Dear Parents and Friends,

It is hard to believe we are almost half way through the first term of 2011 and how busy has it been! Last week we held our first Parent & Friends Meeting as well as our School Council. These two groups represent the parent body of the school and, in the case of the school council, act as an advisory body to Father Martin and I in the decision making process. Our next Meetings will be held on the 15th March and will be our Annual General Meetings. These meetings are an opportunity to thank the committees for their hard work and dedication to St. Joseph’s and to determine the group which will take us through 2011 and into 2012. If you are considering taking on a role in our P&F I would strongly recommend it. It can seem a huge commitment but it is this very commitment that means we are a strong school with people interested in where we are heading and how we are going to get there.

On a personal note, I was, in recent years, a committee member and for a time, the secretary of the Finley Football Club. Why is this important? Well for a time I believed that I couldn’t or shouldn’t put my hand up for a position. I thought someone else would be more capable or more suited to the position. In the end I did it for a few years and it was one of the most rewarding things I have done. It gave me a great sense of belonging and, even more importantly, I was contributing to a group I felt strongly about supporting. Please consider this as you decide if you would like to be involved in St. Joseph’s Parents and Friends group.

Please Note: Unfortunately not everybody will be able to take on an executive position but just as importantly we need parents to attend meetings to promote animated discussion around the topics covered. So as you can see there is a role for everyone who wishes to be involved.

Attached to the newsletter is a nomination form for the School Council as we also need a new council member. Please note we need to fill one position. Please return the form to the school by Monday 1st March.

Welcome BBQ/Picnic & Year 4 Mass

We have decided to have our Welcome BBQ on Sunday 6th March. It will begin after our Year 4 Mass from 11am to 2pm. The staff are very excited by the idea of having a fun picnic style atmosphere and we may even be able to come up with a few fun games for us all to be involved in. Once again the meat will be provided but could everyone bring along a salad to share as well as your own drinks, plates, cutlery, glasses and something to sit on. It should be a great day!

Cybersafety Workshop & Meeting

Today the Year 5/6 students attended the Cybersafety workshop at the Finley High School. They were involved in activities and discussions around the skills they need to be able to be safe when on the internet. Parents are welcome to attend the parent information session in the Finley High School Multipurpose Room at 7pm.

Rising Generation ~ Creating Future Leaders

On Tuesday the 15th March our Year 6 leaders will attend a project in Oaklands around what makes a good leader. The course is called ‘Rising Generations’ and some Year 6 students have attended this in previous years as well. This is supported by Country Areas Program which is a government funded group aiming to provide opportunities for children from country schools. This means that there will be no cost involved. On the day, they will learn about the skills associated with leadership and be given opportunities to practice these. Once back at school the students are required to design and implement a leadership project which they will then present to others on a follow up day in August. When presenting their projects they will need to link the project to the skills of leadership they will explore on the initial gathering.

Pupil Free Day ~ Wednesday 27th April

Please note that the first day of Term 2 (April the 27th) will be a Pupil Free Day as the teachers will be attending a course in Wagga. This means that the school will resume as normal on Thursday 28th April.

Canteen Discussion

Please read carefully the information on the back of the newsletter regarding an opportunity to assist in the decision to be made regarding the future operation of our school canteen.

Yours in Christ,

Veronica Braybon
Captain's Report

Hello Everyone,

It’s the start of week 5 and this week we have the Diocesan Swimming Carnival.

We have 15 people going to Leeton to represent our school in the South West Deanery team. Good luck to all of you.

Today we went to the Finley High School for a workshop on cybersafety. It was very interesting and we learnt heaps.

We hope everybody has a great week!

