



Merry Christmas and a safe and happy holidays to all!

Newsletter Term 4 Week 11

**Final Day of School.
Friday 16th Dec at 3.15pm.**

Remember, You are a gift! A gift from God.

Unwrap your gift and share it with the world.

Light your flame and be a light to all those around you.

Be thankful for your giftedness and use it to inspire others to search for their gifts and talents.

May the peace and joy of Christmas be with you all and your families. Amen

Dear Parents,

Thank you all so much for the wonderful support you have given me over the last five years. The transition from Piper Street to the new school here on Woods Road has been something that I am very proud to have been a part of. There have been a number of ups and downs along the way but your patience and understanding throughout the whole process has been greatly appreciated and the result is a vibrant new 'Open Plan' learning environment for Yarrowonga. The education of our children is a partnership between the home and the school and I applaud you all on the love and commitment you give to your children.

To the School Board and Parents and Friends Association I say a very big thank you. Your tireless work has led to Yarrowonga having a wonderful new Catholic School for our children to grow and learn in and when the

Leadership Centre is finished next year another piece of the puzzle will be completed.

I would like to congratulate you all on your outstanding children who represent their school and families with pride and distinction. They are a credit to you and I will hold very fond memories of the years I have had with them. I hope and pray they continue to stay safe, embracing their learning opportunities and contributing to their communities in any way they can.

Best Wishes

Our Parish Priest at Sacred Heart, Fr Steve Bohan has been a great support to me and for this I am most grateful. Any Principal wants to know that they have the unwavering support of their Parish Priest and I can honestly say that I have. Fr Steve's guidance, advice and friendship has been appreciated and the community of Sacred Heart is indeed blessed to have a spiritual leader who is so active and involved in the decision making process of the schools in his care.

Finally I would like to pay tribute to a marvellous staff here at Sacred Heart who care deeply for your children and work extremely hard to provide them with many rich and varied opportunities to learn. The profession of teaching is going through turbulent times as we are accountable to so many mandated compliance regulations, school review processes and occupational health and safety checks. Yet they fulfil all of these with a smile on their faces and the full understanding that their core responsibility is to the children in their care. I wish them well and know that your children are forever in good hands.

I would like to wish you all a very happy, holy and safe Christmas. I hope you are able to find lots of time to enjoy the festive season together and to rest and relax a little before we all embark on another year. If you are travelling away be safe on the roads and know that our good thoughts and wishes for a safe journey go with you!

Thanks and best wishes,

Paul

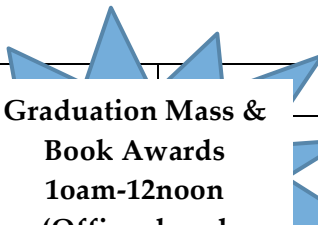


New Staff – 2017 Last week we employed two new staff for the 2017 school year. Marly Fountain will take up a position in Year Five with Mr Boulton and Mrs Bonat while Rachel Illingworth will be filling the position in Year One. Rach taught at Sacred Heart five years ago and is returning after working in South Yarra, Melbourne. We look forward to welcoming them formally at the start of next year.

School Reports

School Reports will come home today. Please read through them carefully and look at ways you can continue to support your children's learning over the holidays. We are all natural learners; it occurs without us having to pay direct attention to any process. Talking to your children, looking at different points of view, playing games with them reading to them and sharing a prayer occasionally will not only develop the bond you have with them but also enhance their capacity to learn and grow in knowledge and awareness.

2017 Return to School A reminder that all student classes for the 2017 school year will begin on Wednesday 1st February, 2017. The Grade Preps (Foundation Centre) will have the first 6 Wednesdays off leading up to the Labour Day Long weekend.

Week	Term 4					
	 Graduation Mass & Book Awards 10am-12noon (Office closed 9.30am-12.30pm)					
		Wed 14th	Thu 15th	Fri 16th	Sat 17th	Sun 18th
11 (Dec)		* Kinder Christmas concert	* Graduation Mass 10am-12noon	* Final Day for students. 3.15pm bell. * Yr 6 Aquatics Day		
Week	Term 1 2017					
	Mon 30th	Tues 31st	Wed 1st	Thu 2nd	Fri 3rd	Sat 4th
1 (Jan/Feb)	Staff Resume	Staff Resume	Students Resume			

Religious Education

Meegan McInness



Graduation Mass

A reminder the end of year Mass will be held in the MPB on Thursday December 15th at **10am** in the MPB.

Advent

The fourth and last Sunday of the advent season is on December 18, 2016. The fourth candle is lit on this day along with the first three. It is the Angel's candle, reminding of the heavenly hosts that proclaimed Christ's arrival with "Behold, I bring unto you good tiding of great joy!"



