



eNews Term 3, Week 3, 2023

Important Dates

Term Three
Commences at
8.30am
Monday 24 July 2023

Book Week -
Grandparents Day -
9.00am
Wednesday 23 August 2023

Book Week - Dress-
up Parade - 9.00am
Friday 25 August 2023

Term Three
Concludes
Friday 29 September 2023

Upcoming Events

Book Week 2023 -
August 19-25
Date: Saturday 19 August -
Friday 25 August
Time: 12:00am
Venue: St Joseph's School -
Murray Bridge

Catholic Identity



“IT TAKES A VILLAGE TO RAISE A CHILD”

I am a firm believer in the anonymous African proverb, “It takes a village to raise a child” and feel it is also very true when it comes to educating our children. For our children to be truly successful whereby they achieve their full potential we cannot work in isolation from the rest of the community. This is becoming increasingly more evident in today’s global world with its complex issues and the demands and changing face and pressures placed on families.

I believe at St Joseph’s we endeavour to work with others in our village through building relationships with our families and members of the wider community. We are all made in the image of God and we should respect and treat with dignity all those in our community through the welcome they receive and the support we are able to offer when it is required. We all love and want the best for our children, whether they are academically high achievers, gifted in other areas or have special needs or disabilities.

Living and working in the “village” of Murray Bridge we have many organisations that are able to offer assistance and support and work with us. Centacare, Communities for Children, CAMHS and Murray Mallee Community Health Service are just a few who work with us. These and other organisations have allowed us to offer a number of programs over the years to our children. We also work with Speech Therapists, Occupational Therapists, and psychologists.

Our Parish is another example of the village working together through our Masses, Community Prayer and the work Deacon Arturo, our Parish Moderator does to support us in our faith journey. Pope Francis has declared July 24th a World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly to honour the experience and wisdom of the elderly and the important role of passing on and preserving the Catholic faith through generations. Grandparents and the elderly are an important part of our village as they support so many families through childcare, advice and support in so many ways.

Christianity began as a community of faith, a community of believers in the teachings of Jesus Christ and the Kingdom of God. For St Paul, Christian faith is lived in community with love: the proper caring for another, as the foundation. This love meant building up others in the community by encouraging them or consoling them. It requires give and take between individuals and the community and contributing through putting whatever gifts one has in service to the common good. Every person is welcomed and important as necessary to the body of Christ.

The Bible teaches us to live in community with others through fellowship, hospitality, love, kindness, compassion, and the willingness to help one another. The Catholic school should be a visible example of a modern Christian community and in doing so will be the embodiment of the “village” that raises the child.

Mrs Deb Holland

APRIM

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Prayer Service and Mass times - Term 3

August 14 – Reception Prayer Service	12.30pm
August 18 – Year 3 Prayer Service	9.30am
August 30 – Year 5 Mass at 9:30am	9.30am

September 6 – Year 6 Mass	9.30am
September 13 – Middle Years Mass	9.30am
September 15 – Year 1 Prayer Service	9.15am

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From the Principal - Week 3



Dear parents, carers, teachers and students,

This week's newsletter marks the occasion of Saint Mary MacKillop of the Cross Feast Day, Australia's first saint. This is a significant day for our school, as Mary MacKillop's order founded our school in 1925.

The Josephite sisters have contributed to our school in many immeasurable ways over many years. They have taught our children, cared for our sick and elderly, and supported our families. They have done all of this with faith-filled service and a mission to provide a Catholic education to children in our regional town.

We are deeply grateful for the Josephite sisters' dedication and commitment to our school. They have made a lasting impact on our community, and we will never forget their legacy. Mary MacKillop was a woman of courage, compassion, and faith. She challenged the status quo and fought for justice for the poor and marginalised. She was a true inspiration, and her example continues to guide us today.

Tuesday, this week we had a wonderful celebration that took place on our site to acknowledge the life and work of Mary MacKillop. This was the first time that we have held such an event, and it was a great success.

