



Issue 14 10 September 2020

# St Joseph's School

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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)

# Newsletter



## STEM OPEN DAY

On Tuesday the 11th of August, students had the opportunity to showcase their STEM learnings from this year. It was a great chance to discover all of the wonderful STEM concepts that students have been learning about across the school. We welcomed Xavier and David from Exxon Mobil who have been fantastic supporters of our STEM program over the past 5 years.



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.

### Further background on our school Josephite Tradition

In the past two newsletters I have provided the school community with some background information on our school Josephite Tradition. Below is the final instalment on what it means for us here at St Joseph's to be a part of the Josephite Tradition.

**Being part of a Josephite Tradition is about serving others.** Mary MacKillop interpreted the story of Jesus washing the feet of his disciples as an act of service. Consequently, Mary MacKillop and the Sisters of St Joseph were the first order of Sisters who did not live behind the walls of a convent. Instead they lived in groups of 3 or 4 in small houses and lived amongst their community, establishing schools and moving to communities that needed support. Everything that Mary MacKillop did was to benefit others.

Today as a Principal and with our staff, who are all leaders within our school community, we serve the St Joseph's Ottoway Catholic School Community. We use our skills and knowledge, together with a caring heart, to provide the greatest care possible for all of our children, our parents and for one another. Everything we do, educationally, financially, coordinating school events, improving classrooms is to benefit our children who are at the centre of all that we do.

**Being part of a Josephite Tradition is about having strength, courage and perseverance.** Although Mary MacKillop was a woman full of faith and remarkably determined to maintain her core values regardless of the circumstances, it still meant that some people were not pleased with her actions. In fact, at one stage, she was excommunicated from the Church. In the midst of many moments of conflict she never deviated from her core values and never spoke ill of others, even if they were a great cause of grief.

Today in our school community we teach children Gospel values of love, justice, compassion and dignity as these will be the values that will be their compass throughout their lives. If these values are embedded in the character of your child, they will act like the strong roots of a tree. It does not matter what winds or storms will come in their lives, these strong roots will keep them steady and in place. These roots will help them in their conviction of what it means to be a good person and their strength, courage and perseverance will be a light in our world. Characteristics which Mary MacKillop passed onto the Sisters of St Joseph and to those around her. Today we pass them on to our children and within our community and, in turn, these will be passed onto future generations.

### 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

Draw a clock and show on it the time you go to bed.

What are some things you do each day between 4:00pm and 7:00pm?

#### Years 4-6

The time is now 35 minutes after 3 o'clock. Show this time in as many ways as you can.

A football match takes 2 hours and 25 minutes to complete. What might be suitable starting and finishing times? List as many possibilities as you can.

Happy inquiry.

### Premier's Reading Challenge

This year a large number of our children have once again taken up the opportunity to participate in the Premier's Reading Challenge. The challenge closed on Friday September 4 with children needing to have their Premier's Reading Challenge *Student Reading Record* forms handed into the front office by this date.

Later this year Premier's Reading Challenge medals and certificates will be presented to all children who participated in the challenge as part of our whole school assembly.

Happy reading.

### **Pupil Free Day Friday September 11**

Tomorrow (Friday September 11) will be a Pupil Free Day. All staff will be involved in developing our 2021-2023 Three Year Strategic Plan. The day will involve staff reflecting on what has been achieved strategically in the past 3 years, our vision for the next three years and bringing this together in order to develop our three year strategic plan. OSHC will be available on the day. Bookings are essential and can be made by contacting Mieke or the Front Office.

### **Playgroup**

Playgroup numbers have been increasing throughout the term with social distancing protocols remaining in place. Thank you to all of our playgroup families who have refrained from attending as a result of they or their child being unwell. This has ensured that Playgroup remains a safe place for young children and their parents to attend and engaging in fun activities together.

### **Catholic Schools Music Festival Choir**

As a result of the restrictions surrounding the Covid 19 pandemic, the 2020 Catholic Schools Music Festival Choir will be in the form of a video link up to be recorded during Week 10 of this term. Copies of the video will be available for purchase in Term 4. Natalie Doyle has once again been coordinating our involvement in 2020. Natalie has been working with the choir regularly this year in preparation for the video event. The Catholic Schools Music Festival Choir is held during the last week of Term 3 each year. It is a wonderful advertisement for Catholic Education in South Australia. A big thank you to Natalie Doyle for all her efforts in preparing our children for this year's event.

