Week 5

Dear Parents & Carers,

PSF is on tonight at 7pm in the staffroom. We look forward to seeing you there. On the agenda:

- The purpose of PSF
- Fundraising
- Planning for the year
- Working Bee for school

Clean Up Australia Day

Don’t forget our to join us in Clean Up Australia Day on Sunday at Elizabeth Brown Park from 9.30am. Please wear covered footwear and a hat and bring gloves. Bags will be supplied. We will finish at 11am with a BBQ supplied by Rotary. A great way to support this worthy cause, teach children about the environment and have some family time!!

Junior Joeys

Junior Joeys begins tomorrow. If you have not enrolled your Kinder 2016 child for Junior Joeys please ask for an enrolment form at the office. Children are to wear a hat, bring a fruit snack and a drink bottle. Also spread the word about Junior Joeys so we can welcome others.

School Closure

Thank you to all our families for your understanding and support regarding the closure on Friday. This was decided by the Catholic Schools Office and SES at 2.15 pm and thanks to the skoolbag app, Facebook and a note home we were confident all families had the message. Thank you for your support with this. As we said safety of students and staff is always important in times like this.

Tree Update

The trees have received their trim according to the development consent issued by Ballina Shire Council in December. The trees were trimmed under the supervision of an arborist. The fences were due to come down on Friday but this has been delayed due to the weather. We were very happy with the way the trees performed in the storm so we are happy for the area to be reopened this week, weather and mowing permitting. This will make it a full 12 months since we were able to access all of our playground. This has been a long time but we are all very grateful for the patience and understanding shown by everyone. As part of the agreement the trees will be receiving an annual check to ensure they continue to be in good condition.

Insight SRC

Last year we participated in a trial of a Survey called Insight SRC. 60 families were given access to the survey to respond to questions about school. These questions investigated the areas of organisational climate, teaching climate, student behaviour, student wellbeing and academic achievement. Students in Stage 3 and staff were also surveyed.

We are once again participating in this survey in 2015. The results will assist us to make improvements or changes in specified areas.

We are required to ask 60 families to once again complete the survey. These families are randomly chosen and the envelope with the information is sent to these families, beginning around 16 March. The survey can be completed in a paper form or online. The survey period closes on March 27.

If you are sent home a survey envelope and you do not wish to complete a survey please return it to school so it may be passed on to another family. If you wish to return the paper copy to school for posting after completion then merely seal it in the envelope and drop back to school. You can also post it directly.

The survey is completely confidential. There is no way to identify individual feedback.

Thank you in advance for taking the
time to complete the survey. We really appreciate families
taking the time in their busy schedule to give feedback.

APOLOGIES AGAIN FOR SCHOOLWORX PROBLEM

We still have an ongoing issue with our online roll
marking. The number we gave you to SMS an absence prior
to school is not working. So if you do send an SMS prior to
school when your child is absent please do not be concerned
when you receive one from us asking where your child is!
Telstra and Schoolworx are currently working on fixing this
issue. Otherwise we are al very happy with our online roll
marking is working and thank families for assisting with this.

SPORTING UPDATES

Zone Swimming was postponed from last Friday until
today due to the weather. We will report on results next
week.

Diocesan Winter Sports Trials will be held on Friday
13 March in Grafton. This is also our Maths Staff Develop-
ment day.

Mr Slattery & Mr Murgha are currently working with
Stage 3 for a Rugby Day on Thursday 5 March.

We are keen to have students involved in sporting
opportunities wherever possible but not at the expense of
school work or without regard to expected school behaviour.

To ensure sports opportunities are only given to those
students who follow our school behaviour benchmarks we
have developed a code of behaviour to be signed by parents
and students upon selection in any sporting event. This al-
 lows us to work with students to maintain expected behav-
 iour in class and around school. Should this not occur we
will withdraw this opportunity.

I invite you to read the code below so you can under-
stand what is involved.

We must do the same at school by:

- Showing we can be responsible, sensible, considerate
  of others and mindful of the school's behaviour code at
time all times.

If a student cannot consistently meet our school behaviour
benchmarks then they may not be eligible for sport selection.
The agreement is signed by the student and the parent.

RESTORATIVE PRACTICE QUESTIONS

At our Parent Night I spoke of the four questions used
in restorative meetings with students. As I worked through a
meeting last week I realised it would be useful to send these
home to parents and carers to allow them to understand the
process and perhaps try it when sorting out an issue at home.

- What happened? (each person’s explanation is heard
  without interruption)
- What were you thinking at the time? (to uncover
  previous issues, already angry about something, feel-
  ings?)
- How have people been affected? (who else has been
  impacted by this problem?)
- How can we make things right? (looking at positive
  solutions, other ways to deal with an issue)

When you ask the question what happened? If you get
the answer I don’t know then it is time to ask simple ques-
tions like “What was your part in the issue?”

At all times we avoid asking WHY?

Therese Seymour

Youth Group News...

