



## Newsletter No. 4

20 March 2024

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.

The Annunciation, also called Annunciation to the Blessed Virgin Mary or Annunciation of the Lord, is the announcement by the angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary that she would conceive a son by the power of the Holy Spirit to be called Jesus (Luke 1:26–38). The angel's pronouncement is met with Mary's willing consent ("Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word").

As we celebrate this great Feast in our Church may we all turn to Our Lady as loving children turn to their own mothers and give thanks for her steadfast love of us all and gratefulness for the protective mantle she places over us all.



### *Inspiring Christ-Centre Leaders.*

It was Aristotle who said, "Education is the best provision for old age." One of our aims here at St Lawrence is to help our students to become lifelong learners. The world is changing at ever faster speeds and the world we now live in will not be the world your children will grow up to work in. We must help our students to learn and adapt, to be able to cope with change and move with the environments that they will find themselves working in.

In many instances the jobs that your children will take on do not exist at present. So, we must endeavour to empower our students to be able to become lifelong learners and to be able to discern information, adapt, apply, evaluate, create, understand, recall, and analyse. To be able to make informed decisions based on facts. We strive to teach as much content knowledge as possible, but we also strive to ensure our students can locate, process, build, evaluate, infer, and re-define.

Bloom's taxonomy has been around since the 1950's but it is the classic classification of the skills and knowledge we embed in our pedagogical practices. Knowledge (finding out) Comprehension (understanding) Application (making use of knowledge) Analysis (taking apart the known) Synthesis (putting things together differently) Evaluation (judging outcomes). When I'm in classes, working with the teachers and most importantly the students, I see first-hand these essential skills and the knowledge at work.

## ***Catholic Schools of Excellence.***

### *Permission Slips and Excursions.*

Section 23 of the School Education Act says that a student must participate in an educational programme of the school either at the school 'or elsewhere' as required by the principal.

Under the Act the consent/permission of a parent is not necessary for a principal to 'require' the educational programme to be delivered 'elsewhere' – i.e., via an excursion – any more than it is for the principal to ask parents to consent for the principal to deliver it at the school.

It would be misleading for a principal to ask for parents to consent to him/her delivering the educational programme as it implies that parents have that authority, which they do not.

Naturally, it is prudent for the principal to inform parents that their child will not be at the school and the reasons why. e.g. Attending an excursion. This would allow for exchange of any other relevant information that may be required.

Thus, permission forms for excursions following the educational programme are not required, as it is simply the extension of the education programme. The principal under the School Education Act is the person who deems where the education will take place, both on campus or off. Naturally, for larger activities e.g. Camps or even sleepovers, the principal may ask for permission as this extends beyond the School Education Act

## ***Catholic Pastoral Communities.***

Digital technology is a part of our lives. Whichever way we may look at it, devices are here to stay and will continue to evolve. We cannot hide from them, nor should we. Let's face it, when used correctly, the educational benefits of digital technology are obvious. In saying this, there are without doubt many risks when young people are given autonomy with a device such as an iPad.

'Digital Citizenship' in education is extremely topical and like all things with young people, parameters must be set to maintain safety and well-being.

I recently came across some literature attributed to Professor Donna Cross who is an expert in the field of social and emotional well-being in young people and the contribution that digital technology plays. She used the analogy that digital technology is very much like a swimming pool. Swimming pools are entertaining, and exciting, they encourage collaboration and are obviously loved by young people. On the flip side, they require direct supervision, structured learning, and boundaries to ensure they are used appropriately. When children use a swimming pool, strict parameters are generally in place, and for good reason.

It is the law to construct a fence around a swimming pool which prevents any unsupervised use and thus protects young people from harm. Generally, children learn from quite a young age how to appropriately use a swimming pool, this includes being taught to swim by a more experienced and competent adult. Warnings are in place about diving in the shallow end and first aid signs must be visible. Essentially, children are slowly introduced to the swimming pool, and their level of autonomy is gradually released.

Technology is no different. If we treat the use of technology with our children in a similar way to a swimming pool, we will be more likely to protect them from the negative aspects of the digital world, whilst exposing them to the positive power of the device. We have the capability to set our children up for success in the appropriate use of devices. The protection of the pool fence in this analogy may be seen as the protection that passwords provide and the level of independent access we provide

young people to certain technology and applications.

