



Tuesday 14 November 2023

Dear parents and caregivers

Welcome to Week Six of Term Four. I'd like to start this fortnight's newsletter by thanking those parents and caregivers who joined staff for our Annual Community Meeting last Thursday evening. You will find the presentation on SEQTA Engage under the 'school documents' tab. Thank you to Mr David Galloway, School Advisory Council Chair, Mrs Bec Trigwell, P&F President and Fr Mars, Parish Priest who shared their reports with the community. I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome Mr Owen McLarty and Mr Stephen Martin who are joining the School Advisory Council and farewell Mr Tim Newick and Mrs Stephanie White, whose presence on the School Advisory Council will be missed. Thank you, Tim and Stephanie, for supporting our staff, students and their families while serving on the Council.

WA Police Pipe Band

On Thursday 16 November, St Joseph's will be visited by the WA Police Pipe Band, who serve the WA Police Force and Community of Western Australia and perform at various community and police events. The pipe band have formed a youth development program to encourage interest in learning the bagpipes and Scottish drumming. If your child is musically inclined and hasn't 'found' his/her instrument yet, perhaps after Thursday, the bagpipes might be for them!

Shire Youth Summit

In February of this year, several students represented St Joseph's at the Shire of Murray's Strategic Community Plan Youth Workshop. Here, youth and education leaders were invited to share their thoughts and ideas to help drive the direction of the Shire's 2033 Strategic Community Plan. We have been invited to gather again Monday, 20 November, to see how the Shire will action items that form the final Strategic Community Plan. We are very fortunate to be part of this summit and have 'our say' in how the Shire can make a difference for youth now and into the future.

Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Orientation Day

Thursday 23 November is the school's Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Orientation Day for those

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students starting Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten in 2024. These sessions help acquaint children with their new classmates and be in the classroom environment that they will be part of next year. The children get to meet their teacher and experience a brief but engaging session at school. Parents and caregivers will also have the opportunity to hear from Mrs Ramsay, the Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten teacher for 2024, who will go through routines, procedures and expectations with you, to ensure a smooth start to the 2024 academic year. The Pre-Kindergarten session is from 9:00am to 10:00am and the Kindergarten session is from 11:30am to 12:30pm in the Kindergarten classroom. Please ensure your child has a water bottle, a hat and is wearing sunscreen. Please sign in at the front office.

Yarning Circle

A huge thank you to Mrs Deb Gundry who has organised a 'yarning circle' for our school. This is a safe space for our students to share knowledge, listen to others and establish rules around respectful behaviour. It is now complete and I'm sure our students and their teachers will thoroughly enjoy using this beautiful space.

Up and coming dates

Term Four is notoriously busy, so I have added important dates for you to be aware of as the year draws to a close.

Monday 27 November - Transition Day for current Kindergarten to Year 5 students

Tuesday 28 November - Children's University Graduation

Wednesday 29 November - Year Six Graduation Assembly

Thursday 30 November - Pinjarra Senior High School Orientation Day (Day One)

Friday 1 December - Mandurah Catholic College Orientation Day

Friday 1 December - Pinjarra Senior High School Orientation Day (Day Two)

Monday 4 December to Thursday 7 December - Advent Liturgy

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Tuesday 5 December - End of Year Concert

Wednesday 6 December - Year Six Graduation Mass and Lunch

Thursday 7 December - Year Six Graduating class 'Fun Day' at Murray Leisure Centre Pinjarra

Thursday 7 December - Pizza Day

Friday 8 December - Thanksgiving Mass

Friday 8 December - Last Day of the 2024 academic year

Friday 8 December - 2024 student academic reports released via SETQA Engage

As we navigate the final weeks of the year, I encourage all community members to stay focused and remain steadfast in our commitment to excellence. I know the end of the year can be a time when distractions set in, however, let's finish strong and take pride in everything we have accomplished! Let's continue to support and uplift one another, as together, we overcome challenges and celebrate our collective achievements.

Have a wonderful week.

God bless

Ms Vanessa Gangell

Principal