



## Newsletter No. 5

**10 March 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.



*Heavenly Father,*

*As I enter another week of my Lenten journey, guide me to the path that leads to you. Fill my heart with gratitude, patience, strength, and peace as I strive to become the-best-version-of-myself, honestly admitting my shortcomings and sins.*

*As I renew my resolve each day to become a better person, let me hear your voice in the deepest reaches of my heart.*

*Give me rest in you.*

*Help me to accept others, showing them your great love instead of casting judgment.*

*Stay with me through the busy days this week and remind me that when I need comfort, solitude, wisdom, or guidance, I can always turn to you.*

*Help me develop discipline and generosity through fasting and almsgiving and come closer to you through prayer this Lent.*

*In your name I pray, Amen.*

Dear Parents and Caregivers

## Inspiring Christ-Centre Leaders

The importance of the early years is pivotal to setting the foundations for the rest of our lives. An interesting analogy for a teacher's role is that they are in the business of "Growing Brains". Research indicates a child enters school with 25% of the brain already developed. That leaves 75% left to develop. Teachers can only do so much to ensure a brain develops. They can provide provocation for learning and skill acquisition, they can instruct, create lines of inquiry, review knowledge, practice skills, scaffold knowledge, and enhance meta- cognition. BUT none of this will be successful in maximising learning if the fundamentals are lacking. So, what are the essentials fundamentals requirements for learning?

- Healthy Diet
- Regular Sleep and plenty of it
- Exercise
- Stimulating Environments
- Calmness and not stress.

Without these elements being present no amount of after school tutoring, catch up lessons, extra homework is going to make for significant improvements or long-term gains. Furthermore, without these essentials no class teacher will be able to maximise student gains. These essentials for learning are generated in the home. It is imperative children eat well, have regular sleep patterns that provide optimal sleep time, children need to be active, home life should include reading and writing opportunities and parental role modeling of reading and writing. Finally, an environment that is calm, routine, safe and supporting.

## Catholic Schools of Excellence

As part of our continued endeavours to build on our capacities and improve, in 2020 we launched our new School Website. One of the functionalities within the website is a new and improved calendar. We will be using this as our whole school calendar as it can be updated instantaneously and thus reflect more accurately our events and happenings. I strongly encourage you all to access this calendar as your main option for keeping informed of school events. You have the option to print this calendar as well if you would like, however once printed dates are still open for change, so please be aware of this.

I have been very impressed with our children's presentation during this term. Uniforms have all been well presented, clean and in general student grooming has been of its usual high standards. I do however remind all parents about the need to support the uniform policy which includes general presentation. I sincerely thank all the boys and girls who do follow policy and their parents for supporting our school's policies and procedures at all times. Enrolment here at St Lawrence is subject to our policies and procedures being adhered to. Again, thank you to all the boys and girls who dress and present so well every day.



I wish to acknowledge the great work of Mrs Gillian Austin who has been coordinating our Play Group. Mrs Austin took this undertaking on over a year ago and despite the advent of a rather difficult 2020 has created a thriving and flourishing group. A playgroup is a group of parents, caregivers and extended family who come together with their babies and young children to learn together through play.

Playgroups are a great way for your children to interact with other children in a fun and safe environment, while giving you the opportunity to interact with other parents.

We are blessed to have the talents and enthusiasm of Mrs Austin who coordinates our Play Group. Her professionalism, experience as an educator and knowledge has been a great asset to our Play Group. Thank you Mrs Austin! I must admit I was able to view first-hand last week the group in action and not only was it a heart-warming experience to see so many parents and caregivers embracing the group and actively interacting, the networking opportunities and camaraderie developed between the adults is priceless. The joy on the children's faces as they go about the important business of childhood, "play" is invaluable.

## **Catholic Pastoral Communities**

Digital technology is a part of our lives. Whichever way we may look at it, devices are here to stay and will continue to evolve. We cannot hide from them, nor should we. Let's face it, when used correctly, the educational benefits of digital technology are obvious. In saying this, there are without doubt many risks when young people are given autonomy with a device such as an iPad.

'Digital Citizenship' in education is extremely topical and like all things with young people, parameters must be set to maintain safety and well-being.

