



Newsletter No. 8

23 March 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.

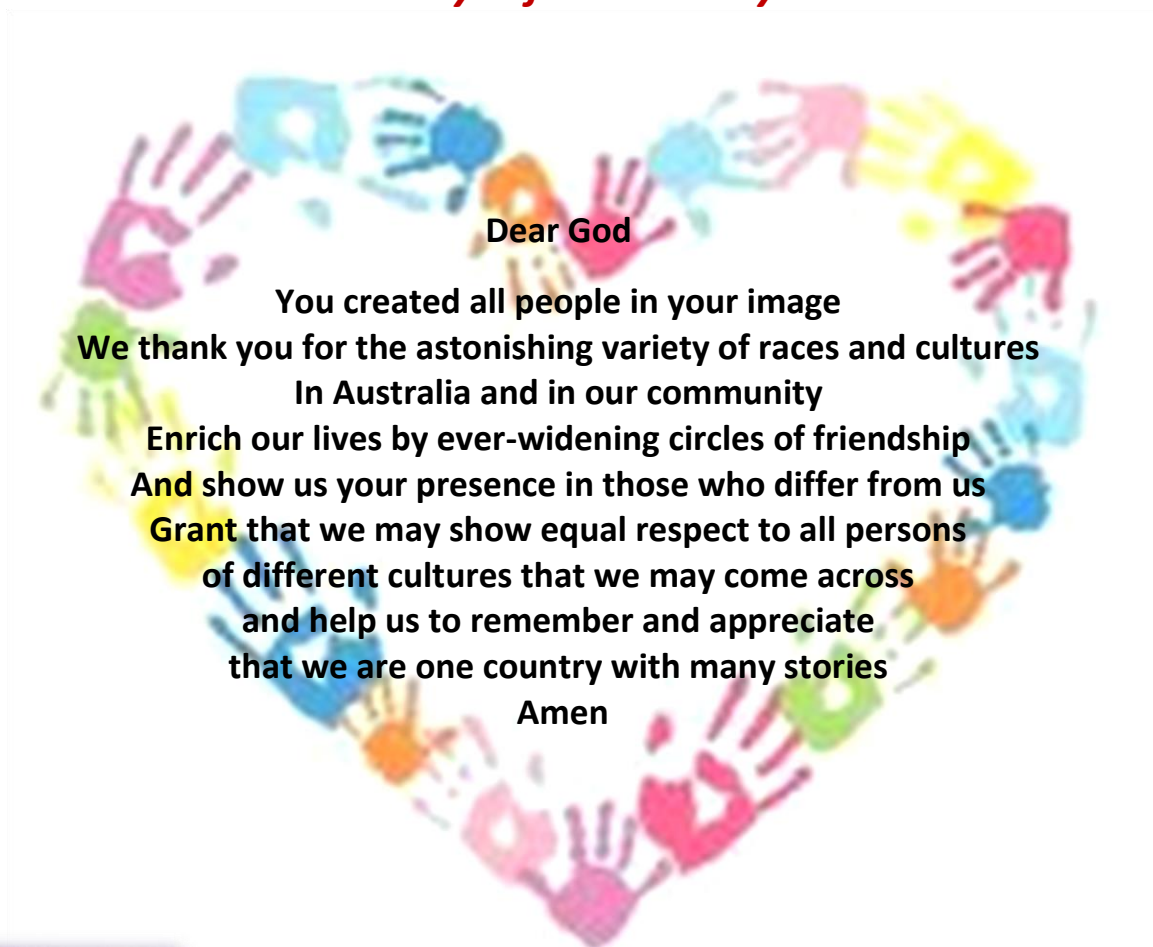


Harmony Week is a celebration of our cultural diversity, a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home. At St Lawrence, we have a diverse group of students and staff from many different cultural backgrounds. Acknowledgement of culture and history is imperative as we live as one community. We celebrate diversity and embrace different cultures, customs and traditions.

On Monday the children and staff were encouraged to wear orange, or a cultural costume from their family's country of origin. All students decorated a heart template to represent themselves and their cultural background. The hearts are now on display around the world map located in the Learning Centre. A big thankyou to Mrs Preston for all her hard work organising the events on this day.



A Prayer for Harmony



Dear God

**You created all people in your image
We thank you for the astonishing variety of races and cultures
In Australia and in our community
Enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of friendship
And show us your presence in those who differ from us
Grant that we may show equal respect to all persons
of different cultures that we may come across
and help us to remember and appreciate
that we are one country with many stories
Amen**

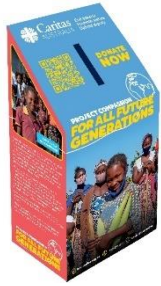


We are now in the **SEASON OF LENT**. A time of preparation for the gift of new life that we receive at Easter. During this time, we are called to reflect upon our need for God and to address those things in our lives that distract us from the wholeness that only God can bring.

