



eNews Term 1, Week 5 2023

Important Dates

Term One Starts

Monday 30 January

Adelaide Cup Holiday

Monday 13 March

School Board AGM

Monday 27 March

Good Friday

Friday 7 April

Easter Sunday

Sunday 9 April

Term 1 Concludes

Friday 14 April

Term 2 Commences

Monday 1 May

School Closure Day (after Queen's Birthday)

Tuesday 13 June

Upcoming Events

School Photo Day

Date: Friday 17 March

Venue: St Joseph's School -
Murray Bridge

Religious Education Week 5



GRATITUDE

Last week was a busy week at St Joseph's school, not only did we have the hottest week of the year we also celebrated Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday marking the beginning of Lent. A big thanks to our parent volunteers who cooked and served pancakes to all our students and teachers: Amy, Katie, Lisa, Leah, Leanne, Leonie and Chalani.

Lent is a time to remember to reflect, pray and think of others and be reminded of what we should be grateful for. It is so easy for us to become 'bogged down' in our complaints and the things that are going wrong. How can we turn these complaints around so that we can focus on the wonderful things we are blessed with? How does a person develop a thankful heart? It begins with an attitude of gratitude.

I would like to share some ideas about gratitude from two articles I read recently that resonated with me. One was an article by Vinita Hampton Wright about how we can develop a habit of gratitude. She encourages honest thanksgiving and complaints in prayer as she shares some ideas for steps toward a habit of gratitude. She uses examples of some of the psalms from the Bible where they follow a simple structure, beginning with complaints and then ending with words of praise and trust. As Vinita says, "There is no magic formula – just some specific steps to take toward a habit of gratitude."

First, we begin with our complaint and be specific:

- "I take back every prayer for patience I've ever prayed! Heavenly Father, you have put so many exasperating people in my life – I don't want patience that badly. Can I be just somewhat patient and not have to deal with all these crazy relationships?"

Next, remember your history of grace:

- "I've been depressed before, and I've been helped by family, friends, therapists, and doctors.

Then, turn the complaints into requests:

- "Give me wisdom so that I can understand how much weight to give any particular conversation or event. Sometimes I panic and turn everything into a crisis. Or I feel that one person is taking advantage of me – so of course everyone else must be too."

Finally, turn on the thanks:

- "Thank you for the people who really care about me and who will support me through whatever happens."

The second article by Lisa Kelly says that St Ignatius encourages us to begin and end all things with gratitude. To feel really grateful we need to put ourselves in a place of realising that we are dependent on another, whether it was a cup of coffee made for you, or the deepest desire of our heart – someone beyond ourselves has just positively impacted us and made our life better. To really experience gratitude when you say "thank you," to someone there should be a feeling of relief or weight lifting off your shoulders. Finally, gratitude should always bring a sense of hope, of empowerment to take that next step and look to the future no matter how hard things may become.

Upcoming Prayer and Service Times

Event	Date	Time
Year 1 Prayer Service	9 March	9.30am
St Joseph's Day Mass	21 March	9.30am
Reception Prayer Service	23 March	9.15am

Year 4 Mass	29 March	9.30am
Year 2 Prayer Service	30 March	9.15am
Year 3 Prayer Service	5 April	TBC

Note: Community Prayer Service for 17 March cancelled due to NAPLAN

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From the Principal Week 5



Dear parents, carers, teachers and students,

Last week, the teachers made themselves available for Parent-Teacher Partnership Meetings because we believe communication between a parent/carer is vital, and the information shared can positively impact a child's learning and wellbeing. Further meetings will continue this week, but if you missed the opportunity, please get in touch with your child's teacher directly.



A big thank you to the parents/carers who gave up their valuable time to assist in preparing, cooking and serving our pancakes on Shrove Tuesday last week. We are pleased that the restrictions of the past are no longer in place, and we value having volunteers assisting staff and teachers in the school once again. Volunteers add to the quality of what we are able to offer at the school. The process for becoming an approved volunteer is as follows:

1. CESA police check or Working With Children Check
2. RAN training for volunteers

For more information on becoming a registered volunteer, please see Louise O'Neil in the front office.

CARS, PARKING AND CHILDREN

The safety of our children is paramount to the operation of any school, and where our children and cars share the same space, every care is needed. Recently we've had concerns raised by neighbours due to parents not paying attention to the parking signs or road rules about parking in driveways. We appeal to parents about parking on McHenry Street, kiss and drop, and Florence Street to drive and park

correctly. The council has been informed and will be quite vigilant in checking around our school in the future. I have already seen several police patrols before and after school.

