



Newsletter No. 1

2 February 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.

A prayer for 2022

Lord our God, in your wisdom and love
you surround us with the mysteries of the universe.
Send your spirit upon our students, staff and families
and fill them with your wisdom and blessings.

Grant that our students may devote themselves to their studies
to experiencing the joys of play, and that they draw ever closer to you,
the source of all knowledge.

Let this be a year of learning. Open young hearts to new wonders.
Encourage parents to let children dream big dreams.
To play often and to find the truth.

We pray that students play and find joy in each day.
Let them make life-long friends.
Give parents extra energy to support their children.
Help the community find ways to support families.
Lord God, your spirit of wisdom fills the earth
teaching us your ways.

Look upon our staff.
Let them strive to share their knowledge with gentle patience
and endeavour always to bring the truth to eager minds.
And when their burden is great, grant them strength,
Grant that we may follow Jesus Christ, the way, the truth and the life,
forever and ever.



Inspiring Christ-Centre Leaders

We welcome you all back to St Lawrence Primary School for 2022. I pray that your holidays have been restful and joyous, and that you all return renewed and invigorated for another wonderful year of growth, learning and personal best.

The Newsletter is our number one means of communication, and I strongly recommend you read the newsletter to keep abreast of what is taking place at St Lawrence.

Previously I have referenced Pope Francis who in one of his Friday prayers read from a passage in the Gospel of Matthew which tells of how Jesus and his disciples were struck by a sudden storm while sailing on the Sea of Galilee. He said, *'We have realised that we are on the same boat, all of us fragile and disoriented, but at the same time important and needed, all of us called to row together, each of us in need of comforting the other.'* As we enter a period of great uncertainty it is important, we strive to be people of hope and to row together.

I appreciate the work that is being done here at St Lawrence so we can always maintain and continue our educational delivery, as much as possible, in the event of groups of staff and/or students being unable to attend school or school closure. School leadership teams will need to be agile in using the resources available to them and networking with others to work towards enabling students to continue to engage in a Catholic Education which is Christ-centred and child-focused in challenging times.

Maintaining learning will be a priority and school leaders are aware of this. Dr Sayce, the Executive Director of Catholic Education, has made this very clear to us all.

The St Lawrence Leadership Team along with all staff have reviewed and adapted our Educational Continuity Plans, as required, to accommodate students' needs. This has included:

- Models of delivery for staff and learning for students who are unable to attend school (e.g. due to requirement to isolate)
- Digital capabilities and access (Device and internet access)
- Preparation and delivery of hard copy resources as required
- Support for Students with Disability
- Support for students who speak English as an Additional Language/Dialect
- Support for vulnerable students who will need to be supported remotely if school attendance is not possible.

St Lawrence is committed to adhering to the advice of the Chief Health Officer in ensuring the health, safety and wellbeing of all within our community.

Following an internal audit of our school's teaching and learning spaces during the Christmas holidays, only those spaces with appropriate ventilation will be used in the 2022 school year. Should any space be deemed insufficiently ventilated please rest assured that either:

1. The room will not be used by students or staff; or
2. Air purifiers will be installed to meet the required standard.

It is important to note that both natural and mechanical ventilation methods are utilised in our school along with the critical strategies of staff vaccinations, the wearing of masks, enhanced cleaning and ongoing expectations of high levels of hygiene. Each measure is being used to keep our students and staff safe.

All students are required to attend school unless they are unwell.

Staff, students and parents are not to enter the school grounds if they are unwell (symptomatic) or test positive to COVID-19, until permitted under public health requirements.

Parents are asked to seek medical advice if their child exhibits symptoms of COVID and must notify the school as soon as possible.

This year we will be embedding our Core Values of Joy, Courage and Unity throughout the school with the assistance of our Faith Student Leaders.

I wish to extend a special heartfelt welcome to our new families including our three year olds, and those new to our Kindergarten program.

I also warmly welcome our new staff: Ms Erin Healy for Semester One and Mrs Angela Carnevali also for Semester One.

