



# Newsletter

Issue 1 6 February 2020

## St Joseph's School

10 Ina Avenue, Ottoway S A 5013  
Telephone: (08) 8447 4969  
Facsimile: (08) 8241 0380  
Email: [info@stjotto.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@stjotto.catholic.edu.au)  
Website: [www.stjotto.catholic.edu.au](http://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: [smax@ottowayparish.com](mailto:smax@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)

In the  
**JUNIOR PRIMARY**  
area we try to .....



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.

## Principal News

### Welcome

The beginning of the school year is such a special time for children and families, especially those who are commencing school for the first time or have transitioned to St Joseph's from another school. In Pre-school I have the pleasure of welcoming the following students: Ariana, Bao Han, Bonnie, Glyzelle, Mikaela, Alisha, Iris, Ageil, Isabel, Taylor, Edith, Romy, Oscar-Phong, Oscar and Ashton.

In Reception I have the pleasure of welcoming the following students: Sarah, Bilal, Jack, Adam, Kym, Maverick, Jhazmine, Aarjen, Makeme, Brianna, Emelia, Curtricia, Annie, Denzel, Bryson and Dinh-Kein.

I warmly welcome the following students in older year levels throughout the school: R/1W Selena, 2/3 D Khang, 3/4 H Campbell, 4/5 P Oliver, 5/6 S Wynter and Bradey.

I hope that their experiences at St Joseph's encourages their love of learning and sense of curiosity. I hope, too, that their families feel connected with their children's learning and development, and that our partnership with them is long and prosperous.

### New Beginnings

Of course, for every child and young person returning to school this year there is also a sense of a new beginning. Every new year level is a different experience for all children and an opportunity to make new friends and set new goals. Similarly, as educators, as this new school year commences, we have another opportunity to be the kind of leader or teacher that we dream of being. I hope that, individually and collectively, we can continue to grow and evolve as educators, nourished by our faith and our commitment to making education truly liberating for children and young people.

As we commence this new school year, there is much for us to be excited about. In Term 1, children will experience our Whole School Swimming Excursion, Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday, St. Joseph's Feast Day, Harmony Day and Sports Day along with class incursions and excursions.

Importantly, though, 2020 offers us the opportunity to strengthen the quality of the education that we provide – a truly Catholic education – so as to equip children and young people to be more self-aware, skilled in critical thinking and willing and able to take their place in society as leaders for change in the world.

In other news, I'm pleased to announce that during Week 9 of Term 4, 2019 Mr. Cristian Morgado won a full time replacement teaching position at Dominican School Semaphore for 2020. We wish Cristian well and thank him for the service he has given to the St Joseph's Ottoway school community.

Music/Drama and Physical Education will become specialist subjects in 2020 with APRIM Simon McCullough teaching Music/Drama on Fridays and Maddie Merenda teaching Physical Education on Thursdays. Janine Meyer returns from parental leave to resume her permanent part time (0.2) role, teaching Specialist Language (French) on Fridays.

Mrs. Maria Coleman will continue to open and supervise The Gabby Hamlyn Centre (Library) Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning from 8.30 am to 8.45 am for students and parents to access before school while Ms Tracey Katsoulis will take on the role of librarian during the school day.

### 2020 Staff and Class Structures

Below is an outline of our 2020 staffing structure:

**Shaun O'Leary:** Principal, Leader of Teaching and Learning: Numeracy and STEM

**Simon McCullough:** Assistant Principal Religious Identity and Mission (0.6), Administration (0.2), Specialist Music/Drama Teacher (0.2)

**Louise Moody:** Leader of Teaching and Learning: English as Additional Language, Literacy and Library, Inclusive Education Coordinator

**Preschool Coordinator:** Maddie Merenda (Terms 1 & 2)/Catherine Crosbie (Terms 3 & 4: TBC).

Year R/1 Classroom Teacher: **Fran Wanders**

Year R/1 Classroom Teacher: **Malama Theodosi**

Year 2/3 Classroom Teacher: **Natalie Doyle**

Year 3/4 Classroom Teacher: **Ben Higgins**

Year 4/5 Classroom Teacher: **Matt Pick**

Year 5/6 Classroom Teacher: **Jane Smith**

Specialist French Teacher (0.2): **Janine Myer**

Specialist Physical Education Teacher (0.2): **Maddie Merenda**

### Upcoming Events

I would like to particularly draw your attention to the following events:

#### Parent Information Evening & School Board AGM– Monday February 10.

This will involve class teachers outlining their classroom programs and procedures. This is an opportunity for parents to meet the teacher and hear about class routines and ways they can support their child at home. During the evening I will present the AGM Report in the School Hall sharing our school's achievements from 2019 and our future plans going forward. All families are very welcome to attend. Please refer to the notice sent home to all families on Tuesday January 28 for further information.

