

Messages from Don:

Dear Parents, Students and Families,

Welcome back for the final term of the year which, once again, will be eventful with all of the activities that make St Joseph's the community that it is. There is much excitement about the upcoming term with many wonderful events to take place including: - Transitions Days, Pogo Pulse/Skipping, Remembrance Day, Splash Day, Year 6 Graduation, Concert and our regular Assemblies and Masses.



World Teachers' Day:

Today we celebrated World Teachers' Day. I wish to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all our wonderful teachers for all their fantastic work they do. We have a positive environment in our school where teams have been created, and teachers and ESOs work collaboratively together. They are a committed group of professionals, who collectively provide a safe and caring environment with excellent learning opportunities. Most people know that Jesus was a carpenter, however, his ministry was also teaching as he taught those around him. I am grateful for the skills and knowledge that our teachers and ESO staff share with our school community. It's great to be able to thank our teachers for the marvelous work that they do every day for our students.



Miss Pfeiler, Miss LeCornu,
Mrs Charnstrom & Miss Venables



Lexie, Layla & Nanny



Grandparents Day:

What a fabulous afternoon we had with many grandparents and grand-friends attending to share a Liturgy, class activities and afternoon tea with their grandchildren. Many grandparents play a significant part in our children's lives and we thank them all, past and present, for their contribution to our families.

Reception/Buddy Transition Program:

In recent weeks our Year 5 students have been visiting local Kindies as part of our Buddy Transition Program for 2024. This has been an excellent opportunity to build positive relationships and prepare the young Kindy children for the start of their schooling. I wish to congratulate the Year 5 students for their excellent responsibility and leadership. The new students felt right at home when they visited us last week and again today. I also wish to thank the staff for their organisation and leadership.





ST. THERESE'S RENMARK

Fr Hau 0401 367 337
8582 1894

29 Oct Sun 9.00am

4 Nov Sat 6.30pm

12 Nov Sun 9.00am

18 Nov Sat 6.30pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

October

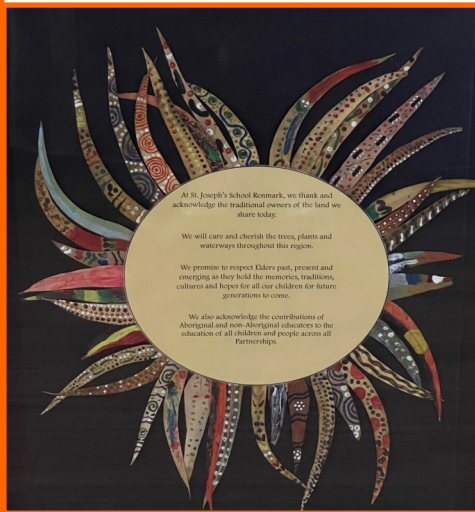
31 Aged Care Visit by 1/2SP

November

- 1 All Saints Day
- 2 All Souls Day
- 3 9.30am Parish Mass by 3/4HM
- 6 9.15am Assembly by 1/2TL
- 7 Melbourne Cup
- 9 Aged Care Visit by 3/4TH
- 10 Remembrance Day Celebrations

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.



Our Optional Transitions Days have been a huge success. With 44 new Receptions starting next year (plus ongoing interest with mid-year intake) this has been such an encouraging and supporting opportunity to help the children as they plan to start school. We look forward to the rest of our transition program starting next week, with the first official transition visit to the end of Recess time.

Year 6 Transition:

We have also been busy with the beginning of the Year 6 transition programs to secondary school in preparation for next year. While students leaving our school is always sad, we know that they are moving onto the next stage of their learning journeys and developing the skills they need to move into the adult world in a few more years. Our Year 6 teachers are working hard with families, students and all secondary schools to ensure that the transition process is a smooth and productive one for all involved.

Sunsmart School:

St. Joseph's is proud to be a 'Sunsmart' school. This means that hats are worn during Term 1 and Term 4. Please ensure that your child has a school hat for Term 4. All children must wear their school hats during playtime breaks and outdoor school activities such as sport. It is very important that we protect our children against the harmful effects of the sun's UV rays. If you need a new hat, they can be purchased from the front office for \$15.



Isabel, Lucy, Annie & Dakotah



We're too busy it seems!!!!

At this time of the year, I always encourage staff to not use the word 'busy'. Every year I include this article in our newsletter. It is true that the more we expect of life, the busier it becomes and the more complicated and cluttered it gets. This leads to less time available to appreciate the good things we have in life. Confucius definitely had it right when he said, "Life is really simple, but we insist on making it complicated."

