Dear Parents

It was wonderful to see the children back from their holidays happy about being with their friends and teachers again. Let’s hope this enthusiasm remains with them throughout 2016. I especially welcome our 52 new Kindy children and our 26 new children to other year levels. To all our first time families here at St. John Paul II a very special welcome is extended and I ask that all in the St. John Paul II family make them feel welcome. Go out of your way please to say hello and wish them well.

Welcome also to the new staff – Mrs Marlee McAdam (Indonesian teacher), and Mrs Celeste Spencer who will be the Disability Support Co-ordinator for term 1, taking over from Mrs Hayley Wells who was seconded to the Catholic Education Office.

Staff commenced work officially on Thursday of last week. This involved a staff meeting, a course on using timetables in SEQTA, a reflection on the school priorities for 2016, an information and discussion session on English as an additional language dialect. Many staff were also working very hard in the holidays in readiness for the school year.

Congratulations to Mrs Jane Cullen on being awarded a scholarship to attend a Kagan (Collaborative Learning) PD in the U.S.A. What a wonderful personal achievement and benefit for the school. Mrs Phillips will be taking the Joeys class for the next 2 weeks.

Thank you for the very warm welcome I have received, I’m sure it is an indication of the great community spirit within the school.

Please keep free the 19th February to support the P& F’s first function of the year the Bush Dance.

Finally I would like to recognise and thank Mrs Tricia Davis for the wonderful work she has done over the last 12 years. As foundation principal she was instrumental in guiding and developing Banksia Grove CPS.

Not only is there a new principal but now the school has a new name, St John Paul II Catholic Primary School.

God bless
Chris Lamb
Principal
## Dates to Remember

### FEBRUARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Prayer Assembly 8.30am undercover area</td>
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<tr>
<td>8th</td>
<td>Prayer Assembly 8.30am undercover area</td>
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<tr>
<td>10th</td>
<td>Ash Wednesday 9.00am whole school Mass prepared by the Eagles class</td>
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<tr>
<td>12th</td>
<td>Merit Assembly 8.30am undercover area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th</td>
<td>Prayer Assembly 8.30am undercover area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Parent Meetings 9am &amp; 6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>16th</td>
<td>Parent Meetings 9am &amp; 6pm</td>
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| 19th | Prayer Assembly Yr 3 Mission Day Project Compassion  
P & F Bush Band Dance |
| 21st | St John Paul II CPS Commissioning Mass 9.30am |
| 22nd | Prayer Assembly 8.30am under cover area |
| 23rd to 26th | Year 6 Camp to Dwelligup |
| 26th | Merit Assembly 8.30am undercover area |
| 29th | Prayer Assembly 8.30am under cover area |

## Parish Information

**St John Paul II Mass**
- Monday to Saturday 8.00 am
- Every Saturday 6.00 pm
- Every Sunday 9.30 am

**Reconciliation**
- Sundays @ 8.45 am to 9.15 am
- After Sunday Mass if required
- Anytime by appointment

**Baptism & Weddings**
- By appointment
- Father Vinh Dong contact details 6400 0276 or 0422 422773

**Parish Office**
- St John Paul II Catholic Primary School
- Tuesday & Thursday 8.00 to 11.00 am

**Presbytery**
- 79 Joseph Banks Boulevard
- Banksia Grove WA 6031
- Email: banksiagrovecatholiccommunity@gmail.com

## Other Dates & Times

### School Times
- **Start** 8.30 am  
- **Finish** 3.00 pm  
- Monday 2.00 pm finish

### Kindy Times
- **Start** 8.30 am  
- **Finish** 2.45 pm  
- Monday 2.00 pm finish

### Uniform Shop
- Tuesday 8.00 am to 9.00 am  
- Wednesday 8.00 am to 9.00 am

### Children’s School Banking
- Every Thursday

### P & F Meeting
- 17th February @ 8.35 am

### School Board Meeting
- 24th February @ 5.00 pm
PRAYER

Lord Jesus, we ask for your help as we begin this new school year. Allow us to experience your presence in the many blessings you put before us. Open our eyes to the new challenges and exciting opportunities that this new school year brings. Open our heart and mind to new friends and new teachers. Give us a generous spirit to be enthusiastic with our studies and courage to accept new opportunities. Help us to be attentive to one another and let us experience your presence in our new friends. Jesus, inspire us to do our best this year!

