



## Newsletter No. 22

**27 July 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.

### **Dear Parents and Friends**

*The Feast of St Martha occurs on the 29<sup>th</sup> of July. Martha is a wonderful example of the women who were close to Jesus during his lifetime.*

*"Jesus loved Martha and Mary and Lazarus." This unique statement in John's Gospel tells us of the special relationship Jesus had with Martha, her sister, and her brother.*

*Jesus was a frequent guest at Martha's home in Bethany, a small village two miles from Jerusalem. We read of three visits in Luke 10:38-42, John 11:1-53, and John 12:1-9.*



Many of us find it easy to identify with Martha in the story Luke tells. Martha welcomes Jesus and his disciples into her home and immediately goes to work to serve them. Hospitality is paramount in the Middle East and Martha believed in its importance. Imagine her frustration when her sister Mary ignores the rule of hospitality and Martha's work in order to sit and listen to Jesus.

Instead of speaking to her sister, she asks Jesus to intervene. Jesus' response is not unkind, which gives us an idea of his affection for her. He observes that Martha is worried about many things that distract her from really being present to him. He reminds her that there is only one thing that is truly important -- listening to him. And that is what Mary has done.

In Martha, we see ourselves -- worried and distracted by all we have to do in the world and forgetting to spend time with Jesus. It is, however, comforting to note that Jesus loved her just the same. Jesus loves us too, even when we get very busy and fail to find the time to be with Him and listen to Him.

*May we all find time to sit at the feet of Jesus and listen.*

## Inspiring Christ-Centre Leaders

It has been an absolute joy to return to St Lawrence. Seeing all the children once again has brought much delight. I extend my sincere gratitude to the staff, children and community who have gone out of their way to express their warm salutations.

### St Lawrence Feast Day



The school will celebrate **St Lawrence Feast Day** on **Friday 5 August**. The day will commence with the whole school joining the Parish Mass at 9am. Please refer to the Assistant Principals section of this newsletter for the day's timetable

Parents are most welcome to participate in the Mini Fete from 1.40pm. In line with COVID Protocols, we strongly encourage the wearing of face masks and practice recommended social distancing.

## Catholic Schools of Excellence

### What to do when your child is absent:

Email St Lawrence Primary School admin: [admin@stlawbal.wa.edu.au](mailto:admin@stlawbal.wa.edu.au) and class teacher with the following information:

- Full Name of Student
- Year/Class (e.g. Year 1)
- Reason for absence and expected length of absence

### Late Arrivals:

If your child is arriving late to school, they are required to be signed in at the school office by the parent/carer.

### Student Appointments:

Children who need to leave the school during school hours (eg: for appointments with doctor, dentist etc) need to be signed out at the school office by the parent/carer and then signed in when they return to school from their appointment. The Pass Tab sign in/sign out device is located at the front office.

### Change of Contact Details:

Please notify the school of any changes to contact details including changes to emergency contacts and medications or medical conditions.

## Catholic Pastoral Communities

A reminder to all parents and guardians, children who are unwell must remain at home. When children are sent to school unwell, they are not capable of learning, they are not receiving the rest they require to recover, and potentially can impact the health of other and increase the infection rates among the whole school community. Children who become ill while at school or present unwell are sent home. I ask you all to be vigilant in ensuring unwell children are not sent to school.

## Accessible, Affordable and Sustainable

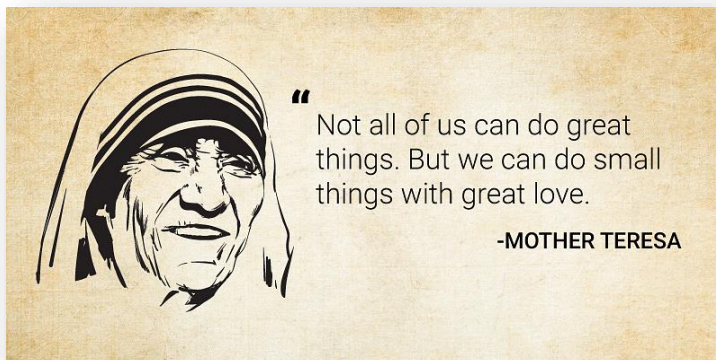
### Grounds person

Mr Lu has tendered his resignation and will be leaving our St Lawrence family. We thank Mr Lu for the contribution he has made to our school community. We will keep Mr Lu in our prayers and may he remain under the protective mantle of Our Lady always. We will be advertising for a new grounds person in the near future.

