



Newsletter No. 26

24 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

My prayer this week is quite simply a reflection on the words of one far greater than I.



Anne Frank

*How wonderful it is that nobody needs to wait a single moment
before starting to improve the world.
Amen*

Inspiring Christ-Centre Leaders

We have been able to acquire the services of a highly regarded educator Mr Ben Saulsman (Catholic Education WA Numeracy Consultant). Ben will be presenting to our parents on Thursday 1 September from 7.00 to 8.00pm. Ben will be talking about the importance of teaching valuable lifelong skills and ideas for how parents/guardians can support their children to develop these skills.

I strongly encourage all parents to attend this evening as it contains highly valuable information for all parents to know. Our wonderful P&F are supplying nibbles and drinks prior to the presentation....so come along, enjoy a social gathering and take part in this wonderful learning opportunity.

Recently I read an article, pertaining to home/family/school partnerships and how to improve the educational experiences of our students.

The author was discussing the characteristics of children who achieve well at school and one common thread was that they all seemed to have supportive parents.

So, what characteristic do supportive parents have?

“When I felt my son was not doing his best at school, I drew on my experience of these terrific parents to rethink what we could do as a family to support him. I realised I was inspired by these parents, and this is what struck me:

- ✓ *They saw education as a partnership between school, home and their child. Everyone was equally responsible.*
- ✓ *They made it clear that education was a wonderful opportunity to be seized by the student.*
- ✓ *They believed that effort, self-discipline, listening and respect are key features of a receptive mind.*
- ✓ *They trusted and supported teachers and acknowledged their professionalism and expertise and sought their counsel.*
- ✓ *They displayed realistic expectations of their children’s strengths and weaknesses and supported and resourced those.*
- ✓ *They focused on self-improvement in their child, not comparative worth in relation to others.*
- ✓ *They worked with their children supportively to ensure homework was completed, that their children were organised, well-rested and ready for learning.*
- ✓ *They addressed significant issues at school as respectful advocates for their children.*
- ✓ *They contributed to the school community through classroom support programs, by participating in festivals, creative pursuits, fetes, sporting teams and working bees.”*

(Taken from Scribe Education Magazine)

Supportive parents create better chances for students to achieve. We can see by reading the above that students’ parents who worked with the school in conjunction with the teachers, and who valued education and respected the expertise and professionalism of the staff, had a significant impact on the successful education of their children.

If we work together then we are all more likely to be moving positively in the right direction with improved achievement and happier children, parents and staff.



Catholic Schools of Excellence

CODE OF CONDUCT

Purpose

The purpose of the Code of Conduct is to describe minimum standards of conduct in all behaviour and decision making to ensure the safety and well-being of students.

Application

The Code applies to staff, students, volunteers, parents and guardians as applicable. The term 'parents' includes guardians.

Introduction

You acknowledge the inherent vulnerability of the students in your care.

You recognise that the safety and well-being of students depends upon your vigilance and diligence and the vigilance and diligence of all adults.

The Code does not give you detailed professional advice on specific behaviour. Rather, it describes the minimum requirements expected of you.

The Guidelines are illustrative and not an exhaustive list of the behaviours covered by the Code.

If your behaviour varies from the standards described in this Code and Guidelines, you should be prepared to explain and justify your decisions and actions.

While mandatory language such as 'must', 'shall' and 'will' is not used throughout the Code, there is a presumption the conduct described is mandatory and therefore not discretionary.

The Principal expects you to conduct yourself personally and professionally in a way that maintains public trust and confidence in your school and the Church.

You have a responsibility to students and their family, other members of the school community and the wider community to provide and support safe and competent education and care of students.

You will do your best to support other members of the school community to comply with the Code.

In cases of conflict between parts of the Code, between the Code and other school policies, or in any decision-making choices, you give priority to the outcome that will be in the best interests of the safety and well-being of the child.

Breaches

Breaches of the Code must be notified to the Principal and it is a breach of the Code not to do so.

A breach of the Code may constitute a failure to follow a lawful direction from the Principal and therefore the Principal will have the discretion as to what action to take, which may include counselling, professional development or sanctions under any agreement between you and the Principal. If you are a parent, volunteer or visitor, the Principal may take such action as is appropriate in your circumstances to maintain the safety and well-being of students.

The Principal must notify the appropriate authorities of any breach of the Code that was grooming behaviour: i.e.. deliberately undertaken with the aim of befriending and establishing an emotional connection with a student, to lower the student's inhibitions in preparation for engaging in sexual activity with the student.

