Dear Parents, Guardians, Families, Students and Members of our College Community.

What defines us as human beings can be expressed in terms of intellect, physical, social, emotional and spiritual. Many of us change our diet and exercise habits after the Christmas season, to ensure that we remain physically healthy. We seek opportunities to spend time with our friends and family to ensure that we remain socially active and develop relationships to help us deal with our emotional aspects. We study, read, work and explore to strengthen our intellect. What do we do to feed our spiritual self?

The season of Lent consists of the 40 days, not including Sundays, before Easter. Lent is a time to prepare for the holiest time of the Christian year, Easter, by fasting, prayer, giving donations to the poor (almsgiving), and other acts of kindness.

Meat is not eaten on Ash Wednesday or Fridays throughout Lent resulting in a slightly different canteen menu on these days. Students are also asked not to bring meat from home on these days as well.

Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent and occurs next week. Ashes are a sign of repentance and for centuries the words “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return” have been spoken as the sign of the cross is made with ashes on Christians’ foreheads at special Ash Wednesday services. All students from Year Four

Prayer

Lord, our needs are many but too often our wants out number them.

May Your life direct our attention towards those things that promote goodness, truth and justice in our lives.

Lord, may we be encouraged this Lent to reflect on the difficulties You had in Your life. We ask for courage to face the challenges that daily enter our lives and bring them to resolution, as You did.

Amen.

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to Year Twelve will receive the ashes during Mass at 9.00 am in the Holy Family Church. The Pre-Primary to Year Three students will receive their ashes at the Early Childhood Liturgy at 10.00 am.

Lent provides us with an opportunity to ‘exercise’ and develop our Spirit. It is a time when we focus on forgiveness, not simply for the sake of others, but as a powerful means of letting go of our own pain and making ourselves whole again. Each student, staff member and family is challenged between now and Easter to find ways to be a better person in their daily life.

At St Joseph’s College I challenge everyone; be they student, staff, family or community members to be the positive difference in our world. Greet everyone you come across with a smile, look them in the eye and say hello. Watch the response from the other person and note how you feel as you leave the school grounds.

During the Parish Mass this Saturday night at 6.00 pm in the Holy Family Church, the school staff and College Board will be commissioned in our service to St Joseph’s College. This commissioning service reminds all school community members that together we are working for the benefit of our students. The staff and College Board are committing themselves to doing their very best for the students attending St Joseph’s College in 2017. Thank you to the staff and Board members for their attendance and on-going hours of dedication to our school.

Maintaining good lines of communication between home and school is a priority at St Joseph’s College. To assist parents and students, the following forums are available to access information and to communicate with staff members:

Weekly Newsletter – which is available every Friday. This newsletter is distributed via an email link to the parent-nominated email address. Should a parent prefer a hard copy of the newsletter, please contact the College Office to request a copy be given to your child. The newsletter is also posted on our website.

Student Homework Diary – Parents and Teachers can communicate through the student diary.

Parent Engage (Coneqt) – Parents have been given a user name and password to access the Coneqt portal. Coneqt access is found on the College website, ‘Coneqt access’. Most school documents, the College calendar and academic and pastoral information about your child are placed within this portal. There is also a Direqt messaging facility within this portal allowing parents to communicate with their child’s teachers. Should a parent have

Chaplain’s Corner
Fr Randolf, OSJ
A settled or regular tendency or practice, especially one that is hard to give up is called a habit. It starts with a single act of doing a repetitive action. Thus, in course of time that repetitive action becomes a habit. Habits can be good or bad. A good habit would be a virtue and a negative habit would be called a vice. Every one of us has our own habits either good or bad. Hence these habits of ours believe me or not will reap a destiny. A good study habit will reap learning, knowledge, good grades, hence good opportunity in life. The habit of making friends or choosing the right mates will reap a good community and circle of friends in life. Well those are the practical effects of a good habit. But let us move a little bit deeper. The habit of displaying respectfulness will be a virtue. Other virtues are honesty, prayer, respect and loyalty. These virtues are formed in a person if it is constantly or repeatedly done in everyday life. The same with vice, bad actions repeatedly done will be a habit and bad habits will be vice.
difficulties using the portal or require a username and password, please ring the College Office.

Our Middle and Senior School students thoroughly enjoyed their Inter-House Swimming Carnival yesterday. Our carnival was a terrific event full of enthusiasm and strong competition. Well done to all students for the spirit of participation evident throughout the day. Congratulations to Cunningham House on winning the carnival! Thank you to all staff for their assistance and in particular to Mr O’Donnell for his thorough organisation of the day; it ran superbly! The presence and help of parents was also greatly appreciated.

On Wednesday night our Year Eight Parent Information Session was held where awareness was made of what opportunities St Joseph’s College has on offer not only in Year Eight but for the years ahead. Some parents were surprised at the range of subjects and other programmes available along with a variety of co-curricular activities. Thank you to Ms Alderman and Mrs Bennett for coordinating this evening.

All parents/guardians who hold a Family Health Care Card or eligible Centrelink or Veterans Affairs Pension Card can claim fee discounts by presenting the card at the College Office at the beginning of the year and completing a simple form. Parents of students in Years Seven to Twelve who hold these cards can also claim the Government Secondary Assistance Scheme rebate. Further information for families holding these eligible cards is available from the College Office.

