

Issue Date 14 June 2024



#### Important Dates

School Board Meeting - 6:30pm Monday 17 June 2024

SAPSASA Netball Carnival Starting Monday 24 June 2024 Murraylands 5/6 Basketball Comp Tuesday 18 June 2024

Community Prayer Monday 24 June 2024 Middle Years Mass -9:30 Wednesday 19 June 2024

7/8 Netball @ MBHS Tuesday 25 June 2024 5/6 Knockout Netball @ Unity Friday 21 June 2024

Year 6 Mass Wednesday 26 June 2024

SAPSASA Netball Carnival Ending Wednesday 26 June 2024

Outdoor Ed Camp Tuesday 2 July 2024 Festival Choir Assessment Day in Mt Barker Tuesday 2 July 2024

Outdoor Ed Camp Wednesday 3 July 2024

> Year 5 Mass Wednesday 3 July 2024

Year 4 - Overnight AFL Max Camp

Friday 28 June 2024

**PINK DAY** 

Last day of School T Friday 5 July 2024 F

Training and Formation for

STUDENT FREE DAY

#### Lectors (Readers) and commentators at the Parish Hall Sunday 7 July 2024

Year 4 - Overnight AFL Max Camp Returning Thursday 25 July 2024

### From the Principal



#### Dear parents, carers, teachers, and students,

Winter has arrived, and including a pupil-free day last week to extend the long weekend was perfectly timed—Happy Birthday to King Charles. Additionally, the Australian Nation's weekend's focus on raising vital funds for MND was truly inspirational. This week's newsletter is inspired by Neil Daniher's theme, "Don't say, Do."



In our inclusive school community, the valuable efforts of our staff and the implementation of specific learning and well-being programs are not always known or promoted beyond our immediate environment. This week's newsletter aims to bridge that gap by providing detailed information about the significant initiatives our school is involved in, which you can share with friends and family. While we regularly celebrate achievements on our school's Facebook page, the content on this platform is limited. If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Principal or the relevant staff members involved.

#### Supporting Community

At St Joseph's School, we are dedicated to fostering a strong sense of community through active participation in various activities and initiatives. Several meaningful programs and events demonstrate our commitment to supporting our school and the wider community.

One key way we engage with the community is through our close collaboration with the local parish. We regularly host and participate in prayer services and class Masses, where we warmly invite community members to join us. Our staff also plays a significant role in supporting the Sacramental programs, ensuring that students receive the guidance and encouragement they need. Additionally, our staff attendance at parish council and church events further strengthens our bond with the parish community.



Our students also contribute to the school community by preparing café-style hot beverages to staff and parents. This initiative provides a service to our school and allows students to develop valuable skills and foster a sense of responsibility and teamwork.

Furthermore, we actively support local businesses and improve the well-being of Middle Years students through volunteer work. Our students participate in volunteer activities that benefit local enterprises, by using a local gym, classroom support and community projects, helping them develop a strong and positive impact on the community.



Our students have the opportunity to be involved in an exciting program: 'Children's University Australia' (CUA). CUA aims to encourage high-quality out-of-school hours activities for children aged between 7 and 14 years, engaging the wider community as learning partners in this process. The most important principles of CUA are that participation is voluntary and activities must occur outside the normal school day during lunch, after school, weekends and holidays.

Through these initiatives and more, we believe these efforts enrich our student's educational experiences and contribute to our local community.





St Joseph's School introduced the updated MultiLit Programs in 2024. A literacy improvement program developed using scientific, evidence-based research on phonics and vocabulary. MultiLit, short for "Making Up Lost Time in Literacy," encompasses various programs designed to address literacy gaps through direct, systematic, and intensive teaching. This data-driven approach fosters confident readers and writers, laying a solid foundation for academic success in future years of learning.

Our school has adopted three key programs from the MultiLit system:

- 1. InitiaLit is a whole-class literacy program in all classes Rec-Year 2 aimed at building essential core knowledge from the outset and minimising the need for intervention and remedial education.
- 2. MiniLit: A small group reading program for students in Years 1 and 2 who need intensive support to develop decoding skills.
- 3. MacqLit: A program providing specialised word recognition support for students in Years 3-9.

