



Newsletter No. 30

13 October 2021

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 Rosary is the most beautiful and the most rich
in graces of all prayers." - Pope Saint Pius X*

October is the Month of the Rosary. We are encouraged to spend time in prayer each day. The Rosary is a great prayer to focus our attention on Jesus, to express our gratitude and to place our intercessions before God.

Current scholarship traces the development of the Rosary to the High Middle Ages period. The month of October each year is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary. This is primarily due to the fact that the liturgical feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated annually on October 7. It was instituted to honour the Blessed Virgin Mary in gratitude for the protection that she gives the Church in answer to the praying of the Rosary by the faithful.

The feast was introduced by Pope St. Pius V (1504-1572) in the year 1571 to commemorate the miraculous victory of the Christian forces in the Battle of Lepanto on October 7, 1571. The pope attributed more to the "arms" of the Rosary than the power of cannons and the valour of the soldiers who fought there.

Legend tells us that the Rosary as a form of prayer was given to St. Dominic (1170- 1221) by Mary, the Mother of Our Lord, who entrusted it to him as an aid in the conflicts with the Albigensians. The Dominican pope, St. Pius V, did much to further the spread of the Rosary and it thereafter became one of the most popular devotions in Christendom

Inspiring Christ-Centre Leaders

Welcome back to Term Four. How fast the year seems to have passed. Term Four is always an exciting term and one full of many events and obligations. Please ensure you check the term calendar and mark dates for any events pending that your families will be required to attend. E.g. Graduation, End of Year Celebrations, Interschool Sports Carnivals etc.

Our summer uniform is now the official uniform...we allow a two-week period of grace between the summer and winter uniform and to make sure any cooler weather has passed. Hats, sunscreen, and water bottles are also required. Thank you to all families who ensure our students are well presented and groomed. High standards in presentation are well valued and help build our students' school pride.

Catholic Schools of Excellence

On Monday our staff gathered for one of our allotted Professional Development Days. The staff worked with a member of CEWA and looked at personal wellness and building skills and processes to ensure we are all taking care of our personal wellbeing, including our mental health.

Staff also focused on their ICT skill development and increasing our individual capacity in this area. Miss Kayla Fogliani works closely with Ms Tranquille in this curriculum area. Obviously in schools the ICT forms a major infrastructural platform. However, staff development is paramount as we help all to maintain their skill base, especially in this area as changes occur very swiftly indeed. As I have said on a number of occasions, our staff navigated the home learning experiences of recent times with much ease and confidence as they are all well versed in ICT and have maintained their professional growth in this area.

Kayla presented some cutting edge tools to our staff and challenged them all to embed a new practice in their classrooms this term and to support them as they continue their professional journey.

As a support to our Leadership Team and as part of our professional opportunities several staff members are on our School Improvement Team (SIT), Mrs Preston, Mrs Pizzino, Mrs Stanton and Mrs Boyle. The SIT group work closely with the leadership team to drive whole school improvement and support the improvement cycle of the school. At our Professional Development Day, Mrs Pizzino and Mrs Preston presented our new Vision for Learning, which is nearly ready for promulgation. They also ran a workshop with staff covering Learner Attributes and the qualities that good learners have to support themselves. This key work forms part of our determination to allow every child the opportunity to flourish and reach their full potential.

Catholic Pastoral Communities

Don't sweat the small stuff:

In recent years it appears many parents tend to worry more and more about their children (their behaviour, learning, friendships, confidence levels etc). Many of these concerns are actually the normal part of a child growing up, they are developmental in nature and will be learned at the point of time the child is developmentally ready and able to learn. In many cases, maturity will solve the vast majority of these matters.

Also, for many children a problem today will be forgotten tomorrow, yet we adults tend to hang on longer to those same problems... long after the child has forgotten about them. I cannot advise you about what you should worry about as a parent. That is your prerogative.

There are certainly many times when we as the adults need to stand back and let the child process the situation, reflect for themselves and attempt to build their own way forward. The following is a very brief list that pertain to behaviours that are normal and certainly what we would expect of a child.

