



## Newsletter No. 10

**28 April 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.

### Dear Parents and Guardians

Traditionally the Church each month has a special devotional focus. May and October are thought of as Marian months, where we spend extra time in prayer and strengthening our relationship with Jesus through Our Lady. We are blessed in many ways here at St Lawrence. One such blessing is the lovely bell that chimes daily at 12:00 noon. This bell reminds us all to stop and ponder the love and devotion Mary had towards her most cherished Son, Jesus. This is a great opportunity for us all to spend a few moments in prayer, to stop, retreat from the hustle and bustle of the world and be at peace. The bell historical was a sign to say the Angelus, in fact the bell is often called "The Angelus Bell". A call to prayer and accordingly a call to spread goodwill to everyone.

**One of our most beloved and often recited devotional  
prayers is the Hail Mary**

*Hail Mary, full of grace.*

*The Lord is with thee.*

*Blessed art thou amongst women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.*

*Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death.*

*Amen.*



The Hail Mary (sometimes called the "Angelical salutation", from the first words in its Latin form, the "Ave Maria") is the most familiar of all the prayers used by the Catholic Church in honour of our Blessed Lady.

It is commonly described as consisting of three parts. The first, "Hail (Mary) full of grace, the Lord is with thee, blessed art thou amongst women", embodies the words used by the Angel Gabriel in saluting the Blessed Virgin (*Luke, I, 28*).

The second, "and blessed is the fruit of thy womb (Jesus)", is borrowed from the Divinely inspired greeting of St. Elizabeth (*Luke 1:42*). Finally, the petition "Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen."

## **Inspiring Christ-Centre Leaders**

At his press conference on Tuesday, Premier Mark McGowan advised that the lockdown of the Perth and Peel region will end at midnight Monday after Western Australia recorded no new community spread of COVID-19 cases in that 24 hour period.

While Perth and Peel residents are free to leave their homes and return to work and schools, some interim restrictions will remain for the next few days, including the mandatory wearing of face masks for adults.

### **ARRANGEMENTS FOR PERTH AND PEEL REGION SCHOOLS**

All schools in the Perth and Peel lockdown regions were open on Tuesday 27 April 2021, under the following conditions:

- All staff members and students in the Perth Metropolitan area and Peel region in Years 7 to 12 will be required to wear masks at all times while they are at school. This applies to classrooms, all teaching areas and libraries, staffrooms, in playgrounds and outdoors. It also includes travelling on public transport to and from school. Masks should also be worn in private vehicles if there is more than one passenger over the age of 12 years from different households.
- All staff members in Perth and Peel region schools must wear their masks while at school. However, when teachers, educators and carers are teaching, interacting with or caring for children, they are permitted to remove their masks if they interfere with their ability to clearly communicate with students. However, if teachers, educators and carers feel they are able to be clearly understood they may choose to wear their masks at all times.
- Students in Kindergarten to Year 6 in the Perth and Peel regions are not required to wear a mask, but their teachers and support staff must wear masks.
- Common sense should apply regarding the colour and markings on masks, with staff and students asked not to wear masks that may contain inappropriate markings and designs.
- Unless a staff member or a student has a valid medical exemption from wearing a mask, the clear expectation is that all staff and all students from Years 7 to 12 will be wearing masks.

#### ***School activities***

- Sports training, games and interschool competitions—including swimming -may proceed with good hygiene practices, on the condition that attendance is restricted to students and teachers. No spectators are permitted.
- While large scale events and activities may proceed, Principals are asked to consider postponing or cancelling large events, excursions and camps wherever possible. In the event that schools proceed with planned events, excursions and camps, schools are required to adhere to social distancing and venue capacity requirements. It is also a requirement that staff and students in Years 7 –12 wear masks.

#### ***Parents, caregivers and visitors on school premises***

- Parents, caregivers and visitors to schools in the Perth and Peel regions must wear a mask and adhere to COVID-safe guidelines while they are on a school site.

### **TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS**

The Premier has announced that travel restrictions for residents of the Perth and Peel regions have been lifted, except for remote communities in the Kimberley region.

