



Newsletter No. 32

27 October 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.



Let us ask the Lord for the grace not to speak badly of others, not to criticize, not to gossip, but rather to love everyone.

Pope Francis.

Inspiring Christ-Centre Leaders

Our staff recently participated in a learning event with a focus on the Alpha Generation. Generational studies are obviously relevant to schools given our core business is education of children. Certainly, the relevance varies but it is important for staff to be aware of the many impacts on their teaching, on pedagogy, on engagement, socialisation and the like.

What does 2030 and beyond look like? Obviously, we do not exactly know this answer however we have some pretty good insight into the possibilities based upon our current understandings and knowledge. The answers to the simple questions below push us in a direction we need to consider.

Currently:

The largest hotel chain doesn't own one piece of real estate
The largest taxi service in the world doesn't own a car
The world's most popular media companies create no content
The world's most valuable retailer has no shopfront

Could you answer these statement correctly....

The current generation are known as Generation Alpha -Their Characteristics:

Born between 2010 - 2020 (1 in 7 residents)

Largest Generation in the history of the World

2.8 million born globally every week

3 million in Australia

Will number almost 2 Billion

Within the next 4 years will outnumber the Baby Boomers

They will be the largest generation ever, emerging while the world is experiencing a shift to the "Asian Century". When the youngest Generation Alpha's hit adulthood (in the mid 2030's), the largest middle-class component will be from Asia.

First Digital Generation (Digital Natives). Born totally into the digital world knowing nothing else

Shorter attention spans.

Physical maturity is on-setting earlier - social, psychological, educational, commercial sophistication also beginning earlier.

Screens placed in front of them at an early age as pacifiers, entertainers and educational aids. This will be known as the Great Screen Age. As a big impact on this generation is their exposure to screen saturation during their formative years.

Their exposure to technology during their formative years will have a great impact on their lives. They have been using these devices from before they could talk, so we are yet to see the impacts of their interaction with screens.

Those aged 8-12 year in the United States consume on average 4 hours and 44 minutes of screen time per day for **entertainment** purposes.

This increases to an average of 7 hours 22 minutes for those aged 13 to 18.

Such is their multi-screening behaviour that this is expected to increase for Generation Alpha who have been born into a world of iPhones, YouTube and Instagram

They will be the most materially endowed and empowered generation ever

They have been shaped in an era of individualisation and customisation where they can get their name printed into the storyline of books, embroidered onto their shirts or put on a jar of Nutella.

They have brand influence and purchasing power beyond their years. They shape the social media landscape, are the popular culture influencers and are the emerging consumers.

Age of parents (older), cultural mix (more diverse), socioeconomics (slightly wealthier), family size (smaller), life expectancy (longer).

Their life has been immersed in technological devices like smartphones and tablets, video games, driverless trains, autonomous cars and smart speakers that speak back to you. This technology has only been developed within their generation and for many it is all they have ever known.

They will have access to more information than any other generation gone before. Their formal education has never been equalled in the history of the world.

90 per cent predicted to complete high school, compared to 79.9 per cent today, and with the majority going on to further study in some form.

A predicted 1 in 2 Generation Alphas to obtain a university degree.

Generation Alpha will be students for longer. They will stay longer in education and start their earning years later, which will put them behind financially. By pushing back their working years to invest more in education, this means they will stay at home for longer

More frequently moving and changing careers, materially endowed, technologically supplied and outsourcing aspects of parenting such as childcare/grandparents.

Advancements in medicine and technology result in an ageing population, so Generation Alpha will live longer. Their adult life stage of work, marriage and having children will occur later.

They will also be wealthier as they will work longer before retiring.

The future of health will be more advanced for Generation Alpha than any other. They will experience a shift from private health insurance to a user pay system or health savings fund.

More concerned about calorie intake and portion size, they will drink less alcohol and soft drinks, be used to a sugar tax, and engage with a rise in plant-based proteins.

Generation Alpha will also see different mainstream approaches to alternate eating choices like non-diary options, with more health food options available to them, as well as the regularity of devices that can monitor their movements and commodities, health and exercise.

For Generation Alpha, the issues of pay and gender equality will be but a distant memory.

