



# St Joseph's College Newsletter

17 February 2012

Term 1 - Week 3

## IMPORTANT DATES COMING UP

### Mon 20 Feb

- Kindy commence full days
- PP commence full days
- Yr 10-12 Inter-School Cricket

### Wed 22 Feb

- Ash Wednesday Mass 9am HFC

### Thurs 23 Feb

- JS Assembly 9am Gym

### Sat 25 Feb

- Family Mass and Staff Blessing 6pm HFC

### Mon 27 Feb

- MS/SS Inter-House Swimming Carnival

## LENTEN PRAYER



Almighty and Everlasting God,  
You have given the human race Jesus Christ our  
Savior as a model of humility.  
He fulfilled Your Will by becoming Man  
And giving His life on the Cross.  
Help us to bear witness to You  
By following His example of suffering  
And make us worthy to share in His Resurrection.  
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son.

*Amen*

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Guardians, Families, Students and Members of our College Community.



Below is a response from the Director of Catholic Education to the page one article in The West Australian (Wednesday 8 February 2012) where WA public universities allege that "high school pupils are not ready for university" as well as the West Australian's editorial on 9 February.

## UNIVERSITIES FAILING TO UNDERSTAND OUR KIDS

*The page one article in The West Australian (Wednesday 8 February 2012) where WA public universities allege that "high school pupils are not ready for university" as well as the West Australian's editorial on 9 February, demands a response. The stated position of the universities and their entry agency, the Tertiary Institutions Service Centre (TISC), demonstrates a lack of understanding of why and how schools operate. Further, some of the statistics quoted to support their propositions are misleading.*

*Schools do not exist solely to provide candidates to fill up universities. TISC believes that it was intended that only 10% of Year 12 students would undertake Stage 1 units and that this percentage is now 36%. A quick review of recent history of subject selections would have corrected this misunderstanding. In 2005, immediately before the implementation of new courses 7 483 (39%) of students were enrolled in four or more Wholly School Assessed subjects, roughly the equivalent of Stage 1 units.*

*Subsequently the 2008 legislation mandated that students had to remain at school or in approved training to age 17. This has further increased what we might loosely call non-university bound students to well above this traditional 39% - 40% level. Put simply, the concern at a proportion of 36% of students in Stage 1 courses is historically inaccurate and would seem to indicate a lack of awareness of who attends schools in WA.*

## General Information

- **Uniform Shop**  
[Opening Hours](#)  
**Tuesdays**  
8.15am - 9.30am and  
**Wednesdays**  
2.15pm - 4.00pm
- **Absentee Phone Line**  
9844 0280
- **Principal** -Mr Bradley Hall
- **Head of Secondary**  
Ms Sue Alderman
- **Head of Junior School**  
Mr Mike Watson
- **Direct Deposits Welcome**  
Please enquire -  
Business Manager  
Mrs Marion Leonhardt

Phone:  
9844 0222

Fax:  
9844 0223

Email:  
admin@sjc-albany.wa.edu.au

Internet:  
<http://web.sjc-albany.wa.edu.au>

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

The figures also fail to mention other important achievements of the non-university cohort. For example, in 2010 nearly 22 000 Units of Competency, which contribute to TAFE qualifications, were completed by students in WA schools. Further, in Catholic schools in 2011, 2 216 Certificate Level I or higher qualifications were completed by students. Other education systems could boast similar vocational achievements.

The direct implication in the article is that schools are dumbing down standards to avoid league table scrutiny. To the contrary, schools are carefully counselling students for success not only in Year 12 but beyond their secondary education. This includes training, employment and not just university studies. All schools have developed individual student counselling processes which match students' needs, abilities and interests to their school studies. Parents are also part of this decision making process.

It also needs to be recognised that schools have finite resources and cannot offer a full range of courses. They select courses and stages to meet the needs of their students. The choice available to non university bound students has in fact decreased significantly since 2005. In 2005, there were approximately 120 Wholly School Assessed subjects (equivalent of Stage 1 units) compared with 68 TEE subjects (equivalent of Stages 2 and 3 units) in Year 11 and 12. Now there are around 110 Stage 2 and 3 units compared with only 60 Stage 1 units. Despite the realignment, for those students not suited to Stage 2 units, Stage 1 provides an appropriate study program – just as it always has for about 40% of the Year 12 cohort.

The proposition that “universities were being forced to explore alternate entry methods to circumvent the current system” is also manifestly incorrect. For many years, universities have provided alternate entry pathways in recognition of wide and varied student achievement. Those processes recognised success and were not based on a deficit model.

The fact that deregulation of the tertiary sector has opened up more funded university places does not provide a licence for university leaders to blame schools for not providing the extra students they need to secure the lucrative per capita Commonwealth funding. Rather their efforts would be far more productive to engage with schools and seek

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

partnerships where students can transition more smoothly to university studies.