Lent

Merciful God,
you called us forth
from the dust of the earth;
You claimed us for Christ in the waters of baptism.
Look upon us as we enter these forty days
bearing the mark of ashes,
and bless our journey through the desert of lent
to the font of rebirth. May our fasting be hunger for justice;
Our alms, a making of peace;
Our prayer, the chant of humble and grateful hearts.
All we do and pray is in the name of Jesus,
For in his cross you proclaim your love.
For ever and ever.
Amen

PROJECT COMPASSION



This Year's theme for Project Compassion is *For Future Generations*. All classes have been provided with a Project Compassion box and we thank parents and our students for their generous donations to this worthy cause during Lent.

COVID-19 UPDATE

ATTENDANCE

Thank you to all our parents who have used the online link on our school website to record positive and negative test results this week. A reminder that parents will need to continue to follow the usual processes if their child is absent from school.

- Parents will need to send an absentee note to their child's teacher and CC admin@stlawbal.wa.edu.au if their child has tested positive for COVID, has been deemed a close contact or is unwell.
- Parents will need to include in the email the reason their child was absent or going to be absent and the period of time.

UPDATED INFORMATION FOR CLOSE CONTACTS

A reminder that the isolation rules for close contacts has changed. If a child or adult is deemed a close contact of a household member who has tested positive for COVID they begin their isolation period in line with the first household member who tests positive.

If a subsequent member of the same household tests positive during their isolation period they **do not** need to start their quarantine period again.

Before a child can return to school, they would need to have a PCR on day 6 of isolation or a RAT on day 7 and the results of the test would need to be emailed to admin admin@stlawbal.wa.edu.au and the child's teacher prior to the child returning to school on day 8 (if they tested negative and are asymptomatic).

Under the very high caseload settings, students at St Lawrence who are asymptomatic close contacts (**but not a household close contact**) will be able to continue attending:

- school and day care
- day care and before and after-school care (held on school grounds or at another place)
- other **school-based** sporting, cultural training, practice or events that are arranged by the school, occur directly before or after school, and are held on school grounds

These students must continue to quarantine at all other times that they are not attending the above until the 7 days has passed.

Thank you to all families for your continued effort in keeping up to date with the latest communication regarding COVID processes, cases and information. We understand that this information is abundant and can be overwhelming at times. We thank all parents for reading the updates and following the correct processes and procedures that have been introduced as a response to COVID-19, to keep our children and community members safe

Undoubtedly, the last few weeks at school have been very unusual with many of our children unable to attend school in a face-to-face capacity due to testing positive to Covid or, being a close contact of someone who is Covid positive. The heartening news from this situation is that community members are reporting a quick recovery from Covid. For that, we must be thankful. With just under three weeks left of term, it is vital that we all continue to play our part to ensure that we are minimising the effect of Covid.

We encourage all parents to use the online form for self-reporting positive and negative tests. Please see below an excerpt from last week's newsletter.

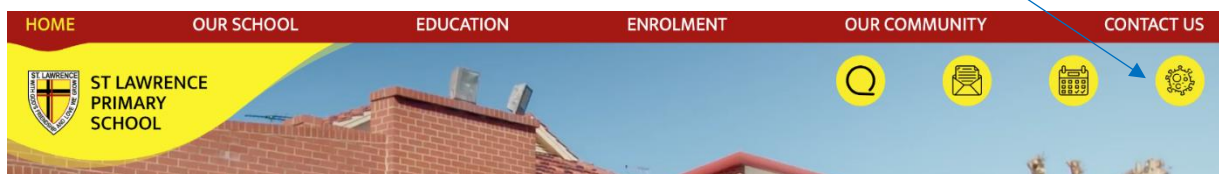
New online form for Self-Reporting RAT and PCR results for Students and Staff

Catholic Education WA have recognised the extra burden being placed on schools and to assist in streamlining these processes have developed a self-reporting form for parents and staff members to record positive and negative test results and submit them to the school (RAT and PCR Tests). The information entered on the form will remain confidential.

Parents of children in Primary Schools need to complete and submit the form on behalf of their child.

Parents, caregivers at St Lawrence can now inform the school of their child's positive or negative COVID result/s by using the link on our school website located on the home page.

- a) Please see arrow pointed to the COVID-19 UPDATE icon as seen below.



- b) Once you have opened the COVID-19 UPDATE icon, please use the **CLICK HERE** link as seen below.

COVID-19 UPDATE

Please check regularly to ensure the information you have is up to date. Updates will be provided as new information becomes available.

All information on this page has also been emailed out to parents before being placed on this page.

COVID-19 Self Reporting Form for Students and Staff - [CLICK HERE](#)

Thank you once again to parents for following the correct procedures for reporting positive COVID-19 cases and close contact information to the school.

Mrs Gabrielle Brennan & Miss Kathleen Tranquille
Acting Principals



School fees have been emailed out to all families. Please check your emails including your junk folders. A Payment Option Form is attached to the school fees. Please fill in this form, nominating your instalment option and payment method then email it to admin@stlawbal.wa.edu.au or hand it in at the gate for the school office. Please contact Lina Armstrong for any queries 9344 4944. Thank you.

