ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Newsletter No. 27

31 August 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.

Dear Parents and Friends

As we approach the busyness of the final few weeks of school for Term III, lets us all reflect on the many Bible verses that remind us to seek calmness and tranquillity in our lives. Scripture is rich with many examples of the need for us all to be still, to slow our pace, to focus on what truly matters in life. Jesus calming the storm certainly presents us with the need to rely on our faith at these times and be still.

Jesus Stills a Storm

On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side." And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

Inspiring Christ-Centre Leaders

"The use of mobile digital technologies in the classroom might be largely unfamiliar to parents, but the benefits can be huge. It's not about just shifting traditional lessons on to screens - it's about allowing pupils to make use of their devices to truly enhance their learning while giving teachers better ways to track individual achievement and personalise lessons."
Drew Buddie, senior vice chair at Naace, the association for the UK's education technology community

Here at St Lawrence the digital, mobile, technological world is embedded in our classroom practices, it is however important we all understand the very different application these devices have at school and potentially at home. At home they are often used for consumption e.g. playing games, surfing the net, entertaining people and passing time. At school however their use is entirely different. They are a support to the educational programme, similar in line to how the ball point pen supports learning, how the calculator supports learning, how the clock supports learning as a tool to engage and empower learning. Our National Curriculum outlines the general capabilities schools are required to address in their teaching of technologies. Miss Kathleen Tranquille and Miss Kayla Fogliani oversees this portfolio. We are all very grateful for their hard work and dedication that they demonstrate to ensure the seamless applications of our information technologies across the school and liaising with our IT services providers to keep the practicalities of operating a large school relatively issue free.

Catholic Schools of Excellence

St Lawrence Primary School always strive to provide for a world class educational experience for our children. Our staff attend Professional Development as part of our efforts to ensure outstanding results. In recent years a lot of my own Professional Development has focused on the Instructional Leadership Model of Principalship and the work of Lynne Sharrat and Michael Fullan, who are two highly esteemed educators, who have an international profile in educational research and school leadership and system reform. I, like many leaders, read many of their books and research papers and have been highly influenced by their work.

PARAMETERS TO INCREASE ALL STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENT

They have summarised their research into 14 Areas or Parameters that schools can focus on to support and build school improvement. The following is a summary of these parameters.

Shared beliefs and understandings.

1. Each student can achieve high standards given the right time and the right support.
   Each teacher can teach to high standards given the right assistance.
   High expectations and early and ongoing intervention are essential.
   Teachers and administrators need to be able to articulate what they do and why they teach the way they do (adapted from Hill & Crévola, 1999).
2. Embedded literacy/instructional coaches.
3. Daily, sustained focus on literacy instruction.
4. Principal instructional leadership.
5. Early and ongoing intervention.
6. Case management approach: Data walls, case-by- case meetings.
7. Professional learning at school staff meetings.
8. In-school grade/subject meetings: Collaborative Marking of student work.
9. Centralised resources.
10. Commitment of district and school budgets for literacy learning and resources.
11. Action research/collaborative inquiry.
12. Parental and community involvements
13. Cross-curricular literacy connections in each subject area.
14. Shared responsibility and accountability.

These 14 parameters have been identified as significant rudiments correlating with school achievement and student learning. It is my belief that here at St Lawrence we have a very rich and strong culture of learning and these 14 parameters are key stones to the flourishing learning opportunities we strive to provide. The work is never completed and the endeavor must always be reflective in nature and future focused.

Catholic Pastoral Communities

Schools are mandated to teach "Protective Behaviours" as part of the national curriculum.

The Protective Behaviours Program teaches children, young people and adults a range of skills and strategies to help prevent and reduce child abuse and violence in our communities.

Whilst the task of preventing child abuse appears daunting for most parents, teachers and service providers, Protective Behaviours provides a framework that can be easily adapted to home, school and community environments.

> *Children who have been taught Protective Behaviours are more able to discern threats to their safety and are more likely to suggest using personal safety strategies than comparison children* (Johnson, 1985)

Some of the content includes that "we all have the right to feel safe at all times", early warning signs, problem solving, who we can talk to, building safety networks, body awareness and ownership. Please speak with your child's teacher if you would like more information on Protective Behaviours and how the programme is taught here at St Lawrence.

