



Newsletter No. 9

29 March 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 and Caregivers

On Saturday, it was the Feast of the Annunciation, which marks when the Angel Gabriel visited Mary to announce to her the special mission God had chosen for her in being the mother of his only son. Though frightened, Mary's response of "yes" facilitated Jesus' presence in the world.

The Feast of the Annunciation is a time for us to review our own faith journey. We are called upon to nurture the word of God within us and bring Christ into the world, not in the same way as Mary, but by using our own gifts and talents to bring Christ into the lives of others.

As we continue in this season of Lent, let us recognise where God is calling each of us and follow the path of Mary. We can do great things through Him when we say 'yes' to his plan for us.

Christ Centred Communities

Lent Reflection

Sunday 26th March was the fifth Sunday of Lent. In the Gospel reading, Jesus hears that his good friend, Lazarus, the brother of Mary and Martha, is sick and near to death, however Jesus does not rush to see Lazarus or comfort his family, he takes his time. On arriving Jesus finds that Lazarus has already died and been in a tomb for four days. As Jesus approaches the house he is met by Martha, who is not happy to see Jesus. She says to Jesus, “if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” Martha then continues with deep faith and belief in Jesus and continues by saying, “but I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God he will grant you.” Although Martha is angry with Jesus, she has not given up on him. Jesus, full of compassion and love, raises his friend from the tomb.

This Gospel reading is like a signpost leading us to Easter. On Holy Thursday, we will journey with Jesus as he is betrayed, denied, condemned, beaten and crucified. It is important to remember that Jesus’ death is only a stage on the journey, not only through Lent, but in our lives. Throughout every day of our lives, Jesus offers us the promise and hope of new life as he did in the Easter journey.

Dear God,

*You have given the human race, Jesus Christ our
Saviour as a model of humility.*

*He fulfilled Your Will by becoming Man and Gave
His life on the Cross.*

*Help us to bear witness to you by following your
example of suffering and make us worthy to share
in the Resurrection.*

We ask this through Christ our Lord

Amen

Catholic Schools of Excellence

The past few weeks have been extremely busy. We have had Grandparents Day, Harmony Day, the Interschool Cricket Carnival and Parent Meetings. I would like to thank all our parents and caregivers who attended these events, we appreciate your ongoing support.

On Friday we had our annual ride to school day. It was wonderful to see so many families riding their bikes together or walking to school on this day. Thank you to all our families who supported this worthwhile initiative and to all the staff who helped to plan this event or assisted on this day. It was great to see how much joy it brought to the children and adults who participated.



On Friday, I attended the Cricket Carnival with Mrs Major, Mr Haydon, Mrs Austin and Mr Tonge. My knowledge of cricket is minimal, so I spent the whole morning avoiding being asked to referee a game. Thank you to Mrs Major for all her hard work preparing the children and organising this event. I was extremely proud of all the children who attended the carnival, their behaviour was exemplary. They made Jesus real in many ways, including the encouragement they gave to both their teammates and their competitors. It was a pleasure to see them representing our school in such a positive way, whilst upholding our Core Values of ***Joy, Courage and Unity.***



Catholic Pastoral Communities

At the end of 2023 teachers worked collaboratively with our student leaders and groups of students from different year levels to develop a clear flowchart to assist our students if they feel unsafe, have a problem, suggestion, or complaint. The flow chart has been completed and teachers will introduce the Flowchart in their classrooms at the start of Term 2. Posters will be placed in classrooms and common areas around the school.

I'm not feeling safe...
I've got a problem...
I've got a complaint...
I've got a suggestion...

What should I do...?



Sounds like you need to talk to someone. There are **LOTS** of people you can talk to.

Any of the people below can help. Talk to the people you feel most comfortable with.


All students at St Lawrence have the right to feel **SAFE** and **HAPPY** at school, at all times!
These are the people you can talk to if you ever feel unsafe, or have a problem, suggestion, or complaint.



YOUR CLASSROOM TEACHERS

Your classroom teacher is responsible for making sure you are safe, happy and learning at school. You can always talk to them.



OTHER STAFF MEMBERS YOU GET ALONG WITH

Sometimes you may not want to talk to your classroom teacher. Find another staff member you trust and get along with, and talk to them.

Sustainable Catholic Communities

Stewardship is all about our responsibility to look after our beautiful world and God's creation. God created Earth for all, and we are now stewards of this creation. This means it is our responsibility to look after and take care of our world. Through Religious Education lessons we teach the children to appreciate God's gift of creation and how they can take care of the environment. We teach them about how they can help to make the world a better place for all.



Our Environmental Leaders are doing a wonderful job accepting their responsibility to care for our world. We are very proud of their commitment to sustainability, and we look forward to involving our leaders in more school initiatives this year to give them a sense of responsibility to look after their school environment as well as their future environment.

