



Tuesday 28 July 2026

Dear parents and caregivers

I hope you enjoyed a relaxing and refreshing break with family and friends. As we begin a new term, I trust you are feeling renewed and ready for the many learning opportunities and experiences that Term Three will bring. Together, let's make this a positive, productive and rewarding term for all members of our school community.

Perth Museum Excursion

Our Year Two, Three, Four and Five students recently enjoyed an exciting excursion to the WA Museum Boola Bardip in Perth. Throughout the day, students engaged in a range of interactive exhibits and learning experiences, exploring Western Australia's rich history, culture, natural environment and scientific discoveries. The excursion provided valuable opportunities to extend classroom learning, spark curiosity and encourage students to ask questions, think critically and make connections to their studies. We were proud of the way our students represented St Joseph's through their excellent behaviour, enthusiasm and respectful participation throughout the day. We thank our staff and parent volunteers for helping make the excursion such a memorable and worthwhile experience.

Religious Education Assessment (REA)

Our Year Three and Year Five students will participate in a practice test this week in preparation for the Religious Education Assessment (REA), which commences on Tuesday, 4 August. The practice session provides students with an opportunity to familiarise themselves with the online format and question styles, helping to build confidence and ensure they are well prepared for the assessment.

Interschool Cross Country

We wish our selected Year Three, Four, Five and Six students all the best as they represent St Joseph's at the Interschool Cross Country tomorrow, Wednesday 29 July at the Meadow Springs Sporting Complex. This event provides a wonderful opportunity for students to challenge themselves, demonstrate perseverance and



showcase their running abilities against students from other schools. We are proud of their commitment and look forward to hearing about their achievements on the day. Go St Joseph's!

Friendship Day

As a proud URSTRONG School, we will be celebrating Friendship Day on Thursday 30 July (Kindergarten students on Wednesday 29 July). Friendship Day is an opportunity to recognise and celebrate the importance of healthy, positive friendships and the role they play in creating a strong school community. URSTRONG promotes a common language of friendship, helping children develop the skills to build and maintain healthy relationships.

Students are invited to wear their pyjamas to school and will participate in a variety of fun activities throughout the day that promote friendship, kindness, inclusion and connection with others. We look forward to a wonderful day of strengthening friendships and celebrating what it means to be a good friend.

Merit Award Assembly

Please join us Friday 31 July in the Assembly Hall at 8:45am for a Merit Award assembly.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Mass

Please join us Friday 7 August at 9:30am in the church to acknowledge Australia's first Saint, St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, with a Mass led by our Year Five class. She holds a very special place for us as, with Fr Julian Tenison Woods, she founded the Sisters of St Joseph, who in turn, founded our school. I would love to see you there to help us celebrate the Solemnity of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop.

Prime Minister's Spelling Bee

Selected students from Years Three, Four, Five and Six will be taking part in the Prime Minister's (online) Spelling Bee, Friday 7 August. Students are given 30 random words from their reading level word list to spell and only 25 seconds to spell each word! A winner from each class will be chosen, along with an overall school winner. A big thank you to Mrs O'Dwyer for organising our students so they can compete.

Census Day-Friday 7 August

Friday 7 August is Census Day, an important date for our school as government funding is based on student



enrolment and attendance data collected on this day.

To assist the school, we ask all parents and caregivers to ensure their child attends school on Friday 7 August unless they are unwell. If your child will be absent, please notify the school and provide a reason for the absence as soon as possible. Thank you for your support in helping us ensure our records are accurate and up to date. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)

At St Joseph's, we are committed to fostering a school community where all people are respected, valued and empowered. As part of this commitment, we are pleased to announce that we are commencing the development of a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) through the Narragunnawali: Reconciliation in Education program. A RAP provides a framework for schools to strengthen relationships, deepen respect and create opportunities for First Nations peoples within our school community.

Guided by CEWA's commitment to reconciliation and our Catholic mission, we look forward to working with students, staff, families and community members to develop a RAP that reflects our shared vision of inclusion, understanding and respect. This journey will help us continue to learn from, celebrate and honour the histories, cultures and contributions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

We look forward to sharing updates with our community as this important work progresses.

Book Week Parade

While Book Week is still a few weeks away, we know many families love to plan ahead-so here's a friendly reminder! This year's theme is "Symphony of Stories", celebrating the power of stories to connect, inspire and spark imagination. We look forward to celebrating Australian children's literature and sharing the magic of stories together as a school community. Our Book Week Parade will be celebrated on Tuesday 25 August. Stay tuned for more details as we get closer to the date!

Fidget Tools at School

Fidget tools can be a helpful way to support some students with focus and self-regulation. However, they are most effective when used thoughtfully and in the right context.



To ensure all students can learn with minimal distraction, **fidget toys from home are not permitted** unless they are part of an approved individual plan. Our teachers carefully provide appropriate tools when needed, ensuring they are used to enhance learning in a positive and purposeful way.

Thank you for your ongoing support in helping us maintain a calm and focused learning environment for all students.

As we begin this new term, let us embrace an attitude of gratitude-the URSTRONG focus for July. Taking time to recognise the people, opportunities and blessings in our lives, helps us to appreciate what truly matters and strengthens the connections we share with others. It encourages us to show kindness, express thanks and celebrate the wonderful friendships and relationships that enrich our lives. Thank you for choosing to be part of our St Joseph's family. Your ongoing support, partnership and involvement help make our school such a welcoming and special community.

God Bless

Ms Vanessa Gangell
Principal