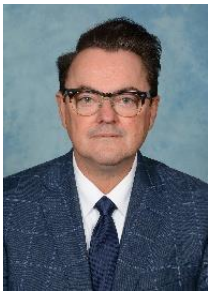
Accessible, Affordable and Sustainable

SCHOOL FEES: The St Lawrence School Advisory Council would like to thank those families who have paid their school fees and are up to date. Should you have any outstanding fees, please make arrangements to finalise these soon. There are a number of methods in which families at the school can pay their school fees. If you have fallen behind in your fees or are facing a change of circumstances that may impact your future ability to pay the fees, please ensure you make a confidential appointment to discuss your options with myself.

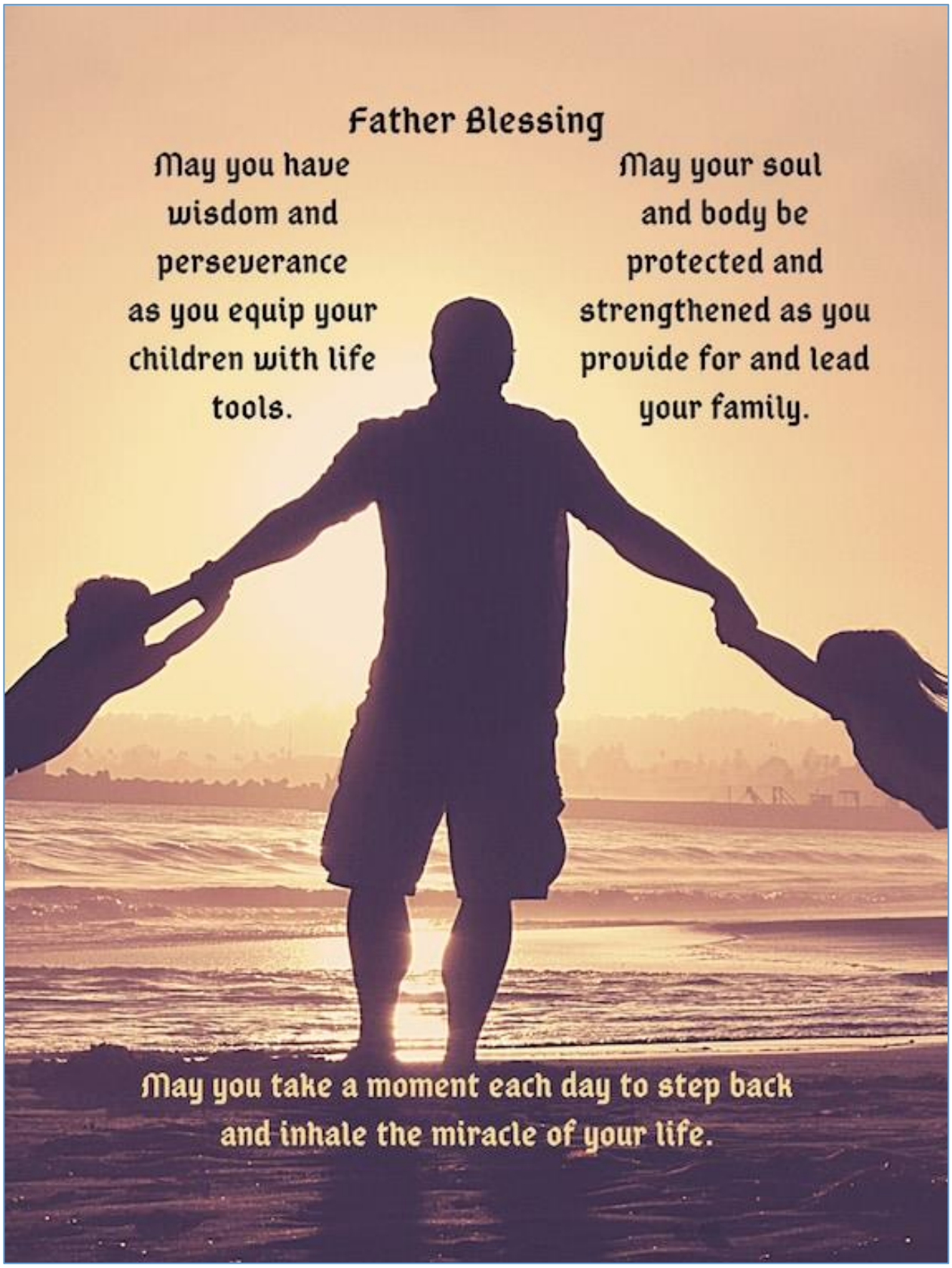
The following words have long been part of many cultures' vernacular and the general sentiment is often expressed in wisdom literature found throughout history and across various nations.

