



Newsletter

Welcome back to St Joseph's 2021!

Issue 1 6 February 2020

St Joseph's School

10 Ina Avenue, Ottoway S A 5013
Telephone: (08) 8447 4969
Facsimile: (08) 8241 0380
Email: info@stjotto.catholic.edu.au
Website: www.stjotto.catholic.edu.au

In All Things Love

Uniform Shop

Open on Monday and Fridays
8.30 am to 9.30 am

Playgroup

Friday - 10.00 am to 11.30 am

Out of School Hours Care

Daily

6.30 am to 8.30 am
and 3.00 pm to 6.00 pm

Tuesday 2.45 pm to 6.00 pm

Bookings essential

Mobile: 0437 863 067

St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish

Priest - Fr Marek Ptak CR

Phone: (08) 8447 3223

Email: stmax@ottowayparish.com

Mass Times

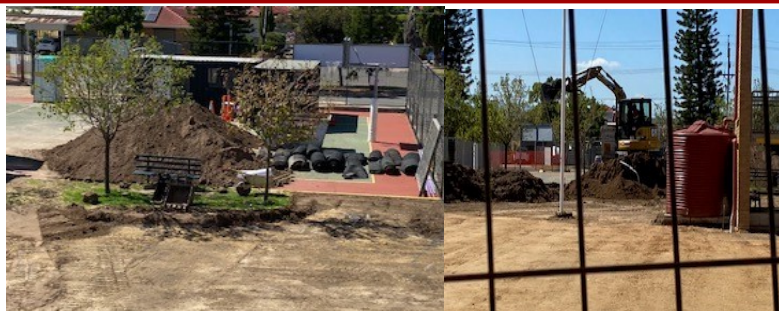
Saturday 6.30 pm

Sunday 8.30 am English &
10.30 am Polish

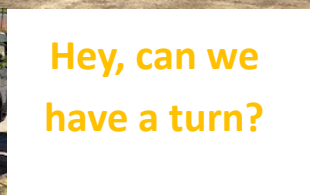
Weekday 6.30 pm English & Polish
Except Tuesday

(check with Parish)

What happened to
our basketball
court?



Hey, can we
have a turn?



Congratulations to Our 2021 St Joseph's Senior students who were presented with their Senior jackets last Friday.

We acknowledge that our school is on Kurna country. We recognise and respect the Kurna people as the continuing custodians of the Adelaide Plains and pay our respect to Elders past and present.

Welcome

The beginning of the school year is such a special time for children and families, especially those who are commencing school for the first time or have transitioned to St. Joseph's from another school. In Pre-school I have the pleasure of welcoming the following students:

Michaiah, Silas, Jackson, Evalee, Julia, Patrick, Jayden, Leon, Ivy, Jackson, Lorenzo, Vinh Khang, Adleyah, Joseph. In Reception I have the pleasure of welcoming the following students: Bao Han, David, Bonnie, Romano, Nhi, Oscar-Phong Le, Oscar, Alisha, Iris Thuy, Taylor, Agiel, Isabel, Christine, Ashton, Edith.

I warmly welcome the following students in older year levels throughout the school:

Year 2 Umar, Ayaam, Amelia **Year 3** Jack **Year 4** Serah, Sophie, Anh Cat, Dmitri, Savanah **Year 5** Joel, Athan .

I hope that their experiences at St. Joseph's encourages their love of learning and sense of curiosity. I hope, too, that their families feel connected with their children's learning and development, and that our partnership with them is long and prosperous.

New Beginnings

Of course, for every child and young person returning to school this year there is also a sense of a new beginning. Every new year level is a different experience for all children and an opportunity to make new friends and set new goals. Similarly, as educators, as this new school year commences, we have another opportunity to be the kind of leader or teacher that we dream of being. I hope that, individually and collectively, we can continue to grow and evolve as educators, nourished by our faith and our commitment to making education truly liberating for children and young people.

