We wish to welcome back all families after the summer holidays and hope you have all had a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas and New Year holiday period. We especially welcome our 25 Prep students and their families and other new students and families to the school – we look forward to working in partnership with you in our wonderful school community. To assist with the smooth transition into the new school year a Term Calendar and Class Term Overviews will be sent home within the coming weeks. Also included in the body of the newsletter is the 2017 Staff List and the days classes have specialist subjects.

We welcome to our staff Sarah Colson, Kelly Geoghegan and Nick Frederiksen. Sarah completed her pre-service rounds with us last year and will be teaching Year 1/2 this year. Kelly is an experienced teacher and has joined our team from St Peter Julian Eymard, Mooroolbark and will be teaching in the Prep and Year 1/2 classrooms. Nick joins us from St Simon’s, Rowville and is our Deputy Principal, Education in Faith Leader and Year 5/6 teacher. We look forward to having them on our staff. I am sure you will make them feel very welcome in our school community.

The Coffee van has been organised for Monday, 6th February from 8.30am to Welcome Back families. We ask that families stay and grab a coffee and have a chat, to catch up and welcome our new families to our school community.

Next Monday, 6th February is the Reconciliation Parents Reflection Night at 7.30pm in the church. If you have a child in Year 3 that is wishing to make this Sacrament (or Years 4-6 who have not previously made this Sacrament) it is compulsory that at least one parent attend this meeting. As part of the preparation for this Sacrament students MUST attend one of the Reconciliation Commitment Masses on the weekend of the 11th (Opening of School Year Mass) and 12th February.

Our first School Improvement Committee (SIC) meeting will be held next Monday, 6th February at 6.00pm to plan for our first
Working Bee on **Saturday, 18th February**. Anyone interested in joining our SIC Committee is most welcome to attend.

On **Saturday, 11th February** we have our **Opening of School Year Mass** at 6.00pm in the church. We invite all families to share in this liturgy to welcome the new school year. At this Mass our Year 6 students will be presented with their leadership jackets and our Prep students will be presented to the school and parish community. This will also be the **Commitment Mass** for students making their Sacrament of Reconciliation this year. Mass will be followed by a BBQ dinner. We look forward to seeing all families there on the night.

Our **Parent Teacher Chats** will be held on **Tuesday, 14th February**. These meetings are an opportunity for teachers to gather information about the students in their classroom from their parents. **School concludes at 1.00pm** on this day to allow staff to meet with all families. Notes will be sent home this week providing further information about the Parent Teacher Chats. Bookings will again be completed by families online or by contacting the office if you do not have this facility. Please note, that if your child has a PSG meeting, you do not need to book a Parent Teacher Chat.

A reminder for Year 6 parents, the closing date for **Applications for Year 7 to Catholic Secondary Colleges for 2018** is **Friday, 17th February**. Please ensure that you have completed this process to avoid disappointment.

During the coming days all students will receive a “**Cybersafety Use Agreement**”. Could you please take time to go through this in detail with your child/ren before signing and returning this to school. Students will be restricted from using the internet at school for lessons until this form is received.

Students must wear correct **school uniform** to school each day. Students are not permitted to wear runners to school unless it is their sports day. Students not in correct uniform must bring a note from parents. **Simple earrings and watches are the only acceptable jewellery. Chains, dangling earrings and bracelets are a safety issue especially on the playground. Make up and nail polish are also not to be worn at school.**

St Joseph’s School is a **SunSmart School** - All students are required to wear an appropriate SunSmart school hat at all times between 1st September and 30th April when they are outside at play. Students without hats are required to sit in the designated shaded area during recess, lunchtime and during sporting or other outdoor activities.

Can you please ensure that your **child’s clothing and belongings are clearly named**. I appreciate that families spend good money to purchase school uniforms – if they are named we can hopefully return them to their owners.

**To encourage independence in your child** we ask you allow them to carry their own bags, to pack and unpack their own belongings and to follow classroom routines at the start and end of each day. Although it is often easier to do these things for them this does not allow your child to be independent and take on these simple responsibilities. It is also important that if you see your child to the classroom (and you are not staying as a classroom helper) that you leave promptly to allow your child and the class to settle into their daily program.

