



Newsletter No. 21

20 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

As our new semester begins, perhaps it is time to think about tending the winter garden in preparation for spring. The following reflection may be helpful...

THE GARDEN OF OUR DAILY LIVING:

PLANT THREE ROWS OF PEAS:

1. Peace of mind
2. Peace of heart
3. Peace of soul

PLANT FOUR ROWS OF SQUASH:

1. Squash gossip
2. Squash indifference
3. Squash grumbling
4. Squash selfishness

PLANT FOUR ROWS OF LETTUCE:

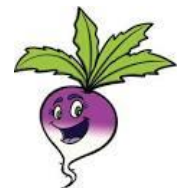
1. Lettuce be faithful
2. Lettuce be kind
3. Lettuce be patient
4. Lettuce really love one another

NO GARDEN IS WITHOUT TURNIPS:

1. Turnip for meetings
2. Turnip for service
3. Turnip to help one another

TO CONCLUDE OUR GARDEN WE MUST HAVE THYME:

1. Thyme for each other
2. Thyme for family
3. Thyme for friends



WATER FREELY WITH PATIENCE AND CULTIVATE WITH LOVE.

THERE IS MUCH FRUIT IN YOUR GARDEN.

BECAUSE YOU REAP WHAT YOU SOW.

Catholic Schools of Excellence

All Catholic Schools are required to have an Evangelisation Policy. This plan helps our school to shape and form the Evangelising mission of a Catholic School within the Catholic Church.

The principles underlining our Evangelisation Policy are:

- *At St Lawrence we are called to share the word of God with those in the school community.*
- *God's message of hope will be shared with all.*
- *Every effort is made to please God as we imitate Christ in all we do and all we say*
- *The Evangelisation Policy is central to all we do at St Lawrence.*

The Procedure underlying our policy is:

At St Lawrence we endeavour to spread the mission of Jesus Christ in word and action; by offering students primary proclamation and initiatory catechesis

- *Providing students with many opportunities to witness their faith*
- *Foster the sacramental life of our school community*
- *Pastorally care for all members of the school community*
- *Enable staff to participate in Faith Development opportunities*
- *Being aware of the global community and giving support where possible*
- *Ensuring the inclusion of the school community when appropriate*
- *By striving to live and model good Christian Witness.*

Working towards achieving our targeted outcomes keeps St Lawrence on a cycle of growth and improvement. Our Leadership Team is centred on maintaining St Lawrence as an outstanding school of choice.

Catholic Pastoral Communities

A "C" grade on a report...what does it mean?... It is important we have a clear understanding of what a "C" grade actually means on a report... receiving a "C" grade and maintaining that grade throughout the year is in fact expected progress. If a child receives a C grade in first semester and then a C grade in second semester then they have maintained expected progress and shown expected growth. Maintaining the C grade therefore is a very good outcome and shows growth from first semester to second semester. If a student has achieved this, we should be very satisfied as they have maintained growth, enhanced their knowledge and skills and developed at the expected rates and achievement levels.

Another important matter to note is the growth of a student and not necessarily their attainment. Attainment is what is reflected in the current reporting documentation, e.g. a "C" grade is an attainment...it does not reflect the growth. Reports are a stagnate document and are unable to truly reflect the fluidness of student learning and growth. We focus far too readily on the attained grade and not the growth made by the individual student.

A report card is only one small tool used to give feedback on the learning process. The wealth of knowledge a teacher would harvest on a student's learning cannot be simply put down as a tick in a box then assigned an arbitrary value. Eg a "C". Reports serve as a tool to help communicate the learning and attainment of a student, but they are by no means the only reporting tool or the most comprehensive. They form part therein of the feedback on the learning process.

All our schools enact a Code of Conduct that promotes positive work practices and establishes expectations for personal and professional boundaries concerning appropriate and inappropriate behaviour for staff, students, volunteers, parents, guardians and visitors.

There are clear procedures for raising concerns, facilitating discussion, and promoting professional behaviours and healthy relationships.

Our school meets registration standards and other compliance obligations, including Mandatory Reporting, Codes of Conduct for staff and students, protective behaviours curriculum, training for staff and students, and information for parents and carers.

All children are given opportunities to participate in the curriculum for child safety and all staff are supported to develop their understanding of the curriculum and the school's responsibilities.

Our Codes of Conduct are enacted to support the safety of all our children and community members.

All Teaching Staff are Mandatory Reporters are legally bound to report any and all suspected child safety concerns. We have stringent procedures we follow in enacting this process.

As we return to school, I take this opportunity to remind all the importance of sleep.

Sleep. Sleep is the secret weapon of cognitive success. Across a range of activities, involving not just language but mathematics, logic problems and spatial reasoning, sleep has been shown to enhance our brain power. That is why we are told to 'sleep on it' when we have a problem. The solution is often obvious in the morning.

Young people need much more sleep than adults for the health of their bodies and their minds. Prioritise your sleep and your happy brain will help you get a lot more done and done well. Ensure your children have an abundance of sleep to organise their minds and you are all but guaranteed a great term ahead.

Acknowledgement: The Organized Mind: Thinking Straight in the Age of Information Overload, a book by neuroscientist Daniel Levitin reported on by Laura Vanderkam.

I strongly encourage all parents to ensure your children have the adequate hours of sleep to support their learning at school. Tired children simply do not learn as well as rested children. Set sleep times, patterns and processes are required. E.g. go to bed at the same time every night, start by brushing teeth, preparing school bag and uniform for the next day. Try to read to your children every night, it really does improve a child's reading if parents read to them at home regularly. Once children are in a pattern it is much easier to follow the routines and attain the correct amount of sleep.

