

Messages from Nicole

Dear Families, Friends and Students,
It has been another busy week with some wonderful learning opportunities and special events and celebrations at the school this week.



St Joseph's Day:

On Tuesday, we celebrated our feast day with a whole school liturgy followed by an afternoon of fun with our Year 6s running their Project Compassion stalls. During the week we reflected on St Joseph's story and character. Joseph who was the father of Jesus, demonstrated strength of character and deep trust in God. Joseph was known for his tenderness, courage, and for being a humble and self-giving man. Mary MacKillop was so inspired by Joseph's actions, that she chose him as the patron of the Sisters of St Joseph. Today Joseph's qualities, especially his kindness continue to guide our community. When we say do our best and be kind, we are asking everyone to be more like St Joseph.



The whole school attended church to celebrate St Joseph's Day on Tuesday.

Harmony Day:

We also celebrated Harmony Day, which is the celebration that recognises our diversity and brings together Australians from all different backgrounds. Harmony Day is about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. The meaning of Harmony Day links directly with our very own Gospel values that we are guided by at St Joseph's. Students learnt about the meaning of this day within classes and participated in class led liturgies. After lunch students joined together as a whole school to link arms and created the letter H for Harmony. We thank Patrick Broughton for helping us with his wonderful drone photography skills.

NAPLAN:

We also completed our final NAPLAN testing this week, with students from Year 3 and Year 5 managing very well throughout the testing period. Thank you to all involved in the smooth running of this testing. We look forward to sharing these results with you when they are returned to the school.





ST. THERESE'S RENMARK

Fr Hau 0401 367 337
8582 1894

MASS TIMES

24 March Sun 9.00am
30 March Sat 6.30pm
6 April Sat 6.30pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

March:

- 26 Year 6 Camp
- 26 First Reconciliation
- 28 Holy Thursday Easter Play by Year 5s
- 29 Good Friday Holiday

April

- 1 Easter Monday Holiday
- 2 9.15am Assembly by R/LH class

Year 6 Positive Learning Opportunities:

The Year 6s were involved in wonderful leadership activities including Project Compassion stalls during St Joseph's Day. Special thanks to Mr McGuire, all our helpers and the Year 6 students for their amazing effort with this special day. The time and commitment shown was outstanding. The real-life skills that were developed through planning and preparation included responsibility, problem solving, organisation, communication, and social skills. The raising of money for disadvantaged communities was simply amazing and all involved are to be congratulated.

The Season Of Lent & Easter:

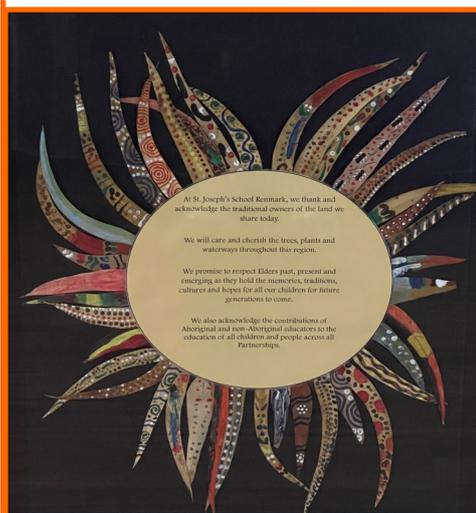
As we continue to move through the season of Lent, I often reflect on messages from Pope Francis, in particular where he calls us to be people of hope and joy for all of humanity. He states that this work should happen every day within our hearts, among ourselves, and beyond our doors and borders. With this idea, we are also talking with our Staff and Students about how Actions Speak Louder than Words. Our attitudes and actions during Lent should allow us to recover and deepen our enthusiasm when doing things that make us all better people.



On Wednesday, Ms Russell and Mrs Guy attended the Chrism Mass in Pt Pirie, along with our School Captains, Matthew Latorre and Clara McLeod. They are pictured with Bishop Karol.

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.



As we look forward to the Easter break, we are reminded that Lent is coming to an end. This has been a time of reflection, sacrifice and self-renewal where we have all been asked to think about how we can become better people. We will be privileged to share a prayerful and reverent re-enactment of the Gospel that incorporates the Easter Story from the delight of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, to the despair of His death on the cross and then the joy of His Resurrection. This will be beautifully and sensitively portrayed to our community by our students. The P&F will provide all students with a Hot X Bun after the play and we thank them for their generous contribution. We acknowledge and thank the students for their positive involvement and participation.

School Board - Update:

We are so pleased to announce that Steve Atkinson was re-elected as the Chairperson of the board. Jo Lloyd will continue in her role as P&F rep and Dale Lindner will continue as Treasurer. Sally Milich will oversee Wellbeing, Matt Jarvis will take on Maintenance and Capital Development, Chrissie Grocke will continue as Staff Rep, and Anna Petersen will continue as a board member. We also officially welcomed Nathan Burgess as another board member.