It is the responsibility of universities to focus more on the quality of students that graduate from university, and the processes and support required to reach that standard, rather than on students entering university. This will occur when high quality needs-focussed teaching in the universities is sustained. It is quite interesting that the level of scrutiny of secondary schools is not extended to universities. For example, the public might be interested to know the levels of good standing of students after first year university studies, drop out rates, the length of time taken to complete the average degree at university, the match of enrolments to industry and community employment demand and overall employment rates of graduates in the years immediately after leaving university.

Schools know their students and encourage them to achieve their potential, they are certainly not failing our kids. Secondary schools provide high quality teaching contextualised in needs-focussed student case management that allows them to succeed at school and in post school destinations. I challenge the deputy vice chancellors quoted in the article to spend some time in these schools to see this in action.

Director of Catholic Education

### New Lockers

The Year Seven lockers have arrived and Mr Scheepers and Mr Pickering have completed the frames for these. Year Seven parents had a preview of the lockers and a demonstration by Mr Cranwell of some of the programmes being used in the classes at Tuesday's Parent Information night.

### Playgroup

Playgroup began on Tuesday and the Mums and children enjoyed the first session. There are vacancies for Playgroup. Please contact the College Office for details.



## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

---

### Sundowner

Special thanks to our hardworking P&F Committee members. The first meeting was held last Tuesday. Their first function is tonight's P&F Sundowner, in the Sr Julia Cabagniol Early Learning Centre from 5.30pm - see you there!

### Lenten Season

The Lenten season begins next week with Ash Wednesday. Mass will be held in the Holy Family Church at 9.00am. During Lent, the canteen will not be selling meat products on Ash Wednesday and every Friday during the season.



Mr Bradley Hall - Principal

## COLLEGE NOTICES

---

### Middle and Senior Schools Inter-House Swimming Carnival

The sporting year gets started on Monday 27 February with the Middle and Senior Schools Inter-House Swimming Carnival at the Albany Leisure and Aquatic Centre. The carnival is set to run from 9.30am to 2.30pm with parents and supporters invited to attend. The carnival is a combination of Championship swimming races to decide the Champions and Runners Up in each year group and fun based novelty events for the non-competitive swimmers. All races contribute to the overall House Championship Shield.

Students have nominated for their races during House meetings this week. Some of the keener ones will be taking advantage of the start of Saints Swim Club training to hone their skills for the events with training sessions on Mondays and Fridays from 3.30 – 4.30pm.

Lunch orders for the Leisure Centre café are available to pre-order through the College canteen until Wednesday 23 February. Payment is required with pre-carnival orders.

The students are reminded that they are required to wear their College House sports uniform for the carnival. Should students choose to wear board shorts for their races they must change into them when they get to the Leisure Centre. Brief bikini bathers are not permitted.

## COLLEGE NOTICES

---

The Physical Education staff would greatly appreciate the help of any parents who might be available to assist on the day. Please contact Mr Paul O'Donnell through the College Office if you are available to assist. Mr Paul O'Donnell - Physical Education Teacher

## JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

---

### Tutorials

Tutorials commence for Years Four-Six students next week on Wednesday, 22 February.

The tutorials will be held in the College Library from 3.05pm - 4.00pm.

Students who may need assistance with some areas of their work or who may wish to spend time completing homework or working on research assignments are welcome to attend.

### Junior School Assembly

Our first performance assembly for Term One will be held next Thursday, 23 February commencing at 9.00am in the College Gymnasium. Parents are warmly invited to attend the assembly. The P&F ladies will be serving tea and coffee from 8.30am for \$2.00. Thank you to the McSweeney family from Naked Bean for their generosity.

Mr Mike Watson - Head of Junior School

## MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

---

### Parent Information Night

Thank you to parents and guardians who attended the Information Evening on Tuesday. If you require any further information regarding Middle School, please contact Sue Alderman through the College Office.



Government of **Western Australia**  
Department of **Health**  
WA Country Health Service

### HPV and Hepatitis B Immunisations

Parents of Year Seven students

The immunisation team will be visiting St Joseph's College on 19 March to immunise the Year Seven students whose parents have given their consent.

Could you ensure that your child has a good healthy breakfast and plenty of fluid to drink on this morning in order to reduce the risk of him/her fainting following immunisation.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

---

As it has been a number of weeks since completion of consent forms we would like to give parents the opportunity to inform us of any change to details on the consent form or if you need any more information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Anne Taylor

Public Health Nurse – Immunisations / Disease Control  
WA Country Health Service – Great Southern  
125 Grey Street West, Albany 6330  
Phone 98427511 Email [anne.taylor@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:anne.taylor@health.wa.gov.au)

## SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

---

### Defence Technical Scholarship

The Australian Defence Force is offering Scholarships to students enrolled in a trade VET subject (eg Building and Construction) and Mathematics. The scholarship provides \$2,000 for Year Eleven and \$3,000 for Year Twelve students.

The scholarship aims to increase awareness of a wide range of trades available in the Navy, Army and Air Force. There is no commitment for scholarship recipients to join the Australian Defence Force (ADF); however students must demonstrate an interest in ADF Technical Trades to be able to complete the application form.