We had so many family visitors attend and join in the activities and fun. The children enjoyed making a Mary MacKillop banner, playing games, and listening to stories about her life. The adults and students enjoyed hearing from our special 'Mary' guest speaker and participating in a pass-the-parcel activity.

We were so grateful for the hard work of the organising committee and everyone who made the day possible. We hope that you will enjoy the snapshot of photographs in this newsletter taken on the day.

Thank you again for joining us in celebrating the life and work of Mary MacKillop. She was a remarkable woman who dedicated her life to helping others. Her legacy continues to inspire us today.

School Board Information

The current School Board for St Joseph's School is in need of interested members of our community who would like to have a role in ensuring the sound and responsible financial management of our school's resources. Each Catholic School has a finance committee.

The role of the finance committee is to ensure proper financial management systems are in place in accordance with the Finance Manual

for South Australian Catholic Schools, including the school's five-year financial plan and with policies and guidelines within the diocese. Please email the Principal, Ros Oates, ros.oates@stjomb.catholic.edu.au if you have financial skills and are interested in this role on our current School Board.

Three Remaining School Closure Days for 2023

This week the School Board members met for our August meeting and confirmed the final school closure days for 2023 are:

- **Friday 8th Sept (Week 7) – Term 3** – Staff Retreat Day
- **Thursday 14th December and Friday 15th December – Term 4** (Last two school days of the year) – Curriculum, Data and Handover Day

PARENT SURVEY – LIVING, LEARNING, LEADING

Catholic Education SA has introduced a survey across all of our Catholic Schools to gather community perceptions of their School's performance. Similar surveys will be administered to staff and students to enable us to capture a community snapshot. All responses are confidential and will be used for school improvement purposes. Completion of the survey is on a voluntary basis.

To complete the survey for St Joseph's School Murray Bridge

Parents go to www.NSIPartnerships.com.au and enter the code SJMBLLLP in the 'Start Questionnaire' field. A flyer is attached at the end of this newsletter.

Catholic Schools Open Week August 21-27, 2023 (Term 3, Week 5)

Open Week in Catholic schools is held annually each August. It is an excellent opportunity for public members to visit our school and discover the wonderful learning opportunities we offer at St Joseph's School.

And **Book Week** is just around the corner - you can read more about Book Week later in this newsletter.

Enjoy your weekend.

Mrs Ros Oates

Principal

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The Feast of St Mary of The Cross MacKillop - Fair Day



From the Classroom - Reception



Reception learners embarked on a journey of discovery to learn about St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop. Through Godly Play, they explored her life as a pioneering educator and advocate for social justice. They expressed their understanding and admiration through songs, creative drawings and crafts that celebrate her legacy as Australia's first saint and her dedication to serving others. These multisensory experiences inspired empathy and fostered an appreciation for the values she embodied, encouraging young learners to reflect on the importance of compassion, kindness, and making a positive impact in their own lives.

In English, the students have started comparing informative texts to narratives. They are also learning about the practical application of Venn diagrams to compare various elements. As part of their phonics development, the students have been learning to blend and use digraphs, including the 'ar,' 'or,' and 'ay' sounds. Learning to blend and use digraphs is an essential part of phonics development and will enable the students to improve their reading and writing skills. With these tools and knowledge, they are well on their way to becoming successful readers and writers!

In Science, the students have begun learning about living and non-living things. The students have explored living things in our school garden and have started growing bean sprouts in the classroom. With enriched conversations through group work, guided conversations and hands on learning, students will work towards understanding features of living and non-living things.

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Book Week 2023 - Save the Dates!



Book Week celebrations are in Week 5. This year's theme is "**Read, Grow, Inspire,**" and we are planning various activities to celebrate the joy of reading.

The annual Book Week **dress-up parade will be held on Friday morning, August 25th, at 9:00 am.** Students are encouraged to dress up as a book character or in a way that is related to the theme. We look forward to seeing the creativity of the costumes at the parade!

We will also hold a **Grandparents Day on Wednesday morning, August 23rd, at 9:00 am,** starting in the Performing Arts Centre. This is a great opportunity for grandparents to come and visit their family members and learn more about what they are learning in school. More information and registration details will be sent out via Seesaw soon.

