A WORD FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Students and Staff

The past week has seen our hearts go out to others in our world who are suffering. We particularly keep in our prayers the people of Nepal who have suffered greatly from the devastating earthquakes that have resulted in the loss of many lives and homes. We also keep in our prayers the families and friends of Andrew Chan and Myuran Sukumaran who had their lives taken away through execution in Indonesia. We ask that you keep these people in your prayers and ask that God gives comfort and support to those who are suffering.

Start to Term 2

It would be a gross understatement to say that our start to Term 2 was unexpected. The storm certainly had a major impact on our school community. The school buildings came through the storm relatively unscathed with a loss of power and fallen trees, power poles and power lines all stopping access to our college and causing the college to close for a number of days.

One difficulty that was faced throughout the storm was making contact with our school community to keep them updated on the closure of the school. We used SMS messages, emails, radio station messages and Facebook messages to communicate with families. With a lack of phone reception and a lack of power in many parts of the central coast we are aware that some of these messages simply didn’t get through to families. One learning from this experience is that we need to set up a college Facebook page so that we can have one central place for the transfer of information to our community. We are now in the process of setting up a Facebook page and will let parents know its details in the coming weeks.

Camps and Retreats

The Year 9 camp that was due to be held during Week 1 of Term 2 was postponed due to the extreme weather experienced last week. We are now in the process of looking for alternate dates for this camp to be held. We will inform parents and students once a decision has been made on when this camp will now occur.

Congratulations to our Year 12 students for the wonderful way they approached and participated in their Year 12 Retreat on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week. Special thanks to Mrs Green for all her organisation and planning of the retreat and to the staff who supported our students over these two days.

Calendar Dates

May
3 Yr 11/12 geo excursion to Mt Kos – 3rd – 5th May
6 Yr 11 PDH camp – 6th – 8th May
Mental health forum – 8 students fr yrs 8/9
7 BBSSSA jnr & int b’ball
8 NSW All Schools Touch Yrs 9 & 10 @ Penrith
Yr 11 PDH camp
11 BBSSSA open soccer Cromer Park
12 NAPLAN – 12th – 14th May
13 Yr 12 bio/SSC exc @ Mus of Human Disease
20 Yr 7 jump rope Exc. Outdoor Rec 4 x Yr 11 & 12 students – 20th May – 28th May
27 Athletics carnival

June
1 Yr 7 2016 interviews - 1st - 3rd June
Cyber safety evening
(Susan McLean)
Mackillop College
2 Yr 8 inquisitive minds maths day @ St Ed (20 students)
5 JJAMM afternoon
8 Queen’s birthday weekend
9 Yrs 10-12 DDB pastoral care conference
10 Yr 11 retreat – 10th – 12th June
Yr 12 geo excursion
12 Yrs 9, 11, 12 ITT wood show
Yr 8 french 5 & half French 1 excursion

ISSUE NO: 6
1st May 2015

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COMPASSION  HOPE  JUSTICE  RESPECT
**National Testing – Years 7 and 9**
All students in Years 7 and 9 will, this term, undertake Literacy and Numeracy tests as part of the Federal Government’s National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). Students in Years 7 and 9 will spend some class time over the next couple of weeks familiarising themselves with the format of each of these exams and completing sample questions to ensure that they are fully prepared to do their best in these NAPLAN tests. To view some sample questions for each of the tests, parents can visit the NAPLAN website www.naplan.edu.au

**Mother’s Day Wishes**
Mother’s Day is a time when we have the opportunity to remember all the sacrifices our mums make to ensure that we are safe and secure as young children, support us through our difficult times and celebrate with us when we are successful. Mother’s Day also provides us with an opportunity to meet with our families, enjoy their company and remember just how precious our families are to us and how important it is to have a sense of belonging.

I would like to acknowledge all the mums at the college and hope they are made to feel special on Sunday 10th May and that it carries over into the whole year.

God bless and best wishes for the fortnight ahead.

