



Newsletter No. 11

7 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.

Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta, born Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu and commonly known as Mother Teresa of Calcutta, was an Albanian-born Indian Roman Catholic nun.

"By blood, I am Albanian. By citizenship, an Indian. By faith, I am a Catholic nun."

I often quote Mother Teresa in the newsletter, and that is simply because her wisdom, which was often reflected in her words, always provides me with great motivation and inspiration to be a better person. I am in awe of how one so humble could work so tirelessly for those among us who most need our service and support.

"The biggest disease today is not leprosy or tuberculosis, but rather the feeling of being unwanted."

Mother Teresa often spoke words like those above, the need for us all to be loved and to love. She called for all people to remove the great deficit of love found in our world. But she also clearly articulated that we should start first of all in our own homes and then to our own neighbours to remove the loneliness and to provide the love.

"The hunger for love is much more difficult to remove than the hunger for bread."

Let each and every one of us strive to remove the loneliness of someone around us, to reach out and provide love to someone in our own community who is longing to know that someone else cares.

Inspiring Christ-Centred Leaders.

School Leadership has a significant impact in fostering student achievement. The impact of leadership is greatest where it is focused on improving teaching and learning and is amplified when responsibilities for leading teaching and learning are widely distributed across the school (AITSL 2018; Robinson et al. 2009, p. 40; Waters et al. 2003, p. 3). At St Lawrence, we embrace the Instructional Leadership model as our preferred model for school leadership.

Instructional leadership is a form of school leadership that places teaching and learning at the forefront of school decision making (Andrews et al. 1991, p. 97; Gumus et al. 2018, p. 29). It is an overarching orientation that gives structure to a school's direction, evidenced by core leadership practices and skills that support teaching and student outcomes, and drive school improvement and sustained success (Hallinger & Murphy 1985).



Promoting professional development is an instructional leadership practice strongly linked to student outcomes (Robinson et al. 2008, p. 663; Tan et al. 2020, p. 13). Professional development is tailored to address teachers' needs and changing practice (Duke 1982, p. 4). Instructional leaders not only outsource professional development opportunities for staff development, but lead in-service training, ensuring professional development is closely linked to school goals and relevantly structured to groups and individuals (Hallinger & Murphy 1985, p. 223). This is another area where leaders achieve line of sight on the conditions required for improvements in student learning, and where they can support and implement changes to class organisation, resourcing, and assessment, working collaboratively with teachers (Robinson et al. 2009, p. 42; Timperley et al. 2007, p. 220).

Our PLCs, Staff Meetings, Data Wall Meetings, and Visits by Leadership to watch lessons and feedback, align our practices e.g. Talk For Writing and LES. Input from specialised CEWA Consultants, together with our School Support Consultants, direct our Professional Development days. The ongoing support and hard work of our Assistant Principals, ensures data is shared and drives our agenda, and spending time enhancing and coaching staff is also of significant importance. Staff must all have a Growth Plan and Programme Meeting with Leadership, which takes place regularly.

Instructional leaders focus more on students. They're concerned with the teacher's and the school's impact on student learning and instructional issues, conducting classroom observations, ensuring professional development that enhances student learning, communicating high academic standards, and ensuring that all school environments are conducive to learning. – Hattie 2015. I share this with you, so we all have a clear understanding of the high quality of support staff are given in enhancing their pedagogical practice and ensuring our boys and girls have the best opportunities to flourish.

This has been a focus of Leadership and we are reaping the benefits. When I see our student's data, eg our 2023 NAPLAN is extremely pleasing. This is because of the outstanding teacher practice and the support given to enhance this practice here at St Lawrence. The outcome of which is improved student performance, which we are seeing across all areas in our data. I thank all staff who embrace the support and work diligently to always reflect on our pedagogical practice and how to be on the continual cycle of implement, review and improve.

As your principal and a member of your Leadership Team, I can honestly say **Well Done!** To each and every one of you who has continued your professional growth and development and who have supported and embraced the changes implemented. We now continue to see the impact in our students' outcomes.

Catholic Schools of Excellence.

Added to this is the level of pastoral care given and the embracing of our Bishops' Mandate, under which we all operate and are obliged to fulfil.

A GOOD SCHOOL 19. For a school to be Catholic, it must first be a good school. Otherwise it will be unable to fulfil its mission.³⁵ With many other education traditions, the Catholic school's concept of education will be:³⁶ ...the development of (students) from within, freeing them from that conditioning which would prevent them from becoming fully integrated human beings. The school must begin from the principle that its educational program is intentionally directed to the growth of the whole person.

