



Newsletter No. 4

22 February 2023

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.

Dear Parents & Friends



When I look at a photograph of Mother Teresa, I can't help but being 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 worlds 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

This Week we celebrated Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday is one of the most popular and important holy days in the liturgical calendar. Ash Wednesday opens Lent, a season of fasting and prayer.

Ash Wednesday takes place 46 days before Easter Sunday, and is chiefly observed by Catholics, although many other Christians observe it too.

Ash Wednesday comes from the ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting. The practice includes the wearing of ashes on the head. The ashes symbolize the dust from which God made us.

As the priest applies the ashes to a person's forehead, he speaks the words: *"Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."*

Alternatively, the priest may speak the words, *"Repent and believe in the Gospel."*

Ashes also symbolize grief, in this case, grief that we have sinned and caused division from God.

Writings from the Second-century Church refer to the wearing of ashes as a sign of penance.

Priests administer ashes during Mass and all are invited to accept the ashes as a visible symbol of penance. Even non-Christians and the excommunicated are welcome to receive the ashes. The ashes are made from blessed palm branches, taken from the previous year's palm Sunday Mass.

Fr Emil, Parish Priest, visited our Kindergarten and Pre Primary classes. Father engaged the students with the meaning of Ash Wednesday and placed ashes on the student's forehead.



Catholic Schools of Excellence

Our “St Lawrence Play Group” has been a great success and brings so much joy to our whole school. Seeing the youngest members of our school family enjoying their time at play group is pure “gold”. I wish to extend my gratitude to Mrs Austin who has created this flourishing community of families coming together every Monday and enjoying the experience.



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

Medical: 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.

Student Update: Could you also please contact the school and update any changes in addresses, contact/email numbers, emergency contacts, Medicare details, parent employment and education, family structure, citizenship and immunization.

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

This will be my last Newsletter for the next Four Weeks.
 Mrs Gabrielle Brennan will take over the reins of St Lawrence Primary School, a position she had held before and admirably has undertaken. I know you will all welcome Mrs Brennan as the Short-term Principal and Ms Tranquille will continue as Assistant Principal. Whilst I undertake my pilgrimage to Europe, I assure each and everyone of you that you will all remain fondly in my prayers and thoughts.



God bless each and every one of you.



Sheldon Carey
 M Ed, B Ed, Grad Dip
 Principal



PASTORAL CARE



We pray for all the people suffering from the elements of nature.
O Lord, calm the storms and hurricanes
We pray for their protection and provision.
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son.
Amen.

'Around the School'



'Our Staff' 2023 Welcome Picnic



'Heads Down Year Six' with Mr Haydon



'Numeracy Time' with Mrs Pizzino

'Thank You' Mrs Russo



FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

STUDENT IPAD AGREEMENT

The school's One-to-One iPad Program affords the opportunity for our students to enter a new world of curriculum possibilities, allowing engagement and involvement in their learning. In this way, each student learns to develop and demonstrate the knowledge, skills, practices and attitudes necessary to be an engaged, 21st Century citizen capable of shaping our future. To enable your child to be a good 21st Century citizen there are procedure, guidelines and rules that they need to respect.

We ask all parents and students from Year 3 to Year 6 involved in the One-to-One BYOD program to read the Student iPad Agreement (sent home today) carefully with their child. After your child has a thorough understanding of the school's expectation with regard to iPad usage in St Lawrence please sign the document and bring it back to school. By signing you are indicating that you have read, understood and accept the student/parent participation agreement.

ASSEMBLY

There will be a school assembly on Friday 24th February. Children will be presented with merit certificates. Parents are welcome to attend.

MAKING JESUS REAL

Making Jesus Real (MJR) is aimed at helping our students gain and maintain a positive attitude to life. It is centred around the belief that we are the image of God to people around us. MJR is not a program but a way of life – Christ's way. Making Jesus Real has a simple message, Jesus is part of our lives and we can make Jesus real through our daily actions and words. Through Making Jesus Real students are given the tools they need to feel the Spirit of Jesus each day and find the God moments that are always happening around them.

