Dear Parents, Students and Staff

During this last week of Term 3 we have had a number of significant ceremonies to farewell our Year 12 students as they completed their last formal classes at the school. These ceremonies have included a Graduation Mass, a Year 12 Awards Ceremony, a staff and student breakfast and a farewell assembly with the rest of the school community. This week the girls have finished their six years at St Joseph’s with maturity and dignity, demonstrating the characteristics of true Mackillop women.

As the Year 12 cohort of 2014 leaves St Joseph’s we are very proud of the uniquely gifted young women they have become, young women who live life with compassion, respect, justice and hope. We are confident that they are young women who will make a difference in their world in the years to come. I would like to congratulate our Year 12 girls on the wonderful contributions they have made to the college and to wish them all the very best for their HSC preparation, for their HSC examinations and for life after school.

R U OK? Day

We finished this term on Friday 19th September with R U OK? Day. R U OK? is a not-for-profit suicide prevention organisation dedicated to reminding people to ask family, friends and colleagues the question, "R U OK?" in a meaningful way. The Foundation works collaboratively with experts in suicide prevention and mental illness. With the support of some Year 10 girls we organised a number of activities for our school community to participate in for R U OK? Day here at St Joseph’s. We sold helium balloons, at the beginning of the day, for $1 each for girls to buy and to give to a friend. At lunchtime we had a sausage sizzle and some of our Music students performed for the rest of the school community. We also used Pastoral time at the beginning of the day for teachers to show a short video clip on the focus of R U OK?

These activities were the initiative of some of our Year 10 student leaders and highlights the need for us to care and look after one another in our community.

End of Term 3

A reminder that classes conclude for Term 3 on Friday 19th September. We hope all students and their families have a very enjoyable and safe holiday break.

Beginning of Term 4

Term 4 begins for all students on Wednesday 8th October, following the Labour Day Public Holiday on Monday 6th October and a Staff Development Day on Tuesday 7th October. All students are to return in their summer uniform. The starting day of Term 4 will be Day 3 of the timetable.

God bless and best wishes for the holiday period ahead.

Tony McCudden
Principal
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
A very busy Term 3 is drawing to a close. Our students are looking forward to the holiday as are many, many teachers. Together, we have achieved much over the past ten weeks and are getting ready to ‘gear up’ for Term 4.

Farewell Year 12
Year 12 students finished their final week of school in style with their farewell assembly and on Thursday. This was an opportunity for our college community to thank them for their contribution over the past six years, congratulate them on achieving this very significant event in their education – the end of secondary schooling, and wish them success in the future. Our college leaders highlighted many stories about this year group’s journey from Year 7 when they spoke on behalf of Year 12. We laughed and cried as they left the assembly for the final time. The Graduation Mass and awards presentation that followed on Thursday evening were moving and memorable and a wonderful way for the year group to celebrate reaching this stage in their educational and personal journey. This group of girls certainly left their mark. We enjoyed their company very much and wish them every success in the future.

The MacKillop Shield
The MacKillop Shield is awarded to the House whose students earn the most points throughout the year which, for the purposes of this competition is defined by the leadership term of the Year 12 House Leaders (Term 4 the previous year to Term 3 in the current year). Students worked hard for their houses to earn merits, community service awards and house points for a variety of activities. Points are then tallied at the end of Term 3 to determine the winner of the MacKillop Shield to be presented at the Year 12 farewell assembly. Congratulations to Carroll house, this year’s winner of the MacKillop Shield.

Year 10 Yellow Bellied Glider project
This edition of the journal has some fantastic photographs of the Year 10 students who mentored little Year 4 students in this project to learn about the threatened Yellow Bellied Glider and how important it is for all of us to create and protect their habitat in our local area. Congratulations to the mentors and to Mrs Barbara Moutray for her wonderful job as their team leader. The students involved in the project have been inspired and challenged in a variety of ways. We are so grateful to the educational team at Taronga Zoo and to colleagues from the Catholic Schools Office for putting this project together and for the style with which they led and managed our girls.

