Yesterday you received a letter via email advising the school community of the announcement of an acting principal for the commencement of the 2017 school year. Mr. Peter Rafferty will be Acting Principal for Term 1. Peter has a connection with St Joseph’s through his support in founding the school board at the end of 2013 and early 2014. I have known Peter personally for a number of years and am confident that his temporary appointment will ensure stability in the school until a permanent principal is appointed. Please make Peter feel welcome next year.

I was hoping to announce the classes for 2017 in today’s newsletter but I have been asked by the CSO to delay the announcement till the end of the week. There is a glut of employment applications being processed at present. My apologies for the delay. The school leadership will be planning key dates for next year shortly and will be setting dates for Athletics Carnival, liturgies, disco, etc. Once in place we will be adding these to the calendar on the school website. I ask that you look at this when making family travel arrangements for next year.

Finally, I would like to extend my sincerest gratitude and thanks to our wonderful parent community for the fantastic P&F end of year function at the North Narrabeen Surf Club last Sunday. There was a great sense of community amongst our families there. Thank you to the P&F leadership, the Year 1 class organisers and to the parents who coordinated with the club. A sincere thanks for the beautiful gifts that were presented to me on behalf of the P&F and parents.

If you have any concerns, issues or questions you would like to discuss, I am always happy to make a time to meet with you. Contact the school office to organise a time.

Michael Gallagher

---

**Important Dates**

**TERM 4**

**December**

**Wednesday 14th Dec**
Whole School Christmas Carol Celebrations

**Friday 16th Dec**
End of year Liturgy
Last Day for Students

**2017**

**TERM 1**

**January**

**Tuesday 31st January**
Swimming Carnival
Years 2-6

---

**Principal’s Message**

Yesterday you received a letter via email advising the school community of the announcement of an acting principal for the commencement of the 2017 school year. Mr. Peter Rafferty will be Acting Principal for Term 1. Peter has a connection with St Joseph’s through his support in founding the school board at the end of 2013 and early 2014. I have known Peter personally for a number of years and am confident that his temporary appointment will ensure stability in the school until a permanent principal is appointed. Please make Peter feel welcome next year.

I was hoping to announce the classes for 2017 in today’s newsletter but I have been asked by the CSO to delay the announcement till the end of the week. There is a glut of employment applications being processed at present. My apologies for the delay. The school leadership will be planning key dates for next year shortly and will be setting dates for Athletics Carnival, liturgies, disco, etc. Once in place we will be adding these to the calendar on the school website. I ask that you look at this when making family travel arrangements for next year.

Finally, I would like to extend my sincerest gratitude and thanks to our wonderful parent community for the fantastic P&F end of year function at the North Narrabeen Surf Club last Sunday. There was a great sense of community amongst our families there. Thank you to the P&F leadership, the Year 1 class organisers and to the parents who coordinated with the club. A sincere thanks for the beautiful gifts that were presented to me on behalf of the P&F and parents.

If you have any concerns, issues or questions you would like to discuss, I am always happy to make a time to meet with you. Contact the school office to organise a time.

Michael Gallagher

---

**Link to ST JOSEPH’S SCHOOL CALENDAR TERM 4 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>8 Dec</td>
<td>Year 4 and Year 2 Class Mass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8 Dec</td>
<td>Year 5 Reconciliation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8 Dec</td>
<td>Swimming K-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9 Dec</td>
<td>School reports sent home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>14 Dec</td>
<td>Year 6 Graduation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14 Dec</td>
<td>School Christmas Carol Gathering (Hall)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15 Dec</td>
<td>Year 6 Reconciliation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16 Dec</td>
<td>Last day for students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16 Dec</td>
<td>End of year Liturgy - Midday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16 Dec</td>
<td>Year 6 Dinner (7pm)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27 Jan</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>30 Jan</td>
<td>Assessment Day (students Yr 1-6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>31 Jan</td>
<td>First Day students Yr 1-6 Swimming Carnival (Years 2-6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 Feb</td>
<td>Assessment Day (students Kindergarten)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 Feb</td>
<td>Assessment Day (students Kindergarten)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 Feb</td>
<td>First Day Kindergarten</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sunday’s Gospel Quote

“Go and tell John what you have heard and seen. The blind are now able to see, and the lame can walk. People with leprosy are being healed, and the deaf can hear. The dead are raised to life, and the poor are hearing the good news. God will bless everyone who doesn’t reject me because of what I do.”

3rd Sunday of Advent
Matthew 11:2-11

Religious Education News

Advent
We are now in the second week of Advent. We are reminded of the hope that Christ’s birth and coming into the world, brought too many with the lighting of the second purple candle.

The word “hope” has two meanings in the Bible, the first around anticipation and waiting and the second around the confidence of certainty and expectation.

Here are a few ideas of ways to celebrate the season of Advent within your family.