Overall, the key message here is to embrace technology for the educational opportunities it provides while at the same time, respecting and being aware of the enormous power they hold.

### ***Accessible, Affordable and Sustainable.***

All Catholic Schools are required to have an Evangelisation Policy. This policy helps our school to shape and form the Evangelising mission of a Catholic School within the Catholic Church.

The Principles underlining our Evangelisation Policy are:

- At St Lawrence we are called to share the word of God with those in the school community.
- God's message of hope will be shared with all.
- Every effort is made to please God as we imitate Christ in all we do and all we say
- The Evangelisation Policy sits within the Quality Catholic Schooling domain - Catholic Identity and encompasses the entire life of the School

The Procedure underlying our policy is:

At St Lawrence we endeavour to spread the mission of Jesus Christ in word and action; by offering students primary proclamation and initiatory catechesis.

- Providing students with many opportunities to witness their faith
- Foster the sacramental life of our school community
- Pastoral care for all members of the school community

God bless each and every one of you.



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

## **PASTORAL CARE**



We pray for all our community as we move through our Lenten journey. May alms, prayer, and fasting help us all grow in our love of God.

Amen.

# FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

## HARMONY DAY DANCE ASSEMBLY

To commemorate Harmony Day, children have been choreographing cultural dances and will present their efforts at a Harmony Day Assembly on Thursday 21 March. The gathering will take place in front of the Church at 2pm. All family and friends are invited to attend.

## HOLY WEEK LITURGIES

The whole school will take part in the Holy Week Liturgies on Tuesday 26 March. The children from year 3 to year 6 will re-enact the Stations of the Cross. Parents are welcome to join us in the St Lawrence Church at 2pm for these liturgies.

## RIDE TO SCHOOL DAY

On Friday 22 March it is National Ride2School Day. This day is the perfect opportunity to kick-start new healthy habits and promote the many benefits of active travel. We encourage all students and their families to leave the car at home or a nearby park and give riding, walking, scooting or skating to school, a go. It's sure to be a fantastic day. Students are permitted to wear sports uniform to school on this day.



## WINTER UNIFORM

Year 1 to Year 6 students are required to wear the full winter uniform in Terms 2 and 3. Pre-primary students remain in their sports uniform and tracksuit pants. Jackets are available from the uniform shop for winter. Year 1 and new students who have commenced this year, will need to purchase their winter uniform before the end of this term in readiness for Term Two.

Please note the uniform shop will be closed during the school holidays. The last day the shop is open this term is Wednesday 27 March. There will be a two-week period at the start of term 2 when children can wear their summer uniform if families have not been able to purchase the winter uniform.

The uniform shop is open at the following times: Thursday 8.00am to 10.00am.

## PROJECT COMPASSION

At the beginning of Lent, the eldest child in each family was given a Project Compassion box. Please return these to school by Wednesday 27 March. All donations are greatly appreciated and help communities, both locally and around the world, to end poverty, promote justice, and uphold dignity.



## PLAYGROUNDS

A reminder that the Early Years playgrounds are out of bounds before and after school. This includes younger siblings, even if they are being supervised by a parent.

## **HAPPY EASTER**

May the blessings of our Lord be with you all during this very special time of the year. Be safe and enjoy your time during the holiday break to renew and rejoice. Happy Easter to all the families in the St Lawrence community.



