National Families Week
Each year, over a hundred thousand people and hundreds of organisations celebrate National Families Week – Australia’s annual celebration of families. The aim of National Families Week is to celebrate the vital role that families play in Australian society.

National Families Week is a time to celebrate with your family, make contact with your extended family and friends, and share in the enjoyment of family activities within the wider community. It is a time to celebrate the meaning of family and to make the most of family life. Let’s take the time to reflect on the critical role that families play in teaching, supporting and nurturing children especially as they grow.

National Families Week coincides with the United Nations International Day of Families on 15 May. This day is observed by the United Nations to mark the importance that the international community places on families as the most fundamental units of society, as well as to show concern about their situation in many parts of the world.

All Australians, including community organisations, schools, councils, companies and individuals are invited to participate in National Families Week each year. The 2016 theme is ‘Stronger Families, Stronger Communities’. This year’s theme highlights the important role families play as the central building block of our communities and the message that community wellbeing is enhanced by family wellbeing. Ref: http://nfw.org.au/about/
**Student Desks**

Our new larger student desks have finally arrived. Thank you to the Parents and Friends Association for supporting us with the purchase of the desks and the purchase of another ottoman for the library. Our old desks certainly had a lot of use. Purchasing one more ottoman for the library has completed our ‘flower’

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**MEETING WITH THE DIRECTOR OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION - Parents and community members invited**

As part of continued long term strategic planning for the delivery of Catholic education in Tasmania, a meeting for parents and interested community members will be held at St Joseph’s Catholic School, 1 Pontifex Street Queenstown on Monday 30th May from 5.00 - 6:30 pm. The Director of Catholic Education Tasmania, Mr John Mula, Deputy Director, Mr Sean Gill and Head of School Services North, Mr Peter Douglas will be in attendance to participate in this meeting. At the meeting the Director and members of the Leadership Team present would like to hear from the St Joseph’s Rosebery and St Joseph’s Queenstown communities about their collective hopes for Catholic education on the west coast.

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**Weekly Canteen Special**

- **Pumpkin Soup** $2.00
- **Wholemeal Bread Available**

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REMINDERS

Car Park
Moving cars and children creates the potential for tragedy. The school has no jurisdiction with regards to the council carpark in Orr Street, however, in interests of the safety of all children, could the following requests please be respected:
• Parents should leave the lane closer to Orr Street free for drop-offs.
• Parents should drive to the area closest to the hospital if they arrive early to ensure space in available for vehicles arriving later.
• Children should not be dropped-off on the Church side of Pontifex Street this is a no standing zone.
• Please show courtesy and consideration and patience when using the car park - please ensure residence whose driveways are located in this area do not have their driveways blocked and when leaving the car park, reversing should be avoided where possible please.

Walk to School Day
A reminder that walk to school day will be held this Thursday 19th May. We will meet in the train station car park at 8:20 and will depart at 8:30 to walk to school. Please come along with your child/ren.

Student Free Day
A reminder that this Friday will be a student free day. Teachers will be attending a Tasmanian Catholic Education Conference.

Adidas School Fun Run
Fun Run booklets are due back to the school office by this Thursday 19th May.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS NEWS

Telephone Book Delivery
The Parents and Friends are requesting assistance in our annual delivery of telephone books to the Queenstown community. This arrangement nets the P&F approximately $700, which assists us greatly in supporting different programs at our school. We are calling on individuals to contact the school office to express an interest and willingness to be able to assist in the delivery of telephone books. Please leave your name at the school office if you are able to assist. All deliveries need to be made by Friday 27th May.

Mother’s Day Luncheon
On Friday 6th May Parents and Friends held a very people successful Mother’s Day Luncheon raising $595.00. We would like to sincerely thank those that donated food and those that came along to help out on the day, this was very much appreciated. We would also like to thank everyone that came along to support us and hope that all mums had a great Mother’s Day.
If you are still missing a container please collect these from the assembly hall.

Cookie Dough Fundraiser
This term we will be running a Billy G’s Cookie Dough fundraiser, order forms have been sent home with the students. Please see the office if you would like extra forms. Order forms will need to be in no later than Friday, 10th June so the cookie dough can be delivered by the end of term. Orders can also be placed online for credit/debit card payments.
Help your child develop a love of learning
by becoming a HIPPY family!

The Home Interaction Program for Parents and Youngsters (HIPPY) is a two-year, home-based early learning and parenting program that empowers parents and carers to be their child’s first teacher.

Parents and carers deliver a specifically designed and structured kit of learning activities consistent with AEDC domains and the Australian Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF).

This program supports your child’s education.

HIPPY builds the confidence and skills of parents and carers to create a positive learning environment to prepare their child for school. Some parents and carers are employed as Home Tutors which provides a supported pathway to employment. HIPPY also fosters local community leadership.

HIPPY is voluntary and is free for participating families.

Families living in QUEENSTOWN, STRAHAN, ZEEHAN, ROSEBERY & TULLAH area with a child in the year before formal schooling (around 4-5 years old) are eligible to start HIPPY.

Please call HIPPY Coordinator,

Mardi Adair, 0427 825 111 or email on hippywest@ruralhealthtas.com.au to find out more.

Would you like a FREE & FUN program that helps your child to be school-ready?

Is your child aged between 3.5—4.5 years of age?

HIPPY West Coast is funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services through the Home Interaction Program for Parents and Youngsters.