I pray that all of their time here at St Lawrence Primary School is rewarding and joyful and ignites a passion for lifelong learning and helps to build a wonderful connection to Jesus and The Church.

Catholic Schools of Excellence

I am sure you all would have noticed the significant work that has taken place around St Lawrence over the holidays period. Our Orchard has had a complete makeover. New resources have been added including a “yarning circle” and storage areas, seating and reticulation update and a new play tunnel for the children. We have had new metal roof installed across much of the school, replacing the aging tiled roofing. We have also replaced the play equipment in the early years and added a few more items for the children including a bus and water play equipment and a music play option.

Finally, behind the school hall new planted beds have been added. These will be for the children to plant vegetables and experience firsthand the growing and care of vegetables.

Mr Lu oversaw all these undertakings and I extend our warm gratitude to him for working so diligently while many of us were on holidays. A job well done indeed.

Catholic Pastoral Communities

I include a few very quick reminders for all members of our community.

- We will be keeping our drop off and pick up procedures as we did in last year’s response to COVID-19. Parents have greatly appreciated the current process and we will endeavour to keep it accordingly.
- Please be careful when dropping off and picking up children and always follow the correct parking procedures.
- Utmost care should be taken at all times when operating vehicles on school premises.
- Children generally do not require a mobile phone (or similar device) at primary school. However if there is a request for one please speak directly to the Principal. If permission is granted, they must be stored in the school office area.
- Please ensure you register all absences with the school.
- Any change in contacts details or of a child’s health status should be recorded with the teacher and office directly.

Accessible, Affordable and Sustainable

UNIFORMS: All students are to ensure that the summer uniform is worn correctly. It is important for all students to keep hair neat and tidy and that no jewellery is to be worn, except for a watch, one pair of studs or sleepers, a gold or silver necklace with a religious medallion or cross, kept tucked into shirt/dress. For girls, please ensure that hair accessories are kept to the school colours and appropriate. When wearing the sports uniform please ensure that sneakers are standard uniform sanctioned. It is imperative that we are in our correct school uniform. Thank you to all the wonderful families who always support our school by adhering to correct uniform policy

HEALTH CARE CARD

If you are a holder of a **Health Care Card** or **Pensioner Concession Card**, you are entitled to a discount on your school fees. An application form must be completed, and a copy of your current card supplied. Further information and application forms are available from the school office. **Please supply this information to the school office by 18 February 2022.**

I leave you with a powerful quote, one which reminds us all its OK for our children to attempt and then fail, in fact it is imperative that we all make attempts at new and different things, daily, and failure, well that's simple how we learn.

"Every time we rescue, hover, or otherwise save our children from a challenge, we send a very clear message: that we believe they are incompetent, incapable, and unworthy of our trust. Further, we teach them to be dependent on us and thereby deny them the very education in competence we are put here on this earth to hand down."

Jessica Lahey's The Gift of Failure: How the Best Parents Learn to Let Go So Their Children Can Succeed

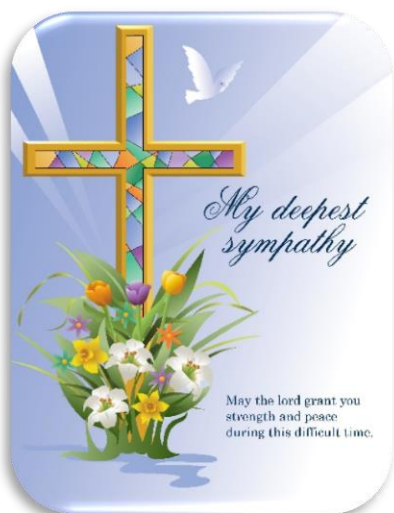
God bless each and every one of you.



Sheldon Carey
M Ed, B Ed, Grad Dip
Principal



PASTORAL CARE



To Mrs Roselyn Pizzino, our Year Three Teacher and her family on the sad loss of their beloved Dad and Nonno.

