



Important Dates

STaR Transition
program 9pm -
2.30pm

Friday 2 December 2022

Christmas Gathering
6pm

Tuesday 6 December 2022

Year 5/6
Waterworld
Excursion

Wednesday 7 December
2022

Year 3/4
Waterworld
Excursion

Thursday 8 December 2022

STaR Transition
program 9pm -
2.30pm

Friday 9 December 2022

Graduation Liturgy
6pm followed by
Graduation Dinner

Friday 9 December 2022

30.11.22

From the Principal



Dear Parents and Carers,

We are approaching the end of another school year. Teachers are currently writing student reports and preparing for end of year events. Our Year 6 students are experiencing many *"this will be the last time I do this"* moments as they prepare for their final days at St Joseph's School.

Last Sunday was the start of Advent. This is a special time in the church calendar for us to prepare for the coming of Jesus and Christmas. It is also a time for us to prepare for next year. Our long transition program, "Little Stars", is in full swing as the new Reception students gather each Friday in our Community Centre to prepare for starting school. Each week is a new adventure for the students as they begin to understand and experience the life of a school. This preparation is such an important part for a student being in our school the term before they start so they can feel happy and safe, build resilience and make friends. Being prepared can help us begin to feel okay about change and allows us to start organising for the next chapter in our school journey, especially if it is moving on to a new school or to a new class.

Class Placements

All schools are working on their class placements for next year. Placing all our students each year is a process that takes teachers and leadership many discussions over many hours as well as a great deal of thought and consideration. Many factors contribute to the placement including; gender balance, learning abilities, peer friendships, student combinations, class size, social and academic strengths and challenges. When making class placements we always consider the individual child while recognising that each child is also part of a complex process.

With each child at the centre of our process, our goal is to create an optimal learning environment for all students that meets their needs. In a small school, this can create additional complexities and challenges.

We respectfully ask that parents do not request particular teachers for their child as there are far too many factors to be considered when constructing a class for teachers to accommodate such requests. As this takes most of the term to deliberate, we ask that families trust and respect the process, knowing that teachers and leaders are collaborating and discussing each student and looking at what is the best fit for them.

Students do provide teachers with information focussing on their friendship groups, by providing names of students who they value and respect in their current Year level, as well as other students they have worked successfully with throughout the year.

As our class structures allow teachers of the same Year level to work in Professional Learning Teams, students do have the opportunity to mix and get to know other students from classes in the same year level. We encourage and promote diverse social interactions, allowing all students to develop and grow friendships not just in their own home class. This has many benefits and creates a real sense of community.

Class placements will be communicated to families on the final Tuesday of Term 4, as the students will meet their new teacher(s) and classmates at a transition session on this day. Students will receive a letter that afternoon informing them of their class teacher(s), the name of their class and the room number. We trust this will be a very exciting and positive experience for all students as they prepare for another exciting year of learning in 2023. Thank you for your continued support in this matter.

Stage 2 Building Project & Sports Courts

I would like to inform the school community that we are preparing and planning for the start of the Learning Street project at the end of term 1 in 2023. Part of the preparation for the project requires us to relocate the brown transportable building (Italian Room) next to the sand pit so it can be used by a class during the project. The main construction site will be in the bottom yard and this relocation will be happening in the first week of the Christmas break.

We are gradually seeing the final stages of the sports court. This week the chain wire fences are being erected and the remainder of the grass will be laid. Unfortunately, it is looking more likely the court will be completed just before Christmas, which will mean we will be unable to use it until next year.

On a positive note the Adventure Playspace has been extremely well received by everyone, we are very pleased and proud with the outcome and are in the process of planning the official opening and blessing early in 2023.

NOTE: After school play until 3:15pm

Just a reminder to all students and their families, you are very welcome to gather and have a small play after school, however once the second bell goes at 3:15pm we ask that you make your way out of the grounds. At this time, our OSHC students will come out to use this space for their first part of their session. The Adventure Playspace, as well as the Parish Hall have been allocated for use by OSHC only during the morning and afternoon sessions and this whole area becomes part of the care package for OSHC. All areas are required to be registered with the Education Standards Board, which have strict guidelines around the use of space when students are in our care outside of school hours. Thank you for your support.

Signage

Recently the new signs for the gates and some of the school buildings have been appearing. We hope these will assist new and current families to navigate through the school grounds. Please note the gate to the staff carpark is for staff use and deliveries, not for families to use (other than in emergencies). We do have around four parking spaces out the front of the school on Magill Road. Please be aware that at 4:30pm Monday to Friday there is no parking on Magill Road as it becomes a bikeway and fines are issued.

Please use the promenade self-closing gates which are opened using the child safety latches.

Christmas Gathering Evening (Tuesday 6th December at 6pm)

We will provide some more information about our Christmas Gathering later this week, including a timetable of events, what to bring and the location of the gathering. Currently it is planned for the oval, however this will depend on the building site and the ability for us to have safe access to the area, please be aware that it could revert back to the middle yard.

I look forward to seeing you at the community gathering next week.

