



Term 1 Week 3, 12th February 2024

Dear families and friends,

We had a lovely start to 2024 last week. We welcomed familiar faces along with a number of new students. Welcome to our 2024 Kindergarten cohort of Lyla, Kian, Lucy, Isaiah, Everett, Ayra, Amarra and Olivia. Welcome to Ernie (Yr 2), Maggie-May (Yr 3), Aaliyah (Yr 2) and Blessie (Yr 6). We also welcome six new families to our St Joseph's school community this year. We are excited to have our biggest enrolment in many years (32 total).

Today our students who can confidently swim 50m had the opportunity to trial to qualify for the Cluster Swimming Carnival in Narromine next Monday. Congratulations to Sloan, Kale, Kyanna and Nellie who will represent our school at the next competitive level. Thank you to their parents for helping to run this event today.

Tomorrow we welcome our youngest students for our transition program, Jump into Joey's. Mrs Chandler is all organised to provide pre-kindergarten activities and help this group confidently start school in 2025. Please spread the word if you know of anyone who would like to find out more about our lovely little school.

I extend a warm welcome to our new Year 3/4/5/6 teacher, Miss Emma Jeffries. Emma has relocated to Parkes from the Maitland area after finishing her teaching degree last year. Miss Jeffries had a settled start with her new class last week and is looking forward to getting to know all the students and families.

We are looking forward to seeing you all at our parent meeting on Tuesday, 20th February followed by a welcome BBQ where we can get to know each other.

This Wednesday we begin the Lenten Season with an Ash Wednesday Liturgy. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the 40 days of Lent where we prepare for the Easter Season. We invite you to join us on Thursday at St James Church for our first school Mass.

Have a great week, **Mrs Regina Goodridge**, Principal

ST. JOSEPHS



St. Joseph's Parish School

THE EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY
OF ST JAMES' PARISH IN PEAK HILL

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Peak Hill NSW 2869

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Guided by the love of Jesus Christ, St. Joseph's Parish School strives to provide an inclusive, nurturing environment where individuals are encouraged to be resilient, empowered learners who contribute positively to the wider community.



Parish News

ST JAMES' CATHOLIC PARISH

Caswell St, Peak Hill

Join us at 9.30am
each Sunday

Mass 2nd, 4th & 5th Sunday

Liturgy 1st & 3rd Sunday each month

PARISH COUNCIL AGM

AGM of Parish Council followed by an Ordinary meeting will be held on Sunday 25th February after Mass. All Parishioners welcome to attend

ASH WEDNESDAY

14th February. Mass at 5pm with distribution of ashes. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent.

LENTEN GROUP

Lenten Group starts on Tuesday, 20th February at 9.30am in the church. If you would like to be part of this group but haven't placed your name on the list at the back of church, please feel free to attend.

LENT

Catholics aged 14 and up must abstain from consuming meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays during Lent, including Good Friday. Instead of meat, many Catholics choose to eat fish.

Everyone of age 18 to 59 must/ should fast, unless exempt due to usually a medical reason.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MESSAGES

Miss Brooke Hanns

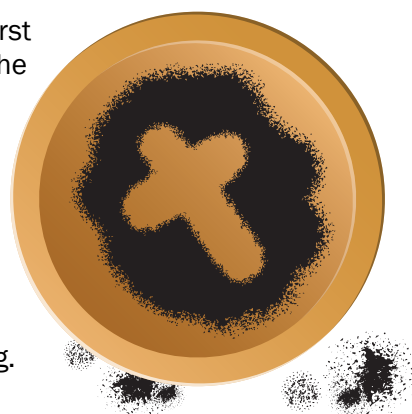
Welcome back to another school year!

This week we celebrate Ash Wednesday, the first day of one of the most important seasons in the Church's liturgical calendar – Lent.

Lent is a time when we try to get closer to God. The students are encouraged to think of things they could do to achieve this such as having conversations with God, doing good deeds and giving to Project Compassion. As adults we understand these acts to be fasting, prayer and almsgiving.