"And this too shall pass."

God bless each and every one of you.



Sheldon Carey
M Ed, B Ed, Grad Dip
Principal


Father Blessing
May you have wisdom and perseverance as you equip your children with life tools.
May your soul and body be protected and strengthened as you provide for and lead your family.
May you take a moment each day to step back and inhale the miracle of your life.

HOME LEARNING TIP

Things to remember when reading with your child:

- The goal of reading is always to make sense of what is read.
- When your child is reading and encounters words that are difficult for them, use the Three Ps technique 'Pause, Prompt, Praise' to support them.
- Try to be interested, supportive and enjoy the time together.
- Read with your child anywhere and at any time; don't forget that many everyday experiences provide opportunities to put reading and writing into action.
- Visit and use a library near you. Borrow books for yourself as well as for your child.
- Start a family book club it really is a great opportunity to share quality time together.

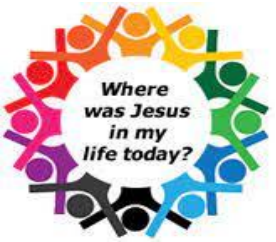
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

NUMERACY PARENT MEETING
The whole school community is invited on **Thursday1st September 2022** to attend the Numeracy Parent Meeting. The presenter, Benjamin Saulsman will be outlining the importance of teaching valuable lifelong skills to equip children for the changing workplace. From 6.30pm we will have drinks and nibbles and the presentation will begin at 7pm.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS
Over the upcoming weeks, classroom teachers will be inviting parents to meet with them to discuss their child's progress. These interviews form an important part of our Reporting Policy and are an essential component in developing open communication between home and school. For these interviews we will be using Parent Teacher On-Line (PTO). An email regarding booking appointments. was sent out to parents and carers last week.

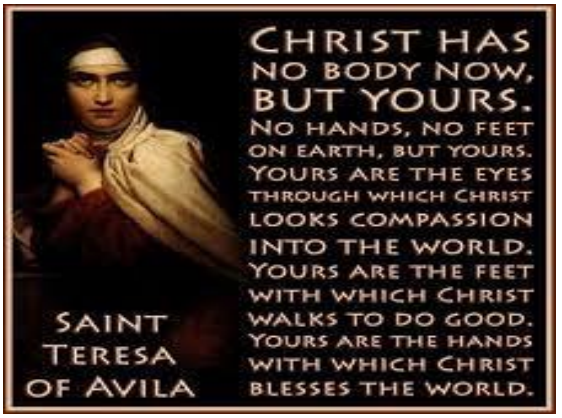
FATHER'S DAY
It is that time of year when we acknowledge and thank the wonderful fathers and father figures in our lives. To celebrate this special day our students will share breakfast with the special men in their lives on Friday. Thank you to our wonderful P & F for organising this event. We wish all our Fathers and Father figures a wonderful weekend celebrating their special day.

MAKING JESUS REAL (MJR)
One of the main goals of MJR is to encourage all students to develop responsibility for the choices they make and to reflect on how they can follow Jesus' teachings. This can be done through personal questioning and reflection, along with goal setting. Please. Encourage your children to reflect on how they can become better people using the WESTIE values (Welcoming, Encouraging, Saying Sorry and Thank You, Inclusive and Empathy), and encourage them to think positively, even during the difficult times that might occur.



SCHOOL CULTURE SURVEY
Our School Culture Survey closes this Friday afternoon. Please take the time to contribute to our future planning by completing the survey at:
https://www.nsipartnerships.com.au
You will need to enter the code **SLPACS**. Students and staff have also completed the survey. Thank you to the families who have already completed the survey as this will guide us on our school improvement journey.

