



We enjoyed another successful Athletics Carnival last week.

Advent Reflection

The liturgical season of Advent is again upon us, beginning this Sunday, meaning Christmas is almost here again! Advent, literally meaning 'the arrival of a notable person, thing or event' is a time of waiting in anticipation. We wait for Jesus to come into the world, through his birth in Bethlehem. But we also wait for Jesus to come into our hearts.

We are becoming increasingly an 'instant' society, used to having everything we need at our fingertips. We are becoming increasingly uncomfortable with the requirement to wait. In some ways, in our busy lives we have lost the sense of wonder and contemplation required to appreciate the beauty of the Advent season. Amongst all the hype and hoopla of Christmas, we need to remember to actually take the time to find Christ in the Advent season. The following tips may help you and your family to enjoy a richer and more meaningful Advent season.

Don't be too busy to be spiritual: We have become so used to being busy. Our lives and calendars are filled with events, family commitments and work demands. This is unlikely to change, so if we want to have time for reflection, prayer and spirituality, we need to **make** time. Turn off your phone and laptop at a certain time each day. Use this time for prayer, reflection, meditation or mindfulness. Combine it with your daily walk if that works- why not pray while you exercise or do your household chores?

Give: It doesn't have to always be money. Give the gift of your time, talent and friendship. Go out of your way to perform acts of kindness. Make something for someone who could use a boost. Is there someone in need in your community who you could spend a day helping to make their life easier?



The added bonus is, by giving to others, we enjoy a reward ourselves in the sense of satisfaction and joy which arises from our good deeds.

Have a family Advent Wreath: Each Sunday in Advent, sit down to a family meal together and take turns to say things that you are thankful for. Finish each Sunday meal by lighting another Advent candle.

Go to Reconciliation: Let's face it, most of us do not enjoy going to Reconciliation, so we have stopped doing it. Perhaps this Advent is a terrific opportunity for you to revisit this very special Sacrament. If we begin Advent by experiencing the incredible forgiving power of Jesus, we may find ourselves inspired to be better people during the festive season.

I hope each of our families enjoys a prayerful and joy-filled Advent. I wish you every blessing as you prepare for the excitement of the Christmas season.

Congratulations Lucia

Well done to Lucia, our last recipient of Joseph the Bear for 2020. Lucia always shows a helpful and caring attitude - she is a great example of 'Making Jesus Real'. Congratulations Lucia!



Annual General Meeting

I am hoping you can join us this evening for our Annual General Meeting, at 7.00pm in our school library, with light refreshments to follow. This meeting will be a great opportunity for you to hear some highlights of the year from the School Board and P&F, while also finding out some key information relating to 2021, such as staffing, school fees and any new members of the Board.

Athletics Carnival

All students enjoyed a great day at PDHS last Friday for the Athletics Carnival. We are very appreciative that this event, originally scheduled for Term 1, was able to be put back into the calendar. Our students showed their customary sportsmanship, determination and teamwork. Congratulations especially to:

- Shannon Gibbs, Champion Girl, Year 1/2
- Jesse Lin, Runner-Up Champion Boy, Year 1/2
- Marcus Pratt, Runner-Up Champion Boy, Year 3/4
- Amelie Windberg Champion Girl, Year 5/6

A big thank you to Mr. Kelly, who again did an amazing job of co-ordinating our team.

White Elephant Stall

This year, as part of our focus on social justice and community service, each of our four classes were planning on taking turns to conduct a major fundraising or community service project, so that there would be one each term. Unfortunately, COVID-19 put a stop to those plans. But fear not, our Year 1/2, Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 classes have joined forces to facilitate one major fundraiser coming up tomorrow - the White Elephant Stall. Please remember to find and bring in some toys, books, games, puzzles etc. All money raised will go to Vinnies for their Christmas appeal.

