

Messages from Nicole

Dear Families, Friends and Students,

I cannot believe that it is already Week 11 and the end of Term 1. What a busy first term it has been. As the term comes to an end, it is a time to reflect on all the wonderful opportunities students have had. Some of our events included welcome night, swimming lessons, liturgical events, leadership inductions, assemblies, school photos, Be Green Day, NAPLAN testing, St Patrick's Team celebrations, St Joseph's Day, Project Compassion Stalls, Harmony Day, Easter, Year 6 Camp and of course all the wonderful learning opportunities in classrooms. St Joseph's is a very dynamic and diverse community and there has been much achieved in the last eleven weeks. My thanks to all families and staff for their energy and commitment to the school. Our new staff need to be congratulated as they have adapted very well in their roles and have helped provide a very positive and collaborative learning environment. We have completed a very successful term together.



The whole school attended the Easter Play portrayed by our Year 5 students.

The staff and I have been reflecting on our Annual Improvement Plan – 1) Staff Faith Formation, 2) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education, 3) Mathematics, and 4) Student Agency. There are already indicators showing evidence of our growth and development.

We have seen a genuine commitment to the following:

1) Staff Faith Formation:

- CESA Religious Education Team visit where teachers participated in professional learning and curriculum design.
- Establishing importance of St Joseph's Day in a Josephite School with staff and students.
- New staff to Catholic Education Professional Development

2) Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Education:

- Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Focus team established with two meetings for planning.
- Begun working on St Joseph's Reconciliation Action Plan





ST. THERESE'S RENMARK

Fr Hau 0401 367 337
8582 1894

MASS TIMES

14 April Sun 9.00am

UPCOMING EVENTS

April

8-10 3-Way Learning
Conversations

12 12.30pm Dismissal

29 Student Free Day

30 Term 2 starts

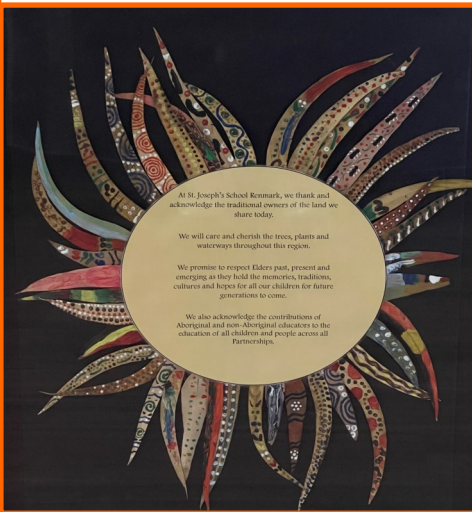
May

3 St Joseph's Team
Celebration Day

10 Mother's Day afternoon
tea

Acknowledgement:

We acknowledge that St Joseph's School students, staff and community live, study and work on Erawirung Land. We acknowledge the First Peoples of the River Murray and Mallee as Traditional Custodians of the Riverland region and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging. We respect the deep connection Aboriginal people have with land, animals and waters.



3) Mathematics:

- Intensive support from CESA Learning team (every fortnight).
- Implemented Shared Numeracy Agreement.
- Numeracy plan for year established.
- Professional Development with staff on curriculum, data analysis and assessment design.

4) Student Agency:

- Professional Development for staff- common understanding and language.
- Leadership Team visit to St Mark's College Week 8- Learning Walls/Student Agency.
- 3 Way Learning Conversation implemented.
- Student reflections on own learning R-6.

We certainly aim for excellence and acknowledge that we can improve to achieve the expected high standards. We are always happy to receive feedback which is valued and respected in helping us shape the work of the school.

3 Way Learning Conversations:

We sincerely thank all parents/caregivers for their positive engagement with our 3 Way Learning Conversations. We value this as an opportunity for families to connect and discuss learning opportunities with your child and their teacher. It is an opportunity to engage in an open dialogue on any number of topics, including strengths, opportunities for growth, and attitude towards learning. We openly welcome parental engagement and see this as critical in the development and learning of children.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Recently, I had the pleasure to join Fr Hau, staff, families and their children to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. During this program our children learn about the importance of making good choices. Some choices are easy. Other choices are not so easy. Sometimes they have to choose between what's right and what's wrong. They also learn that we can make mistakes and that forgiveness heals the heart and restores relationships. We promote the word "sorry" and learn from Jesus who forgives us and gives us another chance. I thank all staff who helped prepare our students for this special sacrament.



