



Newsletter No. 7

22 May 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.

Our Lady Help of Christians

Feast of Mary, Help of Christians – Patroness of Australia – 24 May

Our Lady Help of Christians, along with St Mary MacKillop, is the patron saint of Australia. We need to turn to her constantly, but especially, when our freedoms are at risk.

This title is very significant as it sees Mary as an intercessor to help get us to heaven and watch over our wonderful country. Just as Australians in the past turned to Mary Help of Christians, so must we. It is good to look to the past to see how our forebearers have persevered in their faith during difficult times. The problems we face may be different, but the solution remains the same.

“Help of Christians, Guard this Land!”

Mary, Help of Christians

Father,

*You have given us Mary,
the mother of your Son, Jesus
to be our queen and mother.*

*With the support of her prayers may we come to
share in the glory of your children in the
kingdom of heaven.*

Amen



QUALITY CATHOLIC EDUCATION SCHOOL REVIEW

The Quality Catholic Education School Review (QCESR) provides an opportunity for a panel of educators, external to the school, to affirm, and report on the improvement journey at the school and the principal's leadership.

The QCESR Panel will be visiting our school in Week 9. As part of the process, they will meet with the Principal, Leadership Team, a selection of staff, a selection of students, our Parish Priest, and representatives from the Catholic School Advisory Council and P&F group.

SAFE PARKING

Parents who park on the Junior Oval, please be reminded that you need to exit your vehicle to collect your child. Children are not permitted to walk across the oval without a parent or guardian.

The children who are picked up through the drive through on the Junior Oval require a designated area where they can sit and wait to be picked up. Please do not park in the area marked by the red cones and flags in the photographs below. This is a safety hazard as children should not be sitting close to moving vehicles. Any parents parked in this area will be asked to move. There is space available on other parts of the oval.

The safety of your children is always our priority so please adhere to these procedures.

We thank you for your understanding.



God bless each and every one of you.



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

PASTORAL CARE

The Alexander family welcomed a new baby sister, Gabriella, for Oliver in Kindy. Congratulations & welcome to the world, Little One.



FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

CONFIRMATION

Congratulations to our Year 6 students who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday. All the children should be congratulated on their exemplary behaviour and reverence throughout the Ceremony and Mass. The responses to the questions Fr Vincent asked showed their depth of understanding of what it means to receive this Sacrament.

Confirmation is a sacrament of initiation and establishes recipients as fully-fledged members of the Catholic faith. The first sacrament of initiation is at Baptism, the children have now chosen to renew the promises made for them by their Godparents.



MONTH OF MAY

During the month of May we dedicate our prayers to Our Spiritual Mother Mary. Each year level has been taking turns leading the school in a decade of the Rosary on Friday afternoons at line-up. We will continue doing this every Friday throughout the month of May.

LIFELINK

The LifeLink organisation was established by the Archdiocese of Perth in 1994 to provide for the ongoing financial and promotional support of agencies established or assisted by the Church. LifeLink's agencies deliver professional services and support to thousands of people in need throughout Western Australia each year.

LifeLink Day 2024 will officially be launched on Wednesday 5 June.

LifeLink Day provides a wonderful opportunity for students attending Catholic schools within the Archdiocese of Perth, to join together to show their collective support for the many Church social service agencies – agencies which on behalf of us all, reach out to provide practical care and direct assistance to thousands of people in need within the community.

On **Wednesday 5 June** children will be permitted to wear free dress for a gold coin donation for the LifeLink agencies. On **Monday 10 June** a cake stall has been organised for students, staff and parents to buy yummy cakes, slices and biscuits. Money raised will also be donated to LifeLink.



Every year, all schools in Australia participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD). The NCCD process requires schools to identify information already available in the school about support provided to students. These relate to legislative requirements under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and the *Disability Standards for Education 2005*, in line with the *NCCD guidelines* (2019).

This information assists schools to:

- Formally recognise the support and adjustments provided to students with disability in schools.
- Consider how they can strengthen the support of students with disability in schools
- Develop shared practices so that they can review their learning programs in order to improve educational outcomes for students with disability.

To find out more about these matters, please refer to the [Australian Government's Privacy Policy](https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy) (<https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy>). Further information about the NCCD can be found on the [NCCD Portal](https://www.nccd.edu.au) (<https://www.nccd.edu.au>).

WHOLE SCHOOL MASS

On Friday the school will attend Mass for the Feast of Mary, Help of Christians – Patroness of Australia. This feast day has been celebrated in Australia since 1844. The infant church in Australia had a special reason for turning to Mary. No priests were sent to the colony in its early days. It was largely the Rosary in those early days that kept faith alive. Parents are welcome to join us for Mass on this day.