In the classroom, teachers from Reception to Year 2 implement the InitiaLit program daily, sharing best practices to ensure quality outcomes for our students. We have identified those students who require support at all year levels and are involved in the intervention programs MiniLit and MacqLit.

Additionally, leaders within our Primary and Middle years regularly meet to discuss their journey into the science of reading and their plans for implementing best practices in learning across all curriculum areas. This collaboration has been a great success, with staff feeling supported and more committed than ever to delivering the best possible education for their students.

Neil Daniher's quote, "Don't Say, Do," summarises the powerful idea of action over words. It calls for focusing on evident actions rather than being bogged down by negative opinions or verbal commitments. There is so much we 'Do' at St Joseph's to be extremely proud of.

#### **IMPORTANT NEWS!**

PUPIL FREE DAY: Week 1 - Term 3, Monday, July 22, the teachers at St Joseph's School will be attending the Catholic Education SA EASTERN REGION CONFERENCE at the Adelaide Convention Centre. Our teachers will join with 12 other Eastern Regional Diocesan schools on that day.

CAMP AUSTRALIA is providing OSHC on this day for families needing care for their children. Please contact the Principal if you have any difficulties with childcare on the day.

#### EASTERN REGION CONFERENCE EMPOWERING MINDS

Monday 22 July 2024 Theme: Empowering Minds Through Student Agency Adelaide: Convention Centre

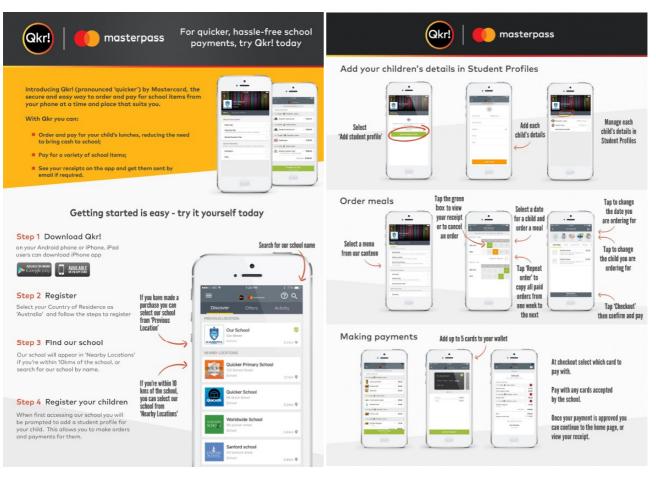


Kindest regards,

Mrs Ros Oates Principal

#### School Canteen Update

This is a reminder that the St. Joseph's School canteen operates as a cashless service. All orders for the canteen products must be made through the school Qkr! App.



We kindly ask that students do not bring cash to school. Cash on site poses a security risk, and we have recently observed instances where children bring cash notes to purchase items for friends, often without parental/guardian knowledge.

We prefer not to but occasionally accept coins less than five dollars. We cannot accept cash notes in the canteen. Any purchases attempted with cash notes will be declined. Parents and guardians will be notified if a student brings cash notes to school.

Please ensure that all purchases are for your child/ren only. At times, we also have children ordering more than five of the same items (ice-creams/blocks) and then giving these away to their friends.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

#### Personalised Plans for Learning (PPL's)

Each year, teachers develop and/or review students' PPLs. These co-constructed documents recognise that learners are diverse and document adjustments that support their academic, social, emotional, and well-being development. Parents and caregivers who have a child with a Personalised Plan for Learning would have been receiving these via email, Seesaw message, or during care team/ review meetings throughout this term.

Teachers will continue to make changes to these documents throughout the year to ensure they reflect the student as an individual learner. Please feel free to speak with your child's classroom teacher if you have an area of focus for their achievement and success at school that you would like to see incorporated into their PPL. Any adjusted PPLs will be sent via email/Seesaw message for parents to review as reviews or adjustments are added.

For additional information, don't hesitate to get in touch with Mrs Nicki Clifford at nicki.clifford@stjomb.catholic.edu.au.

