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

As the term draws to a close, I thank students, staff and parents for your wonderful efforts to ensure a successful and happy term here at St Joseph’s College! I hope the holidays provide everyone with much needed rest and plenty of sunshine. All students return to school on Tuesday 10th October in full summer uniform.

Last Monday, a number of Middle School students played football and netball against Kearnan College Manjimup; my previous school! Kearnan College is our closest neighbouring Catholic secondary school and this event is one of few where our students get to associate with other students who attend a Catholic school and I believe this in itself is beneficial for St Joseph’s College.

Both schools were equally competitive and excellent sportsmanship was evident. A barbecue lunch was enjoyed by all sports people and the Middle School students of St Joseph’s College. Three Year Nine girls, Sophie Turner, Tavanna Lembo and Mariah Bell, cooked two hundred sausages, served and cleaned up; a top effort, girls! Kearnan College and St Joseph’s College have agreed to make this an annual event and the travel will be shared. Next year we will journey to Manjimup.

Things now start to progress very quickly for our Year Twelve ATAR students. Early in the holidays, some will travel to Perth to complete the first part of their actual examinations for subjects with a practical component e.g. Physical Education Studies.
In the second week of the break, the ATAR Mock Examinations will be held at St Joseph’s College. For those adults who completed the state examinations when they were younger, do spare a thought for the students. This final stage of their education is stressful and tiring. Our Year Twelve class has been conscientious in their efforts over the year and I do believe if the hard work is put in a just reward does eventuate. Best wishes to our Year Twelve students!

Students at St Joseph’s College have interests outside of school and their commitment and dedication are commendable. Congratulations:

- Jared Wiegele (Year Ten) on being selected in the U16 State Soccer team which will compete in Adelaide later next term.
- Bethany Hyde (Year Four) and Monique Hueppauff (Year Eight) who recently competed in an Irish Dancing Competition in Adelaide. Both girls performed exceptionally well and brought home a number of medals.
- Maria Saunders (Year Eight) for being selected as a finalist in the Act-Belong-Commit YOH Fest 2017. Maria performed a piece entitled ‘Pressure Chain’ which was written by Isabella Mannolini (Year Twelve).
- Caitlin Pritchard (Year Eight) who is representing Western Australia in the National Interschool Equine Championships in Queensland.

From the first day of next term, all students from Kindergarten to Year Twelve are required to wear the St Joseph’s College hat when in the playground and when participating in Physical Education lessons. No hat will mean a student must remain on the verandas or in the Undercover areas.

As a school community, there have been significant gains made this year and it is important that this momentum continues. Involvement of parents in the life of St Joseph’s College is one such area with a much closer partnership being established and a greater willingness to offer positive and constructive feedback has been evident from parents. I have made my intention clear that I want parents involved in all that happens at our school. The P&F and College Board are two established ways for parents to assist St Joseph’s College in providing the best quality education for the students. Both these organisations will have vacancies in their Executive for 2018. I ask all parents to give consideration to taking up one of these positions. Parents are needed from both the Junior and Secondary Schools so that representation is truly reflective of our community. No prior experience is required but rather a willingness and enthusiasm to be involved in the life of St Joseph’s College. New ideas are needed and will be valued. All parents are busy but ‘many hands make light work’.

The process to join either the P&F or College Board Executives is by self-nomination and the appropriate forms will be distributed to all parents early next term.

St Joseph’s College offers a Three-Year-Old Programme which caters for children who have turned three years of age but are not yet old enough to be in the Kindergarten Programme. At the present time I am interested in hearing the views of parents as to whether they would like the Three-Year-Old Programme to remain as two half days or one full day next year. Some feedback is now being received on this matter so if you are a parent with young children please do let me know your thoughts ASAP. In 2018 our Three-Year-Old Programme will only cater for families who have decided that St Joseph’s College will be their first choice of schooling in future years.
There are a few places left in our Kindergarten programme for 2018. Please see Kirsty in the office as soon as possible for an Enrolment Application.

