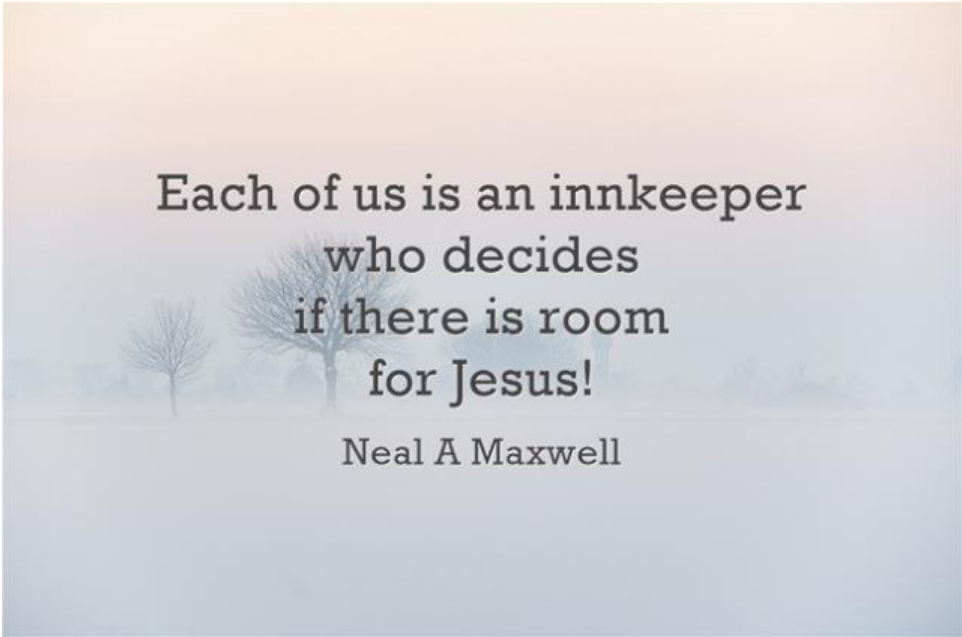




Newsletter No. 28

15 November 2023

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.



Each of us is an innkeeper
who decides
if there is room
for Jesus!

Neal A Maxwell

Inspiring Christ-centred Leaders.

Announcement from the Bishops of Western Australia re: Executive Director, Catholic Education Western Australia.

Dated: Wednesday, 8 November 2023

Subject: Executive Director, Catholic Education Western Australia Limited (CEWA Ltd)

Dear brothers in the ordained ministry, sisters and brothers in Christ,

We write to each of you across the four dioceses of Western Australia to share with you that Dr Debra Sayce, Executive Director, Catholic Education Western Australia Ltd, will conclude her appointment as Executive Director on 31 December 2023.

Dr Sayce has deeply discerned and decided to take up an appointment as the inaugural Head, Mission Enhancement and Outreach – Archdiocesan Agencies for the Archdiocese of Perth. Dr Sayce has made a magnificent and enduring contribution to Catholic Education in Western Australia since 1994. After beginning her career as a teacher, she was successively appointed to numerous roles, culminating in becoming the first lay person to be appointed by the bishops of

Western Australia as the Director of Religious Education. In 2017, Dr Sayce was appointed as the Interim Executive Director and subsequently confirmed in the role in 2018.

Dr Sayce's passion for Catholic education and her personal commitment to enhancing a lived expression of the Church's mission through Catholic education has made her an outstanding leader. Dr Sayce has always clearly enunciated the wonderful gifts of a Catholic education for students and brought a distinctive witness to the Gospel values and theological teachings that underpin the Church's ministry of education. Let us give thanks to Dr Sayce for her enduring legacy to Catholic education across the four dioceses of Western Australia and our nation.

