



## Newsletter No. 12

21 August 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.



Anne Frank

*How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment  
before starting to improve the world.  
Amen*

### *Inspiring Christ-Centred Leaders.*

Recently I read an article pertaining to home/family/school partnerships and how to improve the educational experiences of our students. The author was discussing the characteristics of children who achieve well at school and one common thread was that they all seemed to have supportive parents. So, what characteristics do supportive parents have?

*“When I felt my son was not doing his best at school, I drew on my experience of these terrific parents to rethink what we could do as a family to support him. I realised I was inspired by these parents, and this is what struck me:*

- ✓ *They saw education as a partnership between school, home and their child. Everyone was equally responsible.*
- ✓ *They made it clear that education was a wonderful opportunity to be seized by the student.*
- ✓ *They believed that effort, self-discipline, listening and respect are key features of a receptive mind.*
- ✓ *They trusted and supported teachers and acknowledged their professionalism and expertise and sought their counsel.*
- ✓ *They displayed realistic expectations of their children's strengths and weaknesses and supported and resourced those.*
- ✓ *They focused on self-improvement in their child, not comparative worth in relation to others.*
- ✓ *They worked with their children supportively to ensure homework was completed, that their children were organised, well-rested and ready for learning.*
- ✓ *They addressed significant issues at school as respectful advocates for their children.*
- ✓ *They contributed to the school community through classroom support programs, by participating in festivals, creative pursuits, fetes, sporting teams and working bees."*



(Taken from Scribe Education Magazine)

Supportive parents create better chances for students to achieve. We can see from the above that students' parents who worked with the school in conjunction with the teachers, and who valued education and respected the expertise and professionalism of the staff, had a significant impact on the successful education of their children. If we all work together then we are all more likely to be moving positively in the right direction with improved achievement and happier children, parents, and staff.

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

Before posting anything online, people should ask themselves the following questions:

- Do I have the right to share this?
- Is this the right thing to do?
- Am I willing to take responsibility if this post goes viral or is shared without my permission?
- Will I regret this tomorrow when I'm not angry or upset?
- Is the risk worth the reward of 15 minutes of fame or shame?
- Am I ready for the social, emotional, verbal or legal battle that may ensue?

“Rated ‘R’ Social Media” by Daphne Donaldson in Education Week, April 14, 2019

The above serves as a gentle reminder for us all to be mindful of what we post online. This includes Facebook and other forms of social media. I am aware the temptation to place frustrations online, to put them out into the digital world can be a strong one. I am aware that sometimes venting our concerns may even make us feel better. However, it doesn't make it right, it does not make it the correct platform and it is not good modelling for our children. In fact, it is simply wrong. It can never

be justified as appropriate. If you have a concern or question or matter, you want addressing, please go directly to the teachers. The school affords all people this same dignity and I do not believe it inappropriate to expect anything less in return. A sincere thank you to all community members who genuinely follow the appropriate protocols. It is greatly appreciated.

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

This weekend we celebrate our Year Four Children's First Holy Communion. I wish to extend my sincere gratitude to all the staff who have supported our Year Four's. It is a wonderful time in the lives of our students as they come for the first time to receive Jesus fully in communion. I ask all members of our community to keep our communicants in your prayers.

**A reminder:** Our teachers work hard and spend a lot of time out of hours preparing for lessons, marking, moderating, and programming. As you can imagine, at any given time, numerous emails are sent to our teachers requiring a response. If the matter is not urgent, then I believe a 72 hour turn around is reasonable to expect, given the exceptional workloads placed upon our teachers. I also believe that it is not appropriate to expect a reply outside of working hours e.g., before 8:00am or after 5:00pm or over the weekends and during holiday periods. Our staff have the right to their own down time and time with their families and to maintain strong mental health and rest and recuperation is required. The new EBA also ensures teachers have the right to disconnect. Thank you for understanding this matter, and I feel sure you totally understand the importance of respecting our staff's out of hours' time.

