



## Newsletter No. 4

23 February 2022

The vision of St Lawrence Catholic Primary School, Balcatta is to share the message of God's love and friendship in a community of learners, developing the full potential of each child.



When I look at a photograph of Mother Teresa, I can't help but be drawn to her hands. They reflect a lifetime of work, of service, of dedication to others. They say to me... I must help others, I must help in word, thought and action, do whatever I can to help others. They are hands that have done a solid hard day's work. Every line on them reflects her love for those she could help. What a wonderful rich story they tell. So many recounts exist of her undying love for those she could help. Her wish to be God's hands here on earth. Mother Teresa stated that earthly rewards were important only if they helped her help the world's needy.

When Mother Teresa received the Nobel Peace Prize, she was asked, "What can we do to promote world peace?"

She answered, "*Go home and love your family.*"

In her Nobel Lecture, she said:

*"Around the world, not only in the poor countries, I found the poverty of the West so much more difficult to remove. When I pick up a person from the street, hungry, I give him a plate of rice, a piece of bread, I have satisfied. I have removed that hunger. But a person that is shut out, that feels unwanted, unloved, terrified, the person that has been thrown out from society—that poverty is so hurtful and so much, I find that very difficult."*

We celebrate our great sporting heroes, our movie stars, singers, TV actors and celebrity chefs. Perhaps if we stop and reflect on the lives of simple people like Mother Teresa, we could see the world from a different paradigm and then as she did be moved to be more. So much more.

*"Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless."*

*"Let us touch the dying, the poor, the lonely and the unwanted according to the graces we have received and let us not be ashamed or slow to do the humble work."*

## Inspiring Christ-Centre Leaders

### **COVID UPDATE**

As you are aware, under current WA Government requirements, students in primary schools are not required to wear masks while at school in areas where mask mandates currently apply. The Minister for Education, however, has stated that as case numbers increase there will be a requirement for students from Year 3 onwards to wear masks at school.

The change in the definition of close contacts in school settings has reinforced the importance of mask-wearing. Primary students are being significantly impacted by positive COVID-19 cases as entire classes are being identified as close contacts, under the following definitions:

- Face-to-face contact for 15 minutes or longer with an infectious person where a mask was not worn.
- Interaction for more than two hours in a classroom environment where masks have not been worn or have been removed.

Close contacts are required to isolate for seven days and this has huge implications for the entire family.

I would encourage parents of children in Years 3 and above to discuss with them the possible wearing of masks at school and the potential for this to become compulsory in the days ahead. We are aware that some of our children are already choosing to wear a mask at school.

As part of an education program to support your child in transitioning to a possible mask mandate, we will be implementing ‘try a mask’ sessions to allow students in Years 3 and above to become familiar with the correct wearing of masks.

If you are purchasing masks for your child, especially for younger children, please ensure that they are child sized and fit appropriately.

## Catholic Schools of Excellence

As you can see from the photograph, our vegetable gardens are starting to come alive with fresh produce. These were installed over the holidays and each class will have an opportunity to plant, tend and hopefully harvest from their vegetable gardens.



## Catholic Pastoral Communities

Setting aside some chores for children teaches them valuable lessons in responsibility and shares the family workload. Sharing the work teaches valuable life lessons and important skills as well as showing children how to live co-operatively in a community.

Most children can begin most of these chores at a very young age and learn to take pride in a job well done. Show them how you want the job done, thank them for doing the job well and don't tie doing jobs to pocket money. Members of a family don't get paid for sharing the normal workload that keeps the household running smoothly.

- make their bed and change the sheets
- put away their clothes
- put their dirty clothes in the laundry
- set the table
- clear the table
- load and unload the dishwasher
- feed pets
- walk the dog
- tidy up toys and books
- dust with socks on their hands (when they're finished the dusting, they can take off the dirty socks and put them in the laundry)
- tidy using hand vacuum – and the large one when they are able to
- mop floor
- sweep floor
- peel vegetables
- make toast
- make cereal
- sort laundry
- fold laundry
- clean bathroom basin
- clean bath, toilet and shower
- hang up towels
- sweep up leaves
- pull up weeds
- put out the rubbish
- put away groceries
- bring in mail and newspapers
- clean windows and glass doors as their height allows
- collect up and plug in phones and tablets for charging
- water pot plants
- clean the car

## **Accessible, Affordable and Sustainable**

For the health and wellbeing of our students, please ensure we are immediately informed of any changes in medical conditions and emergency contact details. Please promptly inform the office of any changes in health and contact details. Updated action plans for anaphylaxis, asthma and allergies are required to be completed by your family doctor each year. Please include a photo of your child on the action plans.

