On the first day of school we saw: laughter, tears, hugs, story telling, story telling getting louder and more competitive, piles of new books—some proudly decorated and covered, others still fresh and ready to be personalised. We saw new faces we saw some older faces, we saw parents eager for their children to return to school and others who wouldn’t have minded if holidays went for a bit longer. We saw relationship—relationship between friends, relationship between child and parent, relationship between student and teacher and relationship between teacher and parents and it is these relationships that will be fundamental for the success of our children.

NEW AND RETURNED FACES
We welcome Harry, Daisy, Keira and Iysha who are our reception class of 2015 and are doing a great job already. We also welcome Katja who has just started at St Joey’s in Year 3.

We also welcome two new teachers, Ms. Sharon Norgren, who will be teaching Year 3/4 and Miss Hayley Combe who will be teaching R/1/2 for the first three terms. Along with our new staff we also welcome back Mrs Jaimie Clark to St Joey’s after spending 2014 on maternity leave.

We pray that all of these people and everyone else who has returned achieve their goals for 2015.

THANKYOU
Russell Willsmore for mowing the ovals prior to the start of school.

Ted Coe for moving rocks and rubbish from the oval area to make it a safer place for the children to play.

RELIGIOUS IDENTITY NEWS
BEGINNING OF THE YEAR SCHOOL MASS AND MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT
Tuesday 3rd February
St Peter’s Church Gladstone.
Children to arrive at 5.50pm for a 6.00 pm start.
The children are to wear their school uniform on the night.

Mass followed by “Meet the Teacher” in each of their classrooms. Children will be encouraged to play on the school oval and playground areas where they will be supervised. A Sausage Sizzle will be provided.

All families are asked to bring drinks (eskies allowed). Water, tea and coffee will be available.

For catering purposes please return the order form included with this newsletter by Friday.
COMMUNITY NEWS

Needing a new uniform for 2015 season, your daughter or yourself may have changes and it’s too big or too small, please contact Liz Winter (uniform coordinator) (0419844150 OR Bern Schmidt (0439865330). We need to order new ones by 14th Feb.

SCHOOL ORGANISATION

To support the safety of children and school organisation the following issues need to be communicated:

Drop off/Collection: Please farewell and pick-up children on the playground side of the school as bus transportation on West Terrace has priority.

Sign in: All adults must sign in at the office and receive a “Visitors Badge” if remaining on site for longer periods during normal school hours. This is not just a school rule, but a directive from the Catholic Education Office, due to Child Protection Legislation.

School Fees: Statements for all families have been included with today’s newsletter. For those who have not paid the $60-00 per child book fee, it is to be paid before this Friday. Full payment of remaining fees is encouraged as soon as possible. School Card forms are available from the front office.

Outstanding 2014 fees must be paid immediately or contact the Principal regarding this matter within the next 7 days. Fee collection Timelines otherwise exist:
   - Term 1: Week 1 Fee statement is issued to all families
   - Term 2: Week 2 Outstanding accounts sent out.
   - Term 3: Week 2 Final account sent out for outstanding fees.

Tissues: Each child is required to bring a box of tissues for their classroom. Please present these to the front office for labelling.

Mobile Phones: The use of mobile phones/devices by students for personal usage is not permitted on school property. If your child is in need of a mobile phone/device for parental contact after they have left the school grounds or school instruction, the phone must be turned off and kept in their school bag or given to their class teacher and only used when permitted.

Labels: Please label all clothing and school items belonging to your child. The beginning of a school year means many new items all look the same to the children if they are not labelled.

Uniforms: Our school uniform gives the children a strong sense of identity and adds to their positive self-esteem as they take pride in their appearance. Please ensure you child is in correct school uniform at all times. As you would be aware we have changed some of the items for this year, the main one being the shirts. Unfortunately there has been a delay on getting our new shirts, we will let you know asap as to when these will be available.

Annual Forms 2015: The 2015 annual forms are included with today’s newsletter. The school is required to have these completed for each student. Please return these forms in the labelled plastic sleeves to the front office as soon as possible. If your child needs medicine during any school day, please bring it in a plastic bag with a signed note stating dosage requirements. Children with Asthma are required to have an Asthma Action Plan from their Doctor before we can administer their medication at school. If you have any questions please contact Pat in the front office.

Parents and Friends Meetings:

Our Parents and Friends Committee do an amazing job of so generously volunteering their time to raise funds and build community spirit. It is a great opportunity for you to be a part of your child’s school. If you can spare a few hours each term to attend meetings we would love to see you there.

Term 1:
- Wed. 18th Feb @ 7:00pm
- Wed. 18th March @ 7:00pm AGM

Joey’s for Juniors

We extend an invitation for all parents of non-school aged children to come to our playgroup/coffee mornings. You do not have to have children at St Joseph’s. These will be held every second Friday starting 6th Feb. from 9:30am — 11:00am.

Parents must stay with their child and please bring a healthy snack for your child to eat.

Joey’s for Juniors will be coordinated by Mrs Jo Harslett.

If anyone has any suitable toys/objects that would be suitable for our playgroup and you would like to donate them, please speak to Jo.

PIANO LESSONS

Heidi Crawford will be continuing piano lessons this Term. Lessons will take place on Tuesdays starting in week 2.

DRUM LESSONS

There is a possibility that we will be having private drum lessons taking place at school. More details to follow soon.

SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

Term 1:
- Wed. 18th Feb @ 7:00pm
- Wed. 18th March @ 7:00pm AGM