



Newsletter No. 23

3 August 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

Saint Lawrence, (died 258, Rome Italy; feast day August 10), is one of the most venerated Roman martyrs of the Catholic Church. He is celebrated for his Christian valour and his great love of the poor. He is the patron saint of the poor and of cooks.

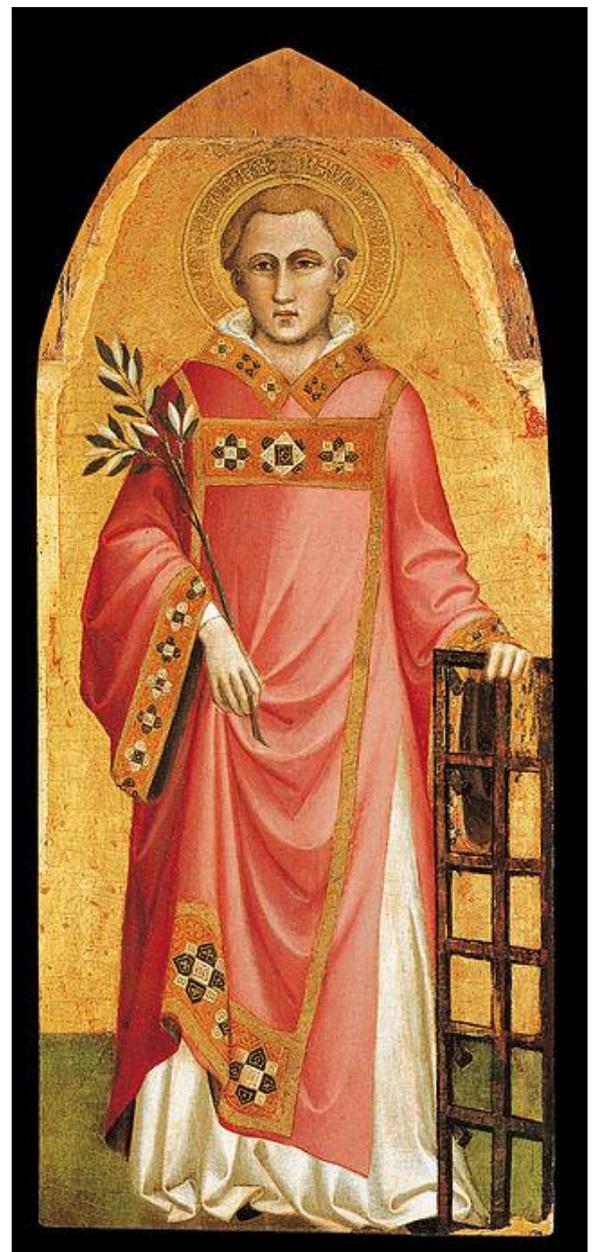
Lawrence was among the seven deacons of the Roman church serving Pope Sixtus II, whose martyrdom preceded Lawrence's by a few days: they were executed during the persecution under the Roman emperor Valerian.

The emperor believed the Church to have great wealth in gold and silver and captured Lawrence asking for "all the treasure of the Church." It is said that Lawrence gave the church's treasures to the poor and the sick before his arrest. The emperor then asked for the treasures and Lawrence assembled all the poor and presented them to the emperor saying, "These are the treasures of the Church."

Although Lawrence was probably beheaded, St. Ambrose of Milan and the Latin poet Prudentius, among others, recorded that he was roasted to death on a gridiron, remarking to his torturers at one point, "I am cooked on that side; turn me over."

Many conversions to Christianity throughout Rome reportedly followed Lawrence's death, including those of several senators witnessing his execution. He is named in the canon of the Roman mass.

St Lawrence is our school's patron saint, and we are very proud of our traditions and association with the name of such a great man and saint. Through the intercessions of St Lawrence, I pray for the safety and wellbeing of you all.



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.

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

Commonwealth School Data Collection Notice The Non-Government Schools Census (Census) – Friday 5 August 2022

Parents for your information please see attachment to this week's school newsletter.

“The Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment (the department) would like to advise all parents and guardians that it collects certain information about your child's school, its staff, and student body.

This information is collected by the department in accordance with the Australian Education Act 2013 (the Act) and the Australian Education Regulation 2013 (the Regulation). The Act and the Regulation require the legal entity responsible for the administration of the school (the approved authority) to provide certain information to the department.”

Catholic Pastoral Communities

Catholic Performing Arts Festival 2022

St Lawrence Primary School Choir have been hard at work preparing for their upcoming performance at the **Catholic Performing Arts Festival** on:

Friday 26 August from 9.30am-10.45am (time slot) at The Vasto Club, 5 Vasto Place Balcatta

Parents and family are welcome to attend all the Catholic Performing Arts Festival events as audience members.

You are encouraged to pre-purchase tickets through the following link (sessions are known to sell out): <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing?eid=915926&> .

