



Important Dates

School Photo Day
Friday 1 March 2024

Board Meeting
Monday 4 March 2024

**Year 7 Aquatics
Camp**
Wednesday 6 March 2024

**Public Holiday -
Adelaide Cup**
Monday 11 March 2024

Pupil Free Day
Tuesday 12 March 2024

**NAPLAN - Years
3,5,7,9**
Wednesday 13 March 2024

**NAPLAN - Years
3,5,7,9**
Thursday 14 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

**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

Upcoming Events

School Photo Day

Date: Friday 1 March

Time: 8:30am

Venue: St Joseph's School -
Murray Bridge

Sports Day

Date: Friday 5 April

Time: 8:30am - 2:45pm

Venue: Homburg Oval -
Murray Bridge

From the Principal



Dear parents, carers, teachers, and students,

As we approach the halfway point of the term, the staff and I are pleased to see our students settled and engaged in their learning.

This week, the community received information about a survey to gather your valuable feedback on potential **additions** to the recently implemented St. Joseph's School Uniform Policy (introduced in 2021-22). See PDF below.



This survey **does not aim to change the current uniform items** approved by the School Board in late 2021. It is solely focused on exploring and evaluating **potential additions** while adhering to the **Catholic Education South Australia (CESA) School Uniform**

Policy (please refer to the attached document).

Your participation in this survey is crucial to ensure the draft St. Joseph's School Uniform Policy aligns with the needs and preferences of our community while complying with CESA regulations and best practices. It is important to note that our school uniform is unique to our community context and recognises the diverse nature of our student population.

We encourage you to participate and share your thoughts through the survey by **Monday, 4th March 2024**. The School Board aims to finalise St Joseph's School Uniform Policy and CESA requirements by the end of this Semester.

NAPLAN

In March, the annual National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests will take place in schools across Australia, including at St Joseph's School. NAPLAN is a literacy and numeracy assessment that students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sit each year.

NAPLAN assesses the literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through the school curriculum and allows parents/carers to see how their child is progressing against national proficiency standards. It is important to note that NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process. It does not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance, but it can provide teachers with additional information about students' educational progress.

All NAPLAN tests (except for Year 3 Writing) are now completed online. The online tests are designed to provide precise results and are engaging for students. The tests are tailored (or adaptive) which means that each test presents questions that may be more or less difficult depending on a student's responses. This helps students remain engaged with the assessment.

Please refer to the flyer below and email me at ros.oates@stjomb.catholic.edu.au if you would like more information about NAPLAN.

NAPLAN

National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy Information for parents and carers

- All students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in Australia do NAPLAN tests in March each year.
- NAPLAN tests students' skills in reading, writing and maths.
- The test questions are presented in Standard Australian English dialect.
- Students read some of the questions and listen to others with headphones.
- The tests will get easier or harder, depending on how students are going in the test.
- Students do four different tests. The names of the four tests are:



- Students in Year 3 will do the Writing test using pencil and paper. Year 3 students will answer the other test questions on the computer.
- Students in Years 5, 7 and 9 will answer all their test questions on computers.
- Teachers will help students get ready for NAPLAN tests.
- Schools will get their students' results. The school will then give parents/carers a report showing their own child's results.
- Parents/carers can talk to the teacher about these results.
- NAPLAN shows how students are going all over Australia. People who work in the Australian Government, state and territory education authorities and schools use NAPLAN results. The results let them see which schools are doing well and which schools might need help.

Talk to your teacher if you have any questions about your child doing the tests.
For more information on NAPLAN, visit nap.edu.au.

CESA Pulse Survey – Classroom Check-in

This week, all classes will participate in the CESA Pulse Survey. This survey emphasises the importance of your child's relationships, identity, belonging, and learning to their overall success and happiness at school. Students complete a brief check-in online survey each term to gauge their current feelings about their school experience.

This allows teachers to understand your child's specific needs and provide immediate support. While we acknowledge the ups and downs of school life, we prioritise fostering a supportive environment. Your child's teachers are committed to understanding their well-being and working with you to address any social, emotional, or learning needs.

Lent Activities



This term, our Religious Education classes are focusing on personal growth during Lent. Through discussions with peers and teachers, students are exploring ways to become better individuals.

Inspired by Caritas Australia's Project Compassion, which unites thousands of Australian schools in this annual campaign, our lessons delve into creating positive change for future generations. Families can learn more and get involved by visiting the Project Compassion website. <https://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion/>

Our ultimate goal is to nurture **thriving individuals, capable learners, and leaders** who contribute positively to the world. We believe these initiatives, including the Check-In, play a crucial role in supporting your child and achieving success in their future.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Kindest regards,

Mrs Ros Oates

Principal

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Reminders

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](#).