Application and information packages are available from Ms Alderman. Applications close on 9 March 2012.

Ms Sue Alderman - Head of Secondary

## PARENTS & FRIENDS NEWS

---

### P&F Meeting

Thank you to parents/guardians who attended our first meeting on Tuesday night.

Committee members for 2012 are:

President - Helen Anderson

Vice President - Sam Loveridge

Treasurer - Amanda Thompson

Secretary - Angela Williams

We still require enthusiastic people to fill the role of P&F Board representative (1 year term) and Minute Secretary. If you are interested, please contact Helen Anderson on 9844 1750.

## PARENTS & FRIENDS NEWS

---



**P&F  
Easter Egg  
Raffle**  
Watch this space  
for more  
information  
to come.

### Footy Tipping

After lengthy discussions it was decided that we will not have a footy tipping competition in 2012. Stay tuned for the 2013 season.

## WEEKEND SPORT

---

### Royals Saints Netball Club

Please note netball trials scheduled for Sunday 19 February has been CANCELLED.

## PARISH NOTICES

---

### Family Mass

This first Family Mass for this year will be held on Saturday, 25 February at 6pm in the Holy Family Church on Martin Road.

All families are invited, especially families whose children will be receiving a Sacrament this year, are required to attend. Staff of the College will be blessed at this Mass. We look forward to seeing you there.

### General Information Evening for all Sacraments

There will be a General Information Meeting at New Camfield on Wednesday, 29 February at 7.00pm for all parents/guardians of students receiving their Sacraments this year, whether Confirmation, First Holy Communion or First Reconciliation. The meeting is for parents only at New Camfield, Aberdeen Street.

All parents/guardians of relevant children are required to attend please. We look forward to seeing you all there.

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

---

Please find Community Notices on the web site at <http://web.sjc-albany.wa.edu.au> at the back of this week's Newsletter.

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### **Dorothea Bassett**

(Prof. Kinesiology Practitioner & Instructor from Perth)  
Will be presenting a Brain Gym in Action - One Day Workshop for all Albany teachers, parents and carers to be held on Friday 9 March 2012 from 9.00am - 4.00pm.

“Educational Kinesiology is a result of over 20yrs of research by its founder Paul Dennison. EDU-K explores life skills as well as academic skills. Brain Gym activities make all types of learning easier by empowering learners of all age-groups through movement activities to extract hidden potentials and make them readily available”

For further information contact Angela Paratore on 0439 204 709

### **High Performance Centre - Hosted by the Great Southern Senior Soccer Association**

Present Squir Soccer (3-5 year olds) boys and girls Thursdays at 3.30-4.15pm starts 23 February.

Cost: \$95 per seven week block (in school term)

To pre-register, please email Jo Owen at [jowen.hpc@gmail.com](mailto:jowen.hpc@gmail.com) with your name and date of birth. Phone: 0439 858 854. Registration day is on Thursday 16 February at North Road Soccer Grounds from 4.00pm onwards.

### **Spencer Park Dental Therapy Centre**

Spencer Park Dental Therapy Centre provides free general dental care for students from Pre-primary to Year Eleven. All students from Pre-Primary to Year Seven are automatically offered enrolment. Students in this age group who are new to the school will soon receive enrolment forms.

Parents of students from Years Eight to Eleven who are new to the school will need to contact the Dental Therapy Centre to obtain enrolment forms.

Parents of students already enrolled are reminded to update contact details if necessary. All appointments are posted to your home address and treatment is suspended if patients fail to attend. The school does not automatically pass on your new details. Parents need to phone the clinic on 9841 3967 or send a note to Spencer Park Dental Therapy Centre, Spencer Park Primary School, Hardie Road, Albany WA 6330.

For any enquiries please phone 9841 3967 or call in to the clinic between 8.00am and 4.00pm.

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### **Lower Great Southern Hockey Association**

Hookin2 Hockey, Junior and High School and Senior Players

### **Registration Day!!**

Hockey Stadium - Barker Road, Albany

Date: Saturday 25 February  
Time: 10.30am – 2pm

Enquiries: Judith Want - Development Officer  
Mob: 0429895033

### **Southern Districts Junior Football Association**

### **Registration Day**

Sunday 26 February  
9.00am-12.00pm

Norman Pavilion - Centennial Oval

Online registrations can be made at  
[www.sdjfa.sportingpulse.net](http://www.sdjfa.sportingpulse.net)

For families eligible for assistance through Kidsport an application voucher must be picked up on this day. Kidsport applicants will not be able to register online.

Looking forward to seeing all past and new players.  
Robyne Nottle - President - SDJFA



### **Swim and Survive lessons can help your children develop the skills they need to survive and stay safe in the water.**

Albany Leisure and Aquatic Centre Swim2Survive Swim School are currently taking enrolments for term 1 swimming lessons.

For further details please contact  
Nola directly on:  
telephone: 9844 2274 or  
Email: [nolao@albany.wa.gov.au](mailto:nolao@albany.wa.gov.au)