**Tony McCudden**
Principal

**FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL**

Term 2 is well under way despite having lost the first three days of learning and teaching and the forced postponement of the Year 9 camp and NSW CCC Open basketball finals. Parents will be notified of the rescheduled dates as soon as they have been confirmed. The pictures on page 1 tell the story. I hope the majority of households have returned to normal power and water services. To the girls’ great credit, most returned to school last Friday very ready to share ‘storm stories’ and settle quickly to the business of learning.

**Changes to Busways timetables**

Busways notified schools of changes to the following bus timetables effective from Monday 4th May:

**Morning (am) buses**

- **Bus 24** will now depart from Wyoming Shops in Kinarra Ave at 7:44am (6 minutes earlier) and will operate 6 minutes earlier throughout the entire journey to school.
- **Bus 83** will now depart from The Rampart and Castle Circuit at 7:26am (4 minutes earlier) and will operate via normal directions to Railway St & Melba Rd, Woy Woy, then continues via Railway St (L) into Woy Woy Station at (7:51am), then continues via (L) Railway St, Brisbane Water Dr and then via normal directions to the school.
- **Bus 2** will now depart from Bradleys Rd and Scenic Hwy at 7:23am (4 minutes earlier) and will operate 4 minutes earlier throughout the entire journey to school.

**Afternoon (pm) bus**

- **Bus 80** departing from school will now have a First Set Down Restriction of Brisbane Water Dr and Kulara Ave, West Gosford and will travel via normal directions to Glenrock Pde and Nimala Ave.

**New Semester Awards program for St Joseph’s**
As parents and teachers, we are aware of the importance of praise and compliments in encouraging young people to set goals and achieve outcomes of which they can be proud. Our positive reward program of merits and community services culminating in Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards is grounded in such a philosophy. We are launching a new Semester Awards program this year to complement the college’s existing positive awards program. Students in every year are now eligible to receive a:

- Semester Achievement Award – awarded to the top twenty students in the year based on aggregate (total) marks achieved by the student from assessment tasks including semester examinations when appropriate for the subjects studied during the semester.

- Semester Application Award – based on class teachers nominating a recipient(s) from their class who meets the application and engagement criteria determined by the awards committee. The criteria will be published so that students are fully aware of the application standards they must meet to be nominated. Students must be nominated in at least two different subjects to receive an Application Award.

Semester awards will be awarded at the end of each semester and presented at a year assembly followed with a Principal’s morning tea. Year 12 ‘kick off’ the 2015 semester award season with the presentation of Semester 1 achievement and application awards at a year assembly in week 5 and a Principal’s morning tea for the recipients.
Macquarie University research project

Researchers from Macquarie University are investigating factors associated with cyberbullying, specifically the factors associated with students being mean to each other in their cyber interactions. The research team are inviting students in Years 7 and 9 to complete an online questionnaire late in Term 2 and again in late Term 4. The college has agreed to participate as it is our firm belief that research is vital in contributing to our knowledge and understanding of contemporary issues. The research team will provide consent forms to parents/carers of students in Years 7 and 9 late next week. We ask you to consider the request for your daughter to participate in this very important research.

Anzac Day March

Students in Years 7 – 11 were involved in making the poppies that Gosford Council used in the field of poppies to mark Anzac Day. The field was very impressive as evidenced in the accompanying photograph.

Our Year 12 college and house leaders then represented the college by marching in the main Gosford march on Anzac Day and laid a wreath at the Cenotaph. Thank you to the parents who attended the march in support of the girls but more importantly, as a mark of respect for this very significant day. The college marked the centenary with the HSIE faculty organising a very poignant Anzac assembly last Monday morning.

Winter uniform

The girls have returned in full winter uniform and are looking splendid in blazers and stockings. I provided this flyer for cotton gusset stockings to some of the girls who are sensitive to nylon products.


These tights (70 denier) are made specifically for school use. Please contact me or Mr McCudden if problems persist. Just a reminder to parents please that skirt hems are required to be ‘no shorter than 5 cm above mid-knee’. Girls are required to unroll their skirt at the waist or, in some cases, lower their hem line to meet this standard.

