

St Joseph's School, Waroona Newsletter

Principal's Message



Dear Parents, Guardians, Friends, Students and Staff,

Lord, help children with additional needs know they are loved and they matter to You and the world. Through Your Spirit, help parents and community leaders to walk in humility to eliminate destructive stigma toward people with additional needs. May children with disabilities be afforded improved access to basic services, healthcare, and education.

Amen

Disco: The students thoroughly enjoyed the P & F disco. The photographs show some incredibly scary costumes and many "cooking" dance moves. Thank you to Rebecca Sutton, Leesa Hall, Natasha Williams, Mandy Jackson, Megan LeRoy, Brooke McKeever, Madison Odorisio, Christine Hamersley, Camille Odorisio, and our Year 6 helpers for running the disco.

Also, thank you to Bec Sutton, Mandy Jackson, and Tash Pitter for the awards and preparation of the morning tea to celebrate World Teacher Day. We are blessed to have so many dedicated Professional Educators at St Joseph's.

A strong and vibrant P & F is essential for events like these to run. If you can help the P & F in any way, please nominate for the committee.

Student Voice Survey: 103 students completed our student voice survey and the results are overwhelmingly positive. All students agree that we generally make all students feel included and celebrate the differences between people and that we are encouraged to treat all people with respect. It has helped to identify our next focus on improving student wellbeing. (See attached pie chart visual)

I'm given opportunities to show leadership and be involved in decisions at my school that affect my learning and wellbeing.



A 2021 focus will be to continue to increase "child agency" or child voice in their education. As part of this, we will be introducing student leaders from each class in 2021 to empower our students to have a more active say in their school. These leaders will provide input into the learning within the school and meet with the school leadership team regularly to provide a voice at staff meetings regarding the direction of their school.

Professional Development (Pupil Free) Day Friday 13th November: Our staff will be undertaking a professional development day next Friday. Our focus will be on further developing our teaching and support strategies for children diagnosed with Autism. Autism is a lifelong condition that affects how a person learns and interacts with other people and their surroundings throughout their lives (from childhood to adulthood).

Student achievement: Our students in Year 1 to 6 have recently completed standardised testing. The growth of students from the start of the year across Literacy and Numeracy has been sensational. The results are a reflection of the dedication and hard work of our Professional Educators. Overall school results will be shared at our Annual General Meeting. Our main 2021 school improvement focus will be aimed at increasing and celebrating student academic growth in Literacy and Numeracy.

Camp: The Year 6 students, Mrs Fuller and I will be away at camp at Monday until Wednesday next week. Our Year 6 students have an amazing array of activities. The leadership of our school will be in the capable hands of our extended leadership team of Mrs Trewren, Mrs Hodgson, Mrs Poasa and Mrs Landwehr.

Book Week: On Thursday our school will celebrate Book Week with dress-up themed on "Curious Creatures Wild Minds". There will be a short presentation assembly in the undercover area from 8:40 am.

Remain at home if unwell and recovering: It is common at this time of year for students to suffer from a range of mild illnesses. We actively remind parents that children need to remain home and not return until sufficient time has passed for them to not spread the illness to other children. In the case of Gastroenteritis, children should not return to school and adults should not return to work until 48 hours after the last episode of diarrhea and/or vomiting.

COVID 19: Please ensure social distancing is maintained between adults at all events, follow good hygiene practices at all times, and as mentioned above, if unwell stay home.

Staffing: Congratulations to Mrs Poasa who has been appointed as the Music co-ordinator and teacher at St Bernadette's Catholic Primary. Whilst we are happy for Mrs Poasa, we will miss her exceptional talent and teaching. We will formally farewell Mrs Poasa and any other staff leaving at our upcoming Christmas Concert on 3rd December.

The Arts Learning Area will be split over two semesters in 2021. Mrs Fuller will be teaching Visual Arts in Semester 1 and Mrs Langan will return in Semester 2 to teach music.

