



## NEWSLETTER - 25 February 2022

Dear Parents and Caregivers

The amount of parents who wear their masks during drop off and pickup is amazing, the grace you've shown while not being able to be in the school buildings is remarkable, especially when I hear comments from other principals on how challenging it can be. Thank you for your genuine concern and understanding that helps us to keep our community safe.

As per my letter via SEQTA last week, in order not to bombard you with the plethora of notices coming from CEWA and WA Health, we will be limiting newsletters and updates to twice a term. Once things settle we will return to normal.

We have had a busy start to the year including whole school test, system wide tests and Department of Education tests (Pre-primary On-entry Assessment), which is why your child/ren have had a number of relief staff. These tests help inform teachers of the needs of the students which assists with their planning.

**SWIMMING LESSONS:** The last two weeks we have had swimming lessons from Pre-primary to Year Six. I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank Murray Leisure Centre and Department of Education Swimming and Water Safety Teaching and Learning Services. They invested time and effort to ensure the lessons were able to be managed in a safe way. Where possible they endeavoured to keep classes aligned with year levels, although this was not a requirement for venues other than school sites. The fact that we were able to walk to the pool meant that we did not have to organise buses and worry about mixing year levels in the bus. Because of this factor we were probably the only Catholic Primary School in the Peel region that was able to do this.

**SWMMING CARNIVAL SURVEY:** As our planned Faction Swimming Carnival is booked at an indoor venue, COVID restrictions mean we can't run this in the usual format. To avoid year levels mixing we have designed a modified format in which the students will complete their modified events with the year level cohort, return to school so the next year level can compete. There is a survey going out via email and SMS to the families of students in Year Three to Six. Please fill in the three questions by *Friday 4 March* so that we either run a modified program or postpone it.

**ENROLMENT/COMMISSIONING MASS:** We were fortunate to be able to adjust and combine our staff, School Advisory Council, Parents & Friends Commissioning and sacramental enrolment Mass to last weekend. We were the only school in the Bunbury Diocese to have done so before the Bishop cancelled these community Masses to comply with the new distancing requirements the government set to commence the following day. Thank you to all who attended and a warm welcome and congratulations to our new staff members Mr Luke Roberts and Mrs Kath Vella who have joined our St Joes family community this year.

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**CANTEEN CHANGES:** Another adjustment we have had to make is to separate our year levels during recess and lunch. Luckily the students were already eating lunches in their respective classrooms so that didn't require much effort. However, we realised that we needed to adjust canteen as we are not allowed to have volunteers on site. As we often have over 70 orders canteen day, we have had to severely reduce the menu to make it more manageable for one person to organise. Again, to avoid year levels mixing, our canteen manager Ros is dropping off recess and lunch orders to each classroom. We cannot supply ice creams but drinks, cheesies, fruit and lollies will be packaged and sent to the rooms. As we have moved to a no cash environment, you will need to place orders via the school website and click the CDF icon in the yellow boxes which is on the top of the homepage. Please only order those items that are displayed.

Through the generosity of our P&F, who donate fresh fruit and vegetables each week, students who forget to bring fruit can participate in our crunch and sip program.

**SCHOOL WEBPAGE:** You may have noticed we have revamped our webpage. While it is still a work in progress it is certainly easier to navigate. I would like to thank Mrs Bolt for sourcing a web designer and Melissa Bolt for her expertise and her ongoing adjustments to keep the website up to date. It is lovely to see ex-students helping us out! The address is:

<https://www.stjoespinjarra.wa.edu.au>

At that site you can then click on the yellow boxes to:

- CALENDAR - Check the live calendar (this is also available on our School Facebook page)
- SEQTA - Access SEQTA
- CDF PAY
  - \* Pay school fees
  - \* Order and pay school uniforms (*Please note the revised uniform list*)
  - \* Order and pay canteen selections
- ABSENTEE – for you to provide Absentee notes

Clicking this box allows you to fill in a simple form advising us of your child/ren's absence and reason. If your child is away for more than two days, please supply us a medical certificate.