Appointment of Mr Wayne Bull as Executive Director (2024). The bishops of Western Australia have appointed Mr Wayne Bull, the current Deputy Executive Director, to the position of Executive Director of CEWA Ltd for 2024. Mr Bull has been a long-term contributor to CEWA, initially as a teacher, prior to his appointment to a number of senior leadership positions in various schools before advancing to school principalship in 2000. He was appointed CEWA Deputy Executive Director in 2020. In conjunction with Ms Eva Skira AM, Chair – Catholic Education Commission of Western Australia, the bishops of Western Australia will commence the consultation and recruitment process for the next Executive Director of Catholic Education Western Australia Limited during 2024, for appointment in 2025.

We invite you to hold Dr Sayce, Mr. Bull, as well as all those who actively place themselves at the service of enhancing the lives of young people, their families and our Catholic communities across Western Australia through Christ-centered and childfocused learning communities that inspire all to actively live the Gospel in your prayers.

Catholic Schools of Excellence.

At St Lawrence Primary School we believe all students have the right to learn and feel happy in a safe and secure environment. In order for this to occur it is important that all students, parents and staff understand their rights and responsibilities. These are outlined in our St Lawrence School Codes of Conduct. These documents are easily accessible via the school's website. I strongly encourage all to read these and have a sound and clear understanding of the implications of our Codes of Conduct and our obligations to abide by them.

Catholic Pastoral Communities.

You may have noticed our Christmas Tree has been placed in the Learning Centre. Yes, this is a little early, but it will allow us all time to collect a gift card from the tree. The card will state a person's age and gender. It is hoped you will then purchase and wrap a gift, with this card attached to it, and place under the tree. The staff will then ensure the gifts are forwarded to those in need. Christmas brings out the best in people, I believe, and in recent years, I have been so moved at the number of gifts this kind community provide.

You could turn this into a family event, or even ask your children to donate their own pocket money or exchange chores around the house, for the gift. I think if you make this a meaningful chance to come together, as a family, plan your gift and how to pay for it and then purchase it together, as a family. Much learning can come from this act of service.

I am very aware that many of us find it difficult at Christmas, to make ends meet, but if you can, then this might be a great opportunity to support those far less fortunate than ourselves.

MRS BRENNAN

It is with sadness that I inform you all, that Mrs Brennan will be returning to the UK, as her father is unwell and in need of her support, at this time of his life. Our thoughts are with all of Mrs Brennan's family and loved ones. Please keep her in your prayers.

Accessible, Affordable and Sustainable.

SCHOOL FEES

A big thank you to all who have paid their school fees for 2023 or are in the process of finalising their payments. All school fees are due for payment, in full, by 30 November 2023.

If you are having difficulties in finalising your account, by this date, please do not hesitate to contact Alica Mayo, our Finance Officer. We are here to support, where we can, and thank our families for their prompt payments over 2023 that enables our school financial commitments to run smoothly, as budgeted.

God's blessings to you all



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

*“Do not confine your children to your own learning, for
they were born in another time.”*

Chinese proverb

PASTORAL CARE

Let us all continue our November obligations and keep in our prayers those who departed this world, both the known to us and those unknown to us.

Remember, O Lord, the God of Spirits and of all Flesh, those whom we have remembered and those whom we have not remembered, men of the true faith, from righteous Abel unto to-day; do thou thyself give them rest there in the land of the living, in thy kingdom, in the delight of Paradise, in the bosom of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, our holy fathers, from whence pain and sorrow and sighing have fled away, where the light of thy countenance visiteth them and always shineth upon them.

Amen



Deepest sympathies and condolences to the Mucciarone family (Sofia Yr 6) on the passing of her much loved Nonno.



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

Amen

Congratulations to our new bundle of joy:

Mansfield family – a new baby brother – Vincent to Joseph in Pre Primary & Stephen in Kindy.



FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

2023 END OF YEAR REPORTS

The End of Year Report provides parents with an overview of how their child has progressed, across the entire year, in relation to the end of year Achievement Standard for each learning area, for their year level. The grade provided is taking into account the curriculum which has been taught and assessed across the entire year, not just Semester 2.