The Bishops are clear in their mandate that we must aspire to be a "Good School" to be a Catholic School. I believe St Lawrence to be just that ...and it is my duty as Principal and the work of The Leadership Team to ensure we are not only a Good School.... but a Great School. Once again, I thank all the staff for their hard work and great effort, the boys and girls for always trying for their personal best and to the families who support us and the work we do.

Catholic Pastoral Communities

This week we celebrate our Saints special Feast Day. Friday we will attend Mass for St Lawrence and then the school will open for a number of shared activities, including lunch and a mini fete.

St Lawrence has long been one of the most loved and inspiring Saints of the Catholic Church. His love and dedication to the poor, and sense of humour, made him very popular throughout history. His earthly journey ended in a rather tragic manner, however, this also reflected his great love for others.

May we all here at St Lawrence Primary School, remember with love and adoration, Saint Lawrence, and strive to continue his good works today.



Accessible, Affordable and Sustainable.

School Education Act 1999

An Act to make provision —

- ***for education in school or by home education with education, training and employment alternatives at the senior secondary level;***
- ***for the establishment and operation of government schools and for parent and community involvement in school affairs;***
- ***for the registration of non-government schools and the funding of such schools;***
- ***for the registration of community kindergartens; and***
- ***for administrative responsibilities for school education; to repeal the Education Act 1928 and consequentially amend certain other Acts, and to make related provisions.***

Under the School Education Act of 1999, Children must attend school during the times of operation of the school, for the duration of the hours of instruction.

When enrolment is compulsory (1) A child is to be enrolled in an educational programme for each year of the compulsory education period for that child.

What constitutes participation

(1) A child is taken to be participating in a course for the purposes of this Subdivision if the child-

(a) is enrolled in the course with the relevant provider; and

(b) is complying with — (i) the provider's requirements about physically attending, at particular times, the provider's premises or another place for the purposes of each such course; (ii) in the case of a course of distance education, the provider's requirements about completing and returning the assigned work for the course; or (iii) in the case of any other external course, the provider's requirements about communicating with or contacting the provider for the purpose of participating in the course.

Parents and guardians acting under The School Education Act of 1999 must ensure their children are at school for the assigned times. Coming late does not fulfil this requirement. When children are late, they potentially miss out on significant information needed for learning. This can potentially impact a child's learning in a negative manner.

I have noticed a significant number of children are coming to school late. I do appreciate the cooler weather and the difficulties of getting a number of children ready on time and how little babies also need special attention. However, we also have a lawful duty to our children to be on time.

In closing, can I say a huge thank you to everyone for their continued efforts to prepare the children for their learning and your commitment to working hard in our wonderful school.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work of all to remain focused on learning and sports training. Despite the winter weather and associated colds and flus, most of our students are approaching their nightly reading and homework with a consistent effort and enthusiastic dedication. Congratulations to all our students and keep up the good work!!!!!!

God bless each and every one of you.



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

PASTORAL CARE

Our deepest condolences to the **Oswald** (Chase Yr 2), **Smoje** (Amelia Yr 2, Mattea PP), and **Kadamani** (Ava Yr 3, Zara PP) families on the loss of your family's loved one.
May their souls rest in peace.

**Eternal rest grant unto Them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon Them.
May Their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen.**



FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

ST LAWRENCE FEAST DAY

The school will be celebrating St Lawrence Feast Day on **Friday 9 August**. The Feast Day is not only an opportunity to celebrate our Patron Saint, but also an opportunity to continue his work by donating funds to those most in need in our community. Money raised will be donated to the Kora Child Care Centre run by the Servite Sisters. Children will be participating in games and purchasing yummy goodies from our stalls.

Time	Scheduled events
9.00am	Buddy Time Children are permitted to wear free dress
10.25-10.50am	RECESS
11.00-12.00am	Whole School Mass
12.00-12.25pm	LUNCH provided by P&F
12.25-1.00pm	Outdoor play
1.00-2.00pm	Mini Fete- Parents are welcome to attend.
2.00-2.30pm	Clean Up
2.30-3.00pm	Pack up

PARISH FEAST DAY

The St Lawrence Feast Day celebrations will continue on Sunday 11 August at 8.30am. Families are welcome to attend.

YEAR SIX CAMP

On Wednesday **14 August**, our Year 6 students head off to camp for three days of fun and adventure. This camp will be something these students will remember forever. Students will be challenged to develop and foster a sense of belonging, community, cooperation, friendship and leadership. We know they will have a marvellous time and make some very special memories with their friends. We wish them well.