1. a child's misbehaviour fits into the normal behavioural range. Working out what's normal is a challenge for inexperienced parents. But for all children misbehaviour it is part of growing up.
2. a child is moving from one stage to the next. e.g. boys can give mum a hard-time at five and again in early adolescence; some girls develop an 'attitude' at seven, and again at thirteen; boys vocabularies shrink to three words in early teens; and fourteen-year-old girls will often have little time for their dads. These behaviours are indicative of different stages of development.
3. a child is displaying an independent streak. Sometimes children put their foot down and say: "NO! I'm not trying at that sport or activity anymore because I don't enjoy it". They are no longer willing to unquestioningly do the things that you want them to do because you think those things are good for them. A show of independence is usually a healthy thing, although it can be difficult for parents to swallow.
4. a child struggles periodically at school, either socially or academically. The ups and downs of growing up mean that children do not always learn on an even trajectory. They have good years and bad years at school. They also have good years and bad years socially. That is, they have years where they sit next to their best friends and have a ball. And other years finding and keeping friends can be a little tougher.

Helping our children ride the lows and the highs is part of the parenting job. Sometimes we worry at the first sign of a problem. Time and children themselves solve many problems when they get the chance. This also helps with the building of problem-solving skills and resiliency. Unfortunately, we know the research is strong suggesting many young people today are lacking in resilience.

If in doubt, talk honestly and openly with some trusted parents, preferably with some experience. Also talk with your child's teachers who generally have had more experience of children of your child's age group than you do. We all worry as parents, it's a worry being a parent. But it doesn't always have to be!"

Complied with reference to Michael Gross and taken from Parentingideas.com

Accessible, Affordable and Sustainable

Warm weather approaching!

Hydrating:

Water is an essential nutrient for life, needed for many processes in the body. The body constantly loses water through the skin and lungs. Active children may become dehydrated more easily than adults, so it is important to replace fluids regularly throughout the school day. Plain water should be the most commonly consumed drink, as it provides fluid without any kilojoules. Having a water bottle at school allows the students to access it during class and stay hydrated.



Sun Safety

Slip Slop Slap

We advise students to apply sunscreen in the mornings before they come to school and require all students to wear their School Hat when they are outside, to protect them from the hot, Australian sun. The school policy is NO HAT, NO PLAY.

Please provide your child with a correct school hat, so that the children can play happily and stay protected.

School Fees are to be finalised by 30 November. Please contact Mrs Lina Armstrong if you have any queries or if you require a copy of your fee statement.

Students not returning in 2022

Student positions at St Lawrence Primary School are highly sought after in the community. If you are not returning to St Lawrence's in 2022, please notify the office as soon as possible. This allows us the chance to offer positions to families on our wait lists.

God bless each and every one of you.



Sheldon Carey
M Ed, B Ed, Grad Dip
Principal

The more that you read,
the more things you will know.
The more that you learn,
the more places you'll go.

- Dr. Seuss



PASTORAL CARE



*During October our prayers are focussed on the Rosary
and our devotional practices to Our Lady.*

*May many people come to know Mary
and see her as a role model of piety and love for all.*

Home Learning Tip

Helping with homework: Many teachers model what they would like their students to do. In fact, the “Gradual Release Model” is in fact a method of teaching all in itself. This can be applied to support parents at home as you face the “homework” dilemma. If a child has a problem they cannot work out, you can sit down and model how you would do it, then complete the next one together and then have the child do it on their own. The gradual release of control....

When your child becomes overly frustrated with their homework, do not force them. Instead, together create a plan to best tackle it:

- read and understand the homework task
- break the homework task into smaller logical chunks
- discuss how much time is required to complete each chunk
- work backwards from the deadline and create a timeline
- put the timeline where the child can see it
- encourage your child to mark completed chunks to see the progress made on the task.

Life is busy. Parents can create positive study habits by allocating family time for this. This could mean carving out one hour after dinner for your child to do homework while you engage in a study activity such as reading, rather than watching television and relaxing. You can also create a comfortable and inviting reading space for the child to learn in.