Project Compassion:

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of the community who have supported Project Compassion this year. The project will conclude at the end of this term and all funds raised will make a tremendous difference to the lives of many in our world. We are proud to announce we have currently raised more than \$2700. This will significantly contribute to the lives of so many children and families.

Anzac Day:

ANZAC Day falls in the holidays this year. However, it is important that our school promotes and shows respect for such a significant event. We will be represented by some of our Year 6s at the local Anzac Ceremony on Tuesday 25th April at 10.30am. All students and families are welcome to join us. Please wear your full school uniform.

P&F Community:

We again thank the generous Parents & Friends Community for their valued involvement. They donated the Hot Cross Buns which were distributed before Easter.

Master Plan Update:

We are happy to advise that we have been able to purchase two properties which will help us in our efforts to continue to build and improve the school. The acquisition of the properties on Eleventh Street will allow us to plan into the future and continue with our efforts in developing our master plan.

Pupil Free Day- Term 2:

A reminder that on Monday the 29th of April we will have a pupil free day. Students will return to school on Tuesday the 30th of April.

As my time comes to an end, I want to thank you all for the hospitality, friendship and kindness you have shown me and Maxwell this term. You welcomed both of us with open arms and trusted me to lead this school and community. It has been a privilege to work here, and I have thoroughly enjoyed my time. It will be sad to go but I cannot wait for the next time I come to visit.

This week I have the opportunity to get into classes to teach art, Barngarla language and even join Mrs Del Zoppo cooking. I cannot wait to share these learning experiences with classes, and I am looking forward to enjoying this last week here at St Joseph's.

I lastly want to acknowledge the efforts of each individual staff member and the many roles, responsibilities and skills that have been demonstrated this term. Each staff member cares greatly about the students and this community and make this a wonderful place to work.

Wishing you all safe and happy holidays.

Regards
Nicole Russell
Principal



Leader of Learning:

The joy of learning is experienced by students at our school. Learning science research has shown that tiered learning improves academic achievement, relationships with classmates and teacher/ESOs, and promotes psychological well-being. Students have numerous times throughout their learning week where they work in Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3 learning where Teachers, ESO's and Students receive feedback on learning progress and focusing on the next steps in their learning.

Chrissie Grocke
Leader of Learning



Religious Identity & Mission:

Palm Sunday:

Our whole school celebrated Palm Sunday in liturgy together.. We gathered on our oval waving palms and singing Hosanna and processed to our shelter to reenact the welcoming of Jesus into Jerusalem.



Easter Holy Week Play:

We congratulate the Year 5 students for sharing the significant story of Holy Week with our Community on Holy Thursday. They did a wonderful job.



Hot Cross Buns:

Thank you to our Parents and Friends Committee on providing yummy Hot Cross Buns to all in our community after the Easter Holy Week Play.



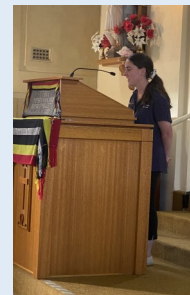
Easter Celebrations:

Classes began their time together on Easter Tuesday with beautiful classroom liturgies, where they used the symbol of the broken easter egg as the empty tomb and celebrated our risen Jesus.



First Reconciliation:

Congratulations to our Year 3 students Mersadez Bronish-Rice, Jacob Elliott, Ivy Gilford, Sam Hughes, Charlotte Luxton, Sophia Mai, Emma Meuret, Layla Neal and Harper Wolf who recently received the Sacrament of First Reconciliation during a beautiful liturgy. This is a special time on their faith journey. See photo on page 2.



Term 2 Week 1:

St Joseph the Worker's Feast Day - This will be celebrated by our St Joseph's team on Friday Week 1, 3rd May, with them wearing their Gold t-shirts and celebrating with an afternoon tea. Students are asked to bring their food to the Tenison Woods Centre in the morning.