TERM 1 NEWSLETTERS

This term we will be publishing newsletters in weeks 1, 3, 5, 7 & 9.

Kindest regards,

Mrs Ros Oates

Principal

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From the Deputy Principal Week 5



It is hard to believe that we are now five weeks into Term 1. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at St Joseph's, getting to know the Educators, Learners and Parent / Care Giver community.

Please continue to introduce yourself when you see me on Yard Duty in the morning or afternoons. I have found it very challenging, moving from a school, where I can greet every student and parent by name, to knowing very few. I plan to know every student's name by the end of Term 2.

On Wednesday 23 February, I was filled with joy to help celebrate the St Joseph's Ash Wednesday Prayer Service. I was very impressed with the live music, amazing choir and watching / learning from the students, all the actions to songs performed by Lynne Liebich and the Choir. Thank you, Deb Holland, for planning and leading us in this Prayer Service.

Jamie Mulcahy

Acting Deputy Principal

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A Great Start to 2023 in the Middle Years



This year, we welcomed 2 new teachers and approximately 25 new students across Years 7-9.

From 2023, our students spend the first 15mins of the day and the last 10mins of the day in vertical Pastoral Care House Groups (7-9), supported by a House Leader. The House Leader's role is to support the wellbeing of the students in that House and to be the primary contact for parents. House Leaders are supported by the new Leader of Middle Years (Wellbeing), Mr. Oscar Oliver-Dearman.

House Leaders

Edwards: Ms. Hundal

Crowley: Ms. Lamont

Mackillop: Ms. Schenscher (Mon, Wed-Fri) & Mr. Skinner (Tues)

Sturt: Mr. Oliver-Dearman

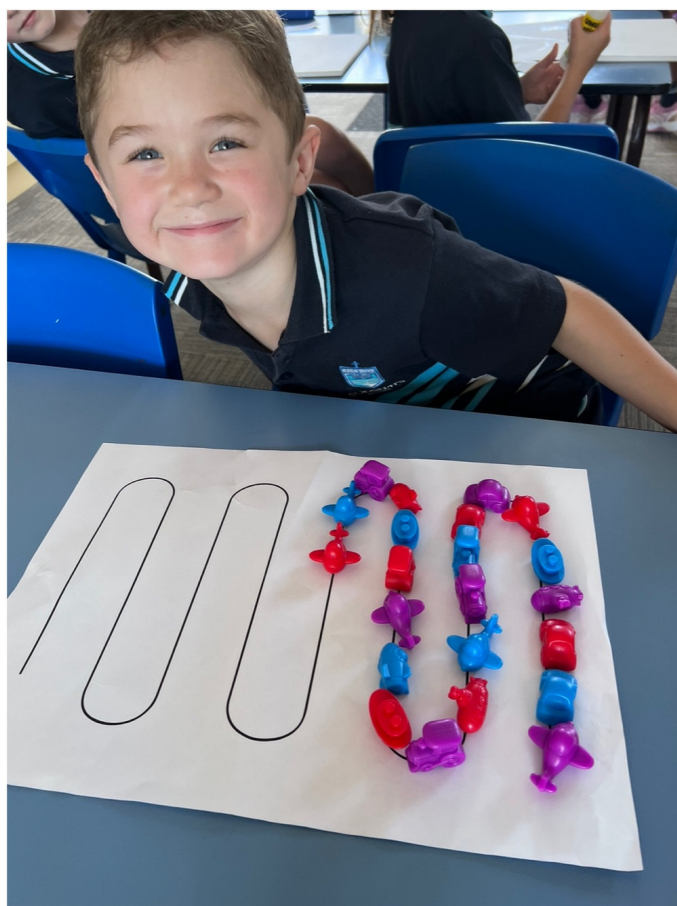
Students have also been busy learning to navigate their new timetables and engaging in new Curriculum offerings. It is lovely to hear our Year 9 students involved in learning how to play a musical instrument, Year 8 students, discussing how the Roman rule over Jerusalem, impacted the birth of Jesus and Year 7 students, excited when they gain Ongoing WH&S certificates for Science and Design Technologies.

This year, we have also initiated the handing in of mobile phones each day to the Middle Years Leaders. The phones are stored in shoe organisers, labelled with the student's name. As a thank you, last Friday the 12 students who have consistently handed in their phones were awarded a new Bluetooth mouse. In a few weeks more mice will be awarded to students who demonstrate other core values of the school.