However, CEWA will be taking a cautious approach and school and office staff are advised as follows:

- Travel is permitted between affected and non-affected areas for staff and students for the purposes of attending school.
- All travel for work purposes between the Perth and Peel regions and the rest of Western Australian and Australia is cancelled, subject to certain exemptions and extraordinary circumstances.

## AHPPC GUIDELINES

The AHPPC has provided the following reminders for schools:

- Schools should continue to maintain good hygiene behaviours to prevent the spread of disease. This includes frequent handwashing, respiratory hygiene and physical distancing where possible.
- Children and staff should not attend school if unwell and should stay home and be tested. In circumstances where children have other medical reasons for recurrent symptoms, a letter from the GP is sufficient to allow return to school without a negative test.
- Regular environmental cleaning and disinfection, especially of frequently touched surfaces, and promoting outdoor air ventilation where possible, also reduce the risk of transmission.
- Settings that enable frequent and close contact between individuals or groups pose a risk of transmission. Therefore, large events require COVID Safe plans and there may be limits on the number of people who can attend.
- It is important that we continue to protect the health and wellbeing of students and staff. Students and staff may experience loneliness, confusion and see distressing scenes and stories from overseas.

Head to Health provides online resources on mental health and COVID-19, including information for parents, which may also assist teachers.

## Catholic Schools of Excellence

We have a ghost-writer join our newsletter team this week and he or she has penned a few observations of actions, events and inside information currently doing the rounds of St Lawrence...I'll hand you over to our watchful guest writer.

*Hello everyone...It was so great to see the children returning to school last week. To see their smiling faces and hear their laughter. Classrooms have been all abuzz after Easter and the holidays.*

*Our newest arrival the St Lawrence **Play Group** admirably captained by Mrs Austin have been enjoying coming back as a flotilla of learners and setting course for many wonderful learning outcomes and enjoying the mateship established in this great group of fledgling St Lawrence students and dutifully accompanied by their loved ones! "What a splendid vision to behold. "*

*Our intrepid band of '**Three Year Olds**' have been extremely busy recently as they all come together as a group for the first time. They have been bravely exploring their new environment and all the wonderful learning opportunities that come from our marvellous chief explorers Mrs Bozich and Mrs Seragusana.*

*Our **Kindy** children have been very busy indeed...seems a lot of energy has been going into creating something very special for....I can't say! Even I've been held to secrecy on this one! But they have been busy busy busy with making and creating...I can say that much for sure....*

*In **Pre-Primary** we were treated to some marvellous letter work and the children learning how to make the letter shapes and write their own names with perfect penmanship. It also looks like some of our Pre-Primaries are almost independent readers....almost.*

*In **Year One**, the buzz was all about Monsters, an online reading resource that the boys and girls have all been enjoying accessing and developing their already spectacular reading abilities! Keep reading guys!!!!*

*In **Year Two** the children were working so hard to impress Ms Christensen, who joined our staff this Term. A new home corner was all the talk in the fashionable circles of Year Two and the boys and girls were certainly keen to be seen in their new home corner!*

***Year Three** saw a wonderful focus on creating some outstanding ANZAC Artwork. I was absolutely blown away at the beautiful work created by the boys and girls in honour of our service men and women. What talented children we have....*

*Our **Year Four** children are always keen to impress and they certainly did not let us down...they have been spending some time designing and creating a water transporter as part of their STEM Challenge.*

*Our **Year Five** were out and about last week, taking a field trip no less. They were spotted at two separate locations around Perth. One was the Constitutional Centre and the other was the Electoral Education Centre.....very politically correct one might say. This was certainly a talking point among the boys and girls who could hardly wait to share their excitement with me upon returning to school....Word about town is they all looked very smart out in public and representing our school in their finest!*

***Year Six**, our rather stylish and certainly trend setting leaders of the school, were busy ensuring preparations for our ANZAC Commemorations were taking place, and with much gusto! The end result was a fabulous remembrance of our brave men and women who have so gallantly and courageously stood for our fine country.*

*The **Sports Leaders** were also ensuring each classroom had access to all their specially selected sport equipment, so all children and classes can have the opportunity to play a variety of games. Wow aren't we lucky to have such hard working school leaders.*