Road infringements will not be an issue, and they will likely be 'rentvesters', prioritising lifestyle and viewing accommodation as a service.

There are many things Generation Alpha will not be accustomed to using. Just like record players, VHS and pagers haven't been part of our day-to-day lives for a number of years, the use of traditional dictionaries, street directories or DVD players have similarly made their exit over the last decade.

Looking ahead, it is very likely that Generation Alpha will never use a wallet, single-use plastics, listen to the radio as a device, participate in a written exam or set an analogue alarm clock.

Generation Alpha may never see a camera that requires film, and they'll never have to wait for their photos to be developed. The only phones they've ever seen also take photos, record videos, access the internet and play games

The outlook for Generation Alpha is positive, even amidst so much change. We are talking about a generation that will live longer, work later, will be more formally educated, materially endowed and globally, they will be the wealthiest generation to date.

They will have on average 18 different jobs over 6 distinct careers.

Many of these future jobs don't currently exist, with 65% of those entering primary school today predicted to end up working in entirely new job types that don't yet exist.

While technology is replacing jobs, it is also creating many new ones, such is the fourth industrial revolution we are now in.

Students will benefit in developing skills in robotics, coding, social media marketing, app development and big data analytics.

As the emerging generations begin to consider their career options, there are jobs available in entirely new industries such as nanotechnology, block-chain, cyber security, autonomous transport and virtual reality.

The jobs of the future will come not only from technological change but also demographic change. The ageing population is creating new opportunities, not just in the aged care sector but other related industries.

They will be **lifelong learners**, holding multiple jobs across multiple careers. They will also need to be **adaptive, constantly upskilling and retraining to remain relevant to the changes anticipated** as they move through their working life

The anticipated rise of automation has led to a focus on developing 21st century skills for lifelong learning in students.

These include Digital Skills, Creativity / Curiosity / Critical Thinking / Good Communicators / Leadership Skills

They need Character qualities as well as competencies that will futureproof Generation Alpha. As such, a shift in educational engagement is occurring for Generation Alpha, with schools switching from structural and auditory learning to **engaging, visual, multimodal and hands-on methods of educating** this emerging generation.

Generation Alpha **need to be equipped with the skills and the competencies that will enable them to thrive in this era of change.**

How we equip this generation will be different to how it has been done in the past. Generation Alpha don't need the same authority structures, hierarchies, or traditional power approaches, because we're in more collaborative times.

Being the most digitally savvy generation ever, and as we move to a world with more robotics, **interpersonal skills will become more important than ever for Generation Alpha.**

Imperative to leading this next generation well is entrusting them with opportunities to grow.

Allowing them to experiment and fail is key to building the resilience in this next generation, for them to thrive in the years of change ahead.

Not everything will work successfully the first time, but that's how we all grow.

By engaging, equipping and entrusting Generation Alpha, we can set them up well for the years to come.

Catholic Schools of Excellence

Annual General Meetings

Parents are invited to attend the **School Advisory Council AGM**, immediately followed by the **Parents & Friends AGM** on **Tuesday 23 November 2021 commencing at 7pm.**

Catholic Pastoral Communities

We are currently working on the 2022 School Budget, finances, staffing, forward planning and the 2022 school year in general. If finalised staffing for the coming year is announced at the AGM. Reports from the School Advisory Chair and Treasurer, P&F President, Principal and Parish are presented at the AGM.

We are currently looking for people to join our school P&F for the 2022 school year. If you have not already thought about being on the P&F now is the time! It's a great committee to be on. The functions of the P&F pertain to community building and if possible, financially supporting the school by providing funds for the school's strategic direction and supporting our children.

The current P&F have provided a substantial donation for the new play equipment going into the Early Years and we are exceptionally grateful for their support. The P&F have organised several great events throughout the years, including the welcome back picnic, the outstanding Quiz Night, and supporting families with Mother's Day and Father's Day activities, to name a few. I strongly encourage community members to join the P&F and be part of this great group.

Accessible, Affordable and Sustainable

Students not returning in 2022

Student positions at St Lawrence's are highly sought after in the community. If you are not returning to St Lawrence's in 2022, please notify the office as soon as possible. This allows us the chance to offer positions to families on our wait lists.