Chrissie Grocke
APRIM

Star Student Awards:



Back: Seb Vowles, Eva Demou, Avleen Jhinger, Isla Hooper, Agamjeet Singh, Lydi Gittos.
Front: Jagger Gordon, Madeleine Brown, Brayden Bussenschutt, Isabella Hammerstein, Saskia Ronan, Harvey Kenyon.



Back: Lucy Watkins, Dakotah Searle, Jack Hughes, Nikita Seekamp, Angus Pfeiffer.
Front: Apollo Atsaves, Nate O'Bryan, James Brown, Eloise Burgess, Georgie Woolford, Elise Pfeiffer.

Champion Citizen Awards:



Congratulations to
**Riley Eske, Maxwell Russell,
Ricky Mai & Sophia Mai**
who were recently presented with our
Champion Citizen Awards.

Student Free Day

Monday 29th April 2024
due to Staff Professional Development.
OSHC is available.
Ring Nicole 8586 4481

Parents & Friends:

Mother's Day:

The P&F will be providing small gifts for the children to buy for their Mothers or someone special, Friday Week 1, 3rd May. Gifts ranging from \$2 - \$10.

They will also be having their successful Mother's Day Afternoon Tea the following Friday, Week 2, 10th May at 2.30pm. Please return the reply slip included with this Newsletter to assist our catering.

Quiz Night:

Come and join us for a fun night on Saturday 25th May. Get your team together or just join in the atmosphere. BYO drinks and nibbles. This will be held at the Catholic Church Hall on Ral Ral Avenue from 6.30pm.

Mrs Giulia Del Zoppo
P&F Committee

ST JOSEPH'S P&F
COMMITTEE
PRESENT:

**QUIZ
NIGHT**

READY TO PLAY?
25TH MAY - 6:30PM

\$5 ENTRY. BYO DRINKS & NIBBLES
AT THE RENMARK CATHOLIC CHURCH HALL

Book a table of 10 or we can place you in a group.
Raffles, auctions & games. Tickets from the office.

Student Wellbeing:



Meet Charlie



We are very blessed to have our wonderful wellbeing dog 'Charlie' at our school. Charlie has undertaken training to do his role, learning how he can best support students and staff at our school. Like our students, it is important for Charlie to continue his learning. He is currently completing further training with Ms Lawton once a week. This training ensures that he is kept safe and feels happy in our school environment. He is more than happy to show off what he has learnt if it means he gets a delicious treat!

Our staff and students enjoy getting to know Charlie and interacting with him in their classrooms, as well as in the school yard. The start of the year is a very busy time for Charlie in particular, as he visits all the different classes, helping students settle into their new learning environment. His presence in our classrooms creates a relaxing and calm environment for our students to learn in and he helps to reduce anxiety and stress for many students.

When he is needing some time to rest from all his hard work, you will find Charlie relaxing in the wellbeing room. Charlie knows when someone is needing extra support, and will often approach a student who comes into the wellbeing room for cuddles and pats. If requested by students, Charlie also participates in Keisha's counselling sessions.

Our students have learnt about the safety rules for caring for Charlie. Our students display this knowledge of the rules each day when they interact with him by asking his handler if they can pat or play with him. Students enjoy helping to care for Charlie by accompanying him on walks in the yard when he is needing to stretch his legs and be active. They also have learnt how much he loves belly rubs!

Charlie is a valued member of our school and will continue to play an active role in students' learning and wellbeing.



We asked some of our students what they love about Charlie, and this is what they had to say:

Charlie is very cute and playful. - Jade Coombs 3/HS

Charlie makes me feel happy when he is in our class. - Ivy Stoeckel 3/HS

Charlie plays fetch with me and I love him. - Lewis Gudgeon R/PH

Charlie is very smart and I love all his tricks. - Christos Karantonis 4/5TL

Charlies helps me feel better and makes me feel calm. - Dino Demou 4/5RW

We love playing fetch and hide and seek with Charlie on the oval. We run and try and beat him in a race. - Jaxon Pobke and Riley Vermeeren- R/PH

Year 6/JM Woodhouse "Happy" Campers:



The Year 6s enjoyed 3 days of fun and adventuring at Woodhouse Activity Centre in the Adelaide Hills.

Year 6/JM Woodhouse "Happy" Campers:



Camp was so much fun!



Thanks Mr McGuire, Miss Haynes & Mrs Del Zoppo

