



eNews Term 1, Week 9, 2023

Important Dates

Term One Starts
Monday 30 January

**Good Friday -
School Closure Day**
Friday 7 April

Easter Sunday
Sunday 9 April

**Term 1 Concludes -
2.05pm**
Friday 14 April

**Term 2 Commences
- 8.30am**
Monday 1 May

Sports Day 2023
Friday 12 May

**June Long Weekend
- Monarch's Birthday**
Monday 12 June

**School Closure Day
- Staff Training**
Tuesday 13 June

Upcoming Events

2023 Easter Plays
Date: Thursday 6 April
Time: 9:30am
Venue: St Joseph's School
Auditorium -

**Holy Thursday -
School Concludes**
Date: Thursday 6 April
Time: 3:05pm
Venue: St Joseph's School -
Murray Bridge

Easter Raffle Draw
Date: Tuesday 11 April
Time: 2:30pm
Venue: St Joseph's School -
Murray Bridge

Religious Education Week 9



It's Not the Persecution - It's the Response

Next week we celebrate what the Church calls, "HOLY WEEK". It is during this week we remember the journey Jesus took over 2000 years ago when he entered Jerusalem for the last time to his Crucifixion on the cross, 'The Passion of Jesus'. I would like to share with you a reflection I found about the Passion of Jesus that really resonated with me.

"For several years I attended a unique Good Friday service in Melbourne. It was a prayer walk through downtown. At several stops along the way, we listened while speakers talked about places in our world where people still experience suffering and death. They talked about how poverty strips people of their dignity, about governments that use torture to destroy people's spirit, and about the countless people each year who face execution.

You know, the "Passion" really started a long time before Jesus. It started the first time in history one person persecuted another. And it has continued without pause since Jesus himself suffered and died.

So where can we find hope if history seems so filled with pain and persecution? We can find hope in the Passion of Jesus. Ultimately, Jesus' Passion isn't about suffering and persecution. The Passion is about Jesus' response.

Focus this Holy Week on Jesus' response to the people in his life - those who love him and those who reject him. He was fully human. Many scholars argue that Jesus didn't know he would be resurrected. Just like us, Jesus did not have complete certainty about what would happen to him after his death

So watch this man during Holy Week. Despite his fear, uncertainty, and agony, he focuses on God and others. Through God's power he offers the last hours of his life as a lesson of how his friends and followers can find meaning in every hour of their lives.

Then focus on today's world. Yes, Jesus' Passion continues. But focus on how God's power still inspires people to be courageous. Scan the newspapers; you will find stories about people throughout the world who brave persecution and suffering to help others. Look around your school, church, or family; you will see people who sacrifice their lives for others. Go to a nursing home or hospital; you will meet people who still love despite tremendous suffering.

Jesus' death was not that unusual. Our world has been filled with suffering and pain since the first human beings made their appearance. But Jesus' response was unusual. His response made God's power even more available for Christians who seek to respond like him. And history is filled with those heroes. Will you join their number?"

Who in your life responds to pain or persecution with the same love, courage, and faith that Jesus had in his last hours?

Easter Activities 2023

EASTER PLAYS

Mrs Lynne Liebich has been working with our Year 5 teachers and students in preparing to present to our school community a re-enactment

of the First Easter. This dramatisation explains the journey that Jesus took when he entered Jerusalem for the last time; Palm Sunday to his Last Supper with his Apostles, his arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane, his trials before Herod and Pilate and finally to carrying his cross to Calvary and his death.

We extend an invitation to all in our community to join us as we make this journey with Jesus around our school yard as our Year 5 students present little plays sharing what happened at that first Easter. The plays will be presented on **THURSDAY, APRIL 6TH at 9:30am**.

Our Year 5 children will lead us in Community prayer on **Friday, April 14th at 8:45am** to pray and explain the great joy Jesus apostles and we feel after the pain and suffering Jesus went through and the joy and amazement when he rose from the dead. Our Sports Day captains will also be announced. Please join us if you are free.

EASTER EGG RAFFLE & PROJECT COMPASSION

You may be wondering why it is that we are doing the Easter raffle after Easter this year and not as in past years on Holy Thursday. As Easter falls outside of the holidays it is a great opportunity for us to celebrate the great news (and the reason we call ourselves Christians) of Jesus resurrection through the giving of Easter eggs after the resurrection. In this way we hope the children will understand that the giving of Easter eggs is a sign of the New Life we have been given through the death and resurrection of Jesus.

Project Compassion boxes can also be returned to school now as this money will also support the work of Caritas in Australia and throughout the world. If you would like a receipt please fill in the slip at the top. Raffle draw will be Tuesday April 11 at 2.30pm in the Auditorium.

Holy Week Ceremonies in Murray Bridge.

Holy Thursday, The Lord's Supper April 6th at 7pm.

Good Friday, Stations of the Cross April 7th at 10am.

Good Friday, Passion of the Lord April 7th at 3pm.

Saturday, Easter Vigil April 8th at 7:30pm.

Sunday, Easter April 9th at 11am.

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Upcoming Prayer and Service Times

Event	Date	Time
Year 2 Prayer Service	31 March	9.30am
Year 3 Prayer Service	5 April	9.30am
Easter Plays	6 April	9.30am

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From the Principal Week 9



Dear parents, carers, teachers and students,

I trust this fortnight's edition of the newsletter finds you and your family well as we look towards the end of the term. Just over one week, and we will be sharing in the Church's most important time of the year, that being Easter.

A big thank you to everyone who shared with the school community the feast day of St Joseph's/St Patrick's and our recognition of Harmony Day. The students attended Mass, and it was a wonderful way to share this important day while remembering the school's patron saint.

MANNUM BUS SERVICE – Florence Street Parking

St Joseph's School bus has an allocated parking space on Florence Street to collect and pick-up students to and from Mannum. We ask parents not to park in this space and be aware of buses, especially at the 3.05 pm pick-up time. Thank you to the families who consistently use the car park with care and consideration for others. We appreciate your patience while dropping off and picking up your children.

SCHOOL BOARD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

On Monday night, March 27, we held our School's Annual General Meeting. The AGM provides an opportunity to reflect on our previous year and hear the reports from several key school community members. It is also a time to share some of our plans going forward. The School's Annual Report to the Community is presented, and a copy will be uploaded to the school website shortly. At the AGM's completion, we also allow new members to volunteer to be on the School Board. Our School Board has an advisory role in supporting the Principal in planning and implementing the overriding direction of the school. We formulate and approve policies, hear updates from many staff, and this year will be devising a new strategic plan.

We thank our outgoing School Board members - Mr Scott Pearce (Chairperson), Mrs Amy Sobels, Mrs Rebecca Schutz and Mrs Analise Gates (Parent Representatives). Their contributions and voluntary time to partake in the discussions and decisions are most valued and appreciated.

The 2023 School Board welcomes several new members.

Executive Officer: Mrs Ros Oates

President: Fr Philip Marshall

Parish Representative: Mrs Deb Holland

Chair of Finance: Mrs Kelly Gravestocks

Staff Representative: Mrs Nicki Clifford **Board Secretary:** Mrs Leesa Angove

Existing Parent Representative: Ms Megan Olive

New Parent Representatives: Mr Josh Strauss, Mrs Leanne Maxwell, Mrs Linda Ross, Mr Darren Hollitt and Mrs Sean Ching

The Chair of Finance, Mrs Kelly Gravestocks, has spent many years on the school board presenting financial reports and working with our school Executive Finance Officer, Mrs Carol Rowland. Kelly's tenure is to conclude soon. As we also move into a phase of significant capital works in the school, it is an exciting time to be a part of our Board. If you have any expertise in finance and would be interested in working

with our School Board, please contact Leesa Angove via leesa.angove@stjomb.catholic.edu.au.

2023 NAPLAN Testing

Congratulations to all our Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students who recently completed their NAPLAN tests. Thanks also to their teachers and Nicki Clifford, who did an incredible job organising and supporting the teachers and students over this period.

Reminder MID-TERM ENROLMENTS

In 2023, St. Joseph's School will continue to offer mid-year enrolments. If your child turns **5 before 31 October 2023**, they can start school at St. Joseph's in **Term 3, 2023, and the school fees are free**. Children starting in Reception mid-year will have a minimum of 6 terms in Reception. Enrolments are also open for the beginning of 2024. Please contact the school administration to register your interest and book a Principal's tour. Children who turn **5 on or before 30 April can begin school in Term 1 of 2024**. Please let friends and family know that enrolments are open for Mid Year 2023 and the beginning of 2024.

Thank you all for reading the newsletter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you want to follow up on anything from this newsletter or as a general inquiry.

Mrs Ros Oates

Principal

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From the Classroom - Year 3



Footsteps

The Year 3 children have been enjoying the Footsteps dance lessons. So far this term they have learnt 5 dances: Business, Scatman, a Hip-Hop Routine to various songs, Mission Impossible and the Bongo Song.

The dances have:

- allowed the students to explore fundamental movement skills as well as developing balance, co-ordination and body awareness.
- helped the students to begin to understand and describe how their body moves.
- given opportunities for students to use their bodies and facial expressions to mirror the lyrics of the various songs.
- enabled the students to create some of their own choreography.

Here are some of the comments from the students:

Amalia: I like how we get to learn new moves.

Alessandra: I like that there are a lot of movements and I like all the music.

Laker: I like the dancing and doing retrogrades (doing movements backwards).

Chanelle: It is fun and gives us exercise and needs lots of energy.

Emily: Footsteps makes us more active.

Kaiden: You get to learn something new every week.

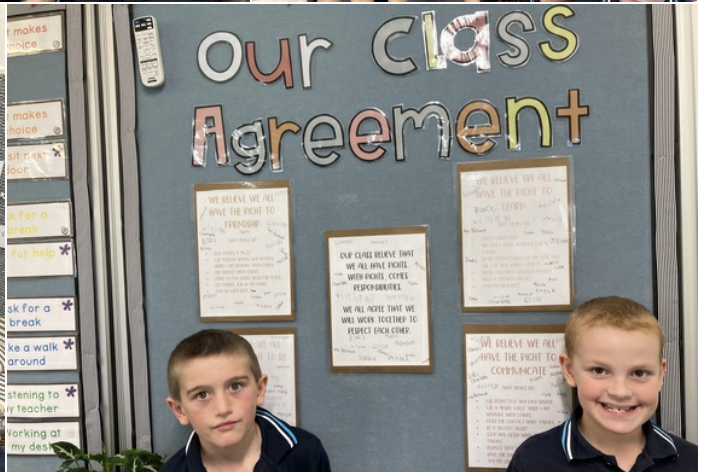
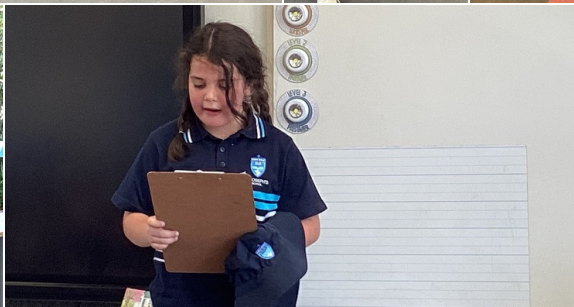
Tylah: We get to learn new dances and it is fun to learn them.

Bucket Filling

In Yr. 3 we have been learning lots of new and exciting things. At the beginning of the term, we focussed on our Social and Emotional Learning. We co-constructed our Class Agreements so that we all understood what it means to be a part of our class. We talked about 'Bucket Filling' and aim to give our friends' positive affirmations as often as we can. We have a focus on Growth Mindset, and we set about trying to make positive choices that impact on the way we learn and interact with others.

Voting for Sports Captains

In Year 3 this Term, students have been learning about writing persuasive texts. They learnt the different language that is needed to persuade their audience and the structure that it needs to include. The students had a great opportunity to put their persuasive texts to a real-life purpose and to a real, live audience. The students wrote a persuasive text to persuade the children in their sports day teams to vote for them as Sports Captains. Here are some photos of the students who were brave enough to stand in front of their teams and read their persuasive texts. Well done to the winners!



Presbytery Blessing



Last Sunday we were very fortunate to have Archbishop Patrick O'Reagan come to Murray Bridge to celebrate Mass with us and then after Mass he blessed the Presbytery, the house next to the church where the Parish Priest lives. The blessing occurred as over the last 12 months the Parish has spent time and money renovating the house to make it more comfortable for our Priests. Currently Deacon Arturo and his wife Mary are living there. Fr Philip also joined us for the day from his holidays.

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St Joseph's Day / Harmony Day 2023



A lot was jam packed into a single day as we celebrated **St Joseph's Day**, **Harmony Day** and even a bit of **St Patrick's Day** last Tuesday.

There was a School Mass and a day full of activities and colourful projects to reflect our diverse and inclusive community - we even got to squeeze in a few shamrocks.

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Other Events, Activities and Announcements

Sport News

This term, we won a Sporting Schools Grant to run Orienteering. The grant has supported the mapping of the school, the purchase of a school orienteering kit, professional development session for PE staff and 4 days of lessons run by Orienteering SA coach Zita Sankauskas

for the Year 5 and 6 students. Mr Cooper Skinner will be the first to test it all out with his Year 9 Outdoor Education classes.

Congratulations to Josh Roberts and Zaxton Sward for being selected in the Murraylands Boys Softball Team. Congratulations also to Emma Roberts for being selected in the Murraylands Girls Softball Team. They will be competing in the SAPSASA State Softball Carnival next week. We wish them all a fantastic experience.

The boys 5/6 Knockout Cricket is on tomorrow at Unity College Senior Campus. They will verse Unity College in the morning in a T20 format. The winning school will play another game in the afternoon against Aldgate Primary. Good luck to Mr McLaren and the boys for some big hits and fast bowls.

For upcoming sports and event, please refer to the dates in the Newsletter Calendar. The following sports are yet to be finalised in Term 2:

- 5/6 Boys Knockout Football
- 5/6 Girls Knockout Netball
- 7-9 Girls Knockout Netball
- 7-9 Boys Knockout Basketball
- Catholic Schools Netball Carnival

Keep an eye out for Year 4-9 Cross Country information and 5/6 Rugby Tackle that will hit your SeeSaw account soon.



Upcoming Sports Events

- 31st March** 5/6 Boys Knockout Cricket
- 3-5th April** SAPSASA State Softball Carnival
- 5th April** Reception to Year 2 Auskick Promotion Football Clinic
- 11th April** Year 4-9 Internal Cross Country Trail
- 12th April** Secondary Athletics Carnival, Mile End
- 9th May** 5/6 Rugby Tackle Carnival
- 12th May** Whole School Sports Day
- 15th May** Year 4-6 District Cross Country Trial
- 22-24th May** SAPSASA State Football Carnival
- 8th June** State Cross Country Championships at Oakbank

20th June 5/6 Basketball Competition

26-28th June SAPSASA State Netball Carnival

Hills-Murray Catholic Schools Partnership

Dear families of St Catherine's School, St Francis de Sales College, and St Joseph's School,

We write to advise of the recent resignation for personal reasons of Rachel Vince, our Occupational Therapist who commenced with us at the start of this year working across our three school communities.

Whilst disappointed to be losing Rachel so soon after starting in our communities, we will be advertising in the coming days to find a suitably qualified and experienced professional Occupational Therapist to work in partnership with our schools' recently appointed Speech Pathologist, Nikki Snell.

Yours faithfully

John Low	Gavin McGlaughlin	Ros Oates
Principal	Principal	Principal
St Catherine's School	St Francis de Sales College	St Joseph's School
Stirling	Mount Barker	Murray Bridge



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School Uniforms

It is pleasing to see over 90% of the students in their correct school uniform. Thank you. Parents are asked to communicate any difficulties with uniform ordering, purchasing or product quality via the school email address info@stjomb.catholic.edu.au

It is appreciated if families do not express their grievances on any school matter, especially uniforms, through social media. I remind families that working with Vinnies is the most cost effective and easiest way to access uniforms, and prices remain reasonable, if not below cost for the quality, due to Vinnies supporting the school as a non-profit organisation. Please see further information below.

PROCEDURES FOR ORDERING UNIFORMS

We have been working with Vinnies to help improve the process for our families to either book a uniform fitting order or place an order for the new uniform. This can now be done via scanning QR codes using a mobile device such as your mobile phone.

Book a Fitting

A reminder from Vinnies - 'Please book any future appointments online or they can call the store direct and we can book a fitting for the same day if needed, that way we won't get double booked and the parents won't be disappointed if asked to wait or come back at a later time.'

Please scan the QR code and make a booking for a suitable time. Opening hours at Vinnies in Murray Bridge are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:30 – 5:00 pm. Please call the store manager Rochelle on (08) 8532 6699 if you have any questions.

Place an Online Order

Please scan the below QR code to be directed to the St Joseph's Murray Bridge - School Uniform online order form. Or visit <https://vinniesuniformshop.simplybook.me/v2#/book> Once you scan the code, you will be directed to the Vinnies Shop page and will need to scroll to the bottom of the page to locate the school's online uniform order form. There is also a link to the School's Uniform Price List as of 13 October. This is also attached in this week's newsletter.

Drum
and
Guitar



Vinnies Uniform Shop



**Scan the QR
code to book
a uniform
fitting.**



<https://vinniesuniformshop.simplybook.me/v2/#book>



One-on-One tuition for drum and guitar is available at St Joseph's School on a weekly basis.

For more information on lessons and costs please contact Nathan Hill on 0448 426 946

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