Dear Families and Friends,

Earlier this week I sent a letter to parents informing them that Ms Marie Dodson has been appointed Acting Principal to St Joseph’s Primary School, Orbost for Terms 1 and 2, 2016. The position of Principal will be advertised during this time and an appointment will be made to begin Term 3, 2016. Marie is currently the Deputy Principal at St Brendan’s Primary School, Lakes Entrance. She is an experienced teacher and school leader. Marie has particular skills in performing arts and will bring much passion to our school. We welcome Marie and wish her well in her new role.

This week, we distributed a letter regarding the Cyber Safety workshop to be run by Leading Senior Constable, Toni Redshaw. During the presentation Toni will help parents to identify concerning material on the internet and provide advice on how to handle each situation. The workshop begins at 3.30pm in the Mary MacKillop Hall and runs for around 45 minutes. Toni visited earlier this year and her presentation received rave reviews. All members of the Orbost community are welcome to attend, please advise our office if you intend on coming.

This week our new prep students completed their last day of transition. They are a wonderful bunch of students and we welcome Lachie Carey, Chase Cullinan, Tiannah McDonald, Asha Milliken, Alfred Bady-Campbell, Ava and Mia Martin to our school community in 2016. They are going to be huge assets to our growing community!

All next week we are running our Collaborative Conferences. These meetings are an essential part of the teaching and learning process. It is a chance for students to reflect on their work, for planning to take place and for the family/school partnership to grow. We look forward to seeing you in the classrooms.

Please join us for our Immaculate Conception Mass which will be led by students from MacKillop. Following the Mass we have the Parent Helper’s Morning Tea. We hope to see all our helpers, so we have the opportunity to say thank you for all the work you have done this year.

I would like to again thank Ms Andrea Jones who has tirelessly covered the books purchased to develop the reading stocks at school. Together with Maddy Baker, they have contributed much to the improvement of our library.

Students and teachers are very excited about our upcoming Christmas Concert to be held on Monday 14 December, from 5.30pm. We have plenty of items to show off our talent and hard work. Please remember to return your note to the office, detailing who and what you will bring on the night.

We have so much to look forward to!

Matthew Hamer
**Weekly Reminders:**

**Lunch orders:** are available on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

**Brain Food:** please send along a piece of fruit or raw vegetables cut up for your child to eat at their 10am break.

**Sport:** with Mr Hamer on Wednesday

**St. Joseph’s Playgroup:** Thursday 9.15am to 11.30am

**Uniform Shop:** Maintained by Ms Marie Donchi – Orders can be placed at the office.

**Out of hours childcare/vacation care:**

   For bookings phone Bev Cameron on 0409 953 175

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**Weekly Prayer**

Loving God, your word comes to us in the wilderness of our lives. May we be like John and listen to your word. May it forge a highway of love into the valleys of our grief. May it overturn the mountains of our pain into ways of compassion for those with whom we live. We ask this in the name of him who is our hearts’ desire, Jesus the Lord. Amen

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**This Week’s Mass Times**

Sat 5th St Colman’s, Orbost 6.00pm
Sun 6th St Brendan’s, Lakes Entrance 9.00am

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**Library Books**

Maddy Baker has requested that ALL school readers and school library books be returned to school by Friday 11th December to allow her time to organise the Library for the end of the year. Overdue books have been sent home with this newsletter.

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**Assembly Awards**

**MacKillop:**

Kahlee Boehmke: For trying very hard with your letter writing.

Jorja Cotter: For an excellent effort with your writing.

**Colman:**

Katelyn Jones: For working hard to progress in her times table facts.

Chloe Robinson: For using character voices when reading to build fluency.

**Xavier:**

Shona Brunt: For showing excellent persistence when working on algebra.

Cy Cameron: For showing excellent creativity on his “bullying” poster.

**Sport Awards:**

Jasmine Edwards: For being a great team player and for always displaying resilience.

Chloe Robinson: For being an excellent sportsperson who is competitive while showing consideration of others.

Nicolas Martinez: For showing game awareness and strategies in hockey.

**School Leaders Award:**

Jamielee Henderson: For showing excellent leadership and role modelling whilst running lunchtime activities.

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**End of Year - Dates to Remember**

**Wednesday 9th**

9.30am Immaculate Conception Mass; St Colman’s Church, followed by Helper’s Morning Tea in Mary MacKillop Hall

**Thursday 10th**

9.30am Last day for Playgroup with a Christmas Party celebration in Mary MacKillop Hall

**Friday 11th**

Last swimming session for MacKillop students

**Monday 14th**

5.30pm; End of Year Concert and BBQ

**Wednesday 16th**

Last day for all students

9.30am; Graduation Mass; St Colman’s Church

3.15pm; Official finish time

Reports and information for 2016 will be sent home.

We hope you can join us for these celebrations.
Thank you......
To everyone who came along and helped out/supported our fundraising raffle at the Marlo Pub last Friday, it’s greatly appreciated!

School Banking Details for Direct Payments:
Account Name: St Joseph’s Primary School, Orbost
Bank: NAB, Sale
BSB: 083-879
Account No: 69545 2766
Remember to include your surname and family code if possible – if you are unsure, just ask at the Office for assistance

Around Our School

- Some students enjoyed swimming and canoeing in the cool waters of the Orbost Pool on Thursday as part of the “Youth in Schools” program.

- We had our last transition day for the 2016 Preps on Tuesday. We look forward to welcoming these students, and their families, in 2016.