Dear Parents, Students and Friends of St Joachim’s,

**Closure Day Next Friday 8th March**
Please note that next Friday is a school closure day. The day has been set aside to provide all staff from both Parish schools with the opportunity to further enhance their professional development and curriculum planning. Students are not to attend school on this day.

**2014 Prep Enrolments**
We are now taking Prep enrolments for 2014. It is essential that families seeking a placement for their child at St Joachim’s, collect an enrolment form as soon as possible. Like 2013, we will only make available 32 places and with already 45 families already asking to be placed on the application list, I would ask that you contact the office as soon as possible.

If you are an existing family, it is essential that you still apply prior to the closing date of Friday 31st May as beyond this date we may not be able to guarantee you a placement.

**Enhancing Numeracy Skills**
Every child from Grade 1 to Grade 6 has recently undertaken a Progressive Achievement Test in Numeracy. The data collected is now being analysed to identify your child’s numeracy strengths and challenges. It will assist us in being able to modify the learning and teaching program according to your child’s needs so that your child is provided a curriculum that both challenges and engages them.

Your child will shortly be provided with their 2013 Mathletics user name and password. We hope that you will encourage your child to use this program from home via the internet. It is an excellent learning tool that will assist and reinforce the learning that takes place at school.

May you have a very restful weekend and for families enrolled in the sacramental program, our thoughts and prayers are with you as you support your children in their journey of faith.

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**Newsletter No.5**
**Friday 1st March 2013**

**Keeping a Holy Lent**

**March**
- 4th Preps begin full time
- 7th Mass MMH&MRN 9:00am
- 8th School Closure Day
- Staff P.D.
- 11th Labour Day Holiday
- School closed
- 12th Camp Information Night – All Gr 5&6
- Parents 7:00pm Staffroom
- 14th Mass Seniors 9:00am
- 21st Harmony Day
- 27th School Photo Day
- Lightning Premiership Year 6
- 28th Holy Week Liturgy 9:00am
- Term 1 Dismissal 3:15pm

**RUNNING/FITNESS CLUB**
**Wednesday Mornings**
For Grades 5 & 6
8:00am – 8:25am
On the oval

**Lisa Brooking – Fitness Coach**

Well done to those Grade 5/6 children who joined in the club on Wednesday.

Everyone did really well and I think it was enjoyed by all. The idea behind the club is to improve your fitness no matter what level and to have some fun. It will also provide some extra training for those children who are representing the school in the cross country.

I will provide a fruit snack straight after the session so the children are not ‘starving’ when they have finished.

Looking forward to next week.
Student News!

Student Leaders 2013
School Captain: Winson Tang,
Vice School Captains: Hunter White & Jack Fletcher,
School Captain: Hailey Cummin,
Vice School Captains: Maddie McInerney & Melanie Peres

House Captains:

BLUE:
Makalei Hickey & Emily Bennett

GREEN:
Laura O'Sullivan & Ethan Laws

YELLOW:
Abhikash Sivabalan & Jarrod Brown

RED:
Keala Kensesly & Patrick O'Brien
ART CLUB
WEDNESDAYS AT LUNCHTIME FOR MIDDLES & SENIORS

HELENA WALKER – CREATIVE ARTS

Middles and Senior students are invited to come to the art room and make some creative art pieces during Art Club.

There is a limit to 30 students each week to come with ideas to create and make under the supervision of Miss Walker.

It is a first in best dressed basis each week.

Hope to see you there!

The Students love to show off their works of art

LIBRARY NEWS

LEONIE RICHARDSON – LIBRARY / ICT

THE LIBRARY IS OPEN AT LUNCHTIMES ON MONDAY & FRIDAY.

We have some chess sets and other games for the children to play with, not to mention all the fabulous books that children can quietly sit and read. We have also recently received a significant amount of Lego thanks to your support last year supporting the Woolworths Earn & Learn program.

THE LIBRARY IS OPEN AFTER SCHOOL ON MON, TUES, WED & FRI

We have a number of students who come to the library after school to change their books. Some afternoons it is very crowded – not that I’m complaining! It is great to see our students so exciting about borrowing and reading.

Studies have proven that reading for pleasure has been found to increase vocabulary, comprehension, verbal fluency and levels of general knowledge.

Parents are more than welcome to come to the library to help their children choose books. It may be books for your child to read independently or longer novels for you to read aloud at home. We even have a small Parent Library of parent related books that you may like to borrow.

NEW BOOKS
THE LIBRARY HAS HEAPS OF NEW BOOKS ALL WAITING TO BE COVERED.

CAN YOU HELP?

I am always extremely grateful to the mothers who help me by covering our new library books.

This job does not have to be done at school – books can be taken home and covered in your own time. If you are able to help, please pop into the library after school and pick up a bag of books.
**Assembly Awards**

**Grace McCarthy PST**
For following all instructions and being a helpful class member.

**Tristan Stapleton PRA**
For always having an opposite attitude towards school.

**Akashtan Thayalan JRE**
For creating a wonderful ‘ch’ story and challenging himself to find and use these words in his writing.