Phoebe & Blake

Student Awards

Congratulations to this weeks award winners...
- Dalton Perryman
- Edward Haynes
- Brad Curry
- Madison Kleinschmidt
- Emma Carey
- Chris Wright
- Will Sexton
- Hugh Jamieson

Uniform Award

Jack Sexton

Georgia Congram

Out of Uniform Award

Rhiannon Murphy-Riddell

Happy Birthday

Patsy Doyle
25th Feb
‘25’

Sophie Lostroh
25th Feb
12

Jessica Knight
21st Feb
12
**Religious Education News**

**Year 4 Mass ~ Change of Date**
Please take note that the Year 4 mass has been moved to the Sunday 6th March. This means that we will be able to celebrate mass together as a community then head to the school grounds for our welcome BBQ/Picnic and some fun and games.

**Making Jesus Real**
This year our Year 5/6 children will be participating in a class program called Making Jesus Real. The program works to develop skills and attitudes that enliven Jesus in us each day. It encourages the students to take time to talk to God through prayer and to reflect on their lives as a daily practice.

Making Jesus Real investigates Jesus as the guiding force in our lives and how we can live our lives valuing ourselves and others in all we do.

Toody Braybon ~ RE Coordinator

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**Sports Report**

**Diocesan Swimming Carnival-Leeton**
On Friday 15 students are travelling to Leeton to participate in the Diocesan Swimming Carnival. The students were successful in various races at the Deanery Carnival in Finley and will now represent the South West Deanery and compete against students from Wagga, Albury, Griffith, Narrandera, Tumbarumba and more. We wish the following students all the best in their swimming races on Friday: Hugh Jamieson, Nicholas Lunn, Andrew Clark, Nick Burns, Lily Sharp, Leia Varley, Kezley Murphy-Riddell, Keeley Coates, Emma Carey, Holly Robinson, Kayden Sharp, Rhiannon Murphy-Riddell, Joseph Hounslow, Lochie Robinson and Thomas Burns.

**After School Activities**
Last Wednesday we started our activities for the term. As it was quite windy and cool, the activities took place in the hall. The students participated in Frisbee tag, No Man’s Land (using a frisbee instead of a ball) and some other aiming games. There are still spaces available if any students are interested in coming along.

The activities will take place rain, hail or shine now that we have the fantastic undercover area to utilise.

Renée Steward (Sports Coordinator)

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**Little Aths in Forbes**

On Friday a group of St. Joseph’s students went to Forbes to participate in the Little Athletics carnival. Nick Burns said “My first event was high jump. I came 10th and I jumped 1 metre 5cm. It was fun!”

Leia Varley said “I was in discus, shot put, hurdles and high jump. I came first in discus, shot put and high jump. I also came fourth in hurdles. In the discus I threw 24m, in the shot put I threw 8m, I jumped 1m 12cm in high jump and I got about 11 seconds in the hurdles.”

Thomas Burns said “I participated in the hurdles, long jump, javelin and discus. I came 9th in the javelin and nearly made the cut and I got a PB in the hurdles.”

Brooke Morham said “Over the weekend I competed in four different events (2 each day) including high jump, 1100m walk, long jump and 100m. I was pretty proud that I got 5th in high jump and the walk.”

James McCaw said “I did long jump and high jump and got past a metre in high jump but couldn’t quite get past 1.05m. I had a great time.”

Sophia Varley said “I went in hurdles, long jump, discus and 400m. My favourite event to do was discus and I came 5th.”

Good luck to Leia who will be going to Olympic Park in Sydney later in the year.

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**Student Spotlight**

Name: Nicholas Burns

Date of Birth: 3rd April 2001 
Class: 4

Favourite things to do at school:
I really enjoy playing sport and when we have free time.

Best memory at St. Joseph’s:
My favourite memory is when Mr Lewis sprayed us with water when it was really hot. I also liked ringing the Church bell.