We sincerely thank Mr Haydon, Mrs Major, Mrs Austin and Mrs Seragusana for giving up their time, so that our students have this memorable experience.

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

On Thursday **15 August** is the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Students from Pre-Primary to Yr 6 will be attending the parish mass on Tuesday to celebrate this occasion at 9am.

SCIENCE WEEK

Science Week will be celebrated in week 5. The 2024 school theme is *Species Survival – More Than Just Sustainability*. Children will be participating in exciting Science activities throughout the week.

CATHOLIC DAY

Just a reminder that on Monday 19 August, students and teachers will have a day off to celebrate Catholic Day. School will re-commence on Tuesday.

FACTION SPORT UNIFORMS

Starting last week children were permitted to wear faction sport tops on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Faction t-shirts need to be purchased from **JFE - 1/85 Guthrie St, Osborne Park**, who is our school uniform supplier. Infringement notes will be issued to students wearing the incorrect school faction top.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Students in Year 4 will receive the Sacrament of Eucharist for the first time on Saturday 24 August at 4pm. This is a special occasion for them and their families. The students have been working hard and will attend Reconciliation on Tuesday 20 August to prepare themselves for this special occasion and a Retreat Day on Thursday 8 August. We pray that when they receive their First Holy Communion that they draw even closer to Jesus and that they always live as children of God.



FIRE DRILL

We held a fire drill today, at lunchtime, and the students were exceptional in their controlled and efficient way they proceeded to evacuate and line up in their classes to be counted. Well done, All!! Feedback from this exercise is mainly centred around parents. If you are on the premises to do a roster, you must sign in at the office, and more importantly, sign out at the office when you have finished. That way we are not looking for you, in case of fire. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



WELLNESS WEEK - 19 August to 23 August

*Ms Kathleen Tranquille & Mrs Gabrielle Brennan
Assistant Principals*

LIBRARY NEWS

THE OLYMPIC GAMES

The Library has been inundated with Potato Olympians these last three weeks and I have to say they are performing equally as well as our Olympians in Paris, if not better.

Kindy and Pre Primary enjoyed sharing in the Frog Olympics and we have had many frogs hopping through the library and school.

Year One's have been busy completing Potato Profiles and designing their Potato Olympians to be inducted into our Hall of Fame. They have also been designing their own Olympic medals.



BOOK WEEK

Book Week is fast approaching!! This year's theme is **Reading is Magic**. Our main event will be happening on Tuesday 20 August.

At St Lawrence, we only have a dress-up every second year so this year's celebration event will be a **DEAR Buddy activity**. DEAR Buddy stands for Drop Everything and Read with your Buddy.

It will take place in the school hall commencing at 9am. Staff and students are invited to wear their pyjamas to school on this day. Pyjamas need to be school and weather appropriate attire along with appropriate footwear, (no shoestring straps, no midriffs, leggings under shorts etc if they are not long, no thongs or slides will be permitted).

Students will be advised during upcoming library sessions of the event and of the dress standards required. Future reminders will also be placed in the newsletter.

*****Please note this will be a staff and student only event due to the hall capacity restrictions*****



BOOK WEEK COMPETITION AND LUNCHTIME ACTIVITIES

To follow on from our Potato Olympics and to coincide with Book Week, students will be able to enter our Potato Book Character competition.

Students will need to use a potato from home, (any type – Sebago, Royal Blue, Ruby Red, Sweet), and decorate it as a character from either a picture book or a fiction novel. Students can use whatever materials they like to decorate their Potato Book Character.

All potatoes must be submitted by Wednesday 21 August. They will then be anonymously judged by a panel of staff. Winners will be announced in week 8. There will be three age categories – Kindy/Pre Primary, Year One to Year Three, and Year Four to Year Six.

Good luck to everyone!

During Book Week there will also be special activities for students to take part in at lunchtime in the library. Years Four to Six are invited to join in the fun on Tuesday 20 August and Years One to Three are welcome to join in on Wednesday 21 August. Spots are limited.