Accessible, Affordable and Sustainable

There is a beautiful quote from Janusz Korczak (a polish Jewish educator, children's author and Principal of an orphanage in Warsaw), that I would like to share with you. This quote and the sentiment within, are my hopes and prayer for the children entrusted in our care here at St Lawrence.

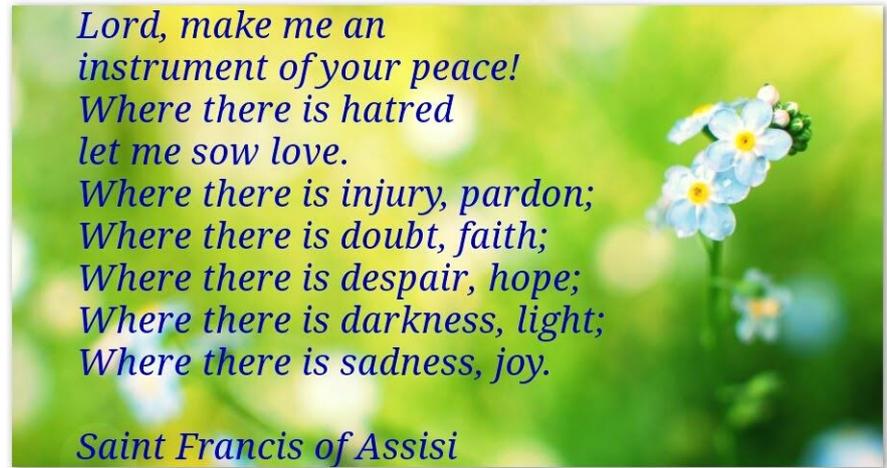
*“Children are not the people of tomorrow but are people of today.
They have a right to be taken seriously, and to be treated with
tenderness and respect.*

*They should be allowed to grow into whoever they were meant to be.
'The unknown person' inside of them is our hope for the future.”*

God bless each and every one of you and I look forward to our special St Lawrence Feast Day celebrations on Friday 5 August 2022.



Sheldon Carey
M Ed, B Ed, Grad Dip
Principal



PASTORAL CARE



We pray for all families, children and staff involved in the sacramental programs. May this journey of Faith be rewarding and help lay the foundations for a lifelong love of Christ and commitment to His Church.

Learning at Home Tips:

Model Good Behaviour

“You are your child’s best teacher,” says Mary Mackrain. “Be a positive role model and offer children opportunities to observe you being a kind and caring person.”

She adds that it’s important for children to see adults taking care of themselves, too.

“You can only give what you have,” she says. “Find ways to build your personal joy, get rest, and model for yourself what you want for your own child.” Sage advice for all parents to hear. Our children see all we do. How we respond to other when driving, at the shops or the conversations we have on the phone...the list is endless. They are watching, learning, modelling and fine tuning how they will respond to others. Take care with how you behave and what you say and how you say it when in front of your children.

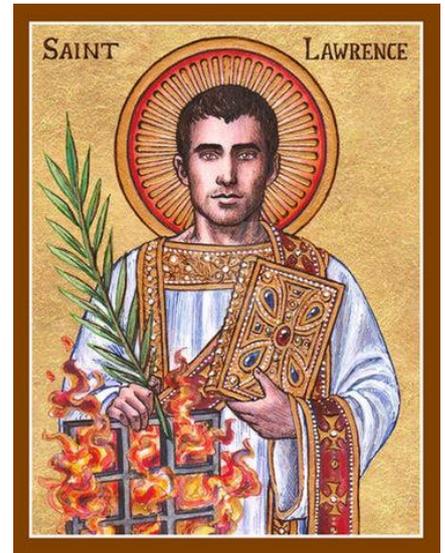
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

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.



COVID-19

As Premier Mark McGowan has recently communicated, WA is experiencing a rise in the number of cases of COVID-19 in the community. While the Chief Health Officer has said that this should not be cause for alarm, we are being encouraged to not become complacent in taking preventative measures to stop the spread of COVID-19.

Masks are strongly encouraged where physical distancing is not possible. Please encourage your child to wear a mask to school if they are unable to physically distance from others. Masks are an effective measure to lessen the risk of both spreading and becoming infected.

Please continue to register your child's COVID-19 results via the Self-Reporting Portal on the home page on our school website. Please also ensure that positive results are registered on the WA Health Register.

UNIFORMS

Thank you to all the parents who ensure their children wear the St Lawrence uniform correctly. The uniform shop opening times are:

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

Further information about uniforms can be located on the school website.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Students in Year 4 will receive the Sacrament of Eucharist for the first time on Saturday 20th August at 4pm. This is a special occasion for them and their families. For the children receiving their First Holy Communion, we pray that they will experience the promise of Christ in a unique way.



BISHOPS RELIGIOUS LITERACY ASSESSMENT

The assessment for students in Years 3 and 5 will occur this week.