**School Holidays will begin on Thursday 28 March**

**Good Friday - Friday 29 March**

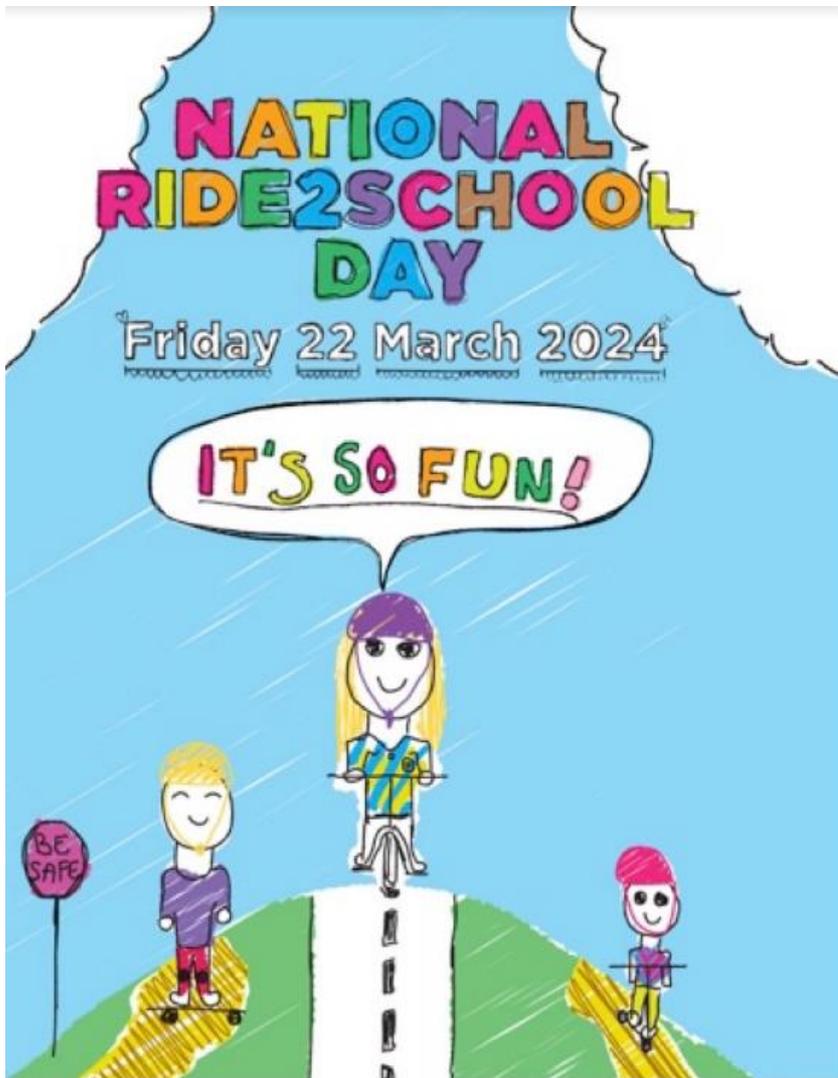
**Term 2 School Commences on Monday 15 April**

**ANZAC DAY – 25 April**

**Student Free Day - 26 April**

*Ms Kathleen Tranquille & Mrs Gabrielle Brennan  
Assistant Principals*

# RIDE TO SCHOOL DAY



 **RIDE2  
SCHOOL**  
ride2school.com.au



St Lawrence Primary School are excited to celebrate National Ride2School Day on Friday 22nd March.

We encourage all students and their families to leave the car at home and give riding, walking, skating or scooting to school a go.

It's sure to be a fantastic day and we look forward to seeing you there!

Students may wear their sport uniform to school on this day.



# LIBRARY NEWS

## LUNCHTIME FUN

We have been having lots of fun in the library at lunchtimes over the past few weeks. Students from many year levels have been coming in to play games, play with the puppets, colour, and draw, just to name a few.



## MEET OUR LIBRARY MONITORS

A big thank you to all the students that have volunteered this term to be library monitors and give up part of their lunchtime, once a week, to assist with jobs in the library.

Your help is much appreciated!



*Please meet Polina, Thalia, Evie, Aurora (Back row)*

*Leonardo, Amelie, Amalia (Front row)*

## HARMONY WEEK IN THE LIBRARY

We have been enjoying different activities in the library this week to celebrate Harmony Week. Students had the opportunity to decorate a magnet and to do some Harmony Week themed colouring in.



*Ms Louise Frenzel  
Library Officer*

## ITALIAN NEWS

Buongiorno a tutti! Hello everyone!

Term 1 has been very busy. All students have been enthusiastic to increase their Italian skills. Bravissimi studenti for giving it a go! Students have learnt about their various year topics as well as Easter in Italy.

All year levels are working on the Italian Festival 2024 Primary School Student Competition which is organised by the Italo-Australian Welfare & Cultural Centre Inc.

The focus for this year's Italian Festival is: "L'Oliva in Italia e in Australia 2024" ("The Olive in Italy and in Australia 2024").