Year 6 Graduation

This year, we once again have some pretty special children in Year 6, who will soon say goodbye to their primary school years at Saint Joseph's. To celebrate their graduation, there will be three main events:

- Graduation Mass, 10.00am on Wednesday 2nd December
- Graduation Dinner (students only) on the evening of Wednesday 2nd December

- Graduation Assembly, 2.20pm on the final day of school, Friday 11th December

Please feel most welcome to join us for the Mass and Assembly, to see our Year 6's off in style!

Christmas Concert and Awards Night

By now, you should have seen our advertisements for the upcoming Saint Joe's Christmas Concert and Awards Night, on Wednesday 9th December at the Mill Hall, beginning at 6.45pm, with food served from 6.00pm. As you will appreciate, lots of effort is required for our catering to be a success and we are reliant on parent assistance. Please let us know in the office if you are able to help prepare food throughout the day or to assist in serving food on the evening.

This is always a highly entertaining night and we hope you thoroughly enjoy yourself. Please be understanding that this year, we are bound by some COVID-19 restrictions. Seating will need to be more spaced out than usual - try to ensure social distancing between yourself and those who do not live with you. Please remember also the importance of adequate hygiene on the night. Please don't attend if you are unwell.

Senior Citizens Lunch

Our senior citizens again look forward with delight to their special Christmas lunch on Friday 11th December. This event is coordinated jointly by Saint Joes and PDHS. We need assistance for the following roles please:

- MC (introduce the student performers, make various announcements during the lunch)
- Kitchen helpers - we are responsible for clearing the tables and washing dishes.

Our seniors absolutely love this event and I am sure you will agree that it is a great community service. It cannot happen, however, without some generous volunteers, so please let us know in the school office if you can assist in either of the roles listed above.

God Bless,

Brett Wilkie

Kindy/Pre-Primary Class News

Congratulations to the Kindy/Pre-Primary children for their wonderful work in hosting our Advent Liturgy for the whole school on Monday. You all helped lay the prayer table and read beautifully. I am sure many people now have a better understanding of the meaning of the different candles that are lit each week during Advent.

The busyness in K/Pp continued on Tuesday with our 2021 Kindies joining us for the morning. The children had a lovely time together, getting to know their new classmates for next year while also getting a little dirty with the paints and playdough. We can't wait to have some new friends join us in the new year.

Year 5/6 Class News

Something fun we have been doing in year 5/6 this term is we have been looking at a range of texts in reading, from poems to short stories to news articles. The students have really enjoyed applying reading strategies to these as a class. We've had some great in-depth discussions about various topics and the students have generated excellent questions which they then researched to learn more about different topics. In coming events, we are really looking forward to our Year Six Graduation Mass on Wednesday the 2nd December to celebrate our wonderful Year 6 class and their achievements.

K/PP/Yr 1 Liturgy



SENIORS CHRISTMAS LUNCH

St Joseph's students will be involved in the Senior's Christmas Lunch this year. Please support this event by donating gifts for spot prizes such as soaps, lotions, wine etc and items for the food hamper raffle. All donations may be left at the school office



BLUE LIGHT DISCO

Pemberton Police have been successful in organising a Blue Light Disco this coming Friday night and all Students from St Joseph's School are invited to attend. Food, drinks and glow sticks will be available for purchase. This event will be fully supervised. A Flyer will come home today.

WHITE ELEPHANT STALL

Don't forget tomorrow is the White Elephant Stall to raise money for the Vinnies Christmas Appeal. Please send some 50 cent & gold coins into school so your child/ren may buy some new toys and books while supporting a great cause.



ELIGIBLE CONTAINERS

CONTAINERS FOR CHANGE

What a great fundraiser! Making money from containers that would go to landfill or worse!

Each family will receive a 'key tag' so that the profit from every container that is recycled comes back to our school. More information to follow of these.

Containers may be left in the designated bin situated between the brick wall of the playground and the wire oval fence. Please do not leave any other items in the bin other than acceptable containers.

Canteen Roster

Tuesday 1 December
Marion Fuge & Katerina Gibbs
Tuesday 8th December
Kylie Bendotti



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