Sheldon Carey
M Ed, B Ed, Grad Dip
Principal



PASTORAL CARE



During October our prayers are focussed on the Rosary and our devotional practices for Our Lady. May many people come to know Mary and see her as a role model of piety and love for all.

Amen

Home Learning Tip

Cyber Safety

The internet provides an opportunity for children to interact and learn on a global scale. However, the internet also provides complete strangers with a direct line into your home, and your child's life. This cannot be underestimated, so you need to educate yourself and your child about the potential dangers

Some simple strategies can be implemented including setting strict rules for usage and regular supervision in order to ensure they are being adhered to:

- ☐ Have your computer set up in a family area so it must be used openly
- ☐ Set time limits and identify sites permitted for visiting
- ☐ Teach your child not to open mail from unknown sources
- ☐ Encourage students to use an anonymous, online name that is not gender specific
- ☐ Be vigilant about only using a webcam under supervision
- ☐ Encourage your children to come to you if they encounter any inappropriate or disturbing content that makes them feel uncomfortable

Numerous apps can be installed on your devices that limit access to different functionalities, apps, and the internet etc. They give you the control to automatically limit their use or turn them off completely. At school we employ Zulu Desk for this purpose. I strongly encourage you to look into these options and decide as a family what would work best for you.

Merit Award Winners – Congratulations!



FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

CONFIRMATION

Congratulations and God's blessing on our Year 6 students who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday. Thank you to all the teachers and families who have contributed to the growth and understanding of our children since beginning their journey at St Lawrence. Our appreciation is extended to Father Emil and Father Adam for their ongoing encouragement and collaboration with the school in preparing our students on their sacramental journey.



REPORTS

Semester two reports for students in Pre-Primary to Year six will be available on SEQTA at the end of this term. Families should have access to the electronic reports via SEQTA at <https://stlawbal.coneqtt-p.cathodnet.wa.edu.au>. Prior to the reports being electronically distributed on Friday 10 December please ensure that you are able to log in using your log in details. If you are unable to log in, please follow the process below to create a new password. Please contact the school office if you have any issues or queries.

1. Click on the "Forgot your password?" link
2. Enter your email address into the relevant box and click on "reset my password"
3. Go to your Email inbox and reset your password according to the instructions in the email.

Please be aware that the password reset email will expire after 1 hour of being generated.

WHOLE SCHOOL MASS

On Tuesday 2 November we celebrate All Saints Day with a whole school mass at the Church. We invite our parents and friends to join us for this very special mass that celebrates the saints in our church and all those that have attained heaven. In the readings for All Saints Day, we are reminded of the Beatitudes in the Gospel. Jesus gave us these beatitudes at the Sermon on the Mount. He did not give us these beatitudes and then want us to fail. He wanted to give us something to aim for, to work on our whole life to try to achieve. These beatitudes are a beautiful reminder of what we can become if we trust and believe. Thousands of years later, they still speak to us and call us to live more fully as Christian people.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS

The P&F are dedicated to supporting the children at St Lawrence and work tirelessly to raise money that they contribute towards school resources and initiatives. The P&F needs new people to step up and join next year. Please call the school office or see one of the current members of the P & F if you are interested in joining the P&F.

Mrs Gabrielle Brennan & Miss Kathleen Tranquille, Assistant Principals

CLASS NEWS

YEAR THREE

With swimming starting this week, and running each afternoon until the end of week 4, we have a busy time ahead.

Learning how to swim is important for children, particularly in Australia where swimming is such an integral part of our culture. To eliminate an abundance amount of lost items during these weeks, please ensure that all items are labelled this includes : towels, bathers, undergarment, goggles and sport uniform. Year 3 students will leave school at 12.55 each day and return appropriately at 2.05pm. In the second week of swimming lessons, a selection of Year 3 students will be participating in the Interschool Athletics carnival on Wednesday 3rd November. Children who have been selected will need to wear sports uniform (including hats) and bring their school bag with their lunch and recess. No iPad are permitted at the carnival. Children staying at school will need their iPads. A huge thank you goes out to all the parents who volunteer for our Museum excursion. The children had a wonderful time looking at Aboriginal Art pieces.