Each year level has a different activity to complete. We look forward to completing the activities and submitting some entries during Term 2.

Buone vacanze! Happy holidays!

Buona Pasqua, Pace e Serenità. Happy Easter, Peace and Serenity.

che Dio vi benedica! May God Bless you!



*Signora Jenny Acquarola  
Italian Specialist Teacher*

## UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

### **WINTER UNIFORM**

Children will be returning to school in term two in WINTER uniform. If you need to purchase uniforms for your child, please come and see me on Thursday mornings from 8am - 10am. Alternatively, you can email an order to [michelle.seragusana@cewa.edu.au](mailto:michelle.seragusana@cewa.edu.au) or you can leave an order with Lina in the office, where you will also be able to make payment.

### **WINTER SKIRTS**

Currently, we have stock starting at size 4. If you feel that this size is too big for your daughter, an order for size 2 skirts has been ordered and will be delivered in week 3 of term 2. Students can continue to wear the summer uniform until the stock arrives.

### **PLEASE NOTE - CHANGE OF HOURS - WEEK 9**

As Thursday 28 March is a Pupil Free Day, the uniform shop will be open on Wednesday 27 March in the afternoon from 2.30pm to 3.30pm.

*Mrs Michelle Seragusana  
Uniform Shop*

## CANTEEN NEWS

### LAST DAY OF TERM

Last day of term is Wednesday 27 March. We will have a Sushi Special - 5 piece pack:

Gf Vegetarian, GF teriyaki chicken, GF tuna or Katsu chicken \$6.00

Add a juice box for an extra \$1.00

Only other alternative on the day is nuggets (x5) \$4.00 add sauce 50c

**Preorder open now, if ordering online, change date to 27/3/24.**

**Sushi orders close Tuesday at 9am**

### QUICKCLIQ

Please ensure you get the confirmation email when ordering. If you do not receive an email, please log back in and check, as it means the order did not go through.

Any questions please come and see me or email [christina.russo@cewa.edu.au](mailto:christina.russo@cewa.edu.au)

*Christina and Fran - Canteen Staff*

## P&F NEWS

### EASTER EGG FUNDRAISER

Thanks so much to the families that requested a box or two to fundraise for our P&F and also to those who chose to donate the \$30. **Money is due back by no later than THIS Friday 22 March.**



### FACEBOOK GROUP

You should have been informed by your class rep that we have a private Facebook group for P&F News. Please ensure you join this group to avoid missing out on any important information.



### BBQ NEEDED

We are looking at upgrading the school BBQ. If you know of someone who is upgrading their own BBQ and the old one is in good condition, please let us know.

### HAPPY EASTER

We would like to wish you a very Happy Easter and a safe holiday.

*Mrs Natasha Raso, P&F President*

# FATHERING PROJECT CAMP



A great time was had by all at the Fathering Project camp last weekend. Keep your eye out for news on the next one.

# ASSEMBLY AWARD WINNERS



A promotional poster for Aranmore Catholic College's 2025 scholarships. The background features two female students in white school uniforms sitting at a desk, smiling. The text '2025 SCHOLARSHIPS' is overlaid in large, bold, brown letters. Below this, a list of categories is shown: 'ACADEMIC | LEADERSHIP | MUSIC | NETBALL | RUGBY | STEM'. At the bottom left, it says 'APPLY TODAY: WWW.ARANMORE.WA.EDU.AU'. At the bottom right is the Aranmore Catholic College logo, which includes a stylized 'A' with a cross and the text 'ARANMORE CATHOLIC COLLEGE'.

**Aranmore Catholic College is pleased to announce applications for 2025 scholarships are now open.**

Our scholarships are designed to recognise and support students who exhibit dedication to academic excellence, excellence in sports or music, leadership potential, and a commitment to serving their community. Whether you excel in academics, STEM, Rugby, Netball, music, or community service, there is a scholarship opportunity available for you.

Scholarships at Aranmore not only provide financial assistance but also offer unique opportunities for personal and academic growth under the guidance and care of highly qualified specialist teachers. Don't miss this chance to pursue your educational dreams and make a positive impact on our community.

For more information on eligibility criteria and how to apply, please visit our website [www.aranmore.wa.edu.au](http://www.aranmore.wa.edu.au).