**UNIFORMS:** Full correct uniforms need to be worn from next week. Order online from <https://www.stjoespinjarra.wa.edu.au>

**REPORTING POSITIVE COVID TEST RESULTS TO THE SCHOOL:** A reminder that if you have a positive RAT or PCR test you need to contact me, isolate and follow the health department directives. If you initially have only a positive RAT result, I will advise you to do the above and to also have a PCR test. WA Health has requested that the School uploads the positive PCR test evidence which will be sent to them as soon as possible so that close contacts can be identified.

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Please use the school phone (9530 5500) at any time to do this. After hours it will be diverted to my mobile should you need to contact me regarding a positive result. Please phone as soon as you are informed. This allows us to follow our protocols to ensure the health and safety of all our St Joes School community. WA health have been known to send out test results late in the evening.

Please don't wait until the morning. I would rather know sooner than later as there is quite a bit of paperwork we will need to do to comply with regulations.

**UNIFORM:** The correct uniform needs to be worn as of next week and teachers will send uniform infringement notices as applicable.

**SEASON OF LENT:** Ash Wednesday is next week. Father Mars, Vanessa and I will distribute the ashes to each classroom after a simple liturgy. This signifies the beginning of Lent which is a time of preparation for the celebration of Christ's Death and Resurrection at Easter. It is a time of –

- Prayer - Where we try to become closer to God by joining in the Eucharist, praying formal prayers eg The Our Father or informal prayers where we speak to God asking his help personally or for others in need.
- Fasting - It is not a requirement for children to fast, rather going without things so that we can focus on our relationship with God and our families. Eating less lollies, cakes etc so the money saved can go to others in more need.
- Ams giving - Helping others by doing good works, helping with family tasks, being inclusive with our friends so no-one is left out, being kind to others, saving pocket money to give to help those in need.

Next week the children will bring home a Project Compassion box which they can put donations into over a few weeks. The money can then be sent into the office by the end of Term One and it will be donated to CARITAS Australia.

This changing world needs us to be models of Christ. Please use the prayer below as we pray for all humanity, especially for those who are suffering in the recent events in Europe and closer to home, those who are homeless, sick or lonely.

Lord God

Your love restores the dignity of the broken hearted.  
Please help us to lift each other up in our words and  
Through our actions may we be actively showing the  
Spirit of Jesus in all we do. Amen

Thank you and God's Blessings be upon you all.

Mrs Joy Ketteringham – *Principal*

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MONDAY	28/02/2022	8:45am	Assembly - Presentation of Badges for Ministries and Councillors
WEDNESDAY	02/03/2022		Ash Wednesday
FRIDAY	04/06/2022	8:45am	Merit Assembly Hockey Clinic
SUNDAY	06/03/2022	10am	Mass at St Augustine's Pinjarra – 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent
MONDAY	07/03/2022		Labour Day Public Holiday
FRIDAY	11/03/2022		PUPIL FREE DAY

## **COMMUNITY NOTICES**



22nd & 23rd March 2022  
2 day course



**Learn how to use MYOB**  
This course is designed to provide small business owners, book keepers and accounts administrators key skills to manage and maintain your financial data and reports.

Only \$245 per person  
Limited places due to popular demand!

**For more information please get in touch:**  
Email: [rtoadmin@mhr.org.au](mailto:rtoadmin@mhr.org.au) Tel: 9531 2298  
14 James Sreet, Pinjarra, 6208 WA

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# BORN TO SING

NO AUDITIONS REQUIRED



NOW ALSO IN  
**MANDURAH**

STARTING ON WEDNESDAY  
MARCH 2ND, 7.00-9.00PM  
Mandurah Bowling And  
Recreation Club, 89 Allnut  
Street, Mandurah

[WWW.BORNTOSING.COM.AU](http://WWW.BORNTOSING.COM.AU)  
CONTACT: 0433 653 219  
EMAIL: [martinsings@gmail.com](mailto:martinsings@gmail.com)

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