I recently came across some literature attributed to Professor Donna Cross who is an expert in the field of social and emotional well-being in young people and the contribution that digital technology plays. She used the analogy that digital technology is very much like a swimming pool. Swimming pools are entertaining, exciting, they encourage collaboration and are obviously loved by young people. On the flip side, they require direct supervision, structured learning and boundaries to ensure they are used appropriately. When children use a swimming pool, strict parameters are generally in place, and for good reason.

It is the law to construct a fence around a swimming pool which prevents any unsupervised use and thus protecting young people from harm. Generally, children learn from quite a young age how to appropriately use a swimming pool, this includes being taught to swim by a more experienced and competent adult. Warnings are in place about diving in the shallow end and first aid signs must be visible. Essentially, children are slowly introduced to the swimming pool and their level of autonomy is gradually released.

Technology is no different. If we treat the use of technology with our children in a similar way to a swimming pool, we will be more likely to protect them from the negative aspects of the digital world, whilst exposing them to the positive power of the device. We have the capability to set our children up for success in the appropriate use of devices. The protection of the pool fence in this analogy may be seen as the protection that passwords provide and the level of independent access we provide young people to certain technology and applications.

Overall, the key message here is to embrace technology for the educational opportunities it provides while at the same time, respecting and being aware of the enormous power they hold.

## Accessible, Affordable and Sustainable

### **KINDERGARTEN APPLICATION FOR 2022**

**Applications for Kindy in 2022 are currently being processed.**

**Even if you have siblings at the school you still need to fill out relevant application forms for your child.**

If you have a child ready to commence Kindy in 2022, please visit the school's website for enrolment information and application form or contact the school office for an application form.

If you know of other families within the community that would like to attend our Kindergarten programme for 2022, please let them know that they need to visit the school's website or contact the school for an application form.

Applications close Friday 12 March 2021

### **PRE-KINDERGARTEN (3yr old) APPLICATION FOR 2022**

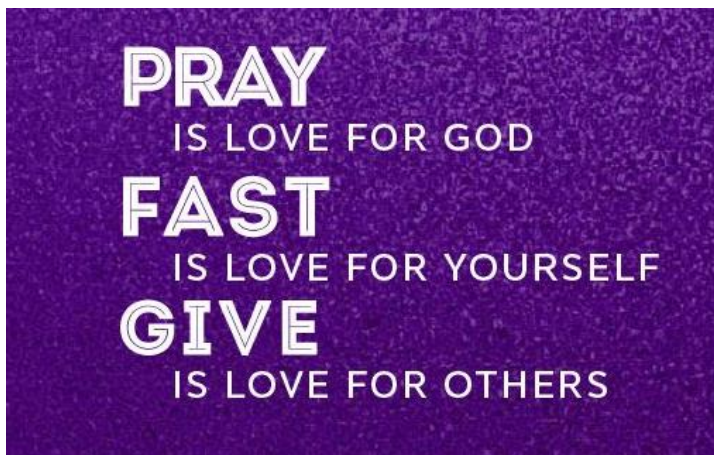
If you have a child ready to commence Pre-Kindy in 2022, please visit the school's website for enrolment information and application form or contact the school office for an application form. If you know of other families within the community that would like to attend our Pre-Kindergarten programme for 2022, please let them know that they need to visit the school's website for enrolment information and application form or contact the school for an application form.

Applications close Friday 12 March 2021

God bless each and every one of you.



*Sheldon Carey  
M Ed, B Ed, Grad Dip  
Principal*



### ***PASTORAL CARE***

*We pray for all our community as we move through our Lenten journey. May alms, pray and fasting help us all grow in our love of God.*

# HOME LEARNING - Reading at Home

Make reading fun!

Reading at home should be fun and easy – something both parent and child look forward to - a time for laughter and talk.

- Share the reading, take turns or see whether your child wants to read or be read to.
- All children like to be read to, so keep reading to them. You can also read in your first language if you have another language other than English.
- Visit the library together and help them choose books to share.
- Read emails from family members abroad or living away.
- Play card and board games together.

Here's a tip - talk a lot to your child while you are doing things together. Use the language that works best for you and your child.

Talk about reading.

- Talk about pictures in books.
- Sing songs, read poems, and make up rhymes together – the funnier the better.
- Be a role model. Let your child see you enjoying reading and talk about what you are enjoying.
- Point out words on signs, shops and labels.
- Play word games like "I Spy" and "Simon Says..."