Tomorrow we will be selling pancakes and toppings from the canteen for \$2 each for Shrove Tuesday.

We will also celebrate our first school Mass of the year this Thursday at 9.30am. Everyone is invited to join us.



2024 Staffing Arrangements

Regina Goodridge	Principal	Literacy Instructional Leader	Release teacher
Brooke Hanns	Religious Education Coordinator	K/1/2 teacher (Monday-Thursday)	
Emma Jeffries	3/4/5/6 teacher		
Katrina Perrin	Additional Needs Teacher	Aboriginal Contact Teacher	Numeracy Instructional Leader
Angela Tonkin	K/1/2 teacher (Friday)	Casual teacher (Tuesday)	
Lizzie Chandler	Term 1 Jump into Joey's Transition teacher (Tuesday)		
Ally Fryer	Learning Support Officer (full-time)		
Ruth Crowley	Administration Officer (full-time)		
Renee Keed	Aboriginal Contact Officer (full-time)		
Debbie Barnes	Aboriginal Contact Officer Literacy Support		
Laura Kirk	Teacher Hub Trainee in K/1/2 (Wednesday)	Learning Support Officer (Thursday, Friday)	
Becky Wright	Learning Support Officer (Monday, Tuesday)	Plus casual	
Gail Hando	Cleaner		

RECONCILIATION

2nd Rite of Reconciliation will take place on 28th February in St James' Catholic Church at 5pm.

This will be your chance to have reconciliation prior to Easter.

IMPORTANT DATES

14 February
Ash Wednesday

14 February
Memorial: Sts Cyril & Methodius

18 February
1st Sunday of Lent

22 February Feast:
Chair of St Peter The Apostle

23 February
Memorial: St Polycarp

25 February
2nd Sunday of Lent



TICKET

HOW DO STUDENTS WIN TICKETS?

Each morning, St Joseph's gathers as one to start the day.

All staff members and assembly leaders nominate students who they have noticed acting in the St Joseph's Way. We look for students who are being kind, friendly, working hard, looking after each other.

On Friday, names are drawn and the lucky winners claim a prize.

Child safe schools & supportive environments Information for parents

We take our responsibility to protect children seriously. All staff are expected to promote child safety by having a clear understanding of their legal child protection responsibilities and act in accordance with those responsibilities.

In particular the school will:

- Maintain professionalism in our interactions with children at all times by exercising appropriate duty of care and maintaining professional boundaries.
- Follow an established process to address allegations of inappropriate behaviour by staff towards children.
- Ensure all people working in our school who are required to undertake a Working With Children Check have a valid clearance.
- Respond appropriately when we suspect a child is at risk of significant harm due to possible abuse or neglect by a parent/carer or other adult.

A WHOLE YEAR OF JOEY'S IN 2024!

St Joseph's Jump into Joey's kindergarten transition program commences on **Tuesday, 13 February** and will continue each Tuesday of 2024.

Transition sessions are free and all jumping Joey's receive a t-shirt.

If you, or anyone you know is interested, please contact the school office for a short enrolment form.



