



## Newsletter No. 7

**16 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.



"Heavenly Father, Please fill my heart  
with so much Love and Compassion so  
that I can make others feel the same. Let  
me radiate with your pure energy and  
feel others comfortable and peaceful.  
Amen."



## Dear Parents and Caregivers

Due to personal reasons Mr Carey will be taking leave for the remainder of Term One. Mrs Gabrielle Brennan and Ms Kathleen Tranquille will be Acting Principals during this time. Please send any communication you would have directed to Mr Carey to the emails below:

[Gabrielle.brennan@cewa.edu.au](mailto:Gabrielle.brennan@cewa.edu.au) and [Kathleen.tranquille@cewa.edu.au](mailto:Kathleen.tranquille@cewa.edu.au)

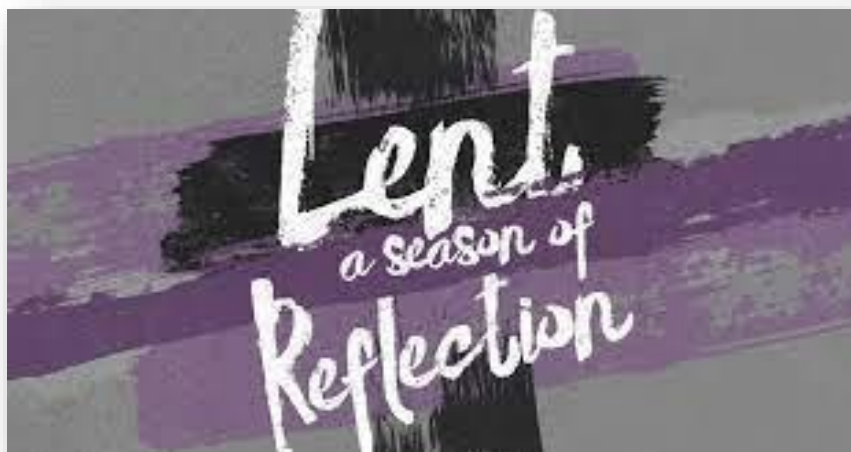
## LENT

During this liturgical season of Lent, we are all invited to think about our lives and reflect on how we can in our own way support those around us. This is especially important with the challenges we are all facing with the prevalence of COVID-19. Lent is a time to reflect and remember that it is the small acts of kindness that we can all do, daily, to improve someone else's day. This has certainly been reflected in our St Lawrence School Community over the last few weeks and has once again demonstrated why we truly are part of a blessed school community. As the number of positive cases in WA increases so does uncertainty and some element of fear. Whilst these are all valid and understandable responses, they have not overridden the human element involved at our school. Each family has fully offered their support with such graciousness. This is something our community must be commended on. Thank you.

We also wish to acknowledge the wonderful staff at St Lawrence who are working together in Unity and all playing a vital role in making sure things keep moving forward despite the obstacles they are facing. It really is remarkable how our staff always focus on the students learning and wellbeing rather than themselves. They have increased responsibilities including additional duties, cleaning classrooms and areas around the school, managing the extra planning involved in teaching face to face and providing remote learning for children who must isolate. Thank you to all the St Lawrence staff for their determined dedication.





Our students are also to be commended. They have proven time and time again what a resilient group they are. They have adapted to mask wearing seamlessly and continue to work hard despite change and uncertainty. Our student leaders should be very proud of themselves. They are doing a wonderful job leading our online school assemblies and assisting with various tasks around the school. All the children throughout our school are demonstrating a growth mindset by trying to find the positive in challenging situations.

All the above is truly a reflection of how our community is shining brightly through adversity and how closely our community is following COVID safe practices.



## COVID-19 UPDATE

All parents/carers have received an email explaining the latest updated information regarding close contacts. The image below simplifies this information and makes it very clear what parents/carers at St Lawrence Primary School need to do.

