



Wednesday 18 October 2023

Dear parents and caregivers

Welcome back to Term Four. I hope you had a restful and enjoyable break with family and friends and are ready to embark on the last term of the 2023 school year!

### **2023 Quality Catholic Education (QCE) Awards**

It is with great pleasure that I would like to formally announce that St Joseph's CPS has won the 2023 QCE Award in the category of Student Led Initiative! This category is unique as it recognises the exceptional leadership and creativity displayed by students within the four pillars of Catholic Identity, Education, Community and Stewardship. We also received a Merit mention (runner up) in the category of Catholic Identity. This category acknowledges initiatives that demonstrate contemporary models of Christ-centred leadership and focus on inspiring all in the school community to actively live the Gospel. Thank you to Mrs O'Dwyer who wrote our award-winning nomination, the Pinjarra Alliance Church who allowed us to volunteer at the Community Kitchen and to our students who wholeheartedly embraced the opportunity to help those less fortunate. I am one very proud Principal!

### **Annual Community Meeting - Save the date!**

The St Joseph's Annual Community Meeting (ACM) is scheduled for Thursday 9 November at 6:00pm in the Assembly Hall. A very important part of the ACM is recruiting parents and caregivers for roles on the School Advisory Council and the Parents and Friends (P&F) group. If you feel you have something to offer by being part of either of these groups, please come along to the ACM and let us know! If you'd like to speak to someone on the School Advisory Council or the P&F about what is involved, please call the school and we can arrange that for you. These groups are an integral part of St Joseph's and add richness and positivity to our school community.

### **School Improvements**

I am sure you have noticed several school improvements since returning. The school has put in a new fence in the Early Years area, new soft-fall (to be completed in the next fortnight) and a path joining the basketball court to the Early Years...no more bogged prams! We have also replaced the cyclone fence at the Kiss and Go carpark with garrison fencing. The P&F has very kindly purchased new aluminium seats for around the school...28 of them! Thank you to Bec Trigwell and the P&F Executive for your generosity.

### **Aboriginal Education Funding**

The Aboriginal Education Team from CEWA Ltd has provided some funding to the school to promote

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projects that work towards a vision for an education system that is more culturally inclusive and responsive. We have decided to use some of the monies to create a 'yarning circle', which is a safe space for students to share knowledge, listen to others and establish rules around respectful behaviour. It is not quite complete, however, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Gundry who is organising this wonderful space for our students.

### **Capital Development Plan Stage 7**

The building works continue...

Unfortunately, the build is taking far longer than anticipated. I am hoping that we will be able to start moving furniture mid-term and have at least a few weeks of classes in the new build before the end of the year. I sincerely apologise for the delay and thank you all, especially staff and students, for your patience. It will be worth the wait, I promise!

### **Summer Uniform**

Please note that students from Years Three, Four Five and Six will need to be in full summer uniform as of next Monday, 23 October. Please visit the school website if you need refreshing on the summer uniform requirements.

### **Year Three Prayer Liturgy**

Thank you to Mr Major and the Year Three class for a beautiful Prayer Liturgy last Friday. It was wonderful to hear you talking about being a WESTIE and how the Beatitudes explain to us Jesus' teachings about what it means to live as a child of God's Kingdom.

### **Numero**

Congratulations to selected Year Four, Five and Six students who represented St Joseph's at the Numero Competition in Bunbury on Monday. We came second in the 'Five Minute One vs One' category and third in the 'Individual Top Take' category. Thank you to the students who demonstrated values and behaviour that made all of us so proud. Thank you to Mr Cosgrove and Mrs Greenham who accompanied our students.

### **Peel Combined Schools Photo Shoot**

Yesterday selected students from St Joseph's joined other students from St Joseph's Waroona, St Damien's Dawesville and Assumption CPS Mandurah at Mandurah Catholic College to take part in the Peel Marketing Cluster Campaign. Photos from the shoot will be used to promote Catholic schools in the Peel Region. Once this campaign has been launched, I will provide you with information on how you can access the cluster landing page and view the photos.



### **Year Four Prayer Liturgy**

Please join us for the Year Four Prayer Assembly, Friday 20 October in the Assembly Hall at 8:45am. If you are able, we would love you to join us for morning tea afterwards.

### **P&F Disco**

Calling all groovers

We'd love to see you at the Lesser Hall (next door to the Murray Library), Friday, 20 October for the P&F School Disco! The Pre-Kindy to Year Two disco is from 5:00pm to 6:30pm and the Year Three to Year Six disco is from 7:00pm to 8:30pm. Snacks and drinks will be available for purchase. Please note, students may only attend their specific age group disco. This is for safety reasons. The P&F are asking for a \$2 coin donation to attend.

### **Free Dress Day**

To thank the students for supporting the Anti-Poverty Week Food Drive so wonderfully last term, the Year Six Pastoral Council has organised a Free Dress Day for all students, Monday 23 October. Students may wear free dress if they wish. Please ensure your child is wearing appropriate attire and footwear and has a hat.

### **Crazy Sock Day-Socktober**

Wednesday 25 October is Crazy Sock Day at St Joseph's! Students are invited to wear their craziest pair of socks to school on Wednesday and bring a \$2 gold coin to donate to Catholic Mission. This year, monies raised will be used to support families in Timor-Leste, who face health and wellness challenges. I thank you in anticipation of your support.

### **Parent Volunteer Sessions**

Thank you to all those parents and caregivers who attended the three parent volunteer sessions throughout 2023. Please note, the next session will be early in the 2024 school year.

As we begin Term Four, let us continue to work together and foster an environment that encourages spiritual growth, a commitment to service and academic achievement. Our dedicated staff are always ready to support and inspire your children as they continue their journey of discovery, learning and personal development.

Have a wonderful week.

God bless

Ms Vanessa Gangell  
*Principal*

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