May 24 2016

Dear Parents/Carer,

Re: Reconciliation Forum

On Friday May 27 St Joseph’s students have been invited to attend a Forum at St Edward’s on the topic of Reconciliation. This will be in the format of a question and answer presentation.

Both myself and three other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people will be asked to speak on the topic of what we think being Indigenous means for us as well as what our view is about Reconciliation’s future in Australia. The forum will take place in front of 1110 people. I would ask that the girls meet me in the foyer no later than 8.30am as the event begins at 8.40 and will finish at 9.15. Morning tea will follow at St Edwards.

Reconciliation is a time of forgiveness and holds special meaning in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Culture. The aim of the forum is to promote healing and peace between us all and we hope that these events can make some difference for our young people who will hear these stories.

This excursion;

- Provides an enriching cultural experience aimed at promoting understanding and harmony
- Provides an opportunity for the girls to make connections within with a larger community group moving toward reconciliation.

Students are asked to wear correct winter uniform.

*Please complete the form below and return it to Mrs Leahy by Thursday May 26.*

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this excursion.

Yours faithfully,

Rebecca Leahy
Aboriginal Education Worker
Rebecca.leahy@dbb.catholic.edu.au

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**RECONCILIATION FORUM ST EDWARDS**

I give permission for my daughter ______________________________ to attend the excursion at St Edward’s Christian Brothers College on Friday May 27 2016

Signed: ________________________________ Date: ________________

*Parent/Carer*

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**COMPASSION • HOPE • JUSTICE • RESPECT**