Make it a special time together.

Reading is a great chance for you and your child to spend special time together.

- quiet and relaxing.
- 10–15 minutes without interruption, away from the TV or devices.
- an enjoyable, interesting, and special time.
- a time to praise your child for making an effort.

Here's some tips - if your child is stuck on a word wait a few seconds, give them a chance to think. If they are still stuck, help them to try to work the word out by saying "read the sentence again and think what would make sense". Ask "could it be...?" (and give a word that might fit). The pictures also help them check they have got the right word. If they still cannot work out the word, tell them and praise their efforts. Remember, reading should be fun.

Help your child to link stories to their own life. Remind them about what they have done when a similar thing happens in the story.

Keep it fun and enjoyable.

# FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

## SACRAMENTS

Enrolment masses for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation will be held this weekend on Saturday 13 March at 6.00pm and Sunday 14 March at 5.00pm. Please bring your child to the Mass that best suits your family. Sacrament information packs have been sent home today with children in Years 3, 4 and 6. An enrolment form was given to your child last week. The enrolment form needs to be completed and handed to Fr Emil during one of the Enrolment Masses. In the Sacrament information pack, there is a Mass Attendance booklet which your child will need to take to every Mass (including the enrolment mass). Each child attending Mass will be given a sticker to stick in their Mass attendance booklet.

## Sacrament dates 2021 (dates and times are subject to change)

### ST LAWRENCE PARISH

#### CONFIRMATION

EVENT	DATE	TIME/LOCATION/PRESENTER
Enrolment Mass	Saturday 13 March/Sunday 14 March 2021	Saturday 6.00pm OR Sunday 5.00pm Mass
Parent Meeting	Wednesday 22 September 2021	7.00pm – School Hall
Family Workshop	Wednesday 13 October 2021	5.30pm or 7.00pm - School Hall
Retreat	Friday 15 October 2021	8.30am – 3.00pm – School Hall
<b>CONFIRMATION DAYS</b>	Saturday 23 October 2021	4.00pm or 6.00pm – St Lawrence Church

#### EUCCHARIST

EVENT	DATE	TIME/LOCATION/PRESENTER
Enrolment Mass	Saturday 13 March/Sunday 14 March 2021	Saturday 6.00pm OR Sunday 5.00pm Mass
Parent Meeting	Wednesday 28 July 2021	7.00pm – School Hall
Family Workshop	Thursday 5 August 2021	5.30pm or 7.00pm School Hall
Retreat	Wednesday 11 August 2021	8.30am – 3.00pm – School Hall
<b>FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS</b>	Saturday 21 August 2021	4.00pm or 6.00pm – St Lawrence Church

#### RECONCILIATION

EVENT	DATE	TIME/LOCATION/PRESENTER
Enrolment Mass	Saturday 13 March/Sunday 14 March 2021	Saturday 6.00pm OR Sunday 5.00pm Mass
Parent Meeting	Wednesday 26 May 2021	7.00pm – School Hall
Family Workshop	Wednesday 2 June 2021	5.30pm or 7.00pm – School Hall
Retreat	Wednesday 9 June 2021	8.30am – 3.00pm – School Hall
<b>RECONCILIATION NIGHT</b>	Wednesday 16 June 2021	6.30pm– St Lawrence Church





## NAPLAN ONLINE 2021

NAPLAN testing will take place in Term Two. Please see important dates below. Information about NAPLAN has been sent home today with students in Years 3 and 5, please read the information carefully as it contains important information about the tests.

As part of readiness activities for NAPLAN Online, schools in Western Australia will undertake a practice test on Thursday 25 March. Our Year Three students will complete a test that is a mixture of reading, conventions of language and numeracy. Our Year Five students will complete a writing test. If children are absent or unwell during the testing period catch up tests can be completed.

Date	Tests
<b>Thursday 25 March</b>	Y3 Practice Test (reading, conventions of language and numeracy) Y5 Practice Test (writing)
<b>Tuesday 11 May</b>	Y3 Writing (Paper Test) Y5 Writing (Online Test)
<b>Wednesday 12 May</b>	Y3 & Y5 Reading (Online)
<b>Thursday 13 May</b>	Y3 and Y5 Conventions of Language (Online)
<b>Friday 14 May</b>	Y3 and Y5 Numeracy (Online)
<b>17/5 – 21/5</b>	Catch up tests

## Assembly

Our Year 4 students will be leading our assembly on Friday. Unfortunately, parents will not be able to attend the assembly, due to COVID restrictions still being in place.