Kind regards

Adrian Grbin

From the APRIM



OUR JOURNEY TO CHRISTMAS BEGUN

This week we started our Advent journey. Community Prayer was led by 1 / 2 LB and the first of the four candles of Advent was lit. This week we lit a purple candle which means HOPE. May we be people who inspire hope in others and be full of love and compassion for each other.

VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Thank you to the families who have brought in donations for the Vinnies Christmas Appeal. The food items and gifts will be appreciated by other families this Christmas. We will be collecting donations the rest of this week and next week.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2023

Yesterday a letter went home to children in Year 3 or 4 who might be interested in celebrating the Sacraments of Reconciliation and/or First Eucharist/Confirmation next year. If you have a child in a different year who is interested or if you did not get the 2023 sacramental information, please contact me at amccard@stjotran.catholic.edu.au



“Every child is gifted, they just unwrap their packages at different times.”

DOGS CONNECT Restoring Balance



As you may have heard, at the beginning of 2023, we will be welcoming a new member to our school community. Her name is Bonnie and she will be taking on the role of our Wellbeing Dog. Bonnie is a Mini Groodle and will be undergoing training with me, through a company called 'Dogs Connect'.

Dogs Connect is a mental health, wellbeing and resilience building program. It connects school communities with a wellbeing dog through a proven approach that delivers sustainable planning and a trauma informed approach to mental health and wellbeing. The training I will be doing with Bonnie is closely aligned to Positive Education and the Berry Street Model of social and emotional wellbeing that our staff have been implementing within the school.

Wellbeing dogs have proven to increase student engagement, increase emotional regulation strategies, improve understanding of empathy, manage reactivity and enabling student to be calm, happy and ready to learn.

This is a very exciting initiative and I am sure you will see Bonnie featuring in many FaceBook posts!

Tanya Barrett

Director of Teaching and Learning

Finance News

Thank you for your commitment to paying school fees throughout this year. A Statement of account will be provided before the end of term for your information.

Assistance with school fees (fee remissions)

We appreciate that the current economic climate may present some families with financial difficulties. As always, please don't hesitate to get in touch with myself or Adrian at any time throughout the year to sensitively and confidentially discuss any support we can provide with school fees.

Janet Price, *Business Manager*

1/2FL



This term for HASS we are focusing on world celebrations. In week 5 it was Remembrance Day and we discussed the importance of remembering those who fought for us. In our lesson 1 / 2 FL acknowledged the celebration by making poppies to wear to the Remembrance Ceremony.

3/4JS



In Science this term the 3/4 unit have been exploring forces and have looked at different styles of bridges and what helps to give them their strength and stability. Last week we came together to have a bridge building day, where students put their planning and designing to the test as they worked in teams to construct the strongest bridge.

We had some fantastic designs and all teams worked cooperatively to successfully build their straw bridges. Our overall winner of the strength test was a simple plank bridge designed and constructed by Grace, Maya, Tahlia and Hailey, it was able to hold approximately 2.8 kg of weight.

A job well done by all of our builders and potential future engineers.

Family Playgroup Tuesday's



Come and join our Family Play Group facilitated by SPICE (Supported Playgroup in Catholic Education) for you and your child (birth to 5 years).

When - Tuesday mornings in term time from 9.00am to 11.00am

Where - Small Parish Hall (entrance from Birkinshaw Avenue)

Come along and spend some time with your child and meet other families while learning together through play.

Registering your Child for OSHC

If you wish your child/children to attend Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) for either Before or After School Care, we require registration with **'Fully Booked'** prior to session attendance. This system is both user friendly and streamlined to ensure that registration is a simple process and that families are able to manage their own bookings/cancellations as needed.

Initial setup will require you to register an account and complete all necessary information required using the following link: <http://stjotran.fullybookedccms.com.au/family/>

Please contact Angela Girolamo agirolamo@stjotran.catholic.edu.au or Melanie Heaney mheaney@stjotran.catholic.edu.au if you require further assistance.

It is important to note that when you create your bookings through Fully Booked, the session type will automatically default to the Full Casual rate. If this is not what is required, you will need to deselect the ticked box in the top left hand corner of the booking screen and select available options from the drop down menu. Unfortunately we are unable to change past bookings, so please make sure you go through this process to ensure the correct rate is charged.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

Melanie Heaney

OSHC Director

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

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL
PRESENTS

Community Christmas Gathering

A night of fun and great Entertainment



6 December 2022
Starts at 6pm
On the School Oval

BYO
Chair, Blanket, Nibbles & Drinks
No Alcohol Please

Summer Reading Club!

**Facts
& Fun**

All School
Holidays
Campbelltown
Library



Kids! Love your reading this summer and win prizes for reading with our Summer Reading Club!

Register:
www.campbelltownlibrary.eventbrite.com



**2023 JUNIOR FOOTY
REGISTER NOW!**



**DO YOU WANT TO OR KNOW
SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO PLAY
FOOTY FOR HECCIES IN 2023?**

REGISTER NOW FOR 2023!

Register at: <https://www.playhq.com/afl/register/5c5a00>

Any questions?

Please email Christian McCormack at
christianheccies@gmail.com or phone 0412 959 254

