From the Principal

Dear Parents, Students and Staff

**November – Month of Remembrance**

On Thursday of this week we celebrated All Souls Day. It is customary for us in our church and here at school to acknowledge All Souls throughout the whole of November.

“It is therefore a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from sins.”

2 Maccabees 12.46

Each Thursday during this month we will present the college Book of Life at our lunchtime Mass in order to pray for the repose of the souls of our family and friends. Students and staff are welcome to add any names into this book before the lunchtime Mass. The book is on the altar in Shekinah.

**Year 7 – 10 Examinations**

The Year 7 – 10 end of year examinations begin on Monday 6th November. All students have received their examination timetables and should have been preparing themselves for these exams for the past few weeks. We wish all of our students the very best for their exams and hope that their efforts throughout this year are rewarded with some excellent results in these final examinations.

**Remembrance Day**

During the month of November we remember all those family and friends who have died and gone to eternal life. Saturday 11th November, Armistice Day, the day when World War One ended in 1918, is a special day of remembrance for all those who lost their lives fighting so that our freedom would be preserved. Let us never forget the contribution of all those brave men and women. We pray for them and for all our deceased relatives and friends at this time. We will celebrate Remembrance Day at the college at our morning assembly on Monday 13th November.
HSC Examinations
Congratulations to all of our Year 12 students as they near the completion of their Higher School Certificate Examinations for 2017. The very last examination for our college will be held next Tuesday. Our Year 12 students are to be commended for the way in which they have prepared for their examinations and for the way in which they have conducted themselves throughout the whole examination period. We wish them every success for their future and we look forward to receiving some pleasing HSC results from these examinations.

God bless and best wishes for the fortnight ahead.

Tony McCudden
Principal

From the Assistant Principal

Year 11 Semester 2 Achievement and Application Awards
We acknowledged the recipients of the Year 11 Semester 2 Achievement and Application Awards at a Principal’s morning tea last Monday. Achievement Awards are presented to the top twenty highest achievers based on overall results during the Preliminary Course. Application Awards are presented to students nominated by three or more of their teachers for their commitment to learning during the semester. Congratulations to these girls and to all students who successfully completed Year 11 courses and are now beginning their HSC studies.

RUOK day Friday 10th November
The college will acknowledge RUOK day on Friday 10th November with organised activities run throughout the day by the SRC and College Leaders. It will be an opportunity for all students to relax and unwind as well as for students in Years 7 – 10 to let their hair down a little after completing their yearly examinations. The day will include a morning assembly to raise awareness around the meaning of RUOK day, mindfulness sessions and an extended lunchtime with activities such as:

- BBQ
- cake stall
- balloon booth
- sign writing

PAT testing for Years 7, 8 & 9
All students in Years 7 – 9 will complete two Progressive Achievement Tests (PAT) in Comprehension and Mathematics after their yearly examinations – Year 7 on Thursday 9th November and Years 8 & 9 on Friday 10th November. Parents have received details about these tests in a letter sent home this week. Students will also complete similar tests at this time each
year as they progress through to Year 10. PAT tests are similar to NAPLAN tests in that students are not expected to study before completing the tests. These tests help teachers monitor the progress of students over time, allocate students to classes and evaluate the effectiveness of their teaching programs.

**College Uniform Standards**
Year Leaders are currently closely monitoring students each morning in relation to uniform. Our uniform standards are published in the Student Planner and on the college website at [SJCC uniform requirements](https://www.sjcc.org.au/). A reminder about the following standards:

- **Nails** – polish in clear or very light flesh tones is permitted but fashion colours are not; well-trimmed acrylic nails in clear or light flesh tones are permitted but not if they are painted in fashion colours.
- **Jewellery** – fashion/costume jewellery is not permitted; two pairs of plain sleeper or stud earrings, a plain ring and a small cross on a chain are permitted. Nose rings are not permitted.
- **Skirt length** - the skirt hem is to be no shorter than 5cm from the middle of the knee when standing. Students report they roll their skirt because it is comfortable. It is the skirt hem line that is the standard so they should ensure the skirt is comfortable at the top and then adjust the hem.

Students who do not comply with the college uniform standards may be issued with an afternoon detention.

