



eNews Term 1, Week 3 2024

Important Dates

Year 3 Prayer Service

Thursday 29 February 2024

School Photo Day

Friday 1 March 2024

Board Meeting

Monday 4 March 2024

Year 7 Aquatics Camp

Wednesday 6 March 2024

Year 2 Prayer Service

Friday 8 March 2024

Pupil Free Day

Tuesday 12 March 2024

St Joseph's Day

Tuesday 19 March 2024

Whole School Mass - Year 5

Wednesday 20 March 2024

School Board AGM

Monday 25 March 2024

Year 4 Prayer Service

Wednesday 27 March 2024

Good Friday - Public Holiday

Friday 29 March 2024

Easter Monday - Public Holiday

Monday 1 April 2024

Sports Day

Friday 5 April 2024

Term 1 Concludes

Friday 12 April 2024

From the Principal



Dear parents, carers, teachers, and students,

This week, on Wednesday, February 14th, we celebrated Ash Wednesday with Father Phillip Marshall. It was a special occasion that brought our school and parish community together.

A sincere thank you to all the parents, carers, relatives, and friends who joined us for Shrove Tuesday's pancakes and attended the Ash Wednesday Mass. Also, special recognition to the Year 6 students and our School Captains, were admirable in their roles.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a period of reflection and spiritual renewal.

As we begin our journey towards Easter and the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, let us make time to reflect upon that for which we are grateful and consider how we might focus more fully on making better choices and spreading kindness in our daily lives.



Special Guest

On Wednesday, February 14th, we were honoured to welcome Hon Blair Boyer, Minister for Education, Training and Skills, to St. Joseph's School. Minister Boyer visited several educational institutions in the area, and we were thrilled to be included in his itinerary.

Our student captain Charlotte Wise, served as an exceptional tour guide, showcasing the diverse range of resources and facilities available to our students.

This visit provided Minister Boyer with a valuable opportunity to connect directly with our school community and learn more about the unique learning environment we offer at St Joseph's School.



School Board and Annual General Meeting

Our next school board meeting is Monday, 4th March.

The School Board AGM will be held on Monday, 25th March, at 6.30 pm. Reports will be tabled at the beginning of the meeting, elections for new members will be held, and those elected will remain for the meeting.

We are also calling for nominations for the school board.

The school board does not require a huge commitment. It is two meetings each school term (6.30 - 8 pm, on a Monday evening). The school board is important in shaping policy and the school's future direction. It is a vital part of parent voice and is a great chance to meet other parents, offer ideas and discuss school planning. We are looking for people who can think strategically or provide insights into specific areas such as finance or marketing. If you would like to know more about the specific roles of office bearers on a school board, please refer to the following link: [School Board Responsibilities](#).

Please call Leesa Angove in the Administration office if you'd like further information about nominating for a position on the School Board in 2024-2025.

Nominations must be made before the AGM.

There is also some information about school boards at [School Boards](#).

Kindest regards,

Mrs Ros Oates
Principal

Reminder – COVID-19 and Illness Protocols

Students unwell with a cold, virus or COVID-19 are asked to remain at home until the acute symptoms (e.g. runny nose, sore throat, cough and fever) have cleared.

Families should notify the administration office if their child returns a positive COVID-19 test.

If our school observes that there have been five or more COVID-19-positive students across a seven-day period in a home class/room or connected with a school camp whether present in their infectious period or not, in that case, we will communicate to families to be alert to possible symptoms via a Seesaw letter.

Student Absences (Grades R-9)

To ensure your child's safety and accurate attendance records, please notify the school of any absence **by phone** before regular office hours (8:00 AM). You can reach us at **85342000**. If contacting outside of office hours, please leave a message stating your name, your child's name, their year-level class and reason for absence.

Our teachers verify electronic attendance rolls daily through the SEQTA system. If a student is marked absent without a documented reason, we will automatically send an SMS confirmation request to the registered parent/caregiver's mobile number. For extended absences, class teachers will personally follow up to ensure proper communication and support.

School Photo Day

Friday 1st March. The **photo orders will be taken via QR code** by MSP Photography, who have provided the following information:

To order school photos, please keep a look out for your photo form with the QR code containing your child's unique shoot key & remember these helpful tips:

- Use the unique shoot key provided on the handout to place your order online before the close date.
- If you would like family photos, please collect a form from the front office.
- Your child is not required to hand anything in on photo day.
- Please call our office if you require your order to be collected from the school's front office.

Should you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact MSP Photography.

email: admin.adelaidesouth@msp.com.au ph: 08 83913951

Meet and Greet Parent Information Meetings

Parent Information **meetings will be held in Week 6 (4th March – 7th March) for Reception – Year 6's families and in Week 7 (11th March – 14th March) for Year 7-9's.** These meetings provide an excellent opportunity for you to **connect with your child's teacher**, discuss their **progress and learning goals**, and explore ways to **support their academic success** at school.