*Hot off the press in other areas of St Lawrence, "Running Club" kicked off, always a social highlight for parents to gather before school and watch our chargers exercising and Mrs Majors always presents in a dashing array of sporting outfits! Of course, the COVID-19 restrictions hindered many of our parents this week.*

*Mr Lu was seen repotting a number of plants and building some interesting feature pots in the undercover areas. He's quite the builder is our Mr Lu...Then a few days later sanding the ceiling of the canteen....Very busy man indeed.*

*Interestingly Mr Lu, Mrs Preston and Mr Carey were all seen having what looked like an early morning, high powered, executive meeting...another chappy joined the group, but we are unsure who he was, and a serious and rather prolonged conversation took place in the Early Year's playground. A lot of pointing, hand waving, pacing out spaces and flicking through playground brochures took place. We shall watch this space with anticipation. ...methinks something is afoot.....*

*Also, and rather interestingly Mr Carey and Miss Tranquille were seen ordering flowers off campus in Leederville.... a rather large order in fact. Gerberas and irises our sources tell us.... apparently for collection sometime early May or so a source close to the florist tells us....Why such a large order and who for??? When will we know???We're hoping a school representative will make a statement soon regarding the flowers...*

*A phone call overheard by someone close to office staff has provided information about tree loppers being sourced to prune the front hedges and have a look at some of the trees in the orchards. Also, reticulation staff were seen on campus fixing a pipe that had broken.*

*It's also believed, and sources close to the Principal's Office have confirmed that replacement staff for Mrs Freeman have been contacted and met with Mr Carey for discussions. One senior staff member went as far as saying "I believe we have a replacement for Mrs Freeman!" When approached Mr Carey would not confirm or deny these allegations. Interesting, very very interesting.*

*Much goes on around this place we call St Lawrence in one week! Much indeed....*

## Catholic Pastoral Communities



### When life doesn't go their way!

One of the keys to functioning socially and emotionally is the ability to deal with disappointment and rejection. Most children experience some type of rejection from their peers throughout childhood. One study found that even popular children were rejected about one quarter of the time when they approached children in school.

Most children recover from such rejection. They move on and form constructive, worthwhile relationships but some children need help. They often take rejection personally and blame themselves. As a parent it is useful to challenge children's unhelpful thinking and encourage them to look for new friendship opportunities. Parents can help children understand that rejection may happen for any number of reasons that are unrelated to them.

In the course of a school day children will meet with a number of challenges and even setbacks. They may struggle with some schoolwork. They may not do well in a test and they may not be picked for a game that they wanted to play. Children grow stronger when they overcome their difficulties. The challenge for parents is to build and maintain children's confidence to help them get through the rough times.

One way to help children deal with rejection and disappointment is to talk through a problem or difficulty recognising and accepting their feelings. Talk about various scenarios around the incident, discussing possible outcomes. The age of the child will determine the amount of detail. Keep things simple and avoid burdening a younger child with concepts he or she doesn't understand.

Your attitude can make a huge difference to how a child reacts. If you see rejection or disappointments as problems then your child will be hamstrung by this view. See them as challenges then your child will, in all likelihood, pick up your upbeat view and deal with disappointments easily. After all, confidence is catching!

### Try this... Putting it into practice

To help children handle rejection and disappointment try the following four strategies:

1. **Model** optimism. Watch how you present the world to children, as they will pick up your view.
2. **Tell** children how you handle disappointment and rejection. Not only is it reassuring for children to know that their parents understand how they feel but they can learn a great deal by how their parents handle situations.
3. **Help** children recognise times in the past when they bounced back from disappointment. Help them recognise those same strategies can be used again.
4. **Laugh** together. Humour is a great coping mechanism. It helps put disappointment in perspective. It helps them understand that things will get better. They always do.

The above is compiled based on Michael Grose's website <http://www.parentingideas.com.au>.

## Accessible, Affordable and Sustainable

Once again I would like to take this opportunity to encourage any family who may be experiencing financial difficulties or concerns at the moment to please make contact with me. The school has in previous communications from myself expressed our offers of support.

