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Dear Parents/Guardians:

As we approach the season of Christmas, it is a nice time to pause and reflect on what has been and what is to come. Christmas is the season of Advent where the first two Sundays in Advent look forward to Christ's second coming, and the last two Sundays look backward to remember Christ's first coming. Over the course of the four weeks, Scripture readings move from passages about Christ's return in judgment, to Old Testament passages about the expectation of the coming Messiah, to New Testament passages about the announcements of Christ's arrival by John the Baptist and the Angels.

Following the Advent theme, we would like to take some time to both reflect on our school year to date and what is yet to come. The first four months have brought many successes. We continue to focus on our school priority of creating a welcoming, safe and caring environment for our students. Our staff have begun to engage parents and students about the school year and as a result of this consultation, two recommendations have been made that will be implemented in Semester 2.

Add Teacher Advisor Group back (TAG)	Both staff and students are recognizing they miss this contact on Monday mornings. Students told us they don't know their TAG teacher and appreciated in the past their TAG teacher sharing the week at a glance and the opportunity to build community.
Move Tuesday Scheduled Help between blocks 1 and 2	Students shared that scheduled help is between blocks 1 and 2 the rest of the week, why isn't Tuesdays? To increase consistency within the timetable and ensure students are accessing this help block, scheduled help will be between blocks 1 and 2 starting semester 2.

St. Joseph High School is still a relatively new school community. Stakeholder input is important in setting our direction. We appreciate parent and student input to help us grow and be the best we can be. As a school, we are hearing that students feel safe and are enjoying their educational experience. As we look into the New Year, we anticipate regular meetings with our student council to assist us in continuing to set the direction of our school. Additionally, we look forward to gaining valuable feedback from our student council on these two changes in semester 2.

On behalf of the staff of St. Joseph High School, we wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and blessings for the New Year!

God Bless,

Graeme Daniel/Teresa Borchers/Ian Stang
School Administration Team