Miss Kathleen Tranquille, Year Three Teacher

YEAR FOUR

Wow! It certainly has been a crazy start to Term 4. The children have settled into the new swimming routine and are enjoying the lessons!

This term, we are partnering up with the Year 5 class to learn coding in Digital Technologies. We have been using Micro:bits from Western Power to program and code different functions. We have been recording all our learning in a digital journal and can't wait to share it with you at the end!

The children had so much fun creating their versions of Edvard Munch - "The Scream". We used edicol dye and straws to create crazy coloured hair! This is a reflection of our colourful and creative imaginations we use every day!

In Numeracy, we have been busy being financial planners with a Math Investigation. We were given a \$100 budget, conditions to follow and a time frame. We then had to create a financial plan of rides, entertainment and food as well as a timetable of our day. We are also starting our new topic looking at Fractions. We have been focusing on identifying common fractions in different forms.



Miss Kayla Fogliani, Year Four Teacher

YEAR FIVE

The Year Five students are enjoying swimming lessons and it is great to see the mature and responsible way in which they are getting themselves organised and ready for their lessons. Keep up the great work everyone. Our quarter poppy artwork has been completed and our display looks amazing. Thank you to all the Year Fives for working hard and putting their best effort into their work. It is great to see how proud the students are of their work. In Maths we are working with 2D shapes and are investigating reflecting, rotating and translating shapes to change their position. During Religion we continue to talk about the Holy Spirit and discuss how the Holy Spirit guides us to live as Jesus wants. Later in the term we are presenting our speeches for the 2022 Leadership Roles and have begun looking at the qualities of a good speaker. Have a great week.



Mrs Roselyn Pizzino, Year Five Class Teacher

YEAR SIX

What a beautiful Confirmation Mass we had. We were truly blessed to have Bishop Bianchini speak to the children with gentleness and fatherly kindness. Your children responded, prayed, and were dressed in a way that made us all proud to be part of their sacramental journey, many thanks to parents and sponsors.

Swimming has begun with the students assisting their Year One buddies on the bus and in getting changed. It is an important role to be helping these young people.

We will be going to Mass with the whole school on All Souls Day – Tuesday next week. All Year Six students will be going to the Interschool Carnival - Wednesday next week. Religion and Assessment books will be coming home this weekend for viewing and signing.

Mr Phil Haydon, Year Six Teacher

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

2022 PRE-PRIMARY STUDENTS

Please note that a compulsory uniform is required for commencement to Pre-Primary children in 2022. Please have your child's uniform ordered by 12 November, so they can be packed and ready for payment and collection by late November, ready for the new school year. Samples of sizes are available at the Uniform Shop.

2022 YEAR 1 STUDENTS

Year 1 children in 2022 will be wearing a compulsory school uniform. (Please refer to email sent 2nd September for details and uniform requirements). Thank you to parents who have placed orders. The families who have not placed uniform orders, please contact me as soon as possible on Angie.miola@cewa.edu.au or visit the Uniform Shop as I need to check family names to the class list.

COLLECTION OF UNIFORM ORDERS

Parents, uniform orders are now available to collect. Payment is required please by eftpos or cash.

BOYS RED RUGBY SHORTS

Please note that boys red rugby shorts were discontinued at the beginning of this year. Red Microfibre Sport Shorts are available and are compulsory to wear in Pre-primary to Year 6 for commencement of school in February 2022. RED RUGBY SHORTS are NOT allowed to be worn in 2022.

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

Mrs Angie Miola, Uniform Shop Manager

P&F NEWS

FUN RUN

The school Fun Run will take place on **Friday 12 November** at 2pm on the Senior Oval, parents are welcome to attend. The Pre-Kindy will do their own Fun Run on **Thursday 11 November at 2pm** on the Early Years Playground.

The Fun Run is a Fundraising event to support our wonderful Parents and Friends Association. Sponsorship Forms will be given to the eldest child in each family. These forms, along with the money raised, needs to be returned to school before the day of the Fun Run. There will be prizes for the two families who raise the most money and winners will be announced in the newsletter the following week. All participants will receive a free icy pole for being part of the event.

