Dear Parents & Carers,

**INVITATION**

*We invite ALL our families to a Welcome BBQ and fun night on Friday 11 March.*

This is our Celebration for Catholic Schools Week this year.

**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK** will be celebrated in the week 6-12 March. We want to celebrate this week by hosting a Welcome BBQ on Friday 11 March beginning at 5pm. This is a great opportunity to gather as our school family and get to know the members of our village. Joeys’ Golf dads will be handling the BBQ. There will be some soft drinks for sale. There will be Yoga for everyone in the Hall from 5.15pm AND a dance party on the playground as well as laser games. Bring some chairs and enjoy a couple of hours relaxing. The evening should conclude about 7.30pm.

In addition there will be a Second hand Book Stall happening in Catholic Schools Week. See the ad in the Newsletter.

At our very well attended **PSF MEETING LAST WEEK** we had a great discussion around parents as helpers in our school. We have probably been focusing on in-class help like Reading, Art, changing Readers, etc and not giving you a clear message…

All children love to see their parents at school. And in the higher years this still applies but there is not as much need for in-class help. So, parents tend to ‘drop off’ in S2. But here is our message!

**We still want and need you…….**

There is a huge list of ways you can support still, be visible for your child AND make a difference for others in our village. If any of these opportunities sound right for you then please contact us and we will sort it for you.

The bottom line being- we want as many people as possible, using their particular talents, involved in our school and supporting all the students. You may not be working directly with your own child- but that is what helps create a village!

- Making & creating RE resources for use in the classroom
- Working with children in the vegetable garden
- Re-painting the games on the cement areas
- Covering books in Library, shelving books in Library, Helping create displays in Library
- Lunchtime games support eg Bingo, Lego, Soccer, Woodwork.

**It is not what you do for your children, but what you have taught them to do for themselves that will make them successful human beings**

Ann Landers

**The Sisters of St Joseph** are celebrating their sesquicentenary on Saturday 19 March with a Mass at All Saints Church Woodburn at 11am. We are all invited to attend. The Sisters were founded by St Mary of the Cross Mackillop in 1866 in Penola. Their work in schools over these 150 years has ensured many students have received the benefit of their support. If you are interested in attending then you must RSVP by Monday 14 March to admin@sfxballina.org.au or 66811048.

**DEDICATION OF ALTAR IN THE CATHEDRAL**

Last night I had the privilege of attending the
dedication of the Altar at St Carthage’s Cathedral in Lismore. Both Mrs Koning and Mrs Jan Seymour also attended as did Mr Joe Pereira. We were joined by Seb Astone and Daniel Pereira as leaders of our Special Events & Welcoming Group here a school. This was a very long celebration in a very hot Cathedral and we were all very impressed with our students’ involvement.

FOOD BANK
We have a food bank here at school for families who might need support in times of illness, grief, new baby or other events. It is wonderful to offer that support to families that might need it. We are looking for donations to top up our FOOD BANK at the moment. If there are any families that might be able to help out by cooking a meal and placing it in a takeaway or disposable container and popping it into school, we would be very grateful. A small explanation of the meal attached to it is very helpful. These are then frozen here at school until required. Thank you.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING
Last Thursday Stage 3 took part in some Leadership training. We spent the afternoon looking at how we show leadership, how we can take the lead in a variety of situations and how team work is important in leadership. We talked about joining in activities, trying your best, encouraging others and being determined. The students had a great afternoon that we hope will assist them in their leadership roles here at school and into the future.

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY
On Sunday 6 March we will once again participate in Clean Up Australia Day. We will meet at Elizabeth Brown Park right next to Crawford House at 9.45am. All those who join us will be treated to a BBQ Sausage Sizzle courtesy of the Rotary Club. All we need to do is come along in covered footwear with a hat and gloves. They will supply the bags and we divide up to cover the main areas of Alstonville until 11.30am when we gather for our sausages. This is a lovely way to demonstrate to our children the importance of community and working together to care for what we have. It is always a fun activity and we go away feeling like we have made a difference. Please mark the date and time on your calendar NOW!

Therese Seymour

St Joseph’s Learning Assistance Programme (LAP) 2016 - Helping to Discover the Potential Within

St Joseph’s Learning Assistance Programme (LAP) will commence for 2016 shortly. This year we already have many children who have been nominated to take part in the programme, and so we are in great need of more tutors, so that we can involve as many children as possible.

If you are interested in helping children ...
... have some time to spare each week
... are looking for a challenge
... and have interests, knowledge or skills to share... then PLEASE we would love to hear from you!