*Mrs Gabrielle Brennan  
& Miss Kathleen Tranquille  
Assistant Principals*

# ST LAWRENCE DANCE CONCERT

On **Wednesday 24th March** your child will be participating in the St. Lawrence Dance Concert for 2021. Our theme for this year will be **Dancing Around the World** with each year level focusing on a dance.

## **Kindy - Australia**

COSTUMES- Kindy shirt and black shorts

## **PP- Italy**

COSTUMES - Black Shorts and white t-Shirt

## **YR 1 - America**

COSTUMES - white t-shirts and Denim Shorts

## **YR 2 - UK**

COSTUMES - Colourful t-shirt, and black shorts

## **YR 3 - Latino**

COSTUMES - Girls Black dresses

Boys Black pants/shorts and t-white shirts

## **YR 4 - Africa**

COSTUMES - Bright Reds, Orange, Green, Yellow, Blue Outfits

## **YR 5 - Indian**

COSTUMES - All Black both girls and boys - Girls will have bright scarves around shoulders and hips. Boys will have a scarf around their shoulders

## **YR 6 - Korea**

COSTUMES - Black Pants/shorts with White or Red t-shirts

# LET'S DANCE!

On the day of the performance, students come to school dressed in their school uniform. Please send their performance outfit in a labelled bag so they can change after lunch. Children will need to wear their sport shoes for the performance.

The concert begins at 2pm on the Junior Oval and family and friends are welcome to attend.





# CLASS NEWS

## YEAR THREE

Last week the Year 3 students met their Kindy buddies for the very first time. They enjoyed interviewing their buddies to get to know them a little better. Throughout the year we will be participating in many joint buddy activities. During Maths we are investigating large numbers and becoming more proficient in placing them in ascending and descending order. Children are also busy learning how to count forward and backwards in 10s to help with quick mental calculations. In Talk For Writing, we are learning how to use different parts of speech to write well-structured descriptions.

The last couple of weeks of Term One will be extremely busy. Below are a few important dates:

**\*Enrolment Mass** -13th/14th March (Saturday 6pm, Sunday 5pm)

Children who will be receiving the Sacrament of Penance this year will need to attend one of these masses on the weekend. They will need to bring their enrolment form and their sticker book.

**\*Art Gallery Excursion** - Monday 15th March

Please make sure all permission slips are returned back to school by Friday.

**\*Liturgy of the Word** -Thursday 18th March

The children will be celebrating the Liturgy of the Word with Father Adam. Due to COVID no parents will be able to attend.

**\*Harmony Day** -Monday 22nd March

Children will be allowed to wear orange or a costume from their country of origin.

**\*Dance Concert** -Wednesday 24th March

For our Dance Performance children will need to wear the following costumes.

Girls -Black dresses

Boys -Black pants and White t-shirts

*Miss Kathleen Tranquille, Year Three Teacher*

## YEAR FOUR

What an amazing and extremely busy first half of the year we have had! We enjoyed our buddy time last week during wellness week. We practised some mindful colouring to get to know our buddies then we taught them how to use Minecraft Education. We also had a shared lunch whilst watching Science Max build a bridge out of pasta!

Our assembly is this Friday. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, parents are unable to attend. The assembly item will be recorded on the day. If you would like a copy, please bring in a USB clearly labelled with your child's name on it.



**OUR BUDDIES**

## YEAR FOUR (cont.)

We are enjoying learning our new story in Talk for Writing - Kassim and the Greedy Dragon. We are focusing on how the story uses description to make it more interesting. In Numeracy, we are learning about how numbers expand like a slinky! In Religion, we have been looking at the Apostles and the Seven Sacraments and how they help share the Word of God.

Just a reminder Sacramental Enrolment masses are this weekend. The mass times are **6:00pm on Saturday** and **5:00pm on Sunday**. Enrolment forms were handed out to students last week. Please bring this filled out and signed to give to Father. If you have misplaced it, please let me know and I can send home another.