UNDERSTANDING THE GRADING SYSTEM

Is a 'C' grade good? **Yes, you should celebrate C grades as this indicates that your child has progressed to the desired level of understanding for his/her year level.**

Is a 'C' grade just a pass like it used to be? **No, a C grade today, is the expected Achievement Standard for each year level and each Learning Area.**

Does an 'A' or 'B' grade mean my child is working a year or two above their current grade? **No, an 'A' or 'B' grade means that your child is responding to the content taught to a deeper level. They may be thinking more critically about the content, which is a wonderful skill to demonstrate.**

How are final grades determined? **Teachers collect numerous samples of work and assessments to determine the final grade. The grade is determined with the use of the School Curriculum and Standards Authority's (SCSA) Judging Standards. For more information on this go to <https://parent.scsa.wa.edu.au/>**

We hope this information assists you to understand the reporting process at St Lawrence. If you have further questions, please don't hesitate to ask your child's teacher.

ACCESSING REPORTS

End of Year reports will be available on SEQTA on Friday 8 December. Most families should have access to electronic reports via SEQTA at <https://stlawbal.engage.cewa.edu.au/>

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 will expire after one hour of being generated.

YEAR 6 REPORTS

Please note, that all parents of Year 6 students will need to download or print all their child's reports, as they will no longer be available after they leave St Lawrence at the end of this term.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Last Friday we acknowledged Remembrance Day with a beautiful Liturgy led by our Year 3 students. Thank you to all our Year 3's who remained reverend throughout the whole ceremony and thank you to Mrs Pizzino for organising this special tribute, to acknowledge the courage and sacrifice of those who served their country.



ST VINNIE'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL



St Lawrence has had a long association with the St. Vincent de Paul Society. In the past, the St. Lawrence school community has been especially generous during the Vinnies Christmas Appeal. This year we are continuing this tradition. We are asking for your generosity, to bring less fortunate people joy, this Christmas. Thank you to all the parents who have already placed their donations in the baskets, located in each classroom. Donations will be collected by St Vinnie on Tuesday 28 November.

Some suggested items to donate are:

Plum Puddings, Christmas Cakes, Tinned Hams, Tinned Fruit, Jelly, Lollies, Boxes of Chocolate, Cool Drinks, Christmas Crackers, Custard (pre-made), Fruit Juice, Biscuits, Spaghetti, Sauces...

GIVING TREE



Our Giving Tree is located in the Learning Centre. It has been wonderful listening to Parents and Grandparents explaining to their children the reasoning behind the Giving Tree. We have been extremely touched by the conversations we have overheard when passing through this area.

If your family would like to participate, please have your child select a gift tag and purchase a gift for the child, outlined on the tag. We suggest that you take your child to the shops and give them the opportunity to use their own money to buy their gift, which will be donated to a child in need. Please wrap your gift, attach the gift tag and leave it under the Giving Tree.

Gifts will be collected on Wednesday 6 December.

ST LAWRENCE FEAST DAY & KORA CHILDCARE CENTRE

Our annual St Lawrence Feast Day was held during Term 3.

From the receipt of donations from our amazing and wonderful St Lawrence community, to the eventual stall fund raising events held, we managed to fundraise a total of \$1557.60!

Of this incredible tally, the sum of \$445 was donated to Caritas Australia, with the remaining \$1112.60 donated to our long-standing recipient, Kora Childcare Centre.

These funds will go towards the purchase of resources for this centre.

Sister Chitra met with our school leaders, recently, to accept the community's fundraising efforts.

On behalf of the school community, we thank each and every one of you, who helped make this a memorable event.



- Fun Run – Friday 17 November AM
- Kindy Nativity - Friday 24 November 9am
- Pre-primary Nativity – Friday 1 December 9am
- Swimming Lessons – Weeks 7 and 8
- Whole school Christmas Nativity and Presentations – Thursday 7 December

Mrs Gabrielle Brennan & Ms Kathleen Tranquille
Assistant Principals

SCIENCE

Earth and Space Science is moving at the speed of light this term.

