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

In these final weeks of the term, there are interviews scheduled in both the Junior and Secondary Schools. I strongly urge all parents to please make the necessary appointment with their son or daughter’s teacher(s). Matters addressed now will hopefully lead to further educational gains for each child in the coming term.

A strong partnership requires home, school and the student (Year Four to Year Twelve) involved in interviews so that everyone is clear about future directions and the effort that will be required. At St Joseph’s College, we aim to encourage students to take control of their learning and to recognise the growth they are achieving in both social and academic areas. The ‘interview’ is an important opportunity to discuss your child’s progress and to build communication and understanding between home and school. If everyone is well prepared, even a short interview can be productive and very worthwhile.

Some useful suggestions for parents regarding interviews are:

- Make a list of questions you want to discuss with the teacher.
- If you want to discuss a specific matter, telephone or write in your child’s diary in advance so the teacher can be prepared with the information you are seeking.
- Ask your child if there are matters they would like discussed.
- Be ready to ask questions, or admit you do not understand.
- Share helpful information about your child or family circumstances. Teachers are appreciative of anything that helps them to know their students better.
- If you disagree with any judgements the teacher may have made about your child, listen carefully and ask for examples.

**Prayer:**

The Purpose of Lent

You are my eyes to look upon the world

You are my voice to speak out.

You are my hands to reach out

And touch my people.

You are the face of God.

Amen

From the Principal

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Principal’s Report

- Remember the interview is a valuable time to discuss your child, not share your experiences at school or philosophies about modern education. Please don’t hesitate to contact the school to arrange a follow up interview.

Some useful questions that a parent might want to ask their child’s teacher are:

- How is my child progressing?
- Are there ways I can help at home?
- Does my child need extra help or further extension and how will the teacher be providing this?
- How does my child get on with other members of the class?
- Does my child have a sound work ethic in class?
- What is my child’s behaviour like in class and at school?
- How well is my child doing on formal assessments? Please show me some results.

After the interview it is suggested that the following occurs

- Discuss the interview with your child, including any points of action.
- Stress the good things that were said and be direct about any problems.
- Act on any suggestions made by the teacher.
- Keep working with your child’s teacher by staying in touch. Children respond positively to knowing that the important adults in their life are working together.
- Where there has been cause for concern re-schedule a follow-up interview in about five weeks’ time.

The celebration of St Joseph’s Day was a great success last week. St Joseph was a man of inner strength and service. At our College we want to develop a model of service for our students where those who reach particular milestones will be acknowledged with a pin/badge on St Joseph’s Day each year. Our model is currently a ‘work in progress’ but details will be released to parents and students over the coming months.

Another aspect of the model of service relates to staff at St Joseph’s College who give freely of their time and skills to enhance the opportunities for our students.

At the conclusion of our Feast Day Mass awards were presented to staff where this was their tenth, fifteenth, twentieth, twenty fifth, thirtieth or thirty fifth year of service; St Joseph’s College is certainly richer for their support and commitment. The recipients were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ten Years</th>
<th>Fifteen Years</th>
<th>Twenty Five Years</th>
<th>Thirty Five Years</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr Dougherty</td>
<td>Mr Morcom</td>
<td>Mr Trafalski</td>
<td>Mr Wiegele</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs Heward</td>
<td>Mr Scanlon</td>
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<td>Mr Polette</td>
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<td>Mrs St Jack</td>
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P & F News

P&F Easter Raffle

Tickets are now on sale and are only $1 each! Tickets can be purchased at Cunningham Block near the stairs and at the office.

The Easter donations are off to a great start, thank you to everyone that has donated already. Please keep those lovely donations coming. Please have your donations in by the 31st. March. There are donation boxes located at the canteen, office and also in the classrooms for you to drop your eggs/bunnies in.

P&F Car Park Raffle

We are raffling off the P&F parking spot again, which the winner will get to use for the whole of Term Two! Tickets are $2 and are for sale with the Easter raffle tickets. Winners of both raffles will be drawn Wednesday 5th April.