The following quote articulates the importance of getting things wrong if we are to move forward and learn. If students are getting everything correct all the time, then we are not stretching them to maximise their potential. One of my lecturers always told me learning means having “crunchy eyebrow moments”. When we move from “I don’t understand, I can’t see the link” to “Oh I get it now!!!!”

*“If the students are answering every one of the teacher’s questions correctly the teacher is surely wasting the students’ time. If the questions are not causing students to struggle and think, they are probably not worth asking. Mistakes are evidence that the questions I asked are tough enough to make you smarter. Research indicates that long-term learning improves when students make mistakes and correct their answers.”*

*“The Right Questions, the Right Way” by Dylan William in Educational Leadership, March 2014*

God bless each and every one of you.



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



## PASTORAL CARE



*I ask you all to keep one another in your prayers.  
At these difficult times many people may suffer quietly  
and unknowingly.*

*The devastation that is being seen nightly on TV and in  
social media is upsetting and anxiety causing for many.*

*We have been blessed in this country to a great extent.  
Let us pray with gratitude for our blessings and keeping  
those who are suffering in our thoughts and prayers.*

## HOME LEARNING TIP

### Setting up a learning environment

Every home is different but it is important to provide a quiet and comfortable space in which to learn.

Where possible, extended learning should take place in a space your family shares. For example, a lounge room or dining room. These spaces are preferable over a bedroom, where your child can feel isolated and supervision can be more challenging.

It should be a place:

- that can be quiet at times.
- that has a strong internet signal, if possible
- where you or another adult is present as you would normally when your child is online, dependent on age.

It's important to be aware of exactly where your children are when learning at home and that includes where they are when on-line. It is also beneficial to build a pattern into the children's home learning. E.g. come home from school have a 30-minute break then focus on homework or school related work. It's also incredibly important to factor in down time and family time.

## PARISH NEWS

### RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA)

The parishes of Balcatta and Nollamara will jointly begin the RCIA course later in the year. If you are interested in coming to see what Catholics believe or if you would like to become Catholic, please could you let us know by contacting one of the numbers below for further information.

#### BALCATT:

Jo	0416 509 685
Bronwyn	0400 248 902
Parish Office	9344 7066

#### NOLLAMARA:

Cathy	0427 778 835
Terry	0413 389 773
Parish Office	9345 5541



# FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS



## MOTHER'S DAY STALL

On Friday 30th April, students will have an opportunity to purchase an item from the P&F Mother's Day stall. All items will be valued from \$1 to \$5.

## MOTHER'S DAY MASS

It is still unsure whether the Mother's Day Mass on Thursday 6th May will go ahead. Mr Carey will inform the community after the Premier's announcement on the weekend.

## YEAR THREE MOTHER'S DAY ASSEMBLY

On Friday, 7th May the Year 3s will be leading us in a Mother's Day assembly. A final decision of whether parents will be able to attend will be made next week.

## MONTH OF MAY

During the month of May we dedicate our prayers to Our Spiritual Mother Mary. Each year level will take turns leading the school in a decade of the Rosary on Friday afternoons at line-up.

## CORE VALUES

Each term we will be focusing on one of our new core values. Last term it was **Joy**. This term our focus is on **Courage** - *Having the inner strength to be the best we can be*.

The MJR awards will be given to a child who demonstrates this value in the classroom and in the playground. Our new slogan to remember these values is JESUS CHRIST UNITES (joy, courage, unity).




ST LAWRENCE  
PRIMARY  
SCHOOL




**JOY**  
Celebrating the good news  
in ourselves and others




(08) 9344 4944  
web.stlawbal.wa.edu.au




ST LAWRENCE  
PRIMARY  
SCHOOL




**UNITY**  
Working in harmony  
with one another




(08) 9344 4944  
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ST LAWRENCE  
PRIMARY  
SCHOOL



**COURAGE**  
Having the inner strength  
to be the best we can be





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ST LAWRENCE  
PRIMARY  
SCHOOL

**LEARNING  
THROUGH  
JOY, COURAGE  
AND UNITY.**



(08) 9344 4944  
web.stlawbal.wa.edu.au



## GROWTH MINDSET

As educators, we want all of the students we teach to profit from our efforts. A growth mindset – ours and theirs – helps students to seek learning, to love learning, and to learn effectively.



