



eNews Term 1, Week 3 2023

Important Dates

Term One Starts

Monday 30 January

Student Free Day

Friday 17 February

School Board Information Session 6.30pm

Tuesday 21 February

Shrove Tuesday / Pancake Day

Tuesday 21 February

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday 22 February

Good Friday

Friday 7 April

Easter Sunday

Sunday 9 April

Term 1 Concludes

Friday 14 April

Term 2 Commences

Monday 1 May

Upcoming Events

School Photo Day

Date: Friday 17 March

Venue: St Joseph's School -
Murray Bridge

Religious Education



FROM ASHES TO EASTER

Next Wednesday our whole school will celebrate a special Prayer Service in the Auditorium led by our Deacon, Arturo. This Prayer Service will celebrate Ash Wednesday which begins the church season of Lent. On this day we receive a sprinkling of ash on our foreheads to remind us that as believers of the Good News we are going to try to live out Jesus message of love and forgiveness. The ashes come from the palms used at last year's Palm Sunday celebrations. We extend an invitation to all families to join us for this celebration at 9:30am in the school Auditorium.

Lent goes for 40 days, from Ash Wednesday to Holy Week, the beginning of the Easter celebrations. The number 40 is very significant in the Bible:

- The rain lasted for 40 days in the mighty flood – Noah (Genesis 6)
- Moses stayed on Mount Sinai 40 days (Ex 24:18)
- Jonah gave the people of Ninevah 40 days to repent (Jon 3:4)
- Jesus, before beginning his ministry, spent 40 days in the desert in prayer and fasting (Matt 4:2)

I remember Lent as a child as a time of fasting and going without. We fasted as a way of helping us understand some of the suffering Jesus went through when he fasted in the desert and as a way of focussing the mind on holy thoughts. In some ways it was quite exciting because it was one of the few times we had 'takeaway', as on Fridays we were only allowed to have fish and no meat. The local fish and chip shop always did a roaring trade on Fridays.

Fasting is common among many religions. The Jews have Yom Kippur, a solemn time to show a need for forgiveness of sins through fasting and praying. The Muslims have Ramadan, a month when they fast from before sunrise to sunset. The Hindus fast at festivals and at other times to show devotion to the Hindu deities.

Strict fasting is no longer imposed but we are encouraged to try to overcome our faults by our good deeds and to try to put aside more time in praying so that we can really let God into our lives. Another way is through our giving to Caritas through Project Compassion. On Ash Wednesday every family will receive a Project Compassion Box for you as a family to consider giving what you can to support the communities Caritas will be supporting this year. These can be returned to school in Week 10 of this term.

Ash Wednesday reminds us that God made us all beautiful as we are all made in the image of God. We may not always be Christ-like in our behaviour though so:

**This Lent, fast by listening to others;
Pray by opening your hearts to them;
Give alms by holding your hands out to them.**

Upcoming School Prayer & Service Times

Event	Date	Time
Year 1 Prayer Service	9 March	9.30am
St Joseph's Day Mass	17 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	7 April	TBC

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From the Principal



Dear parents, carers, teachers and students,

After a very full two weeks of schooling, this week is shortened by two days due to our Pupil Free days on **Thursday, February 16 and Friday, February 17**. During the two days, the classroom teachers will be working with key Catholic Education South Australia School Improvement Leaders on planning curriculum lessons and assessments using the updated v.9 Australian Curriculum.

Student Pupil Free Days are dedicated to Professional Development days for all school staff. They allow us to ensure we provide the highest quality education for our St Joseph's School children. Parents and carers will be notified with a term's notice of the date/s so that adequate care can be arranged for all students. St Joseph's School CAMP AUSTRALIA (OSHC) will always do their best to cater for whole day/s care to support families, for which we are grateful.

Our St Joseph's School Senior School Captains are pictured with me in this newsletter. Alexis Watkins and Bailey Motbey, inaugural Year 9's, were introduced to the community in 2022, and during the school holidays, their blazers to wear at important events and functions arrived. They certainly look brilliant, and both Alexis and Bailey look forward to being active and positive role models to all students in the school and having the opportunities to wear their blazers at cultural, school and community events

At St Joseph's School, we value parent involvement and can now explore how COVID-19 is manageable in our society and how our parents, carers and friends can be involved and help at our school. Below in this newsletter, there is an invitation to be involved in the School Board. We also welcome volunteers for the school canteen and future sporting and excursion events.

It is the policy and practice of the Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide that all persons who have a responsibility through their role within the Archdiocese (whether paid or voluntary) and/or who have the potential to have one-on-one contact with children undergo a **DCSI Working With Children Clearance and Catholic Police Check**. The check is used as part of the assessment process to determine a person's suitability for volunteering within the Archdiocese of Adelaide and also within associated organisations closely affiliated with the Catholic Archdiocese, therefore, St Joseph's School.

Volunteers must complete the online Responding to Abuse and Neglect - Education and Care (RAN-EC) induction session, which can be accessed at the following link (volunteers should always select 'Account User' as 'SA Catholic Schools'). If you require help with this, please contact the school administration office to do this training.

Our volunteers must complete the above online training (the school will ask for a copy of the certificate of completion) and obtain a DCSI Working With Children Clearance and Catholic Police Clearance before volunteering at the School.

For more information about the processes, please contact Mrs Louise O'Neil or Mr Michael Gates in the administration office. All information obtained is kept in the strictest confidence.

Kindest regards,

Mrs Ros Oates

Principal

From the Deputy Principal



For my first Newsletter article, I thought I would take this opportunity to introduce and share a little about myself.

2023 will be my 22nd year of teaching. I worked for the Department of Education in 2002 and 2003, I taught in London for three years from 2004 to the end of 2006 and have been employed in CESA (Catholic Education South Australia) schools from 2007.

