Tuesday 17 November 2026

Dear parents and caregivers, welcome to Week Six! Thank you for your ongoing support as we enter another vibrant and busy fortnight filled with learning, faith and community connections.

Merit Award Assembly

Please join us Friday 20 November for a Merit Award Assembly in the Hall at 8:45am.

Family Mass

All St Joseph's families are warmly invited to join us for a Family Mass at St Augustine's Church on Saturday, 21 November at 6:00pm. Students have been invited to participate as readers, choir members, greeters, collectors and altar servers. Pizza will be provided after Mass, offering a wonderful opportunity to connect with other families and our parish community. We hope to see you there!

Radical Reader Award Assembly

Our final Radical Reader Award Assembly for 2026 will be held Monday 23 November in the Assembly Hall at 8:45am.

Bedingfeld Lodge Visit

We're delighted to welcome residents from Bedingfeld Lodge to our school on Tuesday 24 November for a joyful Christmas sing-along presented by our Kindergarten to Year 6 students. Following the performance, our guests will enjoy a morning tea hosted by the school. This special event is part of our ongoing commitment to community outreach and Christian service learning, helping students build meaningful connections and share kindness with others.

Orientation Day-Pre-Kindergarten & Kindergarten 2026

We are excited to welcome our newest learners and their families for Orientation Day on Thursday 26 November. This special day is designed to help children starting Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten in 2027 feel comfortable in their new classroom and meet their teachers and classmates.

Children will enjoy a short, engaging session in their future learning space, while parents and caregivers will hear from Miss Allen, our Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten teacher for 2027. She will outline routines, procedures and expectations to ensure a smooth start to the new school year.

Session Times:

Pre-Kindergarten: 9:00 am – 10:00 am

Faith & Trust

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Kindergarten: 11:30 am – 12:30 pm

(Both sessions for parents and caregivers will be held in the STREAM room.)

Please ensure your child brings a water bottle, wears a hat, and has sunscreen applied before arriving. A healthy snack will be provided for all children. We can't wait to welcome your family and begin this exciting journey together!

Recycling Incursion

On Friday, 27 November, students in Pre-primary, Year One, Year Two and Year Three will participate in an engaging Recycling Incursion presented by our friends from Cleanaway. This interactive session will help students develop a greater understanding of the importance of reducing waste, recycling correctly and caring for our environment. By learning about sustainable practices, students will be empowered to make positive choices that help protect our planet for future generations. We look forward to this valuable opportunity for students to discover how small actions can make a big difference.

Final Merit and Friendship Ninja Award Assembly

Please join us Friday 27 November for our final Merit Award and Friendship Ninja Award Assembly for 2026 in the Hall at 8:45am.

Maths Wizard Award Assembly

Our final Maths Wizard Award Assembly will be held Monday 30 November in the Assembly Hall at 8:45am.

Transition Day

We are excited to announce Transition Day, Monday 30 November-a special opportunity for students to meet their teachers for 2026 and spend time in their new classrooms. These sessions are all about building confidence and excitement for the year ahead! Students will take part in fun, engaging activities designed to help them feel comfortable in their new learning environment and get to know their classmates and teachers. It's a wonderful way to ensure a smooth start to the new school year. We can't wait to see the smiles and enthusiasm as our students take this important step forward!

Year Six End of Year Assembly

The Graduating Class of 2026 will be presenting their final assembly, Tuesday 1 December in the Assembly Hall at 8:45am. This special event marks an important milestone for our Year Six students as they present their last assembly before graduation. All Year Six parents, caregivers and friends are warmly invited to share in this memorable occasion.

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Children's University Graduation

On Tuesday 1 December, our Year 5 and 6 students will celebrate their Children's University Graduation at UWA. This program recognises learning beyond the classroom through experiences with museums, theatres, clubs and sporting groups-building confidence and aspirations. Congratulations to all graduates and a special thank you to Mrs White for leading this program at St Joseph's.

Mandurah Catholic College (MCC) Orientation Day

An exciting Orientation Day is scheduled for our Year Six students who will be attending MCC in 2027. This event will take place on Friday, 4 December and is a fantastic opportunity for students to experience high school life and connect with future classmates. All families should have received communication directly from MCC. If you have not yet received details, please contact MCC as soon as possible to ensure your child is prepared for the day.

Advent Celebrations

Please join us in Week 9 in the Assembly Hall, Monday 7 December, Tuesday 8 December, Wednesday 9 December and Thursday10 December at 8:45am for our Advent Liturgies. Advent is a Latin word meaning 'coming'. We recognise the four Sundays in Advent as a way to prepare our hearts for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ at Christmas.

End of Year Concert

I look forward to seeing you all Tuesday, 8 December as we celebrate the culmination of another wonderfully successful year here at St Joseph's. It is a lovely opportunity for us to gather as a community, united by faith, values and the commitment to the well-being and education of our students. Please join us from 4:15pm for a complimentary sausage sizzle before the concert begins at 5:15pm. Refreshments will also be available for purchase: cans of cool drink for $2, water for $1 and juice for $1. Thank you to our wonderful P&F for organising the sausage sizzle and drinks-your efforts help make this event extra special! Parking will be available on the back oval. Please follow the Traffic Marshall for directions. As in previous years, Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten and Pre-primary students are to be collected by parents/caregivers from the designated pick-up area after their item. Once the concert is finished, students from Years One to Six will be asked to congregate near their classroom teacher. Please collect your child/children then.

Year Six Graduation slideshow, Mass and lunch

Parents and caregivers of our Year Six students are invited to join us in the Assembly Hall, Wednesday 9 December at 9:30am for a slideshow 'The Year That Was', before gathering at St Augustine's Parish at 10:00am for the Graduation

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Mass. We will then be heading off to Pinjarra Paceway for lunch. Students are asked to dress appropriately, in smart casual attire.

Year Six 'Fun Day' at Murray Leisure Centre

As a special send-off for our graduating Year Six students, Thursday 10 December will see them enjoying a well-deserved day of fun at the Murray Leisure Centre. It's a wonderful way to celebrate their achievements and create lasting memories before they begin their high school journey. Separate communication has been sent to Year Six families with all the details for the day.

Pizza Lunch

Our Pre-Kindergarten to Year Five students will be celebrating a productive year with a delicious pizza lunch on Thursday, 10 December (Kindergarten on Wednesday, 9 December). We hope the students enjoy this well-deserved treat! A heartfelt thank you to our amazing P&F for their generosity in providing pizzas for PK to Year 5 and Subway for our Year Six students. Your ongoing support and commitment to creating special moments for our children is truly appreciated and makes a big difference in our school community.

Spreading Christmas Cheer to Bedingfeld Lodge

We are delighted to continue this much-loved tradition with our friends at Bedingfeld Lodge. Inspired by last year's visit, our Year Three students have created handmade Christmas cards to deliver to residents on Thursday, 10 December. This thoughtful initiative reflects the kindness, empathy and community spirit that make St Joseph's so special.

2026 Thanksgiving Mass

Please join us on Friday, 11 December at 8:45 am in the Assembly Hall for our final Liturgy of the academic year-our Thanksgiving Liturgy. This special celebration is a time to pause, reflect, and give thanks for the many blessings we have shared throughout 2026. Together, let us come in faith and gratitude as we farewell this year and look forward with hope and excitement to the opportunities that await in 2027.

Canteen Notice

Please note that the last day for canteen service this year will be Monday 7 December and the canteen will not operate on Friday 11 December. Canteen service will resume on Friday 29 January, for the 2027 school year. Thank you for your understanding!

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Write A Book in a Day Competition

I'm thrilled to announce a wonderful achievement from our 'Write a Book in a Day' team: Anthony Brader, Brax Hague-Tyson, Isla Johns and Mannat Pruthi (Year 6), Finn Ferguson, Crystal Matthews, Ronny White and Oliver Woods (Year 5). Our students' book…'Operation Save Christmas-Santa's Great Teachernaping' was one of eight books (statewide) that was shorlisted! Out of just over 18 000 participants from 572 schools, this incredible project raised $1.26 million for children's cancer research.

Thank you!

A heartfelt thank you to Ange, manager of NewsXpress in Halls Head and Silver Sand, who has generously donated hundreds of dollars' worth of sacramental gifts to Saint Joseph's! Thank you to Cynthia (Nathan and Sophia Mulholland's nan) who delivered the gifts to the school.

Planning for 2027-Student Enrolments

As we prepare for the 2027 school year, we kindly ask parents and caregivers to inform the school **in writing** if your child will not be returning to St Joseph's next year. This helps us plan effectively for class structures and staffing. Please email the school office as soon as possible if your circumstances have changed. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

As we enter the final weeks of the year, I encourage our entire community to stay focused and committed to excellence. The end of the year can bring distractions, but together, let's finish strong and take pride in all we have achieved. Let's continue to support and uplift one another as we overcome challenges and celebrate the successes that make our school community so special.

God bless

Ms Vanessa Gangell

Principal

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