School Events:
Secondary Academic Assembly
I would like to commend all students who were presented with Academic Certificates for their performance in Semester One at last Friday’s assembly in the PB Kirby Parish Centre. Father Pavol and Father Emmanuel assisted in the presentation and were also presented with staff iPads to assist them in their understanding of teaching and learning in the twenty first century at St Joseph’s School. Thank you to the School Captains for their expert organisation of the assembly and to the staff who assisted.

Early Years Programming Professional Learning
On Tuesday this week our Pre-Kindy to Year 2 Teachers attended a collaborative Programming Professional Development Day at CEO. Mrs Oliver, Mrs Clarke, Miss Tetlow, Mrs Pollard, Miss Dodsley and Mrs Marasco joined over one hundred other teachers from across the state to discuss and share ideas about planning, programming and assessment.

Taking the Pulse Consultation Process
Mr Burke and Mr Johnson were invited this week to a focus group at the Catholic Education Office (CEO), to provide input on ways to improve the effectiveness of the CEO in assisting schools to meet the objectives of ‘enhancing learning, nurturing young people and empowering them to live the Catholic Faith in the spirit of Jesus Christ’. Each focus group consisted of around ten people, collaborating on their area of expertise. Feedback from the focus groups will be used by Dr Tim McDonald (Director of the CEO), to set the Strategic Direction of the CEO for the future.

Marist Core Group Forum
On Thursday, August 29 commencing at 5pm, Br Doug Walsh F.M.S. and Mr Joe McCarthy will hold a Forum in the St Marcellin Performing Arts Centre at the Lance Street Campus [Fermoy] of St Joseph’s School, with a barbeque to follow. The School and Parish welcome all those who have a connection with the Marist Brothers in Northam, including current and past students and parents of the School, to hear about a proposed Marist Core Group to be established in Northam. If you wish to attend the Forum, please RSVP by Monday, August 26 for catering purposes, to St. Joseph’s Parish Office [9622 5411] or email: northamcatholicchurch@iinet.net.au

Dear Members of St Joseph's Family,

Prayer

Dear Lord
I know you are the only true bread I ever need. Help me to value that which you have given to me, to make following Jesus the most important thing in my daily life. Help me to concentrate above all, on doing your will and sharing your love and the Good News you have proclaimed through Jesus with one another. Amen.

St Joseph Pray for us
St Emilie de Vialar Pray for us
St Marcellin Pray for us
St Mary MacKillop of the Cross Pray for us
Our Lady Help of Christians, Patroness of Australia Pray for us.

Amen

Our Prayer

Gospel: 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year C Luke 12:13–21

Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, tell my brother to share the inheritance with me.” He replied to him, “Friend, who appointed me as your judge and arbitrator?” Then he said to the crowd, “Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one’s life does not consist of possessions.”

Then he told them a parable. “There was a rich man whose land produced a bountiful harvest. He asked himself, ‘What shall I do, for I do not have space to store my harvest?’ And he said, ‘This is what I shall do: I shall tear down my barns and build larger ones. There I shall store all my grain and other goods and I shall say to myself, “Now as for you, you have so many good things stored up for many years, rest, eat, drink, be merry!” But God said to him, “You fool, this night your life will be demanded of you; and the things you have prepared, to whom will they belong?” Thus will it be for all who store up treasure for themselves but are not rich in what matters to God.”

Monday Aug 5
WAMSE Tests ~ Yrs 5, 7 & 9
Tuesday Aug 6
WAMSE Tests ~ Yrs 5, 7 & 9
Electoral & Law Making Incursion ~ Yrs 4/5, 5/6 & 6
Wednesday Aug 7
WAMSE Tests ~ Yrs 5, 7 & 9
Feast of St Mary Mackillop
Yr 2 Class Mass
Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews [P] - 1.00-5.30pm
Thursday Aug 8
Early Close
Friday Aug 9
Yr 7 to Gingin Gravity Discovery Centre
Secondary Assembly ~ DeVialar
Communication
Effective communication between school and parents/guardians is an important part of life at St Joseph’s School. Please make contact with the school if you need to discuss any matters relating to your children at the school. Parents/guardians are encouraged to make an appointment out of school hours or in the teacher’s non-contact time to discuss any issues about their child. Due to confidentiality, teachers may only discuss the child of that parent, not the other names, behaviour or school work of the other children in the class. There is limited time and little privacy just before and just after school, so if privacy or confidentiality is required please make a meeting at another time. There is a specific format to be followed when dealing with parental inquiry or concern. Firstly make an interview time with the specific teacher concerned, secondly if you are dissatisfied with the outcome or need further clarification, please make an appointment with the Head of Primary or Head of Secondary.

The Principal is briefed on the day to day running of the school and becomes involved in extreme cases. Appointments can be made by using the diary or by making contact with the Administration Team at Primary or Secondary.