Parents’ ability to support their child’s learning goes beyond homework. Parents can engage their child in discussions, read with them, and provide them with other ongoing learning opportunities (such as going to a museum, watching a documentary or spending time online together).

Melissa Barnes is a lecturer, early years, Faculty of Education, Monash University.

PARISH CELEBRATION

Parish Community Picnic

Date:	Sunday	17 October 2021
	10.00am	60 th Anniversary Multicultural Mass
	11.30am	Family Picnic at Stirling Civic Gardens

Let us come together as a parish school community for a family fun day!

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

CONFIRMATION

Our Year Six students will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday 23 October at 4pm. Please keep the candidates, their families and teachers in your prayers during this special time. All parents are expected to attend the Confirmation Family Workshop with their child today at 5.30pm or 7.00pm in the School Hall. A photographer will be available to take photographs an hour before the Celebration and afterwards if required. The photographer will take the photographs in the Alverna Parish Centre, located next to the Church.

Family Workshop	Wednesday 13 October 5.30pm or 7pm
Confirmation Retreat (students only)	Friday 15 October
Confirmation	Saturday 23 October, 4.00pm



SWIMMING LESSONS

School swimming lessons this year will take place at Stirling Leisure Centre, Balga. The lessons will run every day through weeks 3 and 4 apart from Wednesday 3rd November due to the Interschool Athletics Carnival.

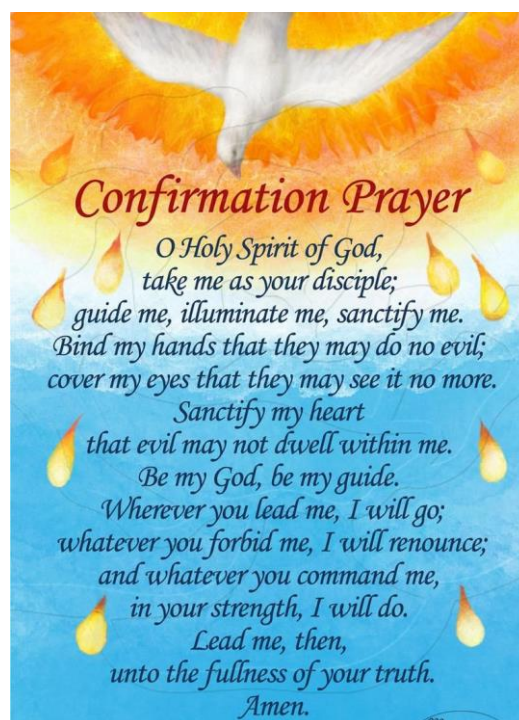
Swimming lessons will commence on Monday 25th October and conclude on Friday 5th November. A bus permission letter and a swimming enrolment form was sent home with your child at the end of Term 3. If you have not returned the forms can you please do so as soon as possible. An individual form must be completed for each individual child. Siblings cannot be included on the same form.

ASSEMBLY

Our student Leaders will present information about our Core Values at our assembly on Friday 22 October. Merit awards and the Lawry Bear Award will also be presented.

ROSARY

Each Friday after lunch through October, all students from Year One to Year Six say a decade of the Rosary in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The children will be led by our Y3 – Y6 students.



CLASS NEWS

PRE KINDY

Well it is Term 4 already and it is going to be exciting! Mrs Seragusana and I can hardly wait to see all the children again. We hope everyone had a fantastic and relaxing holiday.

We welcome a new class member tomorrow – Georgia, and it will be lovely to meet her.

We will start with the focus **ALL ABOUT FUN**. A reminder to keep providing those yummy healthy snacks and lunches. Book change is tomorrow, and we hope that everyone is enjoying sharing the stories at home. It will be a great term; however, it is only nine weeks so it will go very quickly.

You will receive a letter regarding the Kindergarten Parent Night with Mrs Rachel Wake to be held on Tuesday, 26th October at 6pm. Please place the date in your diaries.