The term is going to be busy as indicated by the calendar dates on page 1 so hopefully it is a rewarding one for you and your daughters.

Helen Love
Assistant Principal
FROM THE LEADER OF LEARNING AND TEACHING

NAPLAN – Years 7 & 9

Years 7 and 9 will be completing the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) between 12th and 14th May 2015. Friday 15th May is the catch-up day for absent students.

The test exam timetable is below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday 12 May</th>
<th>Wednesday 13 May</th>
<th>Thursday 14 May</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language conventions</td>
<td>Reading 65 minutes</td>
<td>Numeracy calculator allowed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 minutes</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td></td>
<td>followed by Numeracy non-calculator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 minutes</td>
<td></td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To be fully prepared for exams, your daughters should work, class notes etc. and go over their study notes as soon as possible on return to school after absences to be fully prepared for the examinations.

For the first time in 2015 there will be one writing prompt for students in Years 3 and 5 and a second different prompt for students in Years 7 and 9. However, both prompts will be of the same genre and the results will be reported on a single NAPLAN scale. This decision has been taken to ensure maximum engagement and fairness for all students.

The 2015 Writing test will require students to respond to either a persuasive or narrative writing prompt. For further information go to: www.nap.edu.au/naplan/about-each-domain/writing/writing.html

Year 12

Year 12 have returned to school in good spirits and refreshed after completing their half-yearly exams at the end of last term. Due to the school closure the Semester 1 reports will be slightly delayed. With the girls now being at the half-way point in their HSC courses, it is timely to ensure regular updates of study notes is occurring as well as preparations for upcoming assessment tasks. The HSC timetable was released to students on Wednesday 29th April.

Year 11 and Year 10 half-yearly examinations

Half-yearly examinations for Year 10 and Year 11 will commence on Wednesday 20th May, Week 5. Year 11 will be required to attend school only when their examinations are being held. Year 10 will attend school each day as usual during the examination period. Early preparation is the key to success so please encourage your daughters to keep up to date with their class work, homework and assignments over the next few weeks. It is also important to catch up any missed work, class notes etc. as soon as possible on return to school after absences to be fully prepared for the examinations.

Year 10 3-day Canberra excursion

Year 10 will enjoy a three day two night excursion to Canberra at the end of Term 4:

Canberra excursion dates: Monday 30th November – Wednesday 2nd December 2015

This excursion will be a fun and valuable experience for your daughter as she concludes Stage 5 and prepares for her final two years at the college.

Year 7 connected learning expo – save the date!

Year 7 has been very busy and creative in their Connected Learning classes in Term 1. The girls have developed skills in using technology such as Google sites and Google Drive as part of their first group project to create a website and research about what it means to be a Joey’s girl. Each group will be presenting their major project for the year at the Connected Learning Expo evening in Term 4. All families are invited to attend what will be an exciting and entertaining evening.

Please note the following expo evening date in your diaries: Tuesday 17th November, 2015

Kathy West
Leader of Learning and Teaching

FROM THE LEADER OF YEAR 7

Year 7 Report

Welcome back to Term 2, Where did Term 1 go?

The girls started the year with immaculate uniform and plenty of nerves and energy to confront high school. They have each got lost at some time, had computer issues, gone to the wrong classrooms, mixed up week 1 and 2 but have ALL started life at Joeys with very positive results.

The girls have mastered their timetables, made some new friends and maintained old ones. Their first term came and went very quickly however it was very productive. The highlight was the camp at Southern Cross Outdoor Centre. The girls had a fantastic time; they mixed well, were very well behaved and were a credit to their parents and their new school. It was the first opportunity for the girls to come together as a cohort and they worked and socialised really well as depicted in the photographs.

Term 2 is up and running and after a wet and windy start the girls have again settled. The girls will experience assessment tasks, exams, Elevate Education, an athletics carnival, Jump Rope for Heart (please collect your sponsor money) and numerous other sporting events. It will be a very busy term.

The girls are much more confident now moving into the second term and will continue to develop academically.
and socially as the year progresses. They are encouraged to keep up their great approach.