The next Youth Mass is on Saturday, 7 March at 6.00
pm. The Youth Gathering after Mass will be a games
night at Alstonville Bowling & Sports Club. Please
bring $8 to cover food, drinks and games. (Beach vol-
ley ball, super soccer & totem tennis) Parents can col-
lect their children at 9.00 pm.

All students in Year 5—12 are welcome

ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER

Saturday 28 February: Volunteer required for MC please! Patrick
Hart, Tom Leslie, Lara Leslie & Jack Leslie
Sunday 1 March: Volunteer required for MC please! Erin Hunt,
Luke Rowling, Jack Condon & Harry Condon

Children’s Sunday Liturgy

8 March: Melissa Barnes & Catherine Lamas
Carol Sharpe
The longer I live, the more I realise the impact of attitude on my life. Attitude, to me, is more important than facts. It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness or skill. It will make or break a company, a church, a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day.

We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the string we have, and that is our attitude. I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it. And so it is with you. We are in charge of our attitudes.

Charles Swindell

DID YOU KNOW?
In 2013, there were 251,158 students enrolled in 583 Catholic schools across NSW. One in every five NSW students attends a Catholic school. Catholic education is also one of the largest non-government employers in NSW with more than 27,000 staff, including more than 19,000 teachers. NSW Catholic schools deliver excellent value for money to students, parents and taxpayers. Federal and State governments jointly provide 77.2% of the funding needed by NSW Catholic school, compared with 94.5% of the funding spent by NSW government schools. The remaining income in each sector comes from parents (mainly through fees) and other private or community fundraising. This is why funding support from Federal and State Governments must keep pace with rising education costs: to maintain education quality and to ensure a Catholic education remains affordable for all families.

Council of Catholic School Parents
www.cccsp.catholic.edu.au
office@ccsp.catholic.edu.au

MAKING JESUS REAL
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We cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way.

Charles Swindell

THE FOLLOWING CHILDREN HAVE CELEBRATED THEIR BIRTHDAY SINCE OUR LAST NEWSLETTER:
Keelan Doust, Evie Kirkby, Zali Wallace and Sonny Hearn

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
From us all at St Joeys
**Lismore Swans Junior Australian Football Club**

Boys and Girl Players WANTED for the 2015 Season for the following Grades:
- **Auskick, U8, U10, U12, (Girls), U14 & U16**

Training to commence Wednesday 25 February, Mortimer Oval at 4pm. So come along and be part of the Best & Fastest growing game in Australia. Contact Ian Salkeld 0266 241393, 0418 664481. email—isalkeld@bigpond.com

**On Line and Well** is a really supportive Community course that is being run locally(Goonellabah) exploring supporting a healthy relationship with the internet ourselves and each other with topics including our addiction to the internet, social media and cyber-bullying.

A 4 week course with enormous relevance to parents and teachers which will therefore greatly support our young students (many of whom are already active users of the Internet and many users of social media). Many in our Community may benefit from knowing of this course and having the opportunity to take part.

**COURSE DETAILS**

- **Duration:** 4 Thursdays March 12, 19, 26 and April 2
- **Course Location:** Goonellabah Business Centre, Suite 4/32 Gumtree Drive, Goonellabah NSW 2480
- **Course Times:** 6pm to 7.45pm - (registration 5.45pm)
- **Delivery Modes:** In Person (This presentation is not available via webcast)
- **Cost:** $40.00
- **Enrol Online:** [www.coum.org](http://www.coum.org) Enrolments close by: 10 March 2015
- **Contact and questions:** Call Caroline on 0419 197 867 for more information

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**Calling all NETTY NUTS**

**BALLINA NETBALL ASSOCIATION**

Online Registration Extended to: **28 FEBRUARY 2015**

**Winter competition** open to –
- 8-10 year “competition” players
- Juniors: 11-17 years
- Seniors: 18+


Email enquiries: netballballina@bigpond.com

**Alstonville Wollongbar Netball Club** is seeking up to 5 players aged 6-9 yrs to fill a young Netta team. This is a fun way to become involved in a team sport. If you are interested please contact Michelle Bransgrove on 0428 834 860

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**WOLLONGBAR-ALSTONVILLE JUNIOR RUGBY UNION**

**SIGN ON**

**FRIDAY 27th FEBRUARY, 2015,**

**5:30pm – 8:30pm**

**AT WOLLONGBAR ALSTONVILLE RUGBY CLUB, LYLE PARK,**

**CERRETO CIRCUIT, WOLLONGBAR**

**AGE GROUPS** - Under 7/8 & 9 ($90), 10 & 11 ($110), 12 & 13 ($120), 14 & 15 ($130), 16 ($140), 18’s ($180).

Fees are payable on the night (cash/cheque). Jnr Training shirt available on payment of fees. U/18s Play on Saturday & Sign-on Fee Provides Training Shirt, Club Polo, Playing Shorts & Sox Club shorts and socks available to purchase on the night.

**All Inquiries contact:** 0434 583864

**DON’T FORGET TO BRING A FRIEND TO RUGBY!!**

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**Jumping Joeys Playgroup**

**Anyone Welcome**

Each Tuesday during School Terms 9.30 am—11.00 am in the Technology Room