For the past three years, I have worked as the Substantive APRIM (0.6) and Leader of Learning (0.4) at St John the Apostle Parish School, Christies Beach. Over the past 6 years I have also gained senior leadership experience working as an APRIM at St Catherine's – Stirling, St Raphael's – Parkside, St Teresa's School – Brighton and McAuley Community School – Hove. I have also increased my leadership capacity working in the position of POR 2 – Sports Coordinator at St Teresa's School Brighton, from 2013 to 2018. In 2021, I graduated with a Master of Educational Leadership through Australian Catholic University. I am currently studying my second Master's degree in Theology.

I have a 13 year old daughter, Skylá, who will be in Year 8 at Sacred Heart College this year and an eight year old son, Kailani, who will be in Year 3 at McAuley Community School.

I am excited to meet you all and work with our staff and students here at St Joseph's in Term 1 and 2. I always try to show the face of Jesus in all of my actions and interactions, all day, every day. I believe that we are blessed to be employed in a Catholic School. I strive to always bring as much energy and positivity as I can to each school day. I have a genuine passion for what I do and look forward to working in partnership with you all at St Joseph's.

Over the last three weeks, I have really enjoyed getting to know our learners and meeting several you at the school gate in the morning or afternoon. Please feel free to come up and introduce yourself or make a time to meet with me.

Jamie Mulcahy

From the Classroom - Reception



Our Joey's graduates embarked on a new adventure and began the school year with big smiles as they were welcomed into the St Joseph's School family. The three Reception classes were supported on the first day of school with many families continuing the tradition of taking their child to school and making special memories. While this can be an emotional and nervous occasion, the children took it into their stride as they were comfortable in their surroundings and explored their new learning spaces.

The children co-constructed class guidelines with their teachers. Through learning conversations, they began to build and develop the type of learning environment that they wish to have so they can learn at their best. They learnt about the school values of kindness, compassion, inclusion, co-operation, respect, and community and what it means to be a part of our school.

As a group, the children ventured over the school bridge to visit a special part of our school community. Mrs. Deb Holland gave the children a tour of the Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church. Their faces were filled with awe and wonder as they learnt about different features of the church and how we pray and celebrate many occasions in God's house.

The Reception cohort have engaged in the Australian Curriculum with their class teachers and have enjoyed connecting and learning with the specialist educators. With a big focus on learning to read, the children have begun learning reading strategies associated with the Science of Reading method and we cannot wait to hear them read endless books throughout the year.

The future is looking bright for our youngest members of our school as they have shown a passion for learning and demonstrated kindness towards others. They have created a safe and happy place where their friendships will continue to grow, while their learning is at the centre of everything we stand for. We strive to give the next generation of learners at St Joseph's School, Murray Bridge the best place to learn while embracing kindness to all.

Reception Gallery Term 1, 2023



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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Other Events, Activities and Announcements

Parent-Teacher Partnership Meetings

Dear Parents and Caregivers - Parent Partnership Meetings (Parent/Teacher Interviews) will be held in Week 4 of Term 1 from Monday 20th February - Thursday 23rd February.

These meetings provide an opportunity for parents to meet the class teacher and for the teacher to gain valuable information about your child to assist in their learning.

Students are not required to be at these meetings.

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 **amr4y** and follow the prompts.

Please see below for booking closure times.

Monday 20th February bookings will close at 4pm on Friday 17th February

Tuesday 21st February bookings will close at 4pm on Monday 20th February

Wednesday 22nd February bookings will close at 4pm on Tuesday 21st February

Thursday 23rd February bookings will close at 4pm on Wednesday 22nd February

If you have any problems with the booking process, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or the front office.

St Joseph's School Board

We are inviting people to consider nominating for the 2023 School Board. The school board does not require a huge commitment. There are two meetings each school term. If you wish to find out more, please come along to an Information session on **Tuesday, February 21, at 6.30 pm**. A light supper and refreshments will be supplied. If you cannot attend, please visit the following website for more information about the role of the School Board in Catholic Schools in South Australia.

<https://www.schoolboards.cesa.catholic.edu.au/recruitment/for-parents/joining-a-board>

Please email info@stjomb.catholic.edu.au or call the administration office on 85342000 if you can attend. Information about the role of the School Board can be found on Catholic Education South Australia's website: schoolboards.cesa.catholic.edu.au.

School Traffic Flow

Florence Street Road crossing monitors are back in action, as training was conducted last week. 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.

Mission Australia Visit - NDIS Support

Mission Australia has partnered with Catholic Education South Australia to deliver NDIS Local Area Coordination Services to eligible St Joseph's School students. A Local Area Coordinator from Mission Australia will be attending the school one day per term during 2023 to provide individual appointments for families requiring assistance to understand or ask questions about their child's NDIS plan.

Date: Thursday 23rd February 2023

Time: 10am – 1pm & 1.30pm to 4pm in the Tenison Woods Building

Register: Please phone Helen at Mission Australia on 0436 687 591 to book an Appointment time

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

A message from your Coordinator

It's been a great start to the term and wow how tall have some of the children got over the break. We have looked forward to seeing them all and catching up on their holiday adventures.

We have met lots of new families this term and welcome them to our OSHC family.

I'd like to remind families that term one and four it is an expectation that children have and wear hats to OSHC. We want to promote sun safety and how to be safe in the school grounds.

We have lot's of fun, games, craft and adventures planned for this term. This week we are making play dough, playing with water in the sand and planting plants for our OSHC jungle.

We look forward to seeing you

Annette and Sarah

OUR HOURS OF OPERATION;

Before School Care 6.30 am till 8:30am

After School Care 3:20pm till 6:30pm

[Before & After School Care | OSHC | Camp Australia](#)

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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

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>

Catholic News

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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