Dear Parents & Carers,

WELCOME TO 2015:

Yesterday we commenced our journey into the 2015 school year. I warmly welcome all students, families and staff to a year of learning, fun and busyness. I trust that all our families were able to have a restful break. We are looking forward to many new challenges, learning and experiences this year. As a school, we strive to provide our students with the best possible opportunities to learn about themselves, their world and their God. In partnership with families we will always endeavour to put the child at the centre of all we do, so that each child can experience success and be challenged in their learning and development.

As we look forward to our year together it is important to welcome not only all those students who are new to our school but also new staff members who will share their talents, skills and wisdom with us this year.

We welcome Miss Jessica Marshall (Yr 5/6) and Miss Amelia Hall (Yr 2). Welcome ladies we are thrilled to have you with us.

We welcomed our new Prep children, and it is only when you see so many happy, yet anxious faces that you know the journey of a new year has begun and how rewarding it is to be part of their lives.

During the holidays we farewelled two of our school officers. Leisa Walker and Benita Carney. Leisa has taken up a position at Saint Mary’s and Benita is moving into a new venture. Both ladies have worked across the school in various capacities and are loved by all the students within the school. We wish both Leisa and Benita all the best as they move to another phase of their lives.

Those who have visited the school over the last few days would have seen the improvements to our school environment.

Firstly our new garden — the new centre piece of our school. This new area will be used for class learning areas, prayer space or just an area to sit and rest. I would like to thank Benita Carney for obtaining a grant from the Gambling Community Benefit Fund so these works could be completed. To Zack Dawson and Maurie Atkins for doing all the hard work and converting the area to what it is today.

Many of our classrooms also had a face lift over the holiday with new carpet, walls painted and renovations to Cullens Cottage. Thank you to Ian Jones for all the repairs and Tim Crawford for brightening the classrooms.

Thank you also to the Atkins family for top dressing the oval over the holidays, the grass has never looked so good.

Last week our staff gathered in Redcliffe to look at building relationships not only between staff and students, students and students but also the school and the community. One area our presenter focused on was circle time, your children might have mentioned this last night. Circle time is where the teacher and children can be seen sitting in a circle, everyone being able to see everyone and also where everyone is equal. This routine has proven to be very successful in many schools in Australia.
A classroom circle helps to generate a sense of belonging/builds and enhances relationships and encourages democratic and collaborative classrooms. Different classroom circles that will be used at St Joseph’s are problem solving circles, starting a new topic, evaluating a topic, reflecting on work or progress, planning tool and social skills circles. Teachers will be starting and ending the day with circle time so as to build and enhance the relationship within the classroom. Parents are more than welcome to join in our circle time.

The beginning of the school year is a good time to ask for your support for our important procedures that we have in place at St Joseph’s:

**Communication** is an important vehicle between the family and the school and I ask that you take the time to read the fortnightly Newsletter and the correspondence sent home from your child’s teacher. These forms of communication are our main means of keeping you informed with what is happening around the school.

If you have an issue or a concern, please know that we will try and deal with this together. If you need to discuss a concern with the teacher please take the time to make an appointment as the mornings and afternoons can be busy for teachers. It is also important to know that the teacher is the first point of contact in dealing with your concerns. You are always welcome to speak with a member of the leadership team after speaking with your child’s teacher.

School begins at 8.40am with morning duty commencing at 8.10am. We ask that children place their bags in the port racks provided outside their classroom and wait until 8.10am before commencing play. If you are late or need to pick up your child from school early, you are required to sign into the office to sign your child in or out. All visitors to the school are required to sign in/out at the office whenever they are in the school grounds. This can seem an onerous task, however this procedure allows us to be aware of who is on the school grounds at all times.

**Supervised Crossing:** We are very fortunate at St Joseph’s to have a safe environment provided by the Department of Transport to help our community members cross the road safely. It has been noted, however, that a number of parents, sometimes with young children, do not use the crossing or cross before the supervisor has time to instigate the proper procedure. Parents are encouraged, for their own safety and the safety of their children, and as a good example to others, to use the crossing correctly.

**UNIFORM:** Many thanks to all those families who have ensured that the children have started the year with us fully decked out in school uniforms, neat and tidy. Please keep supporting us in ensuring that all students present to school in correct uniform, shoes, haircuts, etc. Please send a note if any temporary change to uniform is required.

Have a great week,

*Greg Cran*

*Principal*

St Joseph’s is on Facebook

St Joseph’s Primary School Murgon has now joined Social Media in the form of FACEBOOK with a Group page for everyone to be able to follow what is happening at the school.

If you look up – **FIND GROUPS St Joseph’s Primary School Murgon** you should then be able to request permission to join the group.

This group page has been set up for the purpose of parents, family and friends of students at St Joseph’s, being able to be kept up to date with what is happening at school.

We ask that you respect that this is not a form of communication with the office or teachers and if you have any concerns you would contact the office or teachers to discuss any issues.

Facebook will provide the community of St Joseph’s with a valuable tool of communication.
SLUSHIES FOR SALE
BIG LUNCH
WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS
$2.00 EACH

PLEASE NOTE:
Tuckshop has now been moved to Mondays. If you are able to volunteer your assistance would be very much appreciated. The first Tuckshop day will be February 1st, operating with the same Menu as Term 4 2014.

TUCKSHOP SPECIAL
MONDAY

Special—Chicken Chippies
ONLY $3.00

Parish Mass Times

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Saturday 31st January</th>
<th>Sunday 1st February</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wondai 6pm</td>
<td>Murgon 8am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Proston 8am</td>
<td>Goomeri 10am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Weekday Mass Times

- Wednesdays—Wondai 5.30pm
- Thursdays—Murgon 5.30pm
- Fridays—Murgon 9.30am

Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Carroll sm  PH 41681406

Please Note: Proston Mass time change to 8am - until March 2015.

PARISH HALL

The St. Joseph’s Parish Hall is available for rent for unlicensed functions. For further information phone Fr. Michael 41 681406

JANUARY
Happy Birthdays

Prep: Liam Oberle
Year 2: Caylen Murray
Year 3: Lucy Hobbs
Year 4: Jasymnne McEffer
     David Taylor & Marion Riley
Year 6: Kaitlyn Watson & Lachlan Zelinski

St. Joseph’s
Stubby Coolers
Only $5.00 each
Great Collector’s item
Available at the School Office
Hurry before they sell out!!