As we commence this new school year, there is much for us to be excited about. In Term 1, children will experience our Whole School Excursion to the Botanic Gardens, Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday, Andrew Chinn Whole School Incursion, St. Joseph's Feast Day and Harmony Day along with class incursions and excursions.

Importantly, though, 2021 offers us the opportunity to strengthen the quality of the education that we provide – a truly Catholic education – so as to equip children and young people to be more self-aware, skilled in critical thinking and willing and able to take their place in society as leaders for the world God desires.

In other news, I would also like to officially welcome Mrs Jennifer Craig, Miss Danielle Librandi and Mr James McCarthy to our school community. Jennifer and Danielle will take on the role of Junior Primary teachers in 2021 while James will take on the role of Specialist Physical Education teacher this year.

2021 Staff and Class Structures

Below is an outline of our 2021 staffing structure:

Shaun O'Leary: Principal, Leader of Teaching and Learning: Numeracy and STEM

Simon McCullough: Assistant Principal Religious Identity and Mission (0.6), Administration (0.2), Specialist Music and Wellbeing Teacher (0.2)

Louise Moody: Leader of Teaching and Learning: English as Additional Language, Literacy, Inclusive Education Coordinator

Preschool Coordinator: Maddie Merenda (Terms 1 & 2)/Catherine Crosbie (Terms 3 & 4)

R/1 Classroom Teacher: Danielle Librandi

R/1 Classroom Teacher Jennifer Craig

2/3 Classroom Teacher Natalie Doyle

3/4 Classroom Teacher Ben Higgins

4/5 Classroom Teacher Matt Pick

5/6 Classroom Teacher Jane Smith

Janine Myer: Specialist French Teacher (0.2)

James McCarthy: Specialist Physical Education Teacher (0.2)

Upcoming Events

A Term 1 School Calendar has been included as part of this week's newsletter. I would like to particularly draw your attention to the following events:

Parent Information Evening & School Board AGM– Monday February 8.

This will involve class teachers outlining their classroom programs and procedures. This is an opportunity for parents to meet the teacher and hear about class routines and ways they can support their child at home. During the evening I will present the AGM Report in the School Hall sharing our school's achievements from 2020 and our future plans going forward. All families are very welcome to attend. Please refer to the notice sent home to all families on Wednesday January 27 for further information.

In addition Parent/Teacher interviews will also take place during Week 9 of this term. More information will be forwarded to you closer to the time.

Ash Wednesday – Wednesday February 17.

As a whole school we will join the parish community in celebrating Ash Wednesday mass in St Maximilian Kolbe Church. Parents are very welcome to join us during this mass.

St Joseph's Feast Day – Friday March 19.

As a whole school we will join the parish community in celebrating St Joseph's Day mass in St Maximilian Kolbe Church. Parents are very welcome to join us during this mass. Further details about the day will be forwarded to you closer to the time.

Pupil Free Day – Friday March 26.

Our staff will be involved in professional learning in the area of Religious Education. APRIM Simon McCullough and myself will facilitate the day where staff will be involved in further developing their understanding of liturgy in order to plan and develop contemporary liturgical experiences for the children in their classes. OSHC will be available for families who require the service on this day. Bookings are essential so please see Mieke if you need to make a booking.

Whole School Assemblies

Another of our community activities at St Joseph's is our school assemblies. Whole School assemblies will take place in Weeks 1, 5 and 10 this term on Friday at 8:45am. Parents are warmly invited to attend assemblies where we celebrate learning and working together.

Catholic Identity

The following are past twitter feeds from Pope Francis:

God needs people who bring His forgiveness and His mercy into the world
God loves us in a way that crushes all loneliness and isolation
Holy Spirit, you who sustain the Church, come down upon us again, teach us unity, renew our hearts,
and help us to love as Jesus taught us
Never forget this golden rule: "Do to others what you would have them do to you"
(Mt 7,12)

These messages from our current Pope remind us of the importance of valuing all those we come into contact with throughout our lives.

Curriculum News

I have included two mathematical tasks which you might like to have a go at with your child/children. This week's Mathematical tasks:

Reception to Year 3

You see a sign in a shop window

Record what this means to you in as many different ways as possible.