In addition Parent/Teacher interviews will also take place during Week 9 of this term. More information will be forwarded to you closer to the time.

#### Pupil Free Day – Friday March 6

Our staff will be involved in professional learning as part of the Aboriginal Cultural Competence Program facilitated by Catholic Education South Australia. The program aims to increase staff expertise in teaching Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures as part of our Indigenous Education program. OSHC will be available for families who require the service on this day. Bookings are essential so please see Mieke if you need to make a booking.

#### Ash Wednesday – Wednesday February 26.

As a whole school we will join the parish community in celebrating Ash Wednesday mass in St. Maximilian Kolbe Church. Parents are very welcome to join us during this mass.

#### St. Joseph's Feast Day – Thursday March 19.

As a whole school we will join the parish community in celebrating St. Joseph's Day mass in St. Maximilian Kolbe Church. Parents are very welcome to join us during this mass. Further details about the day will be forwarded to you closer to the time.

#### Sports Day – Friday March 27.

Sports Day this year will be held at the Port Adelaide Athletics Club. It promises to be a great day full of fun for all our children. Further details will be forwarded to you closer to the time.

## Principal News Continued

### Whole School Assemblies

Another of our community activities at St Joseph's is our school assemblies. Whole School assemblies will take place in Weeks 1, 5 and 11 this term on Friday at 8:45am. Parents are warmly invited to attend assemblies where we celebrate learning and working together.

### Catholic Identity

The following are past twitter feeds from Pope Francis:

- God needs people who bring His forgiveness and His mercy into the world
- God loves us in a way that crushes all loneliness and isolation
- Holy Spirit, you who sustain the Church, come down upon us again, teach us unity, renew our hearts, and help us to love as Jesus taught us
- Never forget this golden rule: "Do to others what you would have them do to you" (Mt 7,12)

These messages from our current Pope remind us of the importance of valuing all those we come into contact with throughout our lives.

### Curriculum News

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

*This week's Mathematical tasks:*

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

You see a sign in a shop window . Record what this means to you in as many different ways as possible.

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

Two fractions add to give  $\frac{1}{2}$ . List as many possibilities as you can as to what those two fractions might be.

Happy inquiry.

Reading is another core learning area here at St Joseph's School. Our staff use an agreed set of practices around children's development of reading skills, knowledge and understanding. These practices shape our reading programs across the school.

Below are some strategies you might like to try at home to support your children's learning:

- encourage and model reading in the home
- listen to your child read their reading material and ask specific questions related to what they have read
- read with your child
- share what you are reading with your child
- read your child a bedtime story
- talk to your child about the different situations you find yourself in whereby you are required to read texts.

Happy reading.

Eating well is good for our mental and physical health. The brain requires nutrients just like our heart, lungs and muscles do. At St Joseph's School children are encouraged to bring healthy foods to school to eat daily, with many classes stopping throughout the day for Brain Food snack time. Wholegrain breads, fresh fruit and vegetables are easy to manage Brain Foods children should be eating on a regular basis.

Enjoy.

### Teaching and Learning

Early this term I plan to meet with teachers to have professional conversations about our school, what we stand for and our focus areas in 2020. My leadership experiences along with my professional development have taught me the importance of staff having a clear shared vision, working in collaboration and basing their teaching practices on contemporary data and research. Most importantly as educators we need to have a human connection and develop a positive trusting relationship with each child. When these key areas are evident we see the greatest impact on the improvement of student learning outcomes and wellbeing.

In 2018 the staff developed three important documents to support teaching and learning across the school. *Our Principles of Pedagogy* document clearly outlines how we teach at St. Joseph's School while our *Literacy Agreed Practices* and *Numeracy Agreed Practices* documents outline what is to be taught in the areas of English and Mathematics.

In 2019 staff developed a school STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Vision and Action Plan, an Action around Ecological Conversion and Sustainability for the school along with a Vision for Learning Reflective of Catholic Education South Australia's Living Learning Leading Framework. These 5 documents along with the Australian Curriculum will inform our teaching and learning programs both in 2020 and into the future.