This does make me think about how much of our busy-ness and life-clutter is brought about by our being caught up in the consumer culture that focuses on making money and then spending it on what we think we need. What were once considered to be luxuries are now seen as necessities.

I personally find that there is a danger that family life can be affected, for at the end of a busy day I can sometimes feel both tired and overstimulated; where I seek my family's love as well as try to be there for my family to provide healing and emotional nourishment. At times, weariness, frustration and irritation boil to the surface and conversations can become bitter and sharp instead of gentle and kind. It's a true case of not being able to give what we do not have, even when it is our loved ones who are in need of our giving.

Our “wants” and “desires” can cause our life to rush past us. During this time of uncertainty and anxiety, we all may need to spend time on ourselves to ensure our physical, emotional and spiritual welfare are all being considered so that our hearts will **not** be filled with misgivings, and we’ve **not** been too busy for living.

**“Life is too short, forgive quickly, kiss slowly,
love truly, laugh uncontrollably and
never regret anything that made you smile.”**

Pogo Pulse & Skipping:

We are pleased to again offer the Pogo Pulse/ Skipping Resilience Program. Mr Canavan will be coordinating this significant event and is working through the selection process. With our Wellbeing focus, this event builds and highlights the importance of resilience and how we can work through the daily challenges that life will present. The selected students have started their trainings and we look forward to their enjoyment and positive participation.

taking 12 months leave for 2024. Miss Georgia Eckermann has gained a teaching position in Adelaide and Miss Tori LeCornu will be going to London to teach. Mrs Julie Slagter and Ms Kate Schofield will be leaving our school community to pursue other adventures. We thank everyone for their commitment, dedication and efforts towards our school and wish all of them the very best for their future endeavours.

Renmark - vibrant & positive community:

The town is ‘abuzz’ with a number of community events including the Rose Festival. I congratulate all our families that are involved in any events or activities. I am proud to call myself a local.

Israel & Palestine Conflict:

As a community we continue to keep those affected by this conflict in our thoughts and prayers. We hope for a quick and peaceful resolution.



Lara, Khushreet & Kohinoor.
Thank you to the Stoneham family for their continued support by providing wonderful flower displays.



Hayden and Jared recently assisted Mr Adrian Hunt with some maintenance jobs around our school. Well done and thank you!



Higher Expectations for Term 4:

We look ahead to this exciting time of learning as we complete the programs of the year. This is a focused time for our students and teachers as they bring together the learning of the year and demonstrate maturity and growth in their skills, knowledge and attitudes. I encourage parents to have that usual talk with their child about goal setting and expectations, so each day of learning can be maximised to build opportunity and success.

Staff news:

It is with mixed emotions that I announce that we say goodbye to six staff members. Mrs Jordan Whitelaw and Mr James Canavan will be

Summer Sport:

I wish to commend all parents, staff and students who are participating in summer sport and acknowledge their commitment, dedication and input to their chosen activities.

Once again our newsletter highlights the many areas of learning that we provide. The life long and meaningful experiences are so valuable to our children’s overall development. We are proud of what we provide and look forward to the next two weeks.

Regards

Don DePalma
Principal

Religious Identity & Mission:

Year 6 Parish Mass:

Last Friday, the Year 6 classes led our Parish Mass. The theme for the Mass was 'Jesus teaching the crowds.' Students displayed reverence when reading and completing other ministry roles. It was a beautiful mass followed by a lovely morning tea back at school. Thank you to Mr Tony Luxton, Miss Rowie Williams, Miss Paige Hauptman and Ms Desiree Guy for preparing the students for the Mass. We also thank Fr Ranjith for celebrating the Mass with us, the parishioners, parents and friends for their attendance and the students for all their preparation and their faith leadership.



Commissioning of Confirmation students:

On Sunday morning at our Parish Mass, our students who received the Sacrament of Confirmation a few weeks ago, received a blessing from Fr Ranjith and were commissioned to go out and live a life with Christ.

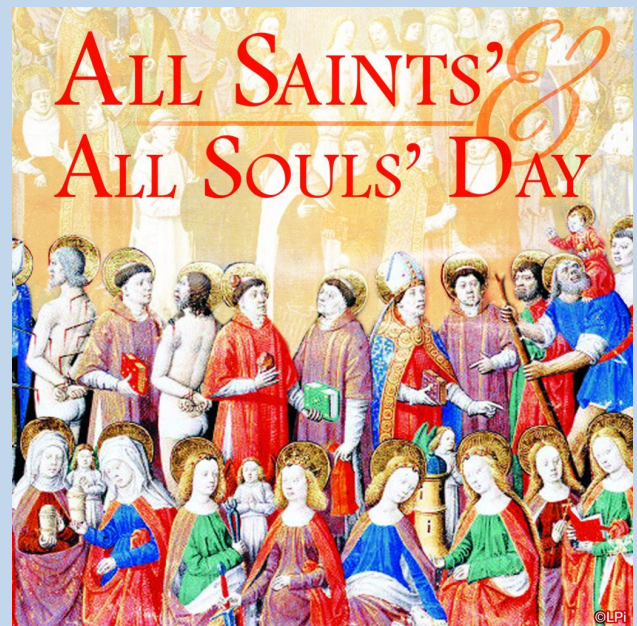
Grandparents Day:

Today we celebrated Grandparents and Special Persons Day. The students welcomed their Grandparents and the special elderly people in their lives, acknowledging and celebrating the gift of them and the vital role they play in our lives. We reflected on their great wisdom and experience, which is passed from generation to

generation, and we celebrated the gifts all our ancestors have forged for us- the gifts of life and love.

All Saints and All Souls Days:

Students will participate in class liturgies to celebrate All Saints Day and All Souls Day's next week. The Feast of All Saints' Day celebrates all the Christian saints. As a part of the service students will decorate candles to show a special remembrance of our loved ones, someone special in their life who may have passed away, a saint that they felt connected to or a special living person in their life. The candles will be displayed in our office prayer space.



RE Leaders Day:

On Sunday, Monday and Tuesday I will be attending the Religious Leaders Reflection Days for the Port Pirie Diocese, to explore the theme for 2024 'Let Your Light Shine.' I look forward to working with the other RE leaders to explore the theme in preparation for next year.



Chrissie Grocke
REC

Leader of Learning:

Staff Professional Development Day:

Our staff have successfully started the term with highly productive Professional Development sessions. The focus areas for development have been:

**** Mathematics** – Mr Paul Hooper and Mrs Kassie Charnstrom facilitated a session on mapping our whole school Mathematics curriculum with a focus on linking content areas, developing the connection to the ‘Why?’ students are learning the content. There was rich discussion amongst staff and the constructed scope and sequence builds on our focus of sustainability.

**** Multi-sensory language** – Mrs Amy Hunt facilitated a session about multi-sensory language, developing staff knowledge and understanding of the components of this approach and how she teaches intervention in our school.

**** Pedagogy** – Staff continued to explore High Impact Teaching Strategies, developing individual SMART goals in line with the AISTL teaching standards, to improve their teaching practice. They will share their growth with their colleagues in Week 5.

**** Transforming Inclusive Education** – Staff participated in a session focusing on differentiation to meet the learning needs of all students through the adjusting their strategic aim for lessons to cater for all students. ‘Teaching is like Bowling – you’ve got to curve the learning to hit more pins.’ One of the clips that was shared was <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RYtULU8MjLY>



Data Meetings:

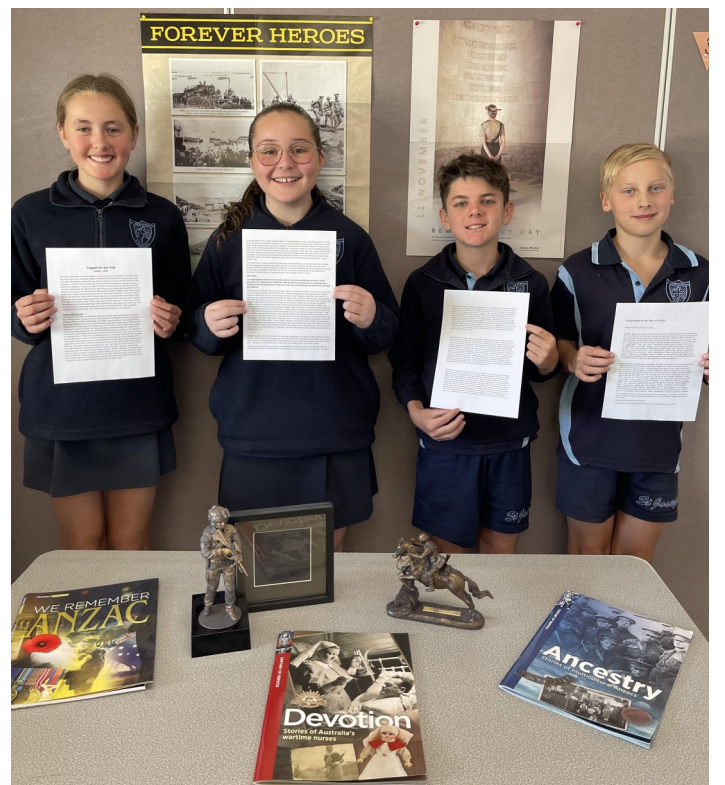
Teachers have also begun the term with individual cohort data driven meetings with leadership, focusing on students’ growth and discussing ways of adjusting student support to meet individual needs. This process also supported the development of teachers’ data literacy skills, which is a component of our Annual Improvement Plan.