**Students arriving late to school MUST** be brought to the office by their parent and register this on the iPad at the front desk and collect a **late arrival card** at the office and take it to your
child’s classroom. This is not only a legal requirement but also is essential if there was an emergency evacuation. School rolls are completed at the start of the day and without this being completed there is no record that your child is on the premises. If you are picking up your child before the end of the school day, you will need to register this on the iPad at the front desk and collect an early dismissal card at the office and take it to your child’s classroom when collecting your child. We thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

At the end of the school day, children can be met at their classroom, or alternatively they will walk to the designated pick up area located on the stairs at the front of the Administration building. A teacher will be on duty until 3.45pm. Supervision of students is from 8.45am—3.45pm. Supervision outside these times must be organised with Camp Australia our Before and After School Care provider.

If your child is celebrating a birthday and you wish to bring along food to share, this must be prearranged with the class teacher. When planning this staff need to take into account food allergies and special dietary requirements. Prearrangement is crucial as we have students in the school who have anaphylaxis, a severe peanut allergy which is life-threatening. Students are also reminded not to share any food or drink as we have students with severe food allergies and Anaphylaxis. We ask to avoid providing Peanut Butter and Nut products in your child’s lunch to support these students. Please also discuss and stress with your child/ren the importance of washing hands following eating. If your child has asthma, please read and follow the steps on the attached list.

Finally, before school commences each day teachers are preparing for and focusing on their day with their students. Unless prearranged this is not the most practical time for an unscheduled meeting. At St Joseph’s School the teachers are very approachable and always happy to meet with parents to discuss any concerns, however, at the start of the day their focus must be on their teaching and their students. To make a suitable time to meet, please arrange this with the class teacher or contact the office. We thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Once again welcome back and we look forward to a great year!

Peter Vanstan

ST. JOSEPH’S SCHOOL BORONIA 2017 STAFF

Parish Priest  Fr Mirek Knap
Principal     Pete Vanstan
Assistant Principal Leonie Sheehy
Deputy Principal  Nick Frederiksen
Administration Officers:    Marg Booth
                           Gayle Ashdowne

Education in Faith Leader: Nick Frederiksen
Learning & Teaching Leader (Literacy): Sandra Anderson
Learning & Teaching Leader (Maths):  Sandra Anderson
Student Wellbeing Leader:  Liz Miller
Teacher

Prep       Kylie Hare         Kelly Geoghegan *(Fri f'nightly)*
Year 1/2 AG Sandra Anderson   Kelly Geoghegan *(Thursdays and Friday f'nightly)*
Year 1/2 C Sarah Colson
Year 3/4 NJ Nerida Byrden     Jenny Small *(Fri)*
Year 3/4 G Georgina Bennett
Year 5/6 D Maree Davis
Year 5/6 FM Nick Frederiksen  Liz Miller *(Wed, Thurs)*

Recovery Intervention Teacher: Anne Baumann

LOTE (Indonesian): Olivia Modine

PE: Anne Baumann

Visual Arts: Chris Marnell

Learning Support Officers: Ryan Bruce, Cathy Darcy-Evans, Fiona Dixon, Maree Jones, Jenny Killian, Luke Lambert, David Prowse, Linda Randall

Student Services support: Maree Jones

Kitchen Garden: Cathy D’Arcy Evans

Library Technician: Elaine Folino

Maintenance: David Amor

Cleaners: Edward Mayarich

2017 Specialist Days

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For all families new to St. Joseph’s we use the ‘bucket system to distribute correspondence. In each classroom there is a bucket where correspondence from school to home and from home to school is sent. The buckets are brought to the office at the beginning of the day and returned to the classroom at the end of the day. Fee payment, Uniform Shop Orders, Special Lunch Day Orders, Student Banking or any other correspondence can be sent to the office via this system. Please don’t hesitate to contact Marg or Gayle if you have any further questions.

CDF Student Banking CDF SCHOOL BANKING DAY is every Tuesday. CDF encourages you to open an account for your child, to teach them about saving. As a practical sign of appreciation, there is a welcome gift for each child who opens a CDF Student Account.

Further information /or an application form can be obtained from the office.

Please contact the office if you have changed any of your personal details i.e. Phone number, address, emergency contact etc.

If you would like to receive the newsletter electronically you can do so by emailing your details to gayle.ashdowne@sjboronia.catholic.edu.au or by filling out the form below.