Summer Uniform
Students return to school in summer uniform. Please take advantage of the break to adjust hem lengths if necessary. Details of the college uniform are printed on the website and in the student planner. The main points are summarised below:

- Skirt - the hem should be no shorter than 5 cm above the middle of the knee
- Blue Blouse (Years 7 – 10), white blouse (Years 11 – 12) - sleeves always rolled down
- College jumper or cardigan; random jumpers and hoodies are not permitted
- White plain socks; no black socks
- Black lace-up leather shoes with a distinct heel; no slip on shoes; no black canvas boots
- Nails - clear polish is permitted; fashion colours or painted acrylic nails are not permitted
- Jewellery – two pairs of earrings (small studs or sleepers) are permitted; fine gold/silver chain with a cross or religious medal, small plain gold/silver ring can be worn
- No facial jewellery – only very small studs may be worn in nose piercings
- No ear spacers
- College back pack is compulsory for students in Years 7 - 10; students in Years 11 and 12 may use the new college satchel bag; handbags or alternate bags are not permitted for any student

We look forward to seeing all students on Wednesday 8th October focused and ready for a very successful final term. It is exciting because our new student leaders assume their positions. It is their opportunity to make a difference. Enjoy the holiday and stay safe.

Helen Love
Acting Assistant Principal

FROM THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION LEADER

YEAR EIGHT REFLECTION DAY
Every year the Year Ten Youth Ministry Team organises a reflection day for Year 8. It is an occasion to enable the cohort to reflect on their lives both at home and in the school environment.

This year’s theme was the idea of limitless and encouraged the girls to break the limits they felt were restricting them from living life to the full. We asked them to first share their dreams with a small group setting and encouraged them to share their fears so
they would be able to feel without limits. We were able to communicate this message through different activities presented such as drama performance, film, personal testimonies and games. All activities incorporated the theme of limitless and how to achieve it in our lives. We inspired the Year 8 girls to adopt the implications of the theme and showed them how possibilities can become endless. We chose the theme as our youth ministry class felt it was something year 8 could relate to either from feeling pressured from parents, peers or by their own expectations.

The Year 10 Youth Ministry Team wishes Year 8 students well and hopes they do allow themselves to be limited by the choices they make.

Tegan T  
Yr 10

YEAR TEN RECONCILIATION

On Wednesday September 17 Year 10 students participated in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Arriving in Shekinah, Mrs Green greeted us and we began with a prayer service lead by Ms Harrison. The examination of conscience were read by six students and allowed us to reflect on our recent actions and thoughts.

The students went up one by one to receive the Sacrament offered by Father George and Father Tadeusz. This was a quiet process and the soft reflective music playing in the background supported a sense of calm introspection. A number of contemplative activities were available for those waiting such as prayer, letter writing, reading books and stillness in general.

After receiving the Sacrament, we left Shekinah feeling enlightened and free. The process of repentance cleared our heads and gave us peace of mind.

Thank you Ms Harrison and Mrs Green for organising such a worthwhile day and thank you to Father Tadeusz and Father George for taking the time to come and provide us with the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Madeline G  
Yr10

FROM THE LEADER OF LEARNING AND TEACHING

Year 12

Congratulations to Year 12 2014 on successfully completing 13 years of schooling. All Year 12 students have received their final college report and graduation certificate. It is very important to each student’s final HSC result in each course that study regimes continue right up until the HSC examination. The first HSC examination is Monday 13th October. Best wishes to all girls for their HSC.
Year 11
Year 11 have finished the term with two weeks of Preliminary course examinations. The girls are to be commended on the excellent manner in which they conducted themselves throughout these examinations. Early next term Year 11 will receive feedback from their examinations which will assist in finalising their decisions about HSC patterns of study. Details about the upcoming HSC information evening are given below:

The HSC information evening for all current Year 11 students and their parents will be held at the college on Wednesday 22nd October 2014 starting at 7pm.

On this night information packages containing the HSC Assessment Handbook and other relevant information will be distributed to each Year 11 student. The evening will include a presentation detailing the BOSTES and UAC regulations and requirements for the HSC and ATAR as well as information about student wellbeing for Year 12 students.

Year 7 – 10
Well done to Years 7 – 10 for all their hard work during Term 3 in completing homework, researching and presenting assignments, studying for and sitting tests, making speeches and all the other things that make for a full school term. Yearly examinations for Years 7 – 10 will begin on Monday 3rd November, Week 5. The holidays are a good opportunity for students to have a rest and enjoy themselves, and also to get notes and books organized for the final term of the school year.