**HI WE ARE THE 2023 ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERS
WE WILL SHOW YOU SOME OF THE JOBS WE DO:**

- HANDING OUT THE ENVIRONMENT AWARDS FOR
CLEANEST LUNCH AREA AND CLEANEST BAG AREA**
- EMPTYING BINS**
- TAKE OUT THE CONTAINERS FOR CHANGE BIN**



May God bless our school.

*Mrs Gabrielle Brennan
Short Term Principal*

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

PROJECT COMPASSION

Project Compassion inspires so many communities to come together to raise much needed funds for the most vulnerable women, children and men in Australia and around the world. Together, we can all help to break the cycle of poverty and injustice. Please donate generously to Project Compassion during the Season of Lent.

HOLY WEEK LITURGIES



The whole school will take part in the Holy Week Liturgies on Wednesday 5th April. The children from Year 3 to Year 6 will re-enact Jesus' journey to his crucifixion. Parents are welcome to join us in the St Lawrence Church at 2pm for these liturgies.

YEAR TWO LITURGY

The Year Two Liturgy will be held in the school hall on **Thursday 30 March** commencing at 9am. All parents are welcome to attend.

DANCE CONCERT

On Friday 31 March your child will be participating in the St. Lawrence Dance Concert for 2023. Our theme for this year is 'Four Seasons in One Day'. You will be wowed with our creative and groovy dancers.

- Each class has a simple costume for their dance. Feel free to use items of clothing that you already have at home that are as close as possible to the required costume.
- You are NOT required to buy any new items.
- Leggings/shorts must be worn under any skirts/dresses.
- Comfortable footwear needs to be worn when performing as we are dancing on pavement.

Please ensure all costumes are now at school, in a bag, clearly labelled with your child's name. Students will change into their costumes after lunch on Performance Day.

To make it a little easier on the day of the Dance Concert, children will be allowed to come to school in their sport uniform.

The concert begins at 2pm on the Junior Oval and all family and friends are welcome to attend. We are looking forward to celebrating music and movement with you.

NOTE: CHURCH PICK UP AND THE JUNIOR OVAL WILL BE CLOSED ON FRIDAY 31st MARCH

WINTER UNIFORM

Year 1 to Year 6 students are required to wear the full winter uniform in Terms 2 and 3. Pre-primary students remain in their sports uniform and tracksuit pants. Jackets are available from the uniform shop for winter. Year 1 and new students who have commenced this year, will need to purchase their winter uniform before the end of this term in readiness for Term Two.

Please note the uniform shop will be closed during the school holidays. The last day the shop is open this term is Thursday 6th April. There will be a two-week period at the start of term 2 when children can wear their summer uniform, if families have not been able to purchase the winter uniform.

The uniform shop is open at the following times:

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

Ms Kathleen Tranquille, Assistant Principal

Ride2School Day

Last Friday 63% of St Lawrence students took part in National Ride2School Day. We were blessed with sunshine, smiling faces and happy families who rode, walked, scooted or skated to school. St Lawrence was one of 869 schools across Australia to get involved. That's 364 000 students working towards a healthier and happier future of active travel. Well done everyone!





RAINBOWS PROGRAM



It is not too late to register your child/children for the Rainbows Program for 2023. Our Rainbows Program is shortly due to commence in Term Two.

Rainbows is a peer support program for children living in a single parent or stepfamily, or who have suffered a significant loss in their life. Children meet in small groups where they are helped to identify what they may be feeling and are given some strategies to help process those feelings. It provides children with an opportunity to express their feelings in a safe and confidential setting. Grief is a normal reaction to a significant loss. Often, children do not express their grief verbally, so it surfaces in their behaviour, schoolwork, as a physical ailment or it affects their emotional development.

If you would like to register your child/children for the Rainbows program or would like further information, please email me at louise.frenzel@cewa.edu.au

Mrs Louise Frenzel, Rainbows Coordinator

PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS

Well, what a busy week we have had in sport! Some of the Year 5 and 6 students participated in the NECPSA Inter school Cricket Carnival last Friday and did a fabulous job. I was very proud of their wonderful performances and their excellent sporting attitudes.

We had a visiting squash coach and had a lot of fun trying something new in the inflatable squash courts in the hall.

We have also been having a great time in gymnastics lessons. We have been looking at counter balance and counter tension and working with partners and in groups. I have been super impressed with some of the amazing balances that the students have come up with. Everyone is trying so hard, keep it up!







Mrs Claire Major, Physical Education Teacher

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

NETBALL UNIFORM

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

Please note that netball dresses are to be worn on game days for Junior & Net Set Go competition. Netball jackets are available and may be worn during netball game days and training for players, coaches, managers and parents.

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 dresses and netball jackets are available for purchase directly at the Uniform Shop. Netball order forms are available at the school office or website.

