Dear Parents, Students, Staff and all associated with St Joseph’s Community

As we continue in the second half of the term, Lent has begun and the children are happily settled into their classes. One thing that impresses me as I visit the learning spaces and move through the playground is the happiness of the children at St Joseph’s. These sights and sounds of joy remind me of something that I had read, about how we choose our attitude and the way we feel.

If you are feeling happy then you can thank your friends and family, because happiness is infectious, you spread it to your friends and they pass it on to you. As well as your friends, your next door neighbours and your brothers and sisters can spread the contagion of happiness. Even on Facebook, people with smiling faces tend to cluster together.

Your happiness is increased if your friendships are mutual – in other words, if the people you see as friends also regard you as their friend you will be even happier.

The same works with your attitude, you can choose to think positively or negatively. People who think positively live happier, longer and more productively than those who think negatively. It is important for the children that we set a positive example so that they see challenges as an opportunity to learn or understand from another perspective rather than being negative as this limits your ability to work through difficult situations.

Bass Coast Young Leaders Awards
Congratulations to Manny Sibly and Kate Little who are recipients of the 2016 Bass Coast Shire Council’s Young Leader Awards.

Last Tuesday, February 23, they attended a special presentation at Silverwater Resort to receive their Award, including a certificate, presentation pack and Young Leader badge.

The Bass Coast Young Leaders Program recognise young leaders in Bass Coast Schools who display qualities in one or more of the following areas:

- Respect
- Responsibility
- Friendship
- Team work
- Leadership
- Academic excellence
- Sporting excellence
- Outstanding improvement

We at St Joseph’s are very proud of their achievement.

District Swimming
Congratulations to our St Joseph’s students who took part in the Inter-school District Swimming Trials last Tuesday. All swimmers had fun participating in the event and there was some great, friendly competition.

Results from the day saw 18 students now go on to the Divisional Competition held in Korumburra, this Friday. We wish them luck! Particular thanks to Michelle Richards, our sports coordinator, for her efforts in helping to organise the competition, and parent volunteers for their assistance.

Sacrament of Confirmation
This weekend a number of our Year 6 students will be presented to the Parish community during Presentation Masses as they take another step in their journey towards receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation on 16th April. I ask that you keep these children in your prayers as they prepare to undertake the next significant step in their faith journey.

Yours in Catholic Education

Ronan O’Mahony

Quote for the Week

There are no hopeless situations;
There are only those
Who have grown hopeless about them.

Clare Booth Luce
Reflection

Like a deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is longing… Psalm 42:2

Just as our bodies long for water and food, our hearts long for what can give us peace and joy. We long to belong, to be accepted, to be loved, to be cared for, to be special, to be really happy. Take a little quiet time to understand ourselves more and come closer to the deep longings in our hearts.

Sacrament Dates 2016

CONFIRMATION
March 3 - Parent Workshop – Confirmation 7.00pm
March 5 & 6 - Presentation Masses:
- Wonthaggi 6.30pm (Sat)
- Wonthaggi 10.30am (Sun)
- Inverloch 9.00am (Sun)
March 10 - Parent/Child Workshop – Confirmation 7.00pm
April 14 - Reconciliation for Confirmation 7.00pm
April 16 - Confirmation Mass Wonthaggi 11.00am (Sat)

UNIFORM SHOP

Red Sports Shorts have arrived at the Uniform shop for purchase.
Winter Pinafores or Summer Dresses that are no longer required can be donated back to the uniform shop.

LAST DAY OF TERM 1 - THURSDAY MARCH 24
SCHOOL FINISHES AT 2.25PM

St Joseph’s House Athletics
Wonthaggi Rec Reserve
9.30-11.30am
Wednesday March 9, 2016
All Grade 3-6 Students will participate.
Please return permission forms to your class teacher.

SCHOOL PHOTOS
MONDAY MARCH 21, 2016

Envelopes have been sent home today for School Photo Day
Children are to wear their summer school uniform.
Sibling photo envelopes will be given to the eldest child in the family with 2 or more students at the school.
Leadership photos will be taken on the day and parents can order these from the office.

PARENTS - PLEASE NOTE
When walking your child to and from the school do not walk through the retirement village situated at 109 Korumburra Road.
This is a safety issue with residents concerned when driving in and out.

ENROL NOW FOR 2017
Expressions of Interest for Enrolments are currently being taken for 2017.
Please see office staff for application forms

SCHOOL CLOSURE
MONDAY MARCH 14
(Labour Day)

UNIFORM SHOP

Pictured are last week’s Assembly Award Winners. Congratulations everyone.
Thank you for setting a terrific example for the students in our school. Keep up the great work!
Senior News — 3/4L

Here in the 3/4 area we have been very busy and are enjoying learning about different communities.