Kathy West
Leader of Learning and Teaching

FROM THE LEADER OF STUDENT WELLBEING
The last day of term saw St Joseph’s celebrate RU OK Day. The day opened with a song over the PA and a short film to get the girls to understand the meaning behind the day. The girls got into it with a balloon sale at recess. Balloons with affirming messages related to wellbeing were on sale at recess and girls were encouraged to purchase one for a friend. They also organised cake and lolly stalls. At Lunch we had BBQ, drinks and music to keep everyone entertained. The girls were also encouraged to wear bright coloured socks to get behind the day.

The idea behind the day is for girls to have meaningful conversations with their friends. Conversations that reflect a sense of caring and support for someone who may be feeling a bit isolated or down. It is a national initiative that is gaining momentum each year. The RU OK campaign is aimed at reducing depression, loneliness and suicide in our community.

Congratulations go to the SRC for instigating the initiative and with special mention to Montana B and Rebecca E for their amazing organisation. The incoming Year 10 house leaders also assisted with running the day.

Cathy Toby
Acting Leader of Student Wellbeing

FROM THE LEADER OF YEAR 11
The girls recently completed their exams for the HSC Preliminary courses. At the beginning of Term 4 the girls will begin their HSC courses as they enter their final year at the college. It is hard to believe that this time next year the girls will be ready to sit for their HSC exam. How quickly time passes.

During Term 3 the senior student leadership positions were finalised for 2015. The girls who were elected will assume their roles in Term 4 when we return. I would like to commend all the girls who volunteered to take on roles as Captain, House Captains and other important positions of responsibility. The quality of applicants was exceptionally high and it is unfortunate many ladies of impeccable character and talent missed out. However, it is most important to remember that all seniors have a role to play as leaders and there will still be ample opportunities for students to take on leadership roles and to be involved in positions of responsibility next year.

Currently a group of Year 11 girls are co-ordinating and designing the senior jackets which will be worn by the Year 12 cohort next year. Hopefully, the design will be finalised early next term. The girls will be required to place orders at this stage.

Enjoy the holidays and may you all achieve the results you deserve in your Preliminary exams.

Terry Grubba
Leader of Year 11
**YEAR 8 REFLECTION DAY**

Year Ten Youth Ministry Class Runs The Year 8 Reflection Day

On the last week of Term 3 2014 the Year 10 Youth Ministry Class got to put into action everything they had been learning about throughout the term in the Religion course on Youth Ministry. They ran an inspiring Reflection Day for Year 8 on the theme of Limitless. They wanted the girls to take the opportunities life offers them and to not be held back by limitations such as peer group pressure or self-doubt. Year 10 students created film, performed drama and spoken word poetry, sang, gave personal testimonies, ran games and small group activities. They also ran a beautiful liturgy that involved pebbles and gorgeous Instagram photos that the girls were able to take home to remember the message of the day.

Congratulations to every student in the Year 10 Youth Ministry Class for putting together such a wonderful day for Year 8!
Glenvale Fair 2014
Every year about 20 of our Social Justice students volunteer at the Glenvale School fair at Narara. We have recently had our day at the fair and thoroughly enjoyed ourselves while lending a hand in whatever we could. We spent time with the children from the school showing them around the fair, baked and sold cakes, sold raffle tickets and helium balloons, painted lots of smiling faces and put temporary tattoos onto the arms of excited children. We even carried around gorgeous baby farm animals so children could see them up close and pat them. We are always happy to receive our annual invitation from Glenvale school to get involved and look forward to this activity each year.

Mrs Fiona Green
Leader of Mission and Youth Ministry

YEAR 10 YELLOW BELLIED GLIDER PROJECT
During Term 3 45 Year 10 students from St Josephs and St Edwards Catholic College have participated in a learning and leadership program mentoring Grade 4 students from Holy Cross, Kincumber and St John the Baptist, Woy Woy. The Yellow Bellied Glider Project has been organized by Taronga Zoo and supported by CEO, National Parks, CEN, Barabarang, and Gosford Council.

The Year 10 students received specific training to successfully engage in the following activities: Zoo snooze, integrated learning, communication workshops, mentoring of primary school students, planting trees and publicly presenting a showcase of work. All students involved have become guardians, habitat experts and active participants in the development of wildlife corridors for the endangered Yellow Bellied Gliders.

The Yellow-bellied Glider is known as the Fluffy Glider and can still be found in bushland on the NSW Central Coast, in areas such as Bouddi National Park. The
The biggest problem for the gliders is local bushland being broken up by development. A Yellow-bellied Gilder can use up to seven nesting hollows, so the loss of old growth trees is having a devastating effect on populations. People can help by planting native trees in their backyards to create wildlife corridors and by getting involved with local bush regeneration groups.