WINTER UNIFORM

Year 1 to Year 6 students will commence Term 2 in full winter uniform. Pre-primary students remain in their sports uniform and track pants and Jackets are available for winter.

Year 1 and new students who have commenced this year, will need to purchase their winter uniform before the end of this term in readiness for Term Two.

Winter order forms are available from the school office and the Uniform Shop.

Please note: - The Uniform Shop will be closed during the school holidays.
- The last day the Uniform Shop will be open this term is Thursday 6th April.

EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDENTS

Pre Kindy and Kindergarten students are encouraged to wear the Early Childhood T-Shirt and an Early Childhood Track Top, available for purchase for Winter.

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

CADBURY FUNDRAISER

Money was due today. If you have not done so already, please hand in your money to the school office as soon as possible.

MOTHER'S DAY STALL – Friday 5 May

The children have been given the opportunity to pick their gifts early. Each child has chosen a gift/gifts for \$5. On the day of the stall, could you please send your child with \$5 and they will pay for and pick up the gift they chose.

DONATIONS

We will be holding a Mother's Day raffle. If you are in a position to donate any items or vouchers toward the prizes, please leave them in the school office.

*Thank you for your support.
Mrs Natasha Raso, P&F President*

CANTEEN NEWS

Thanks to my helpers last week, Carmellina and Tara - your help was very much appreciated.

I still need a helper for tomorrow - if you are available, even if only for a couple of hours, please let me know.

Last day of term is Thursday 6 April. There will be a Sushi Special – 5 piece Sushi and Juice \$7

Please note, this is a new supplier (tried and tested) and they are bigger and more filling pieces.

Choices are:

Katsu Chicken

Teriyaki Chicken (Gluten Free)

Cooked Tuna (Gluten-free)

Vegetarian (gluten free)

Please pre order by 31 March.

Please note: this is the only lunch item available this day.

We are still having trouble getting hot dogs, so will be replacing with a sausage sizzle for Thursday and Friday



2024 FATHERING PROJECT

MOORE RIVER CAMP

Friday 15 March to Saturday 16 March, 2024

Organisation has commenced for the **2024 camp**. Parents, please note that there will be limited places, so first in best dressed!

***Please contact Marcello Murabito on 0417514224
to be added to the group chat and to arrange for your \$50 deposit per family.
Cut-off date for \$50 deposit will be Monday 10 April 2023.***

We will endeavor to book as many camp sites as possible. If we end up with too many families, deposits will be returned to the last families that paid.

This is a wonderful opportunity for new families to meet and greet at the beginning of the 2024 school year. 2023 camp was a great success, thank you to everyone who participated.

Mr Marcello Murabito, Co-ordinator

PARISH NEWS

NEW ALTAR SERVERS

Do you want to become an Altar Server?

Those who have received their First Holy Communion or are at least in Year 3 are invited to become Altar Servers. If you are interested in becoming an Altar Server, or have a child or grandchild, who may be interested in becoming an Altar Server, please take the flyer, which is in the foyer of the church. For further information, please contact Fr Emil on 0408 447062.

WASHING OF THE FEET ON HOLY THURSDAY

We would like to invite women and men from all age groups to participate in this special ceremony. Please put your name on the list in the church foyer if you are interested in taking part.

GOOD FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS

10am - St Lawrence Church

The Stations of the Cross on **Good Friday - 7th April** will start at **10am** in front of the church. We would like to invite families to volunteer in leading a reflection on one of the stations, so **we need 14 families**. The text of the reflections will be provided next weekend. All volunteers, please put your contact details on the list provided in the church foyer.

EASTER PROGRAM 2023

PALM SUNDAY—2nd April (No Croatian Mass)

St Lawrence Masses: Saturday Vigil: **6.00pm** Sunday: **8.30am, 10.30am** (Italian) and **5.00pm**
St Theresa Mass: **11.30am**

HOLY THURSDAY—6th April (No Mass at 9am)

The Lord's Supper 7.30pm at St Lawrence followed by Adoration at the Altar of Repose until midnight.

The collection taken on Holy Thursday will be donated to St Vincent De Paul.

GOOD FRIDAY—7th April (No Mass at 9am or 7pm)

Stations of the Cross 10am - St Lawrence & St Theresa

The Lord's Passion 3pm - St Lawrence & St Theresa

Via Crucis (Italian) 7.30pm - St Lawrence

HOLY SATURDAY—8th April (No Mass at 9am)

Blessing of Easter Food 12noon - St Lawrence

Easter Vigil 7.00pm - St Lawrence

EASTER SUNDAY—9th April (No Mass at 5pm)

St Lawrence Masses: **7.00am, 8.30am, 10.00am** (Italian), **12noon** (Croatian)

St Theresa Mass: **11.00am**