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Principal’s Report

Mr Dave Pickering, one of our groundsmen, commences long service leave today. We wish him a very restful and enjoyable break!

Last Sunday, a group of parents and students coordinated by Mrs Sheryl Green completed a sausage sizzle at Bunnings. From their efforts $761.00 was raised which will be used to purchase items on the P&F wish list that staff have asked for to enhance the teaching and learning programme in their classrooms. Thank you to everyone who assisted with this event.

Our Junior and Secondary Student Leaders will be representing St Joseph’s College at this year’s ANZAC March and Parade on Tuesday 25 April 2017. Students will need to assemble at the corner of York Street and Grey Street West by 9.30am ready for the commencement of the parade at 10.00am sharp. Other students from Year One to Twelve are welcome to march under the banner of St Joseph’s College on this special occasion. Further details will be sent home next week.

Over the past three years, over $6 million dollars has been spent re-building our Junior School facilities to a full double stream capacity with an array of specialist rooms. Our facilities are excellent and this aspect of our building programme is now complete. The money to complete these buildings came from the Western Australian Government in the form of loan interest loans, the Commonwealth Government with capital grants and money saved by the St Joseph’s community. An official opening now has to occur with Mr Rick Wilson, MP for O’Connor. This event will happen on Friday 7 April at 11.30 am in the Junior School Undercover Area. All families are welcome to attend but please RSVP to the College Office for catering purposes ASAP.

At the commencement of Term Two all students in Years One to Twelve are required to wear the College’s winter uniform. Please make the necessary arrangements to order uniform items early. The Uniform Shop is open Tuesdays 8.15 am to 9.30 am or Wednesdays 2.15 pm to 4.00 pm.

The blue jumper must be worn and the rain jacket can be worn on exceptionally cold days over the top of the blue jumper when students are outside. Note: The rain jacket will not be accepted as a substitute for the jumper.

May the coming week be one of positive experiences!

Mr Mark Browning
Principal

Chaplain’s Corner
Fr Randolf, OSJ

One of the people who played an important role in the Mystery of Incarnation was St Joseph. Hence there are few accounts about Joseph in the Bible. He was not even mentioned in the Gospel of Mark. It is only in the Gospel of Matthew that we can learn much about St Joseph. He is a righteous man, betrothed to Mary, a carpenter, played the role as foster father of Jesus and came from the house of David. Thus, in the events that happened that were written by Matthew we can draw from there the virtues of St Joseph. He is prudent, just, prayerful, obedient to the will of God, hardworking and as a father protected the Holy Family. Hence from this virtue we can draw the role of St Joseph to the church and also ways that we can look at him as our model. That he is the guardian of the redeemer and protector of the Church. Hence from all this we can view St Joseph as a model father.
A father who prays, guards his family, works hard for his family, and cares for the interest and future of his family. There are a lot of things we can learn from St Joseph, hence let us always look at him as our dear patron. Hence he will lead us to Jesus and to Mary.

College Notices

Cycle to School Day

Congratulations to the many students who took advantage of the lovely conditions for last Friday’s National Cycle to School day. It was great to see so many students and parents leaving the car at home for the day.

Many of these cyclists also took part in the bike obstacle courses available at the St Joseph’s Day fair. Thank you to Stuart Passmore from Passmore Cycles who was on hand at the fair to provide free bike checks and do basic maintenance for the Cycle to School crowd.

Keep up the pedal power!

Mr Paul O’Donnell

Physical Education Teacher

Junior School News

Parent/Teacher Interviews

If you have not yet made an interview time with your child’s teacher, please make it a priority to do so. If you are having difficulty with logging onto the booking system, please contact the College Administration.

