



Tuesday 21 October 2025

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 2025 school year!

Grandparents' Day Liturgy

Thank you to all who joined us today for our Grandparents' Day Liturgy, beautifully presented by our Kindergarten students. We gathered as a school community at St Augustine's Church for a special celebration, followed by morning tea and a Slide Show in the Assembly Hall. It was a joyful occasion to honour the important role grandparents play in our children's lives and we are grateful for your presence and support. A heartfelt thank you to Miss Allen, Miss Black, Miss Abourizk and Mrs O for your wonderful organisation of this special event. Your efforts helped create a memorable and meaningful celebration for our school community and we are truly grateful.

Antipoverty Community Food Drive

Please support the Pinjarra Community Kitchen with their efforts to help those in need through the donation of non-perishable food items and personal hygiene products. Baskets will be in each classroom to collect your donations of tinned food, cereals, spreads, muesli bars, snacks, rice, pasta, baby supplies, crackers, tissues and toiletries (shampoo, conditioner, body wash, soap, deodorant and sanitary items). There is also a collection bin in the school office. I thank you in anticipation of your support.

Early Years Area Gets a Fresh New Look!

We're excited to share that our Early Years outdoor space has received some wonderful upgrades! Fresh mulching and the addition of river stones have not only enhanced the natural play environment but also improved safety and aesthetics for our youngest learners. A heartfelt thank you to Mrs O for organising these improvements and to our amazing P&F for generously funding the project. Your support continues to make a real difference in our school community!

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Crazy Sock Day

Our feet know what happens in October...Crazy Sock Day!

Socktober is a journey towards and a celebration of World Mission Month. Through Socktober, our students are invited to learn about, pray, advocate for and financially support children and communities in need around the world. Students are invited to wear their craziest socks to school Wednesday 22 October (Pre-Kindergarten Thursday 23 October) and to bring a gold coin donation to support Catholic Mission.

Year Four Prayer Liturgy

Please join us for the Year Four Prayer Liturgy, Friday 24 October in the Assembly Hall at 8:45am.

Yeehaw! Wild West Disco-Friday 24 October

Get ready to dust off your cowboy boots and hats-our P&F School Disco is riding into town with a Wild West theme! Join us on Friday 24 October from 6:00pm to 8:00pm at the Pinjarra Shire Lesser Hall. Entry is just \$2 for all ages and snacks and drinks will be available for purchase. There'll be awesome prizes for the best dressed cowboys and cowgirls and for our most impressive dancers-so come ready to show off your moves and your Wild West style!

Please note: the front entrance to the Lesser Hall is currently being paved, so families will need to enter via the rear carpark door.

A huge thank you to our wonderful P&F for organising this exciting event-we can't wait to see our school community come together for a night of fun and dancing!

Summer Uniform

Please note that students in Years Three, Four, Five and Six will need to be in full summer uniform as of Monday, 27 October. Students in Pre-primary, Year One and Year Two continue to wear their sport uniform. Please visit the school website if you need refreshing on the summer uniform requirements.

Battle of Pinjarra Memorial

On Tuesday, 28 October, our Year Six students will take part in a visit to the Battle of Pinjarra Memorial site. As part of their learning around local history and reconciliation, they will lead a respectful liturgy to



honour those impacted by the events of the past. Students will also assist in tidying the area, showing care and responsibility for this important community space.

Year Three Prayer Liturgy

Please join us for the Year Three Prayer Liturgy, Friday 31 October in the Assembly Hall at 8:45am.

Teacher Appreciation Day

On Friday 31 October, we will celebrate Teacher Appreciation Day-a special occasion to acknowledge the incredible dedication and care our teachers bring to St Joseph's every day. Our staff work tirelessly to nurture, guide and inspire your children and this day is an opportunity for our community to show gratitude for their invaluable contribution. We look forward to recognising and celebrating the heart of our school-our wonderful teachers!

Annual Community Meeting-Save the date!

The St Joseph's Annual Community Meeting (ACM) is scheduled for Wednesday 12 November at 5:30pm in the school 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 much richness and positivity to our school community.

Proposed Development Application for McDonalds and Aldi-Pinjarra Town Centre

As a property owner within the Pinjarra town centre, our school has been invited to provide feedback on the proposed McDonald's and Aldi development application. In consultation with Fr Robert Romano (Parish Priest) and Mr Owen McLarty (Chair of the Catholic School Advisory Council), I have submitted a formal response on behalf of our community. While we recognise the potential economic benefits these developments may bring to the area, we have expressed significant concerns regarding traffic and pedestrian safety-particularly for our students and the elderly parishioners of St Augustine's Catholic Parish.



Additionally, the proposed location of a fast-food outlet in close proximity to two schools raises important public health considerations. Please be assured that we remain committed to advocating for the safety and wellbeing of our school community throughout this process.

Bushfire Response

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School is situated within a high fire danger zone as determined by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES). As a result, the School is required to have in place an up to date Bushfire Evacuation Plan.

Inclusion on this fire danger zone means that the School may be required to invoke pre-emptive closure on any day for which a Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating (FDR) has been declared for the Shire of Murray. A Catastrophic FDR means that if a fire starts, it is likely to be uncontrollable, unpredictable, and fast moving. When given advance warning by DFES that a Catastrophic FDR has been forecast for a given day, St Joseph's Catholic Primary School would close for that day. The intention of this closure is to ensure maximum safety and minimum risk for students and staff.

Parents will be advised of the of closure, by SMS, on the day before the planned closure. Parents would be kept up to date on further developments, including the re-opening of the School by SMS.

Please contact the school if you have any questions about the Bushfire Plan or possible planned School closures during the bushfire season.

The school's Bushfire Evacuation Plan can be found on the school website.

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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