### **ALLERGIES**

Please note that due to children with severe anaphylaxis, St Lawrence Primary School is an Allergy Aware School. Therefore, we ask that items containing nuts are not brought to school.

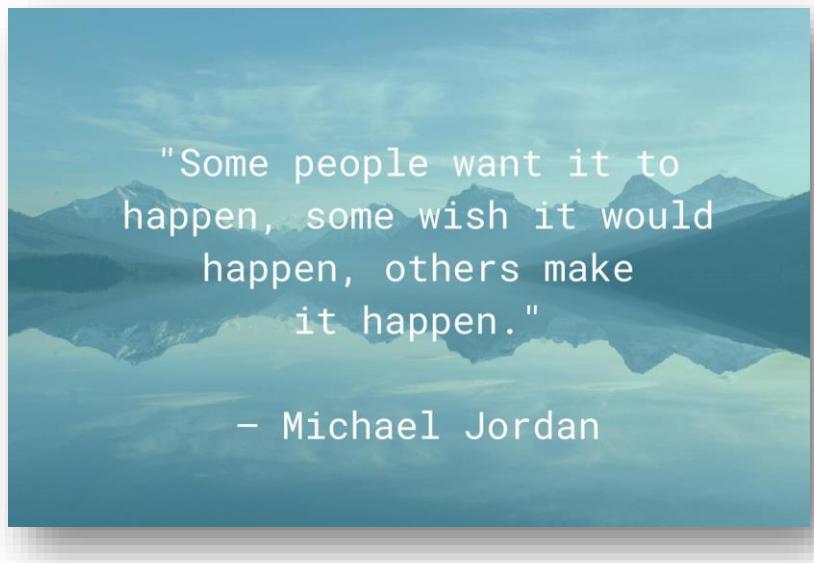
*I've missed more than 9000 shots in my career. I've lost almost 300 games. 26 times I've been trusted to take the game winning shot and missed. I've failed over and over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed.*

*—Michael Jordan*

God bless each and every one of you.



**Sheldon Carey**  
*M Ed, B Ed, Grad Dip*  
Principal



## **VISOR SIGNS**

Current circumstances preventing parents from entering the school grounds has increased the number of vehicles entering our drive throughs at the Carpark and Church. We have made signs with the surname of each family that will need to be displayed in your car when picking up children. Staff on duty will be able to call out the family name and hopefully this will assist in keeping school traffic flowing each afternoon. Two visor signs with each family's surname will be sent home with the eldest child in each family. The spare sign is for other family members who may need to pick up your child. Please attach the sign to your left hand side visor so it is clearly visible to the staff on duty, blu-tack could be used to attach the sign to your visor. Thank you for your continued support.

# **FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS**

## **TEACHER PARENT INTERVIEWS**

During weeks 7 and 8 classroom teachers will be calling parents to discuss their child's progress over the term. These interviews form an important part of our Reporting policy and are essential component in developing open communication between home and school. Each year level teacher will be allocated a day to complete their phone interviews. These interviews are compulsory. Interviews will be of 10 minutes duration. For these interviews we will be using Parent Teacher On-Line (PTO). An email will be sent out in week 6 with more information.

<b>Class Teachers</b>	<b>Day</b>
<b>Kindy- Mrs Wake</b>	Tuesday 15th March
<b>Pre-Primary</b>	Friday 25th March
<b>Year 1</b>	Tuesday 22nd March
<b>Year 2</b>	Wednesday 23rd March
<b>Year 3</b>	TBC
<b>Year 4</b>	Friday 25th March
<b>Year 5</b>	Wednesday 16th March
<b>Year 6</b>	Friday 18th March

## **FACETIME AND MESSENGER**

It was brought to our attention that parents and students were using messenger and FaceTime during school hours which was causing major distractions in our classrooms.

As the iPads were primely purchased for educational reasons the school has decided to restrict access to messenger and FaceTime during school hours. We were unaware that the restrictions would continue after school. IT Dynamics are attempting to rectify the issue and hopefully these apps will be restored soon for usage only after school.

## **MERIT CERTIFICATE ASSEMBLY**

On Friday 25th February the student leaders will present Merit Certificates to selected students from Pre Primary to Year 6 who have strived for personal excellence in the classroom and the playground. Photos of the award winners will be posted on Seesaw.

## **SHROVE TUESDAY**

Due to current COVID restrictions, the traditional ritual of Mr Carey cooking pancakes on the BBQ will need to be cancelled this year.