*Miss Kathleen Tranquille & Mrs Gabrielle Brennan  
Assistant Principals*

## CLASS NEWS

### PRE KINDY

Well, it is a very special Sunday in just over a week – MOTHER'S DAY, and we have been busy making our mummies something very special. We also have been talking about Mary – Jesus's mum and in the month of May we will be hearing the beautiful prayer – **Hail Mary**.

We also have some Rosary Beads on our prayer table to remind us of Mary.



Tomorrow we welcome Ava to our class – she is our very new friend. We are so glad you have come to share Thursdays with us.

Our days at Pre Kindy are very busy but everyone enjoys themselves - so much to play with and we love it when we have beautiful sunny days to enjoy our outdoor play. At lunch time Mrs Austin and Mrs Thompson also come to see us play. We love having them with us too!

*Mrs Kaylene Bozich, Pre Kindy Teacher*

## KINDERGARTEN

Our focus is 'Families'. This week is all about Mums. In literacy we been about the first sound in a word. In numeracy we have been learning about recognising numbers to ten and patterning using beads and unifix cubes. I am waiting to hear more information as to whether the Mother's Day afternoon tea can go ahead. Details at this stage are as follows:

To celebrate Mother's Day, we will be having an afternoon tea in Kindy on Friday 7th May at 2pm. The children will sing to the Mums a song and then they can enjoy a cuppa and something to eat with the other Mums. We ask that you do not bring siblings as this is a special afternoon for you and your child. Hope to see you then!

A reminder to please check Seesaw frequently to keep up to date with what the children have been learning about this term. I often send out 'Family Announcements' with some very useful songs, ideas or information on how to help your children grasp concepts that will be taught each term. I would like to wish all our Kindy mums a VERY HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY. Enjoy putting your feet up and relaxing with the special loved ones in your family!.

*Mrs Rachel Wake, Kindergarten Teacher*

## PRE PRIMARY

The Pre Primary children learnt about Anzac Day last week.

We read a story called 'Anzac Ted' and talked about the courage the soldiers had.

We linked the soldiers bravery to one of our school core values 'Courage'.

The children then decorated their own poppies and made Anzac Biscuits.



This week we are creating some lovely gifts for our mums in preparation for Mother's Day. In Religion, we are learning about how we can use words and actions to show love to others just like Jesus did. During play, the children have learnt to compromise and work together as a team. They have grown so much in this area and it is lovely to see them play so nicely together, showing kindness- our main focus during play!

We continue to develop our counting skills in Numeracy and are exploring 3D shapes and their properties.

In Science, we have been discussing living and non-living things. It has been interesting to discover the needs of living things including oxygen, food, water and shelter.

A reminder that the Parent Roster is outside the classroom door. Please message me if you would like me to put your name down - many hands make light work!

*Mrs Tania Preston, Pre Primary Teacher*

## YEAR ONE

Last week we listened to a beautiful story called *Lest we Forget* to help us understand the importance and significance of Anzac Day. Together the children created some poppy art and their own paper wreath.

We have begun making special gifts for our mums for Mother's Day and learning a special song that we will be singing for our mums. This Friday 30 April, the P&F will be holding a stall selling gifts that the children can buy for their Mums. The gifts range in price from \$1.00 to \$5.00. If you would like your child to buy something, please bring in some money on Friday, in a small snap lock bag with your child's name on it.

Please check the children's homework books and Seesaw for further information regarding homework. The children should bring their homework books and reading folders home each night and return them to school the following day.

*Mrs Gloria Edwards, Year One Teacher*

## YEAR TWO

We have settled into our Term Two routine and have been busy in lots of learning areas. Last Friday, we remembered the ANZACs by working together on an ANZAC DAY



### COLLABORATIVE ART PROJECT.

Here we incorporated all our school values: Just like our ANZACS

**UNITY** Working together.

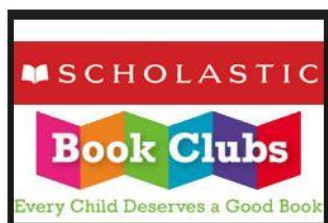
**COURAGE** Not giving up when our fingers got too sticky and tired.