Meet and Greet Parent Information Meetings

Parent Partnerships Meetings (Parent/Teacher Interviews) will be held over the following dates:

Reception to Year 6 classes

Reception 4th March - Thursday 7th March and

Middle Years classes

Monday 11th March - Thursday 14th March

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.

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.

To make a booking with your child's class teacher please go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au, click on 'Make a Booking', enter the code **zdgjd** and follow the prompt or scan the QR code.



School Photo Day

This Friday 1st March. To order school photos, keep a look out for your photo form with the QR code containing your child's unique shoot key. If you would like family photos, please collect a form from the front office.

STUDENTS ARE ASKED TO WEAR THEIR SCHOOL SPORTS UNIFORM.

For family photos with students in Years 7-9, the students are welcome to bring their formal day uniform items to change into for these photos.

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From the Classroom - Year 1

On Friday of week 4, the year one classes participated in a football clinic. The clinic was run by the SANFL, and for many of our Junior Primary students, it was the first time they have had the opportunity to play football. The rain held off as students enjoyed playing games, while at the same time, learning new skills.

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Staff Congratulations. Baby News!

On behalf of the St Joseph's community, we congratulate Mrs Amy Auger (Year 1) and her husband, Lewis Auger, on the safe arrival of their first child, Nash Alexander Auger, on February 24th. An exciting time for them, and I am sure you will join us in wishing them every blessing.



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Junior Sport Captains

On Monday of week 5, the year 3 classes gave their speeches to become the Junior Sports Captains for 2024.

Congratulations to our winners; Renzo Albanesi, Charlotte Lambe, Zara Williams, Kane Buchanan-Curtis, Isabelle Gates, Jayden Jensen, Noah Mackenzie and Paige Spiers.



PUPIL FREE DAY

To reserve your spot in our OSHC care on the 12th of March, please follow the link: [Before & After School Care | OSHC | Camp Australia](#)

Pupil Free Day



Date: 12-Mar-2024



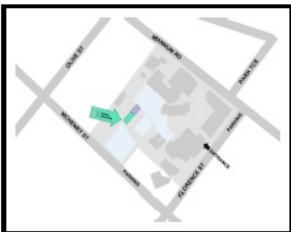
Time: 06:30 to 18:30



Location: The Before and After School Care Room at SA St Joseph's School - Murray Bridge



Fees: \$67.39
\$724 after max. CCS*



*Child Care Subsidy (CCS)

The Child Care Subsidy can provide up to 85% off your fees. Your eligibility is determined by your family's annual adjusted taxable income, the type of childcare you use, and your activity level. To find out if you're eligible, contact Centrelink on 13 61 50.

Your OSHC.

Tailored before and after school experiences that children love.

To book, visit www.campastralia.com.au

by  **Camp Australia**

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Absentee's Number

WHILE WE AWAIT THE ARRIVAL OF A NEW SYSTEM



PLEASE USE THE BELOW NUMBER TO NOTIFY OF ABSENTEE'S

Please send a text message including carers name, child's name, class + reason for absentee.

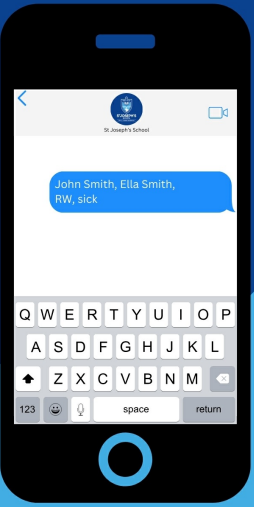
Number
0458391257

Alternatively leave a message on the school answering machine if calling out of office hours.

More Information
8534 2000

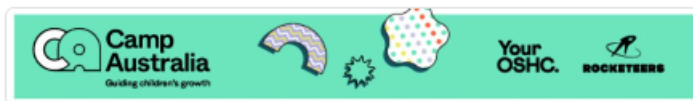



ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL
IN ALL THINGS KINDNESS



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Camp Australia - Announcement



Good morning, Parents and Carers,

After a recent review, I have been advised that our current CAMP AUSTRALIA services is only available for students from Reception to Year 6.

While we initially aimed to include older students to support families, our operating license currently limits service to Middle Years students.

On a positive note, the holiday programs have been a success and will continue.

Kindest regards, Ros Oates.