The Bishops' Religious Literacy Assessment is a curriculum-based assessment which reflects and supports the progressive nature of the K-12 Religious Education Units. It focuses on a student's ability to recall content about the Catholic Religion and assesses their knowledge and understanding of Religious Education, it does not measure a student's faith. The intended purpose of the assessment is to provide individual schools with a snapshot of student performance in Religious Education.

CROSS COUNTRY – **Change of start time**

Parents please note that the **Cross Country** is **STILL** scheduled to take place on **Tuesday 9 August**. However, due to the weather forecast, the event will take place at 1.25pm, straight after lunch. Students may wear alternate shoes to run on the day if they choose.

Mrs Gabrielle Brennan and Miss Kathleen Tranquille, Assistant Principals

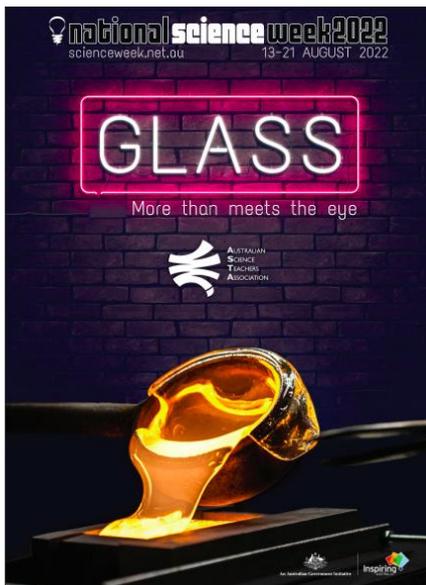
MERIT AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations!



SENSATIONAL SCIENCE

Term 3 is all about Physical Science for our St Lawrence Scientists. Students in Year 1, 3 and 5 will explore Light and Sound in various ways; from what produces light and sound (Y1), how heat is produced/transferred (Y3), to exploring the behaviour of light (Y5). For students in Year P, 2, 4 and 6 it's all about forces – the focus of Movement (PP), Push & Pull (Y2), Magnets (Y4) and the various sources of Energy (Y6).



Watch This Space

Glass Inspired Science Activities, Teacher v Student Challenge, and an invitation to explore “Glass” in the world around us, as we celebrate National Science Week at St Lawrence Primary School in Week 5.

FACT: WHAT IS GLASS?

The glass used in windows and drinking glasses is made by heating and mixing silica (quartz sand) with limestone, soda ash and other ingredients, and then cooling it so quickly that an orderly crystal structure can't form.

Instead, the particles are spread out randomly. This gives glass its properties as a hard, yet brittle material with a smooth surface. From solar panels to phone screens, glass is manufactured into different shapes for a huge range of uses.

Mrs Stephanie Freeman, Science Specialist Teacher

ITALIAN NEWS

Buongiorno a tutti, Term 3 Week 3 Buon lavoro everyone!

Congratulazioni to all the students at our school for participating in the **Italian Festival 2022 Primary School Students' Competition** titled "The International Year of Glass 2022" organised by Italo-Australian Welfare & Cultural Centre Inc.

Twenty-one finalists (3 from each year level) were selected to enter their Italian Competition piece. Eleven of our wonderful students received Merit Certificates. Bravissimi!



Each year level had to present a poster illustrating a different aspect of glass used in our lives and write about it. I am very proud of each student's effort.

Wishing everyone a wonderful Semester 2.

Buon lavoro e Buon divertimento.

Mrs Jenny Acquarola, Italian Specialist Teacher

P&F NEWS

FATHER'S DAY STALL

We will be having a Father's Day Stall on **Friday 26 August**. Presents will range from \$1 to \$5.



FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST - Friday 2 September

Father's Day Raffle. Donations are kindly required.
Please leave your donations for prizes at the school office.

Thank you, parents and friends, for all your support.

P&F President and Executive

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

SPORTS CARNIVAL

- Faction sports carnival will be held on Friday 16th September. Faction t-shirts are compulsory to wear on carnival day and on sports days for all students in Pre-primary to Year 6.
- Students will be notified by teachers when to commence wearing their faction t-shirts for sports days.
- **Kindy** students are also welcome to purchase a faction t-shirt.
- Faction t-shirts are available and must be purchased from the Uniform Shop in Sizes 4 to 16 at \$12.00.

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 school 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

Help is required in the Canteen for this term. Any help is always greatly appreciated.

- **P&F Feast Day Lunch** - Thank you in advance for those willing to help on Friday.
- **Sports carnival - 16th September**
- **Last day of Term Thursday - 22 September**

If you are available to help, even only for a couple of hours for these events or on a canteen day, please message me – 0408834774

St Lawrence Feast Day Friday 5th August – students' lunch will be provided by the P&F. Details were outlined in previous correspondence. **Please note** that this is the only lunch items available on this day.

Christina, Frances & Antonella, 2022 Canteen staff