I have a great job! I work with a team of outstanding professionals who are deep thinkers and really strive to enhance the educational experiences of our children. I don't know how many people truly love their jobs, but I know I do mine. Yes, there are days when I ask myself, "Why me?" but they are few and they are needed, to help me appreciate the days when I am in awe of how the Lord has blessed me to be here at St Lawrence. Every day the children remind me of the true joys of life. To see the world from a child's view, often helps an adult to greater appreciate the real joys this world has to offer. The way children see the world, the clouds that move in the sky, or the invisible wind that moves the trees, colours found in flowers or the tadpoles that swim in the ponds. The child sees these as gifts, appreciates their beauty, and inquires as to why they exist. It is this child like innocence that we as adults often seem to lack. From time to time, we all need to get in touch with our inner child and reflect on the beauty that surrounds us and allow our minds to marvel in awe of all that is good.

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

**A reminder that children in Pre-Kindy, Kindy and Pre-Primary must be accompanied by an adult when dropped off and picked up. Older siblings are not permitted to stand in for the adult. This is a safety concern and I ask all parents and guardians to abide by this requirement.**

God bless each and every one of you.



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

## PASTORAL CARE



*We pray for our Boys and Girls in Year Four  
who have been preparing for their First Holy Communion.  
May their celebration of the Sacrament  
bring them ever closer to Our Lord.*



*Amen*

## FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

### ST LAWRENCE FEAST DAY

St Lawrence Feast Day was a resounding success, filled with joy. Students spent the morning meeting with their buddies to engage in various fun-filled activities. The day continued with a beautiful Mass bringing our school community together in prayer and reflection.

After Mass, the excitement continued with our much-anticipated fete. Stalls were set up throughout the school, offering something for everyone to enjoy. We are thrilled to announce that through the generosity of our families and the hard work of our community, we raised an impressive \$1882.75. This significant amount will be donated to the Kora Child-Care Centre, run by the Servite Sisters to support the work they do in the local community. We are incredibly proud of our small school for coming together to make such a large impact,

*A heartfelt thank you to all our families for your contributions. Your support and enthusiasm made this day truly special.*

### SACRAMENT OF EUCHARIST

May we continue to keep our Year 4 students in our prayers as they receive the Sacrament of Eucharist for the very first time this weekend, on Saturday at 4pm. Thank you to Ms Kathleen Tranquille, Mrs Claire Major, Fr Adam and our Year 4 parents and guardians for preparing the students for this special occasion.



*May Christ bless and guide them during this special time.*

### PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Parent Teacher Interviews will be held over two days in week 8: Tuesday 3 September and Wednesday 4 September. On both days, meetings will be held from 3.00 – 5.30pm. Kindy to Yr 2 meetings will be held in the Learning Centre. Parents will need to wait in the Undercover area. Years 3 – 6 meetings will be held in the library. Parents will need to wait outside the library on the veranda. A bell will signal the end of each ten-minute meeting. These interviews form an important part of our Reporting Policy and are an essential component in developing open communication between home and school. An email, with a link, will be sent out to enable parents to book an interview.

## WELLNESS WEEK

Week 6 each term is dedicated to Wellness. This week our students have been actively participating in various events to support their mental, physical and emotional well-being. It has been wonderful to see them engaged in a wide range of activities, including daily fitness sessions led by our wonderful Year 6 leaders. The staff recognised Wellness Week by participating in a Gnocchi making masterclass, expertly lead by our Term 3 Wellness Staff Team. It was a fun and collaborative experience, and everyone enjoyed taking home their culinary creations.



## FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST

It is that time of year when we acknowledge and thank the wonderful fathers and father figures in our lives. To celebrate this special day, our students will share breakfast with the special men in their lives on Friday at 7.30am. Thank you to our wonderful P&F for organising this event. We wish all our Fathers and Father figures a wonderful Father's Day, celebrating their special day.



*Mrs Gabrielle Brennan & Ms Kathleen Tranquille  
Assistant Principals*

# LIBRARY NEWS

## BOOK WEEK – *Reading is Magic*

What a marvellous start we have had to our Book Week celebrations. On Tuesday morning the hall was converted into a den of cosiness as we gathered together as a school for our main Book Week event, DEAR Buddy, (Drop Everything and Read with your Buddy). Students looked comfy and cosy as they came in their pyjamas, some with blankets and read with their buddies. It was lovely to see both older and younger buddies sharing books and reading to each other.