Years 4-6

Two fractions add to give $\frac{3}{4}$. List as many possibilities as you can as to what those two fractions might be. Happy inquiry.

Reading is another core learning area here at St Joseph's School. Our staff use an agreed set of practices around children's development of reading skills, knowledge and understanding. These practices shape our reading programs across the school.

Below are some strategies you might like to try at home to support your children's learning:

- encourage and model reading in the home
- Listen to your child read their reading material and ask specific questions related to what they have read
- Read with your child
- Share what you are reading with your child
- Read your child a bedtime story
- Talk to your child about the different situations you find yourself in whereby you are required to read texts.

Happy reading.

Eating well is good for our mental and physical health. The brain requires nutrients just like our heart, lungs and muscles do. At St Joseph's School children are encouraged to bring healthy foods to school to eat daily, with many classes stopping throughout the day for Brain Food snack time. Wholegrain breads, fresh fruit and vegetables are easy to manage Brain Foods children should be eating on a regular basis. Enjoy.

Canteen News

In Term 4 2020 Canteen manager Rebecca Allen was busy meeting with suppliers to source healthier food options as part of the process of developing our new look healthier canteen menu in preparation for its launch this term. As healthy food options are often more labour intensive, this year both Rebecca Allen and Bronwyn Robinson will work in the canteen on

Thursdays. Rebecca will also work in the canteen on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. As a result of our canteen menu changes we are seeking volunteers to support Rebecca between 9am and 11am on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. If you are interested please come and see either Rebecca, APRIM Simon McCullough or myself.

In other news, the canteen will be closed on Tuesdays as Rebecca will work in the front office on this day. Ready-made cheese toasties will be easily accessible on Tuesdays for children who for whatever reason come to school without lunch.

Teaching and Learning

Early this term I plan to meet with teachers to have professional conversations about our school, what we stand for and our focus areas in 2021. My leadership experiences along with my professional development have taught me the importance of staff having a clear shared vision, working in collaboration and basing their teaching practices on contemporary data and research. Most importantly as educators we need to have a human connection and develop a positive trusting relationship with each child. When these key areas are evident we see the greatest impact on the improvement of student learning outcomes and wellbeing.

In 2018 the staff developed three important documents to support teaching and learning across the school. Our *Principles of Pedagogy* document clearly outlines how we teach at St Joseph's School while our *Literacy Agreed Practices* and *Numeracy Agreed Practices* documents outline what is to be taught in the areas of English and Mathematics.

In 2019 staff developed a school STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Vision and Action Plan, an Action around Ecological Conversion and

Sustainability for the school along with a Vision for Learning Reflective of Catholic Education South Australia's Living Learning Leading Framework. These 5 documents along with the Australian Curriculum will inform our teaching and learning programs both in 2021 and into the future.

In 2021 we will continue to have separate Literacy and Numeracy blocks across the school; non-interrupted times where teaching and learning is focused on developing children's understanding, knowledge and skills in these vital areas of school life.

Religious Education is another important area of learning in our school. Children regularly have the opportunity to develop their personal relationship with God through participating in prayer and liturgy experiences, learning to live faith filled lives informed by scripture, reaching out to those in need within our community, creating a sense of community within classes and across the school, witnessing to God's love for all of the creatures of the Earth and recognising each of us as unique gifts made in the image and likeness of God.

During the first three weeks of the school year, classroom teachers spend much of the time focusing on wellbeing and relationship building within their classes. This focus also incorporates components of the *Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum* which since 2008 has provided the framework to teach children and young people from ages 3 to Year 12 to recognise abuse, talk to trusted adults and understand ways to keep themselves safe. In 2013 the curriculum was updated to reflect contemporary child safety issues and to align with both the Early Years Learning Framework and the Australian Curriculum.

Of course there are many other areas that we focus on at St Joseph's School however the above mentioned areas are integral to us. If you would like further information please see your child's class teacher or a member of the leadership team.

