Principal’s Message

Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Supporters of St Joseph’s College,

Welcome to Week 8! With Easter now only four weeks away, it is timely for all members of the College community to ask how we are going, are we doing what we said we would, and if not are we making the necessary adjustments. The focus of this week and the next will be Catholic Schools Week, when we celebrate ‘Faith in their Future - Learning for Life’.

St Joseph’s Day: We shall commence celebrations for Catholic Schools Week early with our own celebration of St Joseph’s Feast Day on Thursday. Our liturgy theme will be ‘St Joseph - a father and man of humility, compassion, care, strong accepting faith and love of Jesus’ which will be followed up in Homeroom, and the day shall finish with a whole College game of Captain Ball. Customary ice blocks shall be distributed to all students, and we shall take the foundation staff of the College out to dinner that evening to thank them for their work of establishing the College vision and processes. The College’s current ethos was built through their enduring energy.

Family Faith Gathering: A great opportunity to explore common issues of faith sharing and raising young people is offered once again this year. Provided at no cost are all meals, accommodation and child care from early years to adolescents, here is the chance to get together as a group of families at this special weekend gathering conducted by Fr Chris Gleeson around the concept of spirituality for family life. Sessions are run for adult groups and child groups according to the ages, with feedback after each to the larger group. Some 90 people attended the Tweed Regional gathering last year, all commenting on the positive and fun nature of the weekend. Details: Tyalgum Ridge Resort, 23 and 24 May, commencing lunch time Saturday through to early afternoon Sunday. This is a date claimer at this stage, more information and an opportunity to register will follow soon.

Parish Schools Board: Nominations are being called for the position of Parent Representative to the Parish Schools Board. The Board has evening meetings, once a term, to consider matters of pastoral policy, financial issues and forward planning for the parish including its educational, faith and service outreaches. A return letter is included with this newsletter, with an urgent turnaround. Please ring me for more information through the College Secretary, Mrs Helen Bissell on (07) 5524.9002. Looking forward to a number of nominations!

Tax Refunds: I trust parents are aware of the current ways in which the Government is supporting families with their educational commitments. As well as the bonus payments coming soon, there are education rebates and computer rebates. For further information visit the ATO website.

Building and Education Revolution: Further federal Government support is coming directly to the College through the National Pride Program (up to $200,000), and the further possibility for some secondary schools of obtaining funding (up to $2 million) for the purposes of building science, technology and language laboratory spaces. Designed to stimulate the economy the first funding round is to have a short lead up time – we are considering refurbishing to provide a student services hub based around the library and some teacher professional learning spaces that double as parent meeting rooms.

Student Excellence – Service and Outreach: Our students are to be congratulated on the many ways in which they are dedicated to service. Here are just a few I have noticed. Every Monday evening, students visit Coolangatta beachfront to distribute meals and talk with homeless people in a program called, ‘You Have a Friend’; on Wednesdays, students visit St Martha’s Age Care village to spend time with elderly people and once a month on a Friday, students deliver ‘Meals on Wheels’. Within the College itself, the SRC attend to supporting many social causes, while other dedicated teams manage events in the Doyle Centre with the set up of chairs for masses and functions, catering, choir for masses, as well as operating the PA system. Quite a formidable force for good! Congratulations to all our students involved in these activities - and others of which I not am yet aware - and the amazing teachers who inspire them to do this.

Student Excellence: Congratulations to Jacob Bush for an outstanding presentation in the final rounds of last Saturday’s Lions “Youth of the Year” Public Speaking Competition.

May God’s richest blessings be upon us for the week.

Alain Sauvage
NEW (OLD) RULE – STAY AT SCHOOL!
Further to our attendance policy, we seek the assistance of our parents who volunteer at the College.

We are asking for your support by not taking your child home with you when you leave the school grounds.

STUDENT ABSENCES
As parents and carers are aware, the College has a policy regarding student absences where the parent/carer is to telephone the College between 7:45am and 9:30am on the day of the absence.

The second requirement of this policy is that a written note is also required on the first day of the student’s return. This explanation note is a legal requirement of the student’s attendance record at school.

