



16.08.24

## From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **The Learning Street comes to Life!**

In early 2018 the idea of the 'Learning Street' was first discussed when the building committee met with our architects to design and develop a comprehensive Master Plan for the school, looking ahead to the next 15 years at St Joseph's Tranmere. Five years later and we see today the result of the many hours of planning and preparation finally come together as our Reception and Year 1 students experience the Learning Street for the first time this term.

It was delightful to see the many happy faces of students and parents coming through the complex for the very first time. It was a very proud and joyful start to the term, especially for our new mid-year Reception students as they start their school journey.

The Learning Street has now provided our school with amazing contemporary learning spaces and the latest facilities - already we can see how effective the space is for both teachers and students as the classes become a very connected learning community.

We hope to complete the landscaping over the next few weeks and will then organise a time for families to come and visit the Street.

Thank you to all who have assisted with this second staged project. We would like to acknowledge and thank the State Government for their contribution of a \$1.6M grant to assist with this timely development.

Recently we completed the construction of our new Sports Shed and hope to move into this space over the next few weeks. This will finally centralise all our sporting equipment and complete our multi-sports development project. This will provide easy access to the equipment for all our Physical Education Lessons, training sessions and our sports academy coaching programs. This project has been funded by our wonderful P & F fundraising initiatives. A huge thank you to all who have contributed in any way - as you can see, when we work together we can achieve many great

things for our school.

Our next project will be the construction of the new Early Years Playspace including a new sand and water play space. More information soon.

### **Catholic Education Open Week**

August 19 -23 2024

Catholic Schools Open Week is next week and is a great opportunity to see how a Catholic education can set your child up for life. If you know of any families who might be interested in attending our school, they can simply book in for a tour by contacting the office. We will be holding our next school tour on Wednesday 21 August at 9:15am – 10:30am for interested families to see our school in action.

### **Living Learning Leading (LLL) Survey**

Last week all families received an email/letter promoting our Living Learning Leading (LLL) survey. As mentioned in the letter, this short survey (3-5 mins) provides us with feedback from our families on our school's performance. All responses are confidential and will be used for school improvement purposes.

It is important that we capture as many responses as possible to the survey, so I strongly encourage you to spend a moment of your time to complete the survey which will close on Friday 23 August 2024.

### **Important Dates**

- **Pupil Free Day – Friday 30 August** – school closed for a staff Faith Formation Day
- **Book Week Parade** – Friday 23 August – 9am in the middle courtyard
- **Catholic Schools Festival Choir Performance Night** – Thursday 26 September at the Festival Theatre
- **Sports Day** – Friday 27 September (8:45am – 1pm) at Daly Oval – Fisher Street, Hectorville. T-shirts in your child's house colour are available for purchase from the uniform shop

Adrian Grbin



The love of learning will follow you everywhere.



A friendly reminder for those families who selected to pay school fees in Semester 1 and Semester 2, the second payment is due on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2024.

Please don't hesitate to contact the office if you have any queries or are experiencing financial difficulty.

Janet Price, **Business Manager**

# Numeracy News

## How important is Place Value?

In the words of Dr Angela Rogers "*Think of Place Value as the frame of a house- it holds everything else up*". A robust understanding of place value is essential for success with calculations with the 4 operations and in many other areas of mathematics.

Knowing how important place value is, we decided to focus on improving teaching and learning in Place Value this year at St Joseph's Tranmere. This journey started by connecting with Dr. Angela Rogers and signing all teachers up for her 'Numeracy Teachers Academy'.

Dr Angela Rogers has a PhD in Mathematics, with a particular focus on place value. She designed an assessment called the 'PVAT' which we are using in years 2-6 to inform our teaching and assess and track student growth in place value. We are also using the pre-PVAT assessment in the Early Years to ensure the relevant pre-requisites have been taught and understood.

The PVAT assessment tests children on the 6 aspects of place value:

Teachers have had professional development in teaching place value and on administering and analysing the PVAT. We are pleased to report that we have already seen growth between the PVAT data from the start of Semester 1 and the start of Semester 2. Teachers are now analysing the second lot of data to identify areas for future growth and enrichment.



### **Australian Mathematics Competition**

On Tuesday the 6<sup>th</sup> August, some of our year three, four and five students participated in the Australian Mathematics Competition (AMC). The AMC contains unique problems designed to challenge and extend students' problem-solving skills. It was wonderful to provide this enrichment experience to some of our keen mathematicians.

### **Here is a sample problem can you solve it?**

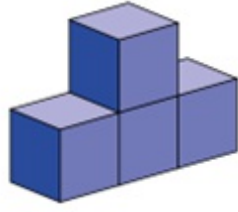
The block pattern below has 1 block in the first tower, 4 blocks in the second tower, 9 blocks in the third tower and so on.

How many blocks are needed to make **all** of the first ten towers in this pattern?

Jessica Hicks and Danielle Hodson



First tower



Second tower



1KD



This term, our Year 1s are focusing on fairytales and narrative writing in their literacy learning. This week, their learning has involved

students retelling the story of The Three Little Pigs. First, they co-constructed a story map with the help of their teachers. Then, students participated in some fun hands-on literacy rotations including Readers Theatre, stick puppets, sock puppets, and sequencing pictures from the story. All of these activities have helped our students to confidently retell the story and learn about the elements of a narrative text.