2021 School Board Nominations

Nominations are now open to members of the school community who would like to serve on the school board in 2021. The school board plays a valuable role in school governance. The board also allows parents to have a voice in the strategic direction of the school.

Being a part of the school board can be a very fulfilling and rewarding experience. If you are interested in serving on the school board in 2021 please complete the attached nomination form and return it to the front office.

School Nature Play and Sustainability Garden Update

I am pleased to announce that on January 11 LCS Landscapes commenced work on developing our School Nature Play & Sustainability Garden and the resurfacing of our Hard Court areas. For safety purposes throughout Term 1 the work site will be fenced off from the school to allow work to take place during school hours. At this stage the entry to the school from Rosewater Terrace remains open using the gate closest to the playground. We remain hopeful that the project will be completed by the beginning of Term 2.

Principal News Continued

Skool Bag App

To keep up to date with what is happening within our school along with upcoming school events why not download the **Skool Bag App** from the App Store on your mobile phone. Once downloaded simply search St Joseph's School, Ottaway and add to your Skool Bag page. Many of our families currently use the **Skool Bag App** to keep up to date with what is happening across our school.

In addition our school website **News and Events** link is regularly updated to assist our families in keeping up with what is happening across our school.

May God continue to bless all of our families throughout 2021.

Working in partnership with you.

Shaun O'Leary.

APRIM News

Welcome back to the school year! ☐

I hope you and your family had a wonderful New Year.



2021 Sacramental Program.

This term we will begin our 2021 Sacrament Program group. Catholic children from Year 3 to Year 6 can nominate to be prepared for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation. We have no dates available for these celebrations, but families will be advised of these as they come to hand from the parish.

Every second year at St Joseph's School, students are invited to be a part of the Sacramental preparation program.

The Sacramental journey in the school context follows on from Baptism and includes the celebration of the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation.

Thank you to everyone who has joined the program so far. If you are interested in receiving an enrolment form, or would like to find out more about the Sacramental program, please complete slip enclosed in this newsletter and return to the front

OSHC News

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome to you all, 2021 in OSHC. Please feel welcome to visit and then use OSHC, where children are in a safe supervised environment; learning happens while children play, have fun and make new friends.

Please remember morning care in OSHC is available, **6.30-8.30am. (by appointment) Please make a booking for the 6.30am care. OSHC is available each week day 7.30-8.30am.**

All parents using OSHC will need to check their myGov app to check for messages. Follow the prompts—confirming that you used the OSHC service. This occurs as we have just had a break, and Centrelink is just confirming you are using the service. If you don't confirm you will not receive CCS (Child Care Subsidy).

Casual attendance in OSHC

Please remember check **your personal myGov** app and **Centrelink for messages**. When parents use OSHC casually you won't automatically receive CCS (Child Care Subsidy). You will need to visit **your myGov app** to check for messages. Follow the prompts—confirming that you used the OSHC service. **This will occur for casual attendance of the service. Centrelink is just confirming that you are using the service.**

Parents/caregivers are welcome to read the OSHC Policies, feel welcome to ask and I will make copies available for your perusal.

Please remember to make a booking when you need OSHC. All bookings can be made by ringing or messaging the OSHC mobile on 0437 863 067. If there is no answer leave a message on the service. I will call or message you back. Making a booking helps us keep the child/staff ratio in line with legislation. 24 hours' notice is necessary when cancelling a booking or charges will occur.

Thank you for your cooperation.
Mieke

Parents and Friends News

Parents and Friends and Volunteers

At St Joseph's School relationships between parents, carers, staff and students are highly valued. Parents and staff are partners in the educational process of the children in our care.

Our Staff prioritises and welcomes the development of good relationships with parents and caregivers. As parents are the key educators of their children we work closely with you to ensure that this shared journey assists our children to reach their full potential. Parents are a vital part of our school community and provide much needed and valued support to the school. The contribution families make towards the success of community events and celebrations throughout the year is central to the success we have in building a strong, hope filled community.