Mrs. Annette Lamont

Leader of Middle Years-Curriculum

From the Classroom - Year One



During our first week of school, the Year 1 children explored their own strengths and interests and how they are unique and special to God. We created self portraits in Visual Arts to celebrate our uniqueness.

We have also been learning about the four seasons of the year and explored how they change the landscapes and the sky. We compared how Australia's seasons are different from other places in the world and discovered how the Ngarrindjeri people identify the seasons differently.

As part of our Numeracy learning, the Year 1 children explored patterns. The children identified the unit that repeats in a pattern and created their own patterns using shapes, our bodies and other manipulatives. We are now exploring how numbers can also create patterns which help us to count.

We are looking forward to more exciting learning opportunities during the remainder of Term One.

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School Photo Day 2023



School Photo Day is: **Friday 17th March** The **photo orders will be taken via email**, by MSP Photography who have provided the following information:

To order school photos please keep a look out for your email containing your child's unique shoot key & remember these helpful tips:

- Keep a look out for an email from MSP Photography – Check your junk folder
- Use the unique shoot key provided in the email to place your order online before the close date. If you have more than 1 student at the school you will also receive a FAMILY shoot key. Use this to order Family photos.
- Your child is not required to hand anything in on photo day.
- If you do not have an email address please collect a spare envelope from the school's front office.
- 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

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School Uniforms

It is pleasing to see over 90% of the students in their correct school uniform. Thank you. Parents are asked to communicate any difficulties with uniform ordering, purchasing or product quality via the school email address info@stjomb.catholic.edu.au

It is appreciated if families do not express their grievances on any school matter, especially uniforms, through social media. I remind families that working with Vinnies is the most cost effective and easiest way to access uniforms, and prices remain reasonable, if not below cost for the quality, due to Vinnies supporting the school as a non-profit organisation. Please see further information below.

PROCEDURES FOR ORDERING UNIFORMS

We have been working with Vinnies to help improve the process for our families to either book a uniform fitting order or place an order for the new uniform. This can now be done via scanning QR codes using a mobile device such as your mobile phone.

Book a Fitting

A reminder from Vinnies - 'Please book any future appointments online or they can call the store direct and we can book a fitting for the same day if needed, that way we won't get double booked and the parents won't be disappointed if asked to wait or come back at a later time.'

Please scan the QR code and make a booking for a suitable time. Opening hours at Vinnies in Murray Bridge are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:30 – 5:00 pm. Please call the store manager Rochelle on (08) 8532 6699 if you have any questions.

Place an Online Order

Other

Please scan the below QR code to be directed to the St Joseph's Murray Bridge - School Uniform online order form. Or visit <https://vinniesuniformshop.simplybook.me/v2#/book> Once you scan the code, you will be directed to the Vinnies Shop page and will need to scroll to the bottom of the page to locate the school's online uniform order form. There is also a link to the School's Uniform Price List as of 13 October. This is also attached in this week's newsletter.



Vinnies
Uniform Shop



Scan the QR code to book a uniform fitting.



<https://vinniesuniformshop.simplybook.me/v2#/book>

Events, Activities and Announcements

School Traffic Flow

Florence Street Road crossing monitors are back in action, as training was conducted recently. Families are reminded to drive slowly on Florence Street and McHenry Streets for both drop-off and pick-up. Please do not do a U-turn on the streets near the school crossings.

NAPLAN

New in 2023, NAPLAN Testing for students in Years 3, 5, 7 & 9 will be conducted in Term One. This assessment will be held in Weeks 7 and 8, 15-27 March, not the May date in previous years. Teachers will explain the process to students in relevant classes to ensure students are prepared for the testing environment. NAPLAN is a snapshot of learning at a particular time and is not the only form of assessment we gather to understand where our learners are in their learning cycle. Students in Years 3,5,7 & 9 will receive a Privacy Collection Notice this week.

School Card Eligibility

School Card is available to support families with a reduction in school fees:

- families with children aged four years and over who attend a school full-time

For more information, refer to the website: <https://www.sa.gov.au/topics/education-and-learning/financial-help-scholarships-and-grants/school-card-scheme>

Please do not hesitate to contact Carol Rowland – Business Manager, if you have any queries regarding the above.

Camp Australia and OSHC

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www.campastralia.com.au/careers



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The **South Cross News Update** is available online. You can read more [here](#). Or you can view the entire **February Edition** [here](#)

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Drum and Guitar Lessons



One-on-One tuition for drum and guitar is available at St Joseph's School on a weekly basis.

For more information on lessons and costs please contact Nathan Hill on 0448 426 946

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