In 2020 we will continue to have separate Literacy and Numeracy blocks across the school; non-interrupted times where teaching and learning is focused on developing children's understanding, knowledge and skills in these vital areas of school life.

Religious Education is another important area of learning in our school. Children regularly have the opportunity to develop their personal relationship with God through participating in prayer experiences, learning to live faith filled lives informed by scripture, reaching out to those in need within our community, creating a sense of community within classes and across the school, witnessing to God's love for all of the creatures of the Earth and recognising each of us as unique gifts made in the image and likeness of God.

Of course there are many other areas that we focus on at St. Joseph's School however the above mentioned areas are integral to us. If you would like further information please see your child's class teacher or a member of the leadership team.

As a staff we are also in the process of finalising our 2020 Annual Improvement Plan which I will talk further about in coming newsletters.

### 2020 School Board Nominations

Nominations are now open to members of the school community who would like to serve on the school board in 2020. The school board plays a valuable role in school governance. The board also allows parents to have a voice in the strategic direction of the school.

Being a part of the school board can be a very fulfilling and rewarding experience. If you are interested in serving on the school board in 2020 please complete the attached nomination form and return it to the front office.

## Principal News Continued

### What is Resilience?

Resilience refers to the ability to manage everyday stressors and challenges. Resilience enables people to shift back along the mental health continuum towards good mental health. A child or young person's ability to be resilient can depend upon many things and can change depending upon their situation. Importantly, specific situations or events that one child or young person may find challenging, another may not.

### A child or young person who is resilient might:

- Be optimistic
- Use positive self-talk for encouragement
- Have a positive sense of self
- Identify and express their feelings and thoughts
- Not hide away from strong feelings
- Have helpful, age-appropriate strategies to manage their emotions when upset
- Rearrange their plans to work around an unexpected situation
- Have a sense of agency or responsibility
- Keep on trying if something doesn't work out and use their judgment about when to stop
- Hold a sense of purpose or hope for the future
- Actively ask for help if they need it
- Feel a sense of attachment to family, their learning community and to learning.

To learn more about how you can help [build resilience in your children](#) visit **Be You** (formerly Beyond Blue) <https://beyou.edu.au/factsheets/development/brain-development>

### Skool Bag App

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

### Port District Football Club Girls Teams

Port District Football Club is calling all Junior girls to come and try football in 2020. No Experience is Required. Positions are available in Junior Teams: Under 10s, Under 12s, Under 14s and Under 16s.

Since Junior girls Football began in 2018, the club has had multiple successes. In 2018, the Under 12s and Under 16s were Premiers. In 2019, the Under 16s finished Runner Up.

For further information email: [pdfcjuniors@gmail.com](mailto:pdfcjuniors@gmail.com)

### OSHC Opening Hours

Just a reminder that OSHC is now open from 6.30 am each morning to accommodate families who start work early. It is hoped that continuing to open the service at 6.30 am each morning will support our working families meet both their working commitments while at the same time ensuring quality care for their children.

May God continue to bless all of our families throughout 2020.

Working in partnership with you.

**Shaun O'Leary.**

School Calendar					
Term 1 2020					
February		March		April	
10	<b>Parent Information Evening/AGM Meeting</b> 5.30 to 6.15 pm-Preschool, R/1T & R/1W 6.15 to 6.45 pm Annual General Meeting 6.45 to 7.30 pm Yr 2/3 to Yr 5/6	6	Pupil Free Day	8	Holy Week Celebrations and Liturgies. (In school yard and Tenison Woods Hall)
24	School Board Meeting @ 5.30 pm	17	Whole School Mass - St Patrick's Day 10.00 am	9	<b>Holy Thursday - Last Day of</b>
26	Whole School Mass - Ash Wednesday 10.00 am	19	Whole School Mass - St Joseph's Day 10.00 am	10	<b>Good Friday - School Closed</b>
		23 to 25	Parent Teacher Interviews	Term 2 2020	
		25	Whole School Mass - The Feast of the Annunciation 10.00 am	27	<b>First Day of Term 2 - 8.45 am</b>
		27	Sports Day		
		30	<b>Good Friday - School closed</b>		

## APRIM News

Welcome back to school everyone! I hope you had a wonderful Christmas and you were able to spend time together as a family in the holidays doing the things you love to do together.

