



Issue 19 3 December 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

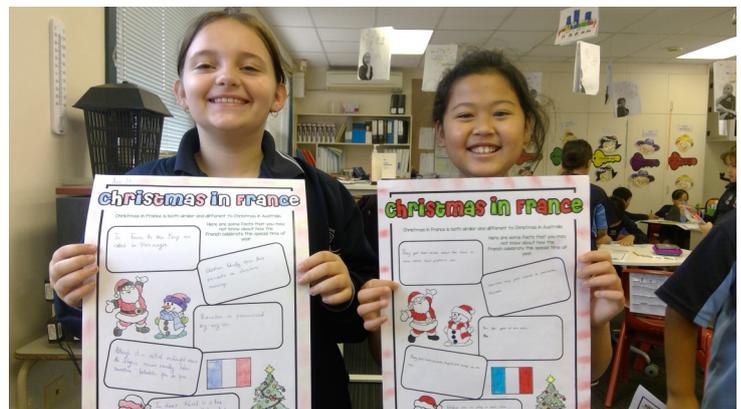
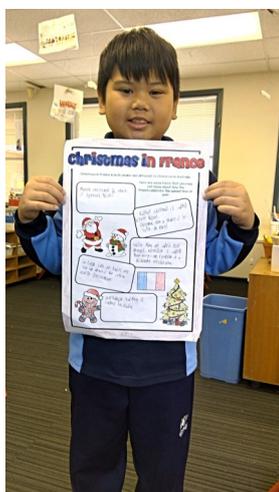
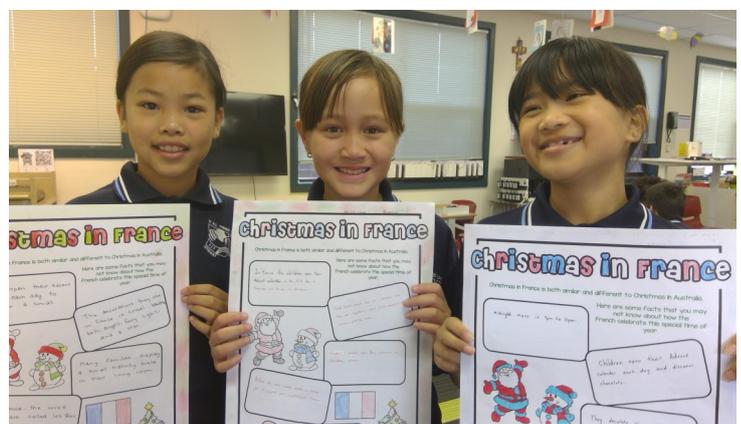
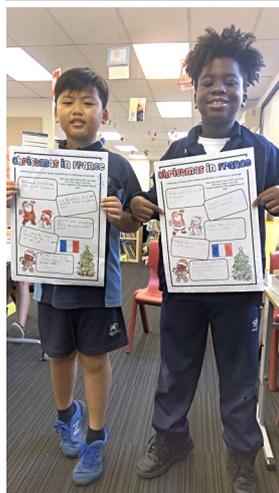
Weekday 6.30 pm English & Polish
Except Tuesday

(check with Parish)

Newsletter

JOYEUX NOËL!

"It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you."
- Mother Teresa of Calcutta



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.

It's hard to believe that the 2020 school year is rapidly coming to an end. It has certainly been a year full of many challenges, surprises, twists and turns as we have navigated through the Covid 19 pandemic.

To all of our parents and carers, I would like to say thank you for your cooperation in working with myself and our school staff this year, respecting Covid 19 restrictions put in place and for adhering to social distancing protocols where possible. Your support has been greatly appreciated and has gone a long way towards reducing the anxiety levels of staff in these unprecedented times.

When I reflect back on the year I have fond memories of the following experiences our children have been involved in outside of their day-to day learning; excursions, incursions, sports carnivals, masses, liturgies, STEM Open Day, St Joseph's Feast Day, Tri-skills Activity Day, Book Week, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Day, Graduation, assemblies and fund raisers, just to name a few.

As we find ourselves in the Advent season, a time for preparation and waiting, there is an opportunity, regardless of our age, to step back and to evaluate the priorities which we live out in our daily choices. There is a chance to take stock and feel the gentle 'nudging' of the Spirit. So, as Christmas approaches, amidst the busyness of shopping and organisation, perhaps there will be an opportunity to be attentive to the inner voice, the voice which calls us to see at this time of the year the new born child, a countercultural message to reorder our priorities, to put people, not things first and to give first call to love.

In the words of Pope Francis:

"The world tells us to seek success, power and money; God tells us to seek humility, service and love."

