

# JOEY COMMUNITY LETTER

#05/14 – Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April

Dear Parents, Guardians, Teachers and Children,

This Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> April, we are celebrating Catholic Teachers Day and College Appreciation day. The program for the day is on the other page of this special Newsletter. All parents and guardians are warmly invited to come and share the day with us.

Catholic Teachers Day was started by the Catholic Bishops' Conference, to be celebrated each year on or near the feast of St. John Baptist de la Salle, the patron saint of teachers. It is one way of focusing on the special gifts that the Catholic teacher, and all teachers in Catholic schools, can bring to their vocation of teaching and learning.

Recently I have been re-reading a book called *The Courage to Teach*. The first chapter in the book is called: *The heart of the teacher*. Here is one paragraph from the author, Parker J Palmer:

*In our rush to reform education, we have forgotten a simple truth: reform will never be achieved by more money, re-structuring schools, rewriting curricula and revising texts if we continue to demean and dishearten the human resource called the teacher on whom so much depends. Teachers must be better compensated, freed from bureaucratic harassment, given a role in academic governance and provided with the best possible methods and materials. But none of that will transform education if we fail to cherish – and challenge – the human heart that is the source of good teaching.*

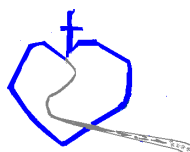
*We often ask: **What** will we teach? **how** will we teach it?. We sometimes ask **Why** are we teaching these topics? But we almost never ask: **Who is the teacher?***

*How does the quality of my selfhood – my heart – form, or deform, the way I relate to my students, my subject, my colleagues, my parents, my world?*

Teachers in a Catholic school are challenged, and given the skills, to explore their inner, spiritual journey: to develop good and strong hearts. As well as expertise in the mechanics of teaching, this is what can and should be the special gift of teachers in a Catholic school to the business of education.

Let us all appreciate each other, every day.

**Fr Paul Jennings**  
Executive Director



## Catholic Teachers Day & College Appreciation Day Program Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2014

<b>8:45am - 9:45</b>	<b>Mass</b>	<b>St Joseph's Parish Church</b>
<b>Peace Theatre</b>	Assembly Information and announcements Launching Centenary logo & song winners	<b>Item 1- 5CH Primary school</b> College Administration Mr Sallun & Committee
<b>10:30 -11:00</b>	<b>Recess</b>	<b>Designated Areas</b>
<b>11.00 - 12.00</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Classroom visits</li> <li>➤ Science Displays &amp; Experiments</li> <li>➤ Organised games               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• volley ball</li> <li>• basketball</li> <li>• handball</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ Exhibitions               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resource Center</li> <li>• Language Lab</li> <li>• IT Lab</li> <li>• Art room</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ Presentation- English &amp; Social Sciences</li> <li>➤ Slideshows &amp; Video shows               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Synchronised radio programs</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Parents, students and visitors move around the college to visit classrooms, labs etc...  Sports- Mr Agovai  Mrs So Mrs Barampataz IT Staff Art teachers  Heads of Departments or appointed staff
<b>12:00 - 12:30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	
		<b>Item 2- Grade 4 Primary school</b>
<b>12:30 - 1.00</b> <b>Peace Theatre</b>	Appreciation Certificate Distribution  Prayer	<b>Item 3- 2CM Primary school</b> College Board Chairman  <b>Item 4: Grade 12 CH- Closing Prayer song</b>
<b>1:00 pm</b>	<b>Home time</b>	

**Notes:**

Dress code for the day is Colour House T-Shirts

Grade 12s will sell food and drinks for their formal fundraising. Please support them.