To the Nobile and Scarvaci families (Aurora Year 3 and Persephone in Year 2) on their sad loss of both Nonnos during the holidays.

May their souls rest in peace

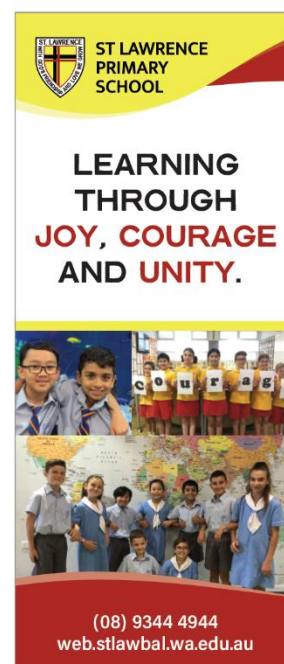
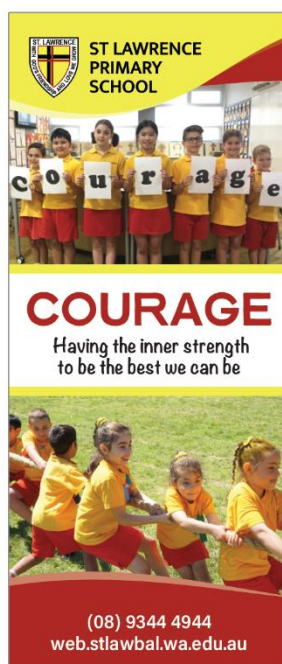
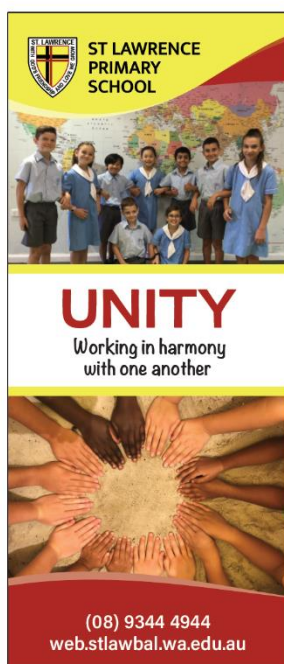
Amen.

LIMITS ON TECHNOLOGY USE AT HOME

There is credible research linking heavy technology use with the surge in a number of concerns for our youth, including, depression and other mental health issues. Suggested limits:

- No phones or tablets in the bedroom at night; use real alarm clocks to wake up.
- No use of devices within an hour of bedtime; the blue light and psychological stimulation interferes with sleep.
- Device use should be significantly limited (Some research suggest no more than two hours of leisure time a day, plus legitimate use for homework).

Compiled with reference to: “Put That Phone Away – Now” by Jean Twenge in *Time*, April 1, 2019



FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

Welcome Back

We extend a very warm welcome to all our returning students and families. We would also like to extend a warm welcome to the new families and staff who joined the St Lawrence Community this year. We have been delighted to see the enthusiasm of all our students and how well they have adapted to their new teachers, classrooms and routines.

Whole School Mass

Our Year 1 – 6 students will join the Parish at Mass on Friday. Year 6 student leadership badges will be presented at the end of Mass. Parents are welcome to attend.

Uniform Requirements

Thank you to our parents for sending the children back to school smartly dressed in their summer uniforms. Please be reminded that the Uniform Shop is open on Wednesdays 8.30am – 9.30am and Thursdays 2.30pm – 3.30pm. Please note that children at St Lawrence are expected to be attired in the correct and complete school uniform at all times. St Lawrence sports uniform is compulsory in Pre-Primary. Pre Kindy and Kindergarten children are not required to wear school uniforms. Summer uniform is worn by Years 1 to 6 in Term 1 and Term 4. Winter uniform is worn in Term 2 and Term 3. Children are to wear the school sports uniform on the days they have Physical Education.