The Bishops’ Religious Literacy Assessment (BRLA)
Students in Years 3, 5 and 9 completed the Bishop’s Religious Literacy Assessment on Tuesday this week. Thank you to our Religious Education Coordinators Miss Dempsey and Mr Izzard and staff for ensuring students participated to the best of their ability.

Western Australian Monitoring Standards in Education
Years 5, 7 and 9 students will take the assessments in Science and Society and Environment next week on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Details are available on the WAMSE website: http://www.scsa.wa.edu.au/internet/Years_K10/wamse
Please direct any inquiries about administration to the Classroom Teacher.

Yours in Christ,
Kevin Sheehy
Principal

Our School
Further Training Opportunities For Staff
Recently, the Catholic Education Office offered some fully funded scholarships to Education Assistants to upskill their qualifications if they had been in the position for a number of years. Three Education Assistants at St Joseph’s School jumped at the chance to use 4 Skype sessions to prove their knowledge through Recognition of Prior Learning to Central TAFE. Lecturers in Perth, completing their Certificate IV in Education Support.

Over the holidays, Mrs Stephen, Mrs Palmer and Miss Hince received their Qualification and Certificate. Now they, along with Mrs James, have progressed to the next step and the chance to complete their Diploma of Education Support over the next three terms through Central TAFE. All four EA’s recently spent two days in Leederville and have another three learning clusters to complete with assignments. The staff enjoyed being back in the classroom as students again and would like to thank their Mentor Teachers and the Leadership Staff at St Joseph’s for their continued support with our upskilling opportunities.

Alison Hince
Education Assistant

Our Students
University Open Days
Interested in going to University one day? Not sure which one or which course suits you? On Sunday August 4, Curtin University at Bentley is running its annual Open Day. The Open Day runs between 10am and 4pm and as the annual event, all faculties and departments are involved with demonstrations, speakers, counsellors, guided tours and activities to engage prospective students and for attendees to ask questions and gain advice about course and career options.

Throughout the day, there are special events organised specifically for Year 10 students, which should enable clearer senior secondary subject choices. For further details, please check the website at: www.openday.curtin.edu.au

On Sunday, August 11, from 10am to 4pm, the University of Western Australia (UWA) is running its annual Open Day for prospective students. In addition to course information and career advice, the University is open to explore. There will be course displays, special activities, faculty tours, special presentations or you could even tour the UWA art gallery, watch the UWA sporting teams in action, or speak to members of various social and leisure associations about university life. There are opportunities designed for Year 10 students here as well, running at 10.15am and 11.15am, with a special presentation at 1.15pm, ‘Our Course: The UWA Difference’ to be held in the Octagon Theatre. To ensure you do not miss anything along the way, there is a section on the website that allows you to select your interests, which will then generate a personalised open day planner. As this is the Centenary of UWA, there are also a range of special fun events running throughout the day as well. For further information please go to; www.openday.uwa.edu.au

Science Experience
Year 9 students; do you ever feel that at the end of the year, you have not had enough science, or you would like to do some really cool experiments? See what is happening in science in the real world?

Well, here is your solution… The Science Experience. Sponsored by the Science Schools Foundation, ConocoPhillips, Rotary Clubs of Australia and the Australian Science Teachers Association, is the annual summer science experience targeting Year 9 students.

Kevin Sheehy
Principal
This summer school holiday program is designed to provide students with an interest in science, with an opportunity to engage with actual scientists, authentic research and university activities. Through the experience, students will participate in a range of events, including lectures, laboratory sessions, field work, tours of science research centres and institutes and listen to young, enthusiastic scientists and engineers about their work.

Venues and dates are: Curtin University 12, 13, 16, 17 December 2013, Edith Cowan University (Joondalup) 21-24 January 2014 or University of Western Australia (UWA) 14-16 January 2014. The cost to participate is $115 at UWA and $150 at Curtin University and Edith Cowan University (4 day programs). To find out more or to apply after speaking with your parents, please go to the website below and fill in the relevant details by the end of the term; www.scienceexperience.com.au

Previous participants from St Joseph’s School have found this to be a very exciting and rewarding opportunity, providing many ideas about your options and your future in science.

Mark Gargano
Curriculum Coordinator
Teaching and Learning
Years 5-10

Tree Planting Day
Due to the inclement weather last Friday, Tree Planting Day was postponed until this Friday [weather permitting]. However, some of our students were able [in between showers] to plant shrubs in our new natural landscape garden along Lance Street. The old front garden was redesigned by our gardener, Mr Damien Shack, and one of our parents, Mrs Karen Moore. A big thank you to both of them for all their hard work! During NAIDOC Week, at the end of last term, the Primary classes painted art work on several of the totem poles which have added interesting features to the walk. Well done to all those involved!

