



Newsletter No. 36

23 November 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.



*The first Sunday of Advent in 2022 will be
Sunday, November 27th.*

*After a tumultuous year, there is comfort to be found
when we pause to read, pray, and reflect over the course
of the Advent season in which believers eagerly
anticipate the celebration of Christ's birth.*

Dear Parents and Friends

The countdown to Christmas is on and, if you visit the shops, you can see that the Christmas decorations are out in full swing. Before we get caught up in the frenzy of Christmas preparations, it is a good time to stop and reflect to center our thoughts on **hope**. It is a beautiful chance to remember the hope God offers to our lost and dying world, and that He has given us through Jesus.

Inspiring Christ-Centre Leaders

Thank you to all who attended the St Lawrence Primary School Annual General Meetings. The AGM is a legal requirement of Catholic Schools and provides the community with the opportunity to be part of a P&F and a School Advisory Council meeting. The financial reports are shared with the community and the school also outlines its coming years plans and any other relevant information.

Thank you to the School Advisory Council Members and P&F members:

School Advisory Council Members: Fraser Clarke, Michael Mucciarone, Penny Godfrey, Adele Cirillo, Fr Emil (Parish Priest) and Laura Siciliano (P&F Representative)
Sheldon Carey (Principal), Gabrielle Brennan & Kathleen Tranquille (Assistant Principals).

P&F Executive: Natasha Raso, Sandra Mesiha, Charlotte & Nicolas Writz and Laura Siciliano

Catholic Schools of Excellence

As our term comes to its final weeks, teachers are busily attending to assessments and the analysis of our students' progress. This is in preparation for the Semester Two Reports that will be available to all families on Friday 9 December. Staff will continue to work through until Friday 16 December. Teachers are available to meet with parents regarding reports on Monday 12 December.

Catholic Pastoral Communities

Giving Tree

A reminder of our Christmas Giving Tree which is set up in the Learning Centre. If your family would like to participate, please have your child select a gift tag and purchase a gift for the child outlined on the tag. Gifts will be collected on Wednesday 9 December and distributed by St Vinnie's. Parents will be allowed to come to the school to place your child's gift under the tree in the Learning Centre.



St Vinnie's Christmas Appeal

Thank you to the families who have already contributed to the **St Vinnie's Christmas Appeal**. All donations will be gratefully received and will be used to bring joy to others in our community. Please leave your items on the ledge in the Learning Centre. Donations will be collected by St Vinnie on Wednesday 9 December.

Whole School Christmas Nativity – 6pm Thursday 8 December

Parents please note that it is an expectation that every child from Kindergarten to Year Six attend the whole school Christmas Nativity on Thursday 8 December for the duration of the production.

Inspiring Christ Leaders

Please find below the 2023 St Lawrence School Staffing arrangements. These are always **subject to changes**, however at the time of printing the following applies.

STAFFING 2023

Position	Current Staff
Principal	Mr Sheldon Carey
Assistant Principals	Mrs Gabrielle Brennan Ms Kathleen Tranquille
Playgroup	Mrs Gillian Austin
Pre-Kindy	Mrs Frances Caruso
Education Assistant	Mrs Michelle Seragusana
Kindergarten	Mrs Rachel Wake
Education Assistants	Mrs Michelle Seragusana
	Mrs Kayli Thompson
Pre-Primary	Mrs Paula Christensen
Education Assistant	Mrs Lyn Staltari
Year One	Mrs Tania Preston
Education Assistant	Mrs Angela Mattioli
Year Two	Mrs Gloria Edwards (Monday-Thursday)
	Mrs Kaylene Bozich (Friday)
Education Assistant	Mrs Pina Nyersh
Year Three	Mrs Roselyn Pizzino
Year Four	Ms Kathleen Tranquille
AP Relief	Mrs Claire Major (Monday pm) (Wednesday)
Year Five	Miss Kayla Fogliani
IT Relief	Mrs Frances Caruso
Year Six	Mr Phil Haydon
Specialists	
Science/Music	Mrs Stephanie Freeman
LOTE	Mrs Jenny Acquarola
Physical Education	Mrs Claire Major
Library/Rainbows	Ms Louise Frenzel
Education Assistants	Mrs Karyn Howley
	Mrs Gillian Austin
Administration	
Finance Officer	Mrs Alica Mayo
Office Administrator	Mrs Lina Armstrong
Administration	Mrs Marie Boyle (Wednesday)
Uniform Shop	Mrs Angie Miola (Weds 8.30am-9.30am & Thurs 2.30pm- 3.30pm)
Canteen	Mrs Christina Russo, Mrs Frances Caccamo
Groundsman	TBC



God bless our school and all who come through the entry gates.