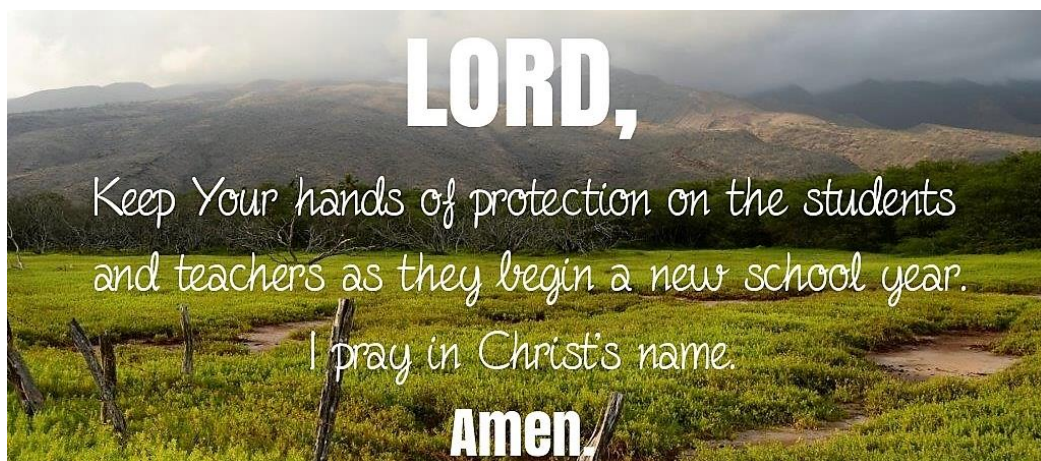
Please note **change of dates** of our student free days:

In Term 2 date changed from Tuesday 7 June to Tuesday 26 April and in Term 3 from Monday 22 August to Monday 29 August.

All student free days are listed below.

PUPIL FREE DAYS 2022

Friday 4 March
Tuesday 26 April
Monday 29 August
Friday 23 September
Tuesday 11 October



Mrs Gabrielle Brennan & Miss Kathleen Tranquille, Assistant Principals

CLASS NEWS

PRE KINDY

Hello to everyone joining us in Pre Kindy this year – especially our little ones starting with us tomorrow. Welcome to all new families to our school community. We will share Thursdays with our new friends and have so much fun. Mrs Michelle Seragusana and I thank you for allowing us the privilege to share in your child's learning journey. We look forward to all the nice things we will be doing together. For the next five weeks we will complete our activities around the theme of MARVELLOUS ME.

In class we will use Seesaw, an app which enables us to communicate with you by sending photos of your children throughout the day. I urge you to reply to the email invitation sent on Monday to set this up on your phone or iPad.

Mrs Kaylene Bozich, Pre Kindy Teacher

KINDERGARTEN

Welcome to all of the lovely families and children joining Kindergarten 2022. I feel truly blessed to be working with such dedicated and passionate teachers and I am so excited for all of the fun learning that is going to take place in this beautiful space! I would like to add to this space by creating a room that encourages the children to explore. I have started gathering items from nature and loose parts for art, science and numeracy. If you could please contribute any pebbles, buttons, special stones, feathers, pinecones, yogurt lids, small yogurt tubs or any natural artefacts the children would find interesting that would be wonderful. This week we sang, we danced and we explored our new learning environment with a lot of excitement. We have been proud of how the children are settling in this week and are looking forward to being with them for a half-day session on Friday.

On Tuesday we commence our three full days each week! Each Friday from 9:00-10:00am Mrs Stephanie Freeman will be working with the children while I receive my DOTT time (duties other than teaching). Mrs Freeman is looking forward to getting to know the children and will be following my daily routine. Over the coming weeks lots of discussions about our bodies will take place. I will be leading the children to focus on learning about 'Amazing Me'. It could range from how we care for our bodies, our feelings or simply the anatomy of the human body. Seesaw codes have gone out this week. Please connect with your child's learning journal at your earliest convenience so you don't miss out on important information over there year.

Mrs Thompson, Mrs Seragusana and myself are looking forward to spending this new year teaching your children and helping them grow in independence and a love of learning.