My Child Is .....	Can my child Attend School?
<b>A Close Contact no symptoms</b>	 <p>Your child can attend school after a RAT/PCR test. Monitor their health, do a PCR test on day 6 or RAT on day 7. If child develops symptoms, they need to stay at home.</p>
<b>A Close Contact with some symptoms</b>	 <p>Your child should stay home. Conduct a RAT/PCR as soon as possible and conduct a PCR on day 6 or a RAT on day 7</p>
<b>A Household close contact (household member COVID positive)</b>	 <p>Your child should isolate for 7 days, monitor their health and conduct a PCR on day 6 or a RAT on day 7.</p>
<b>Negative but has some symptoms</b>	 <p>Your child should stay at home. It may not be COVID but if your child is unwell, they should stay home and rest until symptoms have resolved.</p>

It continues to be vitally important that parents and caregivers inform the school if their child tests positive for COVID-19.

To support our planning for your child's classroom attendance, please send an email to [www.admin@stlawbal.edu.au](mailto:www.admin@stlawbal.edu.au) and your child's teacher to notify the school if your child returns a negative PCR/ RAT result, after:

- being identified as a close contact (Day 1 test to return to school as an asymptomatic close contact), and/or
- being identified as a household close contact (Day 7 test to conclude quarantine).

As you can imagine as cases increase, this has become a very onerous task for the staff members responsible for documenting all this information and keeping track of return to school dates for isolated students and staff.

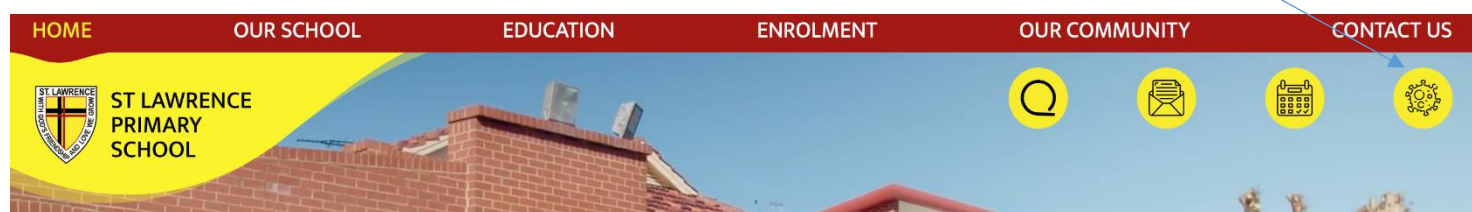
# New online form for Self-Reporting RAT and PCR results for Students and Staff

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.



We understand that our pickup and drop off procedures are taking longer in the morning and after school due to the number of families who are now having to use the drive throughs each day. The staff on duty do their best to keep cars moving as smoothly as possible. We have noticed recently that some parents are dropping off their children when they are far back in the line and allowing their children to walk across the carpark.

We remind parents to be patient and wait until you can safely drop off your child when you are near to one of the staff members on duty. We also remind parents to remain in their car. The staff members on duty will assist younger children to leave their car. Thank you for your understanding. The safety and wellbeing of your children is always our priority.

### **PARENT-TEACHER INTERVIEWS**

Due to current circumstances preventing parents from entering the school, parent teacher interviews are taking place on the phone. These interviews are a great opportunity to speak with your child's teacher and find out how your child has settled and how they are progressing in their new class. Please ensure you are punctual for your phone call with the teacher and please be aware that they have many parents to call in a short period of time. If a teacher needs to end a phone call it is because they need to speak to another parent. Please email the teacher or arrange a time to call them if you have any further questions or comments.



### **PROJECT COMPASSION**

Families at St Lawrence are encouraged to donate to Project Compassion over the period of Lent. We are aware that this is a challenging time financially for some families, but if you can donate, the money raised goes directly to worthy causes around the world through Caritas. For further information about Project Compassion, please visit the Caritas website.  
<https://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion>



### **HARMONY WEEK**

The message of Harmony Week is that everyone belongs. It is about inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians, regardless of cultural or linguistic background, united by a set of core Australian values. Our school will be celebrating Harmony Day by allowing the children to wear something orange on Harmony Day, Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March.