**Cyber safety Presentation** *(this article is repeated from the previous Joeys Journal edition)*
Cyber safety is one of the most confronting issues for parents and teenagers. A student’s online behaviour affects all their relationships both inside and outside the school community. Identified dangers from online activity include exposure to inappropriate content, cyber bullying and harassment, ‘sexting’ and identity theft. Students are often not aware that their words and or photos, which may have been intended for a small audience, sometimes find their way to a larger one, often with both unexpected and undesirable consequences.
St Joseph's takes the issue of cyber safety education very seriously and is giving parents/carers the opportunity to be more informed about such issues by attending a special cyber safety presentation for parents/carers.

The presentation is suitable for ALL parents/carers and will be delivered by Australia’s foremost expert on this issue Susan McLean. It is never too early or late to be informed about this important topic. The session outline can be found below and in the flyer at the end of the newsletter. More information about Susan McLean can be found at: [www.cybersafety solutions.com.au](http://www.cybersafety solutions.com.au)

Your attendance at the information evening is strongly encouraged. As parents/carers, you have a vital role to play in minimising cyberbullying, ‘sexting’ and harassing behaviours online and this presentation will assist you to develop cyber safety measures for your own family to ensure that your children remain as safe as possible when using social media and technology.
kEePiNg SaFe iN cYbErSpAcE sEssION ouTLiNe

Popular sites – what are they? (instant messaging such as KiK social networking sites such as Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat and how games can be problematic).

What do kids do online? Where do they go? The difference between an ‘online friend’ and a ‘stranger.’

Online grooming – what is it and when/how does it occur?

Misuse of technology - legal consequences and the possible criminal charges. (What is cyber bullying and harassment?)

‘Sexting’ – the taking and sending of explicit images...what are the REAL consequences and possible criminal charges?

Potential dangers and safety tips – how to assist the children in your care to stay safe online.

Learn the lingo......be able to talk with your children in the language of cyberspace.

Be confident in setting rules and boundaries around internet use in the home.

Road safety and parking zones in and around schools
Central Coast Council have distributed information about safe road practice around schools. During Term 4 local roads become busier as the Christmas holiday period approaches. I encourage you to read through this information and in particular to discuss road safety with your daughters please, most notably with Year 12s who are now young drivers themselves.

Bus matters
We have received advice from one of our bus service providers letting us know that students are not always producing their School Opal Cards for travelling to school and home.

Revenue Protection Officers are currently patrolling buses and issuing infringements to any passenger not traveling with a valid ticket. Could you please advise your daughters they are required to have a valid ticket to travel to and from school otherwise they are at risk of being fined.

Please see an article about the benefits of bus travel at the end of this newsletter.

Thank you
This is my final article as Acting Assistant Principal as I will be taking some long service leave later this term. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone in our community for the wonderful support you give to the college each and every day. We are blessed to be part of a rich, vibrant and spiritual learning community where teachers strive to nurture and challenge students so they may seek opportunities to fulfil their dreams, become lifelong learners and reach their potential. We are very fortunate indeed.

Many thanks again and my very best wishes to all families for the remainder of the year.

Kathy West
Acting Assistant Principal

COMPASSION • HOPE • RESPECT • JUSTICE
From the Leader of Learning and Teaching

Year 12 2018
Our new HSC students have made a very positive start to their Year 12 studies. At the recent information evening documentation and information about how to successfully complete the HSC was presented. The 2018 HSC Assessment Handbook containing the college assessment policy and procedures has been distributed to students and uploaded to the college website. Students are reminded to sign the green form to confirm their receipt of the assessment handbook and return it to my office. The HSC year is an important one and I encourage parents to read through the handbook carefully with your daughters, mapping out when assessment tasks are due and talking through the delicate balance of preparing for assessment tasks, study and relaxation. The first HSC tasks are due in the coming weeks and many assessment tasks occur in the last couple of weeks this term. For best results it is important the girls are organised and plan for each assessment task well in advance. If the girls are ill or have a misadventure on the day of an assessment task they must notify the relevant Leader of Learning, Mr Terry Gahan or me and complete the appropriate documentation and be prepared to sit/ hand-in the task on the first day they return to school.

HSC disability provisions
Disability provisions in the HSC examination are practical arrangements to help students who could not otherwise make a fair attempt to show what they know during the examination. Any provisions granted must be approved by NESA and all applications require comments from all the student's teachers, doctors, psychologists or other health professionals pertaining to the students' diagnosis/reason for application. Students wishing to apply for disability provisions should see Mrs Simpson or Mrs Pearce to collect the relevant application form. This is due by the end of Term 4, 2017.