National Science Week was a timely start to Term 4, which saw Year 2 students design their own spacecrafts and list the essentials they would take into space. Whilst Year 3 students worked in groups to draw a planet based off a report sent to them from an International Space Station.

Some classes have focussed their attention on Earth this term, such as Year 4 students who are learning the importance of soil testing, rocks/minerals, and erosion; and Year 6 students investigating the cause and effects of natural disasters. The Year 2 class are discovering the importance of the water cycle.

Our PP and Year 1 students are exploring our atmosphere, including weather systems, movement, types of clouds and the Noongar seasons. They have become weather reporting experts and may soon audition for a reporter's role on a free-to-air channel near you!

Becoming planet aware, the Year 3 class are studying Earth's movement in space, from rotation to revolution; and Year 5 students are discovering Earth's place in space, including the planets that orbit our Sun with us.



*Mrs Stephanie Freeman
Science Teacher*

CHRISTMAS CONCERT



JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL END OF YEAR CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Students from Kindy to Year 6 are busily preparing to share the story of the First Christmas, as well as spread some Christmas Cheer through song and dance, celebrate the achievements of individuals, farewell our Year 6s as a whole school and spend time as a community

Concert Particulars to be
shared through Seesaw this week

Thank you
Mrs Stephanie Freeman



LIBRARY NEWS

ICE CREAM SUNDAE RAFFLE WINNERS

Our Yr 4-6 winners enjoyed their sundaes during Tuesday lunchtime and our Yr 1-3 winners will be able to collect their sundaes from outside the library from 1pm, during lunchtime on Thursday.

THURSDAY (16/11/23)

Yr 3 - Vivienne
Sofia B
Ethan
Ellie

Yr 2 - Alessio
Edie
Abigail
Lotte

Yr 1 - Luke
Will
Oliver
Sara



FINAL LIBRARY BORROWING FOR THE YEAR

As the year is drawing to a close, we advise that Week 7 will be the final time for students to be able to borrow library books, for this year. All library books will need to be returned during week 8. Students will be able to continue borrowing Lexiles up until the end of school year.

*Ms Louise Frenzel
Library Officer*

SPORTS NEWS

INTERSCHOOL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

We won!!!

We are so proud of all the hard work that the students have put in, over the last term and this was a well deserved win.

A big thank you to all the staff who have volunteered their time to help train the children during lesson time and in the mornings. I would also like to acknowledge the children who did not take part, who helped during training and really pushed and supported their peers.

A whole school effort, **Congratulations!**



Mrs Claire Major
Physical Education Teacher

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

2024 PRE PRIMARY & YEAR 1 STUDENTS

Uniform orders placed for students commencing Pre Primary and Year 1 in 2024 are now ready to be collected. Payment can be made via cash or card.

GIRLS SKORTS – **Extension Granted**

Girls Red SKORTS are discontinued and are no longer available to purchase. They have been replaced with the Red Microfibre Sport Shorts. **Mr Carey has now granted a 12 month extension for Skorts to be worn throughout 2024 with the Red Microfibre Sport Shorts, compulsory in 2025.**

Please do not hesitate to contact me on angie.miola@cewa.edu.au for any uniform enquiries. Order forms are available on the school's website and from the school office.

Uniform Shop Opening Hours:
Wednesday 8.30am to 9.30am & Thursday 2.30pm to 3.30pm.

Mrs Angie Miola
Uniform Shop Manager

CANTEEN NEWS

THANKS & HELP NEEDED

Thanks so much to my helpers last week Andrea and Dani. We are very grateful for the extra hands!

If anyone is available to help this term, please let me know.

In weeks 7 and 8, we will have a reduced menu, due to the staggered lunches, to accommodate swimming.

Please see attached for items available. Quickcliq will be updated on Friday.

To order sushi for the Fridays, please order by Thursday 9am, to allow time to order from our supplier.

Any questions, please message me on 0408834774.

Thank you for your continued support.

