



Newsletter No. 35

17 November 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 Friends

In the book Winnie the Pooh, there is a passage in which Winnie the Pooh, Piglet and Rabbit get lost. Rabbit, the frantic intellectual, keeps steering them in circles. Then he leaves, and Pooh tells Piglet, "Let's go home." "But, Pooh," cries Piglet, "do you know the way?" "No," says Pooh. "But there are 12 pots of honey in my cupboard and they have been calling to me for hours. I couldn't hear their voices before because Rabbit *would* talk, but if nobody says anything...I shall know where they are calling from."

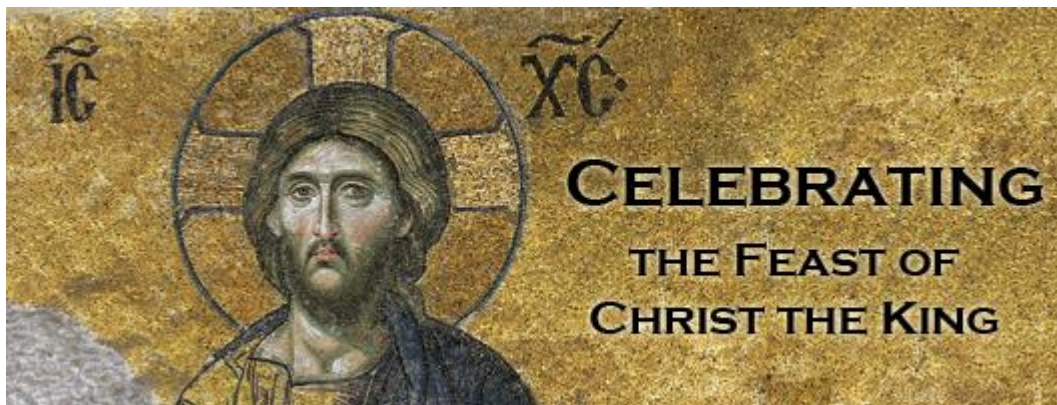
Sometimes we need to 'quiet the Rabbit' in our minds until we hear the pots of honey speaking to us. Many great Saints recount that it was in the stillness, the silence, the tranquillity, that was the place where they heard the voice of God. I recount this scene as it is time to remain settled, a time to focus on the last few weeks of term for 2021 and a time to let our teachers and children focus on concluding the school year and commence the celebrations of the birth of Jesus.

Maybe in the quiet, we too will hear the pots of honey that are calling us, maybe we will hear the voice of God.

Inspiring Christ-Centre Leaders

Feast of Christ the King, is celebrated in the Roman Catholic church in honour of Jesus Christ as Lord over all creation. Essentially a magnification of the Feast of the Ascension, it was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925. Originally, it was celebrated on the last Sunday in October, but in the revised liturgical calendar promulgated by Pope Paul VI in 1969, it was moved to the last Sunday of Ordinary Time (immediately preceding Advent), where its theme of Christ's dominion made it a fitting end to the liturgical year. The festival is also observed in Lutheran, Anglican, and other Protestant churches.

This Feast in 2021 falls on Sunday 21st of November and will signify the end of Ordinary Time in the Liturgical calendar and our move into Advent in preparation for The Nativity of the Lord.



Our AGM will be held on November 23, in the School Hall at 7:00pm

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY AND ELECTION OF SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS and THE P&F AGM are held together. The dot points below are from the Catholic Education Constitution and outline the meetings purpose.

9.1 The Board shall conduct a meeting to be called “the St Lawrence Primary School Annual School Community Meeting” each year between the months of November in one year and February of the following year inclusive.

The Board shall, at least 14 days prior to the meeting, by such written published notice as it considers reasonable and appropriate in the circumstances (e.g., advertise in the School and Parish newsletters).

9.2 The sole purposes of the meeting shall be:

- (a) the election in the manner provided for in this clause of persons as members of the Board for the ensuing two-year period.
- (b) the presentation of a report by the Board chairman as provided for in this Section 9.4; and
- (c) the presentation of a budget for the ensuing year.

If finalised I will also present the staffing for the following year, however this is currently not confirmed.

Catholic Schools of Excellence

What a busy week it has been for St Lawrence.