**Parents and Friends:** I will be around on the night of the Parent Information evening to chat with you about volunteering or being part of the Parents and Friends activities. We will need volunteers for all community events and excursions. For example, last year parents organised a terrific school disco and a Mid-Autumn Festival. Both were wonderful events that were enjoyed by the whole community. Please let me know if you'd like to be involved in developing a community event such as these during 2020.

**Volunteers Needed:** Your generosity as volunteers whether it be in the canteen, on excursions, parents and friends, school board or any other community initiative is vital to creating the welcoming and supportive community that we have. We greatly appreciate that each one of you have busy lives and so we ask that you get involved wherever you can. All parents, grandparents and carers are automatically part of our St Joseph's Parents and Friends but some will be able to offer ideas and time to volunteer. If you would like to be a volunteer, please let me know. Drop by for a chat or feel free to email me – [smccullough@stjotto.catholic.edu.au](mailto:smccullough@stjotto.catholic.edu.au) and I will get back to you to chat about how you would like to be involved in the life of the school. Tanya, Rosalie and I can also assist you with organising any requirements such as a police clearance if you are working with children other than your own.

### Masses and Liturgies

During this term we will celebrate Ash Wednesday, our Lenten journey, Holy Week and Easter. Please keep an eye on the School Diary dates for our Masses and Liturgies during the term. As always you are invited to come and celebrate with us as a school community. Some dates are listed below;

### Some Mass and Liturgy dates for Term 1 are – (all in the Church)

Wednesday 6 March – Ash Wednesday 10am

Monday 18 March – St Patrick's Mass 10am

Tuesday 19 March – St Joseph's Mass 10am

Monday 25 March – Annunciation Mass 10am

Monday 8 April – Holy Week Celebrations and Liturgies. (In school yard and Tenison Woods Hall)

**Community Prayer:** You are invited to come along to community prayer and celebrate as a school community. Community prayer is being held at 8.45am every Friday morning in the yard or in the Tenison Woods Centre.

**Morning Catch up with tea and coffee:** We have tea, coffee and a chat each Tuesday morning from 8.25am under the shelter with the barrels. Please join us as often as you can.

**Sacramental Program:** Children who are wanting to participate in the Sacramental Program for 2020 / 2021 will commence their journey by celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation later this year. A date and further information will be sent home soon. In 2021 the same group will continue their journey towards First Communion and Confirmation. In the Ottoway Catholic Parish, these Sacraments are celebrated every two years. If your child is a Catholic and in Year 3 or above and they would like to be a part of this program, please let me know or return the tear off slip below.

## Reply Slips

To: Simon McCullough

### 2020 / 2021 Sacramental Program.

I \_\_\_\_\_, parent of \_\_\_\_\_

In \_\_\_\_\_ (class) Would like my child to join in the 2020 / 2021 Sacramental Program.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

To: Shaun O'Leary

### SCHOOL BOARD 2020

I wish to nominate \_\_\_\_\_ to serve on the St. Joseph's School Board.

Nominee's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to nominate myself \_\_\_\_\_ to serve on the St. Joseph's School Board in 2020

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### PARENTS & FRIENDS COMMITTEE 2020

I wish to nominate myself \_\_\_\_\_ to serve on the St. Joseph's School Parents & Friends Association as a:

**Co-Coordinator, Secretary, Treasurer or Committee member (please circle)**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

# School Clean Up

Love to have  
parents and  
caregivers  
to help!

Each family to  
provide 1 pair  
of small garden  
gloves please



## 2020

Friday 28 February 2020

9.30 – 11.30 am

Meet in the

Tenison Woods Centre

St Joseph's SRC will lead our student community in *Clean up Australia Day 2020* by 'cleaning up' our local Council oval at Eastern Parade Reserve.

Free  
to attend

**pp** positive partnerships  
Working together to support school-aged students on the autism spectrum

## 2 Day Autism Workshop for Parents and Carers



Join other local families to learn more about autism and ways to strengthen the home-school partnership

Learn about:

- Autism: characteristics, impacts and strategies
- Understanding behaviour
- Sensory processing
- Working together with your school

Location:

Elizabeth RSL  
70 Midway Rd  
Elizabeth East SA 5112  
Morning tea and a light lunch are provided

**Elizabeth**

Tue 17 & Wed 18 March 2020  
9.30am - 2.30pm

Registrations open 05 December 2019



Interpreters available



To register, visit  
[positivepartnerships.com.au](http://positivepartnerships.com.au)



For help, call:  
1300 881 971

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