



## Newsletter No. 2

8 February 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.

### Dear Parents & Friends

The Angelus (Latin for "angel") is a Catholic devotion commemorating the Incarnation. As with many Catholic prayers, the name Angelus is derived from its opening words: Angelus Domini nuntiavit Mariæ ("The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary") and is practised by reciting as versicle and response three Biblical verses narrating the mystery, alternating with the prayer "Hail Mary". The Angelus is an example of a "prayer of the devotee".

The devotion was traditionally recited in Roman Catholic churches, convents, and monasteries three times daily: 6:00 am, noon, and 6:00 pm (many churches still follow the devotion, and some practice it at home). The Angelus is usually accompanied by the ringing of the Angelus bell, which is a call to prayer and to spread good-will to everyone. In our own Parish the Angelus bell sounds every day at 12:00pm.



**V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary,  
R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.**

**Hail Mary, etc...**

**V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.  
R. Be it done unto me according to Your Word.**

**Hail Mary, etc...**

**V. And the Word was made flesh,  
R. And dwelt among us.**

**Hail Mary, etc...**

**V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.  
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.**

**Let us pray:**

**Pour forth, we beseech You, O Lord,  
Your Grace into our hearts;  
that as we have known the incarnation of Christ,  
your Son by the message of an angel,  
so by His passion and cross  
we may be brought to the glory of His Resurrection.  
Through the same Christ, our Lord.**

**Amen.**

## **Inspiring Christ-Centre Leaders**

As part of my ongoing professional development, I will undertake the second leg of my System Leaders' Renewal Leave (SLRL) during March. Mrs Gabrielle Brennan will assume the role of Short-Term Principal during my leave. Mrs Brennan assumes all the authoritative dimensions of the role of principal and takes on the leadership domain of St Lawrence Primary School. Mrs Brennan will be supported in this role by Ms Kathleen Tranquille as Assistant Principal. Mrs Brennan has been our principal on a number of occasions and is well versed in the requirements of the position.

I will be completing a tour of a number of European countries including Germany, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Ireland and a small part of The United Kingdom. Renewal Leave is intended to help develop leader's spiritual wellbeing and knowledge and enhance their skill sets in driving the religious domain of the school.

## **Catholic Schools of Excellence**

Starting school involves a big change for your child. It is normal for children to have strong feelings as they start to think about these changes, such as excitement about the prospect of going to school as well as nervousness about what lies ahead. Your child may also be feeling sad or angry about leaving early childhood education and care. This includes letting go of relationships formed with educators and other children, as well as a change to their familiar routines. Some common feelings children have during transition to school can include:

- excitement
- sadness
- anger
- anticipation
- fear or anxiety

Understanding and helping your child to handle the feelings associated with starting school will help to reduce their stress and can provide them with positive coping strategies. If you have any concerns, I strongly recommend you meet with your child's teacher and talk through any of your concerns or observations. The first few weeks can be very difficult for many of us, both children and adults. Make sure you are proactive, can spot the warning signs and work closely with your teachers, they are there to help. Remember our teachers are fully qualified, have studied for many years at university to develop outstanding professional skills, knowledge and understandings, they constantly partake in professional development, are learned well-read individuals who have a wealth of experience behind them. Perhaps most importantly they are caring people who have answered a vocational calling to work in The Lord's schools. Tap into this outstanding resource. Our teachers are here for you and your child and are exceptional practitioners.

## **Catholic Pastoral Communities**

### **CODE OF CONDUCT**

I invite everyone to view our Codes of Conduct (students and parents). These documents pertain to all who enter our school and govern our behaviours whilst on school grounds. They are an ongoing document that will be reviewed and updated as the years progresses. The purpose of the Code of Conducts is to provide students and staff with the right to work in a secure and orderly environment and parents the right to expect that their children will be educated in an environment in which the principle of care, courtesy and respect for the rights of other are valued. Please refer to the Code of Conducts which can be accessed via the school website or from the signs located around the school. In line with our Code of Conduct for Parents we also have Code of Conduct for our students. Teachers review these codes and their content on a regular basis with the students.