- **Wellness Week** arrived and the children had the opportunity to focus on their wellness and take a small breath before the rush of the last few weeks of school.
- Monday, we had our “**Outside Classroom Day**. This was just sensational; the children enjoyed a plethora of learning experiences in the great outdoors.
- Our Year Fives have been very busy preparing for their Leadership presentations and voting for **Student Leaders** in 2022.
- The **school disco** has caused much excitement...dance preparations, outfits coordination and music selection...and that's just the staff!!!
- Our **school magazine** is in its proofing stage...this is a huge undertaking and Mrs Boyle has been working extremely diligently to ensure it is perfect!
- We had our **Fun Run**...another marvellous event. I was blessed to be at the Kindy's Fun Run...what a fine group of athletes we have coming up through the school. I was very touched by the large contingency of spectators. Just lovely to see parents and grandparents, uncles and aunties in attendance.
- The Staff all attended a special **Staff Meeting** to look through our whole school data and celebrate our achievements as a school and look at the future direction we can take with our learning agenda.
- Lastly but certainly not least...our **yellow and red garden** at the front of the school is starting to come into bloom...very pretty indeed.

Catholic Pastoral Communities

Keep your kids safe online

When your kids start to interact on the Internet -- playing games, watching YouTube videos, socializing in virtual worlds, getting homework help, and searching on Google -- you may feel that you're losing control over your kids' world.

The best way to ‘wrap your arms’ around your kids' online activities is to spend some time with them while they're visiting their favourite sites. Talk with them about what they like and what they don't.

Why Internet safety matters

Kids today can go online from so many different sources, including video game consoles, iPhones and smart phones, and even handheld gaming devices. Young people are increasingly living their lives online, and their digital devices are some of their favourite toys and tools.

Shouldn't this new playground be a safe and nice place? With your guidance, it can be. Teaching internet safety early will have lasting rewards for you and your kids.

Internet Safety Basics

Help your kids understand that they should:

- Never share their names, schools, ages, phone numbers, or addresses.
- Never send pictures to strangers.
- Keep passwords private (except to parents).
- Never open email from strangers – it may contain viruses that can harm a computer; and
- Immediately tell an adult if something mean or creepy happens.

Strategies for a responsible -- and safer -- online life

- **Visit only age-appropriate sites.** Check out the site before your kids visit it. Know what features and what content exist and make sure they're good for your kids.
- **Search safely.** Use safe search settings for young kids or think about applying filtering software to limit inappropriate exposure.
- **Avoid strangers.** Tell your kids that people aren't always who they say they are in cyberspace. Explain that if someone they don't know talks to them, they shouldn't respond but should let you know.
- **Be a good cyber citizen!** Remind kids that an Internet playground is still a playground, and they need to play nicely. A good rule of thumb: If they wouldn't do something in real life, they shouldn't do it online. Find out how your children can report mean behaviour or unkind content on their favourite sites and teach them how to do it.
- **Online cheating?** It's still cheating and it's a no-no – pure and simple.
- **Keep the computer in a central place.** So, you can see what's going on.
- **Establish expectations and limits** about the amount of time your children spend online and what they do. Create a family media agreement for the amount of time spent online.
- **View your own habits carefully.** You are their role models.

But, mostly, be involved and have fun with them! Keeping kids safe and teaching them how to use digital technology responsibly is all about staying involved. Start by showing interest in the sites they visit and the games they play, and your job will be a lot easier when they start exploring these technologies more independently.

Accessible, Affordable and Sustainable

We are currently finalising staffing for 2022. We have a number of staff taking leave for different reasons and are ensuring only top-quality staff are engaged at our school.

This process does take time and given the implications of COVID and the vaccination programme and the Public Health Direction that mandates all school staff must be vaccinated, this process has been further impacted. If possible, I always announce staffing at the AGM, however this remains to be confirmed due to the above-mentioned reasons.

SCHOOL FEES

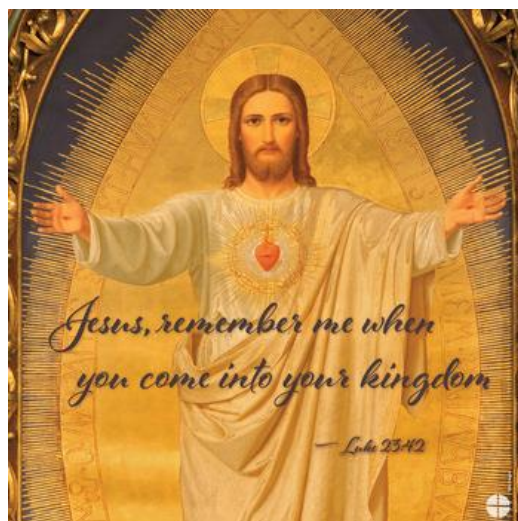
Thank you to all families who have finalised their fees for 2021.