At St Joseph's School, we believe in fostering **open, honest, and positive communication** with our families. **Parents and carers are integral partners** in our school community. Your involvement is crucial in supporting your child's academic journey and overall well-being. Information via Seesaw about registering a date and time with your child/ren's teacher/s will be forwarded in the coming weeks.

We understand that concerns and questions may arise before these scheduled meetings or throughout the school year. We encourage you to make prior appointments for **meetings** with your child's teacher if you have any specific questions, concerns, or challenges you wish to discuss. Our goal is to **address any issues promptly and effectively**, ensuring your child receives the support they need to thrive.

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Leader of Learning



My name is Meghan Rowland and in 2024 I am taking on a new role as Leader of Learning at St Joseph's. As part of my role, I will be sharing and updating our community on all things curriculum and learning.

St Joseph's is pleased to share an important enhancement to our Early Years curriculum – **InitialLit**. Beginning in 2024, this literacy-focused program is tailored for Reception through Year 2 students, offering targeted learning opportunities to strengthen foundational skills in reading and writing. InitialLit emphasises literacy development through evidence-based strategies, structured lessons, and small-group intervention. Our aim is to provide additional support to students who may benefit from targeted literacy instruction, ensuring each child has the tools to succeed in reading and writing. We look forward to witnessing the positive impact of InitialLit on our students' literacy skills.

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From the Classroom - Receptions

Reception Learners Dive into Pamela Allen's World of Imagination

As our Reception learners embarked on their school journey, they delved into the enchanting world of books through an immersive author study focused on Pamela Allen's captivating tales. Engaging with classics like "Mr McGee Goes to Sea," "Who Sank the Boat?" and "The Pear in the Pear Tree," these young learners embarked on a literary adventure filled with excitement and imagination.

Throughout the study, students actively participated in various hands-on activities tailored to enhance their literacy skills. They eagerly sequenced the narratives, sparking their comprehension abilities while developing a deeper understanding of story structure. They refined their handwriting skills, practicing the art of communication through written expression.

The exploration extended beyond the pages as learners channeled their creativity into crafting thematic projects inspired by the stories. From whimsical crafts to intricately designed book covers; these activities fostered artistic expression and reinforced the thematic elements of Allen's works.

As they immersed themselves in the world of Pamela Allen, these budding readers not only cultivated a love for literature but also laid a solid foundation for the upcoming InitialLit Program in English. Through the author study experience, they acquired essential literacy skills, ignited their imagination, and embarked on a lifelong journey of learning and discovery through the power of storytelling.



The Southern Cross



Here are links to the latest issue of [The Southern Cross](#) newsletter and the online edition of [The Southern Cross February 2024](#).

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Fish 'N' Chats 2024

Communities for Children Murraylands **FISH N CHATS** is on again delivered by Lyall from Centacare. If you have Children 12 years and under and have always wanted to try Fishing then Lyall will guide you through the process. All equipment is supplied.

Contact Centacare on 82 156347



Fish'n'Chats

Recreational fishing on the bank of the Murray River is a great way to relax and have fun. Come along with your child (0-12 yrs and family) and join in with this free activity.

Fishing equipment and bait supplied and coaching on the basics of fishing.

Wednesdays afternoon from 3.30pm till 5pm
Sturt Reserve. Murray Bridge

To Book and register please contact
Lyall at Centacare on 82156347



COMMUNITIES FOR CHILDREN

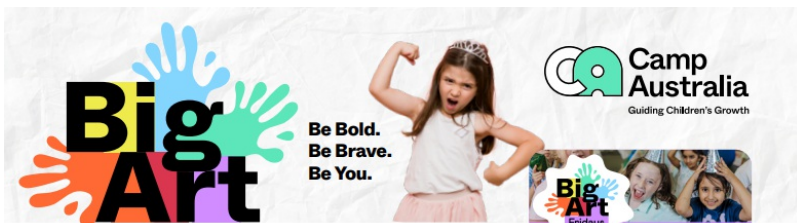


Centacare

Communities for Children Murraylands is facilitated by ac.care and funded by the Australian Government.

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Camp Australia - Big Art



Thanks to feedback from our families, children and educators, Big Art is back and bigger than ever. It's not just here for a week or two, but it's here to stay – giving your child the chance to explore their creative individuality every week.

Big Art is all about providing the ultimate platform for your child to unlock their potential and showcase their artistic talents.

In 2024, we are expanding our Big Art program to feature weekly **Big Art Fridays** in After School Care, as well as **Big Art Days** every holiday season and a termly **Big Art Competition**, creating unmatched opportunities for children to shine, grow, and be recognised in their communities.

Unlock your child's creative potential and add a splash of colour to their days with Big Art. Register with Camp Australia to stay up to date with everything happening in Big Art 2024!



On Fridays we pARTy!
Art-inspired activities every Friday in Your OSHC After School Care.



Adventures in creativity!
A full day of diverse art activities exclusive for Rocketeers holiday program.



Show the world your true colours!
Showcasing children's talents on a national stage with awesome prizes.

9 Feb to 1 Mar

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Sports Day

SPORTS DAY

Save the date!

April
5th
2024



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