NEW SOUTH WALES BASED VACCINATION PROGRAM 2009
The following information is provided to parents and carers regarding vaccinations offered to High School students in 2009:

- All Year 7 students entering High School in 2009 will be offered:
  - hepatitis B vaccine in a 2 dose schedule
  - varicella (chickenpox) vaccine in a single dose schedule.
- Female students in Year 7 in 2009 will also be offered:
  - human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine in a 3 dose schedule.
- All Year 10 students in 2009 will be offered:
  - Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (whooping cough) vaccine (dTap) in a single dose schedule.

At St Joseph’s College the first of the programmed vaccinations will take place next week on Monday 23 March for:

- Hepatitis B (1st dose) all Year 7.
- Gardasil (HPV) (1st dose) Year 7 girls only.
- Boosterix (diptheria, tetanus, whooping cough) All Year 10.

Parent information kits containing consent forms went home last week. Consent forms should have been returned to the College by now.

COMING EVENTS
This week’s Coming Events appear on the front cover of this Newsletter.

WEEK 9
(Catholic Schools Week)
Monday 23 March...........................(Day 1)  
⇒ HPV / Hep B / Boosterix Vaccinations
Wednesday 25 March........................(Day 3)  
⇒ Soccer & League Trials (selected students)
Thursday 26 March...........................(Day 4)  
⇒ Zen Zen Zo Breaking Boundaries 2  
  (selected students)
Friday 27 March...........................(Day 5)  
⇒ Year 9 Reflection Day

WEEK 10
Friday 3 April...................................(Day 10)
⇒ Lifeskills Maths Excursion (selected students)

WEEK 11
Thursday 9 April..............................(Day 4)
⇒ Holy Thursday
⇒ FNC Regional Surfing (selected students)
⇒ TERM 1 ENDS – THIS IS A NORMAL SCHOOL DAY
Friday 10 April
⇒ Good Friday

Mr Peter Lyon
Deputy Principal

LETTER BOX

Today we introduce a new inclusion in the College Newsletter called, ‘Letter Box’. This will alert all our parents and carers of general correspondence sent home from the College, via the students, in addition to the weekly Newsletter.

You may receive personalised correspondence from the College about your child’s progress in class, however, the ‘Letter Box’ will only include general correspondence which relates to a certain class group, a year group or possibly the entire College. We will be seeking your response/action and we ask that you attend to each letter promptly.

If you read in the ‘Letter Box’ that a letter has been sent home, please check with your child for the letter. Should you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child’s Homeroom teacher or Year Coordinator.

Please note that each week’s ‘Letter Box’ will only include the letters sent in the previous week. We will attempt to keep this ‘Letter Box’ as up-to-date as possible to keep our parents and carers well informed.

LETTER BOX

The following letters have been sent home with your child/ren last week:

- [9 & 11 March]: Years 7-12 – Students’ unexplained absences, this letter includes ‘Absence From School’ forms for parents to complete and return to SJC.

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>St Joseph’s Parish</th>
<th>St Anthony’s Parish</th>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday Vigil:</td>
<td>Saturday Vigil:</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00pm</td>
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<td>7:00am &amp; 9:00am</td>
<td>7:00am (Pottsville)</td>
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<td>Saturday:</td>
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<td>9:00am (Bilambil)</td>
<td>9:00am (Kingscliff)</td>
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Fr Michael Brady
Parish Priest
Fr Jim Griffin
Parish Priest
**ST JOSEPH’S DAY ~ 19 MARCH**

This Thursday we will gather together as a community to celebrate St Joseph’s Day in the Holy Family Chapel in the Doyle Centre. Today’s reading is a reminder of Joseph’s special place in God’s plan.

**St Joseph’s Day Liturgy**
This Thursday 19 March in the Holy Family Chapel, Doyle Centre, commencing at 11:55am

Mr Scott McDermott
RE Coordinator-Ministry

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**Reading of the Week**

This Thursday we remember St Joseph, the husband of Mary and his faithfulness to the call of God. Through his prayers, may we see the presence of God in the lives of ordinary people. Today’s reading comes the Holy Gospel according to Matthew:

A young woman named Mary was engaged to Joseph from King David’s family. But before they were married, she learned that she was going to have a baby by God’s Holy Spirit. Joseph was a good man and did not want to embarrass Mary in front of everyone. So he decided to quietly call off the wedding. While Joseph was thinking about this, an angel of the Lord came to him in a dream. The angel said, “Joseph, the baby that Mary will have is from the Holy Spirit.” After Joseph woke up, he and Mary were soon married.