Year 6 War Narratives:

Our Year 6 students have been enjoying crafting narratives to submit to the RSL War narrative competition. The aim of this competition is for students to discover and highlight the components of service, self-sacrifice, mateship, the horror of war and the devastating effects on self, family, town and country in their text.

Chrissie Grocke
Leader of Learning



Parents and Friends:

You either love it or hate it, but.....Halloween is just around the corner. To a lot of people, they think Halloween is an American tradition and I have been asked before why I love getting involved in Halloween antics every year. The answer is quite simple....It's special time with my family and a tradition we look forward to every year.

We decorate the house together, work out what costumes the four of us are going to wear, we shop for the lollies to share among other Halloween enthusiasts, we have a pre-trick or treat party and then we hit the streets in search of all sorts of sugar. As we walk through the streets, visiting the houses we know, we sit back and watch the anticipation on the faces of our kids as they are filled with excitement as to what delicious sugary snack they can fill their buckets up with.

Halloween or Hallowe'en (less commonly known as Allhalloween, All Hallows' Eve, or All Saints' Eve) is a celebration observed in many countries on 31 October, the eve of the Western Christian feast of All Saints' Day. It begins the observance of Allhallowtide, the time in the liturgical year dedicated to remembering the dead, including saints (hallows), martyrs, and all the faithful departed. Celebrated in Ireland and Scotland for centuries, Irish and Scottish immigrants took many Halloween customs to North America in the 19th century, and then through American influence, Halloween had spread to other countries by the late 20th and early 21st century.

You see, it's not just about an American tradition as some may believe. To us, it teaches our children to be **kind and courteous** when they knock on a door, to **share** their lollies so that everyone has equal amounts, it promotes **incidental physical activity** (you would be surprised how many steps we do!), it allows for **quality family time**, it's a great way for the kids to **interact** with others who lives in our community, it **spreads joy** to the elderly neighbours and makes them feel included, and for the serious Halloween devotee, decorating the house for others to enjoy and **bring a smile** (or slight fear) to their faces.

Trick or Treat all

Sally Martin

P&F Committee Member



Halloween Recipe: Chocolate Spiders

1 1/4 cup (215g) milk chocolate chips or melts
2 tbsp (30g) peanut butter*
1x 100g packet (~1 cup) of Changs Gluten Free Fried Noodles
Candy eyes

Line two baking sheets with baking paper and set aside.

Melt chocolate and peanut butter in a bowl that is sitting in boiling water, or microwave checking and stirring every 30 seconds.

Once your chocolate and peanut butter is smooth and melted, add in your fried noodles and stir to coat your noodles with the chocolate mixture.

Take a spoon and spoon out a tablespoon or so of mix onto your prepared baking sheet, repeating until all of your mix is used up.

Add on your eyes and place your baking trays into the fridge to chill.

*You can also use almond butter, cashew butter or sunflower seed butter for a peanut/nut free option



Student Wellbeing:

The school values we are focusing on this term are responsibility and accountability.

Importance of Responsibility and Accountability

Being accountable means being responsible for something and ultimately being answerable for your actions. As parents and teachers, we need to demonstrate, instruct, encourage, and allow children to be more responsible for their actions and accountable for the outcomes, their successes, and their failures. Teaching responsibility and holding children accountable is a process of imparting skills from a young age, while still being supportive. It involves actively teaching them life skills and then showing trust in them by giving them responsibilities in small manageable increments. This allows parents to gradually increase their child's responsibilities in a way that allows them to cope, in a way that builds their confidence and pride in their growing independence. What it doesn't mean is making excuses for children when they could have, and should have, been responsible and accountable.

Ways to teach life skills and encourage children to take responsibility and be accountable are:

- Pick up their own toys
- Clean up their own mess (age-appropriate)
- Get dressed on their own.
- Be ready on time for school with some supervision.
- Pack their own bags the night before school.
- Make their own beds.
- They should know what is required of them for homework.
- Complete projects on time.
- Seek additional help when necessary.
- Ask questions in class.
- Monitor their own learning and progress.
- Do chores at home.
- Be responsible for taking care of a family pet.
- Take care of their own belongings like jumpers, lunch boxes and hats.
- Be responsible for keeping one area of the house neat, tidy & organised.

Outline the consequences and carry them out when necessary – be consistent.