St Joseph's Day

Unfortunately, I was not able to attend this year’s St Joseph’s Day events. I would like to offer my sincere thanks to the staff and the many parents who assisted in some way to making St Joseph’s Day a success again this year. Many families donated items for the various stalls, there were groups of parents manning the stalls (and I know that the Year One Cake Decorating was lots of fun) and particularly to the parents who assisted with the collection and distribution of the ‘Fish & Chip’ lunches. The grounds staff (Mr West & Mr Pickering) were amazing again this year with the organisation of stalls and the shelters, Mr Morcom took over the leadership and last minute organisational details, and thank you to the staff from both the Primary and Secondary parts of the College who arrived early and left late to ensure the set up and pack up of the event. We were very fortunate to have two providers for our lunch this year:

**Batters Fish & Chips** provided the orders for the Cornjack and chips, and the serve of chip orders – they supplied us with a number of extras as well.

**Crusty Crab** – special thanks goes to Kerry from Crusty Crab who stepped in at the eleventh hour to provide all of the fish and chip orders.

I would encourage all of our families to support the businesses who have supported us.

Erica Mielens, Head of Junior School
Secondary School News

And yet another busy week in the Secondary School. Teachers have been busy putting in the final entries for the Interim reports – these will be available early in Week Nine on SEQTA-Engage. The parent teacher interview (PTO) online booking system will be up and running by Monday 27 March.

We held a Secondary Assembly on Tuesday of this week. Thank you to our prefects, Georgia Babun and Mark Weldon for running a smooth event. Our special guests included Adam Selwood and Kim Hannah from the West Coast eagles, who spoke to students about opportunities for football (Australian Rules) development for both boys and girls. Father Randolf, the College Chaplain, despite some technological issues spoke to the assembly about upcoming fundraising events and sponsorship for the Australian Catholic Youth Festival to be held in Adelaide later this year. This would be a fantastic opportunity for our students.

Mr Habal and a group of young women from Year Seven – Madison Meyer, Melina Franklin, Georgia Clark, Antoinette Jackson and Bree Davy entertained us with a duologue and a mime – Well done girls – it is not easy to perform in front of your peers.

Certificates of Endeavour were presented to a number of students across the Secondary School – too many to mention here. Congratulations to each one of you and keep up the good work. Thank you to all those parents who joined us for our assembly, we appreciate your support.

Wednesday saw a group of our College leaders attend the Grip Leadership Conference. Thank you to Mrs Palmer and Mr Trafalski for organising this and to the students for their positive engagement in the day’s activities.

The College Ball will be on Saturday night at the Albany Surf Life Saving Club – it is always a pleasure to attend these events and no doubt, this will be no exception. A special thank you to Mr Trafalski and the Ball committee. I am sure we will hear about and see some photographs in coming newsletters.

Events to look forward to in the coming weeks include:

- Secondary Inter-School Swimming Carnival to be hosted by St Joseph’s College at the Albany Leisure Centre (Tuesday 28 March)
- Year Seven – Ten Sci-Tech Incursion “Beyond the Beaker” (Thursday 30 March)
- Middle and Senior School Holy Week Liturgy (Thursday 6 April)
- Parent-Teacher Interviews – Blessed Edmund Rice Library (Tuesday 4 and Thursday 6 April)

Congratulations to Jessica and Lachlan Waldron on a sterling effort at the 2017 Mountain Bike Championship in Queensland recently. Also off to Queensland this week is Laura McEwan to compete in the Australian Surf Life Saving Championships. Good luck Laura.

Susan Alderman

Head of Secondary
Secondary School News

YEAR TWELVE STUDENTS - SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship applications are now open for the International College of Hotel Management. For more information please see Mrs Bennett or call the College office on 08 98440222.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME AUSTRALIA - MEDICINE COURSE INFORMATION SESSION

The University of Notre Dame Australia invites families to join us on campus for Notre Dame’s Medicine Information Session. Information about the Doctor of Medicine (MD) and Pre-Medicine Certificate (PMC) will be discussed including the application and selection process, course structure, and important dates and deadlines. Light refreshments will be served beforehand. **Sunday 26 March, 10.45am for 11am commencement. Drill Hall (ND25), The University of Notre Dame Australia, Croke and Mouat Street, Fremantle. Further info: [http://www.nd.edu.au/events/fremantle](http://www.nd.edu.au/events/fremantle) or contact the Prospective Students Office on 08 9433 0533.**