## **CANTEEN PRE-ORDER RECESS AND LUNCH**

In a previous correspondence emailed to parents it was explained how on advice from the Catholic Education Office, schools needed to limit the amount of contact time between different year levels. In order to limit contact between children at the canteen, we strongly encourage parents to send their child's recess, lunch orders and money in a zip lock bag, envelope or lunch order bag with your child's name, year, and food/drink choices. Both recess and lunch will be delivered to your child's classroom. Please refer to the current canteen menu on our school website located in the Our Community Tab on the St Lawrence home page. Items vary daily so some items may need to be substituted for a similar item should the need arise. If you have any further questions, please email Christina Russo at [christina.russo@cewa.edu.au](mailto:christina.russo@cewa.edu.au)



Ash Wednesday, 2nd March signifies the beginning of Lent.

This year the students will not be attending the Parish Mass to receive the ashes. The Leadership Team will distribute the Ashes to the school community. Each class will undertake a class liturgy to signify the beginning of Lent.

Lent is the six weeks period leading up to Easter. It's one of the most important times of the year for Catholics around the world. During Lent we prepare for Holy Week by fasting, praying and reconciling with God. Lent invites us to make our minds and hearts ready for remembering Jesus' life, death and body resurrection. These forty days are a wonderful time to use our daily reflections and acts of generosity as a way to put others first during preparations for Easter.



Pupil Free Day  
Labour Day Public Holiday  
Wellness Week

Friday 4th March  
Monday 7th March  
Week 6

*Miss Kathleen Tranquille & Mrs Gabrielle Brennan, Assistant Principals*

# CLASS NEWS

## PRE KINDY

Welcome to our fourth session of the term tomorrow - the children are so good with the class routine at this early part of the year. We focus on classroom rules like playing at the tables and caring for our wonderful toys, cleaning up when our *Clean Up Song* comes on, and then sitting on the mat nicely in our places to listen to our teachers. Another important part of our day is playing with our friends as well as getting to know each other.

Mrs Seragusana and I are working with the children and completing three set activities during the day – a painting activity during our morning session and usually a craft activity during our mid-morning session. After lunch, during our afternoon session, we focus on a fine motor activity with all children.

I hope you are enjoying using our Seesaw app – we try to post as many photos as we can so you can see what is happening during our day AND as you have already seen, the app is also used for announcements and messages for the class as well as school announcements.

*Mrs Kaylene Bozich, Pre Kindy Teacher*

## KINDERGARTEN

Our focus this week has been 'Our Bones' so there will be lots of discussions about what bones make our bodies and what they are for. We Read a big book called Dem Bones and Mrs Carey popped by on Tuesday morning to read it with us again! We loved listening to Mr Carey sing the song in the story. We are continuing to learn our prewriting pattern "Sideways, sideways left to right". This will help us to be able to experiment with forming letters later on in the year.

Parents should now have access to our Seesaw account. We hope you are enjoying seeing your child's learning inside and outside the classroom.

Next week we will begin our focus on Easter and the true meaning of the events of Easter. We will talk about Good Friday and Easter Sunday through story telling. In numeracy we are learning how to sort objects according to colour, size and type.

A reminder that each Wednesday the children's library books and bag need to be brought back to school. The library trolley will be placed on the veranda each Wednesday morning and we will ask the children to place their books and bags in the trolley before they enter the classroom. Please ensure library bags are not in the children's bags until Wednesday as it is an extra item they then need to carry each morning and afternoon. Unfortunately, if the books and bags haven't been handed in, the children will be unable to receive a new book until they are. Have a great week everyone!

*Mrs Rachel Wake,  
Kindergarten  
Teacher*



## **PRE PRIMARY**

The children have had a very busy week in Pre Primary. In literacy we have been consolidating our letter sound knowledge, we have revised SATPIN, MRCHED and are beginning to blend 3 letter words. The children have enjoyed literacy rotations, especially when using the iPads to take selfies with the letters in our learning environment.

In numeracy we have begun subitising, using our “superhero eyes” to know how many is presented in a collection without having to individually count the collection. The children are excellent counters and have been focusing on their 1:1 correspondence.

We have been listening to the children’s voices and providing them with opportunities to have their say in their learning environment. One of the ways we have been developing and respecting their sense of agency is having a class discussion about their ideas for the outdoor play space. The children came up with so many fantastic ideas of the spaces we could set up and it has been a delight to see all children engaged in the outdoor learning environment in so many different ways.

*Ms Erin Healy, Pre Primary Teacher*

## **YEAR ONE**

There is so much learning happening in Year One!