Finally, the school library will display books and activities related to the Book Week theme, and we will have a visiting author speaking to the students that week. Students are encouraged to visit the library and check out some new books. We hope that you will join us in celebrating Book Week! It is a great opportunity to encourage our children to read and enjoy the power of books.

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School Uniforms Update

Vinnies Uniform Shops are all located within Vinnies Charity Stores and are serviced by appointment only, by making a booking ensures we have an appropriately trained uniform staff member onsite to assist with uniform fittings, selections, and purchases.

Parents can make a booking with Rochelle and the Murray Bridge Vinnies Uniform Shop Team by scanning the QR code or visiting [Vinnies - Uniform Shop \(simplybook.me\)](https://www.vinnies.org.au/uniform-shop)

We encourage parents to contact us by email (schooluniforms@svdpsa.org.au) for consideration of appointments outside available booking times.

For parents who prefer to personally make a selection, or complete fittings themselves, we welcome you at any time during normal Vinnies Shop trading hours (refer to [vinnies.org.au](https://www.vinnies.org.au) for trading hours) – **no bookings required.** Vinnies Shop volunteers will only able to assist with finalising the purchase of school uniforms, it is recommended parents make a booking if assistance and advice in uniform fittings and selection is required.



Vinnies Uniform Shop

Visit
vinnies.org.au
for store trading
hours

Purchase of school uniforms and uniform fittings

Uniform shop staff are available in store by appointment only. **All bookings are to be made by visiting SimplyBook.Me, or scanning the QR code.**

If personal selection and fittings are your preference, we welcome you at any time during normal Vinnies Shop trading hours – no booking required.



[Vinnies - Uniform Shop \(simplybook.me\)](http://Vinnies - Uniform Shop (simplybook.me))

**If your preferred booking time is not listed,
please email schooluniforms@svdpsa.org.au**

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Free NBN for eligible Families



To boost education opportunities and narrow the digital divide, the Australian Government is working with NBN Co to provide up to 30,000 families currently with no internet at home free NBN for 12 months.

To be eligible, families with school age children will be nominated by participating schools, education authorities and charities/community organisations. These organisations will identify and provide information directly to families within their respective systems about the initiative.

The first families were connected during Term One in 2023. The one-year of free service begins from the day the service is activated for each family.

The eligible families must:-

- Not have an active nbn network internet service at home. Having a mobile service does not affect eligibility.
- Live in a premises that can access the nbn network

- Have a child living at home that is enrolled in an Australian school in 2023.

This program is only open for nomination until 30th September 2023.

You can get further information by visiting www.infrastructure.gov.au/ssbi

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Southern Cross Catholic News

Here is the latest issue of [The Southern Cross](#) newsletter and the online edition of [The Southern Cross August 2023](#).

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OSHC News

St Joseph's School



Your OSHC by Camp Australia provides enriching experiences for children during term – before school, after school and on pupil free days. At Your OSHC we give children a supportive space to continue their development, build confidence and socialise with their friends.

What's coming up at Your OSHC this week:

14/8/2023 - 18/8/2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>Science 16</p> <p>Science Wordsearch challenge yourself to find all the science themed words</p>	<p>Healthy Lifestyles 1</p> <p>Germ Science Experience (Explore the best way to clean your hands and the benefits of doing so.)</p>	<p>Science 41</p> <p>Oobleck experiment Oobleck gets its name from Dr. Seuss Bartholomew & the Oobleck where a gooey green substance, Oobleck fell from the sky.</p>	<p>National Science Week 41</p> <p>Crazy Scientist Craft Celebrate Science Week this year with a 3D crazy Scientist!</p>	<p>Science 12</p> <p>Grass Head Use recycled materials to design and create an interesting grass head character! How long will the grass hair grow?</p>
<p>National Science Week 41</p> <p>Ball Run STEM Challenge Engineering Challenge - Build a ball run that takes as long as possible for the ball to travel from the entrance to the exit.</p>	<p>National Science Week 41</p> <p>Erupting Lemon What the Lemon Colour Explosion!</p>	<p>Space 1</p> <p>straw rocket ships experiment with rocket ship see how far you can make them fly</p>	<p>National Science Week 4.6</p> <p>Code a Binary Bracelet Design and create a bracelet using coloured beads that spell out the first letter of their name using binary code.</p>	<p>Creative 11</p> <p>Making spaces Tape resist art: creates designs and images made on cardboard with tape.</p>



Register for Your OSHC

Once registered, you'll be able to easily make and manage your bookings online via our Parent Portal.