Sheldon Carey
M Ed, B Ed, Grad Dip
Principal

Home Learning Tip

Home Learning

Cyber Safety

The internet provides an opportunity for children to interact and learn on a global scale. However the internet also provides complete strangers with a direct line into your home, and your child's life. This cannot be underestimated, so you need to educate yourself and your child about the potential dangers.

Some simple strategies can be implemented including setting strict rules for usage and regular supervision in order to ensure they are being adhered to:

- ☑ Have your computer set up in a family area so it must be used openly
- ☑ Set time limits and identify sites permitted for visiting
- ☑ Teach your child not to open mail from unknown sources
- ☑ Encourage students to use an anonymous, online name that is not gender specific
- ☑ Be vigilant about only using a webcam under supervision
- ☑ Encourage your children to come to you if they encounter any inappropriate or disturbing content that makes them feel uncomfortable

Numerous apps can be installed on your devices that limit access to different functionalities, apps, and the internet etc. They give you the control to automatically limit their use or turn them off completely. At school we employ Zulu Desk for this purpose. I strongly encourage you to look into these options and decide as a family what would work best for you.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS NEWS

LITERACY SUPPORT

We have been using the MiniLit program at St Lawrence for the past two years, in conjunction with the Levelled Literacy Intervention (LLI) programme. MiniLit is a special teaching programme with carefully structured and sequenced lessons. The programme is designed for students in the junior years who are experiencing difficulty learning to read. MiniLit is offered in small groups and aims to help students to catch up to their peers. The programme runs across several terms, depending on the needs of the students.

Each lesson has 3 main components:

- Sounds and Words Activities: This is where students learn to pay attention to different sounds in words and to associate them with the letters of the alphabet
- Text Reading: This provides students with the chance to practise their new reading skills with support.
- Shared Story Book Reading: This involves the teacher reading and discussing a story book with the students, focusing on building vocabulary, comprehension and reading behaviours.

PARENTS & FRIENDS

The P&F have recently provided the funds to purchase the MacqLit programme, this programme follows on from MiniLit. It is a special programme designed for students in Year 3 and above who are in need of support with their reading and spelling. MacqLit is offered to small groups of students and follows a sequence of carefully structured lessons. The aim of the programme is to help students who are struggling to catch up to their peers. MacqLit runs across several terms, depending on the needs of the students.

MacqLit students will:

- Practise reading with 1:1 support
- Focus on learning how to read and spell words using appropriate and explicit strategies
- Have regular support to develop greater independence when reading and to improve their reading accuracy, fluency and comprehension.



We are very grateful to our wonderful P&F and to all the parents who have contributed towards P&F fundraising events this year. We are very excited to begin implementing MacqLit in 2023.

SWIMMING

Swimming lessons commenced on Monday this week for students in Years 1 to 6. The lessons will conclude on Friday 2 December. If your child loses any of their belongings, please remind them to look in our lost property box, located in the Learning Centre. We are extremely proud of the way all the children participated in swimming lessons so far and how they adapted to the changes to their normal routines. We have been given positive feedback from the bus driver and the teachers at Terry Tyzack, commending our children for their beautiful manners and excellent behaviour which is always great to hear

WHOLE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS NATIVITY



We are all very excited about our upcoming Whole School Nativity on Thursday 8 December. The Whole School Nativity is compulsory for all students. Mrs Freeman, has communicated information regarding costumes to each class. Please bring your child/children to the event fully dressed in their costumes. Thank you for your co-operation.

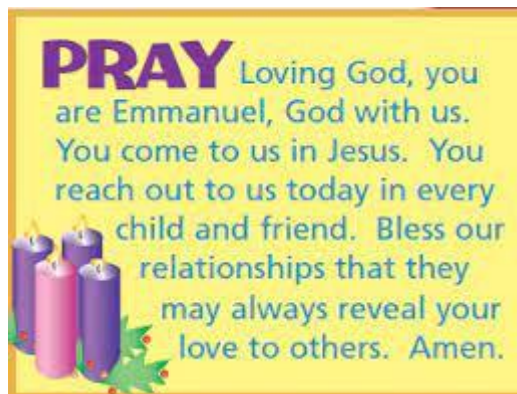
SCHOOL DISCO

The School Disco will be held on Friday 2nd December. The theme for this event is Celebrities. The children will be allowed to dress up in appropriate costumes in-line with this theme. After each session children will be able to be picked up outside the hall. Parents will need to find their child's teacher to sign them out before taking them home. PP- Year 2 5.30-6.30pm Year 3- 6 7.15-8.30pm.