Examples include:

- developing relationships that could be seen as favouritism (for example, the offering of gifts or special treatment for specific students)
- being alone with a student in circumstances where you are unseen or unlikely to be randomly interrupted
- initiating unnecessary physical contact with students or doing things of a personal nature that a student can do for themselves, such as toileting or changing clothes
- engaging in personal disclosures (including personal contact details), or exchanges containing sexual content with or in the presence of a student
- organising contact with a student or their family outside of school without the Principal's knowledge and/or consent (e.g. tutoring, sport coaching).
- having any non-curriculum related online contact with a student (including via digital media) or their family
- using any personal digital media account to contact students or their family
- photographing or videoing a student without the consent of the parent
- being in the presence of a student whilst under the influence of alcohol or non-medically prescribed drugs or offering either to a student

The Principal must notify the appropriate authorities of any breach of the Code that was sexual abuse of a child: ie sexual behaviour in circumstances where:

- the student is the subject of bribery, coercion, a threat, exploitation or violence;
- the student has less power than another person involved in the behaviour; or
- there is a significant disparity in the developmental function or maturity of the child and another person involved in the behaviour.

Conduct Statements

1. You act safely and competently.
2. You give priority to students' safety and well-being in all your behaviour and decision making.
3. You act in accordance with the values of the Gospel as defined in the Code of Ethical Conduct.
4. You conduct yourself in accordance with laws, agreements, policies and standards relevant to your relationship with the school community.
5. You respect the dignity, culture, values and beliefs of each member of the school community.
6. You treat personal information about members of the school community as private and confidential.
7. You give impartial, honest and accurate information about the education, safety and well-being of students.
8. You support all members of the school community in making informed decisions about students.
9. You promote and preserve the trust and privilege inherent in your relationship with all members of the school community.
10. You maintain and build on the community's trust and confidence in Catholic schools and the Church.
11. You act reflectively and ethically.
12. You allow students to have a voice in their education, safety and well-being.

Catholic Pastoral Communities

First Holy Communion

The Holy Communion Ceremony on Saturday was a very special, touching and spiritual occasion. May this journey of Faith be rewarding and help lay the foundations for a lifelong love of Christ and commitment to His Church.



I have a great job! I work with a team of outstanding professionals who are deep thinkers and really strive to enhance the educational experiences of our children. I don't know how many people truly love their jobs, but I know I do mine. Yes, there are days when I ask myself, "Why me?" but they are few and they are needed, to help me appreciate the days when I am in awe of how the Lord has blessed me to be here at St Lawrence. Every day the children remind me of the true joys of life. To see the world from a child's view, often helps an adult to greater appreciate the real joys this world has to offer. The way children see the world, the clouds that move in the sky, or the invisible wind that moves the trees, colours found in flowers or the tadpoles that swim in the ponds. The child sees these as gifts, appreciates their beauty, and inquires as to why they exist. It is this child like innocence that we as adults often seem to lack. From time to time, we all need to get in touch with our inner child and reflect on the beauty that surrounds us and allow our minds to marvel in awe of all that is good.

Accessible, Affordable and Sustainable

A reminder that children in Pre-Kindy, Kindy and Pre-Primary must be accompanied by an adult when dropped off and picked up. Older siblings are not permitted to stand in for the adult. This is a safety concern and I ask all parents and guardians to abide by this requirement.

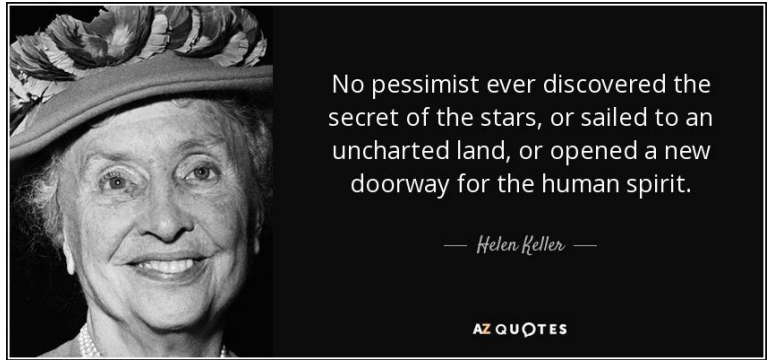
We are experiencing an increasing amount of children not being collected at the correct time. Staff are not rostered to supervise students beyond 3.20pm. It is unfair on students and staff when parents regularly are late collecting their child. Students can become anxious, and staff are kept from lesson preparation and other administrative duties. Thank you.