Mrs Rachel Wake, Kindergarten Teacher

PRE PRIMARY

Welcome families to Pre Primary.

The children have settled in so well and have been enjoying themselves learning and playing with their friends. This year we welcome Archie and Joseph to our Pre Primary community.

The children are excited to have specialist subjects this year. Our timetable is as follows;

Monday - Italian

Tuesday - Sport

Wednesday - Library

Thursday - Science & Sport

Friday - Music

PRIMARY (Cont.)

Please remember to return library books and bags each Wednesday and ensure your child is wearing sport appropriate shoes on Sport days.

Seesaw is our main platform of communication, so please ensure you check Seesaw to keep up to date with class photos, students work and information about our time in Pre Primary.



Ms Erin Healy, Pre Primary Teacher

YEAR ONE

Welcome to Year One 2022. The children have all been working hard and getting used to the way Year One works. They have all settled into their routines beautifully and are so excited to be sitting at their own desks!

Our Specialist classes are as follows:

Monday: Science

Tuesday: Sport

Wednesday: Library and Italian

Thursday: Music and Sport

I am so happy to be working with your children again this year as they embark on new experiences and continue to learn and grow.

Mrs Mattioli and I are looking forward to a great year with your beautiful children!

Mrs Tania Preston, Year One Teacher

YEAR TWO

Welcome back to a new school year and a warm welcome to the parents, caregivers, and children of Year two 2022!

It has been an absolute pleasure meeting your children and they are very happily settling into their new class environment. As we begin the new year, I encourage parents to say goodbyes outside the classroom to promote independence and the children are able to get themselves organised for their day.

Our specialist days include: **Sport - Tuesday & Thursday** **Music – Thursday**

Science – Thursday **Italian Monday** **Library is on Wednesday**

Homework will commence in Week 2, including daily reading and spelling and various other activities.

If you would like to discuss anything with me in person, please send me an email to make a suitable time. There are many commitments before and after school including duties and meetings.

Looking forward to meeting you all very soon.

*Mrs Paula Christensen,
Year Two Teacher*



YEAR THREE

Welcome back to another school year! The Year Three children have had a wonderful start to the school year. It was fabulous to see so many smiling faces on their first day.

Sport lessons this year are on a Tuesday and Thursday. Library book exchange is every Tuesday, so please ensure that your child has their Library bag with them.

Students will need to bring their iPads charged to school every day. There will be no Seesaw posts until Mrs Pizzino returns.

Please feel free to contact me by email should any issues arise frances.caruso@cewa.edu.au

Mrs Frances Caruso, Year Three Teacher

YEAR FOUR

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you back to 2022, and we extend a special welcome to all of our new students and their families. We are very excited to start this new year with our Year 4 students as well as parents. We hope you had a safe and enjoyable summer and are prepared to embark on an amazing journey this school year! In 2022, Mrs Major will be teaching the class half day Monday and on Wednesday for the whole day.

Thank you to all those parents who made sure that their child had a hat, art smock, library bag, tissue boxes and headphones on the first day of school. If any of these items have been overlooked, we would much appreciate them being brought into school as soon as possible to ensure a smooth and happy start to the year for students....and their teachers! Be on the lookout for weekly Seesaw posts to keep you updated of the interesting events going on in our classroom. Communication is essential in making sure we have a smooth school year, so we will do our best to make sure you know exactly what's going on.

A Digital Reading Log and reading book was sent home on Monday. It is encouraged that children read every night and complete an oral retell of what they have read. Homework Grids will commence next Monday. We are looking forward to spending this new year teaching your children and helping them develop a growth mindset.

*Miss Kathleen Tranquille & Mrs Claire Major
Year Four Teachers*

YEAR FIVE

Welcome back to another school year!

Both myself and Mrs Caruso are very excited to be working with your children again for Year 5 2022. We cannot wait for another wonderful year full of learning and fun. The first few days of Year 5 have been fantastic. We spent a bit of time setting our intentions for the year and defining what it means to achieve success.