ACC SWIMMING

The Year Seven to Twelve swim team returned last Wednesday evening from a competitive ACC Carnival campaign in Perth. The team enjoyed the new accommodation facilities at the Cottesloe Beach Chalets with many of the team heading to Cottesloe beach on Tuesday afternoon to view the Sculptures by the Sea exhibition. The evenings activities included Ten Pin Bowling and dinner at Rosemount Bowl.

The all-important swimming business began on Wednesday morning with St Joseph’s heading to the top of the overall standings early with some great Senior School results. Unfortunately, an incomplete Junior team meant we missed some races resulting in St Joseph’s finishing last out of the seven schools. The team made up for this, however, by winning the Senior School Girl’s Shield and placing second in the Senior School Boy’s Shield.

Congratulations are also in order for Caitlin Williams Under 16 Champion Girl and Mitchell Williams Open Champion Boy who both had an outstanding day in the pool. There were many outstanding efforts and the whole team is to be commended for their great swimming at the carnival.

The team now turns their focus to the Great Southern Inter-School Swimming Carnival on Tuesday 28th March. We wish the best of success at the local carnival.

Paul O’Donnell

Young Leaders Summit - Amanda Young Foundation

Congratulations to Tess Shields who has been selected to attend the Young Leaders Summit, conducted by The Amanda Young Foundation. She is to be congratulated on her selection following the submission of her written application. The Young Leaders’ Summit is a four-day event conducted by the Amanda Young Foundation during the school holidays in April. It is open to all Year Eleven students in WA, who must submit written application which demonstrates their leadership role in the College and wider Community. It is an opportunity to further develop her leadership skills and personal growth. The summit is held each year in memory of Amanda Young, who died from Meningococcal disease when she was in Year Eleven. The summit also aims to increase young people’s awareness of the disease.
YEAR ELEVEN GENERAL RELIGION AND LIFE

On Thursday 23 March, the Year Eleven General Religion and Life class were fortunate enough to meet Thupten Lhamo from Hayagriva Albany Buddhist Group. During the term students have been exploring the meaning and purpose in life, characteristics of religions and the role religion plays in society. To investigate these topics further, Lhamo was invited to St Joseph’s College to provide a Buddhist perspective and further explain their values in dealing with some of life’s challenges. Students were offered an opportunity to participate in a guided meditation session, which was greatly appreciated.

“There was a lot of detail to take in but it all came together in the end” (Brodie Kratochvill)

“I found the presentation to be very informative and I thought it was exciting to experience somebody else’s point of view in religion” (Alyssia Fiegert).

Grip Leadership Conference

Students from Years Eight, Ten and Twelve attended the conference on Wednesday 21 March at Albany Entertainment Centre, along with students other schools in the Great Southern. The conference focused on the attributes of leaders and the skills needed to work with others. They participated in sessions which focused on ways to successfully organize themselves as a team, developing responsibility by understanding the importance of role modelling values, upholding the trust of others, responding to needs and developing one’s own strength, practical ways to be creative and realistic in their goals and gaining the support peers. Students worked in small groups to provide solutions to particular scenarios such gaining support for a new whole school activity. These sessions were interspersed “loud noises” games such as SPELLBOW – where students were asked to spell three words by writing with them with their elbow for their partner to decipher. In the words of Christian Valenton Year 10 – “I liked the social activities with other schools” and “I learned the different types of(leadership) problems and how to solve it”
The Principal and College Board are pleased to invite

St Joseph’s College Parents and Friends

to the

Blessing and Official Opening of Stages 13, 14 and 15 of the
Fr Matheu Wing at St Joseph’s College
Martin Road, Albany

by

Mr Rick Wilson, Federal Member for O’Connor

on

Friday 7 April 2017

at 11:30 am

The ceremony will take place in the Undercover Area of the
Junior School

A light lunch will follow

RSVP to Kirsty Nurick by Wednesday 29 March 2017
Ph: 9844 0222
Email: admin@sjc-albany.wa.edu.au
Sunday 2 April 2017 is World Autism Awareness Day. This presents a significant time for us to pause and reflect on what we know about Autism, gain new information and promote the concept of embracing differences.