Year 10 HSC: All My Own Work
Year 10 are looking to transition into senior study and are both excited and nervous about the subject choices they have made and directions they are headed in. All students will be completing the mandatory NESA course HSC: All My Own Work, a pre-requisite for HSC study on either Friday 10th or Monday 13th November after their yearly examinations. This program includes understanding and valuing ethical practices when using information as part of their HSC studies and is delivered in self-paced learning modules about plagiarism, acknowledging sources, copyright, scholarship practices and working with others. It is important to note that students cannot begin Year 11 without this compulsory component. Mrs Powers will facilitate the running of HSC: All My Own Work in the library.

Years 7-10 yearly examinations
All students in Year 7-10 begin their yearly examinations on Monday 6th November. Students are encouraged to read the instructions on their timetables carefully. A reminder that mobile phones are prohibited in the examination rooms and should remain locked in the student’s
locker. Any students in Years 7 - 9 missing an examination must provide an explanation from parents/carers to the relevant Leader of Learning immediately on return to school and arrangements will be made to sit the examination at a later date. Students in Year 10 who are absent from an examination must provide a completed Illness/Misadventure form with appropriate documentation to the relevant Leader of Learning immediately on return to school and arrangements will be made to sit the examination at a later date. Best wishes to all students for their assessments.

**Alexandra McArdle**  
**Acting Leader of Learning and Teaching**

**From the Leader of Year 9**

Term 4 has started with a bang, yearly examinations are around the corner, assessment notifications have been given and the girls are a buzz with the end of year in sight. Year 9 girls have been active with extra curricular activities such as beach volleyball, water polo, athletics and Oz Tag. The girls also took part in the Year 9 Reflection Day which they all enjoyed and several of our girls were involved in the Future Problem Solving national competition supported by Ms Wedmore, Mrs Powers and Mrs Andersen.

We have had a busy and eventful year and are looking forward to finishing the year well and enjoying the Christmas holiday break.

**Mr Dave Matthews**  
**Leader of Year 9**

**From the Leader of Learning Support**

We welcome **Mrs Pearce** back from maternity leave. She is job sharing with **Mrs Smythe** and they will share case management of Year 8. Below is a reminder of our case management loads:

- **Mrs Simpson** – Year 7 and HSC Provisions.
- **Ms Kaye** – Year 9, reading recovery and Year 7 literacy groups.
- **Mrs Pourbozorgi** – Year 10, Year 11 and Year 7 literacy groups
- **Mrs Batten** assists Year 10, **Mrs Ponchard** assists Year 11 and in Technology subjects, **Mrs Scott** assists Year 7 and Year 8.

Yearly exams are upon us and we would always welcome any parent volunteers to read and write for students. Any amount of time would be appreciated. Please contact Mrs Tracy Simpson if you are interested.

If you have concerns about your daughters learning or feel that she may require extra support please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Tracy Simpson at the college.

**Mrs Tracy Simpson**  
**Leader of Learning Support**

COMPASSION • HOPE • RESPECT • JUSTICE
From the ACYF Organiser

**Australian Catholic Youth Festival**
The group going to the Festival on December 7, 8 and 9 have met on October 31 for our first preparatory session at lunchtime. The next meetings will be on November 14 and 21. These meetings are designed to prepare our participants for the spiritual experience of the festival as well as give practical details on travel and accommodation.

Fiona Green, Nicole Harrison, Janine Banovich and Kendall Perriam are running these sessions and we were very impressed with willingness of our girls to be actively involved in the preparations.

On Thursday November 23 between 6 pm and 7 pm in room 2 we are meeting with parents and guardians of our participants to give information about the festival as well allow for questions.

Year 9 have been offered the chance to have a one day experience of the festival and we have a bus load going down on Thursday December 7 and then on Friday December 8. We know this is a wonderful chance for students to immerse themselves in opportunities to explore and celebrate their faith. In year 9 religion classes there will be chances to prepare for the festival excursion.

**Kendall Perriam**
**ACYF Coordinator**
School Traffic and Parking Around Your Local Community

Parking rules are designed to stop vehicles from parking where it would be dangerous or inconvenient for others. Please consider the residents when parking in streets surrounding your school.