A reminder to please ensure you are connected to our class Seesaw. This is my main means of communication where I will communicate regularly with parents updating you on events, classroom information and learning.



✨ **STRIVE TO THRIVE IN
YEAR FIVE!** ✨

I am looking forward to another fantastic year with you and your child.

Miss Kayla Fogliani, Year Five Teacher

YEAR SIX

The students are all refreshed and excited to begin their final year of primary school here at St Lawrence. They have commenced the term by outlining two goals they would like to achieve by the end of Term One. They included one school goal and one wellness goal.

In addition to outlining their goals, the students have also identified the skills and talents that they have been gifted by God.

In Maths, they have taken part in investigations and open-ended tasks that have allowed them to explore the different ways problems can be solved.

There is so much more learning and growing to take place in Year Six and we cannot wait.



Mrs Angela Carnevali, Year Six Teacher



Welcome to Play Group 2022!

Our first session is taking place next Monday 7th February at 8:40-10:30am.

St Lawrence Play Group is open to all members of our community so if you have a child aged 0-5 years or know of any family or friends that may be interested we would love for you to join us. All queries can be made to myself at gillian.austin@cewa.edu.au. I'm looking forward to another fun filled year!

Mrs Gillian Austin, Play Group Facilitator

LIBRARY NEWS

Library will operate slightly differently this year. Children will still come to the library to borrow books but will not have a formal library lesson. Book borrowing days have changed this year, so please take note of the following and ensure that your child bring both their books and their library bags on their borrowing day:

Tuesdays – Years 3, 4, 5 & 6

Wednesdays – Kindy, Pre Primary, Years 1 & 2



Please note that if children do not have their library bag they will not be able to borrow that week.

All the traditional events that have operated in the past will continue to run such as Book Club, the National Simultaneous Storytime, Book Week, along with Craft Club. (The commencement date for Craft Club will be advised at a later date).

Mrs Louise Frenzel, Library Officer

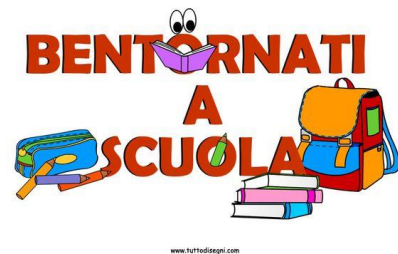
ITALIAN NEWS

Bentornati a Scuola! Welcome back to School!

I wish everyone a great year ahead with lots of wonderful learning.

I am looking forward to our Italian lessons in 2022.

Buon Anno Scolastico a tutti! Happy school year to everyone!



Signora Jenny Acquarola, Italian Specialist Teacher

Early Childhood Centre

Welcome to all families for the 2022 School Year.

Staff:

Playgroup

Facilitator - Mrs Gillian Austin

Pre-Kindergarten

Teacher - Mrs Kaylene Bozich

Education Assistant – Mrs Michelle Seragusana

Kindergarten

Teacher - Mrs Rachel Wake

Education Assistants - Mrs Michelle Seragusana and Mrs Kayli Thompson

Pre-Primary

Teacher Semester One Monday- Thursday Ms Erin Healey

Teacher Semester Two Monday- Thursday Mrs Gloria Edwards

Teacher Fridays - Mrs Frances Caruso

Education Assistant - Mrs Lynette Staltari



Our centre provides a fabulous learning area – both inside and out - for your children. We thank our Principal, Mr Sheldon Carey and the very hard-working Parents and Friends Association for the wonderful refurbishments to our lovely playground. Thanks also to Mrs Tania Preston (Pre-Primary Teacher 2021) who also assisted in the planning of the playground improvements. We wish to remind you of some important points when entering our area.

Indoor Learning Environment

When dropping off or visiting our classrooms please be respectful of our learning environments and the time and effort teachers put into setting up wonderful areas for your children to learn and play. It is appreciated that you support the staff and guide your children in classroom procedures and respect these areas. You are also asked to supervise younger children/siblings in these areas.

Outdoor Playground

The following guidelines are for the safety of your children.