[Register now](#)



Stop by and say hi!

Please feel free to visit the program with your children to meet the team and see what happens in our great program each school day.



Visit our blog

New articles are added each week for parents and cover various topics to help families.

[Visit our blog](#)

To register and book visit www.campastralia.com.au

by Camp Australia

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PARENT SURVEY – LIVING, LEARNING, LEADING

To administer the LLL Parent and Caregiver Survey at St Joseph's School, Murray Bridge in 2023: Parents go to www.NSIPartnerships.com.au and enter the code SJMBLLLP in the 'Start Questionnaire' field



LLL Parent and Caregiver Survey (Available from 24 July to 25 August 2023)

Administering the Survey

Before parents and caregivers respond to the survey we advise that the following information be relayed:

- The survey takes between three and five minutes.
- Explain that this survey is to find out about the performance of THIS school.
- Stress the importance of the survey as an opportunity for parents and caregivers to tell the school staff how things are going for them and their children.
- Let the parents and caregivers know that the school values their feedback and will try to respond to the information that they provide.
- Explain that the feedback does NOT include the data of individuals; rather, feedback involves graphs based on feedback from all parents and caregivers. To ensure anonymity, aggregated scores are not provided for groups of less than four parents or caregivers.
- Let parents and caregivers know that it is their impressions that you are seeking. There are no right or wrong answers.
- For parents and caregivers with more than one child at the school, ask them to respond based on the experience of their oldest child at the school.
- Explain that the response format requires parents and caregivers to consider the school's performance for each statement on a scale from 1 to 6 (with 1 being the lowest or worst score and 6 being the highest or best score).

A sample letter to parents is provided on the following page. This letter includes instructions to participants and can be modified as required.

Advertising the survey and reminding parents and carers to complete it will be important to ensure that the response rate is maximised. This is the school's responsibility. We suggest that the school consider using a range of media, including newsletters and social media. We recommend that reminders (at least two) are sent to participants during and at the end of the administration period.

RESPONSE RATE

To determine the number of parents who have responded to the survey, follow the instructions in the Administration Guide (see blue band below) or email our team at LLL@nsipartnerships.com.au

ASSISTANCE

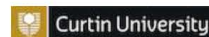
For questions or assistance with administration of the LLL Surveys email LLL@nsipartnerships.com.au, or call 0422 224 201

RESOURCES

The Administration Guide and Instructional PowerPoints are available at:
Website: <http://www.nsipartnerships.com.au/lllsurveys/>
Password: LLLSURVEYS



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To respond the LLL Parent and Caregiver Survey at St Joseph's School, Murray Bridge in 2023 go to www.NSIPartnerships.com.au and enter the code SJMBLLLP in the 'Start Questionnaire' field



NSI
Partnerships

LLL Parent and Caregiver Survey (Available from 24 July to 25 August 2023)

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

You are invited to participate in a short (3 to 5 minute) survey about your school's performance. Similar surveys will be administered to staff and students to enable us to capture a community snapshot.

All responses are confidential and will be used for school improvement purposes.

Completion of the survey is on a voluntary basis.

Your confidentiality

To protect your confidentiality all surveys are anonymous. All answers go directly to National School Improvement Partnerships, where the results are analysed for your school. Answers from individual surveys will NOT be reported back to the school. National School Improvement Partnerships staff are bound by a Code of Ethics and follow strict professional conduct. To protect your anonymity, we do not report scores for groups of less than four parents or caregivers.

Use of the data

National School Improvement Partnerships will report the results to the school in an aggregated format. To enable drill-down reporting, the information provided to the school will contain data based on background information. This anonymous data will be provided to CESA for reporting and consideration of support for schools.