Christina and Fran - Canteen Staff

SWIMMING MENU WEEK 7 & 8

Available everyday

Toasties – Cheese, vegemite & cheese, tomato & cheese \$4
Ham & cheese, ham, tomato and cheese \$4.50
Tuna or Chicken, cheese and Mayo \$5

Available Wednesday

Mac N cheese \$4.50

Lasagne \$5

Nuggets (5) \$4 add sauce 50c

Burger – Beef, lettuce, tomato, tomato sauce \$5 (add cheese 50c)

Burger – Chicken, lettuce, carrot, cucumber and Mayo \$5

Thursday

Chicken Strips (2) spicy or non spicy add sauce 50c

Butter Chicken & Rice (GF) \$5

Pie \$4.50 add sauce 50c

Sausage Roll \$4 add sauce 50c

Chicken strip wrap \$5

Friday

Chicken Strips (2) spicy or non spicy add sauce 50c

Pie \$4.50 add sauce 50c

Sausage Roll \$4 add sauce 50c

Vegetarian fried rice (GF) \$5

Sushi – vegetarian, chicken teriyaki or tuna (gf) \$6

Sushi – katsu chicken \$6

*please preorder sushi by Thursday 8.30am

P&F NEWS

FUN RUN

The annual P&F Fun Run is this Friday 17 November. Theme is crazy hair, crazy socks and loud t-shirts. Sponsorship forms were sent home with your eldest child and are due this week please.

Class Run Times are as follows:

9:20 - Kindy
9:35 - PP
9:50 Yr 1
10:05 Yr 2
10:20 Yr 5
RECESS
11:00 Yr 4
11:15 Yr 3
11:30 Yr 6



TEA TOWELS

Tea towels will be distributed next week. Please ensure you have paid for your order by the end of this week. There are a few spare tea towels left. If you would like one, please let us know as soon as possible.



CLASS REPS

We would like to thank the Class Reps of 2023. We are now seeking 2024 Class Reps. If you would like to become a class rep next year, please let your current class rep know.

2024 WELCOME BACK PICNIC - SAVE THE DATE

Please keep Friday 9 February, 2024 free for our Welcome Back Picnic. We have lots of fun activities planned and delicious food organised. More information to follow.

GRILL'D INNALOO FUNDRAISER

St Lawrence P&F will be a part of the **Grill'd Innaloo Local Matters Fundraiser**, for the month of **December**. Please keep in mind, when ordering take away for the month of December, if you pop into GRILL'D INNALOO and collect a token in exchange for your meal, to put towards our P&F fundraiser.

Mrs Natasha Raso, P&F President

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Congratulations to Tahlia (Yr 5) & Liana (Yr 1) for their many medals, this year, in their chosen sport of Brazilian Jiu Jitsu.

The girls travelled to the USA in June/July to compete in three different tournaments over a six week period. They trained all around the USA, at many gyms, making lots of new friends. Both girls competed in the American Grappling Federation Kids World Championships in Texas. Tahlia taking out 1x Gold, 1x Silver & 2x Bronze and Liana taking home 2x Silver medals for this tournament.

They then travelled to Las Vegas to compete in the American Nationals. Both girls getting Silver medals for their category.

The last tournament was the International IBJJF Pans in Orlando, Florida. This is the largest kids tournament in the world with 3000 kids participating over three days. Tahlia received a Bronze medal, but unfortunately, Liana lost her first match and was eliminated.

Tahlia's highest achievement's this year are:

Wining Gold at the Worlds Kids American Grappling Federation tournament in Texas, USA.
Making her World Champion.

She then won Gold for a second year in a row in Melbourne at IBJJF Pan Pacific tournament.
Making her the All Pan Pacific Champion.



Liana's highest achievement's this year are:

Getting Silver at the Worlds Kids American Grappling Federation tournament in Texas, USA.
Placing her 2nd in the World.

Receiving Gold in Melbourne at IBJJF Pan Pacific tournament.
Making her the All Pan Pacific Champion.



Well done, Girls. We are super proud of you!!