



Newsletter No. 21

26 July 2023

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.

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:

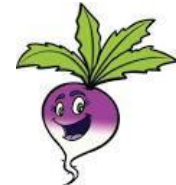
1. Lettuce be faithful
2. Lettuce be kind
3. Lettuce be patient
4. Lettuce really love one another

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.*
- *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 rate 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, eg 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.

Code of Conduct

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 schools meet 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 and are legally bound to report any and all suspected child safety concerns and we have stringent procedures we follow in enacting this process.

Catholic Pastoral Communities

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.

A leader is best when people barely know he exists, when his work is done, his aim fulfilled, they will say: we did it ourselves.

Lao Tzu



Sheldon Carey

M Ed, B Ed, Grad Dip
Principal



PASTORAL CARE

I extend to Mrs Lynette Staltari and her loved ones, our deepest condolences and sympathies on the sad passing of your beloved Mother. It is never an easy time to farewell those we love and cherish. Jesus told us:

In My Father's House are Many Rooms

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe in Me, as well. In My Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and welcome you into My presence, so that you also may be where I am....”



*Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord,
and let Your perpetual light shine upon her.
May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed
rest in peace.
Amen.*

LIBRARY NEWS

BOOK WEEK

This term we celebrate Book Week. Children will be able to come dressed as either a character from a book or something related to this year’s theme **Read, Grow, Inspire**. (Costumes will still need to be within the school dress guidelines). Our dress up day will take place in week 6. More details will follow, regarding the exact day, so please keep an eye out in coming newsletters.



SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

***Just a reminder that Scholastic Book Club orders **are always due the Tuesday of the following week from when the brochures go home**. This applies to both Loop orders and cash orders that are returned to the school. Please note that Loop orders close at 3.30pm on that Tuesday.

As the newsletter is now moving to a fortnightly basis, it is important that you keep this in mind, as some times the brochures will go home the week before the newsletter is issued. Book Club is issued twice a term, except for term 4 when only one brochure is issued towards the beginning of the term.

Once orders have been processed, it takes approximately 2-3 weeks for the books to be received at the school. The orders will then be checked, sorted and sent to students in their classrooms. Should you have any queries or if you would like to volunteer to help with Book Club, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at louise.frenzel@cewa.edu.au

*Ms Louise Frenzel
Library Officer*

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

Welcome back to Term 3. We have had a wonderful start to the term. Term 3 is set to be a very busy but exciting term.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Students in Year 4 will receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist for the first time on Sunday 27 August at 8.30am. Please find below additional dates for meetings parents/students are required to attend.

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.

EVENT	DATE	TIME/LOCATION/PRESENTER
Parent Meeting	Wednesday 26 July	7.00pm – Fr Adam, School Hall (Parents/Guardians only)
Retreat Day	Thursday 3 August	8.30am – 3pm – School Hall Students are permitted to wear free dress
Family Workshop	Wednesday 9 August	5.30pm (Parents/Guardians and Candidates)
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS	Sunday 27 August	8.30am – St Lawrence Church

CORE VALUES

Our core values: Joy, Courage and Unity are based on Gospel Values. Our Faith Leaders will introduce our term 3 value, Unity at our assembly on Friday 28 July. 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.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ASSESSMENT

In Catholic schools across Western Australia, students enrolled in Years 3, 5 and 9 participate in a system-wide, online assessment in Religious Education.

The purpose of the assessment is to measure student learning of the content in the Religious Education Curriculum. Test items relevant to each participating year level are developed by the Religious Education Directorate at the Catholic Education Office of Western Australia. The test items consist of multiple choice, short and extended response. Formal student reports are produced and made available in Term Four. The reports from the assessment complement the school-based assessment programs in Religious Education. As a system-wide, online assessment, classroom teachers, school and system leaders are provided with a ‘point in time’ snapshot of student performance in Religious Education.

The Religious Education assessments will be administered to students in Y3 and Y5 on Wednesday 2 August. Please contact your child’s teacher or me if you have any enquiries regarding the administration of *the Religious Education Assessment*.

ST LAWRENCE SCHOOL FEAST DAY

The school will be celebrating St Lawrence Feast Day on **Friday 11 August**. The Feast Day is 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. Money raised will be donated to the Kora Centre run by the Servite Sisters. Children will be participating in games and purchasing yummy goodies from our stalls.

ASSEMBLY

Our Y6 student leaders will lead our assembly on Friday 28 July. Merit awards will be presented at this assembly. Parents are welcome to attend.



*Mrs Gabrielle Brennan & Ms Kathleen Tranquille
Assistant Principals*

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

WINTER UNIFORM

Welcome back to Term 3
Students in Year 1 to Year 6 remain in full Winter Uniform.

SPORTS CARNIVAL

The sports faction carnival will be held on Friday 15 September.
Faction T-shirts are available to purchase from the Uniform Shop and are compulsory to wear with the sports uniform on sports faction carnival day.
Students in Pre-primary to Year 6 will be notified by class teachers when to commence wearing their faction T-shirts on sports days to commence training for carnival.
Kindy students are also welcome to wear a faction T-shirt.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on angie.miola@cewa.edu.au for any uniform enquiries. Winter Price Lists and order forms are available on the school's website and from the school office.

**Uniform Shop Opening Hours:
Wednesday 8.30am to 9.30am & Thursday 2.30pm to 3.30pm.**

*Mrs Angie Miola
Uniform Shop Manager*

CANTEEN NEWS

Welcome back to term 3!

HELPERS

As always, we rely heavily on our wonderful school community to help us in the canteen.
If you can spare a couple of hours this term, please get in contact with us.
We mainly need help on a Thursday but if you are free Wednesday or Friday, your help would be greatly appreciated as the kids love seeing their family helping in the canteen!
Thank you to Lilly for helping out today.

BIRTHDAY ORDERS

If you would like your child to celebrate their birthday with their class, we have the following available to order:

Icy poles or Brownies (dairy and egg free) \$15
Cupcakes or M&M cookies \$20
Kindy - mini cupcakes \$12

Please preorder at least one day prior - 0408834774.

Thank you

Christina and Fran - Canteen Staff

P&F NEWS

DATES TO REMEMBER

25-08 Father's Day Breakfast. If anyone has any donations for the raffle, please leave them at the front office.

01-09 Father's Day Stall. Children are required to bring a \$5 note in exchange for a pre-selected gift.

Mrs Natasha Raso, P&F President

SAVE THE DATE

ST LAWRENCE
FATHER'S DAY
BREAKFAST

FROM 7:30AM

IN THE
UNDERCROFT

BREAKFAST PROVIDED,
COFFEE AVAILABLE FOR
PURCHASE

25
AUG
23

best
DAD
ever

BRING COINS FOR THE RAFFLE

COMMUNITY NEWS



It's never too early!

Year 7
2026 + 2027
APPLICATIONS OPEN

servite.wa.edu.au/enrolments
2024 AT CAPACITY. 2025 FILLING QUICKLY