LOST PROPERTY

There is an assortment of items in Lost Property and most items are unnamed and therefore cannot be returned to their owners. Please check that your child's clothing is clearly labelled and can be identified if lost. If by mistake your child has acquired an item that does not belong to them please can you return it to school as soon as possible.

ENROLMENT MASSESS

Enrolment masses for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation will be held on **Saturday 11th March at 6pm or Sunday 12th March at 5pm.** All children in Years 3, 5 and 6 who are receiving a Sacrament are expected to attend one of these masses with their parents.

An enrolment form was sent home with children in Years 3, 4 and 6 last week. Please ensure this form has been completed and your child brings it to the Enrolment Mass they are attending.

Children will need to hand these forms to Fr Emil after the Mass. Fr Emil has also requested that all children are given a sticker book. Each time they attend Mass they will be given a sticker. Please encourage your child to bring their sticker book to one of the Enrolment Masses and take it to each Mass they attend.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Student Free Day 3rd March
- Public Holiday 6th March



Ms Kathleen Tranquille & Mrs Gabrielle Brennan, Assistant Principals

RAINBOWS NEWS



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 to 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 yourself.

We ask that these authorities be completed and returned by Thursday 23rd 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.

Mrs Louise Frenzel, Rainbows Co-ordinator

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

UNIFORM PRICE INCREASE

Several uniform items will have price increases which will commence 1st March 2023. New price lists and order forms will be available on website and school office.

NETBALL UNIFORM

The 2023 Winter Netball Season is fast approaching. The season commences 28th April to 26th August.

- Please note that Netball Dresses are to be worn on game days for Junior & Net Set Go competition.
- Netball Singlets are available for purchase and may be worn with red sport shorts (Skorts are no longer available) and encouraged to be worn on training days.
- Netball Jackets are to be worn during netball game days and training days. Also, Netball Jackets are available for parents, coaches and managers.
- Year 6 Leavers Jackets and School Navy Track Jackets are not permitted to be worn on Netball Game Days.
- School white sport socks are encouraged to be worn.

Netball uniform order forms and samples sizes of Netball Dresses and Netball Jackets will be available for sizing on registration day. (Date to be advised from the netball committee)

Please do not hesitate to contact me for all enquires or to place a uniform order. Please EMAIL me on Angie.Miola@cewa.edu.au.

Uniform Shop Opening Hours: Wednesday 8.30am to 9.30am & Thursday 2.30pm to 3.30pm.

Mrs Angie Miola, Uniform Shop Manager

P&F NEWS



Fiesta

Thank you to all for attending and to the families that donated to the raffle and food.



Special Thanks to:

- Cedric Street Pharmacy for donating the jellybeans for the guessing game.
- Alinta Energy for their gift vouchers for the raffle; generously donated 2 vouchers.
- Anthony Grier for providing the music.

EASTER FUNDRAISER

Can all families RSVP for the Easter Egg fundraiser. Any families that do not respond will be handed a box.

RSVP LINK

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeamvAEWDjG502tIQNQjHqDW1W8PPIoy9qkMFDgtBGL0Y4MiA/viewform?usp=sf_link

CITY OF STIRLING COUNCILLORS

Thank you to Councillors Teresa Olow and Lisa Thornton, (Osborne Ward) for their generous donation to the P&F.

Mrs Natasha Raso, 2023 P&F President

CANTEEN NEWS

Thank You to my helper last week, Penny G your help was much appreciated!
If anyone is available to help on a Thursday, please let me know!

Birthday Orders,

- Icy poles or Brownies \$15
- M & M cookies or Cupcakes \$20

I ask parents to please message at least one day in advance. Thank you.

Christina and Frances, 2023 Canteen Staff



Mercedes College

OPEN DAY

TUESDAY 14 MARCH | 8.30AM & 11AM