God bless each and every one of you.



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



## PASTORAL CARE



*Lord, as we commence a new semester, make us ready, attentive and available to hear you. Thank You for the gift of being part of the St Lawrence community.*

*May we meet each day knowing the assurance that You walk through it with us. Thank You for the gifts of creativity and uniqueness, and the energy to put them to good use.*

### Home Learning Tip

Time playing outdoors does not have to be disconnected from the learning we do indoors. Children naturally notice so many things about nature – plants, sounds, textures, light, shadow – Observing their discoveries and expanding on them is a nice way to keep the focus on our child's interests and to scaffold on their learning.

We can also use what we find outdoors to create and learn with fun indoor nature activities as well. Often in the Early years you will see a table loaded with pinecones, honky nuts, feathers, bark and stones. All-natural materials collected from outside. The children just love experimenting with them, talking to me about them, feeling their texture.

I cannot emphasize how much just getting outside for some free exploration and play benefits all of us! I think peace dwells in nature, and when kids are getting a bit stir-crazy, getting them outside settles that. It is amazing to watch the children play in the orchard, around the ovals, both junior and senior and see the wonderful make-believe worlds they create in their play. Play is where all learning comes from. Play is the natural basis of learning. Get the children outside and let them foster that natural desire to play and thus learn

# **IMPORTANT!**

## **END OF DAY**

## **SCHOOL PICK UP**

### **PICK UP PROCEDURES**

Parents please be advised that we have returned to our previous pick-up procedures at the Junior Oval after school drive through. Children will sit on the grass on the Junior Oval rather than crossing over to the Church as they did last term. Children will only cross over to the Church for shelter if it is raining.

All children have been reminded of the correct procedures and the importance of following them for their own safety.

Parents who choose to park on the Junior Oval, please be reminded that you will need to exit your vehicle to collect your child. Children are not permitted to walk across the oval without a parent or guardian.

The children require a designated area on the Junior Oval where they can sit and wait to be picked up. Please do not park in the area marked by the red cones and flags in the photographs below. Once again this is a safety hazard as children should not be sitting close to moving vehicles. Any parents parked in this area will be asked to move. There is space available on other parts of the oval.

The cones and flags have been left on the Junior Oval to show the space where the children will sit each day. We will not be able to do this every day, but it will give you an idea of where cars are not permitted to park.

The safety of your children is always our priority so please adhere to the procedures detailed in this letter.

***Sheldon Carey***  
***Principal***



# FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

The First Eucharist family workshops will be held today at **5.30pm and 7.00pm** in the School Hall. The students will also participate in a retreat day on **Wednesday 10 August**. We wish the communicants all the best in receiving this Sacrament and pray that these students' faith and relationship with Jesus continues to grow.

First Eucharist Mass: **Saturday 20 August at 4pm**

## ST LAWRENCE SCHOOL FEAST DAY

The school will be celebrating St Lawrence Feast Day on **Friday 5 August**.

The plan for the day is as follows:

8.30am	School commences as normal
9.00am	Whole School Mass in the Church
11.00am	Music/Dance activities
12.40pm	Lunch provided by our P&F and canteen
1.40-2.40pm	Mini Fete

Fundraising activities for Kora Centre run by the Servite Sisters.

We see St Lawrence Feast Day as an opportunity to celebrate our Patron Saint, but also an opportunity to continue his work by donating funds to those most in need in our community. Children will be allowed to wear Free Dress. Parents are most welcome to attend the mini fete at 1.40pm.