Disco tickets will be on sale before school and at lunchtime in the Undercroft in Week 8. Tickets cost \$3. The ticket will entitle your child to a juice box and a packet of chips on the night. This is a child only event. Teachers will be supervising each session. The Year 6 student will perform their dance routine to the Year 3-6 students at the Disco and their parents at the Graduation Dinner.



We have started collecting food for the St Vinnie's Christmas Appeal. St Vinnie's are planning to make food hampers to share with the less fortunate containing items that may be used for a Christmas meal. Some suggested items are: plum puddings, Christmas cakes, tinned hams, tinned fruits, jellies, lollies, boxes of chocolates, cool drinks, Christmas crackers, custards (pre-made), fruit juices, biscuits. All donations will be gratefully received and will be used to bring joy to others in our community. Please leave your items on the ledge in the Learning Centre. Donations will be collected by St Vinnie on Thursday 8 December.



Mrs Gabrielle Brennan & Ms Kathleen Tranquille, Assistant Principals

BOOK BORROWING

This is our last week of borrowing books for the year. Next week will be our last library session for the year for students. Students will come to the library for the reading of a Christmas story followed by a Christmas craft activity during their allocated library session.

Lexile borrowing will continue until the end of the school term.

HIGH MORNING TEA

Last Thursday saw us celebrate our Library High Tea with our lucky raffle winners. The library was transformed into a circus big top for the morning. Students all got a clown hat and nose to wear upon entry and then got to take them home to keep. We feasted on an array of both savoury and sweet morsels.

Many thanks to Mrs Lyn Archer, one of our former Teacher/Librarians, who returned to the school for the morning to assist with the high tea, we couldn't have done it without her! Thanks also go to Miss Fogliani for being official photographer for the event and Miss Tranquille for being our special guest of honour.



Ms Louise Frenzel, Library Officer

MUSIC NEWS

Thursday December 8, starting from 5.30pm.

Classes are practising two items, one that links with a scene of the Nativity, the story of the First Christmas, as told by our Year 6 cohort, and another to spread Christmas Cheer as our school year comes to an end. Students have been proactive in creating actions to complement their singing, and music times have been abuzz of enthusiasm and positive energy.

Communication through Seesaw announcement, has been sent regarding student dress attire for the evening as well as information regarding arrival on the evening and run of events. Kindy and Year 6 correspondence will be received via your classroom teachers.



If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me through email Stephanie.Freeman@cewa.edu.au or the office/your classroom teacher and I will return your message.

Mrs Stephanie Freeman, Music Teacher

UNIFORM NEWS

GIRLS SKORTS

Girls Red Skorts have been discontinued by the manufacturers, unfortunately out of our control. Girls have the option to continue wearing girls red skorts UNTIL THE END OF 2023, alternatively Red Sport Shorts are available for girls and boys to purchase from the uniform shop. Currently we have limited stock of Size 4 and Size 6 Skorts ONLY. Parents who have placed orders for skorts for your child commencing Pre-primary in 2023, skorts are available for purchase.

2022 KINDY & PRE PRIMARY STUDENTS

Please note that a compulsory uniform is required for commencement of 2023. Orders placed are now ready and payment is required on collection. Uniform orders must be collected before end of this term, thank you. Last day the Uniform Shop will be open is Thursday 8 December at 2.30pm to 3.30pm.

2023 EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDENTS

Pre-Kindy and Kindergarten are encouraged to wear a Red Early Childhood T-Shirt and/or a Red Early Childhood Track Top (NOT compulsory) Kindergarten are required to purchase a St Lawrence Library Bag. (COMPULSORY) Stock is available to purchase directly from the Uniform Shop.

SECOND HAND UNIFORMS

End of year CLEARANCE SALE of 20% off all second hand uniforms will be available by WEEK 8, 30th November until WEEK 9, 8th DECEMBER.