We were also treated to a special, though short, performance by “Frenzali the Fabulous” who surprised everyone with her magical skills as she pulled her pet rabbit, Rolly, from her magician’s hat.

Special magical activities were offered to students during their library sessions and lunchtime. During lunchtime they were able to decorate their own bunny to pull from a magician’s hat.

Thank you to all parents and caregivers for your support in this very important event in the library calendar.



## BOOK WEEK COMPETITIONS

All Book Week competitions have now closed and we thank everyone who has entered one or all the competitions. Winners will be announced in week eight after blind judging has taken place.

We have received some wonderful entries into our Potato Book Character competition, so well done to the children that have put time and effort into their entries, they should be very proud.

Please note, some potatoes have reacted with the paint they were painted with, which has caused them to start to go squishy or ooze. These potatoes have had photos taken of them so that they can still be entered into the competition. Please rest assured that their entry will not be compromised in any way and are still valid.

## SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

Scholastic Book Club brochures have gone home this week. Should you wish to place an order for your child/children, this can be done either online via the LOOP system or by returning the order form to school with cash, in an envelope, marked with your child's name and year level.

***\*\*\*All orders need to be placed by 3.30pm Tuesday 27 August.  
Unfortunately, we are unable to accept late orders\*\*\****

## SECOND HAND BOOK SALE

The Library will be converted into a second hand book store, next week, where students will be able to purchase discarded library books for 20 cents each. Books will be on sale before school, at lunchtime and after school on both Tuesday and Wednesday. Kindy and Pre Primary students are welcome to attend with their parent/caregiver either before or after school on these two days. Please ensure children are not sent with notes larger than \$5 as we may have insufficient change to give.

All funds raised will be donated to the Kora Child Care Centre.

*Ms Louise Frenzel  
Library Officer*

## SPORTS NEWS

### ATHLETICS CARNIVAL 2024

As I am sure that you are all aware the **St Lawrence Athletics Faction Carnival** is due to take place this year on **Friday 13 September**. All students from Kindy to Year 6 will participate in this event. The children in PP to Year 6 will be expected to wear their faction coloured T – shirt, hats and their red sports shorts or skorts on this day. The students have been training very hard during lessons and at lunchtime with the year 6 students and are all very excited.

Prior to the carnival, some events will take place during sport lessons. If your child is absent on Tuesdays or Thursdays, they may unfortunately miss these events, even if they are meant to be participating. Unfortunately, in this situation, another student will be selected to compete. This does not exclude them from Inter school selection.

The **NECPSA Inter School Athletics Carnival** is scheduled for **Wednesday 30 October** at HBF Stadium.

## CROSS COUNTRY

Congratulations to all students who participated in the St Lawrence Cross Country Carnival. I was very impressed with the amount of effort that students put into their events and representing their faction, to the best of their ability. Every point counts and I am very pleased to say that this year the Green faction were able to amass the most amount of points. Great job!

The NECPSA Cross Country Carnival is scheduled to take place on Friday 30 August at Yokine Reserve. Good luck to all competitors!