## Debating

Every year, Year 5 and 6 students have the opportunity to join the Debating Squad. This year, we have 11 eager Debaters. The Blue team is comprised of April, Mary, Jack, Shaya, and Oliver H, and the Yellow Team, formed by Janis, Elaine, Karlia, Cathy, Abigail and Teegan. Teams meet twice a week for trainings, and debate every 3-4 weeks against other schools. The Debaters are committed to their craft and work hard in their teams each week. Some highlights of the season so far include; Yellow Team's round 1 win (followed up in round 3!), Shaya winning 'Speaker of the Night' on his very first debate, and Crazy Hair Round where students debated with wild and whacky hairstyles.

Below are some reflections from the debaters on why they love debating...

*My favourite part of debating this year has been making new friends and the challenge. We have had some hard and confusing debates this season, but we have managed to get through and do well. My favourite part is definitely speaking and working together during training. -Jack*

*My favourite thing about debating is I can speak and work with my friends and helping me speak more confident. The challenging thing is finding really good points for the topic. -Shaya*

*In debating I enjoy being challenged to have to have points and rebuttals ready in 4 weeks. I also enjoy talking in front of people and doing it with my friends. -Mary*

*I enjoy debating because I like working with my team and friends, I also like how debating boosts your confidence and your way of speaking. I find debating challenging when you must write all your rebuttals in time, but it helps you to work under pressure. -Karlia*

*I enjoy doing debating because I like doing the public speaks, how it also boosts my confidence when I am speaking and how it teaches me a lot of stuff. I find debating challenging when we must write rebuttals on the day under pressure. -Elaine*

*My favourite thing about debating is it is fun and helps you when you have to speak in front of a crowd. My favourite debate topic so far is the one we are doing currently; that the new Bluey coins should go into circulation. -Abigail*

*My favourite thing about doing debating is that it can help you improve speaking in public. One of the things I find challenging about debating is thinking of rebuttals on the spot and having to think of things quickly. The reason I debate is because I enjoy public speaking, and I also love to convince people that I am right. -Teegan*

*My favourite part of debating is it improves my vocabulary and my skills to convince others. I debate because it is fun and, I*

*love helping my team make new and interesting points. -Cathy*

## Audiri is being phased out



Due to Seesaw now being used as our communication tool, Audiri won't be an option for advising of absentees in the future. Please use Seesaw, email to [info@stjotran.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@stjotran.catholic.edu.au) or our website on the "Contact Us" tab. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact Glenda or Angela in the front office.



## Enrolments for 2025 Open



We are currently looking at 2025 enrolments. If you have a child that you are yet to enrol please visit us in the office to get an application form or download and print an application from our website to secure your child's enrolment.

<https://www.stjotran.catholic.edu.au/enrolment/enrolment-prospectus>

## Joey's Playgroup

**Our family playgroup is back for another exciting year in 2024.**

It's a new year and we're bouncing back with excitement as we reintroduce our playgroup name ~ **Joey's Playgroup**. Our family playgroup is facilitated by SPiCE (Supported Playgroup in Catholic Education) and is suitable for you and your child (birth to 5 years). Our playgroup focuses on actively involving parents, grandparents, and carers by providing you with opportunities to play, talk, sing and explore with your child and other families in a relaxed, fun and supported environment.

**Joey's Playgroup is FREE and runs during the school term on a Wednesday morning from 9am-11am in the small Parish Hall (entrance via Birkinshaw Ave).**

If you are new and would like to join us, please register your interest via our website [Playgroup Registration Form](#). Jacqui our Playgroup Coordinator will then be in touch.

Come and discover the magic of play! We hope to see you there!



## How to Volunteer in our School

### Information for Volunteering - Due to changes in the Child Protection Act

At St Joseph's School Tranmere, we are always grateful for the support given by our volunteers. Volunteering applies to a wide range of activities in the school including attending excursions, coaching sports teams, reading in the classroom, helping in the many committees and many other school-related activities.

If you would like to act as a volunteer in the school, you are required to have a 6-point check. Please provide the school with copies of the following:

- **Completed CESA Volunteer Registration pack - available from the school office**
- **A Catholic Police Check Clearance or Working With Children Check (WWCC from the Department of Human Services (if you need to obtain this clearance please come to the school office)**
- **A RRHAN-EC (Responding to Harm, Abuse and Neglect in Education and Care) training Certificate**
- **Work Health and Safety on-line Induction for Volunteers Certificate**
- **Work Health and Safety signed form**
- **COVID Status Certification**

Please note: that all these processes are mandatory and must be completed in order to volunteer/continue to volunteer. This requirement is designed to ensure our children are protected and safe at school.

If you are missing any documentation above I can send you links to complete the paperwork once I receive your Completed CESA Registration Pack

**Angela Girolamo, WHS Administrator**



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# JUNIORS COME & TRY

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 1ST & SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 8TH**

SESSION 1: 930AM-11AM  
SESSION 2: 11AM-1230PM  
EAST TORRENS BASEBALL CLUB,  
PATTERSON SPORTS GROUND

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