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

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Murray Bridge Wellbeing Hub

The Murray Bridge Wellbeing Hub is back for 2024 with some new and ongoing initiatives on offer.

MUMS & BUBS PILATES
Baby friendly exercise class to assist in returning to exercise safely
Postnatal specific exercise led by a pre & post-natal specialist PT
TERM 1 WEDNESDAY 11:00-11:45AM
THE SQUARE COMMUNITY CENTRE 2 SOUTH TCE
ALL NEW MUMS AND BABIES ARE WELCOME
FLEXIBLE CLASS PASSES
Contact Amanda on 0414 770 970 for more information and to book

Special Olympics South Australia Proudly supported by Special Olympics SA and Reclink SA **reclink australia**
PLAYING FOR ALL
A games-based program for children with an intellectual disability/autism and those without. Sessions focus on promoting movement, team-work, decision making and communication.
DETAILS
WHEN: Every Wednesday starting 7 February
TIME: 3:30pm - 4:30pm
WHO: Children aged 6-13 years
WHERE: Unity College Gymnasium Owl Drive, Murray Bridge
COST: \$18 for the term
BOOKINGS: Contact Special Olympics SA on ashleigh@specialolympics.com.au or scan the QR code

UNIFIED BASKETBALL
Learn New Skills & Make New Friends
WHO: Children and young people 10-16 years with or without an intellectual disability or autism
WHEN: Every Wednesday in Term 1 4:30pm-5:30pm
COST: \$18 per term
WHERE: Unity College Murray Bridge Gymnasium
CONTACT: Scan the QR code or contact ashleigh@specialolympics.com.au

Parking around schools

The below information is supplied by the Rural City of Murray Bridge Council. It is a reminder to ALL staff + parents/carers of the School community.



Parking Around Schools

Due to the chaotic nature of traffic around schools at peak times, streets can be an extremely dangerous place for children.

Young children have not yet fully developed their cognitive abilities and therefore their perception, judgement and awareness of potentially dangerous situations is not adequately developed to enable them to cope with the road traffic.

Children are not easily visible and often act impulsively, which means if you are driving around a school take special care, to ensure we keep our children safe. Remember that children copy grown-ups - encourage good road sense by watching them closely and leading by example.

5 Helpful Tips for School Zones

As parents and caregivers we have a great responsibility to ensure children stay safe in school zones. We also play a key role in educating children about road safety.

Here are 5 helpful tips for safety in school zones:

1. Allow enough time to take your child to the school gate safely and without rushing.
2. Always observe parking signs and speed limits in and around school zones. They are designed to keep your child safe.
3. Talk about signs and traffic lights with your child. Identify and discuss places where it is safe to get out of the car and cross the road.
4. Teach your child how to cross the road using the 'stop, look and listen' process - stop at the kerb, look and listen for traffic and then decide whether it is safe to cross.
5. Park a few streets away and walk your child to school. This is also good exercise and helps teach your child road safety rules.

Behaviours to Avoid

- Speeding
- Double Parking
- Parking too close to an intersection
- Parking across driveways
- Parking too close to pedestrian crossings



Rural City of Murray Bridge
2 Seventh Street, Murray Bridge SA 5253
E: contactus@murraybridge.sa.gov.au
T: 8539 1100

www.murraybridge.sa.gov.au



*Keeping our
kids SAFE*





Common Traffic Signs

The Rural City of Murray Bridge has implemented a comprehensive traffic management and parking scheme in the streets surrounding your child's school to help make it a safe place.

Going against the road rules places not only your child's life at risk, but those of others. Tragedies can occur if care is not taken to abide by these rules. Below are some explanations of signs that are placed around schools to ensure your child stays safe.



No Parking Signs

Drop off and pick up only. You must not queue or wait here. The driver must remain with the vehicle.



No Stopping Signs

You must not stop in a 'No Stopping' area at anytime. Drop off and pick up is not allowed even for the briefest



Bus Zone Signs

You must not stop within a bus zone at any time. This zone is only available to public buses.



Bicycle Lanes

It is illegal to stop, park or drive your vehicle in a bicycle lane. These lanes are for the safety of cyclists, including children riding to school

Yellow Kerb Lines

An unbroken yellow kerb line is a no stopping line and therefore the same rules apply as for a 'No Stopping' sign.

Obstruct Driveways

A vehicle must not obstruct an entrance way or crossing point to a property, even if it is your own.

Reserves, Footpaths & Verges

It is an offence to drive or park on a reserve, footpath or dividing strip and could cause an accident, injure a person or damage property.



Keeping
our kids
SAFE