RECIPE BOOK

We would like to thank everyone who contributed to the recipe book for this year. The book is currently in production and will be available to purchase from the office mid-November. We are only printing 120 books so it will be a first come, first served basis. A sample book will be left in the office early next week; if you would like to have a look at it and the price will be confirmed at that time.

The P&F would like to send HUGE THANKS to Melissa Cumace who not only gave us the idea but also generously gave her time in creating the book! Thanks Mel.

Mrs Adele Cirillo, P&F President & Committee

SPORTS NEWS

INTERSCHOOL CARNIVAL

I am sure that you are all aware that we have the NECPSA Inter-School Athletics Carnival next week on Wednesday 3 November.

Permission notes have gone out to all the competitors this week. It is great news that we are able to use HBF Stadium in Mount Claremont again this year as the venue.

I apologise that letters are a little late, but I wanted to give all children a fair try out and as I'm sure you noticed the weather was less than favourable at the start of this term.

RUNNING CLUB

Tomorrow morning, Thursday 28 October, we will have training at 8.00am for children involved in long jump, turbojav, relay and hurdles.

It has been very tricky with swimming lessons impacting sport but hopefully we will have another great carnival and bring home the overall trophy again!

Go St Lawrence Sports Stars!!!!

N.E.C.P.S.A Athletics Carnival November 3rd 2021

Please note, the Track and Field events will run simultaneously. Events are broken into sections, which are differentiated by a break/ line space in the program.

In the event that you have two children participating in different events at the same time, it is suggested that you watch your child in the track race as it will not be run again. Children in field events will rotate having 3 attempts to determine their best throw/jump.

Field events for years 4-6 will run on a rotation system throughout the morning. Please refer to the ground map to locate events.

Enjoy the day.

Mrs Claire Major, Physical Education Teacher

CANTEEN NEWS

THANK YOU

To my helpers last week, Renee F and Griselda, you were fantastic!

If anyone is free tomorrow for a couple of hours or Friday after 11am, please let me know. Help would very much be appreciated on these days. Due to children attending swimming lessons, there are three separate lunchtimes and extra hands are needed!

SWIMMING WEEK MENU for this week and next week, is included in this newsletter.

A reminder that the Canteen is CLOSED Wednesday 3 November but will be open Tuesday 2 November instead, due to the interschool athletics Carnival, apologies for any inconvenience caused.

Sushi Special
Friday 29th
October &
Friday 5th
November
5 piece \$5.50
6 piece \$6.50
Tuna, Chicken
Teriyaki or
Vegetarian
Please preorder
by Wednesday
prior



PIC•COLLAGE

Thanks for your support, Christina, Fran and Antonella

Swimming Menu Week 3 & 4

AVAILABLE DAILY

Sandwiches - Salad \$3.50 Add Chicken, Tuna Cheese, Ham or Egg 50c
Add Roll or Wrap 50c
Toastie - Vegemite & Cheese, Cheese & Tomato, Cheese \$3.50,
Ham & Cheese, Ham Cheese & Tomato \$4
or Tuna, Cheese and Mayo \$4.50
Chicken Strips (x2) \$4 add sauce 50c
Chicken Nuggets (x5) \$4 add sauce 50c
Chicken Strip Wrap \$4.50

TUESDAY (2/11)

Chicken Burger or Beef Burger \$5 plus cheese 50c

THURSDAY

Sausage Roll \$3.50 add sauce 50c
Pie \$4 add sauce 50c
Lasagne \$4.50

FRIDAY

Hot dog \$4
Sausage Roll \$3.50 add sauce 50c
Pie \$4 add sauce 50c
Sushi – Tuna, Chicken or Veg 5piece \$5.50 or 6 pce \$6.50
By preorder only (by Wednesday)

DRINKS

Water \$1
Juice, Glee, Chill J, Oak Choc or Strawberry, Up & Go \$2

ICECREAMS

Icy pole ½ 50c full \$1, Calippo \$1
Icy Twist \$1.50
Vanilla Cup \$1.50
Paddle Pop \$2
Froyo \$2.20 – Cracker Jack, Tropicana, Fairy Floss, Bubblegum,
Cookies and Cream or Caramel Cheesecake
Cyclone \$2.50