Our beautiful Spring weather should allow us to have lovely outdoor play – fingers crossed, no rain! So please include hats in your child's bag.

Mrs Kaylene Bozich, Pre Kindy Teacher

KINDERGARTEN

Welcome back to all the parents and children in Kindy! I hope the holidays were relaxing and everyone is refreshed and ready for the last term of the year. We have a busy but exciting nine weeks ahead.

We have begun our focus on 'The Ocean' and this week we began reading Mister Seahorse by Eric Carl. We learnt some amazing facts about seahorses and explored our amazing ocean themed role play area! In religion we have begun learning about oceans and rivers and wondering about how God made all the wonderful colours of the sea creatures that occupy our oceans.

One of our big focuses this term is writing our name so every morning the children will trace over the dotted letters in their name and will now have a go at writing the letters in their names on the black line. Please encourage your child to start in the correct position when observing them do this each morning. When finished ask your child to point to each letter in order and say the sound that letter makes.

We are moving on to learning the next group of letters as a class. (f l o u b g). We are looking forward to having a go at forming these letters through play. Have a wonderful week everyone!



Mrs Rachel Wake, Kindergarten Teacher

PRE PRIMARY

I would like to welcome all the families and students back for the start of Term Four. I truly hope all the students and families had time to relax and spend lots of quality time together over the school holidays.

This term in Pre-Primary we will begin looking at Transport. We will engage in different stories during shared reading and next week for our Talk for writing program we will learn 'Mr Gumpy's Motor Car'. This will give us the opportunity to innovate and create our own stories - we are getting so good at this!

On November 25 we will be going on an excursion to Constable Care Child Safety School in Maylands where the children will learn all about Bike Safety and Pedestrian Road Safety. In Religion, we are talking about Baptism and how we got our names. I will be sending a form home for you to complete, can you please return it so that the children can discuss their name with the class.

In Numeracy, we will continue to revise number sequencing, counting forwards and backwards and we will look at how we can make numbers to 10 and place value from 11 to 20.

This term will go very fast! Here are a few reminders for your diary:

Thursday 25 November: Class Excursion to Constable Care Child Safety School

Friday 3 December: Pre Primary Assembly – The Nativity

Mrs Tania Preston, Pre Primary Teacher

YEAR ONE

Welcome back to Term Four! I hope everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable break.

We begin our new unit of work in Religion exploring how the Holy Spirit helps us to live as Jesus taught. We learn the importance of staying healthy and using our bodies to relate to the world around us. We can also use our bodies to talk to God and ask for help. During the month of October we remember Mary and we have begun praying the rosary each morning in class.

The Year Ones will be keeping our Year Six buddies in our prayers over the next two weeks as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

This week we begin working on our understanding of multiplication in Numeracy. We will spend time using concrete materials to aid our understanding of this concept.

Mrs Gloria Edwards, Year One Teacher

YEAR TWO

Welcome to Term Four! The children have returned eager and ready to go.

This term is by far the busiest with so much happening.

Firstly, next Friday is a merit award assembly.

This Sunday we look forward to the celebration of St Lawrence's Church 60th anniversary with a community mass and picnic to follow.

Tuesday 2 November is 'All Souls Day' and we will be attending a whole school Mass.

The children have already been busily practicing for our Assembly item on Friday 5th November, please remember my special costume request.

Homework sheets, spelling and news topics will commence next Monday, if your child has their homework book at home, please remind them to bring it back to school on Monday 18 October.

Thank you for your ongoing support,

Mrs Paula Christensen, Year Two Teacher

YEAR THREE

Welcome back to Term 4 and the race to the finish line begins. I hope that most of you enjoyed the opportunity to engage in some delightful time with your families over the holidays.