Favourite thing to do when you get home:
Playing with my pets and watching TV

Best memory of a time with your family:
When we went for a family holiday to Dream World

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**School Diary:**

Tues 22nd ~ Cybersafety Workshop ~ Year 5/6  
12:30 - 1:30pm  
Fri 25th ~ Diocesan Swimming Carnival ~ Leeton  
MARCH  
Sun 6th ~ Year 4 Mass ~ 10:15am & Welcome BBQ  
Wed 9th ~ Ash Wednesday Mass (Yr 2/3) ~ 9:15am  
Tues 15th ~ Year 6 Rising Generations Workshop  
~ Oaklands  
Tues 15th ~ Council (7pm) & P&F (8pm) AGM  
Fri 18th ~ Deanery x-country ~ Tocumwal (K-6)  
Fri 22nd ~ Visiting Author ~ Rosalyn Motter  
Fri 25th ~ St. Joseph’s Day Mass ~ Year 4 ~ 10:15am  
APRIL  
Fri 8th ~ Last Day of Term 1  
Mon 25th ~ ANZAC Day ~ 10:45am meet between  
Police Station and Sun Valley Fruit.  
Tues 26th ~ ANZAC DAY HOLIDAY  
Wed 27th ~ Pupil Free Day/Staff Development Day  
Thurs 28th ~ First Day Term 2  
MAY  
Mon 16th-Thurs19th ~ Year 5/6 CANBERRA  
Excursion

**Uniform Shop**  
Open Hours:  
Monday ~ 8:45am ~ 9:15am  
Call Anne or Sasha to organise other times

**SNACKBOX IDEAS**  
**Veggie Spider Munchies**  
Spread a corn thin with avocado mashed  
with a little lemon juice. Top with a slice of  
reduced fat cheese cut into a round shape  
about the same size as the corn thin.  
Top with another corn thin.  
Decorate the top with halved cherry tomatoes,  
and insert thin sticks of celery and carrot for the  
spider legs.  
Miss Renée

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**Community News**

**Cybersafety Parent Workshop**  
FHS Multipurpose Room ~ 7pm

**Finley Basketball**  
Rego for Junior/Teenage Comp ~ Memorial Hall  
Friday 25th February ~ 3:30-4:30  
$30 per child/ $70 for 3 or more children  
Payment on Registration day would be appreciated

**Cyber Safety Parent Workshop**  
FHS Multipurpose Room ~ 7pm

**Canteen News**  
As mentioned last week the Friday roster for Term 1 is full  
but we have been unable to fill the Wednesday time slot.  
Therefore at the P & F meeting last week it was decided to  
formally request your feedback around this.  
Attached is a small form asking:  
1. Would you like the Canteen to open on a Wednesday  
as well as a Friday?  
2. (If yes to question 1) What dates are you available to  
fill on Wednesdays in Term 1?  
**PLEASE RETURN TO SCHOOL BY THIS FRIDAY THE  
25th FEBRUARY.**  
(The results of this will decide if our canteen will  
operate for one or two days for the foreseeable future)

**Canteen**  
Open: FRIDAY 25th February  
Roster: Tanya Bauer & Molly Kleinschmidt  
MEAL DEAL ~ $4.00  
Chicken Burger (lettuce, cheese & mayo),  
Jelly Cup & Juice

**DPF Banking**  
Reminder that DPF Banking information  
is available from the office.

**Secretarial Hours**  
As you would be aware Wendy’s time has  
changed this year.  
Below is a timetable for you to be aware when  
the school office is manned/unmanned.  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon/Wed/Thurs/Fri</td>
<td>8:45am - 1:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>8:45 - 3:00pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If able please call with messages during Wendy’s hours.  
Please be assured that on the afternoons when  
Wendy is not available the staff will check for last  
minute messages at 3pm.
Could you please answer the following 2 questions regarding the current operating practice of the St. Joseph’s Finley School Canteen. Please return by this Friday 25th February 2011.

Name: _______________________

1. Would you like the canteen to open on a Wednesday as well as a Friday?
   __________________________

2. (If yes to question 1) What dates are you available to fill on Wednesdays in Term 1?
   __________________________
   __________________________