland Newcastle Diocese. I have been teaching Year 1 at St Joseph's for the past 7 years. I love the unique setting at the school, where we work in a unit/stage and teachers have the opportunity to share knowledge, skills and resources and learn from each other.

As a teacher in a Catholic school I am committed to living the gospel values in my daily life so that the children see me as a living witness of faith. Having attended Josephite schools and then having worked in a number of them, including St Joseph's Charlestown, I have a strong affinity with Mary MacKillop and I strive to live her values.

My qualifications include: Diploma in Teaching (Primary Education) and Graduate Diploma of Arts



Class Goals for 2021

I value the partnership between parents and teachers while recognising that parents are the first educators of their children. I look forward to working closely with you and developing positive relationships with both you and your children and to help your children grow in confidence of their ability and learn.

I aim to provide a stimulating learning environment where the children are exposed to quality instruction and they are encouraged to actively participate and take risks with their learning. I believe that every child is unique with their own gifts and talents. As their class teacher I aim to ensure each and every child reaches their full potential.

About Me

I am married and have three adult children. On weekends I enjoy spending time with my family, particularly my 3yr old granddaughter. I am looking forward to the arrival of another granddaughter in May.

I enjoy going to the gym and jogging/walking around the lake.

Contact Information:

susan.woodward@mn.catholic.edu.au

MEET THE TEACHER

Meet your Teacher for 2021!

Clare Paff

2 Blue

Teaching Experience & Education

This is my third year at St. Joseph's. I have been a teacher for about 15 years after changing careers from Population Health. Studies include:

2014- 2017 Master of Theology (with Distinction)

2009-2010 Graduate Certificate in Educational Studies (Special Education)

2003-2005 Bachelor of Teaching (Primary)

1997 – 1998 Postgraduate Diploma Health Promotion

1993 – 1996 Bachelor of Social Science



Class Goals for 2021

I believe all children are able to reach their potential given the right environment. I endeavour to help each child to achieve their personal best.

In 2 blue focusing on developing number fluency and writing skills is a priority.

About Me

When I am not at school, I enjoy an active lifestyle with my 2 children Lucinda and Dominic. I love running both road and trail and being in nature as well as a great book and good food.

Contact Information: clare.paff@mn.catholic.edu.au

MEET THE TEACHER

Meet your Teacher for 2021!

Molly Kalchbauer

Year 2 Red

Teaching Experience & Education

I have completed a Bachelor of Teaching at The University of Newcastle. Last year I was fortunate enough to work at St Paul's Gateshead on Year 1.

I am excited to be joining the St. Joseph's school community and look forward to a fun year teaching Year 2.



Class Goals for 2021

A new school means new beginnings, new adventures and new friendships.

My class goal for 2 Red is to provide an environment where children are confident to take risks, ask questions and foster a love of learning.

About Me

I grew up in Port Macquarie and love spending time with my family. In my spare time I enjoy going to the beach and finding all the new restaurants to eat in Newcastle. However, being a new teacher I have found that now when I am not at school, I will often be in bed before the sun goes down!

Contact Information: molly.kalchbauer@mn.catholic.edu.au

MEET THE TEACHER

Meet your Teacher for 2021!

Mrs Emma McGlynn

Year 2 Red – Thursday

Teaching Experience & Education

I am looking forward to teaching Year 2 this year and learning together. I have been at St Joseph's for 8 years and teaching for over 12 years.

I am excited about the new challenge of teaching Year 2 after being with Year 5/6 for the last 3 years. I enjoy teaching maths and seeing budding mathematicians evolve.

My qualifications include: Bachelor of Teaching/Bachelor of Arts, Graduate Certificate of Religious Education and Graduate Certificate of Primary Mathematics.



Class Goals for 2021

I love teaching and seeing every child achieve their potential whilst having lots of fun along the way!

My class goal for 2021 is for myself and Year 2 Red to learn together, grow together and have fun together!

About Me

My husband and I have 3 beautiful children, 2 dogs and have just bought a new house!

We love going to the beach, going camping and exploring new places.

I'm looking forward to a year of netball and hot cups of tea (at school!).

Contact Information: emma.mcglynn@mn.catholic.edu.au