God of dreams, with the help of Joseph’s prayers may we serve you in our sisters and brothers. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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**PROJECT COMPASSION**

Project Compassion Week 3 brings you the story of Junior.

Junior lives in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea. Two years ago he was in danger of becoming one of Port Moresby’s infamous ‘raskols’, but since participating in the Caritas Australia project run by the Archdiocese of Port Moresby’s Social Action Centre, Junior has taken a different path. He is learning skills in organic farming, as well as leadership, community responsibility, cooking, health and hygiene. Junior now shares his skills by training others in organic farming techniques.

Your donation to Caritas Australia’s Project Compassion Appeal helps ‘street boys’ in Papua New Guinea to learn practical new skills for a positive future in their communities. After this week’s collections, our donations total $755.25.

Ms Allira Eppich
Mission and Values Facilitator

Editor’s Note: Apologies for the omission in last week’s Newsletter. Collections to Week 2 of Project Compassion totalled $380.00. This has since been included in the online Week 7 Newsletter.

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**ANZAC DAY MARCH**

Please note the information letter regarding this year’s ANZAC Day March in today’s newsletter (see back page).

Names are being taken and collected in a different manner this year. All students were given an opportunity to record their names for the march in the pastoral lesson last Thursday. If this opportunity was missed, names can still be submitted if students add their details to the lists outside the office.

Many thanks,

Miss Helen Gooley
ANZAC Day March Organiser

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**HUMAN SOCIETY IN ITS ENVIRONMENT (HSIE) NEWS**

**ATTENTION YEAR 9 FAMILIES**

Permission notes are due to be issued this week for Year 9 HSIE excursions on Monday 11 May 2009. Because of the school holidays the deadline for the return of notes and monies to the College is Thursday 19 April.

It would be of great assistance to the organisers and greatly appreciated if the set deadline could be met. Follow up phone calls will be made if necessary.

Mr Tony Channell
HSIE Coordinator

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**PARISH NEWS**

**ST JOSEPH’S CATHOLIC PARISH**

Tweed Heads Catholic Presbytery

Ph: (07) 5536.7522

UNIDENTIFIED SCHOOL FEES PAYMENTS

This notice is for the attention of all parents and carers of St Joseph’s College students.

The following payments have been received into the Schools Board Account A/C, however we are unable to identify the family:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>DETAILS ON STATEMENT</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09/03/09</td>
<td>Netbank tfr</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23/02/09</td>
<td>Netbank tfr</td>
<td>$4,392.16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please contact either John Klein or Sue Heffernan (07) 5536.7522 should this payment belong to you.

John Klein
School Fees Manager
Phone: (07) 5536.8701 / Email: sfm@stjosephs.org.com.au
**Mathematics News**

The first assessment tasks for Years 7 to 10 have just been completed. Year 11 will complete theirs this week.

Well done to those students who have accessed the ‘Mathletics’ website (www.mathletics.com.au) from home in an effort to improve their level of understanding and achievement. A total of 56 awards were given last week which means at least 56 students spent more than an hour improving their Mathematics skills.

Parents can submit their email address in order to receive weekly reports of what their child has done in Mathletics. I would urge all parents interested in their children’s efforts in Mathletics to follow these steps: Type in www.mathletics.com.au/parent into your browser and complete the form. (You will need your child’s username and password; these will be found in the front of their diaries.) If students have trouble accessing the internet from home for any reason, I ask all parents to communicate in the diary about this, or any other homework issues.

Students do have the option of accessing computers in the College Library, using the class computer or attending Computer Room 3 every Tuesday during the second half of lunch. Please rest assured that our Maths teachers are kind, understanding and compassionate people who are eager to help the students achieve their best. We encourage our students to use this great resource.

If you have any problems, please call the 24-hour Mathletics number (1300 850 331) or contact me at the College.