The 28 year 10 St Joseph’s students have been wonderful mentors and the project has been a fantastic opportunity and experience for everyone involved.

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**REP SPORT REPORT**

**BASKETBALL**

**NSWCCC Basketball Finals**

Congratulations once again to the Years 9/10 basketball team. They recently won the NSWCCC state championship at Penrith for the second year in a row. The girls went through the tournament undefeated and beat Monte Sant Angelo 55-44 in the final. Thank you to Drew Fenton for coaching and Ms McMahon for attending.

**Year 9/10 NSWCCC Champions**

**NSW All Schools Basketball**

Congratulations to Riley E from Year 12. Riley was a member of the successful NSW basketball team that won the recent schools sport Australia tournament in Townsville.

**BBSSSA Tournament**

**Year 7/8 team**. These girls reached the final of the Broken Bay tournament and played an excellent team game before eventually going down to Mount St Benedict.
Year 9/10 team - These girls continued their dominance going through the tournament undefeated. They defeated Mater Maria in the final.

SOCCER
Bill Turner Cup

Congratulations!! Bill Turner Trophy Team – Quarter Finalists

A fantastic effort from all involved to make it to the quarter finals of this prestigious tournament. The girls went down in a very close game (1 – 0) to the Hills Sports High. Below is a summary from one of the organisers of this event commending the girls on their performance. He writes:

"The Bill Turner Trophy is an East Coast Australia competition stretching from Cairns to Melbourne and your girls made the last 8 out of 400 schools. To add further merit to the girls’ effort, their last opponent was coached by the interim Matilda's and Sydney FC W League coach, Alen Stajic- so you can see it was an excellent effort by the girls and coaches to push The Hills right to the end. The Hills Sports High went on to win the tournament 1 – 0 against Hunter Sports High."

These young ladies are very talented sportswomen and most importantly display great sportsmanship, especially when confronted by very competitive opponents.

Thank you to Mr Matthews for once again coaching this team and to Ms Kelleher for her assistance.

NETBALL

Four teams travelled to the Broken Bay netball gala day at Pennant Hills in July. The junior and intermediate teams reached the semi-finals with both teams being narrowly defeated for a place in the final. The Year 7 team and the senior team also played well.

The NSWCCC netball championships were in Penrith in August and the college sent three teams.

Only one team per pool makes it through to the final making it extremely hard to reach the finals round. The intermediate girls lost their first game by two goals and then won their remaining eight games yet did not progress through. The junior and senior teams played well but unfortunately both dropped a couple of games. Well done to all students who once again displayed exceptional sportsmanship. Thank you to Mrs Simpson and Mrs Grassi for accompanying the girls.
CROSS COUNTRY
Congratulations to Candice H (Year 12). Candy represented NSWCCC at the NSW All Schools cross country in July finishing in 23rd position.

TOUCH FOOTBALL
Years 7/8 Touch – Congratulations to the Year 7/8 team on winning the central coast regional tournament in July. They will now represent the region at the state finals in November. Thank you to Ms Kelleher for coaching the girls.

Years 7/8 Touch Football Regional Winners

OZTAG
Congratulations to the open Oztag team on winning the central coast gala day recently. During the day the girls scored a total of 57 tries with only two scored against them. The junior and intermediate gala days have been postponed until further notice.

BBSSSA ATHLETICS
Mr Matthews, Mr Spittles and Mrs Northey accompanied the St Joseph’s Athletics team to the Broken Bay championships at Homebush in August. All students performed well with Tara A, Christianna S and Katelyn S making it through to the next level. Good luck to these students at the NSWCCC carnival.

Junior Relay Team
Intermediate Relay Team
Senior Relay Team
BBSSSA SURFING

Mr Toby accompanied the St Joseph’s surfing team to the Broken Bay tournament at Avoca recently. The Year 12 girls were dominant in the open division with Megan K placing 1st and Candy H 2nd in the open competition in their last surfing tournament for St Joseph’s. The junior girls (Zali C and Fynlay R) made it through to the 3rd round and Gemma E represented well in her last body boarding tournament.

Coming Up:
Wed 22 October         Yrs 9/10 Oztag
Wed 29 October         Yrs 7/8 Oztag