A friendly reminder that all school fee balances need to be finalised by 30 November 2021. Please see Lina Armstrong, in the office, if you need a copy of your current statement or have any issues or concerns. Thank you.

God bless each and every one of you.



Sheldon Carey
M Ed, B Ed, Grad Dip
Principal



PASTORAL CARE



November is a time for remembering and praying for our loved ones who have gone before us and whose loss we feel.

From the beginning the Church has honoured the memory of the dead and offered prayers in suffrage for them, above all the Eucharistic sacrifice, so that, thus purified, they may attain the beatific vision of God.” - CCC 1032

Prayer for Eternal Rest

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

~Amen~

HOME LEARNING TIP



There are things you can do to make learning at home more productive and enjoyable for both you and your child, such as:

- Create a chart with a timetable and goals for the week
- Display a clock to keep track of the time, this helps develop time management skills
- Ensure there are set break times
- Make sure if your children are online...you know exactly where they are online
- Talk through the homework and share in the learning experience, but don't take over the learning
- Provide healthy snacks and water.

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

WELLNESS WEEK

This week during Wellness Week students and staff are encouraged to be mindful, socialise, reflect and improve their wellbeing. A range of activities are offered to students each day and no homework was given, to allow families to spend precious time together. We hope everyone has the opportunity to do something special with their families.

OUTDOOR CLASSROOM DAY

All students participated in Outdoor Classroom Day on Monday 15 November. Thank you to all the staff and the children for making the day such a success.

SCHOOL DISCO

Just a reminder that the School Disco will be held on Friday 19th November. The theme for this event is TV/ Movie characters. The children will be allowed to dress up in appropriate costumes in-line with this theme. After each session children will be able to be picked up outside the hall. Parents will need to sign their children out before taking them home.

PP- Year 2 5.30-6.30pm

Year 3- 6 7.15-8.30pm

Disco tickets are on sale before school and at lunchtime in the Undercroft. Tickets cost \$3. The ticket will entitle your child to a juice box and a packet of chips on the night.

- **This is a children only event. Teachers will be supervising each session.**
- **The Year 6 class will perform their dance routine to the students at the Disco and their parents at the Graduation Dinner.**

ST VINNIE'S APPEAL AND THE GIVING TREE

As we draw closer to the season of Advent when we prepare ourselves for Jesus' birth, we are provided with the opportunity to consider those who are less fortunate than us and to make a donation to the St Vinnie's Christmas Appeal and the Giving Tree.

All donations will be gratefully received and will be used to bring joy to others in our community. Please leave your food items on the ledge in the Learning Centre and your gifts under the Christmas tree labelled and wrapped. Our school community is always so generous, thank you in advance for your donations which will make a difference to a family. Donations will be collected on **THURSDAY 9th DECEMBER.**

Suggestions for the food hamper include: plum puddings, Christmas cakes, tinned hams, tinned fruits, jellies, lollies, boxes of chocolates, cool drinks, Christmas crackers, custards (premade), fruit juices, biscuits.

WHOLE SCHOOL NATIVITY

We are all very excited about our upcoming Whole School Nativity on **Thursday 10 December**. The Whole School Nativity is compulsory for all students. Mrs Freeman, will communicate information regarding costumes to each class. Thank you for your co-operation.

CONFIRMATION PHOTOS

Are now available for viewing and ordering from the school office.

SEMESTER 2 REPORTS

St Lawrence Catholic Primary School utilises SEQTA for parents to access student reports for children in Pre-Primary to Year 6. If you have not already done so, please log in to SEQTA to ensure you are able to access your child's report. To do this you need to go to the following site:

<https://stlawbal.coneqt-p.cathednet.wa.edu.au>

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Friday 26th November - Kindy Nativity
- Friday 3rd December -PP Nativity

Miss Kathleen Tranquille & Mrs Gabrielle Brennan, Assistant Principals

CLASS NEWS

PRE KINDY

Thanks to all families who came to support our Fun Run last week. What a wonderful crowd that gathered on a beautiful sunny afternoon. It was amazing to see we had some grandparents present, who may have seen their sons or daughters participate in the Fun Run some years ago. It was fabulous! We had lots of fun.