Mr Frank Malone
Mathematics Coordinator

**Lions Club “Youth of the Year” Regional Finalist**

Congratulations to Jacob Bush: Regional Finalist – Lions Club “Youth of the Year”:

Jacob with College Principal, Mr Sauvage, and Mr McDermott

Jacob and his proud parents

Jacob with Jim and Jan Wilding, President of the Coolangatta-Tweed Heads Lions Club

**Artist of the Week...**

There are many students at St Joseph’s College who do outstanding work in the Visual Arts. We will be recognising these student’s talents and giving you all an opportunity to view their work. Each week one student’s work will be selected and displayed in the weekly newsletter.

**Artist of the Week: Claudia Osborne, Year 10 Visual Arts, and her most recent artwork:**

As a part of a Year 10 unit of work on pop art, students have been working on some preliminary works as a lead up to a major painting. Claudia has been consistently working on her artworks and putting in a lot of effort. Congratulations and well done on an outstanding job.

Ms Jenna-Lee Mepstead
Visual Arts Teacher

**Technology & Applied Studies (TAS) News**

**FABULOUS 9 FOOD TECHNOLOGY**

Charlotte Stephens (9C) has written a review about the ‘Chicken Stir Fry’ we made in 9 Food Technology last week:

This beautiful Asian style recipe contains a large variety of fresh ingredients giving it lots of colour and a wonderful flavour. It is really healthy and the price of preparing this dish is affordable for most families. The dish is very tasty and could be made to suit the needs of all the family by changing the chicken to pork or prawns and by adding chilli for those who like it hot! If you didn’t have noodles the stir fry could be served with rice. And it’s easy enough for anyone in the family to make (even the kids) . . .

A great finish to the meal would be a fresh fruit and ice cream dessert.

**Chicken and Hokkien Noodle Stir fry Recipe**

**Stir fry some diced garlic, ginger and chicken fillet in a wok. Add vegetable such as baby corn, capsicum, carrots and broccoli. Soak one packet of noodles in hot water then drain and add to the wok with soy sauce and some fresh coriander.**

Ms Karen Parker
Food Technology Teacher
Unidentified Payment
A payment was received into the College Bank Account on 16 December 2008. Please advise the College if this payment is yours, as we are unable to determine to which family this payment belongs.

Canteen News & Roster

Canteen Meals
We have lovely fresh food on offer in the Canteen, with the new ‘Vietnamese Roll’ becoming very popular. (At $1.50 each, they are racing out the door!) As the weather starts to change we’ll soon be offering ‘heartier’ meals. Check the whiteboard at the front of the Canteen for the daily options available.

Canteen Roster

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Other Notices

Southern Cross Cultural Exchange, an Australian not-for-profit organisation specialising in international student exchange programs, is seeking volunteer host families for high school students scheduled to arrive in Australia in July 2009 from Germany, Italy, France, Holland, Austria, Spain, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Japan, Brazil, Canada and the USA.

Host families can choose from students staying for a range of either 3, 5 or 10 months and they all attend local high schools whilst they are in Australia. The main purpose of cultural exchange is to challenge youth towards international understanding and tolerance, encourage further learning, self knowledge and awareness - invaluable characteristics in today's world.

We organise all the flights, school enrolment, transportation, insurances and support systems. Just imagine your son or daughter having a brother or sister for a few months from another country. It’s a great opportunity for Australian students to learn that there is a world of variety and opportunity waiting for them – different languages, foods, sports, customs, and perhaps an overseas visit to look forward to later on.

To enquire, call Southern Cross Cultural Exchange now toll free on 1800 500 501, visit www.sccce.com.au or email scceast@scce.com.au.

Would you like to host an exchange student?

We organise all the flights, school enrolment, transportation, insurances and support systems. Just imagine your son or daughter having a brother or sister for a few months from another country. It’s a great opportunity for Australian students to learn that there is a world of variety and opportunity waiting for them – different languages, foods, sports, customs, and perhaps an overseas visit to look forward to later on.

To enquire, call Southern Cross Cultural Exchange now toll free on 1800 500 501, visit www.sccce.com.au or email scceast@scce.com.au.