### **School Climate Surveys**

A reminder that the school climate parent and carers survey closes tomorrow (Friday September 11). This year we have offered the parent survey as a paper version. Thank you to those who have already completed and returned their survey. The parent survey is seeking your thoughts and opinions on how you think things are going for the school. The results are collated by Curtin University in Western Australia and provided to the school to inform school improvement focus areas moving forward. No names are attached to the survey meaning parents are able to remain anonymous. If you would like participate in the survey and have not received a copy of the survey please come and see either myself or one of our front office staff. Copies are also available in Vietnamese. The more parents we have complete the survey the more data we will have available to draw upon in terms of targeting areas for school improvement.

### **School Master Plan Update**

We have progressed from the initial drawings stage of the development of our Nature Play & Sustainability Garden space to initial costings and seeking approval from Catholic Education South Australia to sign off on the project. This process will take the majority of Term 3 as there are 4 committees who each need to approve the project. Once this has taken place the project will go to tender, giving local companies the opportunity to bid for the project. In consultation with our architect and Catholic Education South Australia we will decide on the company to take over the project. It is hoped that the project will commence some time during Term 4 with a completed date some time during Term 1, 2021.

### **Nude Food Wednesday**

Our 4 week *Nude Food Wednesday* trial has proven to be a success with our school Student Sustainability Council (SRC) recommending *Nude Food Wednesday* continue for the remainder of Term 3. On Wednesdays children are encouraged to not bring food packaging to school. Any food packaging children use throughout the day will be sent home in their lunch box. This initiative is in line with our school action plan around ecological conversion and sustainability and is supported by our school SRC. The school canteen is also on board and has been limiting the amount of food packaging where possible on these days. Our school yard has been looking tidier and the amount of packaging waste we have been placing in our rubbish bins has reduced as a result of this initiative.

### **Fees to reduce across all Catholic Diocesan Primary Schools**

The South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools has announced that it will make Catholic education more affordable by lowering the school fees of every Catholic diocesan primary school in 2021 under its *Making Catholic Education More Affordable* initiative.

The exact level of fee reduction in each diocesan primary school will vary from school to school to take into account their circumstances and the needs of their families.

## Principal News Continued

Our school is working with Catholic Education South Australia to finalise our fees for 2021 and these will be released in the coming weeks.

There is more information about the initiative in the letter sent from the Chair of the South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools to families last week and on the Catholic Education South Australia website at [cesa.catholic.edu.au/fee-reductions](https://cesa.catholic.edu.au/fee-reductions).

### How do anxiety conditions develop?

Feeling anxious is a survival response to situations where there are dangers or threats: it helps us to respond efficiently. However, some people react more quickly or more intensely to such situations.

### Age is important

There are similarities but also key differences in the way anxiety may manifest throughout development from early childhood to adolescence. For example, if a baby cries when an unfamiliar person wants to hold them, their fear seems perfectly normal for this age. But if a 12-year-old withdraws or refuses to talk to new people and avoids situation where it may be expected, this may be evidence of a more serious anxiety issue. No matter the age, both children and young people can have difficulty finding the words to express what they are feeling – their behaviour may be the best clue.

### Early childhood

Young children are in the early stages of learning how to recognise, understand and respond appropriately to their emotions. Anxiety disorders are less likely to be formally identified in children under five partly because certain fears are considered normal – for instance, fear of the dark, visiting unfamiliar places or separating from a family member.

Behaviours that might indicate they're experiencing higher levels of anxiety than average could include:

- taking a long time to calm or settle following separation from a family member on a regular basis
- frequent tantrums that are more regular or severe than others of the same age
- low interest or significant reluctance to interact in social situations
- unwillingness to get involved in unfamiliar activities
- significant difficulty or distress during change or transitions

clingy behaviour or inability to separate from a favourite educator.

Many children in early childhood will display one or more of the above behaviours; however, if it happens on a regular basis and interferes with the child's ability to learn and engage in social relationships, then it's a sign they need additional support.

To learn more about anxiety visit **Be You** (formerly Beyond Blue)

<https://beyou.edu.au/fact-sheets>

### Safety Message

Students and families are reminded to be wary of approaches from strangers, especially when they are unaccompanied or travelling to and from school. If they are approached, students should not respond and should not accept offers of rides or gifts. Students should seek the assistance of other nearby adults if they feel unsafe and should report the event to a trusted adult (parent or school staff member) as soon as possible. SAPOL advises that taking out a mobile phone and calling police can deter the offender and they recommend the student making a formal report to their closest police station.