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#### From the Deputy Principal



## SACPPA24 Conference – Leading a High Performance Culture Now and in the Future.

From May 22, Ros Oates and I attended the three-day SACPPA (South Australian Catholic Primary Principals Association) 2024 Conference in the Barossa Valley. The theme of the conference was 'Leading a High Performance Culture now and in the Future.'

After working as an APRIM (Assistant Principal Religious Identity and Mission) for the last 7 years, before joining the St Joseph's School Community, I was very excited to attend my first SACPPA Conference, for CESA (Catholic Education South Australia) Principals and Deputy Principals.

Leaving straight from school, I arrived at the conference just in time for the Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country by the Conference Chair, Jason Mittiga, who was the principal, during my first CESA leadership role, as Acting APRIM, at St Catherine's Stirling, in 2017.

Our first presenter of the conference on Wednesday afternoon was Gus Balbontin. The former Executive Director and CTO of Lonely Planet is now thought of as a 'futurist.' As an investor, advisor and Director at Neu2, Gus encourages people to focus on what you control to deal with any future. Gus was very candid and full of energy. Definitely not the presenter I had pictured in my head to open my first ever SACPPA conference.

Newly appointed Acting Head of SACPSSA, Ros Oates, introduced the director of Catholic Education South Australia, Dr Neil McGoren who addressed the group, before Archbishop Patrick O'Regan led us in Mass. The first day concluded with a welcome reception BBQ dinner.

Day two opened with keynote presenter, Dr Paul Kidson, Senior Lecturer in Educational Leadership at the Australia Catholic University (ACU), followed by Glen Savage, Associate Professor of Education Policy and the Future of Schooling in the Faculty of Education at the University of Melbourne.

The final presenter of Day 2 was Madeleine Kelly, Communications, Alumni and Service Learning at St Aloysius College and author of the novel, 'The School Hope Built.'

The highlight of the conference for me was listening to keynote presenter, Adam Voigt, Founder and CEO of Real Schools. Real Schools aim to bring a renewed focus to School Culture, Working Restoratively and Teacher Wellbeing. Adam was appointed to his first Principal position at the age of 35 and has personally led full school turnarounds.

Adam Voigt started working with St Joesph's School in July 2022, helping us lead and implement Restorative Practices in our school as a fundamental platform for a strong, sustainable and relational School Culture, helping to improve School Behaviour and Classroom Practice.

The final keynote presenter was Jacqui Bell, who is an accomplished ultra runner who has shattered records and defied expectations with her remarkable achievements, becoming the youngest female to conquer the Racing the Planet's 4 Desert Grand Slam, covering 250 kilometres across four of the world's toughest deserts.

I am extremely thankful for the opportunity to network with other CESA Leaders, share and listen to stories of both success and struggles within our school's and as part of school leadership. To listen to national and international presenters and spend some quality time with my Principal, Ros Oates, out of the school setting.

Jamie Mulcahy - Deputy Principal



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#### **Religious Education**



#### THE EUCHARIST – HOLY COMMUNION

Meals occupy an important place in most cultures, even in our current busy lives where families are often battling with the competition of television and other digital technology. In some families it is the only time that all members of the family are present at the same time due to work or sporting commitments.

In Jesus time the meal was also a very important part of their culture. In the Gospels there are many stories related to meals Jesus had with his friends. He often used the meal to make a very important point.

As the journey OF Jesus life ends in Jerusalem, Jesus prepares himself to suffer and die on the cross. Jesus "earnestly desired" to share this last meal with the disciples. The words and actions of Jesus over the bread and wine make present his service and sacrifice for others. No longer are the gifts simply bread and wine but the flesh and blood of the new covenant. Those who share this new covenant meal participate in Jesus' saving mystery and pledge themselves to serve as Jesus served.

Jesus commanded the disciples to continue to do what he had done in the meal "in remembrance of me". The disciples had to do what Jesus had done and he would be present among them to serve. The Sunday Eucharist continues the encounter with the risen Jesus.

This weekend and later in June some children from our school and Parish community who were Confirmed a few weeks ago will be fully initiated into the Catholic church and will receive the BODY OF CHRIST for the first time. We congratulate and hope and pray that these

children will continue their journey of faith enriched by this gift from Jesus and try to live their lives true to the Word of God.