Show them what personal accountability looks like by doing it ourselves.

Create a safe space for them to admit that they messed up, take it on the chin, offer no excuses and make reparations. Making mistakes and failing is part of life. Learning how to deal with failure is also a key life skill that needs to be learnt.

TEACHING CHILDREN ABOUT PERSONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Teaching accountability to children is very important so they learn to take responsibility for their actions. This is an easier task with the right amount of love, structure and guidance. Here's how to start.



Let your kids know their responsibilities.

To ensure there's no confusion, sit down with your child and make a list of their responsibilities.



Be consistent.

When teaching accountability, consistently integrate it into your child's behavior and routine.



Give children age-appropriate chores.

This is associated with social, emotional and academic benefits and makes children more self-reliant.



Show children how to change their behavior.

Teaching children personal responsibility is not about punishing or disciplining them – it's about teaching them to make amends for intentional or unintentional behavior.



Set an example.

The best way to teach children about personal accountability is by being accountable yourself.



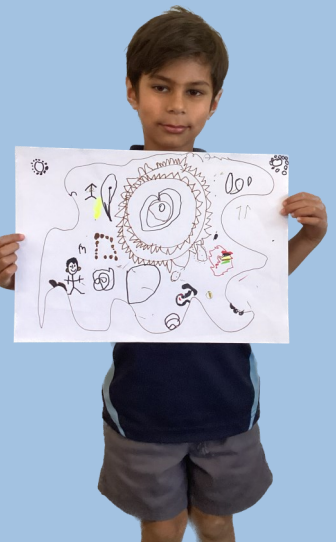
Charlie-in-action



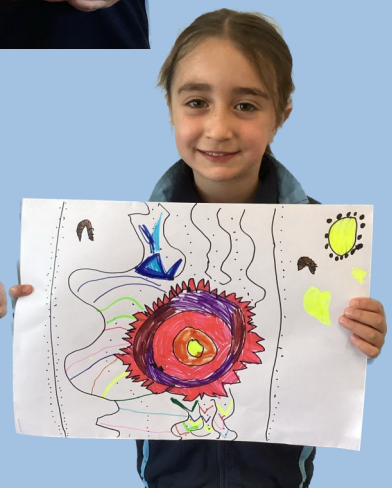
Charlie has enjoyed being back at school and interacting with all the students and staff. He loves doing a morning walk around to classes to say hello, where he gets lots of pats and treats.



HASS Learning in R/HS class:



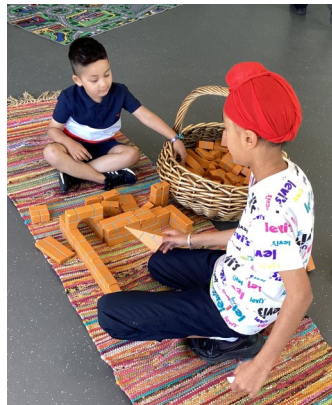
This term we are learning about the importance of Country/Place to First Nation Australians and the place on which our school is located, being Erawirung Land. We have learnt about the importance of telling stories and the different ways we tell and share stories. After learning about Aboriginal symbols we all created our own story using these symbols.



Optional Transition Day:



Lewis & Isla



Rishitvir & Armaan



Oliver



Kon & Owen



Mila, Lucy, Maddy & Nami



Ella



Angus & Jaxx



Indie & Ava



Mabel & Jasper



Jagger, Brayden,
Charlie & Riley



Ella & Arlen



Christian, Leo, Charlie,
Billy, Rishitvir & Armaan



Riley & Clara



Poppy, Chloe & Katie



Hudson & Ava



Relaxed Mums

Variety Sports Carnival:

Congratulations to our students who went and participated in the School Sport SA Variety Games in Berri on Tuesday 24th of October. Students had to meet certain criteria to be eligible to participate. Our school had 9 students who participated on the day and got to engage in Basketball, 5-a-side Soccer and Gymnastics. The games were competitive but not scored and were focused on having a go and participation.

We had many highlights throughout the day. Noah passing the ball to the opposition players to ensure they had a chance to shoot in Basketball. Harry and Mason giving a student from St Alberts Loxton the ball in Soccer, so they got to kick and be involved in the play.

The main highlight was the use of the Riverland Gymnastics Stadium. All of the students were discussing how they really enjoyed the trampolines, foam pit and balance beams!

This carnival will be happening again next year and we look forward to it continuing and prospering. The opportunity to be inclusive of all abilities when it comes to Sport and Physical Education is a priority to nurture.

Thank you to Bianca Halliday for her support on the day.

James Canavan
PE Coordinator