Thank you to the parents who have kindly donated second hand uniforms that are WASHED and are in good saleable condition. Please NO hats, school socks and school ties. Track jackets with broken zips or any torn uniforms cannot be accepted.

LOST PROPERTY

A Lost Property box which is located at the entrance of the Learning Centre, is full of uniforms (jackets and jumpers). Items not collected by the end of this term, will be cleared and sold as second hand at the Uniform Shop. Please make sure if your child is missing any items, to check the lost property box.

Mrs Angie Miola, Uniform Shop Manager

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

LET'S FIESTA

WELCOME BACK – 2023!

The P&F would like to welcome our whole community to an exciting night on **Friday 17 February 2023** from 5.30pm. More information will be available at the beginning of the school year.

Donations are kindly requested please for the raffle on the night.

Many thanks to those who have contributed and supported the P&F Fundraising events this year. We look forward to your continued support in 2023.



*We wish you all a wonderful Christmas
and look forward to an exciting 2023.*

Mrs Natasha Raso, P&F President

CANTEEN NEWS

Thank you to my helpers last week - Fran C and Vanessa P on Friday.

If anyone is available to help on Thursday 8th December from 9am – 11am, can you please contact me.

Swimming Lessons continue next week.

As we have three different lunch times we have a reduced menu and have added sushi as an option on both Fridays, please see attached menu.

Please note there are varying daily specials and also a section for items available every day. If you have any queries, please message me – 0408834774. Thank you.

Canteen Christmas Raffle tickets are now on sale from the canteen - 1 for \$5 or 3 for \$10. The raffle will be drawn Friday 9th December at line-up.

- 1st Prize \$300 Scooter Hut Voucher - donated kindly by David Michael MLA
- 2nd Prize 4 x Silver GA tickets to Perth Glory 10th March, Perth Glory soccer ball and wallet - kindly donated by Perth Glory
- 3rd Prize Event Cinemas Family Pass - kindly donated by Event Cinemas Innaloo
- 4th Prize Warwick Supabowl Family Pass - kindly donated by Warwick Supabowl
- 5th prize \$50 Wish gift card and 6th Prize \$50 Wish Gift Card - kindly donated by Woolworths Roselea
- 7th prize Pancake Maker Gift pack - kindly donated by Mrs Frenzel
- 8th Prize Wine gift pack - kindly donated by Radich Family

Thank you to all our donors for your generosity! If you are unable to call into the Canteen to purchase a ticket, you may send money in an envelope and tickets will be sent home via your child.

SWIMMING LUNCH MENU	
Wednesday Chicken Burger \$5 Beef Burger \$5 + Cheese \$0.50	AVAILABLE DAILY Toasted sandwiches Ham & Cheese, Ham, cheese, tomato \$4 Tuna, cheese & mayo \$4.50 Vegemite and cheese \$3.50 Cheese \$3.50 Tomato & cheese \$3.50 Chicken Strips x2 \$4 Nuggets (5) \$4 Add sauce \$0.50 Chicken Strip Wrap \$4.50 Spinach & Ricotta sausage roll \$4
Friday Sausage sizzle \$4 Pie \$4 Add sauce \$0.50 Sushi (preorder by Wednesday prior) Tuna, Chicken or veg 5 piece \$5.50 6 piece \$6.50	Thursday Sausage sizzle \$4 Sausage roll \$3.50 Pie \$4 Add sauce \$0.50 Lasagna \$4.50
Ice creams 50c - \$3	DRINKS Juice \$2 Glee, Chill J, choc or strawberry milk, Up & Go All \$2.50 Water \$1

Sushi Special
Friday 25th
November &
Friday 2nd
December
5 piece \$5.50
6 piece \$6.50
Tuna, Chicken
Teriyaki or
Vegetarian
Please preorder
by Wednesday
prior



PIC•COLLAGE

St Lawrence Canteen **Christmas Raffle!**



1st Prize: \$300 Scooter Hut Voucher

2nd Prize: Perth Glory Pack (4 x silver general admission tickets 7th March, soccer ball, wallet)

3rd Prize: Event Cinema Family Pass

4th Prize : Warwick Supabowl Family Pass

5th Prize: \$50 Wish Gift Card

6th prize : \$50 Wish Gift Card

7th Prize: Pancake Maker Gift Pack

8th Prize: 2 Bottles of Red Wine

1 ticket for \$ 5

Or

3 tickets for \$10

**Tickets on Sale Now Raffle drawn: Friday 9th
December**