All parents with an appropriate Health Care Card are asked to ring the College Office to verify that all details are current and accurate. Applications must be lodged by Friday 7 April, 2017.

I am looking forward to meeting many families at the Sundowner tonight. The event commences at 5.00 pm in the Junior School Undercover Area.

May the coming week be one of many positive experiences!

Mr Mark Browning
 Secondary School News

What a great event in the Secondary School yesterday. Congratulations to everyone involved in the Middle and Senior School Swimming Carnivals, staff and students alike. A special thanks to Mr O'Donnell and Ms van Hulssen for their effort in putting the carnival together. Congratulations to all our Champions and to all those who put their best foot forward in either the pool or on the deck helping and supporting their team.

Wednesday saw a group of Year Eight parents gather in the Ave Maria Chapel. The group was address by Mr Browning on the importance of partnerships between the College, Parents and the child. Information regarding pathways and courses BEYOND 2017 was also included in this session. Thank you to all who attended for your support.

Next week is Immunisation time for our Year Eight students. As has been indicated by the Community Nurse in previous newsletters, students who have parental consent will be immunised for Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) and Varisella (Chicken Pox) and Diphtheria – Tetanus – Pertussis (Whooping Cough). ...but not all this term. The Community Nurses will visit the College on the morning of Tuesday 28th February.

The Secondary College will acknowledge the start of the Lenten season on Wednesday 1st March with a Mass and the distribution of the Ashes in Holy Family Church at 9.00am. You are more than welcome to join us at this time.

Susan Alderman
Head of Secondary

Year Twelve Students

Are you interested in pursuing a career in Medicine, Dental Science, Dentistry or Clinical Science?

Students interested in pursuing medicine and other health courses need to sit the UMAT test on 26 July 2017. MedEntry is a government accredited Registered Training Organisation specialising in UMAT preparation. MedEntry offers discounts of 30% for groups, and numerous scholarships.

For more information, please visit www.MedEntry.edu.au and speak to Mrs Bennett.
University Roadshow

The University Roadshow will be visiting St Joseph’s College Tuesday, 28 February. The Roadshow includes representatives from the University of Western Australia, Edith Cowan University, Murdoch University, Curtin University and Notre Dame University. This will be an invaluable opportunity for students to gain information and ask questions in relation to selection criteria, course options and accommodation options.

The format will be a general university information session with each of the five universities taking a couple of minutes each to talk about the individual institutions, followed by a Q&A session and a mini-expo to speak to the students one-on-one and provide materials.

All Year Eleven and Twelve students will be attending the morning event and do not need to rsvp.

In order to keep parents and caregivers better informed there will be a second information session at 4pm on Tuesday, 28 February. This is an invaluable opportunity for parents to explore the university option and ask questions on behalf of their child.

If you would like to attend the afternoon session please confirm asap.

Jane Bennett, Head of Curriculum

Animal Studies

In 2017 St Joseph’s College, under the auspices of South Metropolitan TAFE, are delivering a Certificate II in Animal Studies qualification. This course gives students entry into various pathways involved in the Animal Care Industry.

Although there are signs up around the school stating “No Dogs Allowed”, for the rest of the year, you may occasionally see dogs on campus as our students are required to learn how to examine, care for and help various animals. The dogs that come to St Joseph’s College are trustworthy, friendly family pets. Most often you will see Harry the black Labrador, Victor the Dalmation, Esme the (cream) Golden Retriever or Dora the (gold) Golden Retriever. Some other carefully selected dogs and cats may also be present from time to time.

You are asked to treat these dogs as you would any other – approach them slowly and carefully and ask the human handler before you touch them.

Kirsten Hunter, Science Teacher
2017/2018 Student Poland Experience (Year Ten, Eleven, Twelve students)

St Joseph’s College is considering running a study tour to Europe in December 2017 and January 2018, visiting Berlin (Germany), Gorzów Wielkopolski, Wroclaw, Kraków, Czestochowa and Warsaw. The tour visits a number of sites directly relevant to the WACE Modern History Course in Year Eleven and Twelve, as well as sites of religious and cultural significance. As a special addition to this tour, students will be spend approximately seven days with a student and a host family from Gimnazjium Stowarzyszenia Edukacyjynego (School) in Gorzów Wielkopolski and participate in traditional Polish Christmas celebrations. This school is hoping to send a group of students to Australia in November 2017 or 2018.

We are intending to run this tour with Latitude Group Travel, an Australian-based company specialising in school group tours. Working closely with staff at the school, they will develop and manage a program specifically designed for our students.

The first step in getting the tour off the ground is to gauge a level of serious interest among students and their family members before we organise an information evening at the school to provide further information and to answer questions. (Currently have expressions of interest from 9 students)

Please read through the attached flyer, particularly the sections on cost and inclusions. If you genuinely believe you are prepared to support such a financial commitment towards your child’s education and would therefore be interested in finding out more, please sign the attached Expression of Interest form and fill in your details, and return to the College by Friday 10 March.