This term promises to be entertaining and extremely busy. We start off with a bang, with an excursion to the WA Museum Boola Bardip on Monday 18th October to investigate Aboriginal Artwork and artefacts. Permission slips were sent home yesterday. Please return by Friday 15th October. In English we will be learning how to write and read well-structured procedures using the text- 'How to Trap a Troll'. We will be using this text to learn about using commas to write lists and to begin exploring imperative verbs. In Maths we are learning how to add and subtract money. Mrs Freeman is back this term and the children will be having Music instead of Dance. In Music lessons, rehearsals will be starting for the whole school Christmas Nativity. Due to this fact children will continue to wear their sports uniform on Fridays.

During the month of October to honour the Blessed Virgin Mary we will be saying a decade of the rosary every day. Children are encouraged to bring their rosary beads to school. Thank you to the parents who have handed in their child's swimming forms. If your forms are still outstanding please bring them to school as soon as possible.



Miss Kathleen Tranquille, Year Three Teacher

Welcome back to the start of Term 4! We have a very busy term ahead and I look forward to my last term in the classroom teaching all your amazing children.

This term in Measurement and Geometry we will be focusing on capacity, mass, length and telling the time to the nearest minute. In Science we will be working on the Earth and Space Sciences strand and in HASS Civics and Citizenship. In Health this semester the students will be continuing the Keeping Safe Child Protection Curriculum.

Please do not hesitate to contact me throughout the term should any issues arise.

Mrs Frances Caruso, Year Three Teacher (Wednesday)

YEAR FOUR

Welcome back to Term Four. I hope the holidays were relaxing and everyone is well-rested, ready for our final term of Year Four. We have a very busy but exciting term ahead of us filled with lots of learning, school excursions, swimming lessons and Christmas! In Mathematics, we are using our knowledge about money and time to solve real-world problems. Our next focus for Talk for Writing is looking at Information Reports. As it is the month of October, we have been learning about the Rosary, the parts of the Rosary and even creating our own Rosary keychain!

Just a few reminders; if you have not already brought in your swimming notes could you please do so. The children have music on Fridays and will need to wear their sport uniform.



Miss Kayla Fogliani, Year Four Teacher

Welcome back to Term 4! I look forward to teaching your wonderful children this term.

This term in Science we are focusing on the Earth and Space Sciences strand. In Health this semester the students will be continuing the Keeping Safe Child Protection Curriculum.

Please do not hesitate to contact me throughout the term should any issues arise.

Mrs Frances Caruso, Year Four Teacher (Thursday)

YEAR FIVE

Welcome back to Term 4! I hope that everyone had a relaxing holiday and is ready for a jam packed term of fun and learning. We ended Term 3 with Zoo Camp and I am very proud of the enthusiasm and excellent behaviour that the students displayed throughout the camp. It was a wonderful learning experience and I thank Miss Fogliani, Mrs Major, Mrs Seragusana, Mrs Thompson and Mr Tonge for their help throughout the camp.

This term we have lots of exciting things planned including swimming lessons, the Interschool Sport Carnival, Outdoor Classroom Day and writing and presenting our speeches for the 2022 Leadership Roles. Thank you to all parents who have ensured that their child has all the necessary materials to complete their work each day. Your continued support is very much appreciated.

A reminder that all Swimming forms and permission slips must be returned to school by Friday. Thank you to those parents who have already done this. Enjoy the rest of your week.



Mrs Roselyn Pizzino, Year Five Teacher

YEAR SIX

White Confirmation Cards have been sent home for completion as soon as convenient. It needs to be completed, then returned to me for handing out on the day of Confirmation - 23rd October. The Family Confirmation evening is tonight (Wednesday) at either 5:30pm or 7pm in the school hall. It is expected that all students to be Confirmed will attend with a parent. The Confirmation Retreat will also be in the school hall during normal school times; students are permitted to wear neat, casual clothes. Emeritus Bishop Justin Bianchini will be visiting the students on Wednesday 20 October at 2:15pm.



Mr Phil Haydon, Year Six Teacher

ITALIAN NEWS

Bentornati a scuola a tutti! Welcome back everyone!

Benvenuta primavera! = Welcome Springtime!

Students from Pre-Primary to Year 6 will continue to work on the relevant theme for each year level completing 2021 with some studies about Natale (Christmas).