Children will engage in a range of activities and will take part in a prayer service on this day.

God Bless each and every one of you.

***Gabrielle Brennan and Kathleen Tranquille***  
*Acting Principals*

# **SCHOOL ENROLMENT & FEES**

## **KINDERGARTEN APPLICATION FOR 2023**

**Applications for Kindy in 2023 are currently being processed.**

**Even if you have siblings at the school you still need to fill out relevant application forms for your child.**

If you have a child ready to commence Kindy in 2023, please visit the school's website for enrolment information and application form or contact the school office.

If you know of other families within the community that would like to attend our Kindergarten programme for 2023, please let them know that they need to visit the school's website or contact the school for an application form.

Applications close Friday 18 March 2022

## **PRE-KINDERGARTEN (3yr old) APPLICATION FOR 2023**

If you have a child ready to commence Pre-Kindy in 2023, please visit the school's website for enrolment information and application form or contact the school office.

If you know of other families within the community that would like to attend our Pre-Kindergarten programme for 2023, please let them know that they need to visit the school's website for enrolment information and application form or contact the school.

Applications close Friday 18 March 2022

## **HEALTH CARE CARD**

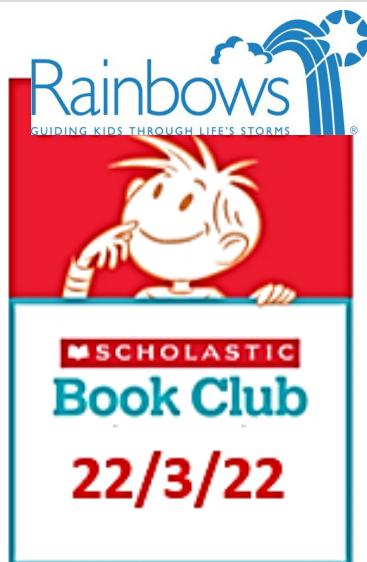
If you are a holder of a **Health Care Card** or **Pensioner Concession Card**, you are entitled to a discount on your school fees. An application form must be completed, and a copy of your current card supplied. Further information and application forms are available from the school office.

**Please supply this information to the school office as soon as possible.**

## **SCHOOL FEES**

School fees will be emailed to families within the next week. Please check your emails, including your junk folders, for this email. Please direct any school fees inquiries to Mrs Lina Armstrong at the school office on 9344 4944.

## LIBRARY NEWS



Scholastic Book Club brochures have gone home this week. Should you wish to place an order, please make sure it is submitted by the following Tuesday, (**due Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March. Loop orders must be submitted by 3.30pm on this day.**)

Parents can pay by credit card, via the LOOP online ordering system, or by cash. If you are paying by cash, please return the completed form with the correct money, in an envelope to your class teacher. Please make sure that the envelope is clearly marked Book Club, along with your child's name and year level on the front of the envelope.

Please also remember to complete your child's full name and year level on the top of the order form, along with a contact number.

*\*\*Book Club is always due the Tuesday of the following week from when the brochures go home. Unfortunately, we are unable to process late orders\*\**

*Mrs Louise Frenzel, Library Officer*



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](mailto: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 31<sup>st</sup> 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

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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 7<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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



## Recess and Pre Orders

As from this week, we will be 'pre-order' only at recess. The canteen will not be open with extra food at recess time.

If you wish to pre-order:

Your child can do so in the morning or you can send in a zip lock bag or brown paper bag and pop in the class lunch order basket.

## Wednesday Menu

Fish fingers will be available for lunch. \$4 add sauce for 50c extra.

Please note we have no Dino Nuggets this week, just normal steggles premium breast nuggets.

## Friday Menu

We are trialling a new pizza - margarita, ham and cheese, or supreme for \$4.

We thank you for your support. If you have any questions, please contact us on – 0408834774.

*Christina, Fran and Antonella*