Mr Marian (Mike) Trafalski
Organising Teacher
**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – SCHOOL TOUR**

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**STUDENT INFORMATION**

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**PARENT / GUARDIAN INFORMATION**

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Please return this Expression of Interest form to Mr Mike Trafalski via email, direct message or to the College Office before February 10 2017 (Friday Week 2 Term 1)
St Joseph’s College Poland Experience
December 2017/January 2018

Guides
- Local English speaking guides

Transportation
- International Flights Perth/Berlin and Warsaw/Perth
- Coaches where required
- All airport transfers
- Berlin metro pass

Meals
- Family meals with Host Family in Gorzów Wielkopolski
- 10 x Breakfasts, 10 x Dinners when staying in Hotels

Accommodation
- 10 nights in shared (twin or triple room) in 3 star hotels in Berlin, Wrocław, Kraków, Czestochowa and Warsaw.

Activities
- 7 day homestay in Gorzów Wielkopolski visiting Gimnazjium Stowarzyszenia Edukacyjynego, and sharing a traditional Polish Christmas
- Guided tour of Berlin
- Berlin Wall Memorial guided tour and interactive workshop
- Christmas Markets in Berlin
- Berlin and Allied Museum guided tour
- DDR Museum interactive learning experience
- Guided walking tour of Wrocław
- Guided walking tour of Kraków
- Guided tour of the Galica Jewish Museum
- Guided tour of Kazimierz and Schinderler’s Factory
- Pope John Paul II guided tour
- Guided tour of the Rynek Underground
- Guided tour of the Auschwitz-Birkenhau Concentration Camp
- Guide tour of Monastery of Jasna Góra (Home of the Black Madonna)
- Polish Cooking Class
- Warsaw Rising Museum
- Visit to Łazienki Palace and Royal Residence Park

Cost approximately $4500 (based on 15 students) excluding Travel Insurance (compulsory), personal spending money,
Upcoming events at The University of Notre Dame Australia

PARENT INFORMATION EVENING
Parents, guardians and students in Year 10, 11 and 12 are invited to attend Notre Dame’s Parent Information Evening to discuss subject selection, course information, the transition from high school to university, and how to apply to Notre Dame.

Wednesday 8 March, 6:00pm Refreshments, 6:30pm Presentation
Malloy Courtyard (ND2), 23 Mouat Street, Fremantle

MEDICINE INFORMATION SESSION
Students interested in studying Medicine at Notre Dame are invited to attend a Medicine Information Session. Learn about the Doctor of Medicine, Pre-Medicine Certificate, the application process, and hear from current Medicine students about their experience.

Sunday 26 March, 10:45am start for an 11:00am presentation
Drill Hall (ND25), corner of Croke and Mouat Street, Fremantle

HAVE A YARN
Year 11 and 12 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and their parents and guardians are invited to Notre Dame’s Have a Yarn event. Have a chat about Notre Dame courses, bridging pathways, hear from current students and enjoy a barbeque dinner.

Tuesday 14 March, 5.30pm
Carolyn Tannock Courtyard (ND42), 6 Cliff Street, Fremantle

To register, visit www.nd.edu.au or contact the Prospective Students Office on 9433 0533
UWA News

2017 is shaping up to be an exciting year with an extensive program of experiences and new resources to help inspire future students of UWA.

Campus experiences and personalised advice

Visiting the campus is a valuable experience for students and there are tailored events specifically for your child to engage with us.

Some highlights of our 2017 program include:

- School holiday one-on-one advisory sessions at UWA
- Campus tours and morning tea with current UWA students
- Parent Information Evenings
- Open Day 2017
- Engagement with our Faculty of Health & Medical Sciences through dedicated pathway programs

Extensive outreach program for Indigenous students through the School of Indigenous Studies

Visit the Future Student Experiences page (http://www.studyat.uwa.edu.au/about/events) for more information about campus experiences and registration of interest.

DENTAL THERAPY CENTRE NEWS

Spencer Park Dental Therapy Centre provides free dental examinations, oral care advice, preventative, restorative and emergency treatment for children from Pre-Primary to Year 11. The clinic is staffed by Kayleen (Dental Nurse), Susanne (Dental Therapist), Jaqui (Dental Nurse), Michelle (Dental Therapist) and Tracey (Dentist).

Enrolment forms will soon be issued to your child if he/she has recently changed schools or enrolled in Pre-Primary, please make sure these forms are returned before the end of Term 1 if you wish to use our service.

Parents of enrolled students are reminded to contact the centre to update your details if you have moved in the last few years. All appointments are posted home and many of these are returned to us due to incorrect addresses, this means that your child misses out on their dental visit. If you no longer intend to use our service please let us know as soon as possible as your valuable appointment could be taken up by someone else. You can call us on 98413967, drop in or send us an email to spencerparkdtc@dental.health.wa.gov.au.

To keep your child’s teeth healthy during this important stage of growth we recommend brushing twice a day, parents should always assist with one daily brush and use adult strength toothpaste providing children are spitting it out. Teeth should be brushed for a minimum of two minutes and children are encouraged NOT to rinse after brushing.

We hope to see you all in here soon.