Mrs Seragusana and I were so proud of how well the children coped with their first Fun Run in front of so many spectators. We tried to explain what was going to happen earlier in the day and the children listened so well and carried out their job perfectly! We truly appreciate the efforts of our wonderful Parents and Friends Association who raise funds tirelessly to support our school community and allow us to enjoy wonderful resources. It was lovely to have Mr Sheldon Carey and Mrs Adele Cirillo welcome everyone. The children certainly appreciated Mrs Cirillo handing out the yummy icy poles. We cannot forget the lovely Year 4 children who came to assist us - they were awesome too!

Our very exciting theme of Christmas began last week, and we only have four more Pre Kindy days left. We are learning about the birth of baby Jesus at Christmas time and why we give each other presents. It is a very special time, and we have some lovely toys and games to play with in class. I encourage you to allow your children to become even more independent in readiness for their year of Kindy that is approaching - even faster that you can imagine!

We also value the efforts you have put in with the Take Home Story Books. This is very important in the preparation of your child's Literacy readiness.



Mrs Kaylene Bozich, Pre Kindy Teacher



We pass on our love and thoughts to Daniel (Year 2) and Amelia (Pre Kindy) SICILIANO and all their family, on the loss their dear great- grandfather.

Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord.

KINDERGARTEN

Our Excursion to Aqwa was a big success! We enjoyed learning about all the wonderful sea creatures they have throughout the touch pools, glow in the dark tanks and there was a turtle enclosure this year. After all of this we enjoyed a yummy fish or nuggets and chips lunch. A huge thank you so much to the wonderful parent helpers on the day, without you we would not have been able to organise this.



We will be talking about all the wonderful things about Christmas especially focusing on the real meaning of Christmas. As our focus on 'Christmas' begins next week we ask that parents please bring in a Christmas box the size of a standard shoe box. These can be purchased from the Red Dot or Reject Shop, and it will be a special box the children will keep their Christmas cards and crafts in to take home on the last week.

In Talk for Writing, we have been learning the story The Little Red Elf. Today we will be drawing our story map to help us remember how the story goes! We are very excited as today a special little visitor has entered our room to watch and report back to Santa about the happenings in Kindy.

We have been talking about how we can be kind and generous with our words and actions just like Jesus was. Have a wonderful week everyone.



Upcoming important date in your calendar:

Whole School Christmas Concert (different to the Kindy Nativity): Thursday 9th December at 6pm

Mrs Rachel Wake, Kindergarten Teacher

PRE PRIMARY

This week started with Outdoor Classroom Day. We had a wonderful day with our Year Five Buddies. In the morning, they read us a story and we drew our favourite part, then we used clay to create a character from the story. After recess, we painted artwork using nature from the garden. We finished the day with extended outdoor play.

We are doing the Nativity story during Talk for writing and are learning about the 'First Christmas'. We have also been practicing for our 'Wiggly Nativity' Assembly every day. Mrs Staltari and I have been so impressed with how quickly this is coming together. The children have learnt their talking parts and are singing beautifully.

In Numeracy, we have been learning all about Think boards. We have discovered different ways to represent numbers - by the numeral, the word, a picture and number sentences! We have also been practicing how to read and write number words!

As you can see, we have been very busy in Pre Primary, and we are growing and learning so much!!

Reminders:

Friday 19 th November:	School Disco from 5.30pm – 6.30pm
Thursday 25 th November:	PP Excursion to Constable Care Safety School
Friday 3 rd December:	PP Wiggly Nativity Assembly



Mrs Tania Preston, Pre Primary Teacher

YEAR ONE

We had a great start to Wellness Week on Monday taking part in Outdoor Classroom Day. The children had a very enjoyable day taking part in all of the fun with their Year Six buddies. Thank you to Mrs Bozich, Mr Haydon and Mrs Mattioili for all their organisation and hard work with the Year One children.

The children are looking forward to the disco this Friday night. Tickets are on sale for \$3 before school and at lunchtime in the undercover area

I was so proud of the way the children conducted themselves at the zoo last week.



They enjoyed exploring the Australian Bushwalk exhibit and learnt more about our native animals and their needs. The children have begun to design their animal habitat dioramas and will be posting their masterpieces on SeeSaw when they are complete.