A big thank you to all who have paid their school fees for 2022 or are in the process of finalising their payments. Fee reminders for overdue accounts are currently being sent out. If you are having difficulties in finalising your accounts, please do not hesitate to contact me or the school office. We are here to support where we can.

God bless each and every one of you.



Sheldon Carey
M Ed, B Ed, Grad Dip
Principal



No pessimist ever discovered the secret of the stars, or sailed to an uncharted land, or opened a new doorway for the human spirit.

— Helen Keller —

AZ QUOTES

HOME LEARNING TIP

Below are two tips that parents can use to foster resilience in children.

- **Have Conversations Early and Often.** The best way to foster engagement, increase your child's self-awareness, and to figure out what is going on with your child is to have open conversations. Start early. From toddlerhood through adolescence and young adulthood, ask and talk about their mood, interests, behaviour, friends, struggles and successes. If this is seen as part of your routine relationship, it will pay off in the long run. Also, share your own experiences. Kids love stories about family and appreciate hearing what you went through in life.
- **Practice Self-Care.** We all know the line on the airplane: "In the event of an emergency, please put on your own life mask before assisting others." This is really important for parents. You cannot help your child unless you take care of yourself. This might mean finding ways to calm your own anxieties, fears, or depression. Support from others, like a spouse, sibling, friend, or parent, can be helpful. The same rules of conversation with your kids apply to others in your life, too – when we practice these conversations, we build resilience in ourselves, and we model it for our children.

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Over the upcoming weeks, classroom teachers will be inviting parents to meet with them to discuss their child's progress over the term. These interviews form an important part of our Reporting policy and are essential component in developing open communication between home and school. For these interviews we will be using Parent Teacher On-Line (PTO). An email will be sent out later this week with more information.

PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL

Our talented school choir will be performing at the Vasto Club on Friday. Please keep these children in your prayers; we know they will represent our school admirably.

FATHER'S DAY

On Friday 26th August the P&F will be running their Father's Day stall. Children are encouraged to bring money to purchase gifts for their Dad or Granddad. Approximate times are listed below:

Times	Year Level
8.45-9.00am	School Choir
9.00-9.15am	Pre-Primary
9.15 -9.30 am	Kindy
9.30-9.45am	Year 1
9.45- 10.00am	Year 2
10.00– 10.10am	Year 3
10.10- 10.20am	Year 4
10.20-10.30	Year 5
10.30-10.40	Year 6

Our students are looking forward to a delicious breakfast with the special men in their lives on Friday 2nd September. Thanks to our wonderful P&F for providing this opportunity to come together and celebrate this wonderful day.

NUMERACY PARENT MEETING

The whole school community is invited on **Thursday 1st September 2022** to attend the Numeracy Parent Meeting. The presenter, Benjamin Saulsman will be outlining the importance of teaching valuable lifelong skills to equip children for the changing workplace. From 6.30pm we will have drinks and nibbles and the presentation will begin at 7pm.

FACTION SHIRTS

Children are now allowed to wear their coloured faction shirts on their designated Sports days. Faction shirts are available from the uniform shop.

Catholic Day

Just a reminder that on Monday 29th August staff and students have a Catholic Day off. School will commence again on Tuesday 30th August.

NSI - National School Improvement Partnership Survey

An Information sheet has been emailed to parents today about a survey that will assist our school to make informed decisions about how we can improve our school. All parents/caregivers are strongly encouraged to complete the survey by following the directions on the information sheet. These surveys provide parents with an opportunity to feedback how things are going for them and their children at St Lawrence Primary School.

The school values parent feedback and will try to respond to the information that is provided through the surveys.

Please note the following:

- The Survey is completely anonymous. The feedback from the surveys does not include the data of individuals rather, feedback involves a graph based on feedback from all parents.
- There are no right or wrong answers to the questions asked.
- The response format for each question requires parents to consider how often each statement takes place in terms of: Almost Rarely, Sometimes, Often and Almost Always.

Students and staff at St Lawrence will also complete surveys and the Leadership Team and staff will look closely at all the data from the surveys and use this information to drive continuous school improvement.

Surveys are due by Friday 26th August

The Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum (KS:CPC)

St Lawrence Primary School uses the Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum (KS:CPC). This Curriculum is a world class, evidence-based child safety curriculum that teaches children and young people to recognise abuse, tell a trusted adult, understand what is appropriate and inappropriate touching and ways of keeping themselves safe. The KS:CPC is delivered to students by educators that have completed a comprehensive training course.

The curriculum is based on two main themes:

- We all have the right to be safe
- We can help ourselves to be safe by talking to people we trust.