3 Way Learning Conversations

As stated in the last newsletter, in Week 11 we will be conducting 3 Way Learning Conversations. Please read the information regarding these conversations in the letter included in your child's newsletter pocket.

Chrism Mass:

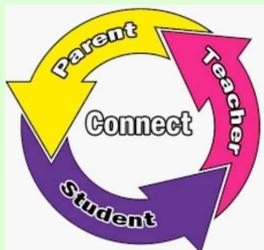
This week I took our Year 6 Captains, Clara McLeod and Matthew Latorre, along with Mrs Guy, to Pt Pirie for the Diocesan Assembly to participate in the Chrism Mass. This is a Mass of the highest order with Bishop Karol as the main celebrant. During the Mass, the priests, deacons and representatives of the entire diocesan community gather around their Bishop, who blesses the Holy Oils for use in the Oil of the Sick; the Oil of Catechumens and the Sacred Chrism Oil.

As we approach Holy Week, which is the most sacred time in our liturgical year, we focus on the last week of Jesus' life. We remember His passion, death and resurrection which brings salvation to humanity. As we journey with Christ through Holy Week, let us contemplate on how best to live our lives in the footsteps of Jesus. If you are heading away for the Easter break, travel safely.

Wishing everyone a happy and Holy Easter.

Regards
Nicole Russell
Principal

St Joseph's Day & Harmony Day Celebrations:



Parent Teacher Student 3-Way Learning Conversations

Week 11 ~ Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday
8th, 9th & 10th April 2024

Please see the important information included with this Newsletter

Religious Identity & Mission:

Parish Connections:

One of our Diocesan priorities is to deepen the connection between our school and our Parish. Last week at our School Assembly, we were privileged to have Kathy Anspach address us on behalf of our local St Therese Parish. She shared information about the Parish and her faith and invited all students and their families to join our parish at our weekend celebrations of the Eucharist.



Harmony Day:

We had beautiful classroom liturgies to acknowledge Harmony Day in our community this week. The true message of 'Everyone Belongs' was certainly recognised and celebrated. We then gathered as a school, linked with arms to form the letter 'H' acknowledging our action for Harmony in our world.



St Patrick's Day:

Last Friday we celebrated St Patrick's Day. Students in the 'St Patricks' team wore green and shared in an afternoon tea. The students learnt about St Patrick and how his mission was to spread Christianity throughout Ireland.



Reconciliation:

We pray for our Year 3 students Sam Hughes, Charlotte Luxton, Sophia Mai, Jacob Elliott, Mersadez Bronish-Rice, Emma Meuret, Layla Neal, Lucas Drowley-McElroy, Ivy Gilford, and Harper Wolf who will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation at the church next Tuesday 26th March at 6pm. This is a special time on their faith journey, and we invite all members of the community to join us.



St Joseph's Day:

We are so lucky to be a Josephite School, founded by Mary MacKillop who based her order the 'Sisters of St Joseph' on the qualities of St Joseph – humble, kind, supportive, loving and faithful.

We began our day of celebration with a whole school liturgy in the church and then continued our celebrations with our Year 6 young leaders who facilitated a fun, engaging and productive afternoon, raising over \$1500 towards Caritas Australia – Project Compassion. Congratulations to everyone, it was a beautiful day of celebration.



Religious Identity & Mission:

Lent:

This week is the last week of our Lenten season as we move into Holy Week. There has been outstanding student learning throughout the season, informed by the principles of Catholic Social Teaching, which guide us to look inside ourselves to grow and change as well as recognise how we 'Let our light shine' for others.



Holy Week:

On Monday morning at 9am we will gather to remember the journey Jesus took into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. Miss Hauptman's Year 4/5 students will lead the Liturgy.

Our Year 5 students are busy preparing our Holy Week play which will be performed on Holy Thursday. We look forward to them sharing this special story with our community.

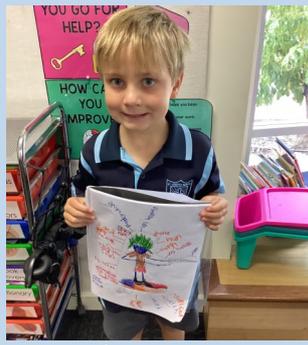
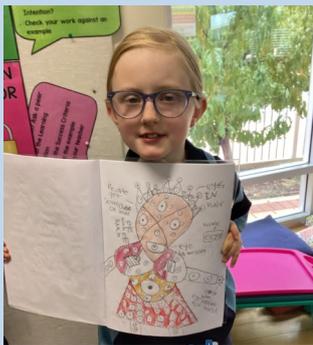
When we return on Easter Tuesday classes will have their own Easter Liturgy to celebrate the Risen Jesus, using the symbol of a cracked Easter egg as the empty tomb.