**JOY** The celebration of a beautiful project for our class.

*Ms Paula Christensen, Year Two Teacher*



## LIBRARY NEWS



The Scholastic Book Club Issue 3 brochures will be sent home this week. Due to COVID, Book Club can take up to two weeks to be delivered to school after the orders have been submitted. You can order books online through the Scholastic website using a LOOP system. You can also send an order in to school with cash.

Please ensure your child's name, class and a contact number are clearly written on the order form, (along with their name and class on the envelope), that is sent into school. **Orders from the first issue will be due back at school next Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> May.**

*Mrs Jane Stanton, Teacher Librarian*

## ITALIAN NEWS

Buongiorno a tutti,

Term 2 2021 will be interesting in class. Students are learning various topics according to their relevant year level. Also, students are working on a task for the Italo-Australian Welfare & Cultural Centre Inc. Italian Festival 2021 Primary School Students' Competition 2021. The theme is *The International Year of Fruits and Vegetables*. "2021 L'Anno Internazionale dell'Ortofrutta". Each year level has a different task.

Year 6 -Designing an Italian sporting team T-shirt being renamed bearing the name of a fruit or vegetable.

Year 5- Preparing a short dialogue in Italian and with an illustration at a new gelateria.

Year 4-Presenting a 6-picture slide story board about their typical day as a market gardener in Italian.

Year 3- Drawing and describing an imaginary fruit or vegetable family in Italian.

Year 2 - Drawing themselves as a fruit or vegetable superhero and writing 4 sentences in Italian.

Year 1- Drawing a season wheel and writing in Italian about 4 fruit or vegetables.

Pre-Primary – Colour a basket of fruit according to instructions in Italian and write a sentence stating which fruit they prefer in Italian.

Only 3 entries from each year level may be submitted.

In bocca al Lupo a tutti! Good luck to every student. May they have fun learning new work.

Remember Evviva La Frutta e la Verdura ! (Fruit and vegetables are delicious!)

Buon Lavoro ! Happy Learning!

*Signora Jenny Nicolao, Italian Specialist Teacher*



## WINTER NETBALL



All NSG games for Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April have been postponed. Games will recommence on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May.

All Junior games will go ahead as planned for Saturday morning.

We wish our Year 5 (U11) & Year 7 (U13) teams all the best for their first game of the season.

*Cheryl & Nicole - SLNC Committee*

## P&F NEWS

### **Mother's Day Stall:** Friday 30 April

Students will have an opportunity to purchase an item from the P&F stall for Mother's Day. All items will be valued from \$1 to \$5.

**TO BE  
CONFIRMED**

### **Mother's Day Morning Tea**

*Mrs Adele Cirillo, P&F President & Executive*

## CANTEEN NEWS

**Mother's Day Raffle Tickets** are now selling, with some awesome prizes to be won - \$50 Willow & Lace Voucher, \$50 Coles Myer Gift Card Tupperware, Prosecco, Cookbooks, Chocolates and more

Thanks to our kind donors Willow & Lace and to The O'Leary Family, very much appreciated!!

**Birthday orders** - Cupcakes or M & M Cookies \$20

Brownies or Icy poles \$15

Please pre order at least one day prior by text 0408834774

**Thank you** to my helper last week Custodia! If you are able to help at all in the canteen even just for an hour or two on a Thursday or Friday, please let me know.



### *Canteen Mother's Day Raffle*

One of the awesome prizes to be won in the Raffle.  
**Thank you** to James at Woolworths Stirling Central



*Christina, Fran and Antonella*

## **SPORTS NEWS**

Well done to all students who have turned up to support the running club this week and last. Numbers are once again very encouraging, and it is great to see the children making such a positive, social and healthy start to their day.

In lessons the older students have all been working hard at their netball, soccer and football skills. The younger students continue to focus on working on their dexterity and coordination with large balls. In readiness for small, sided invasion games later in the term.

Great work everyone, keep it up.

Don't forget to practise at home, it can make such a difference to acquisition of skills and overall performance and confidence.

*Mrs Major, Physical Education Teacher*