Christmas Eve Mass

Christmas Eve Mass this year is 7pm in the MPB. A number of children have indicated they will be attending Mass and joining the choir. We encourage everyone attending to dress up. If there is a parent or two who are attending Christmas Eve Mass and are willing to coordinate the children processing into church with Fr Steve could you please contact me. If you would like your child to be a part of Christmas Eve Mass please contact me via email also.

As this is the last newsletter for 2016 I would like to thank everyone for their support during the year.
I wish all families a happy, holy and safe Christmas. May you receive the blessings of faith, happiness and peace this Christmas and may it be a time of family for all.
I look forward to a great year in 2017.
Meegan

Pastoral Wellbeing **Janine Buerckner** jbuerckn@shyarrawonga.catholic.edu.au



Wishing everyone a very safe and happy Christmas and New Year. Enjoy your time with family and friends.
Relax, rest and have some fun! See you in 2017.



2017 Dates

School Returns:

- Staff January 30th & 31st
- Students return Wednesday 1st
- Opening School Mass Tues 21st February
- Life Education Van- 1st Feb- 9th Feb
- School Photos- 9th March

Lost

Marney Looby is missing her school jumper. It is named and brand new. Please forward to the office if found.
Thanks.

SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAM BOOKINGS ARE OPEN!

Book early to take advantage of early-bird rates!

Early-bird closes: Monday 19th December for January bookings We have heaps of fun activities planned these school holidays and can't wait for you to attend! Have fun with science experiments, participate in a bunch of craft activities with access to a plethora of art media, and get active with a variety of outdoor sports and team games. Join in on all this and more at Extend's Summer Holiday Program.

To check out what's on visit our website at extend.com.au and book via the Parent Portal.

Extend Before and After School Care at Sacred Heart Primary School

Last week at After School Care we had the challenge of Taste without smell and sight! We all made lovely Christmas Cards for the fire-fighters of Yarrawonga, who do such a good job all year round. We made some reindeer cookies and did lots of awesome art works, games and sports.



DECEMBER & JANUARY HOLIDAY PROGRAMS 2016/2017

19th - 23rd December & 9th -25th January

Extend would like to inform parents that bookings are now open for both holiday programs.
Parents can have a look at our activities program by going to our website: extend.com.au

Bookings can also be made here via the parent portal or by calling Extend [1300 366 437](tel:1300366437)
Our Extend Superstar of the Week is.....[Maison Glover](#) for his patience with starting ASC.

Lisa Gard- Team Leader (Parent Portal: extend.com.au)

Next week's activities: [December Vacation Care](#)

Monday 19th December: Magic Milk, Hungry Frogs + more

Thursday 20th December: Aboriginal Games, Reindeer Cones + more

Wednesday 21st December: Pokemon Catapult, Pokemon Book mates + more

Thursday 22nd December: Tea Light Holder, Rangoli Art + more

Friday 23rd December: Candy Dispensers, Christmas Countdown Water Fun & Jumping Castle.

Free

Thanks to the staff from St Vinnies, we have approx. 10 Bike helmets that we would like to give away for free. If you're interested in a bike helmet, please drop in at school anytime and inquire at the Office.

Wilby and District Christmas Tree

Come along to Wilby to celebrate the annual Wilby and District Christmas Tree. The evening will be held at the Wilby Recreational Reserve on Friday 23 December 2016 commencing at 6pm.

A sausage sizzle will be provided. Children will be able to play on the playground equipment and join in some good old-fashioned fun and games before the arrival of Santa at 7.30pm.

The night provides a great opportunity for people to catch up and enjoy the festive season. Parents are asked to bring a small gift to place under the tree to the value of \$10.

Please bring your own chairs, drinks and a plate of supper to share. Cost is a gold coin donation per family.

This evening is kindly supported by Taylor-Made Window Creations and Yarrawonga Mulwala Physiotherapy.

For further information or to RSVP please contact Fiona Hart on 0409 520 725.

Skiing on the River!

A big thank you to Brad Mitchell, Ski Bundalong and his support crew for teaching our Yr 5 & 6 students to ski last week. As part of our Summer Water Safety, the students had the opportunity to water ski on the river at Bundalong. From beginners to experienced, the students had a great time and we appreciate Brad giving our students the opportunity. It's been our 2nd year with Brad and we look forward to continuing the program annually.





BOOK NOW FOR 2017

Please note your current bookings will **not** roll over for 2017. Please ensure you make your 2017 bookings *before* Term 1 begins at extend.com.au.

BOOK VIA THE PARENT PORTAL AT:
extend.com.au