Monday 3 June – WA Day Public holiday

Tuesday 4 June – Student Free Day

Friday 7 June – Yr 4 Assembly

Thursday 13 June – Pre Kindy School Photos

Friday 14 June – K to Yr 6 School Photos

Friday 28 June – End of Term 2

Mrs Gabrielle Brennan & Ms Kathleen Tranquille
Assistant Principals

SCHOOL NEWS

PRE KINDY

Last week, Pre-Kindy welcomed a special guest: Milo the Labrador, the beloved pet of Mrs Wake! Milo's visit wasn't just for cuddles – he had an important lesson to teach about staying safe.

Guided by Mrs. Wake, Milo demonstrated the importance of understanding personal space and how to interact safely with animals. With his wagging tail and friendly demeanour, Milo showed the children how to approach a dog calmly and gently, always asking for permission before touching someone's pet.

I thank Milo for his positive impact on our little ones, and I do anticipate more valuable lessons from our furry friend in the future!



PRE PRIMARY

The Pre-Primary children have been buzzing with excitement, learning all about bees. Last Monday, 20 May, they celebrated 'World Bee Day,' highlighting the importance and value of bees in our environment.



YEAR SIX – GREEN THUMBS

We are the Year Six gardeners. Every Wednesday we go to our garden to weed, fertilise the plants, put in new seeds and pull out the vegetables that are ready for harvesting. At the moment, we have planted coz lettuce, beetroot, broccolini, and silverbeet.

We received some seed potatoes which we are planting today. When we go to the garden on Wednesdays, we enjoy watering the plants and fertilising them. We love to watch them grow green and tasty! Even though we find different creatures in our plants, we still work hard to make sure they grow strong. We hope to see the plants are healthy and beautiful at harvest time!

Joanna and Nimisha



LIBRARY NEWS

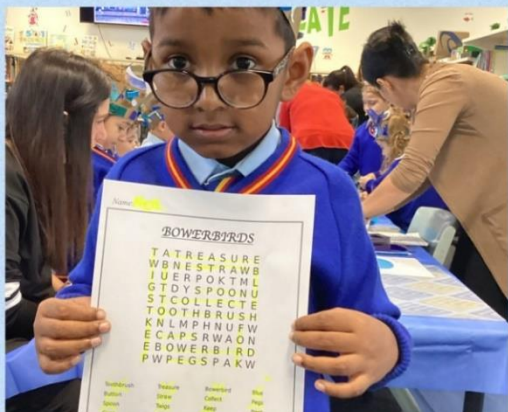
NATIONAL SIMULTANEOUS STORYTIME



This morning our Year One class joined more than 2.2 million other participants, at more than 60,000 locations across Australia and New Zealand to share this year's book, *Bowerbird Blues*, by author/illustrator Aura Parker.

The Year Ones looked magnificent in the Bowerbird crowns they had made. After we shared the story, they were able to take part in several Bowerbird activities including making pop stick bowerbirds and rocking bowerbirds, word searches, look & find and bowerbird colouring in.

A very big thank you to our Guest Reader, Mrs Austin, who shared the story with our Year Ones along with Mrs Carnevali and Mrs Mattioli who all helped to make this event so special for our students. We would also like to thank the parents, grandparents and carers that were able to join us this morning.





PIC•COLLAGE

PIC•COLLAGE



PIC•COLLAGE

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

Scholastic Book Club brochures have gone home this week. All Book Club orders earn the school rewards, which go towards purchasing valuable resources for our students. Orders can be done either online via LOOP or can be returned to the school in an envelope marked Book Club, with the student's name and year level, clearly marked on the front of the envelope. If returning orders to school, please make sure that all details are completed on the order form along with a contact number.

Orders for this issue are due back Tuesday 28 May.

****Please note that all orders are always due back by 3.30pm on the Tuesday of the following week****

Unfortunately, we are unable to accept late orders.

*Ms Louise Frenzel
Library Officer*

2025 FATHERING PROJECT CAMP



The Fathering Project Camp will be held on the weekend of March 14 & 15, 2025. Currently, there are a few spots left. If you are interested in joining in the fun, next year, please call or text Marcello on 0417 514 224 to organise full payment.

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

UNIFORM SHOP CLOSED

The uniform shop will be closed tomorrow - Thursday 23 May, 2024. Sorry for any inconvenience. If you need to purchase uniforms for your child this week, please leave an order with Lina in the office, where you will also be able to make payment.

**Uniform Shop Opening Hours:
Thursday 8.00am to 10.00am**

Enquiries: michelle.seragusana@cewa.edu.au

*Mrs Michelle Seragusana
Uniform Shop*

CANTEEN NEWS

A big **Thank You** to my helper on Friday 10 May – Andrea. You are a life saver! Much appreciated!

Birthday Orders: are available to order online -

Kindy Mini Cupcakes \$12

Icy Poles \$15

Brownies \$15

Cupcakes \$20

M & M Cookies \$20

Remember to order your special order at the same time as ordering your lunch as Quickcliq won't allow you to add on after you have submitted.

Any questions, please don't hesitate to ask,

Christina and Fran - Canteen Staff

P&F NEWS

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.

Mrs Natasha Raso, P&F President