We are keeping the Year 6 students in our prayers as they prepare for Confirmation.

The Year 3-6 students are looking forward to athletics and have been practicing in Sport with Mrs Richards.

Good luck to all swimmers participating this Friday in the Divisional Swimming Carnival.

Belinda Baird & Hamish Gleeson - 3/4L

Junior News - 1/2L

The Year 2s commenced swimming this week. All students had a wonderful time and are looking forward to going again on Friday.

Bradley: Today in swimming I got to practice freestyle
Chloe: I really enjoyed swimming with my friends
Mangarri: I got to practice floating on the water and played Ring a Ring a Rosie
Arian: I learnt how to dive for things

Thank you to all the parents who helped us on Monday and all who will help throughout the program. It is greatly appreciated.

Sarah Keating – Teacher 1/2L

District Swimming Carnival 2016

The District Swimming Carnival was held last Tuesday, February 23 at a very hot Cowes Primary School Swimming Pool.

St Joseph's had a lot of success with many students coming away from the day with ribbons, not to mention 18 of our students progressing through to the Divisional Carnival on Friday, March 4.

Congratulations to all our competitors, who displayed exemplary behaviour and fantastic sportsmanship throughout the day.

Michelle Richards - Sports Coordinator

1/2 Swimming Lessons Dates for your Diary

- Friday February 29
- Friday March 4
- Monday March 7
- Friday March 11
- Friday March 18

Our Prep Students presented the prayer at Assembly last week. They were terrific.

Parents and Grandparents are welcome to join us at Assembly each Friday afternoon at 2.40pm in the Gym.

OUR STUDENTS FROM 3/4 WILL BE PRESENTING PRAYER AT ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK
**PARISH NEWS**

**LENTEN GROUPS:**
Monday March 7 at 1.15pm in the Convent Chapel.
Friday March 4 at 1.30pm in the Annex of the Church in Inverloch.
Lenten Books available at $8.00 each.

**PROJECT COMPASSION:** Generational poverty has led to many challenges in Dominic’s community, including gender inequality, alcohol abuse and violence. Since receiving training in the Caritas Australia supported Community Conversations program, Dominic has learnt communication and problem solving skills to lead his community towards a more peaceful, prosperous future.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2016 and help empower communities in Papua New Guinea to lead their own development and create more harmonious futures.

Donation boxes and envelopes available in the foyer.

**HOLY HOUR:** On Friday 4th March beginning at 7.00pm and ending with Benediction.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER:** At the Anglican Church Wonthaggi and Inverloch Friday 4th March at 10.30am.

**ST JOSEPH’S WONTHAGGI BINGO:**
Every Monday  Sales 7pm. Start: 8pm Venue: St. Joseph’s Parish Centre

**WONTHAGGI**

**POWER**

**Junior Football Training**
Commencing 4.30pm Wednesday, February 24, 2016
At Wonthaggi Recreation Reserve
Contact the coaches with any enquiries
Under 12: Rob Lovett 0429 724 491
Under 10: Rod Task 0438 724 317
(Under 10’s must have turned 7 years of age by April 30, 2016)
All existing and any new players welcome.

**Life Education INFORMATION SESSION FOR PARENTS**
What is my child doing in Life Education? Have you ever seen inside the Life Education van or called to Harold? What is your chance?

**CANTEEN**
Open Thursday and Friday
Helpers — 1.00 to 1.30pm

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**DIARY UPDATE**

**Parish News:**
Parish Priest: Fr Manny Lomagno  56 722 925
Pastoral Assistant: Sr Kathleen  56 724 394
Parish Secretary: Marion Wishart  56 721 111

**Weekend Mass Timetable**
Wonthaggi
Saturday Evening  6.30pm
Sunday Morning  10.30am
Inverloch
Sunday Morning  9.00am

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Wonthaggi
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**DIARY UPDATE**

**Wednesday**
March 2
Prep day off
Maths testing—Prep

**Thursday**
March 3
Confirmation Parent Workshop

**Friday**
March 4
1/2 Swimming
Divisional Swimming Carnival

**Saturday**
March 5
Confirmation Presentation Masses

**Sunday**
March 6
Confirmation Presentation Masses

**Monday**
March 7
1/2 Swimming

**Monday**
March 10
Life Education Van Workshop—7.00pm

**Thursday**
March 10-17
1/2 Swimming

**Friday**
March 11
1/2 Swimming

**Monday**
March 14
LABOUR DAY
No school Prep - 6

**Wednesday**
March 16
Prep day off

**Friday**
March 18
P&F Meeting
1/2 Swimming
Easter Raffle Draw

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