From the beginning of Term Four, all students wear the summer uniform. Now is timely to check that students have the necessary items of uniform so they can be appropriately presented on the first day of the new term. Key areas are:

- Black leather school shoes must be worn by all Year One to Twelve students.
- The hem of a girl’s skirt or pinafore must be at the knee when kneeling.
- A boy’s shirt must be tucked in unless playing games at recess and lunchtime.
- Senior boys are to be clean shaven each day.
- The blue school jumper must be worn in cooler weather and not substituted by the rain jacket.
- Hair below the collar must be tied up otherwise an appropriate trim would be advisable. Students are to arrive at school each morning with their hair tied and it needs to remain that way throughout the day including after the final siren sounds.
- All students from Kindergarten to Year Twelve are required to wear a St Joseph’s College hat when outside at recess, lunchtime and when completing Physical Education.

I ask all families to continue to be advocates of our school community and, where possible, encourage families to consider looking at opportunities to join St Joseph’s College.

Wishing all students, staff and families a wonderful break!

Mr Mark Browning - Principal

College Notices

Wheelchairs for Kids
The weather held for what turned out to be a lovely and enjoyable afternoon for staff and students. The Cunningham fundraiser - Wheelchairs for Kids Fun Run and Lap-a-thon - had a great number of students participating in the 5km run, all of whom made it home in the 40 minutes time allocated - even the amazing Year Three students (of which there were nearly twenty). Thank you to all who helped with organising and running the event, it was a great team effort. Congratulations to all the winners and runners up, with a special mention of our first three runners - Callum Redshaw (Year Eleven), Jared Wiegele (Year Ten) and Logan Lionetti (Year Six). The first girl crossing the line was Laura McEwan (Year Ten). Well done to you all.

Just a reminder if you need to bring money in to school, please do so as soon as possible, so we can tally what we have raised and send it off to the amazing charity we are supporting - Wheelchairs for Kids.

Ms Hiedi Rowe - Italian Teacher Pre-Primary - Year Eight
Junior School Music
The Junior School Choir hit the Albany Entertainment Centre Stage two weeks ago at the Primary School’s Music Festival. They began with a beautiful song inspired by the words of Mother Teresa. A hush came over the audience as Angel Ang (Year Four) sang solo to a full-house accompanied by the choir and our ballet girls while Mr Hyder and Mr Findlay supported on the violin and piano. This moving performance was followed by a lively song and dance routine which involved some zany costumes and a very impressive lollypop. The atmosphere was electric and the applause was loud and long after what could only be described as a sensational performance!

Mrs Sue Findlay - Music Teacher

Secondary School News

From the Head of Secondary
The big ticket item this week was of course the Wheelchairs for Kids Fun Run and Lap-a-thon. Congratulations to all those who participated - Pre Primary to Year Twelve. A special congratulations to those students who chose to complete the 5 kilometre run - better you than me!! Thank you to Ms Hiedi Rowe for her organisation skills in putting this event together.

Cunningham House also held their House Liturgy on Wheelchairs for Kids’ Day. A huge thank you to all those students who helped with this celebration ably lead by Hamish Walker. A special thanks and a well done to Georgia Babun for organising the music.

On Thursday, the Middle and Senior School held its final assembly for Term Three. Many students were awarded Certificates of Endeavour - congratulations. At this assembly the student body also said goodbye and good luck to our current Year Twelve students who are now busy preparing for the final weeks of their secondary schooling. The assembly concluded with some fabulous entertainment from the Year Nine Musical Performance group - Artche Maligat, Titan Hawkins-Puls and Sebastian Commons.

Have a great holiday - enjoy having your children at home.

Ms Susan Alderman - Head of Secondary

Chaplain’s Corner
Fr. Randolf Subiaco

Peace of mind it is the best gift one can give to once self and to others. It is tricky and hard but it is attainable. During my retreat last week with the other priests of the diocese I realised that a deep connection with God brings this inner peace of mind where there is tranquillity in midst of chaos. It only happens when one learns to surrender and let go of the things in life. There are things which are out of our hands and when we learn to let go of these things and let God in, eventually everything is peaceful. This is only possible if I believe and hope in Him. Hence, we must have a deep communion with him. Richard of St. Victor says: “The nature of God is to seek out the deepest possible communion and seek friendship.” Do we allow this to happen in our life so at the end of each day knowing we are in the centre of a Great Being and even though there are worries in life, we are at peace.
Academic Group
Academic Task Force - Academic Associates
Please click on the links below for school holiday Year Eleven and Twelve ATAR revision courses.
http://web.sjc-albany.wa.edu.au/docs/AcademicTaskforceTerm3Revision.pdf

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