### 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 love of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop be with all our families.

Working in partnership with you.

Shaun O'Leary.

## APRIM News

### CC afternoon each Wednesday from 2pm in the Tenison Woods Hall

CC is cuppa and chat and is organised by Barbara Gutte, Tanya and myself.

Come and enjoy an hour of downtime with other parents and grandparents. Relax, slowdown, enjoy a cuppa, chat and play with some paper and pens, if you feel the need to do so. Or just sit and listen to others as they chat.

The perfect break before the later end of the day commences. This is your time where you can do what you want.

From 2 to 3pm, usually held in the hall, all are most welcome.

Looking forward to seeing you at the next CC Timeout.

### Parents and Friends

Tea and Coffee is available each Thursday morning in the yard on the barrels. We would love for you to drop by and say hello. Michelle Dinning and I will be there most weeks along with Shaun and other staff. Hope to see you then. The Art Group which is held each Wednesday at 2pm has started very well and we are looking for more parents to join in. Please pass the invitation on to any parents you speak with in the community.

### 2021 Sacramental Program.

Next term we will be assembling our 2021 Sacrament Program group. Catholic children from Year 3 to Year 6 can nominate to be prepared for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation. We have no dates available for these celebrations but families will be advised of these as they come to hand from the parish.

## Old Scholars News

### ST JOSEPH'S OLD SCHOLARS SPRING LUNCHEON

**Wednesday October 7th 2020.**

**Lockleys Hotel - 493 Henley Beach Road, Lockleys. 11.45a.m. for 12 noon start. SENIORS MENU - \$17.90 (includes complimentary drink). BOOKINGS with Josie (8295 3667) or Joyleen (8337 9500) by FRIDAY 2ND OCTOBER. Seating will not be allocated. Invitation for ALL students/teachers/staff (male and female) who have ever had a connection with a Josephite School/College and/or St. Mary MacKillop.**

### School Calendar

#### Term 1 2020

September		October	
11	<b>Pupil Free Day</b>		
11	<b>School Climate Parent Survey Closes</b>		
25	<b>Whole School Assembly 8:45am</b>		
25	<b>Term 3 concludes 12:30pm</b>		

## Chaplin News



<https://www.childhood.org.au/>

**Australian Childhood Foundation**

**(253 Gouger Street Adelaide – Phone 1300 381 581)**

The Australian Childhood Foundation provides therapeutic services to children and their families.

Specific services include...

Trauma counselling

Therapeutic group work

Parenting capacity building programs

Trauma informed needs assessment and consultation with service providers



**Bringing Up Great Kids** (<http://bringingupgreatkids.org/en/>) and **Cool Moves** are two specialised group work programs for children, young people and their families or carers.

Please see websites for further details or pick up a brochure from the Front Office.

### MORNING TEA & COFFEE:

Parents and Caregivers are most welcome to join me for tea, coffee and biscuits on Thursday mornings.

Now the weather is improving, and the feeling of spring is in the air, the mornings are now a perfect time to reconnect with each other in our community. When you drop your children off to begin their school day, please make your way to the shaded area near the Front Office building. I not only hope to meet you but look forward to chatting with you sometime in the coming weeks.

Michelle Dinning

Chaplain



## Notice Board

**OLSH**  
OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART COLLEGE

*College Tours* | 22 September & 27 October, 9:30am and 5:30pm  
Visit [olsh.catholic.edu.au](http://olsh.catholic.edu.au) or phone 8269 8800 to book  
Personal tour requests also welcome

OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART COLLEGE | A Girls Secondary Catholic College from Year 7 - 12  
496 Regency Road Enfield SA Australia 5085 | T: 8269 8800 | E: [olsh@olsh.catholic.edu.au](mailto:olsh@olsh.catholic.edu.au) | W: [www.olsh.catholic.edu.au](http://www.olsh.catholic.edu.au)

# CC Timeout - cuppa and chat

Come and enjoy an hour of downtime with other like minded folks.

Relax, slowdown, enjoy a cuppa, chat and play with some paper and pens,  
if you feel the need to do so.

Or just sit and listen to others as they chat.

The perfect break before the later end of the day commences.

This is your time where you can do what you want.

Wednesday 2.00 pm to 3.00 pm

Tenison Woods Centre

All are most welcome

Looking forward to seeing you at the next CC Timeout.