*Miss Kayla Fogliani, Year Four Teacher*

## YEAR FIVE

The Year 5s enjoyed our visit to the WA Musuem Boola Bardip yesterday to take part in the Thrive to Survive workshop. We had fun exploring the ingenious ways that birds have adapted to survive and using scientific tools such as Museum specimens, 3D scans and microscopes to observe and record structural changes in bird skulls, beaks and feathers.

After our workshop we were lucky enough to break up into small groups and explore our beautiful new Museum. A big thank you to Mr Tonge for driving the bus and Mrs Di Trento, Mrs Fazari and Mrs Sabatino for their help.



In Religion we have begun our new unit on Lent and Easter and look forward to planning and preparing our Good Friday Lenten liturgy which will take place in the last week of school.

In Maths we are continuing to revise place value and understand its importance when working with large numbers. We will begin working on multiplication strategies so please ensure your child is practising their tables at home. Enjoy your week.

*Mrs Roselyn Pizzino, Year Five Teacher*



## YEAR SIX

Most students have finished building and painting their medieval castles and have begun drafting their stories to share with you. We will be going to see the Vikings exhibition at the Fremantle Maritime Museum on Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> March to complement our stories in English about famous characters from this period. The Fathering Camp was a wonderful adventure judging by the enthusiastic happenings that were retold to us.

I have been very impressed by the responsible way those who missed schoolwork caught up with this upon their return – that's how Year Six leaders respond! Enrolment Mass for those receiving Confirmation this year will be this Saturday at 6pm or Sunday at 5pm.

*Mr Phil Haydon, Year Six Teacher*





## NATIONAL RIDE2SCHOOL DAY

Friday 19 March 2021



### St Lawrence Primary School

are excited to be celebrating National Ride2School Day on Friday 19 March 2021.

National Ride2School Day is the perfect opportunity to kick-start new healthy habits and promote the many benefits of active travel. We encourage all students and their families to leave the car at home and give riding, walking, scooting or skating to school a go.

It's sure to be a fantastic day and we look forward to seeing you there!



Students may wear their Sport Uniform to school on Ride2School Day.



A big thank you to everyone for participating in our first WOW Lunch for 2021.

It was great to see lots of waste free lunchboxes.

Congratulations to the Pre Kindy class who had the least amount of waste.





# PLAY GROUP

We were very happy to be able to hold our first play group session for the year on Monday. It was great to see so many families returning and also some new families joining us. Our play group session is full at the moment. However if you would like to be added to the wait list please email me.

[gillian.austin@cewa.edu.au](mailto:gillian.austin@cewa.edu.au).

*Mrs Gillian Austin, Play Group Facilitator*



## LIBRARY NEWS



### BOOK CLUB

The brochure for the second issue of Book Club will be sent home tomorrow. Orders will be due back at school next **Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> March**. Orders can be made online using the LOOP system, or with money sent into school in a clearly marked envelope with your child's name and class.

We are finding, due to COVID restrictions, that Book Club returns are moving very slowly. It is possible that Book Club Issue 2 will not be back at school until next term.

*Mrs Jane Stanton, Teacher Librarian*

## UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

### WINTER UNIFORM

Year 1 to Year 6 students commence Term 2 in their winter uniform.

Year 1 and new students need to purchase their winter uniform before the end of this term. The Uniform Shop is closed during the school holidays.

Uniforms can be purchased directly at the Uniform Shop or orders may be placed now and collected with payment later this term.

### RED SPORT SHORTS

Boys Red Microfibre Sport Shorts are available for Pre-primary to Year 6.

Shorts are available in Size 2 -16 and M, L & XL.

### DISCONTINUED RED RUGBY SHORTS

Boys Red Rugby Shorts are no longer available and are discontinued.

Red Microfibre Sport Shorts have replaced red rugby shorts.

Girls have option to wear Microfibre shorts or may continue wearing Skorts.

If you have purchased Red Rugby Shorts you may continue wearing these shorts until end of year.

### Uniform Shop Opening Hours

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

*Mrs Angela Miola, Uniform Shop Manager*



## P&F NEWS



A total of **\$4,600** was raised. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the families who donated as well as the School Advisory Council for their contributions. The funds that would have ordinarily been spent at the welcome picnic will be well received by those who have lost everything in supporting them to rebuild their lives.