Please, when either dropping off or picking up, supervise your child, as well as siblings. We ask that no children play with any equipment that may be in the outdoors area. This may have been set up by staff, for use later in the day with classes, however it is off limits to all children before class.

At no times should children be on play equipment as accidents happen and this is a duty of care issue.

Staff are very busy in classrooms preparing, cleaning up at the end of the day or speaking with parents. Please leave the area after you have picked up your child at the end of the day. There is no playing in this area after school has finished. Children have ample time to play on the equipment during their day at school and under the supervision of staff.

Likewise – parents of Playgroup children are asked to be diligent in their supervision and be respectful of the rules that have been shared with you by Mrs Austin.

This is a serious Duty of Care Issue, as indicated by signs in the playground and we thank you for your cooperation.

We have delineated the following areas –

Fairy Tree House, Sink and Stream for Water Play
Water Table, Music Table
Sandpit, Bike Track
Bus, Tepee, Log Steps
Climbing Equipment (2 areas)
Veranda Set Up/Activities that will change for themes etc.
Grassed Area (closest to carpark)

There will be equipment boxes around our area. Please do not allow students and siblings to touch these.

All staff are constantly teaching the children how to use our equipment, the areas the equipment is restricted to and how to pack away carefully. We have our rules displayed around the centre and this is an important part of the children's learning.

Toilets

All Catholic Schools operate under a Code of Conduct to ensure the safety and well-being of students. One way that we ensure this is by asking parents, while at school to use only the Ambulant/Parent Toilets for themselves or when toileting your children when they are still in your care. This includes if you are in the classroom to drop off or pick up your children, or in classrooms on rosters.



**Our school and staff
thanks you
sincerely for your
cooperation.**

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

Welcome back to Term 1, 2022.

For any enquiries, please contact me on Angie.miola@cewa.edu.au if you are not available to come into the Uniform Shop.

SUMMER UNIFORM

All students in Year 1 to Year 6 commence Term 1, 2022 in Full Summer Uniform.

- * Girls Summer Dress should be worn knee length.
- * Girls blue/white hair ties with uniform and red/gold hair ties with sport uniform.
- * Boys blue shirt must be tucked in school grey shorts.
- * Red Rugby Shorts are discontinued are not available and must not be worn. Red Microfibre Sport Shorts are compulsory to wear for students in Pre-primary to Year 6.

EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDENTS

Pre-Kindy & Kindergarten students are encouraged to wear a Red Early Childhood T- Shirt, available from the Uniform Shop, please note it is not compulsory.

A St Lawrence School Library Bag for Kindergarten students is compulsory and available from the Uniform Shop.

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

Mrs Angie Miola, Uniform Shop Manager

FATHERING PROJECT



Date: 11 – 12 March 2022

Deposit of \$50 is required by 16 February, as there is a limit of plots available. Please note that this year, we will not be able to cater for last minute bookings.

New families are welcome and are encouraged to attend.

‘First time campers’, help will be warmly available!

Patrick King, Co-ordinator

CANTEEN NEWS

Welcome back to another school year!

Canteen will operate as normal on **Wednesday, Thursday and Friday** for recess and lunch.

Canteen Menu will remain as the same as 2021. (2022 Menu **attached** to this newsletter).
Lunch order bags are available for \$1.50 for 20

Birthday Orders for class - please order one day in advance

Cupcakes or M & M Cookies \$20

Brownie or Icy pole \$15

Please note brownie is dairy and egg free

Ash Wednesday special - 1st March

Fish fingers and veggie sticks \$4 (add tomato sauce 50c)

Fish Burger (lettuce & Mayo) \$5

Pre order now open (order by Friday 25th February)

Please Help!

Our canteen relies heavily on volunteers. If you can help at all during the term, please contact me.
Help is especially appreciated on Thursdays. If you have any questions, please contact me on my
Mobile : 0408834774

ATTACHMENT: 2022 Canteen Menu.

Christina, Frances and Antonella
2022 Canteen Staff