Our Learning Assistance Program, or LAP, is designed to support children at all levels of achievement. It provides children with the opportunity to work on a one-to-one basis with a volunteer for about an hour each week. The volunteers engage the children in activities to suit both their interests. The support, assistance and encouragement that a volunteer can give, aims at fostering a love of learning, the development of new skills, and the development of confidence and self-esteem.

LAP is an excellent programme which provides a meaningful way for parents and other adults within our school, parish and wider community to participate in the support of our students. We are looking for more female and male tutors to join the programme. Our students are keen to try woodwork, science experiments, sport skill development, knitting, gardening, cooking, creative arts, cards, chess, kite-flying, board games etc. etc. The list is endless. So PLEASE, Mums, Dads, Grandmas, Grandads, Aunts and Uncles, consider giving LAP a go. All our volunteers love the programme and report back that they gain just as much from it as the children.

An information session/meeting for all new and returning volunteers will take place in a few weeks time. Details to be advised soon. If you have some time to spare each week, please come along to our next LAP information session. You can enjoy afternoon tea with us and meet and talk with our returning LAP volunteers and learn all about the programme.

Please contact the LAP Coordinator, Jennifer Slattery, at the school if you would like further information prior to the meeting. (Ph 66281009)

To celebrate Catholic Schools Week our school library will be running a preloved book sale.

More details will come soon but right now we need donations of quality preloved books and magazines (no encyclopaedia sets please). We will accept children’s picture books or novels, teen reads, information books and adult fiction.

Please send any donations directly to the school library. If you have any queries please contact me on rkingsford@lism.catholic.edu.au or 66281009.

Looking forward to this fun event.

Ros Kingsford (Librarian)
On release days the staff involved are trying to use positive reinforcement to get the best from each child.

To assist with this Mr Slattery, Mrs Seymour and Mrs McWilliam are awarding students that share great work, try hard in lessons and join in the fun appropriately a chance to see their name in the newsletter.

### Joey's Dads Golf

Our itinerary for the 2016 year is almost complete with one location yet to be confirmed however this will be confirmed very soon. Joey's Dads Golf is open to all Dad's or Carers to come along and meet other Dads from within the school community and play Golf. It is social golf where we attempt to play 2 rounds of golf each term.

We also help out throughout the year with other activities within the school by cooking a BBQ or helping at other school functions.

Below is the schedule for 2016.

- **Sunday 13 March** - Lismore Golf Course 7:30am tee-off.
- **Sunday 3 April** - Family Bowls Day at the Alstonville Bowling Club. Time to be confirmed.
- **Sunday 15 May** - Casino Golf Course 7:30am tee-off.
- **Sunday 26 June** - TBC
- **Sunday 31 July** - Ocean Shores Golf Course. Golf, Cart & Lunch included 7:30am tee-off.
- **Sunday 28 August** - Murwillumbah Golf Course. Golf & Cart included 7:30am tee-off.
- **Sunday 16 October** - Lismore Golf course 7:30am tee-off.
- **Friday 11/Saturday 12/Sunday 13 November** - End of Year Trip.

Each round costs $50 which includes all refreshments + $50 yearly Membership fee.

All details for the entire year will be sent in an email to all those wishing to come along and join. If you are interested in finding out any further information, please contact any of the below.

- Mark Woolven 0418-439772
- Sav Glavocih 0416-287926
- Anthony Drew 0477-389985

Thanks

Joey's Dads Golf
**MYTH: Healthy lunchboxes are more expensive**

Above are two lunchboxes - the top one has the healthier options. We compared the cost of these two & the results are in... The healthier lunchbox is $0.73 cheaper per day. That means if you have two children you could save nearly $3800 over their schooling life by packing healthy options! Raw vegies like capsicum strips, peas in the pod, cucumber, bean sprouts and tomato wedges are often the most popular with younger children as they make great finger foods.

**OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE WITH RAINBOW AT ST JOSEPH’S SCHOOL**

Parents should please note that they need to book casual care, not just send children with $5. There is a set process to be followed so please phone Helen Ph 0447 211835.

An enrolment pack is available at the school office for more information.

**ST JOHN’S COLLEGE WOODLAWN**

**Enrolments for Years 7 & 11, 2017**

Wednesday 4 May: College Open Night at 6.30 pm

Staff and students at St John’s College warmly invite any family who is considering enrolment at the College to attend the College Open Night. This is an opportunity to meet the staff and students and view the College facilities.

Friday 13 May: Closing date for Years 7 & 11 Applications

Sunday 22 May: Interviews 9.00 am - 6.00 pm (Appointments are made on Open Night)

For further enquiries phone Mrs Debbie Melino on 6626 2606

Alstonville Wollongbar Netball Club is seeking players aged 8, 9 and 10 years old for our net-set-go teams. Please contact Michelle Bransgrove on 0428 834 860