*Ms Louise Frenzel
Library Office*

STEM NEWS

CEWA STEM SHOWCASE

On Wednesday, two of our Year 6 STEM Clubs attended this year's CEWA STEM Showcase as participants. Taking the bus ride to Chisholm Catholic College, Bedford, students shared their projects – Term 1's STEM Club "Privacy Screens" and Term 2's STEM Club "Frost Fusion Smoothie Bar" – Blurbs below:

Privacy Screens (Joanna, Leah, Nimisha, Kayla, Annika, Stella, Raymond, Tim & Zavier)

Sometimes at school we are required to change for swimming lesson weeks or dance concerts and whole school events where costumes may be required, like the end of year Christmas concert. We discussed how space in a school setting is limited and some people, even with other rules put into place, feel uncomfortable sharing changing space with others. So, what if we could offer schools the option of privacy screens? Compact, portable and affordable. We researched products already on the market and used that research to design a school-friendly product that might not only help events like these at our school, but in other schools too.

Frost Fusion (Tahlia, Mia, Layla, Katia, Milana, Lucca, Luke, Nicholas, Nikkola)

To give students a healthy and nutritious option at school and to increase well-being, we are planning on making and selling smoothies to the staff and students at our school. The intention is to offer this service termly during "wellness week" with the hope to make these available more regularly. After surveying all students at our school, we created three smoothie flavours and mapped out how this enterprise could work. The ultimate goal is for this to be sustained as part of the school culture and continued.

Miss Fogliani and Mrs Nyersh attended with the Year 5 class to view not only the wonderful STEM work from our school, but also from the 15+ schools that participated.

It was an amazing day of sharing, learning from industry leaders such as Chamber of Minerals & Energy and Australian Federal Police, and hearing from Br Ollie (Wheelchair for Kids), Lucy Sharp (Telstra Purple), Lucas Black (Scitech) and Giselle Davy (SANAZ Medical) who are doing amazing things in the STEM realm.

Our students did us proud and the day was a valuable experience for all who attended. Thank you to Mrs Austin who attended with our STEM Clubs, supporting them throughout the day.

*Mrs Stephanie Freeman
STEM Teacher*



ITALIAN NEWS

Buongiorno a tutti ! Hello everyone!

Recently students from Pre-Primary to Year 6 participated in the Italian Festival 2024 Primary School Student Competition organised by the Italo-Australian Welfare & Cultural Centre Inc. The theme was “L’ Oliva in Italia e in Australia 2024 “(“The Olive in Italy and in Australia”). Each year level had a different activity to complete in Italian.

Congratulations to Vivienne in Year 4 and Charlotte in Year 3 for being the State Winners in their year group. They both received a plaque, a gift voucher and a Winner Certificate.

Congratulations to all the 21 finalists in each year level including the Merit Certificate Winners:

Pre-Primary: Michelle, Nyra, Uri.
Year 1: Eva (Merit Certificate), Emily, Joseph.
Year 2: Leila (Merit Certificate), Hudson, Jameson.
Year 3: Charlotte (State Winner), April, Lola.
Year 4: Vivienne (State Winner), Ellie (Merit Certificate), Emilia.
Year 5: Gabriella, Isabel, Leonardo.
Year 6: Gabriel, Katia, Stella.

Bravissimi ragazzi ! Soon all the students who participated will receive a Certificate of Participation.

Grazie students for your wonderful work. We all learnt so much about “L’ Oliva in Italia e in Australia 2024 “ (“The Olive in Italy and in Australia”).

Buon lavoro for Term 3!



*Signora Jenny Acquarola
Italian Specialist Teacher*

CLASS NEWS

Pre Primary - The Pre-Primary class participated in a Hospital Familiarisation Incursion this week. They had lots of fun and now know there is nothing to worry about if they need to visit a hospital!



*Ms Paula Christensen
Pre Primary Teacher*

Year 1 - The Year 1's are buzzing as they embrace their new Olympic-themed classroom!

The students have been immersed in a variety of fun and engaging Olympic activities. The students have crafted their own Olympic Athletes out of alfoil and participated in their own 'Beanbag Olympics'.

Year 1 has also integrated a new PBS where students have the opportunity to earn mini gold medals for making good choices.



*Miss Natasha Galley
Yr 1 Student Teacher*

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.

FEAST DAY

On Friday 9 August we will celebrate St Lawrence Feast Day. As the P&F are providing lunch and a juice box for the students, the canteen will not be open for lunch. Recess will be as per normal.

BIRTHDAY ORDERS

If you are ordering for a birthday, please do so one day in advance and remember to order lunch at the same time as unfortunately, you can't add to it later on Quickcliq. Any questions please ask.

Thank you

Christina and Fran - Canteen Staff

FATHER'S DAY

Save the Date - The Father's Day breakfast will be held on Friday 23 August at 7:30am. Please see flyer attached. Formal invite will be sent soon.

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

ASSEMBLY AWARD WINNERS



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!

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SAT 12 & SUN 13 OCTOBER 2024

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