Welcome back to all students and families. It was wonderful to see so many smiling faces first thing yesterday morning. All children settled in well and staff reported that the day ran very smoothly and the children adapted well to their new learning spaces and teachers.

A big welcome to Carole Livesey and Jess Ginnivan to the St Joseph’s family. We hope you enjoy your time with us.

We are all looking forward to a very positive year for the school. We have a number of projects which have begun and others which will be worked on during the year. The front of the school was painted over the holidays and is looking refreshed. We have a new storage area underneath the 4/5 classroom. A big thank you to Ben Minchin, Alby Donohue, Frank Donohue, Marty Nicholas, Alistair McLeod, Chris Cleveland & Tim Fowles who worked tirelessly over the holidays to get this completed. This is a project of the fete committee to facilitate better storage and access for both the fete items and school.

Mrs Strentz spoke to the students and parents at assembly yesterday morning regarding our School Wide Positive Behaviour Approach we will be working on. We began this journey last year by identifying our three school values and this year we are launching the approach as “Bright Sparks”. Please see further information from Mrs Strentz in the newsletter.

As you know in 2016 we were required to implement the new child safety policies as directed by the Ministerial Order. This means that a change to the way we communicate with parents is required. Just a reminder that from the beginning of the school year, staff will not be providing their mobile phone numbers. All staff will provide their email addresses at the beginning of the school year via the class newsletter and are always contactable via the school phone. We thank you for your understanding in this matter.

God Bless
Michelle

Message from Mrs. Charlton
CALLING ALL BRIGHT SPARKS!

Introducing Sparky, our school mascot and clever budgie. Over the coming term and across the school year Sparky is going to help us all learn how to be respectful, caring and responsible, ensure our school is an awesome and safe place to be.

We ask all our families to have a look at the behaviour expectation list attached to this week’s newsletter and see how you can adopt some of these skills and practices at home, it will help our Bright Sparks Challenge really take off in style. This term is all about building supports and setting out boundaries to ensure that every member of our school has plenty of opportunity to learn valuable self-management skills. We hope you will join with us in exploring each area of our Whole School Community Expectations, through conversations at home with your children and by helping them to enter our first Bright Sparks Competition. Each student is invited to enter to receive their chance to win something special to share with their family. Good-luck and thank you for your ongoing support for our wonderful community here at St Joseph’s.

Julia Strentz Wellbeing Co-Ordinator.

MUSIC LESSONS

Alwaynne Strentz will again be running private music lessons this year. If you participated in these last year they will begin again next year. If you are interested in starting lessons for your child please see the office to get some more information and an enrolment form.

SMALL BOXES

The Foundation/1 Classes are looking for small boxes (no bigger than a cereal box) to use for art and craft. If you have any you can donate please deliver them to the F/1 classroom.

REMINDEERS

Newsletters

Our Newsletter goes out every fortnight. This is automatically put on the school website and on Skoolbag. We also email this home to everyone that we have an email address for. Email is our preferred method of delivery so if you have not received your newsletter this way please contact the office with your current email address. As this is the first newsletter for the year we have done a hard copy and this method can be arranged throughout the year if necessary, please contact the office.

Skoolbag App

Skoolbag is one of our major forms of communication and can also be used to mark your child’s absences. This app is easily downloaded from your app store on your phone, search St Joseph’s Korumburra, look for our logo and follow the prompts.
REMINDERS

Caremonkey

Once the school has you enrolled on our database you will receive an email from caremonkey via the email address that you have provided us with. (Please note that if you are not already receiving fortnightly newsletters from us you may not have given us an email address on your enrolment forms and will need to contact the school with this ASAP). Once you receive this email, which will most likely be in the first week of Term 1 2017 it will ask you to set up a profile for your child and share it with our school. This initial set up may take some time however, it only needs to be done once. When this is set up you will receive email notifications via caremonkey for all excursions, school activities, sports days etc. it is also a way for you to keep all medical information and alerts up to date.

Uniform shop

Cate Minchin is our parent contact for all uniform queries. The uniform shop is open on Thursday afternoons from 3pm. Uniform lists are available from the office at any time and orders may be placed however, these orders will not be filled until the Thursday and sent home with your child on Friday.

School hours and bell times:

- 8:55am school commences
- 11:15am - 11:35am Recess
- 1:05pm Supervised Eating
- 1:10-1:50pm Lunch time
- 3:20pm School finishes

The yard is supervised from 8:30am and children are not permitted at school before this time. If you arrive after 9:10am please report to the office WITH your child so that they can be signed in and given a late pass. If you wish to collect your child early please report to the school office to sign them out and collect an early departure pass to give to their classroom teacher.

Whole School Assembly

Each Friday from 2.50 pm all students attend assembly. Classroom learning Awards are presented each week. All family and friends are invited to attend assembly.

2017 NEW FACES

With the start of a new year we have new foundation students, new staff and new school leaders. We wish them all the best of luck this year.
VOLLEYBALL
Leongatha SPLASH

Senior Competition starts with fun night Thursday 2 February, games start 9 February 2017.

Junior Competition starts Thursday 16th February.

Individuals welcome. For more details phone Tom BH 5658 1043 or AH Mandy 5662 4395/0418 361 240

PARENTS AND FRIENDS

The P & F committee are holding their AGM on Wednesday 8th at 9am in the Walsh Centre.

The P & F is a fantastic group who help our school immensely raising money and providing assistance. They are always looking for new faces to join and offer support and assistance.

ST LAURENCE NETBALL CLUB invites you to our NETBALL REGISTRATION and UNIFORM FITTING afternoon for LDNA 2016 Season on FRIDAY 24th FEBRUARY, between 4 pm – 6pm, at Leongatha Netball Club Rooms.

All welcome, juniors from age 8 & above (under 11 age section) to age 17 & under, and senior sections A, B & C. Boys are welcomed up to the age of 15.

New players welcomed.

For enquiries and further information please contact: Angelique Dunlevie 0438 166 124
E: stlaurencenc@gmail.com

St Laurence Netball Club Pre-Season Fitness Training will commence on Thursday 9th March at Mary Mackillop College Netball Courts from 4pm-5pm with Ebony Best from Aim High Netball Clinics. Juniors aged 13/U, 15/U, 17/U and Senior Players are welcome. $5 per session. New players welcomed.
Enquiries: Angelique Dunlevie 0438 166 124
Email: stlaurence@gmail.com

We are looking for enthusiastic, fun loving women to become Girl Guide leaders

Parents, do you want your daughter to develop her leadership skills, learn to serve the community, challenge herself in the outdoors, make new friends and have fun?

We would love to start a Girl Guide group in Korumburra, but we need leaders to help us.
If you are interested in giving Guides a go please contact Chris Oliver on 0428644397 or coliver@guidesvic.org.au