Kingscliff District Soccer Club

‘Home of the Wolves’
Under 15’s sign-ons still being accepted
All enquiries to (02) 6674.1483

Bring Home a Brother or a Sister
In July 2009, students, aged 15-18 years from over 15 countries will be arriving in Australia to study at local schools for 5 or 10 months. Opportunities exist to act as a host family in a volunteer/unpaid capacity. Hosting can be on a temporary, short or long term basis.

Host families help provide students with the chance to study and experience life in Australia. This is a great way to learn about another country and culture, establish a lifelong link to a family in another country and contribute to international goodwill. If your family can offer a friendly, supportive and caring home environment, contact us today.

To learn more about this opportunity, call Student Exchange Australia on 1300 135 331 or visit the SEA website www.studentexchange.org.au.

Palm Beach Currumbin Rugby Club

It’s not too late to sign on...

New Players From All Age Groups Are Welcome
U/7s to 18s, Senior teams and Golden Oldies (Over 35s)

Venue: PBC Rugby Club, Bienvenue Drive, Currumbin Waters
(A short drive off the Tugun bypass)
All enquiries to (07) 5598.5228

Student of the Week

The nominated student is required to present himself to the College Principal before Friday of this week. If this student does, he will receive a voucher to the value of $5.00 for purchases at the Canteen.

Congratulations to the last two (really the first two) Students of the Week for 2009:

Week 6 - Stuart Francis (8D)
Week 7 - Ashlee-Jane Rogers (8C)

Student Council

Could this be a picture of you?

Shirley Clarke & Lauren Ahern
Pauline McLean & HELP!
Cathy Jamieson
Linda Prince & Jo Whalan
Donna West
Adrienne Wheatley & Donna De Venny
Sheree Lynch & Lyness Fox
Mandy Barone
Jo-Anne Meredith & HELP!
Margaret Putland
Shirley Clarke & Lauren Ahern

Mrs Dianne Pinkstone
Canteen Manager

Have You Got a Minute... What About 120?
We’ve still got a few days where helpers are needed in our Canteen for a couple of hours a day. Please call me if you can help out on any of the following dates. I’d love to hear from you. Many thanks in anticipation...

Date Helper/ Needed
Wednesday 25 March ~ 1 person
Wednesday 1 April ~ 1 person
Monday 6 April ~ 2 people
Wednesday 8 April ~ 2 people
Thursday 9 April ~ 2 people

Visit the College website for more information about SJC or for back copies of the Newsletter
Helping adolescents combat peer pressure

Young people generally want to fit in to their various social groups so peer approval is a significant driver for their behaviour. For a young person resisting peer influence can mean isolation or instant ostracism so it takes great strength of will to refuse to follow the crowd.

It is important for parents to understand the value of peer groups for young people and also remember that peers can be positive influences.

While the increased influence of peers is a normal part of a young person's development they sometimes need help to resist the pressure to conform that is placed on them.

The following ideas may assist you to help young people resist unwanted peer pressure:

1. Talk about peer influence with young people. Be open and frank about the subject. Let them know that while much of the influence of their friends is positive, some is not in their best interests.

2. Help young people say no - and save face and status among their friends. Allow them to blame you for not letting them do something they don't feel comfortable with.

3. Encourage them to think through the consequences of their decisions. When young people are put on the spot they should think about the risk factors involved. Encourage them to think, "Is this behaviour smart? Is it in my best interests?"

4. Avoid making your young person reliant on the approval of others, including you, as the basis of their self-esteem. Allow them to feel comfortable holding opinions and views that are different to yours.

5. Avoid criticising your teenager's friends, as he or she may take it personally. Talk about behaviours rather than personalities when you discuss their choice of friends.

Talking Point

An issue for parents to ponder and discuss:

We all experience peer pressure. A reporter asked a lady celebrating her 104th birthday the best part about being 104. She replied, "That's easy. No peer pressure."

Talk to your young person about how peer pressure affects you and how you cope with it.

Bright idea

Give them a line of resistance

Encourage your young person to gain some thinking time when placed under pressure to conform or behave in unsafe ways. If they feel uncomfortable with a peer's insistent request but find it difficult to refuse then encourage them to gain some thinking time. They can say something like, 'No, not now. I'll do it later.'