Catholic Identity

In the Catholic Church, the season of Advent is a period of preparation, extending over four Sundays, before Christmas. The word *Advent* comes from the Latin word *advenio*, which means "to come to," and refers to the coming of Jesus. This refers, first of all, to our celebration of Jesus' birth at Christmas; but second, to the coming of Jesus in our lives through grace and the Sacrament of Holy Communion; and finally, to His second coming at the end of time. At St Joseph's School we have the opportunity to invite Jesus into our lives through our interactions with others, the relationships we build and through our school celebrations and community building events.

Following Advent we enter the season of Christmas, the shortest of all church seasons. Christmas is the season of great joy. It is a time of God showing His great love for us. It can be a time of healing and renewed strength. Christmas is when we celebrate the birth of the Christ child. God sent His Son, Jesus, into the world to be born. His birth brought great joy to the world. Shepherds, wise men, and angels all shared in the excitement of knowing about this great event. They knew this was no ordinary baby. The prophets had told of His coming hundreds of years before.

As Catholics we believe we are made in the image of God. This makes each of us unique and special just the way we are. The festive season provides an opportunity to pause, reflect and value how important those closest to us are in our lives. Spending quality time together at Christmas is what it is all about.

Curriculum News

I have included two mathematical challenges which you might like to have a go at with your child/children.

This week's Mathematical challenges:

Reception to Year 3

What numbers can you make using the digits 4, 7 and 9?

A two digit number contains exactly one 6. What might the number be?

Years 4-6

Represent 392 in as many different ways as you can?

Someone has written a number in words but the words have been cut up. The words and symbols used are:

Two	six	hundred	nine
Five	and	.	
Seventy	,	thousand	

What might the original number be?
Happy inquiry.

Children develop their reading skills, knowledge and understanding by reading regularly. 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.

Canteen News

Canteen manager Rebecca Allen has been 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 in Term 1, 2021. As healthy food options are often more labour intensive, commencing in 2021 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 commencing in 2021. If you are interested please come and see either Rebecca, APRIM Simon McCullough or myself. A copy of our new 2021 canteen menu will be sent home with your child's Semester Two School Report on Wednesday December 9.

In other news, the canteen will be closed on Tuesdays commencing in 2021 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.

Farewell to our Two Longest Serving Teachers

It is with an element of sadness that I announce to the school community that our Two Longest Serving Teachers, Malama Theodosi and Fran Wanders will be retiring at the end of this current school year.

Malama has been a teacher within Catholic Education for the past 39 years, 31 of which have been within the St Joseph's School community (1982-1983 and 1992-2020) in a variety of teaching roles including EAL Teacher, Year 5/6 classroom teacher, Year 7 classroom teacher and Reception/Year One classroom teacher. During her time here at St Joseph's, Malama has also held a number of Positions of Responsibility including that of The Arts, Sustainability, Inclusive Education, EAL and Mathematics coordinator.

Fran has been a part of the St Joseph's School community for the past 35 years as an Early Years Educator having taught in the Preschool and as a Reception and Year One classroom teacher. In 2000 Fran also taught Specialist Science R-7 one day per week in addition to her Junior Primary classroom teaching role.

Together Malama and Fran have formed our strong Junior Primary Teaching Team over the past 12 years, working tirelessly in partnership to ensure our children receive the absolute best early years of schooling possible. Their outstanding service and commitment to St Joseph's School is a reflection of their character and the passion they have towards the education of young people.

On behalf of the St Joseph's School community, I would like to extend our congratulations and gratitude to Malama and Fran. The passion, dedication and talents of these wonderful educators have enriched the staff, students and families at St Joseph's. We wish them and their family every blessing as they begin new chapters in their life journey.

In other staffing news, Catherine Crosbie has extended her parental leave until July 2021. Maddie Marenda will continue in her current role of Preschool Coordinator throughout Terms 1 and 2, 2021.

Jennifer Aquino and Danielle Librandi have won the positions of R/1 classroom teachers for 2021 while James McCarthy has won the position of Specialist Physical Education teacher for 2021. Jennifer is well known to the school community having worked in the past as a 2/3 classroom teacher and this year as our New Arrivals teacher. Danielle is also known to the school, returning to us from Woodville Gardens Primary School after having worked here at St Joseph's in 2018 as our Specialist Italian teacher.

James is a graduate teacher who has specialised in Physical Education teaching as part of his degree.

I hope you will join me in making all three teachers feel welcome in our community.