How to complete the survey

- For each statement, you are asked to rate how well you think the school is performing by selecting one of six responses. The responses are numbered 1 to 6, with number 1 being the lowest or worst rating and number 6 being the highest or best rating.
- If you have more than one child at the school, and your perceptions differ for each child, please respond with respect to your perceptions related to the oldest child enrolled at the school.
- There are no 'right' or 'wrong' answers. Your opinion is what is wanted.
- Please answer all questions.
- Some statements may be fairly similar to other statements. Don't worry about this. Simply give your opinion about all statements.

To get started, use the QR code (located at the top of the page) or go to www.NSIPartnerships.com.au and enter the access code provided above.

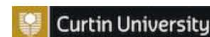
If you require more information or have any feedback, please contact our friendly team.

Email: LLL@NSIPartnerships.com.au

Your time and consideration are appreciated.



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Community Event - Live Music

presented by The Station and
Hannah Smith

ACOUSTIC SESSIONS

Free Live Music!

Sat, 26th August
6pm - 9pm

The Station 3-5 Railway Terrace

Family Friendly Event

For more info, contact

a.fargher@murraybridge.sa.gov.au 0427400635



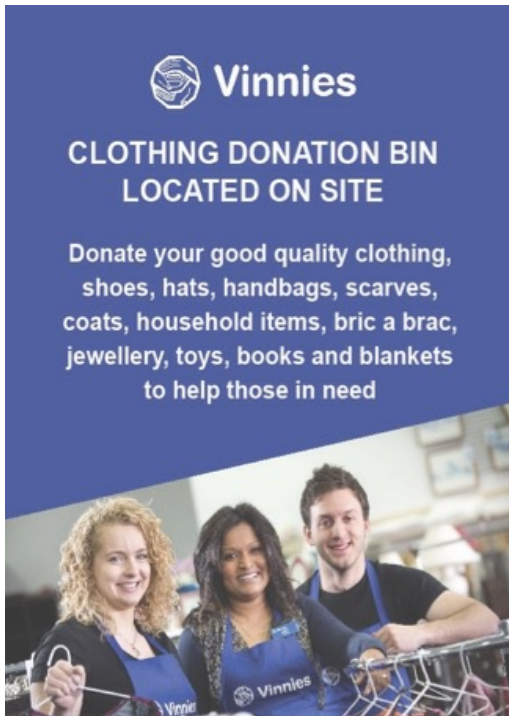
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St Vincent de Paul 2023 Winter Appeal

This year St Joseph's is supporting St Vincent de Paul for their annual winter appeal. This year the focus is on the homelessness crisis devastating older women. Any donations to the Winter Appeal are directly supporting those most in need in our local community. Together we can provide basic essentials to resolve dignity in times of need. Your donation can help remove a major stress for families. Your support also helps dedicated volunteers to work with people living in poverty, and provide assistance when life is tough.

A big thank you for your support of our Pyjama Day last term for the Vinnies Winter Appeal. We are pleased to announce that through your

generous donations we were able to raise \$650.00. This money will go to support those in need in our community as we know there are many who are finding it very hard this winter. This term we will continue to collect any good warm clothing, blankets, sleeping bags etc that you are no longer using. These can be placed in the bins in the office area.



Vinnies

**CLOTHING DONATION BIN
LOCATED ON SITE**

Donate your good quality clothing,
shoes, hats, handbags, scarves,
coats, household items, bric a brac,
jewellery, toys, books and blankets
to help those in need

The image shows a blue sign with white text. At the top is the Vinnies logo, which consists of two hands clasped together. Below the logo is the word 'Vinnies' in a bold, sans-serif font. Underneath that, the text 'CLOTHING DONATION BIN LOCATED ON SITE' is written in a smaller, bold, sans-serif font. The bottom half of the sign features a photograph of three people (two women and one man) wearing blue aprons with the Vinnies logo, standing behind a metal shopping cart filled with clothes. The background of the photo is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be a donation bin area.

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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

[View this article online to read more](#)