You must not stop your vehicle (that is, bring it to a stop and either stay with the vehicle or leave it parked) in the following circumstances:

- Double parked (that is in the road alongside a car that is parked)
- Across a driveway or footpath
- On a median strip or traffic island
- On footpaths and nature strips
- On or within 20 metres before and 10 metres after a children’s crossing or pedestrian crossing

- Within an intersection
- Within 10 metres of an intersecting road at an intersection without traffic lights unless signposted otherwise

- In Bus Stop, Bus Zone, Taxi Stand or Taxi Zone signed areas
- At least one (1) metre from any other parked vehicle, close as possible and parallel to the kerb, and facing the same direction as the traffic lane

- Within three (3) metres of any double centre lines
- Within 20 metres before and 10 metres after a bus stop

Adherence to signposting, linemarking and road rules around your school will assist in providing a safe environment for the school community and residents.
You are invited to an important presentation for all parents and carers about cybersafety and how to help your child be safe online.

Growing up online

An informative and entertaining session for parents and carers is delivered with Susan’s famous ‘no nonsense’ approach and will cover topics about the positive benefits of technology as well as what parents need to be aware of:

What are kids doing online – the popular social networking sites and apps such as Kik, Musical.ly and Instagram and Yellow. What they are, what are the legal ages to use them and why these rules should be obeyed. The difference between an ‘online friend’ and a ‘stranger’.

Online grooming – what is it and when/how does it occur? What are the warning signs and what to do if you suspect this is happening to your child.

Cyberbullying - what it is, where it happens, what it looks like, how to prevent and what to do if it occurs. Also what are the legal consequences and the possible criminal charges?

‘Sexting’ – the taking and sending of explicit images...what are the REAL consequences?

Potential dangers and safety tips – how to assist the children in your care to stay safe online via parental controls and restriction passcodes.

Learning the lingo......being able to converse with your children in the language of cyberspace.

Problematic Internet use and gaming issues. Office of the eSafety Commissioner – role, resources and reporting.

Be confident in setting rules and boundaries around Internet use in the home. It’s OK to say NO.

The session will conclude with time for questions.

Susan McLean is Australia’s foremost expert in the area of Cybersafety and young people. She is a mother of three and was the first Victorian Police Officer appointed to a position involving Cybersafety and young people. She took her first report of cyberbullying in 1994 and since then she has conducted extensive research and has completed advanced training in this area in both the USA and UK and is a sought after presenter and advisor to Schools, elite sporting bodies such as the AFL, GP’s, and both State and Federal Governments. She has authored resources for the Victorian DET, writes and reviews school policy, provides crisis management/advice to schools and is afforded ‘expert’ status on the Safer Internet Programme Data Base. She is also a member of the Australian Government’s Cybersafety working group and a published author. Her book ‘Sext’s Texts & Selfies’, is the definitive parents’ guide to helping their children stay safe online.

What Susan doesn’t know about Cybersafety is not worth knowing! She is absolutely brilliant and her presentations are dynamic and entertaining. She has the unique ability to connect with each audience from young people to adults.

www.cybersafetysolutions.com.au
The Great Benefits of the School Bus

Have you considered looking into using the school bus service as a way of getting to and from school? Here’s some information you may not have known that will help you make up your mind.

Kids catching the bus instead of parents driving them to school has so many benefits, mainly it can help by reducing the congestion that increases unsafe behaviours.

Did you know that bus travel is the safest form of land travel in Australia?

Did you know that school children between the ages of 5 and 16 years, travelling to and from school, are substantially safer travelling by bus than other modes of transport?

Did you know that studies run by the Institute of Transport and Logistical studies, University of Sydney show that travelling by bus is 4.4 times safer than walking, 55 times safer than riding a bike and 1.38 times safer than being driven to school?

Did you know that until the end of Year 2 bus passes are free for all students?

Did you know that if you live over 1.6km (most direct route) from the school, you can get a free bus pass?

Did you know that it only costs approx $1/per day ($52/term) to get a bus pass?

Other benefits of catching the bus to and from school include:
- Reducing traffic around the school, thus increasing safety for all our kids
- Reducing environmental damage from running your car
- Not having to get to school ½ hour early to get a parking space
- Promoting and encouraging safe independence with our children
- Drop off right outside the school gate (or closer to the school gate then you can get dropping your child safely with your car)
- Extra ‘me’ time for busy mums.

Talk to your school office or local bus company about bus routes for your school and getting a bus pass.