I have been working in Catholic Education since the 1980's, a little-known fact I seldom acknowledge publicly. But as you can see, I have many years of experience in the field of education and the complexities of schools. I can firmly attest that if you ever have any questions, concerns, observations or are seeking clarification and/or explanation....you are always best asking the teacher directly and not seeking information from other sources. As tempting as it is to get online and endeavour to find information....as we all know....the internet is not always the best place to start or to even look. Often the other data sources are basing their data on second hand information, misconstrued ill-informed and misrepresentative of the facts. This is not always intentional and often driven by good intentions. But I can assure you, if you want the exact information required, go directly to the source. Which in most cases will be your class teachers. This circumnavigates the misinformation that may prevail elsewhere. Thank you to all families, parents and guardians who always do the right thing.

## **Accessible, Affordable and Sustainable**

### **HEALTH CARE CARD**

If you are a holder of a **Health Care Card** or **Pensioner Concession Card**, you are entitled to a discount on your school fees. An application form must be completed, and a copy of your current card supplied. Further information and application forms are available from the school office.

**Please supply this information to the school office by 17 February 2023.**

### **ABSENTEES**

A reminder if your child is absent from school, please email the school admin at:

[admin@stlawbal.wa.edu.au](mailto:admin@stlawbal.wa.edu.au) **AND the class teacher** directly with the following information:

- Name of Student
- Year/Class
- Date of absence
- Reason for absence
- Parent name

Seesaw is not the correct avenue for registering absentees.

### **SCHOOL UNIFORM PRICE INCREASE**

Due to an increase in manufacturers and suppliers' costs, there will a price increase to some uniform items as from 1 March 2023. We do not make a profit margin on the uniforms, but we must cover cost of the outlay. Up-dated price lists will be available on our website and school office.

Any queries, please contact Mrs Angie Miola, Uniform Shop Manager.

In closing, can I call for prayers for all families within our school community who may need them. I thank you all for your hard work in getting the children back to school so well prepared and fully equipped. All children are better able to focus and remain productive and gain the most benefits from their time at school if they are well rested, have had healthy and nutrition's meals and have all their correct equipment. This is helping to set our children up for success at school, and that is what we all want. Thank you.

God bless each and every one of you.



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



## PASTORAL CARE



*I extend, my heartfelt thoughts and prayers to all people across Western Australia. Recently we have all faced some challenging times. Some however have felt the full brunt of these challenges. May we all offer our prayers for the individuals truly suffering because of the COVID-19 impact also those affected by the recent fires. In these difficult times may our prayers be a sign of communion with all our fellow men and woman*

## HOME LEARNING TIP

### Active listening

Active listening is an important part of talking with your child and can encourage them to express how they are feeling. It helps them to feel that you understand what they are going through. Active listening involves the following steps:

**Stop** and give your child your full attention. This may involve moving away from a busy place where there are lots of other people. At a time when you cannot give your child your full attention (eg when caring for another child), let your child know that you want to listen and will give them your full attention after you finish. Prioritising time to listen actively to your child will help to show them that their feelings are important.

**Look** at your child. If possible, get down to their level to show them you are ready to listen.

**Listen** carefully to what is being said in words and through your child's body language without interrupting. Listening involves eye contact and nodding where appropriate.

**Reflect** the feeling. Use the opportunity to respond and gently describe what you think your child is feeling and why. This allows you to check if you have understood what your child is feeling.



*'Grammar' with Miss Fogliani and our Year Five students*

# FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

## PROJECT COMPASSION

Project Compassion is Caritas Australia's annual Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal. Millions of Australians come together in solidarity with the world's poor to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. Each family received a pamphlet and poster this week. Further information about Caritas and the projects they support can be found at <http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion>

## MERIT CERTIFICATES ASSEMBLY

On Friday 10 February the student leaders will present Merit Certificates to selected students from Pre Primary to Year 6 who have strived for personal excellence in the classroom and the playground. Parents are welcome to attend.

## PARENT-TEACHER COMMUNICATION

Good two-way communication between families and schools is necessary for your child's success. Research shows that the more parents and teachers share relevant information with each other about a student, the better equipped both will be to help that student achieve academically.

Avenues of communication are:

- The Weekly Newsletter
- Term Calendar
- School Website
- Parent Meetings
- Parent Interviews
- Emails
- Seesaw



**REMINDER**

## Children must not be on the school site prior to 8.15am.

Classroom teacher supervision begins at 8.30am when classrooms are opened. Children should arrive at school in good time so that they have ten minutes to prepare for the day, order lunches and unpack bags. Children should go immediately to their classroom when they arrive at school after 8.30am and not leave the classroom without the teacher's permission. Teacher supervision concludes at 3.15pm each day.