Buon divertimento! Have fun everyone!



Signora Jenny Acquarola, Italian Specialist Teacher

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

SUMMER UNIFORM

Welcome back to Term 4 in full summer uniform. Students in Year 1 to Year 6 remain in summer uniform also in Term 1, 2022.

Uniforms can be purchased directly at the uniform shop.

Please contact me for any enquiries on Angie.miola@cewa.edu.au. Order forms are available from the school office and school website.

KINDY STUDENTS 2021

Please note that a compulsory uniform is required for commencement to Pre-primary 2022.

Details will soon be emailed to all Kindy 2021 families with full uniform requirements.

PRE-PRIMARY STUDENTS 2021

Pre-primary 2021 families were sent an email on Thursday 2nd September, regarding uniform requirements for students commencing Year 1, 2022.

Please place your uniform orders as soon as possible. Any enquiries please do not hesitate to contact me on Angie.miola@cewa.edu.au or come into the Uniform Shop to arrange sizes for your child.

Orders are then packed and payment is required at collection by mid November.

BOYS RED RUGBY SHORTS

Please note that boys red rugby shorts were discontinued at the beginning of this year.

Red Microfibre Sport Shorts are available and are compulsory to wear in Pre-primary to Year 6 for commencement of school in February 2022.

RED RUGBY SHORTS are NOT allowed to be worn in 2022.

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

Mrs Angie Miola, Uniform Shop Manager

CANTEEN NEWS

Welcome to Term 4! Please use current menu on our website.

Pre Primary Parents: Please note the children will be coming out to the undercroft on Fridays for recess and lunch and can purchase items from the canteen - how exciting for them!!

Help Needed: If anyone is available to help this week on Thursday and Friday please let me know.

Birthday Orders: For this week please text me as soon as possible on 0408834774.

Swimming Lessons: We will reduce our menu on Friday to take away pizza. For two weeks we will have an option for Sushi! Please pre order by the Wednesday prior for the Friday.

Please note the canteen will be closed in Week 4 on Wednesday due to the Interschool Sports Carnival but will instead be open on the Tuesday, 2 November.

Menu Please note we do not have lasagne until next week. We will be having a lasagne special coming up soon!

Thank you, Canteen Staff 2021

SPORTS NEWS

ATHLETICS

Welcome back to all students, to what promises to be a busy term in sport. We have only two weeks to sort out the Inter School team and practice hard, before we start swimming lessons. The timing is not ideal with the Carnival falling on Wednesday 3rd November during the second week of swimming.

I encourage all students to do as much practice as possible at home after school and at the weekends. I'm sure we will still do very well.

Good news - regarding the Carnival!

We are back using HBF at Mount Claremont as the renovation works have been put on hold.

It will be exciting for our students to compete at the stadium again this year.

Swimming

Lessons are set to start at the beginning of week 3, 25th October at Stirling Leisure Centre, Balga. The pool staff will be starting to organise the groups next week, so it is imperative that all enrolment forms are returned to class teachers by Friday 15th October. There will be no swimming for any students on Wednesday 3rd November. Non competitors from Years 3 to 6 will remain at school with Mrs Pizzino. All Year 6 students will have the opportunity to attend the Carnival and Year 1 and 2 students will remain at school for a day of regular lessons.

Soccer

Well done to all students who participated in the after-school soccer clinics last term. We had a fantastic turn out at all five sessions and I will definitely apply again for the Government grant that allowed us to offer these sessions for free to our families.

I apologise if any families were unsure as to whether the sessions were still continuing this term. I did tell the children at the end of Term 3 and the permission note clearly stated that it was just till the end of Term 3. However, I do regret if this caused confusion.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank all the members of staff who voluntarily stayed behind after school each week to ensure that we met our duty of care obligations for such a large group participation event.

It was clear how much enjoyment the students gained from these sessions and it was also a great way to bring our school community together.

Thank you to all involved.

Mrs Claire Major, Physical Education Teacher