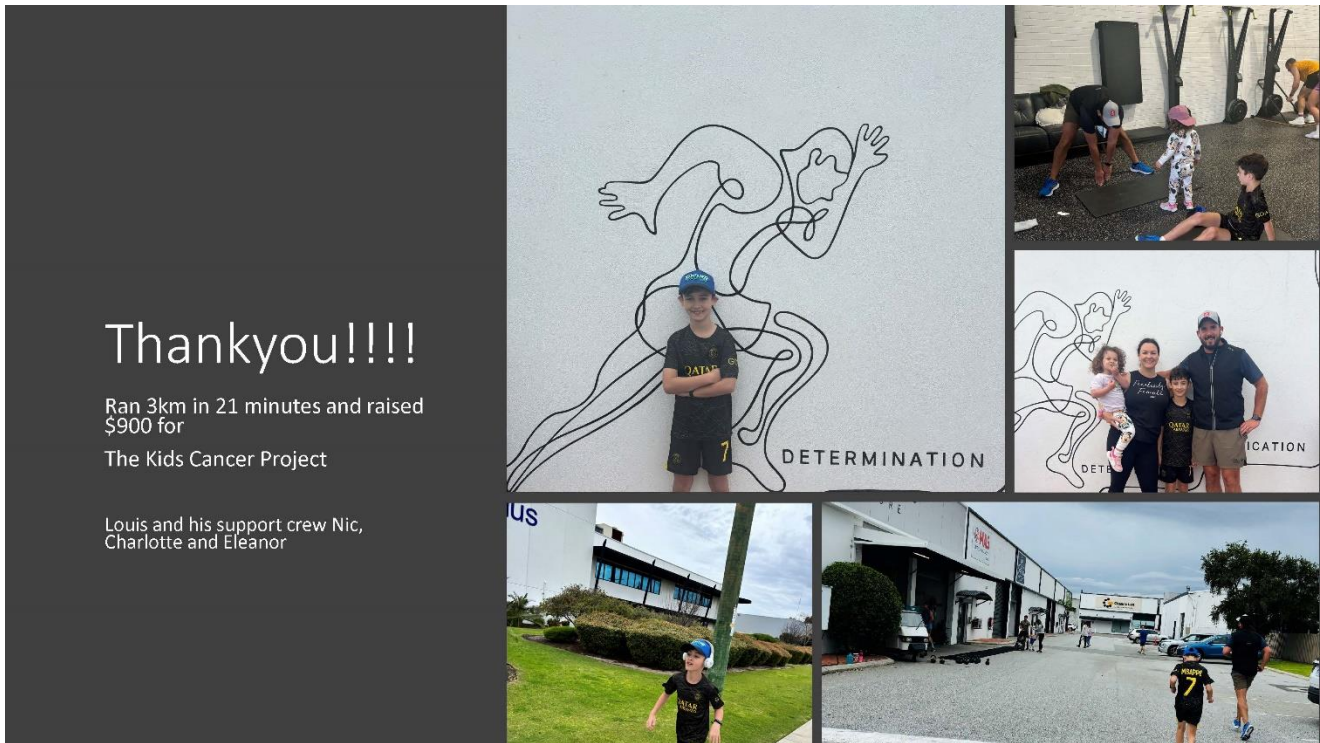


*Mrs Claire Major  
Physical Education Teacher*



## CLASS NEWS

**Year 4** – Congratulations to Louis for completing a 3km run and raising \$900 for The Kids Cancer Project. You are a champion, Louis. Well done!!



## CANTEEN NEWS

### LUNCH ORDER CHANGES

#### Monday & Tuesday Orders

The ordering of **Monday and Tuesday lunch orders** has changed. We have sourced an alternate supplier - Locavora.

For any lunch orders for Monday's and Tuesday's, please place your online order via, <https://schools.locavora.com.au/my-account/>

Full details are available via our school website, <https://www.stlawbal.wa.edu.au/community/school-canteen>

#### Wednesday, Thursday & Friday Orders

Our onsite locally run Canteen remains available for all your recess and lunch order requirements, as normal, for all orders for **Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday**.

Your orders can be placed in person, class baskets or online via <https://www.quickcliq.com.au/>  
There are no changes to orders for these days.

**IMPORTANT  
INFORMATION**

## ENTERTAINMENT BOOK OFFER

*Purchase an Entertainment Membership - Just in Time for Father's Day! 🎁*

*Support our fundraiser and get incredible rewards! Purchase a Single City Membership today for just \$70, and you'll receive:*


- 🎁 *A \$20 Activ Visa eGift Card – Yours instantly with any membership purchase!*
- 🎁 *FREE Multi City Upgrade – Access offers across Australia, New Zealand, and Bali!*
- 🎁 *Up to 50% off dining, shopping, travel, and more for 12 months!*

*But that's not all! Your membership will also:*


- 🎁 *Contribute 20% directly to our school's fundraising*
- 🎁 *Entry into Entertainment's 30th Birthday Competition*
- 🎁 *Unlock everyday savings with up to 10% off Gift Cards, exclusive travel deals, and more!*