Mrs Gabrielle Brennan & Miss Kathleen Tranquille,
Assistant Principals



LIBRARY NEWS

BOOK WEEK
It was lovely to have Pre Kindy join us in the library for a special story time and craft session to celebrate Book Week last Thursday.

We enjoyed reading Yellow Is My Colour Star and created some very colourful fish from the story. Congratulations to Chanel who won the book prize for the Pre Kindy raffle.

Congratulations to Persephone, in Year 2,
who won the Rainbow Snakes in a Jar competition. Well done!

Our Build in the Bag Lego competition continues this week,
along with our Continuous Community Full of Different Characters
colouring in, just like we find many different characters in books.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB
Scholastic Book Club brochures have gone home this week. Orders need to be returned by next **Tuesday 6th September**. Please ensure to include the students name and a contact number on the order from, along with their name and year on the front of the envelope.

Apologies in advance as we cannot guarantee orders will be received before the end of term.

Mrs Louise Frenzel
Library Officer

CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL

Congratulations to the following students for their excellent performance in the St Lawrence Cross Country Carnival

Year	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
2 Girls	Emilia	Alessandra	Vivienne	Sabrina
2 Boys	Arrigo	Charbel	Hudson	Teddy
3 Girls	Matilda	Isabel	Caoimhe	Evelyn
3 Boys	Damien	Leonardo	Giovanni	Arjun
4 Girls	Layla	Nikkola	Valentina	Katia
4 Boys	Julian	Nicholas	Matthew	Matteo
5 Girls	Flynn	John	Daniel	Mason
5 Boys	Amber	Maria	Isabel	Elyssia
6 Girls	Leah	Sophie	Myah	Darcy
6 Boys	Bailey	Ethan	Christian	Reece

The children listed from Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be representing the school on Friday in the Inter School Carnival at Yokine Reserve.
The time-table for the day is as follows, any supporters are most welcome.

Events	**Year Group**		**Distance**
12.50pm	**Year 3**	**Girls**	**1200m**
1.00pm	**Year 3**	**Boys**	**1200m**
1.10pm	**Year 4**	**Girls**	**1200m**
1.20pm	**Year 4**	**Boys**	**1200m**
1.30pm	**Year 5**	**Girls**	**1500m**
1.40pm	**Year 5**	**Boys**	**1500m**
1.50pm	**Year 6**	**Girls**	**1500m**
2.00pm	**Year 6**	**Boys**	**1500m**

We will be leaving school at 12.00, so competitors will not be able to order from the canteen on Friday.

Good luck to everyone!

Mrs Claire Major
Physical Education Teacher

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

CLEARANCE sale of WINTER second hand uniforms will be available for purchase commencing Wednesday 31st August.
Please note that NO exchanges or refunds are available on second hand uniforms.

SUMMER UNIFORM
Students in Year 1 to Year 6 return to school in Term Four in their **Summer Uniform.**

Uniform Shop Opening Hours
Wednesday 8.30am to 9.30am and Thursday 2.30pm to 3.30pm
Mrs Angie Miola, Uniform Shop Manager

P&F NEWS

Friday 2 September - 7.30am to 8.30am
Fathers, Grandfathers and Male Caregivers are invited to this special P&F event.

Natasha Raso, P&F President and Executive

CANTEEN NEWS

Thank you to Renee F for her help last Friday, much appreciated.
If you can spare a couple of hours at anytime this term, please message me in 0408834774

Sports Carnival Day - Friday 16th September

- Sausage Sizzle and Juice Box/water $5.00
  Sushi - Tuna, Chicken teriyaki or Veg
  5 piece $6.50 or 6 piece $7.50 with a Juice Box or Water
  Available for Students, Staff and Spectators- please preorder now by Wednesday 14th September
- Please specify child's name, year and FACTION

Students participating in Cross Country on Friday, please note that as the students will be leaving school at 12noon, parents are not be able to place a lunch order. Students will be at school for recess.

Last day of Term Three – please refer to menu.

Menu for last day of term 22/9/22

Lasagne

Cheese Arancini

Dino Nuggets

Chicken strips

All with a juice box for $5

Add sauce 50 c

PIC•COLLAGE