2021 Staff and Class Structures

I have completed the process of putting together class structures and teaching roles for the 2021 school year. Teachers have completed the process of placing children into classes in preparation for 2021. Children will find out the class they are in on Tuesday December 8 as part of our Whole School Transition in preparation for the 2021 school year.

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 Aquino

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)

Year 6 Graduation

On Wednesday December 9 our Year 6 children will celebrate the completion of their primary years schooling with our Year 6 Graduation Liturgy which will take place in the school hall at 6:00pm. Following the Graduation Liturgy the children will travel by bus to and from the Watermark Hotel, Glenelg to celebrate their Year 6 Graduation Dinner together. (This is dependent on Covid 19 restrictions in place at the time).

Whole School Transition in Preparation for 2021

On Tuesday December 8 between 1:00pm and 1:30pm all children will visit their 2021 class teacher and classroom in preparation for the 2021 school year. This provides an opportunity for children to familiarise themselves with the classroom environment, classroom teacher and children they will be spending the 2021 school year with.

Thank You Volunteers

Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers who have supported our children and school in so many different ways throughout 2020. There is strong research that indicates that student learning outcomes improve when families are engaged and working closely with schools. Without the support of our volunteers we simply would not be able to offer the many different opportunities for our children. The ongoing efforts of our volunteers is greatly appreciated.

Important Dates

Term 4 concludes 12:30pm Friday December 11.

Term 1 commences 8:45am Wednesday January 27.

School Nature Play and Sustainability Garden Update

I am pleased to announce that LCS Landscapes has won the contract to develop our Nature Play & Sustainability Garden space. LCS Landscapes is a local company, who along with three other local companies were given the opportunity to bid for the project. In consultation with our architect and Catholic Education South Australia we decided on LCS Landscapes to undertake the project. We remain hopeful that the project will commence before the end of this year with a completion date towards the end of Term 1, 2021.

Fees to reduce across all Catholic Diocesan Primary Schools in 2021

In Term 3 the South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools announced that it will make Catholic Education more affordable by lowering the school fees of every Catholic diocesan primary school in 2021 under its *Making Catholic Education More Affordable* initiative.

The exact level of fee reduction in each diocesan primary school will vary from school to school to take into account their circumstances and the needs of their families.

Our school has been working with Catholic Education South Australia to finalise our fees for 2021 which are outlined below.

There is more information about the initiative in the letter sent from the Chair of the South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools to families and on the Catholic Education South Australia website at cesa.catholic.edu.au/fee-reductions.

St Joseph's School Ottoway 2021 Fees

	Full School Fee	Concession School Fee	Preschool Fee
1st Child	\$1490	\$990	\$690
2nd Child	\$990	\$750	
3rd Child	\$750	\$500	
4th Child	\$0	\$0	

*Families are encouraged to speak to Finance officer Rosalie Fergus about concession fee eligibility.

Catholic School Parents SA

The South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools (SACCS) is pleased to announce the formation of Catholic School Parents SA as the new representative body of Catholic school parents.

Catholic School Parents SA will connect with parent groups across the 101 Catholic Schools in the State.

Chair of SACCS, Professor Denis Ralph, said "Parents and carers have always played a pivotal role in the success of Catholic schools in South Australia. This new parent representative and advocacy body will further enhance parent engagement and participation in the education and care of children and young people in

Catholic schools in South Australia."

In 2020, the Commission engaged an independent reviewer to consult with parents in all Catholic schools to seek their feedback as to whether they felt they had an adequate voice in the education of their children and what kind of support they would like to see in the future.

"While acknowledging that the current structures have served parents and our school communities well in the past, the review recognised that parents and carers have busy lives and are looking for new ways to engage in and support the education of their children," Professor Ralph said.

Catholic School Parents SA will be closely aligned with Catholic School Parents Australia, the national body that represents and advocates for parents and carers of children and young people in Catholic schools across Australia, and will seek to have broad representation of parents of students in our schools.

The new group will:

Engage in a program of listening to the needs of parents across Catholic schools

Advocate for improved funding and support for children and young people in Catholic schools and preschools

Ensure parent voice in policy development

Represent parents on a range of committees and working parties

Participate in the work of Catholic School Parents Australia.

"We are excited by the opportunity to engage with parents in our schools in new ways in 2021 and beyond," Professor Ralph said.

Schools will receive further information early in 2021.

Positive Education

In 2006, Dr Martin Seligman first introduced Positive Psychology to Geelong Grammar School in Victoria. Since then, there has been a rapid diffusion of Seligman's educational philosophies and principles in Australian schools. Known today as Positive Education, the results of this partnership are helping educators to transform the way they approach pastoral care in a learning environment and prepare students for lifelong learning and flourishing beyond the school gates. In 2016 I attended a 4 day *Discovering Positive Education* Conference run by staff from Geelong Grammar School here in Adelaide. In this newsletter I would like to share with you a little of what I learnt about growth mindset.

