Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Parishioners,

We began Holy Week with beautiful prayer services from Years Three, Four and Five which then culminated in the Stations of the Cross with all students and staff led by our Year Six students. Hopefully everyone had an enjoyable Easter break! Thank you to the staff, students and families who involved themselves in or attended the various Easter liturgies in the Holy Family Parish. Next week is the final week of Term One and the important dates to remember are:

Friday 13 April
- Last day of term for Kindergarten to Year Twelve students

Monday 30 April
- Staff Development Day

Tuesday 1 May
- Term Two commences for Kindergarten to Year Twelve students

Last week the Junior School teachers conducted their parent interviews which were an opportunity for staff and parents to review the progress of each child; celebrate the positives and discuss strategies where improvement is needed. I was extremely pleased to see that nearly every parent attended an interview. This is so important as students need to see their parents value education. Thank you to the staff for the extra hours provided and to parents for making the commitment to attend an interview.

Next week on Tuesday (10 April) and Thursday (12 April) interviews occur in the secondary school and I again encourage parents to use this opportunity to discuss their child’s progress to date. Some useful questions that a parent might want to ask their child’s teacher are:

A Prayer for St Joseph’s College

Loving God, we are grateful for the many gifts you have given to us: The gifts of life, love, family, friends, faith, and of St Joseph’s College.

Thank you for guiding those who have so generously given of themselves throughout the years in the promotion and growth of our school.

May their dedication and sacrifice continue to make it possible to bring Christ to all in our community.

We ask your blessings on the students, staff, families and parish.

Open the hearts of all so that through their dedication and sacrifice our school may continue to flourish.

Amen.

From the Principal

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The secondary students enjoyed putting their swimming skills into action at the inter-school carnival on Thursday afternoon. Our students participated in a spirit of encouragement and goodwill. It was great to hear of students building great school spirit and pride by competing in one extra event for the sake of the team. Undoubtedly this was the primary reason why St Joseph’s College achieved a commendable second place! Thank you to Mr O’Donnell and Ms van Hulssen for their work in coordinating this extra curricula event. Mrs Tompkin and Mr Caldwell’s assistance along with the Year Nine timekeepers’ help were also greatly appreciated.

St Joseph’s College is extremely fortunate to have a beautiful chapel however this facility is not officially a sacred space. Next Friday 13 April at 1.45 pm Bishop Holohan will dedicate our chapel with an official blessing. Given the size of the chapel, the student leaders from the Junior and Secondary Schools will represent the student body. An afternoon tea will then occur after the service for those in attendance and provide an opportunity for the Bishop to mingle with students which he is keen to do. If any parents would also like to attend, please RSVP to Kirsty by contacting the office.

In the past the College Office has been open throughout the school holidays. For the upcoming break the office will only be staffed on Thursday 26 April and Friday 27 April.

All families are asked to check their children have all necessary uniform items before the commencement of Term Two. In particular, only black leather lace up school shoes are to be worn. Black sneakers are not part of our College uniform. The other concern is the rain jacket which by its very name is worn on cold, wet days over the top of the College jumper. The rain jacket is not a substitute for the College jumper. The support of all parents in relation to these two matters would be greatly appreciated.

Yesterday, the College posted Fee Statements for 2018; our apologies for the delay which was due to the changeover to the accrual accounting system in January. Parents may note that their accounts are structured slightly different to previous years. These modifications are a result of changes which have been mandated from the Catholic Education WA. As was discussed at 2017’s College Board AGM and major events, no fee increase was implemented for 2018 in a continued effort to make St Joseph’s College affordable for all families; slight variations may occur if a student has entered a year group where a camp occurs. If parents have any questions pertaining to the Fee Statement, please contact Mrs Jackson at the College. Should there be anticipated difficulties in paying school fees come and see me and I will endeavor to assist your family.
Chaplain’s Corner
Fr Randolf Subiaco

Song of a soul
The howling of today rides off for tomorrow.
A reality in the mind is a birth of future.
Alas a twisted logic delivers a decay of structure.
A swirl of events that ends in sorrow.
Then sniff the vanity of reality borrow.
Trap in a labyrinth escape is a failure.
Because breaking a loop is a shock of culture.
Waking in a dream by a scare of a crow.
Look over the horizon blessed soul
dance to the flame of reliance sing
to the fire of endurance empowered you escape the black hole.
Faith will keep the burning coal.
Doubt will weaken the perseverance.

Principal’s Report

Applications for enrolment into St Joseph’s College for 2019 are now due. Interviews have commenced, please submit your application now to avoid missing out on a place particularly for Kindergarten and Year Seven. This is especially important for any families who have siblings at school now. If you know of any families interested in applying, please encourage them to do so straight away.

Make a difference in the coming week and see St Joseph’s College flourish!

Mr Mark Browning - Principal

Secondary School News

From Head of Secondary

Parents are reminded that Parent-Teacher Interviews for Secondary students will take place next week on Tuesday and Thursday. Teachers will be available between 3.30pm and 7.00pm and will be positioned in the Blessed Edmund Rice Library in the de Vialar block.

Interviews should be made using the PTO site as instructed in a recent email. Should you be experiencing any difficulty in this regard please contact the front office and our Administrative Officers will be able to make the appointments for you over the phone.

Year Ten students should have brought home an envelope recently in regard to Meningococcal Immunisation. If you have not already returned this envelope please ensure that you do so by the end of this term. Envelopes should be returned even if it is not your wish to have your child immunised.

On Thursday, St Joseph’s College hosted the Albany and Districts Inter-School Swimming Carnival. Congratulations to all our swimmers on being selected to represent the College. A huge thanks to Ms van Hulssen, Mrs Tompkin, Mr O’Donnell for their organisation and supervision skills and to Mr Caldwell for calculating the results.

At our Secondary Assembly next week (Wednesday 9.00am) we will reflect on Anzac Day, which will occur during the holidays. Selected students will also be presented with certificates for high achievement for Term One.

Ms Susan Alderman - Head of Secondary

Year Seven - Twelve Inter-School Swimming Carnival

On Thursday afternoon the College swim team assembled at Albany Leisure and Aquatic Centre for the annual Great Southern High Schools’ Division One Swimming Carnival. The schools competing were Albany Senior High School, Great Southern Grammar, Esperance Senior High School and St Joseph’s College. It was a great afternoons racing with a fantastic effort from our swimmers to see them finish second overall behind the winners Great Southern Grammar and in front of Esperance and Albany Senior High School. Congratulations to the team, a full carnival report will follow in next week’s newsletter.

Mr Paul O’Donnell - Physical Education Teacher
Southern Edge Arts - School Holiday and Term Two Programmes

Southern Edge Arts is proud to present a series of Street Acro Parkour workshops over two days (17th & 18th April) of the School Holidays. The classes are available for young people of all ages. Please click on the links for school holiday workshops and the Term Two timetable:


TRY NEW ADVENTURES AT GIRL GUIDES

The Albany Clover Girl Guide Unit meeting in Guides Hall on Monday night is seeking girls aged 9.5 to 12 years who want to try new things, make friends and enjoy nature!

The Unit has planned an action-packed term that includes camping out, canoeing, cooking and crafting.

Girl Guides take an active role in planning their own program of activities. In Australia, our mission is to empower girls to grow into confident, self-respecting, responsible community members. This means learning through fun, teamwork and community service.

Those parents interested in a two-week trial for their daughters should contact 0417983685 or membersupport@girlguideswa.org.au, or complete the form at www.girlguideswa.org.au.