The themes are presented through four Focus Areas:

1. The right to be safe
2. Relationships
3. Recognising and reporting abuse
4. Protective strategies

For more information, please follow the link below:

<https://www.education.sa.gov.au/teaching/curriculum-and-teaching/keeping-safe-child-protection-curriculum/about-keeping-safe-child>

Miss Kathleen Tranquille and Mrs Gabrielle Brennan, Assistant Principals

God Loves Me!



Year 1 Liturgy, 2022

WELLNESS WEEK IN KINDY!



LIBRARY NEWS

It's Book Week!

This week we are celebrating Book Week. There has been so much fun in the library. We have been continuing with our Lego Build in a Bag which will continue to roll into next week as we have had so many entries.

This morning, Pre Primary to Year 6 attended a performance by Perform Ed showcasing three of the shortlisted books.

Kindy had a special library session this afternoon celebrating Book Week. They helped to create a beautiful Rainbow Snake which will be on display in the library. Parents are most welcome to come and view Kindy's handiwork, they did a terrific job and should be very proud of their efforts. Kindy concluded their library session with a mini dance party, which reflected the colours we had seen in The Rainbow Snake book we read last week. Congratulations to Juliana who chose the correct number of Rainbow Snakes in the Jar for our Kindy competition! Well done!

Pre Kindy will have a special Book Week Storytime in the library tomorrow where we will read a story and have a special craft session afterwards.

At lunchtime Thursday, all children from Years 1-6 are welcome to come to the library at 1pm to contribute to our continuous colouring in. This will also be displayed in the library once it is finished.



The winner of the Guess How Many Rainbow Snakes in the Jar competition, for Pre Primary to Year 6, will be announced at line up on Friday.

Mrs Louise Frenzel
Library Officer



MUSIC NEWS



PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL

Catholic Performing Arts Festival Reminder

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

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

The last two Mondays, the choir rehearsed with a Piano Accompanist, a new experience for most members. And they sounded amazing! A few points to remember:

Dress Code: Students will need to be in their full winter school uniform (think what you would wear on Photo Day) ensuring they are neat and tidy, including hair (school colours for ribbons and ties please) and polished shoes. Jumpers and Leavers Jackets must be included.

Travel: Students will travel by bus to and from School/Vasto Club. And will be given an opportunity to each crunch'n'sip prior to departure, and recess on return.

Any questions please contact me stephanie.freeman@cewa.edu.au

*Thank you, Mrs Stephanie Freeman
Music Teacher*

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

SECOND HAND UNIFORMS



CLEARANCE sale of WINTER second hand uniforms will be available for purchase commencing Wednesday 31st August. Please note that NO exchanges or refunds are available on second hand uniforms.

SUMMER UNIFORM

Students in Year 1 to Year 6 return to school in Term Four in their **Summer Uniform**.

*Uniform Shop Opening Hours
Wednesday 8.30am to 9.30am and Thursday 2.30pm to 3.30pm
Mrs Angie Miola, Uniform Shop Manager*

P&F NEWS

REMINDER

FATHER'S DAY STALL

Friday 26 August. Presents will range from \$1 to \$5.

FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST

Friday 2 September - 7.30am to 8.30am

Fathers, Grandfathers and Male Caregivers are invited to this special P&F event.

BUNNINGS BBQ FUNDRAISER – Saturday 8 October

VOLUNTEERS are still required from **1.00pm to 5.30pm** for 1½ hr time slots.

If you are able to help, this would be greatly appreciated for the success of this community event.

DONATIONS

If any family would like to donate towards the cost of the BBQ, your contribution would be kindly received.

Natasha Raso, P&F President and Executive

CANTEEN NEWS

THANK YOU to my helpers last week, Jo C and Natasha R for their help on Wednesday and to our sons Lucas Anthony for helping on Friday on their Pupil Free Day, much appreciated.

HELP NEEDED

Please note that as each Thursday I am on my own, any help you can give especially at recess, I would be very grateful.

Help is urgently needed for 2nd September (next Friday). If you are able to assist, please message me on 040883477.

MENU CHANGES

- Friday we have Spinach & Ricotta Roll - \$4.
- Pizza - \$4.50: Cheese, Ham & Cheese, Supreme and Meatlovers. The price rise is due to the unprecedented price rises which we have aimed to delay as much as possible.
- Glee, Chill J, M2Go, Up & Go and Froyo price will now be \$2.50.



Lunch orders: We ask you please not to use staples or sticky tape when sending in your child's lunch orders.

2022 Canteen Staff