All parents and carers in our community are what we call Parents and Friends and we would love to support you in creating the community events and spirit that you want to have at St Joseph's. This might include fundraising, celebrations and community events and something as simple as making new families feel welcome here.

Parents volunteers are also so important to the life of the school in the classroom, canteen, school band and excursions.

All volunteer contributions are very valuable. To become a volunteer in the school there is a short process of induction and some requirements that need to be met. We can help you meet these requirements easily and appreciate your commitment.

Some of the requirements are;

- ◆ · Work Health and Safety for Volunteers
- ◆ · Responding to Abuse and Neglect training for volunteers
- ◆ · Protective practices for working with children

Please make a time with me, this will take around 20 minutes to complete.

Over the past two years St Joseph's parents have organised:

- ◆ · a Karaoke Night
- ◆ · School Discos
- ◆ · Morning Teas
- ◆ · barbecues at Sports Day and at the End of Year celebrations
- ◆ · A Mid-Autumn Festival with a beautiful banquet of food
- ◆ · Mother's and Father's Day events amongst many other valuable contributions

Some other important dates –

17/2 – Ash Wednesday Mass 10am

Monday 8/3 – Adelaide Cup Holiday

Wednesday 17/3 – St Patrick's Day Mass

Friday 19/3 – St Joseph's Mass and Harmony Day Celebration

Thursday 25/3 – Annunciation of the Lord Mass

Friday 26/3 – Pupil Free Day – Religious Education

29/3 – 2/4 Holy Week liturgies 8:45am each morning

Chaplain News

Welcome to the new school year! May 2021 be a rewarding year and prove to be much less unpredictable. Our thoughts remain with those still feeling the effects of the COVID 19 virus and may they again, soon, know and return to a less stressful way of life.

I look forward to working with the St Joseph's School Community again this year as part of the National School Chaplaincy Program (NSCP). For further information about the role of Chaplain and the program in general, please use this link:

<https://www.education.gov.au/national-school-chaplaincy-program>

While thinking about the content for this piece, I decided to research some common proverbs.

I came across this proverb in Vietnamese:

Ăn quả nhớ kẻ trồng cây (When eating a fruit, think of the person who planted the tree)

When you are being presented with something good, think of the process of the things this could involve. Essentially, this proverb highlights gratefulness: that for everything you experience, it's the result of the little things that came together. For example, the learning that occurs in schools has involved parents as first teachers, and years of study and a dedicated mindset of the teachers who then become the formal educators in a child's life. *'From little things big things can grow'*.

So, as we begin this new school year, may gratitude and hope be at the forefront of all our thoughts.

School Calendar

Term 1 2020

February		March		April	
8	Parent Information Evening/AGM Meeting 5.30 to 6.15 pm - Preschool, R/1T & R/1W 6.15 to 6.45 pm Annual General Meeting 6.45 to 7.30 pm Yr 2/3 to Yr 5/6	8	Adelaide Cup Public Holiday	2	Good Friday Public Holiday
17	Ash Wednesday	15	Andrew Chinn Whole School Incursion	5	Easter Monday
19	St Joseph Feast Day	22	Parent Teacher Interviews School Board Meeting	9	Term 1 Concludes 12:30pm
22	School Board Meeting	26	Pupil Free Day - Bookings are essential so please see Mieke if you need to make a booking.		

Tear Off Slips

Please return to Shaun O'Leary

I wish to nominate _____ to serve on the St Joseph's School Board.

Nominee's Signature _____

I wish to nominate myself _____ to serve on the St. Joseph's School Board in 2020

Signature _____

Please return to Simon McCullough

Parents & Friends

I, _____ would like to support the 2021 Parents and Friends events or volunteer in another way.

My child / children are in: _____ (class)

I am best contacted on: _____ (phone / email)

Sacramental Program

I would like to receive an enrolment form for my child for the next Sacramental program.

My child is already baptised: Yes No **(PLEASE CIRCLE)**

Child's Name _____ Class: _____

Parent's Name _____ Signature: _____