Autism Spectrum Disorder (‘Autism’)

The Early Signs

Autism is a complex, life-long developmental disability which is neurobiological in origin. An estimated 1 in 160 to 1 in 100 people have Autism.

The signs of Autism may be evident by age 2 or may only become apparent when the child starts school. One of the first signs, which can alert a parent to the fact that their child is not developing in a typical way, is the manner in which the young child responds to them. They may not learn to speak or have very limited speech. The child may also have great difficulty in understanding the speech of others.

Some children with Autism can develop good spoken language. However, their language is very concrete and literal; it lacks a social quality and is not used in a conversational manner. Parents may notice that their young toddler does not seem interested in playing with other children.

They may also notice that the child is not playing with toys in an imaginative way. Instead, they may spend time placing their toys in neat lines; or engaging in the same sequence of play activity over and over again. While these are some common signs, Autism presents differently for each child.

Common Features of Autism

Social Communication and Interaction

The child may:

- Use few or no words, repeat patterns of words or may have well developed speech, but only talk about a limited range of interests
- Not respond to their name or simple instructions
- Not copy other’s actions
- Have very limited attention span, except for activities that include their interests e.g. trains
- Not engage with peers
- Not engage in pretend play
- Make limited eye contact

Restricted and Repetitive Behaviours and Sensory Processing Differences

The child may:

- Use repetitive speech
- Insist on routines staying the same
- Have a narrow range of interests
- Repeat an action over and over
- Get ‘stuck’ on an activity so that it is difficult to move them on
- Line up or stack objects and may become upset if the order changes
This list does not constitute a diagnosis of Autism. Many young children may show some of these signs at different ages. However, if the child’s development is affected in ways that concern you, it may indicate the need to consult a paediatrician.

**Strengths of Autism**

Children with Autism enjoy routines and predictability. They pay great attention to detail. Although social situations are difficult, children with Autism form strong bonds with people who they have formed a positive relationship with. Children with Autism have—like all other children—many strengths; but also areas where help for further development is needed.

**Positive Outcomes**

Children do not grow out of Autism. However, with appropriate intervention they can be helped to gain many of the skills we take for granted—skills such as learning to play, communicating and responding to others in a social way.

Children with Autism benefit enormously from programs which provide them with a means to communicate and to develop the skills they need to participate in everyday life. With appropriate education, and the support of dedicated people, the child with Autism can go on to lead a fulfilling life, engaging in social activities and vocational pursuits in later life.

**Outlined below are some ideas that parents can take part in during Autism Week to EMBRACE DIFFERENCE!**

Talk about differences—how we all have areas of strength and areas where we are not so strong. This might be an opportune time to talk to your child about their great skills; and where they might need to be helped along. You might like to talk about Autism—how children with Autism often love learning, but sometimes need help to make friends; how children with Autism are sometimes very good with numbers but may need more help writing stories etc.

**Lots to learn and to do!**

**Websites:** have you seen our great new website at www.autism.org.au? Make a start from the top line with What is Autism? Then visit www.positivepartnerships.com.au for more easy-to-read information.

**Attend a free workshop**—Explaining Autism, to be presented by the Autism Association at the State Library of Western Australia, at the Perth Cultural Centre, 25 Francis Street, Perth. Join us on Thursday 30th March from 9.30-11.30am.

Join in—There will be many opportunities to learn while having fun throughout Autism Awareness Week 2017. See: www.autism.org.au

Give us a call if you would like further information; phone (08) 9489 8900

Or email: autismwa@autism.org.au
**Community Notices**

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**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.