



Tuesday 8 September 2026

Dear parents and caregivers

Welcome to Week Eight.

God the Father, bless all fathers and father figures as they care for their families. Give them strength and wisdom, tenderness and patience. Pour your abundant blessings upon them. Amen.

Father's Day Breakfast and Liturgy

It was heartwarming to see so many of our families join us for the Father's Day Breakfast and Liturgy last Friday. A special thank you to our dedicated staff for organising the Father's Day Breakfast, and to Mr Henry and Mr Cosgrove for coordinating the fun activities. Congratulations to Ryan Budd, Dan Forman and Joel O'Driscoll, who were joint winners of the Basketball Hoops in a Minute Challenge with an impressive eight baskets each. Well done also to the Murray dads, who claimed victory in the highly contested tug-of-war competition! I must also thank Miss Leventhal, Mrs Greenham, Mrs White and our amazing Pre-primary students who led the Father's Day Liturgy...such a beautiful way to celebrate our dads and other male role models. A big thank you to our wonderful P&F for organising the Father's Day Stall. We are grateful to our parent volunteers for their time and generosity in helping students choose a special gift for their fathers and special father figures. Your support is greatly appreciated!

P&F Quiz and Bingo Night (and Silent Auction!)

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us for the P&F Quiz and Bingo Night. It was an incredible evening filled with laughter, friendly competition and fantastic prizes! The room was filled with fabulous Op Shop outfits, adding to the fun and vibrant atmosphere. Special thanks to our amazing organisers: Tara Cabassi, Candice Turner, Ash Reeves, Anna Clune, Kelly Abbott and Lauren Robinson. Thanks to the generosity and enthusiasm of our school and wider community, the evening was a wonderful success, with proceeds going directly towards supporting our students at St Joseph's. It was a fantastic celebration of fun, friendship and community spirit!

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R U OK? Day

On Thursday 10 September, we will recognise R U OK? Day, a reminder that a simple conversation can make a big difference. "Ask R U OK? Any Day," encourages us to check in with those around us throughout the year, not just on one special day. Students will take part in classroom activities that promote kindness, empathy and the importance of supporting one another. Together, we can help create a caring school community where everyone feels connected, valued and supported.

Year One Prayer Liturgy

Please join us for the Year One Prayer Assembly, Friday 11 September in the Assembly Hall at 8:45am. I look forward to seeing you then.

Year Six Confirmation and Retreat Day

Please keep our Year Six students and their families in your prayers as they prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation, which will take place at St Augustine's Parish, Sunday 13 September at 10:00am, celebrated by Bishop George Kolodziej and Fr Robert. All Year Six students will participate in a retreat day, Friday 11 September, providing an opportunity to reflect on the gifts of the Holy Spirit and deepen their understanding of this important step in their faith journey. Parents and caregivers of students making their Confirmation, please keep an eye out for communication from Mr Cosgrove.

Maths Wizard Awards

Please join us Monday 14 September in the Assembly Hall at 8:45am as students receive their Maths Wizard Awards!

Year Two Prayer Liturgy

Please join us for the Year Two Prayer Assembly, Wednesday 16 September in the Assembly Hall at 8:45am. Our Year Two students look forward to sharing this special prayer experience with our school community and we hope you can join us.

Mandurah Catholic College (MCC) Taster Day

On Friday 18 September, our Year Four students will have the exciting opportunity to attend the MCC

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Taster Day. The experience will give them a glimpse into secondary school life through a variety of hands-on activities, engaging lessons and a chance to explore the vibrant MCC community. Thank you to MCC for hosting such a welcoming and inspiring event!

St Joey's Got Talent-Grand Final!

The stage is set for the St Joey's Got Talent Grand Final! Join us in the Assembly Hall, Thursday 24 September to celebrate the incredible talent, creativity and courage of our student performers. Families are warmly invited to attend and are asked to be seated by 1:30pm for a prompt start. We look forward to an afternoon of outstanding performances as our finalists compete for the title of St Joey's Got Talent Champion. Good luck to all of our talented finalists!

