inquiry learning:
We begin the term in our new classrooms with “Learning to Learn” this unit helps the children exploring ways to be organised, working together, having a go, being confident and making new friends.

The main focus is based on the inquiry question: How can we make our classroom a place where everyone can learn?

The aim of this unit is to create and maintain a positive learning environment where all students contribute and feel successful.

homework:
The school homework policy states that in Prep/One reading is the required homework. This should take 10-15 minutes and become a regular routine. Home reading needs to be at an EASY level. Teachers carefully select books and bring home reading. Students may read a book that is too high for them to comprehend. The books you child brings home need to be easy and enjoyable. If your child needs help, please provide help. These activities will be organized by each classroom teacher to suit the different needs in each classroom.

important dates for term 1:
February 6th: Prep School Photos
February 10th: Parent Teacher Interviews will begin
February 18th: Ash Wednesday
February 19th: 20th School Closure days: Staff Conference
March 9th: Labour Day Holiday
March 17th: School Sports
March 19th: St. Joseph’s Day
Sunday April 19th: St. Joseph’s Fair
March 28th: End of Term school finishes at 2:30 p.m.
April 3rd: Good Friday
April 5th: Easter Sunday
Tuesday April 13th: Term 2 starts

ST. JOSEPH’S PRIMARY
SCHOOL Term 1, 2015

Dear Parents,
This is a newsletter distributed at the beginning of each term to keep you up to date with the current events, activities and reminders in the Prep/One classrooms.

First term has started and everyone is busy! The new Prep children are settling in well and are becoming familiar with school routines.

Prep children will have a ‘rest day’ every Wednesday for first term.

JUNIOR SCHOOL CLASSROOMS FOR 2015:

There are 7 Prep/One classrooms.
Room B1: Melissa Caine & Kayleigh Lujic
Room B2: Gabrielle Ewing & Monica O’Brien
Room B3: Hanna Kera
Room B4: Jo Pangrazio & Mary Lane
Room B5: Marianne Evans & Cara Chisholm
Room B6: Naomi Shingie
Room B7: Mark Hyland & Joel Saywell
Prep/One Coordinator: Jo Pangrazio

SPECIALIST CLASSES FOR 2015:
Visual & Performing Arts and
Literacy & Integrated Curriculum
Visual Art & Library classes are timetabled fortnightly, for 1.5 hours at the same time on alternate weeks. The schedule for these classes for 2015 is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Art/Library</th>
<th>Drama</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B1</td>
<td>Art/Library</td>
<td>Drama</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B2</td>
<td>Art/Library</td>
<td>Drama</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B3</td>
<td>Art/Library</td>
<td>Drama</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>B4</td>
<td>Art/Library</td>
<td>Drama</td>
<td>Monday</td>
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<tr>
<td>B5</td>
<td>Art/Library</td>
<td>Drama</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B6</td>
<td>Art/Library</td>
<td>Drama</td>
<td>Monday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B7</td>
<td>Art/Library</td>
<td>Drama</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prep students will have make up lessons if their specialist class is on Wednesdays.

All students will need an Art smock.

Children can borrow four books fortnightly in their library class but they can return books and borrow from the library anytime.

The library is open for the first half of every lunchtime for children. The school navy Book Bag is used for Library books as well as home reading.
integration aides:
Our school has a number of Integration Aides that work to support the classroom teachers. During Term 1 they monitor the playground to assist the Preps as they settle into their new surrounds and make new friendships. This year our Integration Aides are Kerri Struth, Nicole Brennan, Jay Mitchell, Linda O’Neill, Karen Everall, Anne McGrath and Jeff Vizon.

pmp - perceptual motor program:
Linda O’Neill runs our Perceptual Motor Program on a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday (equipment sessions), and Thursday, Floor sessions. If you are able to assist with the equipment sessions please let Linda know. Parents are most welcome to observe on any of the days. PMP is a great way to meet other Preps. This program starts in Week 4 with Floor sessions for the first few weeks.

classroom supplies:
You will need to supply your child with a small pencil case, textas & pencils and an art smock (an old large t-shirt is fine). All of these items should be clearly named.
Each child is also asked to bring in a family size box of tissues each term for the whole class. This keeps our classrooms in supply of tissues for the year.

healthy snacks & lunches:
Your child will require a fruit snack in the classroom which they can manage independently as well as food for recess at 11:00am and lunch at 1:00pm. The classroom teachers supervise the children eating their lunch from 1:00-1:10 pm. School lunches are a great opportunity to promote healthy eating habits. Lollies & chocolate treats etc., are best kept for after school. Great ideas for snacks include: fresh fruit, dried fruit, cheese & dry biscuits, rice crackers, celery/carrot sticks, small cakes & muffins. Please be aware that some classes are designated 'nut free'. A note has been sent home to those classrooms. It is also important that the children have a drink bottle of water. Remember to name containers and bottles!

sports days:
Each classroom has designated Sport days. Children will need to wear their sports uniform and runners on the following days:
Room B1: Tuesday & Thursday
Room B2: Tuesday & Thursday
Room B3: Wednesday & Thursday
Room B4: Monday & Wednesday
Room B5: Wednesday & Thursday
Room B6: Tuesday & Friday
Room B7: Tuesday & Thursday

literacy news:
Junior School students participate in a well-structured two hour Literacy block each day. It is important that children are ready to start each day at 8.55am, and that school bags, book bags and lunch orders are organised well before this time so that the teaching can begin. Classroom doors open at 8.40 a.m.
Parent Helpers in the classroom:
Monica Currer will run a 'Parent Helper Program' later in the term. If you wish to help in the literacy block you need to attend this program. It is also a great way to learn how to support your child with learning to read and write. Parents wait until after Term 2 to help in the classroom. As a classroom helper you will be working with a group of students please make arrangements for younger siblings to be cared for at this time.
Reminder all parents need a current "Working with Children Check" to help anywhere in the school or on excursions.

sunsmart school:
At St. Joseph's we are a registered Sunsmart School. From February to May and all of Term 4 every child needs to wear a school hat when they are outside. Children need to have sunscreen applied before they come to school or they bring some to apply themselves.

numeracy news:
The Numeracy testing in December 2014 allowed teachers to gain an understanding of the needs of your child in numeracy. We thank parents for their support and cooperation with this process.
This term the Junior School will focus on Counting, Place Value, Time & Location. We encourage you to play counting games with your children at home, such as Snakes & Ladders, card games, and counting aloud together in everyday situations.