The school newsletter is distributed each WEDNESDAY via email. All information for inclusion in the newsletter must be submitted by Tuesday 4pm to Gayle Ashdowne at the address above. The newsletter will also be placed on the school website: www.sjboronia.catholic.edu.au each Wednesday afternoon.

I would like to receive the school newsletter via email/hardcopy - please circle

Name: _________________________________________________________________

Email address:(please print clearly):

________________________________________________________

Please return this form to the office via the bucket system Thank you.
We warmly welcome our 2017 Preps and their families to St. Joseph’s! They certainly rocked their first day at school!
Back to school asthma checklist

1. ASTHMA ACTION PLAN
See a doctor for a signed Asthma Action Plan or Care Plan. Most schools require an up-to-date plan for each student with asthma at the start of the new school year.

Evidence tells us that using an Asthma Action Plan can help to reduce hospitalisations, improve lung function and reduce the number of days off school.

While with the doctor, why not combine this with a check-up for your child’s asthma, including a check on their device technique.

2. RELIEVER MEDICATION
Check with the school about their medication policy and work with the staff to find the best way to manage your child’s asthma medication, including before physical activity (where applicable).

- Medication and devices are clearly labelled with your child’s name
- Medication is in date and with sufficient medication remaining

3. TALK TO SCHOOL STAFF
Make time to talk with the class teacher and the school nurse (where applicable) about your child’s asthma, their Asthma Plan and their usual triggers, symptoms and medication.

Also talk to your child’s sport coaches and supervisors of other school activities. Don’t forget to keep staff up-to-date with any change to your child’s asthma management.

Use this valuable time to:

- Go over your child’s Asthma Plan
- Discuss the signs of asthma for your child
- Show them your child’s asthma medication and demonstrate how to use it
- Talk about the extent to which your child can self-manage their asthma
- Provide details of how to contact you when:
  - They have asthma symptoms
  - They use a reliever medication at school

Proud partner of Asthma Australia. teachershealth.com.au

LEARN MORE ABOUT ASTHMA.
Contact your local Asthma Foundation 1800 ASTHMA Helpline (1800 278 462) or visit www.asthmaaustralia.org.au
All Families and Friends of St Joseph’s School Community
Are invited to our
OPENING OF SCHOOL YEAR MASS

SATURDAY, 11th FEBRUARY 2017 Commencing at 6.00pm
St Joseph’s Church, Boronia

- Year 6 Students will be presented with their leadership jackets
- Prep students will be introduced to the school and parish community
- Year 3 students making their First Reconciliation will make a commitment at this Mass.
  (Mass will be followed by a Sausage Sizzle Dinner)

(If you are able to assist with the BBQ on the evening please leave your name at the school office)

We welcome to St. Joseph’s School the following families:
Adam, Baker, Brain, Han, Harris, Lewis, Limbo, Manrique - Rincon, Parton, Ranaweera, Saini, Sulit, Walker and Wiwczaruk.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Mrs Randall (LSO)—on the recent loss of her dad. “May he rest in peace”.

Achievements Outside School
If your child has achieved something notable as part of a club/hobby we would love to acknowledge it in the newsletter. Information can be sent via email to: gayle.ashdowne@sjboronia.catholic.edu.au.
Thank you

Happy Birthday to - Ruby B (3/4G), Ruby F (1/2A), Lewis (P), Lily E (1/2A), Mitchell S (1/2C), Olivia W (3/4G), Aaron K (5/6FM), Allegra C (3/4G), Jasmine B (5/6FM), Lachy D (1/2A), Laurie M (5/6FM), Brodie G (5/6FM), Clare S (5/6FM), Emily H (3/4G), Max W (5/6FM), Luke S (5/6D), Mrs. Ashdowne, Mr. Lambert, & Mrs. D’Arcy-Evans who have celebrated their birthday during the holidays or are celebrating in the coming week.

Welcome
Glad you’re here!

We hope that your time as part of our School Community is full of support, friendship and blessings.

Summer Clean-out time!!!!!!

Summer is in the air and we all have cupboards that need sorting out.
Please donate your unwanted ‘treasures’ to the Fete’s:

Trash ‘n’ Treasure Stall
Any large furniture items please phone Lynn on 0402 148 505

NOW OPEN
10% discount for St. Joseph’s families.
$3 sandwich for school children