Important Dates

Tuesday, 13 February

**JUMP INTO JOEY'S
COMMENCES FOR 2024!**

Tuesday, 13 February

SHROVE TUESDAY

Wednesday, 14 February

ASH WEDNESDAY

Thursday, 15 February

**FIRST SCHOOL MASS
OF 2024 @ 9.30AM**

Monday, 19 February

**CLUSTER SWIMMING
CARNIVAL @ NARROMINE**

Tuesday, 20 February

JUMP INTO JOEY'S

Tuesday, 20 February

**PARENT MEETING +
WELCOME BBQ @ 5PM**

Wednesday, 6 March

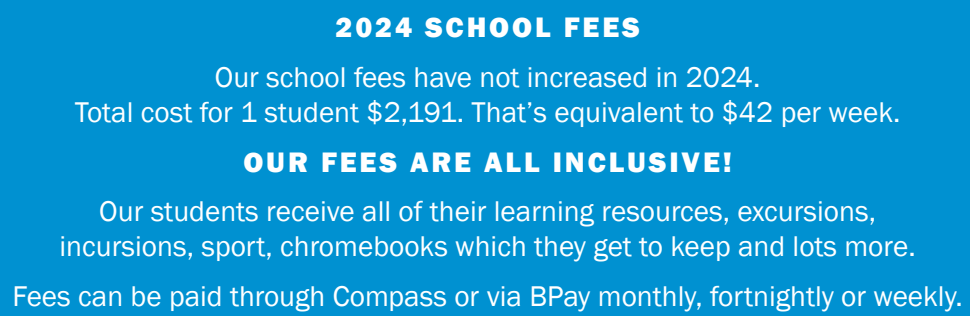
**SJS SWIMMING FUN DAY
@ PEAK HILL POOL**

Thursday, 21 March

**MASS OF ST JOSEPH
& ST PATRICK**

Monday, 25 March

**PARENT/TEACHER
CONFERENCES**



All school staff are mandatory reporters. This means that if there are reasonable grounds to suspect that a child is at risk of ‘significant harm’ from abuse or neglect, then a report must be made to the Department of Communities & Justice Child Protection Helpline (CP Helpline).

In making a report the Principal will consider all of the information and seek appropriate advice from the Catholic Education Office. Any information about a child at risk is kept confidentially by the Principal.

If you have any concerns about a child who you consider may be at risk, please discuss your concerns with the Principal as soon as possible and maintain confidentiality.

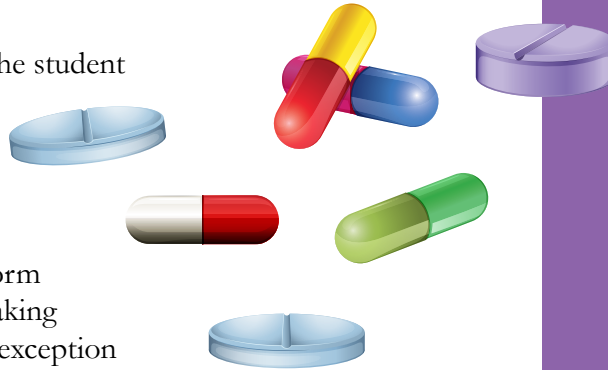
Delivery of medication to the school

Wherever possible medication should be provided to the school by parents on a daily basis. If the parent is unable to deliver the medication to the school it is advisable that a responsible person nominated by the parent to deliver it. If a student is given the responsibility of delivering the medication to the designated area, a proper assessment of the risk will be conducted. Factors to be taken into account when assessing the risk are:

- the maturity and capacity of the student
- parental consent
- any additional safety issue

Self-administration

Parents/Guardians need to inform the school regarding students taking medication at school. With the exception of the use of asthma relievers self-administration of medication by Primary aged school students is not appropriate.

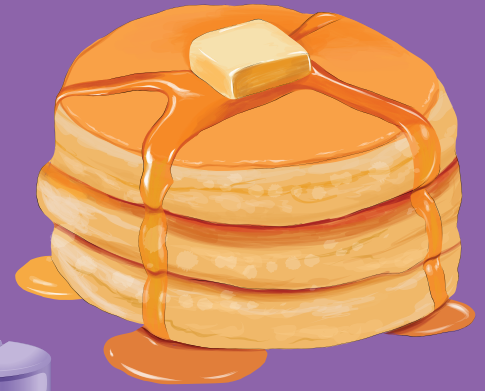


You're invited to the
St Joseph's School 2024

PARENT MEETING +

*Welcome
BBQ*

Tuesday, 20 February
from 5pm



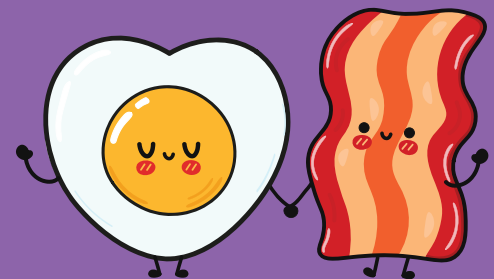
*Shrove
Tuesday*

**PANCAKES
TOMORROW!**

Tomorrow we will be selling
pancakes and toppings from
the canteen for

\$2 EACH

for Shrove Tuesday.