**Marley Bartlett JRG**
For always being enthusiastic in all areas of her schooling.

**Blake Pick JHE**
For being a fantastic role model in our class, following school rules consistently.

**Merinus Panadura Arachchige JZA**
For following directions and being a good role model in the class.

**Jai McCoy MCN**
For recording his reading in his diary every night

**Sam Cronin MRN**
For confidently using his sketch to sketch reading strategy when sequencing his Dreamtime story.

**Georgia Marlow MMH**
For always making excellent and thoughtful contributions to class discussions and lessons.

**Lochlan Clarke MTO**
For always listening carefully and contributing to class discussions.

**Oshini Samayamanthrie SCP**
For prioritizing your learning to ensure that you finish your work.

**Abby Broomhall SDB**
For an excellent persuasive piece of writing on ‘Federation’.

**Melanie Peres SDM**
For a very creative postcard about her characters in her personal book.

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**School Office Opening Times:**
**Monday to Friday**
**8.30AM till 4.00PM**

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**CDF Student Banking day is Thursday**

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**Uniform Shop**
**Trading Hours**
**Wednesday 8:30 – 9:00AM**
**Thursday 2:45PM – 3:30PM**

Tracey Craddock  Uniform Shop Coordinator
tcraddock@sicarrumdowns.catholic.edu.au

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The Seniors head off to Interschool Sport
Coming up...
Harmony Day “Everyone Belongs” —March 21st

Last Meeting:
Our Last P & F meeting was held in the staffroom on Tuesday March 26.


We discussed the following.....

Easter Egg Raffle:
Traditionally at St Joachim’s we have an Easter Raffle. Children bring an Easter egg to school to donate to our Easter raffle. Raffle tickets are sold to every child the opportunity to win a hamper in time for Easter.

Our timeline is as follows:
March 12   Note to go home to families with raffle tickets.
March 21   Harmony Day (stay tuned for more information)
            Children bring an Easter egg to donate.
            Raffle tickets / money returned.
March 26   Parents to make up Easter hampers.
March 28   Raffles drawn in classrooms.
Sarah to coordinate packing of hampers. Boxes and cellophane will need to be purchased.

Prep Pizza Night:
Last year our Prep families got together one evening from 5pm to 7pm. It gave the new families the opportunity to get to know each other. It was a great evening, so we are going to do it again on March 20.

Barbie and David will help promote the evening and see if we can get any Prep parents to help us organise this.

Lost Property:
Thank you Julie Van Drie for volunteering to check lost property once a week—all labeled clothing etc will be sent back to classes. Please make sure all your child’s clothing etc is clearly marked.

Mother’s Day:
Just before Mother’s day we give students the opportunity to bring up to $5 to school to buy a small gift for Mother’s Day. With May fast approaching we are currently looking at purchasing the “gifts” for the stall.

Julie and Teresa have offered to coordinate this. Initially this will mean purchasing items in bulk. If you would like to help please let us know via:
Irene Stewart
istewart@sjcarrumdowns.catholic.edu.au

Next Meeting: March 12 in the staffroom.

The primary role of the St Joachim’s P&F is to build community spirit, and to support the staff by assisting with the organisation of special events.

We love to see new faces.

Attendance at these meetings is a great way to meet other parents and find out what’s going on around the school. Don’t worry, your attendance on the night does not lock you into helping at our functions, unless you want to.

We value your opinions and ideas. All Welcome!
said, 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am!' he answered. 'Come no nearer,' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your father,' he said. 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God.

And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow.'

Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you." But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, 'I am who I am. This' he added 'is what you must say to the sons of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.'

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 102:1-4, 6-8, 11. R. v.8
(R. The Lord is kind and merciful.
1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. (R.)
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. (R.)
3. The Lord does deeds of justice, gives judgement for all who are oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses and his deeds to Israel's sons. (R.)
4. The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy. For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him. (R.)

Second Reading
1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12
A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians
All this that happened to the people of Moses in the desert was written for our benefit.

I want to remind you how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert.

These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer.

All this happened to them as a warning and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

Gospel Acclamation

Mt 4:17

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! Repent, says the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

Lk 13:1-9

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Unless you repent you will all perish as they did.

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, ‘Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.’

He told this parable: ‘A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, “Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?” “Sir,” the man replied “leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it; it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down.”

Food For The Soul

One major theme emerges from today’s readings: incomprehensibility of God. We see it in the mysterious divine name, which distinguishes the God of Israel from all others and yet leaves us in the dark as to its meaning. We see it as God communicates with us through inanimate objects and the people in our lives. Finally, we see that God both pardons iniquities and decides to root out unfruitful branches, and we are confused by such inconsistency.

In the midst of this ambiguity we have one sure source of stability – Christ. It is Christ who reveals the nature and meaning of the divine name; it is Christ who intercedes for us before God. Christ, the one who set his face toward Jerusalem, there to suffer and die, is the great messenger through whom God is revealed. He is the one who reveals majesty through the simplicity of a bush; he is the one who judges with the patience of a gardener. However, the limits of the experience and mercy of God in our lives are defined by our own openness. Despite the blessings that we receive in the wildernesses of our lives, it could happen that God is not pleased with us. We must not take God’s goodness for granted.

These readings close on a note of caution. Take care! We might be able to rest secure in the knowledge of the love and mercy of God, but these readings tell us that we should not dare to rest passively or complacently.

Mrs Bennett & The Seniors head off to Interschool Sport
St Joachim’s Primary | 13th February 2013

Welcome back to another wonderful week of OSHC I hope you all had a great weekend.

This week at after school care we have a lot going on, we have a sports champion ship where the children will have a chance to show off their talent.

Also this week we will be making play dough and playing OSHC kitchen rules where we will have two new groups who will have the chance to demonstrate their creativity and to use their imaginations.

This week for arts and crafts the children have been doing a lot of creative painting, we have origami’s which have been popular and also jewelry making.

It would be wonderful if you could bring a spare hat for the children to leave at the service, as they often get left behind in the class room.

If your child is not going to be in attendance on the day, please notify the service on 0423 793 628. This will ensure the service knows the whereabouts of your child.