Professor Carol Dweck from Stanford University suggests that people can be categorised into two groups, those predominantly with a fixed mindset and those predominantly with a growth mindset. Fixed mindset people believe their talents and abilities are set in stone, trying to prove themselves over and over, trying to look smart and talented at all costs. Growth mindset people know that talents can be developed and that great abilities are built over time, believing their qualities can be cultivated through their efforts. Here at St Joseph's School we teach children that through persistence, resilience, practise, displaying confidence, being organised and embracing positive feedback, we strive for excellence, becoming the best we can be in the process, which is very much a growth mindset.

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, Ottoway 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.

I wish all of our families an enjoyable end to the school year, a safe summer break and hope Christmas is a joyful celebration of Jesus' birth and ongoing presence in our lives.

Working in partnership with you.

Shaun O'Leary.

School Calendar

Term 4 2020

December		March	
9	6pm Year 6 Graduation Liturgy Followed by Year 6 Graduation Dinner	8	Adelaide Cup Day Public Holiday
11	12:30pm Term 4 Concludes	15	Andrew Chinn = Whole School Performance
January		22	Parent Teacher Interviews
26	Australia Day Public Holiday	23	Parent Teacher Interviews = Late Night
27	8:45am Term 1 Commences	24	Parent Teacher Interviews
February		April	
3	Whole School Excursion : Adelaide Botanic Gardens	2	Good Friday Public Holiday
8	5:30pm - 6:15pm Preschool & R/1 Parent Information Night 6:15pm—6:45pm School Board AGM 6:45pm—7:30pm Year 2 –6 Parent Information Evening	5	Easter Monday Public
		9	12:30pm Term 1 Concludes

Chaplin News

Checkout these websites for details for Christmas & Summer Holiday Fun!



<https://kidsinadelaide.com.au/christmas-in-adelaide/>



<https://kidsinadelaide.com.au/south-australia-term-4-school-holidays/>



<https://playandgo.com.au/>

- where to GO
- what to DO
- where to PLAY
- what to SEE

2021 Sacramental Program.



So far this term we have had three children join 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. Please complete the form below to register your child's interest.

Vinnies

Thank you for your donations of goods for Vinnies. They have been delivered and were very gratefully received.

Community Prayer

We all continue to meet each Friday morning at 8:45 for Community Prayer. You are invited to join with us when you can. If the weather is good, it will be held out in the courtyard.

Parents and Friends

While we have been currently unable to meet and celebrate community events in the ways we are accustomed to, we appreciate all that parents and carers do in contributing to the life of our school community. Keep your ideas and plans at the ready for when we can return to celebrating community events, hopefully early into next year.

Reply Slip

To: Simon McCullough

I would like my child to join in the 2021 Sacramental Program.

My child's name.....

My child's class teacher.....

My parish is.....

Please tick any sacraments that your child has completed:

Baptism/Initiation (your child must be baptized in order to be part of the program)

Reconciliation

First Eucharist

Communion

Signed

Date.....

Uniform Shop Opening Hours for the beginning of year

Friday 22 January 2021 - 8.30 am to 10.30 am

Wednesday 27 January 2021 - 8.30 am to 9.30 am

Normal Opening Hours

Monday and Friday - 8.30 am to 9.30 am

Online Shop

- Open 24/7
 - Delivery information is on your online shop home page
- AfterPay available

How to Order

1. Create an Account (optional)
2. Add products to your cart
3. Fill in Special Instructions for seller field with your child's name.
4. Check out by following the prompts.

You can log back in at any time and view your past orders.

SJO Online Uniform Shop

<https://www.jssportsonline.com.au/collections/st-josephs-school-ottoway>



Choir Video... Downloading

Dear Choir Students and Families,

Great news! You are able to (for a limited time only) able to download a copy of your video recording to keep.



Your downloading of the concert is to be as a keepsake only. You can only use the recording for private use. You are not permitted to upload any part of it to Facebook or YouTube (or anywhere on the internet where it would be available for members of the public).

You are allowed to share the web address and password with your friends and family so they can view it for themselves, or show them the recording within a private home.

The download feature will only be available until Friday, 4th December!

Remember, go to... <https://www.musicfestival.cesa.catholic.edu.au/news/2020-concert-videos-login>

Username: 2020Festival Password: 2020Festival

There is a link underneath where the video appears for you to download. Be aware that it is a large file.