A full outline of teachers for 2021 will be provided at St Joseph's Annual General Meeting which will be held at 6 pm in the library on 24th November. All are welcome to attend.

May you have a wonderful weekend.

Kind regards,

Michael O'Dwyer

Principal

Dates to Remember.....



- Monday, 9 November to Wednesday, 11 November Year 6 Camp
- Monday, 9 November St Vincent De Paul Christmas Appeal begins
- Tuesday, 10 November P & F Meeting is CANCELLED
- Tuesday, 10 November School Board Meeting, 6pm in the library

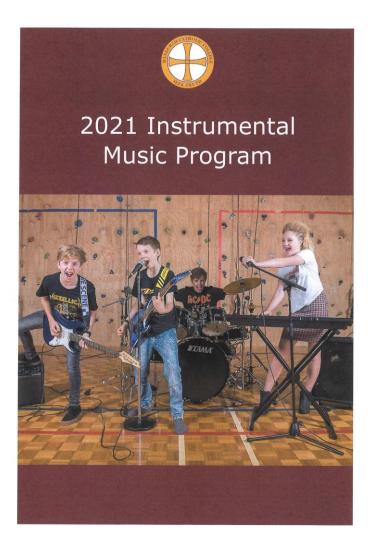
- Wednesday, 11 November Remembrance Day Service (RSL), 11am
- Thursday, 12 November Book Week Dress Up TIME, 8:40am
- Friday, 13 November Pupil Free Day

Woolworths Cricket Blast



In conjunction with Cricket Australia and Perth Scorchers, junior cricketers can have fun and be active in this local program. No experience required. Contact Mat Thomas on 0410 610 839.

2021 Instrumental Music Program



Mandurah Catholic College (MCC) provide music tutor's at each of its feeder schools within the Peel region. If there are enough students at St Josephs School, Waroona for a particular instrument, the tutor will come once a week and perform the lesson onsite during school hours. Fees are billed directly from MCC . The recommended age for instrumental lessons are;

Year 2 upwards - Vocal, Violin, Piano, Keyboard

Year 3 upwards - Guitar, Drums

Year 4 upwards -Clarinet, Flute, Trumpet

For an application, please see Heather Brown in the school office.



- Why did the chicken go to the gym?....To work on his pecks.
- My kids have been throwing Scrabble tiles at each other again. It's all fun and games until someone loses and i.
- This summer, WAAPA is thrilled to be able to offer an exciting school holiday program at our
 campus in Mount Lawley. There are classes for students from Year 1 to Year 12 in drama, acting
 screen performance, film making, music theatre and of course Shakespeare. For information
 about the many course on offer, please visit www.waapa.ecu.edu.au/summer-school or contact
 Gabrielle Metcalf at explore.waapa@ecu.edu.au or 93706775.

Containers For Change



Start collecting your recyclable containers. They can be cashed in at the Waroona pop up collection point located at the Town Hall on a Wednesday or Saturday morning. St Joseph's School, Waroona have registered for the scheme so families can use the opportunity as a donation to the school. You just need to show our Scheme ID number of C10333294.

Uniform Rescue



St Joseph's Waroona have decided to partner with 'Uniform Rescue'. This worthy organisation collects unwanted school uniforms from schools around Western Australia, which are then donated to schools and communities overseas who can give the uniforms a second life.

We will be donating our old

discontinued formal stock and we need backpacks for packing them in. Uniform Rescue send backpacks full of clothes over in shipping containers as this is a perfect size for shipping containers plus the backpack can also be used at its destination.

If you have any back packs at home that are no longer being used (can be any backpack, not just school ones), please drop them off to the school office for us to help support this organisation.



1 - We have our first two backpacks filled with new uniforms ready to be sent overseas. Please drop any back packs (do not need to be school ones) into the school office so we can get the uniforms donated to where they need them.

St Patrick's Parish



Mass Times:

- Wednesday 9:00 am
- Friday 9:00 am
- Saturday 5:00 pm
- Sunday 8:30 am

Sacrament of Penance:

3rd Sunday of the month at 8:00 am