**STARTING NEXT WEEK
21 FEBRUARY!**

**WEDNESDAY
BREAKFAST CLUB**

Breakfast is a great way to give
the body the refuelling it needs.

Kids who eat breakfast tend to
eat healthier overall and are more
likely to be physically active.

Skipping breakfast can make kids
feel tired, restless, or irritable.

**BREAKFAST IS SERVED
AT ST JOEY'S
FROM 8.30AM
EVERY WEDNESDAY
MORNING.**

**FREE
no cost!**

**Kinder
Transition
Program**



**TERM 1
TO
TERM 4**

**EVERY
Tuesday from
9am-3pm**

**Play
+ Social
skills**

**Gross +
Fine Motor
Skills**

**Literacy
+
Numeracy**

**FREE
shirt for
every child**

Jump into Joey's

Kindergarten transition 2024

St Joey's kindergarten transition will be commencing on Tuesday, 13 February 2024.

Give your child the best preparation to be ready for Kinder.

Jump into Joey's is open to all children starting kindergarten in 2025.

Register your interest now. Call the school office on 6869 1452 or sms us on 0439 477 646.

Come & try St Joeys!



Catholic Education Wilcannia-Forbes

Attendance Information for Parents



Attendance Information for Parents

Compliance with Catholic Education Wilcannia-Forbes (CEWF) Attendance policies and procedures allows schools, students and parents to meet their obligations under the NSW Education Act 1990.

As stated in CEWF's Attendance Policy parents are required to explain the absences of their children from school promptly and within seven days to the school. An explanation for absence must be provided to the school within 7 days of the first day of any period of absence.

If details regarding the explanation for absences are insufficient, principals may register the absence as unjustified.

It is most important that parents provide details for an absence of their child when using the Compass Parent Portal or when sending in a note to the school.

In Compass, parents have the following absence reasons to select from when entering an absence via the Parent Portal:

- Medical Illness - to be used for sickness, medical and dental treatment
- Medical appointment - appointments with medical professionals, dental practitioners
- Travel - student does not attend school due to a student/family holiday
- Other Explained Absence - school has received a satisfactory explanation for a student's absence. Includes: misadventure or unforeseen event, participation in non-school events, domestic necessity such as serious illness of an immediate family member, attendance at funerals, recognised religious festivals
- Natural Disaster - a student is unable to attend school due to an extreme weather event or other natural disaster. Includes: bushfire, flood or storm events

Please note that when selecting a reason for the absence, parents **MUST** also fill in the Details/Comment section in the Parent Portal. Examples as follows:

- Medical illness - details 'has a stomach bug'
- Medical appointment - details 'doctor's appointment'
- Travel - details 'family holiday to the Gold Coast'
- Other Explained Absence - details 'attending funeral of a relative'
- Natural Disaster - details 'road to town cut off by flood waters'

Whole day/s absences can be entered via the Compass Parent Portal however **late arrivals and/or early departures** are to be entered via the Kiosk Lite at the school office.

Should you have any questions regarding the use of absence codes, please do not hesitate to contact your school principal for further information.

ONLINE LENT

LET'S REFLECT TOGETHER

Join the Sawtell Parish and the Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes for a special experience - a space to delve into our Lenten journeys. We meet online from 7:30-8:30pm on the Tuesday evenings of 13, 20, 27 Feb, and 5, 12, 19, 26 Mar. We will follow the *Pieta* program from the Wollongong Diocese, cost: \$9.90 www.dow.org.au/product/pieta-lenten-program-2024-book/ To participate, or if you are unable to purchase the book, contact Trevor Cooper coopersandcompany@gmail.com or Sr Elizabeth elizabeth.young@wf.catholic.org.au



**DIOCESAN
ONLINE
FORMATION**



*with
Fr Arthur Givney*

*Theme:
Divine Mercy*

**7:30pm-8:10pm Wednesday
7th February**

Zoom Meeting ID 665 8411 5159 and Passcode 709885