Welcome to Week 5

**SABBATICAL WEEK**

**Invitation from the Sisters of St Joseph**

**Saturday 19 March 2016** is the Feast of St Joseph. On this day the Sisters of St Joseph celebrate 150 years since their foundation in Penola South Australia in 1866 as a result of the dream of Mary MacKillop and Fr Tenison Woods. The Sisters invite you to join with them in giving thanks to God for the countless blessings that have come to Australia and beyond as a result of the ministry of the Sisters in small country places and larger cities. Priests and Religious, Associates, family, friends, ex-students and current students of the Sisters are invited to join the Sisters in the celebration of Mass followed by refreshments. Mass will be celebrated at **St Patrick’s Church, Wellington, (58 Warne St) at 11.00 am**.

For purposes of catering and printing please send your reply **before 4th March** to Sr Margaret or Mrs Foran and we will contact the right people. We would love as many of our Junior Josephites to attend along with our Captains. If you are unable to attend but are happy for your child to attend please contact Mrs Foran or Sr Margaret ASAP. Many thanks.

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**School News:**

**Year of Mercy**

During the Lenten Season we fast from excessive food and drink and give alms to those without access to sufficient basic needs. By turning our minds to the needs of others through project Compassion, our prayers and contemplation reaches out to others. Our giving can enable our brothers and sisters in Malawi, featured in this year’s Project Compassion, to create paths towards a better future.

During this Lenten season the Church invites us to be more loving and generous with our time, our talents and our material possessions.

**SACRAMENT MEETING:** The meeting will be held on **Thursday 17th March at 3.30pm**. If you know any children at Dunedoo or Mendooran Central Schools who fall into these age brackets please let their parents know. Many thanks.

Enjoy the week. Sr Margaret

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**Thought of the Week:**

“**God is good and has brought light and help when all is very dark.**”

*Mary MacKillop 1/5/1890*

“**The end of it all will be that God’s protecting hand will be most visibly seen.**”

*Julian Tenison Wood’s letter to Mary 1871*
**Aussie of the Week:**
Charlotte has been showing care and concern looking after all that need help. She has been demonstrating the skills of a good leader in her role as school captain. Charlotte has seen when someone needs a guiding hand or a helping hand and has gotten on with the job. Thank you Charlotte.

**Merit Awards:**
K/1  Harry Armstrong  
       Bailey Horton  
2/3  Jim Sullivan  
       Dezie Spargo  
       Oliver Gaden  
4/5/6  Jack Deutscher  
       Lottie Telford  
       Charlotte Abbott

**Birthdays:**
Congratulations and Happy Birthday wishes to the following student who celebrates over the coming week: Cooper Baker

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**EVENTS HAPPENING:**
I am very conscious that we are asking for your participation in a number of events over the next couple of weeks. I ask if at all possible to please support all or some of them. Last week I sent home a note regarding “Friendly Meet & Greet” at Sally & Mark Dent’s on Monday 29th February with the Loreto visitors and Bush Poetry involvement on Thursday 3rd March. Please return this form no later than tomorrow Thursday 25th February.

On Monday I sent out information about Catholic Schools Week. If you did not receive this please let me know. Please return by Monday 29th February.

**Loreto Partnership:**
The six girls and two staff members will be here next week 29th February to Friday 4th March. Thanks to the Gaden & Frampton families who have offered to allow the girls to be part of some farming activities.

**Head Lice:** Please check your child’s hair.

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**Calendar 24th February – 4th March**
25th February School Counsellor & Mindfulness Program  
29th February – 4th March Loreto visit  
29th February “Friendly Meet & Greet” @ Sally & Mark Dent’s  
3rd March Bush Poetry BBQ & Student involvement  
2nd & 3rd March Support Teachers’ Conference
**Sport:**

**Northern Region Swimming Carnival:**

Congratulations to the swimmers and parents who travelled to Gulgong for the Northern Region Carnival last Wednesday.

Our PP5 relay team of Jack Guan, Zac Brennan, Patrick Reid and Charlotte Abbott came in a creditable 2nd and now go on to Dubbo for the Diocesan Carnival.

Our swimmers all performed admirably with many producing personal bests. All improved on their school carnival results.

Our team was Charlotte Abbott, Jack Guan, Patrick Reid, Zac Brennan, Jamie Spargo, Lottie Telford, Ally Bogie, Natalie Williams and Jack Deutscher.

Many thanks to those Mums who were timekeepers on the day. We appreciate your help.

All the best to our PP5 relay team who will represent us in the Diocesan Swimming Carnival in Dubbo next Wednesday 2nd March.

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**Parish News:**

**SACRAMENT DATES FOR 2016**

*Please mark on your calendar.*

17th March  
Parent Meeting for All Sacraments @ 3.30 in St Michael's Hall.

*(Eucharist, Confirmation & Reconciliation)*

**FIRST EUCHARIST**

3rd Apr  
Enrolment 1st Eucharist

29th May  
1st Eucharist Celebration

**CONFIRMATION**

15th May  
Enrolment for Confirmation

26th June  
Sacrament of Confirmation

**FIRST RECONCILIATION**

7th August  
Enrolment for Reconciliation

22nd Sept  
1st Reconciliation Celebration

**Week-end Mass Times:**

Coolah:  Saturday 6pm

Mendooran:  2nd & 4th 8am

Elong Elong:  1st, 3rd, 5th 8am

Ballimore:  2nd & 4th 8am

Dunedoo:  Sunday 10am

Binnaway 1st & 3rd 11.15 am

**Altar Servers:**

February 28th  
Zac Brennan

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School Fee Agreement

With your School Fee Invoice, a School Fee Agreement Form was sent home. This form is important and needs to be returned to the school office. Thank you.

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Please return forms for Meet & Greet & Bush Poetry by tomorrow Thursday 25th February
New Law etc for wearing of helmets cont:
Having said that, it would be strongly encouraged that the kids wear helmets on these devices at all times. I envisage this to change based on the recent deaths of kids on the roads riding scooters with no helmet.

The general outline is:
• All cyclists to wear an approved Australian Standards helmet that meets AS/NZ2063.
• Children under 12 years old can ride on the footpath (unless signposted) and must ride on the left side, giving way to pedestrians and preferably providing 1 metre distance from pedestrians. This includes stopping and dismounting if required.

As of 1st of March 2016:
• Drivers must keep a distance of 1 metre from cyclists up to 60km/h zone, over 60km zone it is 1.5metres (more relevant to your staff and seniors who drive). It's a 2 demerit offence with a $319 fine!
• All riders over the age of 18 years must carry identification, e.g Drivers Licence or Photo ID card. It has a bonus of $10 fine!
• Not wearing a helmet (up from $71 to $319)
• Running a red light (up from $71 to $425)
• Riding dangerously (up from $71 to $425)
• Holding on to a moving vehicle (up from $71 to $319)
• Not stopping at children's/pedestrian crossings (up from $71 to $425)
• Penalties for other bicycle rider offences will also increase from $71 to $106, including the offence of riding at night without lights or no bell/warning device.