Accessible, Affordable and Sustainable

We continue to monitor the developing situation pertaining to COVID-19 and the unfolding events on the Easter Sea Coast.

As Premier Mark McGowan has recently communicated, WA is seeing an increasing number of cases of COVID-19 in the community due to the BA.4 and BA.5 Omicron subvariants. While the Chief Health Officer has said that this should not be cause for alarm, we are being encouraged not to become complacent in taking preventative measures to stop the spread of COVID-19, including the wearing of masks.

Masks are ***required*** to be worn for people aged 12 years and older in the following settings:

- GPs;
- Aboriginal health services;
- Dental and optical health clinics;
- Hospitals, aged care and disability care facilities;
- Public and passenger transport, including school buses;
- Aircraft.

Masks are also encouraged where physical distancing is not possible. Masks are an effective measure to lessen the risk of both spreading and becoming infected with COVID-19.

Please continue to register your child's COVID-19 results via the CEWA Self-Reporting Portal and any positive COVID-19 RAT results on the [WA Health RAT Register](#), as is required by the WA Government.

God bless each and every one of you.



Sheldon Carey
M Ed, B Ed, Grad Dip
Principal



PASTORAL CARE



**Please keep the Tranquille Family in your prayers
as they mourn the passing of their much beloved husband, dad and pop.**



HOME LEARNING TIP:



Welcome Back to Term Three



FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

WELCOME BACK

We have had a wonderful start to the term. **Term Three** is set to be a very busy but exciting term.

*Lord Jesus Christ
In the Sacrament of Eucharist, you left us the outstanding manifestation
of your limitless love for us.
Inspire me to carry to others Your message of love,
care and forgiveness.
Amen*

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Students in Year 4 will receive the Sacrament of Eucharist for the first time on Saturday 20th August at 4.00pm. Father Adam will meet with parents at 7.00pm this evening to share information about the Sacrament of Eucharist.

When a young person receives Holy Communion for the first time it is a special occasion for them and their families. In the Eucharist we have Jesus, we have His sacrifice, we have His resurrection, and we have the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the children receiving their First Holy Communion, we pray that they will experience the promise of Christ in a unique way.

P&F MORNING TEA

The P&F have organised a Welcome Back Morning Tea on Friday at 9am in the Alverna Centre. Thank you to the P&F for organising this community building event.

CONSTABLE CARE INCURSION

Constable Care will visit St Lawrence School on Friday. The Constable Care Foundation is a safety education provider that delivers performance-based safety presentations to children in schools throughout Western Australia. Our Kindy to Year 3 students will watch a puppet show that teaches young children how to identify a medical emergency and explain what they can do. Our Year 4 to 6 students will watch a performance that uses the world of online gaming as the backdrop to teach them about how they can make sure they stay safe online.

CORE VALUES

Our core values: *Joy, Courage and Unity* are based on Gospel Values. Our Faith Leaders will introduce our Term 3 value which is Unity at our assembly in week 2. Our Core Values are displayed on banners in the school hall and on posters at the front of the school. We focus on one Value each term and then review all our values in Term 4. Lawry Bear awards are presented to students who model behaviours linked with our termly core values.



Please check our website calendar for upcoming and future dates. This calendar will be regularly updated. The calendar can be located on our school website on the Home Page <https://stlawbal.wa.edu.au>



Mrs Gabrielle Brennan & Miss Kathleen Tranquille, Assistant Principals

LIBRARY NEWS

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

Book Club orders that were outstanding from last term have been delivered to student's classrooms today. Apologies once again for the delay.

New Book Club brochures have been sent home this week. Orders can be placed via the Loop ordering system using credit card or by returning the order form to the class teacher, with cash payment in a sealed envelope, marked with your child's name and year level on the front of the envelope.



Book Club orders need to be returned by Tuesday 26th July.

CHESS CLUB IS BACK!

Chess Club will recommence next Wednesday during lunchtime and will take place in the library. All students from Years 1 to 6 are welcome to come along every Wednesday at 1pm. For those that do not know how to play, there will be Chess Mentors who have kindly volunteered to teach those new to chess.

Already know how to play chess? Then come along and play either with a friend or we can find you a partner.

Looking forward to seeing you all at Chess Club next week.



Mrs Louise Frenzel, Library Officer

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

WINTER UNIFORM

Welcome back to Term 3. Students in Year 1 to Year 6 return to school in their full Winter Uniform.

Pre Primary students are required to wear all the school sports uniform items. This is compulsory for all Pre Primary students. Parents, for further information please refer to the Pre Primary Uniform Policy on the school's website.

Pre Kindy and Kindergarten students are encouraged to wear the Early Childhood T-Shirt and Track Top.

School uniform items are available for purchase from the School Uniform Shop.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on Angie.Miola@cewa.edu.au for any uniform enquiries. Order forms are available from the school office and from the school's website.

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

Welcome back to term 3.



THANK YOU

A big thank you to the wonderful helpers last term, especially on the last day of Term Two.

Thank you to: Lucia, Renee, Melissa, Sarah and Sue, it was a huge day in terms of numbers and you ladies made it run smoothly.

Your help and support was very much appreciated.

If anyone can help this term, please contact me (0408834774). Help is urgently needed tomorrow, especially from 9am to 11am.



*Christina, Frances & Antonella
2022 Canteen staff*