Children must not play games, use sport equipment or be on playground equipment before or after school.

## MORNING DROP OFF (Driver must stay in the car)

1. Vehicles are to enter the Netball Courts near the church and exit the netball courts near the school.  
**Drop Off:**
  - a. Enter via **IN** ramp.
  - b. Continue driving on the netball court to the far end outside Year 1 classroom.
  - c. **Drop off** passengers from lawn area in front of the Administration Block.
  - d. Depart via **OUT** ramp onto Albert Street.

## AFTERNOON PICKUP\_(Driver must stay in the car)

### 2. Pickup area for Families whose surname starts with A-K (Administration Pick Up)

- Enter via IN ramp – KEEP RIGHT.
- Continue driving on the netball court to the far end outside Year 1 classroom.
- Pick up passengers from in front of the Administration Block.
- Depart via OUT ramp onto Albert Street.

### 3. Pickup area for Families whose surname starts with L– Z (Church Pick Up)

- Enter via IN ramp – KEEP LEFT.
  - Continue UP the ramp to the oval level.
  - Proceed to the front of the church.
  - Pick up passengers from the lawn area.
  - Exit via driveway between the Church and the Alverna Centre.
- The speed limit within the carpark is 5-10km/hour**

### 4. Parents wishing to park or leave their vehicle:

- Enter via IN ramp.
- Park either against fence near church or in TWO rows in the middle of the Netball Courts. (Please minimise gaps in between cars so maximum number cars are able to be parked.)
- The netball area near the fence outside the Year 1 classroom must be left free for traffic flow.
- The driver must leave the vehicle as NO child is allowed onto the Netball court between 2.55pm – 3.30pm unless accompanied by an adult.

5. People who arrive early at St Lawrence (before 2.45pm) need to park their cars in the designated parking areas **AND NOT WAIT IN THE DRIVE THROUGH LANE**. This causes an unnecessary bank up of traffic, which then restricts access to the school grounds, blocks traffic on Albert Street and creates a “grid-lock” situation.

6. Avoid illegal acts such as double parking, parking on footpaths, or unsafe practices such as stopping in the traffic flow areas, which will endanger your child/children. Father has asked that parents refrain from parking near the front of the Church as parishioners who attend morning Mass need clear access.

7. Be on the alert for children who may not be looking for moving vehicles.

8. If your child is going home with another family, they are to wait with the children from that family.



### **Bicycles**

It is great to see more and more children riding their bicycles to school. On the recommendation of safety authorities, we have a policy that only children 10 years and above are permitted to ride to school without a supervising adult. Riders must wear an approved safety helmet and keep to the bike paths.

Bikes should be parked in the bike racks and chained for security and helmets secured to bikes. Children must walk bicycles in the school ground.

*Ms Kathleen Tranquille, Assistant Principal*



## NAPLAN 2023

The National Assessment Program- Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is a point in time assessment of literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in the annual tests in writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

Year 3 complete the writing assessment on paper- all the other assessments are completed via a secure online platform. NAPLAN Online will take place in Term 1 this year at the times below. NAPLAN information for parents and caregivers was sent home today via students in Years 3 and 5. The test dates for St Lawrence are:

Date	Tests
Wednesday 15 March	Y3 and Y5 Reading Test
Thursday 16 March	Y3 and Y5 Writing Test
Monday 20 March	Y3 and Y5 Conventions of Language test
Tuesday 21 March	Y3 and Y5 Numeracy Test

If you would like your child to have some practice answering the type of questions, they will be asked in the NAPLAN tests and using some of the tools available you can encourage them to use the public demonstration site at [nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site](http://nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site). For more information about NAPLAN visit [nap.edu.au](http://nap.edu.au).

*Mrs Gabrielle Brennan, Assistant Principal*



*'Heads down' – Our Year Two students at work!*

# LIBRARY NEWS

## WELCOME BACK!

It was lovely to welcome students back to the library this week and we were very excited to especially welcome the Kindy class today, for their very first library session where they were able to borrow a book for the week.

Just a reminder that Years 3,4,5,6 library day is a Tuesday and Kindy, Pre-Primary and Years 1&2 will borrow on a Wednesday. All students will require a library bag on their borrowing day or else they will not be able to borrow. Students also need to bring their books back on their respective days.

