Dear Parent/Guardian,

Your child has expressed an interest in being part of a St Joseph’s School Band for this year. There are two school bands at St Joseph’s, which are chosen depending upon the instruments that the students play. They are The Pops Orchestra, (combining strings, brass, woodwind and percussion) and The St Joseph Rock/Lit Band (electric/acoustic guitars, bass, drum kit and keyboard). As of this year lead vocalists must be able to play an instrument in the band as well as sing.

St Joseph’s School Band is a select group, open only to students between grades 5 & 6 who have been playing their chosen instrument for one semester or more and have shown they can play to a set standard. Once a student has joined The Bands, they have committed themselves to the group for year*. There is a very minimal cost involved with the instrumental ensemble program and information on this can be found on the school website.

*In years ending with an odd number the program changes as it is a musical year. For two terms, usually Term 2 and 3, both bands combine to form a musical band. If your child is trying out for a part onstage or wants to dance with their class then there will be no band practices for them during term 2 & 3 and their band fee will be adjusted.

In term 1 and 4 The St Joseph Band rehearsals will be as follows- the two bands will rotate between two rehearsal times from week to week. The rehearsal times are 1-2pm and 2-3pm on Fridays. This means that, for example, the Pop Orchestra will rehearse from the start of lunch (1pm) till 2pm the first week, then from 2pm till 3pm the next. The practises begin in Week 3, Term 1.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Lindsay (learn_from_thebest@yahoo.com.au) for more information. I look forward to a great year of music with The Bands this year.

Lindsay Macdonald-Clow

Please fill in the appropriate areas and return to the school office a.s.a.p.

________________________________

I give permission for ______________________ (child’s name) to join a St Joseph’s School Band.

Their instrument* is________________________ Class________________________

*If there is a lot of one particular instrument an audition will be required.

(Signed) ________________________________

Email address-______________________________________________________

As all communication regarding the instrumental program is going electronic please supply your email address.