Whilst masks are not mandatory, we strongly encourage parents to wear a mask if they are attending.

## EARLY YEARS PARENT MEETINGS

**Pre Kindy** parents are invited to meet with Mrs Bozich in the Pre-Kindy classroom on **Thursday 28 July at 2pm** to discuss ways to support their child's pre literacy skills.

**Kindy** parents are invited to meet Mrs Wake in the Kindy classroom on **Friday 29 July at 2.20pm** for a *Take Home Story Book* workshop

## BISHOPS' RELIGIOUS LITERACY ASSESSMENT

At the request of the Western Australian Bishops, our students in Year 3 and Year 5 along with students in Catholic schools across Australia will take part in the Bishops' Religious Literacy Assessments this term.

	Practice Test	Bishop's Religious Literacy Assessment
<b>Year 3</b>	Thursday 28th July	Wednesday 4th August
<b>Year 5</b>	Wednesday 27th July	Wednesday 3rd August

## ASSEMBLY

Merit Awards and Lawry Bear Award Assembly will be held on Friday 29th July. Parents of award winners are welcome to attend with masks.



## NO NUTS AT ST LAWRENCE

A reminder that our school is a nut friendly zone which means that students should not bring ANY items of food where the key ingredient is nuts. This means pastes such as Nutella and peanut butter, raw nuts, or food with nuts as a main ingredient such as muesli bars or chocolate bars containing nuts. We ask that any of these foods not be brought to school for the safety of students who are allergic to these products. Thank you for your cooperation.

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

## *Year One – celebrating 100 days of school!*

This week, the Year One students celebrated 100 days of school  
by dressing up in something that represents **the number 100.**

We had a fun day taking part in '100' themed activities!



## **CELEBRATING 100 DAYS OF SCHOOL**



*Mrs Tania Preston, Year One Teacher*

# LIBRARY NEWS

## CHESS CLUB

Our very first session of Chess Club started today. We had a great turn out of both Chess Mentors and Learners. A very big thank you to our Chess Mentors who have given up their time to teach students. We look forward to our next session next Wednesday lunchtime at 1pm. Everyone welcome!



## DAMAGED BOOKS

We have had an increasing number of books coming back to the library damaged or lost and that now need replacing. This includes books that are water damaged, books that have left where younger siblings can get them and pages have been torn out or ripped to pieces, books being returned with chewing gum, chewed up lollies or food through them. Parents, please speak to your children and give them a gentle reminder of how to look after their books. We have also spoken about the care of books during our library sessions.

*Mrs Louise Frenzel, Library Officer*



**Thank you** to everyone who joined us at the **P&F Welcome Morning Tea** last Friday.

It was a great opportunity to meet everyone, and we look forward to all enjoying our future events.

## **ST LAWRENCE FEAST DAY LUNCH**

Parents, for catering purposes, a reminder to please return the lunch order slip to the school office as soon as possible.

*Thank you all for your support, P&F Executive and Committee*



## ***St Lawrence Feast Day – Lunch Selection***

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Please tick one of the following options:

- ☐ Mrs Macs Lite n Up Sausage Roll
- ☐ Mrs Macs Lite n Up Pie
- ☐ Mrs Macs Spinach & Ricotta Sausage Roll
- ☐ Opt-out (please note you will need to pack your child's lunch on this day!)
- *Juice Box & Tomato Sauce will also be supplied*

## CANTEEN NEWS



**THANK YOU** to my ‘helper’ last Thursday – Lucia you are amazing. Your help was so needed and greatly appreciated.

- ❖ If anyone can help tomorrow, please let me know ASAP, 0408834774, thank you!
- ❖ Please note we no longer do pre-orders at recess time.
- ❖ Birthday orders - Cupcakes or M & M Cookies \$20 or Brownies or Icy Poles \$15 for the class. Please let me know at least one day in advance

*Thank you!*

*Christina, Frances & Antonella  
2022 Canteen staff*