## ICE CREAM SUNDAE BAR



This year, when students bring their library books back on time they will receive a raffle ticket into the prize draw to attend the end of year Ice Cream Sundae Bar in the library. Students from Years 1-6 will be eligible to enter the draw. If a student is sick one week, they will automatically receive a ticket as we do not expect books to be returned if they are off ill. In term four we will draw 4 tickets from each year group to attend the Ice Cream Sundae Bar, which will take place on either a Tuesday or a Wednesday lunchtime. The date is yet to be determined but will be advised closer to the time. Students with allergies will be catered for separately.

## SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

Scholastic Book Club brochures have been sent home this week. **ORDERS ARE DUE BACK TUESDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY.**



Orders can be made online via the Loop system and paid by credit card, or the order forms can be returned in an envelope to school with the correct money. Please ensure that the envelopes are marked Book Club along with your child's name and year.

Please make sure that the details on the top of the order form are also completed, (child's name, year and a contact number). If you require any assistance, please feel free to come and see me in the library.

Book Club is always due back on the Tuesday of the following week. Unfortunately, we are unable to accept late orders.



We are looking for volunteers Tuesday - Friday to help in the library with the shelving of books or to assist with the book covering. If you are able to spare any time to assist with either of these, it would be greatly appreciated, even if you are only able to give 20 minutes of your time once a week, fortnight or month.

All training and materials will be provided. If you prefer to take books home to cover you are more than welcome. You can volunteer to cover books with plastic or contact, or both! Whatever you are comfortable with. Biscuits and a cuppa will also be provided. Please either come and see me in the library or email me on [louise.frenzel@cewa.edu.au](mailto:louise.frenzel@cewa.edu.au) if you are able to assist. Grandparents are also welcome!

*Ms Louise Frenzel, Library Officer*





**Our first play group session for 2023 will be on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February.**

Our sessions run from 8:40am - 10:30am in the kindy classroom.

Our **St Lawrence play group** is open to anyone in the community, so feel free to spread the word to your family and friends, the more the merrier!

We are looking forward to another great year of fun! Any enquiries can be made to [gillian.austin@cewa.edu.au](mailto:gillian.austin@cewa.edu.au).

*Mrs Gillian Austin, Play Group Facilitator*



*“Hi” from our 2023 Kindy class!*

# UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

## SUMMER UNIFORM

Please ensure that students in Year 1 to Year 6 are in correct summer uniform. (Please refer to uniform policy on website).

## YEAR 6 STUDENTS

Students in Year 6 may commence wearing Black Leavers Shirts on sports day and replace their yellow polo shirts. Please keep yellow polo shirts for a school event.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for all enquires or to place a uniform order. Please EMAIL me on [Angie.Miola@cewa.edu.au](mailto:Angie.Miola@cewa.edu.au).



*'Our well stocked' Uniform Shop*

## **Uniform Shop Opening Hours:**

**Wednesday 8.30am to 9.30am**

**Thursday 2.30pm to 3.30pm**

*Mrs Angie Miola, Uniform Shop Manager*

# CANTEEN NEWS

**Thank you to** the lovely people who have already offered their help this term.  
If you can help at any time, please text me on – 0408834774.

## Birthday Orders

The canteen can cater for your child's special day with the following for each student in the class:

- Cupcakes or M & M Cookies \$20
- Brownies (Dairy and egg free) or Icy Poles \$15

Please text orders at least a day in advance

## Ash Wednesday Special

- Fish Burger - with lettuce and Mayo \$5
- Fish fingers (5) \$4 add sauce extra 50c

Please note no other menu items on this day and the canteen will not be serving meat on this day.

*Christina & Fran*

# ASH WEDNESDAY LUNCH TIME SPECIAL

## 22nd February



Fish burger with lettuce \$5  
Or  
5 Fish fingers \$4  
Add Sauce 50cents

No other lunch time menu items will  
be available.

Recess items will be available as  
per normal

Please preorder by Wednesday 15th



PIC•COLLAGE

ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL



FRIDAY 17 FEB 2023 FROM 5:30 PM TO 7:30 PM



# RSVP

— PLEASE REPLY —

Please use link below:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScOi4D35JwAQXZKWjYkvgquKAA9R2JI06Va-DXlwHBSFgXOpQ/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScOi4D35JwAQXZKWjYkvgquKAA9R2JI06Va-DXlwHBSFgXOpQ/viewform?usp=sf_link)

## DONATIONS

Any donations are kindly requested. Please leave any donations at the school office. Thank you to those who have already donated and for your support.

*Mrs Natasha Raso, 2023 P&F President*