Did You Know?

One way young people learn how to mix is by observing how significant adults in their lives mix with each other.

Do the young people in your life see you...

- Mixing with others outside your home?
- Speak to adults you don't know well?
- Make decisions about how you spend your time?

Boys in Year 12 (17 year-18 year olds) are at least five times more likely to be happy with their body than girls of the same age. True or False

Solution: True.

10 per cent of girls at this age are happy with their body compared to 61 per cent of boys.

The imagination of a child is healthy and the mature imagination of an adult is healthy, but there is a space of life between, when the soul is in ferment, the character undecided, the way of life uncertain and the ambition thick-sighted." - Keats

Q & A

For more great ideas to help you raise happy, resilient kids visit: www.parentingideas.com.au
16 March 2009

Dear Parents,

ANZAC Day, 25 April, this year falls on the last Saturday of the Term 1 school holidays. For many years now St Joseph’s College has participated in the Twin Towns March. We march to remember those who have served our country. This is an opportunity for students to demonstrate and experience the values of citizenship, community awareness and school spirit.

The RSL Sub Branch Committee is fully supportive of a special children’s parade and there is an expectation that all members of the Student Representative Council will be present on this important occasion. The response particularly from our Year 12 students over the past five years has been excellent.

Students are required to meet in Chalk Street, Coolangatta by 10:00am. Punctuality is very important please as students need to assemble in height order for the March. Certificates of Participation can only be issued if names are marked off. The meeting location is the same as last year. Students must wear their full school uniform, including their school cap. It is important that students make every effort to look their best. It may also be advisable for students to wear sunscreen and bring a bottle of water. We will be marching to the cenotaph in Wharf Street as usual for the Main Service.

At the conclusion of the Main Service, all children attending are invited to have a light snack and soft drink in the Twin Towns Services Carpark courtesy of the Twin Towns RSL. For this reason and as a courtesy to the organisation required by the RSL it would be very helpful to have definite numbers of students attending before the event. It will also assist with the record to be placed on student reports.

Names of interested students will be taken during a pastoral lesson at the College. Lists outside the office will also be available for students to add their names.

Students will need to organise their own transport to and from the March. If transport is a problem, please let me know. It should be possible to pick up students at the end of the Main Service at about 11:30am.

Students’ names are to be recorded at the College no later than Tuesday 7 April 2009.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Alain Sauvage
Principal

Miss Helen Gooley
History Teacher
The Parish Schools Board is calling for nominations for the position of Parent Representative Board Member. The Parent Representatives for the last three years have completed their 3 year term and have vacated their positions.

I now invite parents of students attending St Joseph's College to consider nomination as Parent Representative on the Parish Schools Board.

The process for appointment of a Parent Representative is in accordance with the Board’s Constitution, as follows:

1. Written nominations are to be sought from interested parents of each parish school for the position of Parent Representative,
2. Each nomination must be seconded by another parent from the same school,
3. Completed nominations are to be forwarded to the Secretary, Parish Schools Board, PO Box 219, Tweed Heads, NSW 2485 no later than Monday 23 March 2009.
4. The Parent Representative will be appointed by the Parish Priest after consultation with the Board.

It is expected that the Parent Representatives would be appointed by the end of March.

Criteria for the position of Parent Representative include:
- Applicants must have a child attending the particular school represented and be a fee paying family,
- You should be committed to the ethos of the parish school,
- You should be able to fulfil a 3 year term,
- You should be able to make an effective and positive contribution to the Board’s activities,
- You must be prepared to sign a Confidentiality Statement and abide by the Board’s directions and decisions.

If you wish to nominate, please contact John Klein directly for a copy of the Board’s Constitution.

Yours sincerely

Alain Sauvage
Principal

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Attention: Parish Schools Board – Parent Nomination

I wish to nominate ................................................................. as the Parent Representative on the St Joseph’s Parish Schools Board for the three year period 2009-2011. ........................................................

NOMINEE’S NAME

NOMINATOR’S SIGNATURE

I second this nomination .................................................... Signed: ........................................

SECONDER’S NAME

SECONDER’S SIGNATURE