First Sunday of Advent

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Read a bible story about Mary.</td>
<td>Share your favourite toy or game with your brother or sister.</td>
<td>Donate your pocket money to an organisation that helps kids or St Vincent de Paul.</td>
<td>Say ‘thanks’ to a friend for what’s nice about them.</td>
<td>Forgive somebody who hasn’t been nice to you today.</td>
<td>Sing your favourite song about Jesus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light your first two candles on your advent wreath. Pray for peace in the world today.</td>
<td>Light your first two candles on your advent wreath. Pray for peace in the world today.</td>
<td>Light your first two candles on your advent wreath. Pray for peace in the world today.</td>
<td>Light your first two candles on your advent wreath. Pray for peace in the world today.</td>
<td>Light your first two candles on your advent wreath. Pray for peace in the world today.</td>
<td>Light your first two candles on your advent wreath. Pray for peace in the world today.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dates for the diary

Christmas Carol Celebration
This year the whole school will come together to share in the Christmas joy and festivities, through a musical celebration. On Wednesday 14th December, following lunch at 2pm the school band, choir and each class will perform a Christmas Carol or song for all. We would love if each child could please wear their sport shorts, along with a green, red or Christmas themed t-shirt.

We would love family, friends and parishioners to come along and join in this festive filled experience. Put the date in your diary and keep your eyes on the newsletter for more details.

St Vincent de Paul- Christmas Hamper Appeal
Christmas is one of the many times in the year when families experience hardship and turn to Vinnies for support. Please remember to bring in the highlighted item from your note to school by TOMORROW Thursday, 8th December (Week 9). Please put your item into your classes decorated hamper basket.

We thank you all and know these items will bring great joy to the families who receive them and look forward to seeing many full hamper baskets be presented at our final end of year Mass.
Religious Education News Cont’d

End of Year Mass
As the year draws to a close it is a great time to come together and celebrate our faith, while reflecting upon the years events and sadly farewelling Miss Cronin, Mrs Gualtieri, Mrs Wark and Mr Gallagher.

Please join us for our End of Year Mass;

**Date:** Friday 16th December 2016  
**Time:** 12:00pm  
**Where:** St Joseph’s Church

All members of the community are invited to be a part of this celebration and we hope that you extend the invitation to all extended family and friends. It looks to be a festive Mass with great music from members of the school band and reflections which we wish to share with you.

Stef Thom (REC)

Library News

**Outstanding books:** Thank you to all those who have returned their books. We now have about 100 books still outstanding, which has a value of over $1000. Notes have been given to those children who still have books out asking them to either return the books or pay for replacement. We have checked the shelves before issuing the note. Where possible I have included a picture of the book to help with searching. Thanks for your assistance with this.

Fran Jones  
Teacher/Librarian

Office News

**Reminders:**

- **Family Registration Form 2017**  
  There are several families who have not returned this form. A copy of the Family Registration form was sent to these families today. Could you please complete the forms, signed by both parents/carers and return immediately so that correct fees for the 2017 school year can be determined for your family. Thank you for your cooperation.  
  Link to [Family Registration Form 2017](#)

- **Students Leaving - School Leaver’s Form (Primary)** Link [School Leaver’s Form](#)  

- **Lost Property Box** is overflowing with uniforms, jumpers, lunch boxes, hats etc. Please make sure all items are labelled clearly so that they can be returned. Thank you.
Sport News

Congratulations to Oscar J Year 2 and William B Year 6 who last night attended the Diocese of Broken Bay Primary School Sports Council Awards. Both Oscar and William received an Outstanding Sports Achievement Award for 2016.
Well done!

Sam Carolan
Sports Teacher

School News

2017 MAI Assessments
Once again we are holding assessments before school commences in 2017.
Bookings will be held on Monday 30th of December for half an hour commencing from 8:30am till 3:30pm.
The booking system is now open for Years 1-6.
If your child misses out on a time, they will be assessed at school early in the term.

Year 1-6 Interview Times 2017:
Year 1-6 parents are required to login to school interviews and follow the following steps.
- Enter the Event Code: cn6x6
- Select Correct Class.
- Select day and time
Student Awards

Kindergarten
Ava H: for great writing about ‘Desiree the Guide Dog’.
Jacinta P: for her beautiful singing of the Christmas Carols.
Jaxon P: for great writing about ‘Desiree the Guide Dog’.

Year 1
Joshua D: for being an independent worker.
Kaden S: for his excellent writing skills.
Stella P: being an independent worker.
Ethan R: for settling well into Year 1.

Year 2
Kyden W: for reading with expression.
Harper T: for careful thinking when collecting data.

Year 3
Ruby E: for contributing more often to class discussions.
Jackson R: for being focused and on task when completing mass activities.
Abbi B: for excellent effort completing her work about complex sentences.

Year 4
Kayly S: for always working quietly in class.
Chloe S: for doing her best in all tasks.

Year 5
Charlotte T: for reflective responses in Religion.
Nathan V: for excellent effort when working with large numbers.

Year 6
Luke L: for being a great ambassador at the Year 6 Reflection Day.
Georgia N: for excellent word choices in writing.

Community News

Stella Maris College Manly - Applications for Year 7 2018 Academic and Performing Arts Scholarships opened 1st Dec and close 22nd February 2017

Link: Fr Rex’s Christmas Lunch Invitation - The Lakes Parish Hall 21 Lagoon Street, Narrabeen on Christmas Day 12-2pm.