Interschool Athletics Carnival

Selected students from Years 3 to 6 will proudly represent St Joseph's at the Interschool Athletics Carnival on Monday 21 September at North Mandurah Primary School. We wish all of our competitors the very best of luck and are confident they will represent St Joseph's with pride, determination and outstanding sportpersonship. Mr Henry has sent home details regarding event logistics and student preparation.

Deaf Awareness Day

On Monday 21 September, students will take part in a range of classroom activities to build understanding and appreciation of the Deaf community, deaf culture and the different ways people communicate. Please note that students are to wear their usual school uniform on this day, as it is not a free dress day. We look forward to this valuable learning opportunity for all students.

Open Night

A reminder about St Joseph's Open Night, Wednesday 23 September, 3:30pm to 5:30pm. Please mark this date in your family's calendar. Please note our IT providers, Catalytic, will be in attendance. If you have any queries/issues regarding your child's school iPad...functionality, apps, etc, please see James in the STREAM centre on the night.



Prime Minister's Spelling Bee

I have some amazing news! Several of our Spelling Bee participants have made it into the State Round! Congratulations to Elsie Hunt, Harshat Pruthi, William Birch, Alby Johns, Matilda Allen, Anthony Brader and Jax Silverthorne. These students will now compete against some of the best spellers from across Western Australia in the State and Territory Finals. Following this round, the highest-performing students will progress to the National Finals, where they will compete against students from around Australia for the title of national champion. We wish our talented spellers the very best of luck and congratulate them on representing St Joseph's so proudly!

Quality Catholic Education (QCE) Awards

St Joseph's has entered the 2026 QCE Awards in the 'Education' and 'Community' categories, with two inspiring initiatives.

Education-St Joseph's School Pinjarra exemplifies the spirit of quality Catholic education through creativity, collaboration and excellence. A talented team of Year 5 and 6 author-illustrators achieved the remarkable feat of winning both the Western Australian and National Primary categories in the Write a Book in a Day competition with their entertaining book, Rock 'n' Rescue. Showcasing outstanding teamwork, imagination and dedication, the students crafted a captivating story filled with humour, heart and an abundance of clever cow puns. Their success reflects a learning culture that nurtures student voice, innovation and perseverance, inspiring others while bringing joy to readers across Australia.

Community-St Joseph's Catholic Primary School is committed to fostering reconciliation through meaningful engagement with local history and First Nations communities. Each year, Year 6 students visit the Pinjarra Massacre site to pay their respects, care for the memorial grounds, and participate in a liturgy of remembrance. Last year, students were honoured to witness the historic apology delivered by Governor Chris Dawson to the Traditional Owners, a significant act of truth-telling and healing. Through these experiences, students deepen their understanding of justice, respect, and reconciliation, living out the Gospel values of compassion, dignity, and walking together in unity.



Please use the links below to vote for our nominations. Just add your name, email and click on the 'vote' tab and help our students get the recognition they deserve.

<https://awards.cewa.edu.au/nomination/write-a-book-in-a-day-a-story-of-excellence/>

<https://awards.cewa.edu.au/nomination/called-to-remember-called-to-heal/>

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 container in the school office. I thank you in anticipation of your support.

Parking and Student Safety

We understand that parking and traffic congestion at drop-off and pick-up times continues to be a concern for many families. The safety of our students is our highest priority, and we are actively working with relevant stakeholders to identify practical solutions that will improve traffic flow and reduce risks around the school. To assist families, additional parking areas will be opened for future whole-school events.

Please also disregard the SMS sent last Friday regarding off-site parking, as this information was issued in error.

Thank you for your ongoing support and cooperation as we work to make our school environment safer and more accessible for everyone.

Once again, thank you to our incredible staff, students and families.

Your continued support and commitment show that when we come together as a community, we can achieve remarkable things. Every contribution, big or small, makes a meaningful difference to our St Joseph's family.

Thank you for all that you do. God bless,

Ms Vanessa Gangell

Principal

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