We are discovering what a noun, adjective and verb is and how these words can make our sentences more interesting. In Numeracy, we are investigating place value and having fun with pop sticks to demonstrate two digit numbers. The children are grasping the concept of bundling and counting in tens. Our Religion has led us into discussions about how the Bible is a very important book that helps us to learn to live our lives like Jesus did. The children have also been learning about managed, natural and constructed environments in our HASS lessons. It has been so great to see the keen interest the children have in exploring features in our environment.

Just a reminder to please start sending in two litre plastic bottles cut off at the neck for our exciting incursion in week 6 - thank you!



*Mrs Tania Preston, Year One Teacher*

## YEAR TWO

Working with nature and embracing the environment in the classroom is an ongoing focus in the Early Years.

Nature offers so many ways to support a child's cognitive, physical and emotional development. During art, the children have used eco-friendly materials such as sticks, twigs, leaves and flowers to produce some amazing name plates.

The children collected the materials from around the school, then sorted it into various textures, shapes and colours.

It was such a pleasure to witness the children being such natural explorers and artist.



Love the earth

*Mrs Paula Christensen, Year Two Class Teacher*

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Another very busy week in sport, thank goodness it has been a little cooler.

Pre Primary to Year 6 students enjoyed a squash incursion, where we tried out new skills.

Maybe some students will take up this sport in the community. It's great to give new things a try.



## PHYSICAL EDUCATION



Large rope skipping

# UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

## UNIFORM ORDERS

Uniform orders can be ordered via phone or email directly to [angie.miola@cewa.edu.au](mailto:angie.miola@cewa.edu.au). Orders will be processed on Uniform Shop opening times which are Wednesday 8.30am to 9.30am and Thursday 2.30pm to 3.30pm. Orders will be packed and ready for collection from the front gate at an arranged time. Payment can be made by EFTPOS ONLY.

## SECOND HAND UNIFORMS

A big thank you to the parents who have kindly donated second hand uniforms. Due to current restrictions, we are unable to accept any further second hand uniforms.

## BOYS RED MICROFIBRE SHORTS

The new red microfibre sport shorts are to be worn for students in Pre-Primary to Year 6. The old style red rugby shorts were discontinued in 2021 and should not be worn.

Parents, if you have any enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact me on the above email.

***Uniform Shop Opening Hours***  
***Wednesday 8.30am to 9.30am and Thursday 2.30pm to 3.30pm***

*Mrs Angie Miola, Uniform Shop Manager*

## WINTER NETBALL NEWS

The 2022 Winter Netball season is fast approaching. The season will commence from 30th April and conclude on the 27th August.

Please note that team eligibility has changed. Eligibility for teams are as follows:

**NSG Set** - Year 2 & 3

**NSG Go** - Year 4 & 5

**Junior:**

11U - born in 2011

12U - born in 2010

Fees for NSG is \$230. Fees for Junior is \$260. Fees are also subject to a PlayHQ surcharge of 2.03%.

Teams will train one day a week (day/time/location TBC)

Games will be held on a Friday afternoon/evening or Saturday morning.

Friday Timeslots:

NSG SET (Y2 & Y3) – 4.30pm

NSG GO (Y4 & Y5) - 5.30pm

JUNIOR 11U – 6.30pm (TBC)

Saturday Timeslots:

JUNIOR 12U – 8.30am

Register your interest or a team to play by Friday 4th March to [stlawnetball@gmail.com](mailto:stlawnetball@gmail.com)

Please include your child's full name, year level, DOB, contact phone number as well as if you are able to volunteer to manage or coach a team. Please note that parent involvement is **essential** and that without nominations for both a coach and manager, we cannot allocate teams.

If you require any additional information, please contact a member of the committee.

*Cheryl & Nicole - St Lawrence Netball Club*

# CANTEEN NEWS

## Ash Wednesday Special:

Fish Fingers (with veggie sticks) \$4

Add tomato sauce 50c

Fish Burger (lettuce and mayo) \$5

Please note no meat will be served on this day.

Other options - Mac n Cheese \$4

Toasties - Cheese, vegemite & cheese or cheese and tomato \$3.50.

Tuna cheese and Mayo \$4.50

Tuna & Salad Roll or Wrap \$4.50

**Please pre-order:** Ash Wednesday Special by this Friday 25th February

**Ash Wednesday  
2nd March**

**Fish Burger  
(lettuce & mayo)  
\$5**



**Fish Fingers (x5)  
Served with  
veggie sticks \$4  
Tomato  
sauce 50c**



**Preorder now  
By 25th Feb**

PIC•COLLAGE

# COMMUNITY NEWS



ARANMORE CATHOLIC COLLEGE

2023

# SCHOLARSHIPS

ACADEMIC MUSIC NETBALL RUGBY

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