*Hurry, this offer is only available until Monday, 2nd September!*

*Order Here - <https://subscribe.entertainment.com.au/fundraiser/861i18>*

WE ARE FUNDRAISING WITH  


## Bonus \$20 Activ Visa eGift Card & Multi City Upgrade\*

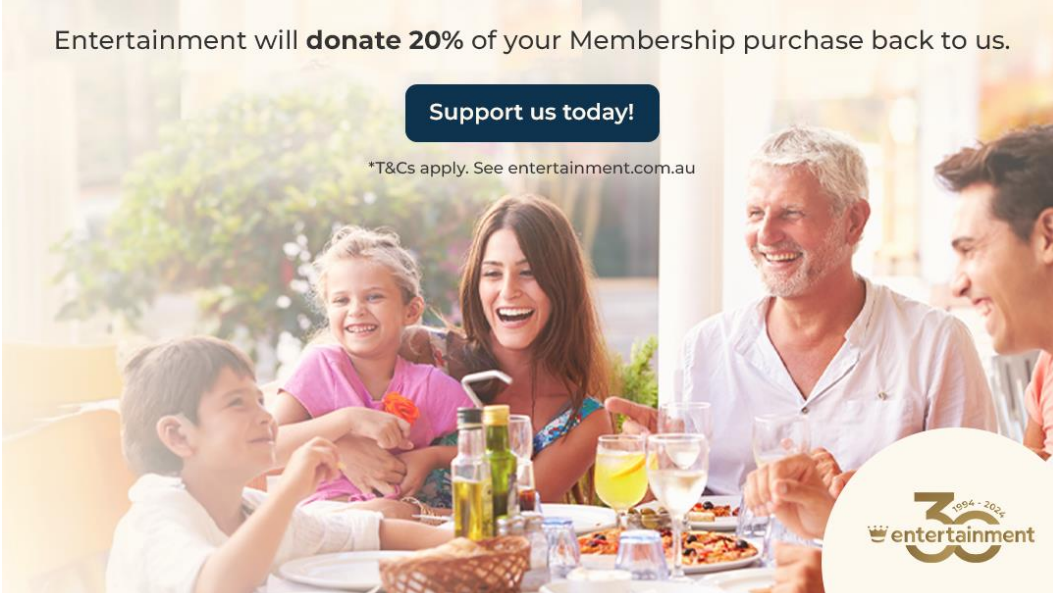



Just in time for Father's Day

Entertainment will **donate 20%** of your Membership purchase back to us.

**Support us today!**

\*T&Cs apply. See [entertainment.com.au](https://entertainment.com.au)





## FATHER'S DAY

The Father's Day breakfast will be held this Friday 23 August at 7:30am. Please bring coins for the raffle. Breakfast will be provided. Coffee is available for purchase.

Father's Day Gift Stall will be held on Friday 30 August. Children to bring in \$5 for their pre-selected gift.



*Mrs Natasha Raso, P&F President*

## COMMUNITY NEWS

On Friday, 30 August, our school will be celebrating Daffodil Day- the children will be allowed to wear something yellow for a gold coin donation.

On a personal note, I have been raising funds for cancer and plan to have my head shaved on this day, in front of the children, at a whole school assembly. This is a cause close to my heart as cancer has affected people very close to me, hence why I have made this decision.

More information can be found by accessing the following link <https://gofund.me/753ca646>. should you also wish to show your support. Many thanks.



HI, I'M TANIA!  
I'M SHAVING MY HAIR  
TO SPONSOR MY SON  
WHO IS RIDING IN THE  
MACA CANCER  
RIDE 200, 2024.  
PLEASE DONATE TODAY  
TO SUPPORT THIS  
WORTHY CAUSE!

Scan here to donate!

**UNITE. CELEBRATE. CONQUER.**  
SAT 12 & SUN 13 OCTOBER 2024

**CANCER200**  
RIDE FOR THE PERKINS

*Perkins*  
HARRY PERKINS INSTITUTE  
OF MEDICAL RESEARCH





Servite  
College

# Open Day



**Thursday 5 September**  
**Register at [servite.wa.edu.au](https://www.servite.wa.edu.au)**

Servite College Open Day - please click the link below for more information. Children are welcome to attend with their parents, and morning tea is provided.

<https://www.servite.wa.edu.au/open-day/>