SENSATIONAL SCIENCE

Our St Lawrence Scientists are inquisitive learners when it comes to Biological Science and all things Living, Non-Living and Once Living. How quickly this term has flown by!

Where possible, we have made use of some of our school's outdoor spaces, including PP exploring how they use their Senses in the Orchard, whilst Year 3 had to "Escape the Orchard".

Watch this space as Year 1 continue their quest as Palaeontologists, digging for Dinosaur fossils to better understand these giant animals that once walked the Earth.

Students in Year 4 and 6 have worked as superstar team members investigating Plant Growth. Year 4 teams looked at the best conditions for germination, and even have a broad bean growing because of their investigative work.

They continue their journey of life cycles looking at Animals & Humans.

Year 2 had fun discussing how they have changed from Baby to Now and how they may change when they become Old!

Year 6 have wowed me with their team investigation skills from the effects of watering styles on a Tomato Plant growth, to Mouldy Bread. We round out the term with the questions – *what is mould? And can it be helpful, or only harmful?*



YEAR 4 STUDENTS – a reminder of the Seesaw message sent out this week – encouraging students to look through family photos for Week 9's Science lesson. Thank you!



Mrs Stephanie Freeman, Science Teacher

PHYSICAL EDUCATION - *With Mrs Major*





Rainbows is a program which has been created to assist in providing a path towards healing for those dealing with a significant loss or life altering experience. The core of the program is centred on trust, acceptance and sharing.

It allows for those who are hurting to understand their feelings and to develop some tools required to move forward in helping to resolve their grief, loss or trauma.

Through Rainbows, children are helped to speak about their feelings, build a stronger sense of self-esteem and dispel their guilt and anger over the changes in their family. They no longer feel alone when they gather with other children who are facing the same or similar situations.

Many experiences, which may occur in a child's life, can be overwhelming for them to be able to cope with and indeed enjoy their precious years of childhood. Separation or divorce between parents, the loss of a family member/close friend, a serious illness or accident, a parent working away, moving house/school/state/country or any other significant change can be a crushing event in a child's life. These situations can affect children socially, spiritually, behaviourally and academically.

The adults and the children are bound by confidentiality.

If you feel your child may benefit from a program such as Rainbows, we ask that you register your interest by emailing Mrs Louise Frenzel at louise.frenzel@cewa.edu.au. Upon registering your interest, the forms will be emailed directly to you. **We ask that these authorities be completed and returned by Thursday 31st March.**

The program will start with some 'getting to know me' and art therapy sessions. It is anticipated the program will commence the first Friday of Term 2.

(Please be aware the program could be impacted by Covid-19 restrictions that may be imposed by the Government and the Health Department).

Mrs Louise Frenzel, Rainbows Co-ordinator

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

Collection of uniform orders will be processed on Uniform Shop opening times which are: Wednesday 8.30am to 9.30am and Thursday 2.30pm to 3.30pm.

WINTER UNIFORM

Year 1 to Year 6 students commence Term 2 in Winter Uniform. New students who have commenced this year will need to purchase their winter uniform before the end of this term. The Uniform Shop will be closed during the school holidays. The last day the Uniform Shop will open this term is Thursday 7th April.

Due to COVID restrictions the Uniform Shop is currently operating with orders placed via phone or email directly to Angie.miola@cewa.edu.au. Orders are then packed and ready for collection from the front gate at an arranged time. Parents are asked to please park your car and approach the school gate, to ease the drive through flow. Payment can be made by EFTPOS ONLY.

Parents, if you have any enquiries regarding sizes, please do not hesitate to contact me on the above email. Winter Price Lists are available on the school's website for you information.

Uniform Shop Opening Hours

Wednesday 8.30am to 9.30am and Thursday 2.30pm to 3.30pm

Mrs Angie Miola, Uniform Shop Manager

CANTEEN NEWS



- Fish Fingers (\$4 or with sauce \$4.50) every Wednesday until the end of term.
- We have a new pizza we are trialling: Margarita, Ham & Cheese or Supreme (with pepperoni & olives) for \$4 - available on Fridays.

Last day of term - Friday 8th April

- Sushi: Tuna, Chicken Teriyaki or Vegetarian
5 piece \$5.50. 6 piece \$6.50
- In addition Chicken Strips or Chicken Nuggets will be available. (No other items will be available on the last day of term).
- Pre-orders must be in by 6th of April.

Birthday orders - treat your child's class to celebrate their birthday!

- Cupcakes or M & M cookies \$20.
- Brownie or Icy Poles \$15.
- Kindy : a mini cupcake option for \$12 for the class.
Please pre-order at least one day in advance.

Any queries please don't hesitate to text on : 0408834774

Chistina, Fran & Antonella, Canteen Staff



'Our World, let us Feel, Let us Heal'