Jocelyn Spadaccini

AASC Program
During Term Two, forty students participated in the Active After School Care Program, sponsored by the Department of Sport & Recreation. The sessions offered were Karate and Hockey. All students thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to have some fun and learn new skills from qualified instructors. We would like to thank the wonderful team of Karate tutors for their fun delivery of lessons.

Here we are practising some of our newly learned moves!

Year 6 Camp Fun Day Request
One of our Year 6 students is hoping to have a ‘Pluck a Duck’ fishing stall at the Year 6 Camp Fun Day. Anyone who has any unwanted, plastic bath toy rubber ducks is asked to donate these to a good cause. Please drop any ducks you may be happy to give away into the Primary Admin Office. Thank you!

Canteen News
Parents and guardians are reminded of the Occupational Health & Safety regulations regarding volunteers in the School Canteens. Children are not permitted to be in the Canteen. If you are rostered on and have children who are unwell or unable to attend school, please make alternate arrangements for them to be minded or contact us early in the day to cancel your duty. Likewise, children should not to be brought to the Canteen to wait until school starts.

We appreciate all assistance provided by families but ask that you be aware of the strict regulations that we must operate under. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact either Sue or myself on our direct numbers listed on the back page. Thank you.

Carmel Moore
Canteen Manageress

Our Community

2013 Northam Agricultural Society Annual Show
The Northam Agricultural Society [affiliated with the Royal Agricultural Society of WA (Inc.)] will be hosting their annual 2013 show over Friday, September 13 and Saturday, September 14. Times: 5.00pm-9.00pm Friday, September 13 and 9.00am-5.00pm Saturday, September 14. Entries are invited for the Pavilion with Junior Sections entries closing at 4.00pm on Wednesday, September 4, 2013. Prizes: First $5.00, Second $2.00, Third $1.00, Entry Fee: $1.00. Please note that entries must clearly state Section and Class and children must exhibit in school age group only. All entries must be the child’s own work!

Bindoon Winter School
This year, the Catholic Agricultural College Bindoon is offering a “Winter School” for students in Years 7 to 11 in 2014 on Friday, 23 and Saturday, 24 August. Interested students would spend two days and one night experiencing what the College has to offer. The College has developed a range of innovative, exciting and relevant academic, vocational and sporting programs, designed to help students reach their potential and to instill in them a love of life and of learning. Faithful to the Gospel of Jesus and the tradition of Blessed Edmund Rice, Catholic Agricultural College Bindoon seeks to inspire each person in a healthy, country environment, for benefit of rural and wider communities.
Northam Amateur Basketball News
The Northam Amateur Basketball Association Inc. wish to advise they are holding their AGM on Wednesday, August 7, 2013 at 6.00pm at the Northam Recreation Centre. Positions will be vacant. New members are required. All welcome!

School Nurse News – Snack Shop Session
Parents from all Schools are invited to attend a Snack Shop Session, sponsored by the WA Health Department, WA Schools’ Canteen Association and the WA State Government. Come and share ideas, sample some great tasting healthy snacks and take home some new recipes. We will chat about:
- What is the Traffic Light System of rating food and drinks for school canteens?
- Sharing tips on how to provide healthy lunch box items.
- Healthy lunch box snack ideas that kids will love.
- Easy after school snacks that kids can make.

**COST:** Free
**VENUE:** Conference Room, Avonvale Primary School, Hutt Street, Northam
**DATE:** September 2, 2013
**TIME:** 1.30-3.00pm
**RSVP:** August 19, 2013

To register for the Snack Shop Session, please phone Amanda Ferguson on 9264 8972.

Northam Scout Group - Be Prepared to join the Adventure!
Scouting is starting up in Northam and will run on Thursdays after school, starting in Term 4.

Children and young adults aged from 6 to 25 can join at any stage of Scouting and participate in a program that encourages them to grow through adventure by experiencing new challenges, making new friends, building confidence, taking responsibility for themselves and being provided with opportunities to explore their own abilities and interests. Perhaps the most important thing, however, is that Scouts have fun!

Scouting transcends all cultural, religious, racial, political, age and gender barriers. Scouts Australia also welcomes membership enquiries from those with intellectual or physical disabilities. Age groups on offer are: Joey Scouts (6–8 yrs old) Cub Scouts (7.5–11 yrs old) Scouts (10.5 – 15 yrs old) Venturer Scouts (14.5-18 yrs old) Rover Scouts (18-25 yrs old) and Leaders. There are plenty of flexible ways adults can get involved with or contribute to their local Scout Group as well! Leaders are all volunteers and if any parents want to be involved they are welcome to apply.

To register your interest in Scouts, please contact Amanda Abbott, Group Leader, Northam Scout Group, on 0409 206 607 or email: gl.northamscouts@gmail.com