Wishing everyone a happy and holy Easter.

Chrissie Grocke
APRIM



Leader of Learning:



Addition wars



Character traits



Learning

Our curriculum across the school continues to engage and enthuse students as learners.

Chrissie Grocke
Leader of Learning



Snakes & Ladders counting

Tier 2 learning



Addition



Star Student Awards:



Back: Vlassios Papageorgiou, Molly Hooper, Anna Elliott, Mariela Cotsaris, Bridget Cooper-Adamczyk, Lucas Bassett, Luke Timmins.

Front: Cohen Greehnalgh, Mila Skinner, Jasper Lincoln, Mila Cullen, Judd Atkinson, Lorenzo Musolino, Riley Eske.



Back: Harrison McConchie, Rajpreet Singh, Hallie Nagel, Lila Petersen, Lucca Del Zoppo, Daniel Latorre.

Front: Piper Wolf, Andrew Son, Emmie Atkinson, Summer Thorpe, Fereidoon Rajabi, Elsie Lindner.

Champion Citizen Awards:



Congratulations to

Avleen Jhinger

who was recently presented with our Champion Citizen Awards.

SAPSASA Football:

The following students from St Joseph's represented Renmark on Tuesday 5th of March at SAPSASA Football in Berri: Matthew Lattore, William Petersen, Noah Albanese, Jenson Hardwick, Joel Stoeckel, Olly Stoneham, Lawson Dring, Jett Lever, William Gilford and Max Preusker. The boys competed well throughout the day and managed to win two games from the four they played. Lawson & Noah's efforts have given them the opportunity to try out for the Riverland team. We wish them all the best and hopefully they can go to Adelaide to represent the Riverland.



ST JOSEPH'S P&F
COMMITTEE
PRESENT:

**QUIZ
NIGHT**

READY TO PLAY?

22ND 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.



We know that skin damage can occur when the ultraviolet (UV) Index is 3 and above, usually from 1 August to 31 April. Therefore, all children must wear their school hats during playtime breaks and outdoor school activities such as sport during Term 1 & Term 4. We have a 'no hat-no play' policy. Thank you for supporting our school policies.

Let's get organised!

Being organised is an important life skill that can increase the likelihood of academic success. And it's not just a skill for adults!

Why is organisation important?

Organisation is an important aspect in play, language, social interaction, personal management (e.g. self-care tasks, bringing home all their belongings from school) and academic task performance (e.g. homework, project planning).

It is a skill that needs to be modelled to children, supported by sensible structures (eg. diaries, visual charts, labelled storage containers) and reinforced by realistic routines (e.g. pack away one toy/task before commencing another).

How can you tell if your child has problems with organisation?

If a child has difficulties with organisation they might:

- Struggle to get themselves ready on time
- Have difficulties planning (eg. not getting the right materials they need for a task/activity)
- Have difficulty packing their bag for school
- Have difficulty putting multi-step tasks together
- Appear lazy and not completing work (when in fact they may not know how to start the task)
- Get distracted easily
- Struggle to write down their thoughts
- Have difficulty giving instructions, telling a story or expressing their ideas
- Frequently misplacing items
- Be disinterested in developing independence and self-care skills

What activities can help improve organisation?

'To Do' lists: A helpful way of keeping track of what needs to be done. Get your child to tick activities off as they complete them. Remember this can be done using pictures instead of words.

Use a diary/calendar: Help the child to get in the habit of recording important information and dates in their school diary to be presented to a parent each night.

Break activities into smaller steps: Ask the child to write down the steps of an activity so that they can plan how to complete the task.

Sequence activities: Discuss how the sequence of completing tasks in a set order helps the outcome, as if the child understands why it often helps the recall.

Assign chores that involve sorting or categorising: Grocery shopping, emptying the dishwasher, making lists, arranging toys, etc. We tend to recall things by groups of category but the child needs to learn them first!

Cook together: Cooking teaches measuring, following directions, sorting ingredients, and managing time – all key elements in organisation. Involve your child in meal planning too.

Use containers and closet organisers: Help the child to physically organise their room. If there's a place for everything (and they choose that place), they will find it easier to find items, and keep it tidy. Include 'pack up time' into the daily routine to make sure things stay organised.



Being unorganised can make a child feel stressed which can affect their whole day.



Being organised will help a child start their day with a positive attitude.

Learning is FUN in R/PH class:

Throughout the 1st term of our learning, we have been exploring many different concepts in a fun and engaging manner. We have been looking at patterns and number in our Numeracy block and working on our sounds and c-v-c (consonant-vowel-consonant) words in our Literacy block.