FROM THE LEADER OF MATHEMATICS

Staff News
On behalf of the Maths staff I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Mrs Natalie O’Dell to our department. Mrs O’Dell is working primarily in the Mathematics department, teaching classes from Years 7 to 11 as well as a Year 8 Science class.

Mathsonline
Maths Online (mathsonline.com.au) is now accessible to all St Joseph’s students for 2015.

All students will have received a unique login and password from their Mathematics teacher which will give them access at home and at school all year. The above website has been designed for all the courses offered here at St Joseph’s from Year 7 to Years 11 and 12 General and Extension 1 courses.

Maths Online features hundreds of fully animated and voiced over maths lessons with thousands of exam-style questions to practise. Mathsonline guides you through all topics of maths, lesson by lesson, allowing you to pause, rewind and repeat all or part of any lesson until you fully understand it.

Features:

- Video/Audio lesson demonstrations of concepts, with several examples of each.
- Every lesson is accompanied by a worksheet for students to practise their skills.
- Fully worked solutions which can be viewed and printed are provided for every task.
- Gives students the freedom to study without stress, at home, in their own time, at their own pace.
- Students can catch up on lessons they missed in class or concepts they have not fully understood.
- Because maths concepts build upon each other, sometimes it's necessary for students to go back and revise a particular concept before moving on to a new topic.
- Students can gain understanding and confidence.
- mathsonline.com.au is available whenever and wherever you need it.

With exams and common tests happening regularly, I recommend that all students log on and make regular use of this valuable resource.

Maths Tutorials
This year the Mathematics staff is again offering assistance to the students of the college (Yr 7-12) with their Mathematics homework, assignments, preparation for assessments or just supporting them as they practise their Mathematical skills.
A Mathematics teacher will be available on Wednesdays, after school, between 3:00pm and 3:50pm in Room 31 to work with the girls. Your daughter should have received a letter which gives more information about these sessions.

Students are not required to stay for the whole time, but they must be comfortable that they have achieved their goal for that period of time. They are to arrange their own transport with their parents when they have concluded their Maths session.

Maths Help will not run in the first and last weeks of any term, nor after special events such as the school athletics carnival.

Mrs Ruth Hayes  
Leader of Maths

COMMUNITY NEWS
Youth of the Vine Gathering, Our Lady of the Rosary Church, Wyoming, Friday 1st May from 6pm. The evening of praise, song and worship will be open for all young people aged 12 to 40 with the focus on discipleship, Jesus and you. It includes food, music, readings, information on youth ministries and other activities. Please join us for a spiritually fulfilling evening. Inquiries, Fr Andrew/Parish Office 4324 3962 or Glenn 0410 753 259, Facebook: www.facebook.com/OLRWyoming or Web: www.olrwyoming.org.au/home.
"Youth of the Vine"

Calling all youth and young adults!

Come and join in our celebration evening,
"Youth of the Vine"

An evening of praise and worship providing spiritual enrichment and helping young people in faith formation and development of their relationship with Jesus.

Food
Music
Readings
Testimonies
Youth ministry information
Prayer/discussion groups
and more.........

(Target ages 12-40)

Friday 1st May 2015

Venue: Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, Wyoming
92 Gennie Street, North Gosford
Contact: Fr Andrew/Parish Office 4324 3962 or Glenn 0410 753 259
Facebook: www.facebook.com/OLRWyoming
Web: www.olrwyoming.org.au/home

“T’m the vine, you are the branches...”
“...All who live in me, and in them, bear much fruit”

We are called to be disciples
Matthew 28:18-20
ZAMBIA FUNDRAISER!
TRIVIA NIGHT

Saturday 2nd of May 6:30pm

Holy Cross
Signed Mariners Auction!
Lucky Door
Prize to be won!

School Hall
Jersey – Silent Prizes to be won!

Table for $80 or Ticket $15 each
Limited Tables
Contact Madi Smith on 0422 162 847

BYO Drinks & Nibbles

Sponsors: