



Issue 9 June 2020

# St Joseph's School

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Website: www.stjotto.catholic.edu.au

**In All Things Love**

### Uniform Shop

Open on Monday and Fridays  
8.30 am to 9.30 am

### Playgroup

Friday - 10.00 am to 11.30 am

### Out of School Hours Care

#### Daily

6.30 am to 8.30 am  
and 3.00 pm to 6.00 pm

**Tuesday** 2.45 pm to 6.00 pm

Bookings essential

Mobile: 0437 863 067

### St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish

Priest - Fr Marek Ptak CR

Phone: (08) 8447 3223

Email: stmax@ottowayparish.com

### Mass Times

Saturday 6.30 pm

Sunday 8.30 am English &  
10.30 am Polish

Weekday 6.30 pm English & Polish  
Except Tuesday

(check with Parish)

# Newsletter



*Eliah, Jaylen, Maddison, Eliana, Shafer, Brianna & Emelia*  
**Ninna Marni**  
(‘Hello, how are you’ in Kurna)

**Welcome to our Community's Reconciliation gathering.**



**Lord, we pray for Reconciliation:**

That the wrongs of the past may be recognized,  
That our awareness of the journey so far be awakened,  
And that the Spirit move us to action,  
to continue what others have started.  
We ask this in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**AMEN**



## RECONCILIATION WEEK 2020

Reconciliation Week was celebrated from the 27th of May 2020 to the 3rd of June 2020. We celebrated with two whole school liturgies (one at the beginning, one at the end). These liturgies were presented online, with students from across the school presenting prayers and research into contemporary Indigenous leaders.



We acknowledge that our school is on Kurna country. We recognise and respect the Kurna people as the continuing custodians of the Adelaide Plains and pay our respect to Elders past and present.

It is hard to believe that we are nearing the end of Term 2. With the return to face to face learning and the busyness this brings, the term seems to have passed us by quickly. The end of Term 2 marks the half way point in the school year with Semester One School Reports being sent home in Week 10. This is an opportunity for parents and children to discuss achievements during the first half of the year and set goals for the remainder of the year. The upcoming school holidays is an ideal time to do this.

The colder mornings are certainly upon us and it really is that much harder to get out of a warm bed. With this in mind, I remind parents that regular attendance at school is very important. Going to school every day and getting there on time reinforces for children, that school is a significant experience. I cannot stress enough the value of arriving to school on time. Most classroom teachers set out the day's routine, lunch orders, prayer, news, notes for the office, learning intentions and work expectations for the day. Missing out on these routines sometimes means that when a child arrives late, they are playing catch up for the remainder of the morning and are unsettled and unsure. If this happens regularly children can become anxious or even casual in their approach.

It is also important for children to attend school regularly. Allowing children to stay home without a good reason sends a message that learning can be interrupted and isn't important. When children attend regularly, the teacher is able to build a sequence of learning for each child and children develop a sense of increasing success. Attending school regularly also supports a child's sense of belonging to the class, the school and helps them maintain friendships. I know that the cold mornings make for a slower start to the day; however I ask that families make the extra effort to be on time.

### **Teaching and Learning**

This semester I have continued my involvement in our middle primary Numeracy Block working with groups of children focusing on specific learning needs in the area of Mathematics. Our middle primary Numeracy Block involves 5 educators working across our 2 middle primary classes with each educator working with smaller groups of children to better support the individual needs of learners. My involvement in our middle primary Numeracy Block will continue in Semester Two.

One of our goals outlined in the school's 2020 Annual Improvement Plan is to expand the Numeracy data stored on our student database. As part of our Week 5 staff meeting this term teaching staff were asked to discuss and provide an outline of the numeracy data they would like to see stored on the student database. Much of what the staff provided was based around the Australian Curriculum content strands. I then met with Duncan Kilburn who manages our student database to discuss whether it was both possible and feasible to expand our student database to include what teaching staff had suggested. Duncan's reply was positive and he has since commenced working on expanding our student database to be able to store this additional numeracy data.

### **Making Space for Learning 2 Year Inquiry Project**

Our school is currently participating in the *2020-21 Making Space for Learning Inquiry Project*. The aim of the inquiry is to be able to identify the behavioural and learning difficulties associated with developmental trauma and formulate an informed and effective educational response. To this end, the inquiry begins with a detailed understanding of early year's brain development. It then examines the nature and effects of developmental trauma. Lastly, it provides strategies to respond to the specific behavioural and learning difficulties associated with developmental trauma. The whole school staff were involved in the initial 2 day workshop held on January 22 and 23 this year.

On Tuesday June 2 we facilitated our second school visit as part of the project where we developed quantitative data collection templates relating to our whole school inquiry question; **Does the use of core practice at the beginning of learning blocks support and improve student self-regulation?**

This week the coordination team: Jane Smith, Simon McCullough and myself unpacked the Inquiry Project further with staff as part of our staff meeting. Next week teachers will commence collecting pre data as part of the Inquiry Project before introducing strategies they plan to incorporate as part of the project. Post data will then be collected and analysed throughout the project timeline.

### **Curriculum News**

I have included two mathematical challenges which you might like to have a go at with your child/children.

This week's Mathematical challenges:

#### **Reception to Year 3**

Make your own obstacle course by going over 2 things, through 1 thing, under 1 thing, around 3 things and between 2 things.

Write or draw where you could stand in this room so the door is to your left/right?

#### **Years 4-6**

Find your school in a street directory/Google maps. Where could you go that is close to 1.5 kilometres away from the school?

When Mr. McCullough leaves school each evening he travels in a South East direction to get home. What suburb might he live in?

Happy inquiry.

Reading is another core learning area here at St Joseph's School. Children develop their reading skills, knowledge and understanding by reading regularly. At St Joseph's School regular reading at home forms a major part of homework set each evening. Why not create regular timeslots throughout the week whereby all electronic devices in the home are turned off and members of the family spend 15 minutes reading together.

Happy reading.

### **Term 3 Preschool and Reception Intake**

St Joseph's School will once again have a Preschool and Reception intake at the start of Term 3 this year. Our Term 3 new Preschool children will replace those moving into Reception as part of our Term 3 Reception intake. Our Term 3 new Receptions will join our current R/1 classes. The criteria for starting Preschool or Reception on the first day of school in Term 3 is that a child will have turned 4 (Preschool) or 5 (Reception) between May 1 and October 31 in that year. Beginning this week, we will hold three transition visit mornings for our new Preschool and Reception children with the aim of supporting their new start.

### **Pupil Free Day Friday June 5**

Our Pupil Free Day on Friday June 5 was a great success. On the day we explored further our 2019 focusing on Laudato Si; the Catholic church document which outlines Pope Francis' call for us all to care for the environment. The theme of the day was "How will you Tend to your Garden?" The day involved staff unpacking our theme on a number of different levels. APRIM Simon McCullough and myself facilitated the day. Our Pupil Free Day coincided with World Environment Day.

### **School Master Plan Update**

We are now at the design concepts stage of the development of our Nature Play & Sustainability Garden space. Staff and children were surveyed at the beginning of this term to allow the architect team to gauge an understanding of the features we would like to have included as part of our Nature Play & Sustainability Garden space. There were definitely some strong themes of what the different age groups across the school hope to see in the space; particularly our younger children who produced A3 drawings as part of the survey process, all wanting a river! A river may not be suitable but a "creek like" dry creek bed will be incorporated into the Nature Play space.

### **OSHC News**

We welcome back OSHC Director Mieke Vanden Bos who has returned to work after taking 6 weeks leave to undergo a medical procedure. During Mieke's leave it was decided to revert back to a 7:30am opening time for Before School OSHC. During Mieke's leave there were a small number of instances whereby parents needed to drop their child off before 7:30am and we asked that these bookings be made prior to the day care was required. In consultation with Mieke, we have decided to remain with Before School OSHC hours as they currently stand; 7:30am-8:30am while keeping the option for our families to make a prior booking if they require Before School OSHC 6:30am-7:30am. This will mean that Mieke will commence Before School OSHC at 7:30am each morning unless a prior booking has been made. After School OSHC opening hours are not affected.

### **Canteen Committee**

Providing healthy meals, snacks and drinks for children and students has a positive effect on learning outcomes, behaviour, attendance as well as health, wellbeing and the prevention of diet-related illness. Canteens and other food services have a responsibility to supply affordable, culturally acceptable, nutritious foods and meals that promote healthy eating habits and support and reflect classroom teaching on food and nutrition issues.

Our recently established *School Canteen Committee* meet for the first time in Week 5 to review our canteen practices and food supply. The committee commenced by acknowledging the great work Rebecca Allen does as our canteen manager. Sales of individual canteen products will be closely monitored in coming weeks, with slow selling products being removed from the menu in order to make way for new items. In addition, selected items will be replaced with healthier options. This will initially take place on Thursdays each week. Over time you will see changes made to our canteen menu. Preparing healthier food options for sale can often be labour intensive. For this reason we are seeking volunteers to support our canteen manager Rebecca Allen.

### **How Nutrition and Mental Health are linked: Dietary habits aren't always a choice**

'Food insecurity' – where people don't have enough food due to circumstances such as unemployment and poverty – is also a problem for many families in Australia. Food insecurity can result in poorer academic performance, time off from school, stress, depression, anxiety, aggression, and difficulty getting along with others. Food insecurity can result in:

- psychological stress – high levels of ongoing stress have been related to depression and delayed brain development
- poorer academic performance
- time off from school
- anxiety
- Aggression and difficulty getting along with others.

## Principal News Continued

The good news is that improving what you eat can lead to improvements in your mental health, so it's never too late to encourage healthier eating patterns. The *Australian Dietary Guidelines* recommend that we all increase our intake of fruit and vegetables and reduce foods high in sugar, salt and fat. However, changing lifestyles and increased access to processed foods mean many children and young people fail to meet these recommendations. Less than 1% of children and young people aged two to 18 years consume the recommended amount of vegetables each day. St Joseph's School offers free breakfast for our children each Tuesday and Thursday morning through the *Kick Start for Kids* program.

To learn more about the benefits of healthy eating visit **Be You** (formerly Beyond Blue) <https://beyou.edu.au/fact-sheets>

### Diary Dates

Term 2 Concludes – 12:30pm Friday July 3.

Term 3 Commences – 8:45am Monday July 20.

### Skool Bag App

To keep up to date with what is happening within our school along with upcoming school events why not download the **Skool Bag App** from the App Store on your mobile phone. Once downloaded simply search St Joseph's School, Ottoway and add to your Skool Bag page. Many of our families currently use the **Skool Bag App** to keep up to date with what is happening across our school.

In addition our school website **News and Events** link is regularly updated to assist our families in keeping up with what is happening across our school.

**May the spirit of the Risen Lord be with you and your family.**

**Working in partnership with you.**

**Shaun O'Leary.**

## Notice Board

### Uniform Shop



Uniform items can now be ordered and paid for online. Items can either be left at the school office for you to pick up or have them delivered to your home.

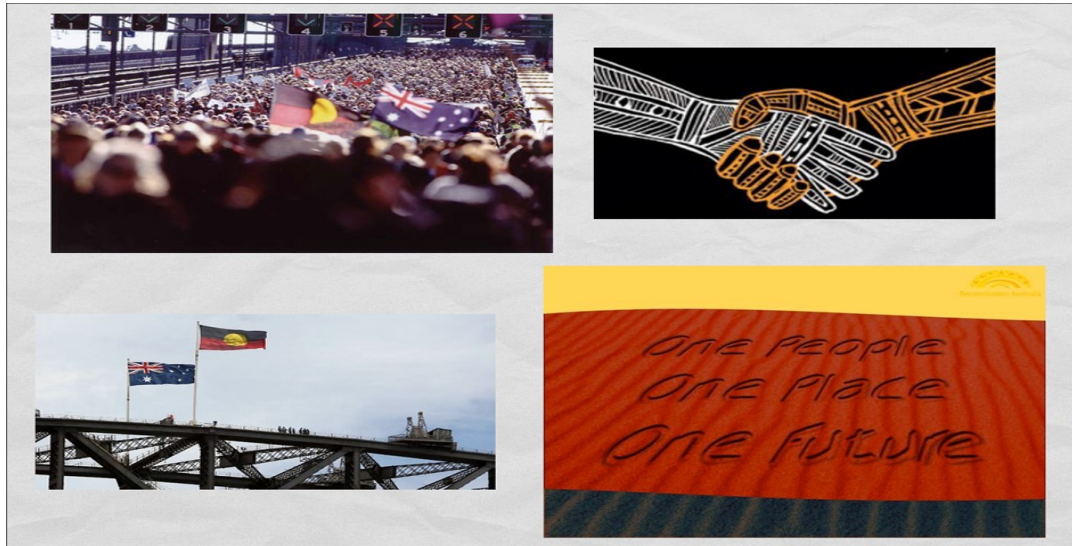
Please see the link below:

<https://www.jssportsonline.com.au/collections/st-josephs-school-ottoway>

### School Calendar

Term 2 2020

June		July	
16	New Preschool & Reception Transition Visits	3	Term 2 Concludes 12:30pm
22	School Board Meeting	20	Term 3 Commences Monday 8:45 am
23	New Preschool & Reception Transition Visits		
30	New Preschool & Reception Transition Visits		
August			



Last week we celebrated National Reconciliation Week (NRW) 2020 with the theme, **In This Together**. When we come together to build mutual respect and understanding, we shape a better future for all Australians. Our Year 4/5 and 5/6 students lead us in a beautiful community prayer, this was part of it;

**Reconciliation Week Prayer**

**Lord, we pray for Reconciliation:**

That the wrongs of the past may be recognised,  
 That our awareness of the journey so far be awakened,  
 And that the Spirit move us to action, to continue what others have started.  
 We ask this in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**AMEN**

**We are inviting our Parents and Friends** to purchase some benches which will be placed under the new trees. The significant message we hope this gives to the community is how important we see our environment and how we can use and enjoy these spaces to make connections with each other and celebrate relationships.

All parents and carers are part of our Parents and Friends group. Please complete the form below to indicate if you are happy for the purchase of some benches from the parents and friends past fund raising. Alternatively email your response to [smccullough@stjotto.catholic.edu.au](mailto:smccullough@stjotto.catholic.edu.au)  
 Thank you very much!



**Liturgies for Families**

The Family and Parish-Based Catechesis Office has prepared liturgies with a focus on children to reflect on the Sunday Gospel each week. These can be found on the following [link](#).

For further enquiries: Sr Jenny Seal [jenny.seal@cesa.catholic.edu.au](mailto:jenny.seal@cesa.catholic.edu.au) or

Elena Moffa [elena.moffa@cesa.catholic.edu.au](mailto:elena.moffa@cesa.catholic.edu.au)

**Reply Slip**

(Return to Simon McCullough in the office)  
 As a member of the St Joseph's community Parents and Friends I,  
 ..... support the purchase of benches to be placed under new  
 trees which were planted on June 5.  
 Signed.....