***Dandelions WA representatives presenting “Certificate of Appreciation”  
to the School Principal and P&F Executive***

*Mrs Adele Cirillo, P&F President*

# CANTEEN NEWS

## MENU – Last day of Term – Thursday 1 April

### Sushi special:

Chicken Teriyaki, Tuna or Veggie

5 piece \$5.50 or 6 piece \$6.50

**Or Sausage Roll \$3.50 or Pie \$4**

Please note this will be the only items available for lunch.

→ Please preorder now by Tuesday 30th March.

→ A reminder we have Chicken Fried Rice and a Juice for \$5.50 for a limited time only.

### HELP NEEDED

Help is needed on Thursday 1 April – this is the last day of term and I am without help on the day. Any help would be very much appreciated – please see the canteen staff.

### Fabulous offer below from the “Entertainment Book”

Support St Lawrence Primary School by purchasing the new Entertainment Membership,

20% of every membership sold goes directly to our fundraiser.

The Entertainment Membership is an app that you can have on your phone, it is valid for a full 12 months from time of purchase & it includes so many local offers! You can save at places like SUBWAY, AQWA, BOOST JUICE, VARSITY BAR, GRAND CINEMAS, MUZZ BUZZ, BEN & JERRY's, TIMEZONE, ROTTNEST FERRIES and so many popular restaurants such as La Capannina, Island Market, Swell, Coco's just to name a few.

BUY NOW & SUPPORT OUR FUNDRAISER BY CLICKING THE LINK BELOW

<https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/861i18>

*To check out what is in your local area type in the suburbs you like to visit in the link below*

<https://www.entertainment.com.au/offers>

You will also receive a \$10 Woolworth or JB HI-FI eGift Card!



 **Entertainment**

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buy a Membership  
and get more\*

#fundraisingwithentertainment



LIMITED TIME OFFER

BUY NOW &  
SUPPORT  
OUR  
SCHOOL

20% of your Membership purchase  
comes directly to us!

BONUS \$10 eGift Card	BONUS \$20 eGift Card	BONUS \$20 eGift Card
Single City <b>\$69<sup>99</sup></b>	Multi City <b>\$119<sup>99</sup></b>	Multi Plus <b>\$229<sup>99</sup></b>
1 YEAR MEMBERSHIP	1 YEAR MEMBERSHIP	2 YEAR MEMBERSHIP
Discover all the best savings in your city	Enjoy savings across Australia, New Zealand and Bali	2 years of savings across Australia, New Zealand and Bali
<b>\$14</b> goes to our fundraiser!	<b>\$24</b> goes to our fundraiser!	<b>\$46</b> goes to our fundraiser!



## SPORTS NEWS

Congratulations to the Year 6 Sports Leaders who led the whole school in some fitness routines every day after lunch last week. As part of Wellness Week it was great to see them enthusiastically motivating the younger students to get active, particularly as it was so hot.

The year 5 and 6 students are busily preparing for the Inter School Cricket Carnival on Friday 26th March, teams will be announced this week.

Students from Pre-Primary to Year 6 have thoroughly enjoyed the expertise of our professional baseball coach, Connor Leury. Over the last few weeks we have seen some huge improvements all round in terms of skill level and structured game play.



*Mrs Claire Major, Physical Education Teacher*



## COMMUNITY NEWS



  
Servite  
College

**OPEN  
DAY**

**18 March**  
**9.30am-11am**  
**Bookings at [servite.wa.edu.au](https://servite.wa.edu.au)**

We are enrolling now for 2022, 2023 and 2024  
**[enrolment@servite.wa.edu.au](mailto:enrolment@servite.wa.edu.au) 9208 0900**



**Mercedes College**  
**Sunday 21 March 2021**  
**FETE**

**Victoria Square,  
Perth  
10am-4pm**

Fashion ★ Food ★ Music  
Live Entertainment  
Crafts ★ Rides ★ Plants  
Giant & Silent Auctions  
Kids Activities ★ Market Stalls

**Fun for  
the whole  
family!**

Contact: [fete@mercedes.wa.edu.au](mailto:fete@mercedes.wa.edu.au)  Love us on Facebook  Follow us on Instagram