Dear Families,

I hope that you are all managing to stay warm and ward off the cold snap that we are experiencing, and that all of our students are overcoming the various illnesses that seem to be around. It is great to see those who have been sick enjoying being back at school.

Our current You Can Do It focus is on resilience. Many students have displayed this trait while being engaged in some challenging learning during the past fortnight. It is fabulous to chat to them about their thinking and how they were able to solve problems. Classrooms are taking on a fresh look as well. Furniture placement is changing and there have been some new introductions into classroom spaces. Some large outdoor games have been purchased and are proving to be a real hit during our breaks. We really enjoyed the musical performance at the Secondary College last Friday. Our thanks go to Orbost Primary School for inviting us along. It was a great learning opportunity for our students. MacKillop students are thoroughly enjoying learning about health and wellbeing through art with Christine Watts. Thanks to Christine for including us in her program trial.

Congratulations to Markeisha on her concert performance with Orbost Secondary College through the week. To be skilled enough to take a place in this event at Year 5 is a wonderful achievement.

Thanks to Sr Madeleine for spending her Friday afternoons preparing Irene and Sally to make their First Reconciliation. We hope that the mums and dads have enjoyed this special time with the girls and look forward to celebrating with the girls when they take this important step in their faith journey.

Our students embraced the opportunity to work in a large school setting as we celebrated St Mary of the Cross MacKillop’s Feast Day today. Thank you to Irene and Sally for reading prayers on our behalf and to all of our students who participated so well in the mass and learning activities. You showed the resilience that we have been talking about. Well done!

How lucky are we to have staff members who are prepared to spend their own time improving their teaching skills in order to improve outcomes for our students? Recently we spent an evening in Lakes Entrance, with Lucia Smith from Pelican Talk and staff from St Brendan’s, honing our skills on teaching spelling. Our aim is to develop a whole school approach to teaching spelling for St Joseph’s. Some teachers are spending Saturday learning about autism, its possible causes and how best to engage these students in learning. Many thanks to everyone involved.

Finally, Bishop Patrick O’Reagan will be celebrating Mass in our church, St Colman’s, on Sunday 14th August at 11am. Please consider joining the congregation for this special occasion. You will all be most welcome.

Enjoy your weekend.

Kind regards,

Marie

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**Dates to Remember**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 8th</td>
<td>MSN2 Athletics Day (Rescheduled) 2.15pm Christine Watts - MacKillop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 9th</td>
<td>9.00-11.00am Let’s Play Schools</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 11th</td>
<td>9.15-11.00am Play Group with Puppets &amp; Play and Beat Boppers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 12th</td>
<td>9.30am - Colman Orbost Library 11.30am - Xavier Swimming, Lakes Entrance 2.45pm Assembly; Mary MacKillop Hall</td>
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Respect - Reverence – Love and Compassion – Honesty – Generosity – Commitment – Faithfulness – Inclusion – Forgiveness

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Weekly Reminders:

Lunch orders: are available on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from Orbost Bakery.  

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 Miss Pearson on Mondays.  

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 Tahnee Rotblat on 0409 953 175

Weekly Awards

MacKillop:  
Jasmine Edwards: For completing such good activities despite her broken arm.  

Colman:  
Xavier Martin: For excellent reading during independent reading time.  

Xavier:  
Megan Achieng: For being a resilient learner and exhibiting great effort in Mandarin, Maths and English!  

Sports:  
Cy Cameron: showing excellent persistence with high jump in PE.

This Week’s Mass Times

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>St Colmans, Orbost</td>
<td>5.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>St Brendan’s, Lakes Entrance</td>
<td>9.00am</td>
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Weekly Prayer

Loving God, send us your Spirit to enliven our hearts and minds to the coming of your Son in every event of our lives. As we live, ever alert to his presence, may we be faithful to your law of love and serve you in the people amongst whom we live.

St. Joseph’s Playgroup

Playgroup with Puppets & Play and Beat Boppers every Thursday during the school term. Please spread the word that all preschool aged children are welcome to come along, join in and enjoy the fun!  

Sessions are run every Thursday during school term, 9.15am to 11.30am.  

All families are most welcome.

Let’s Play Schools

Let’s Play Schools is a cooperative initiative by the Orbost network of schools that supports the effective transition of children from kinder to primary school. This year our remaining play days will be on the times and dates below:-

Tuesday’s  9th August  
9.00am - 11.00am  16th August

Parents are welcome to make an appointment to find out about St Joseph’s School at any time. 

The 2017 prep enrolment processes start after the completion of this program. A formal transition process takes place in Term 4, dates will be advised later in the term.

Around Our School

- We had fun this week with some of our new play equipment!