Max, Noah, Sierra, Riccah, Ryker, Jazz, Ingrid, John, Spencer, Lucy, Sophia-Rose, Arabella, Matilda, Lucy, Ruby, Eve, Estelle, Molly and Lottie.



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#### From the Classroom - Middle Years

#### Ngregi Morning Project

This term, the Middle Years students have had the opportunity to engage in learning skills in an area they are passionate about. The Ngregi groups run every morning for 55mins and it has been great to see our students entering school, excited about staring their daysome even come to school early!

#### The groups include:

Barista training

- Art and Jewellery making
- Gardening and growing vegetables
- Minecraft, drone flying and VR
- Attending Snap Fitness Gym
- Being a Junior Helper in classes
- Sports Training

This week students have completed a survey regarding the group they wish to engage in for the next 6 weeks and have provided feedback regarding the group they have been in.

We look forward to providing you with some of their feedback.

Kind regards,

Annette Lamont - Middle Years Leader

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## An insight into the Gardening & Growing Vegetables

In the morning gardening group for the past 7 weeks the middle years students have been actively getting the school garden up and running. They have planted winter veggies (broccoli, silverbeet, beans, peas, spinach, radish and beetroot) as well as germinating from seed parsley, coriander, sunflowers and basil. The students have been able to assist with the garden layout and choosing which coloured flowers they would like to grow as well. They have been very busy at getting the school garden beds up and running with the group currently working on setting up a herb garden outside the food technology classroom. In Term 3 the school garden will be able to produce copious amounts of veggies, herbs as well as cut flowers that will be available to the school community via a stall. There are also grand plans to enter some of the garden produce into the Royal Adelaide Show to showcase the hard work the student have put in.

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#### An insight into Middle Years IT

In Middle Years one of the morning Ngregi groups selected to use IT for a collaborative project. We accomplished mapping out and building the exterior of the school buildings on Minecraft Education. Our next project is mastering the use of our school drones to record and explore the inside of the building. So far we have had successful take-off and some great stunts, watch this space!

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## School of Rock Performance

On Wednesday the 5th of June, the year six cohort and one of our year five classes took part in an excursion to the Murray Bridge High School's production "School of Rock." The students walked from school to the town hall and were exceptional models for our school and our values. All that attended enjoyed the upbeat and humorous production, with some student's claiming it was the best day of school ever.

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WEAR PINK TO SCHOOL DAY

**Breast Cancer Awareness** 

TURNS

PINK

STJOMB

## PLUS, A MORNING TEA FOR PARENTS/CARERS PLEASE RSVP VIA THE LINK BELOW IF YOU ARE ATTENDING:

JUNE 28TH FRIDAY, WK 9 ALL DONATIONS WILL BE DONATED TO THE NATIONAL BREAST CANCER FOUNDATION

GOLD COIN DONATION ON THE DAY OR VIA THE QKR APP

S'JOSEPH'S



In support of the National Breast Cancer Foundation, we are encouraging all students/staff to wear PINK on Friday, Week 9, 28<sup>th</sup> of June.

The invitation is also extended to all parents/carers to join us for a morning tea.

If you will be joining us for the morning tea, please RSVP via the link: https://forms.office.com/r/2vgy7i78nG

A gold coin donation will be accepted on the day or via the QKR app (available now).

#### **NEW STAFF!**



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device

3

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Did you know that our school has an easy at home platform to borrow eBooks and Audiobooks?

- 1. Type in eplatform in your web browser
- 2. Click on 'Find your Library' and then type in St Joseph's School Murray Bridge
- 3. Choose from either Primary or Secondary
- 4. Sign in using your computer log in
- 5. Happy borrowing!

#### High Achiever!

## **Gold Award**

Education Perfect ANZ Maths Championship 2024

#### Rong Huang St. Joseph's Catholic School, Murray Bridge

Congratulations for answering 2:68 questions during the Education Perfect ANZ Maths Championship 2024, You earned 2.011 points, placing you in the top 2% of competition from around the world

> ep Education Perfect

Congratulations Mary Huang on an outstanding achievement winning a gold award for the ANZ maths competition, putting her in the top 2% of all global entrants. She diligently completed this on top of her accelerated AYL units.

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