As we draw closer to Advent, we are asked to consider those less fortunate and donate food items for our St Vinnie's Christmas Appeal. Any items of non-perishable foods would be gratefully accepted. Please leave any items on the window bench in the Learning Centre.

Mrs Gloria Edwards, Year One Teacher

YEAR TWO

On Monday we celebrated being educated in an outdoor environment. We were lucky to join the whole school, along with our Year 4 buddies, and spend the day learning outside.

There was nature art, native seedling planting, chalk art, making seed balls for birds and so much more.

By Tuesday, being a little tired, we enjoyed some quality library time with Mrs Stanton.

Calmly and quietly, she read, 'Tashi and the Two Headed Dragon'. It certainly ignited our creative flow as we designed our own Tashi book covers.



Mrs Paula Christensen, Year Two Teacher



Outdoor Classroom Day 'Fun'

LIBRARY NEWS

This term, Year 5 have been studying some of the features of Ancient Greece. This has enabled the children to compare an ancient civilization with the establishment of the Swan River Colony, which we studied at the beginning of the year.

As part of our studies of Greece, we have looked at its location in the world, viewed the Greek alphabet, and played some of the games that children may have played in ancient times. The games played included knucklebones, a logic tangram puzzle (not really Greek), and a maze puzzle.



This week will be the last week the children will be able to borrow library books until next year. We would appreciate any books that are overdue be returned as soon as possible.

Mrs Jane Stanton, Teacher Librarian



Outdoor Classroom Day 'Fun'

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 as soon as possible. Orders can then be packed and ready for payment. Samples of sizes are available at the Uniform Shop.

COLLECTION OF UNIFORM ORDERS

Parents who have placed uniform orders are now available to collect for Pre-Primary students commencing in 2022. Payment is required by EFTPOS or cash.

2022 YEAR 1 STUDENTS

Thank you to the parents who have placed orders.

Any families who have not placed uniform orders or do not require any items, please advise me as soon as possible on Angie.miola@cewa.edu.au or come into the Uniform Shop to directly purchase from the Uniform Shop.

COLLECTION OF UNIFORM ORDERS

Parents, uniform orders are now available to collect for Year 1 students commencing in 2022. Payment is required by eftpos or cash.

BOYS RED RUGBY SHORTS

Please note that boys red rugby shorts were discontinued at 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



The 'lost property box' at the entrance of the Learning Centre is **overflowing** with track jackets, track pants and many other uniform items. Including drink bottles, lunch boxes etc.

Parents, PLEASE if your child has an item missing, look through the lost property box **BEFORE THE END OF THIS TERM**. Otherwise all items will be sorted and given to the Uniform Shop to be sold as second hand uniforms.

CANTEEN NEWS

THANK YOU to my helpers last week Lyan J and Natalie M. Your help was very much appreciated!

This week is **Year Four parents** turn to help; if you can spare a couple of hours tomorrow, please text me on 0408834774, thank you!

Arancini Day Wednesday 24 November - either meat and cheese or just cheese with 2 pieces of garlic bread - \$4.50.

Please **text for any late orders** as soon as possible.

Christmas Raffle tickets now on sale \$5 each.

Fabulous prizes - 1st prize \$300 Scooter Hub Voucher, kindly donated by David Michael

As well as 2 x \$50 Wish gift Cards, donated by Woolworths Roselea.

A gorgeous hamper of home products, donated by Almond and Mint (Renee Femia)

Wine, a Wine traveller donated, by Louise Frenzel

Thanks to all our generous donors! The raffle will be drawn on Friday 10th December.

ARANCINI
SPECIAL
WEDNESDAY
24TH
NOVEMBER

PLAIN CHEESE
OR MEAT &
CHEESE + 2
PIECES GARLIC
BREAD \$4.50

PLEASE
PREORDER BY
WEDNESDAY 17TH
NOVEMBER

PIC•COLLAGE



**CANTEEN
CHRISTMAS
RAFFLE
TICKETS \$5 EACH
AWESOME PRIZES
\$300 SCOOTER
HUB VOUCHER
2 X \$50 WISH
GIFT CARDS
GORGEOUS
ALMOND & MINT
HAMPER
WINE, WINE FLASK
AND CHOCS
DRAWN 10TH
DECEMBER**