Amen

P & F NEWS

Welcome from the P&F Committee!

Hi, my name is Susannah Piek and I am honoured to be the new P&F President for St John Paul II Catholic Primary School for 2016. On behalf of the 2016 P&F Committee, I would like to welcome you all to the School for another fun-filled year! It is going to be a good one!

We have quite few events planned for the year, starting with the Bush dance on Friday the 19th of February, which is a free event for all families and friends of the School. Come along, bring your chairs and picnic rugs and relax in a great family atmosphere while enjoying music from our wonderful bush band. There will also be an animal farm for the children and a sausage sizzle and drinks available for purchase. Keep a look out for more information for this and future events in the School newsletter.

If you would like to get involved with the P&F we would absolutely love to see some new faces! Our first meeting is on Wednesday the 17th of February and it will be held in the Staff room at 8.35am. Please feel free to come along and have a cuppa and meet some of the other parents and committee members. You are more than welcome to bring your little ones as well (I have a cheeky 2yr old myself!). We will be deciding on the dates for the meetings for the rest of the year, so let us know if any evening meetings would suit you better. Otherwise, I look forward to seeing you all around the school. Feel free to come and say Hi 😊

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS

Children from years 1 – 6 will join with the Parish community to celebrate Ash Wednesday at Mass on 10th February @ 9 am.

Parents & friends are welcome to attend. We look forward to seeing you there!
ALLERGY AWARE SCHOOL

St John Paul II is a “Nut-Aware” school. Therefore, raw nuts (eg peanuts, hazelnuts, cashews, etc), nut spreads (eg peanut butter, Nutella, etc) and snack foods with nuts in the ingredients list (eg some muesli/snack bars) are not sold in the school canteen and parents/guardians are discouraged from sending such items to school.

SCHOOL FEES

Term 1 fees will be issued early in week 2. If you hold a Health Care Card or Pension Concession Card please ensure you have handed a copy of your current card into the office. If you do not have a current concession card on your account, we are unable to apply the discounts. Please attend to this by Monday 8th February.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Congratulations to Demo, Lynda Foufas on the happy and safe arrival of Theodore. A beautiful baby brother for Sebastian.

CANTEEN NEWS

The school canteen WILL NOT be open this Friday. Canteen will commence on Friday 12th February. A Lent Menu will apply for Term 1 and will be sent out next week.

For our canteen to continue we are in need of volunteers. If you are able to assist in any way, please call into the school office and place your name on the roster.

NO VOLUNTEERS = NO CANTEEN

UNIFORM SHOP & NEWS

Thank you to Alexia Pierre and her wonderful helpers for opening the uniform shop prior to school starting to ensure all students were provided with their uniform needs for the start of the school year. There was a strong demand for this service from within the community and the volunteers that gave up their time to help serve others did a fantastic job!

School bags have now arrived! If you had previously paid for a bag, they have been delivered to your child’s class.

Please support our school’s aims by ensuring your child is in correct uniform on the correct occasion.
PLAYGROUP

Playgroup will commence 12th February 2016 and will run from 8.30 to 10.30 am. Please make sure you bring a hat and a healthy snack for your child.
The cost of playgroup is a gold coin donation. Hope to see you there!

BOOKCLUB

Bookclub pamphlets went home today to all children.
All orders must be back to the school office by no later than Monday 15th February 2016.
Please ensure you have your child’s name, class and correct money with each order.

PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS

Our Parent Information meetings provide a great opportunity for you to meet with your child’s teacher and to become familiar with classroom procedures. Information sessions will be held in your child’s classroom at the following times:
- Monday 15th February @ 9am Pre –Primary Yr 2 Yr 6 & Yr 4 6pm Yr 1 & Yr 5
- Tuesday 16th February @ 9am Yr 1 Yr 5 & Yr 3 6pm Pre Primary Yr 6 Yr 2 & Yr 4
- Monday 22nd February @ 6pm Yr 3
Kindy to be advised at a later date

SUPERVISION

Teachers are on duty from 8:15am to 3:15pm. Children not collected by 3:15pm come to the office to be supervised. A phone call to the school office if you are going to be late collecting your child reduces the stress levels for all.

PUNCTUALITY

We need children at school on time. We have a lot to do and late arrivals may cause embarrassment to children and delay classes that are anxious to get down to the work at hand.

FAMILY DETAILS

A family details sheet will be sent home with the eldest child in each family in week 2. Please check the details carefully, update where required and return to the class teacher. It is important that if you change address or phone numbers etc at any stage throughout the year you advise the School Office.

MEDICAL UPDATE

It is the responsibility of parents to advise the school of necessary medical information about their child. Regards allergies, asthma etc, all action plans need to be updated for the new year. If your child is new to the school or if a health condition has been diagnosed (asthma or an allergy to specific food group or insect bite), it is most important that the appropriate ‘Action’ plan (from your doctor) and medication be sent to the office. We advise parents to come and view the existing action plan before 12 Feb as well as check expiry dates for medication (epipens).
Dear Parents,

We are very pleased to have the Rainbows Program at St John Paul II Catholic Primary School again this year. Rainbows offers children from families who have experienced a major loss, either through the separation/divorce of parents or through the death of a family member, the opportunity to meet in a weekly support group over a period of 12 weeks. The sessions will be held at school with a trained adult working with each group and will last for approximately 45 minutes each.

It has been found that when something significant happens in a family, the entire family is affected. If a parent dies or divorce occurs, not only do the parents grieve, the children do also. Because of their age and short life experience, children can find it very difficult to verbalise their feelings.

If you would like your child to be included please fill in the tear off slip and return it to the school office by February 26th. This offer will be made available to children from Pre Primary-Year 6.

If your child is part of a single parent or stepfamily or if they are struggling through a painful experience this will be an opportunity for them to meet with others in similar situations in a safe and confidential atmosphere.

If you feel the Rainbows program will be helpful for your child please complete the form below and return to the school office.

If you would like to discuss the program further please feel free to contact me at the school.

Yours sincerely

Lesley Bird
Social Worker
St John Paul II Catholic Primary School

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I __________________________ would like my child to be part of the Rainbows program
Child’s name__________________________ Class________________
Child’s name__________________________ Class________________

Signed __________________________ Date _________________________
“Welcome back to all our families for the new school year at St John Paul II Catholic Primary School and a special welcome to all our new families. During term one the students will be looking at the 5 keys of the You Can Do It! program -CONFIDENCE, GETTING ALONG, ORGANISATION, PERSISTENCE and RESILIENCE. This program will teach the children a number of different skills they need to be successful and happy during Primary school.

During weeks 1 & 2 the students will learn about using their GETTING ALONG Key to encourage them to work and play nicely together, and care about and be friendly to others. Please talk to your children about what they have learnt and how they plan to use this key at school and at home. Over the next few weeks we will be looking at the other keys and information about them will be in future newsletters. Information on each key will also be placed in the school noticeboard.

We will also be running the Rainbows Program for students again this year. This is a peer support program run by trained facilitators for children who are experiencing grief and loss from divorce, separation or death in their families. Information and a permission slip are attached to this newsletter if you would like your child to participate in this program.

If you would like more information about either of these programs please contact:

Jenny Baxter – Chaplain
Lesley Bird – Social Worker