



Issue 1 10 February 2022

# St Joseph's School

10 Ina Avenue, Ottoway S A 5013  
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Email: info@stjotto.catholic.edu.au  
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

## Welcome back to St Joseph's 2022!



**Working together to keep each other safe!**



## Congratulations to our community for getting on with life and learning during Omicron's visit.

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

### 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: Abenezzer, Alex, Alexandria, Alvin, Anna, Blaize, Freya, Ivanna, Jaylon, Jen, Lachlan, Makai, Nimisha, Skye, Skylar and Tiffany.

In Reception I have the pleasure of welcoming the following students: Ava, Amber, Faith, Henry, Jayden and Jordan

I warmly welcome the following students in older year levels throughout the school: Allan, Amelia, Ayeisha, Eva, Jonathon, Marie-Claire, Muhammed, Obed, Vu Gia, Vu Nghia and Yvette.

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 Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday, St Joseph's Feast Day and Harmony Day, just to name a few.

Importantly, though, 2022 offers us the opportunity to strengthen the quality of the education that we provide – a truly Catholic education – 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 the world God desires.

In other news, I would also like to officially welcome Ms Anna Huynh, Mr Daniel Nguyen, and Ms Jessica Curnow to our school community. Anna will take on the role of Year 1-2 classroom teacher in Term One while Natalie Doyle enjoys long service leave. Daniel will take on the role of Specialist Physical Education teacher this year while Jessica will take on the role of Speech Pathologist working with us on Mondays each week.

### 2022 Staff and Class Structures

Below is an outline of our 2022 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), Literacy Cover (0.2)

Louise Moody: Leader of Teaching and Learning: English as Additional Language, Literacy, Inclusive Education Coordinator (0.8)

Preschool Teachers: Catherine Crosbie (0.6) and Melissa Strudwick (0.6)

R/1 Classroom Teacher: Danielle Librandi

R/1 Classroom Teacher: Jennifer Craig

1/2 Classroom Teacher: Anna Huynh (Term 1), Natalie Doyle (Terms 2-4)

3/4 Classroom Teacher Ben Higgins

4/5 Classroom Teacher Matt Pick

5/6 Classroom Teacher Jane Smith

Janine Myer: Specialist French Teacher (0.2)

Janine Myer: Specialist Music/Drama Teacher (0.2)

Daniel Nguyen: Specialist Physical Education Teacher (0.2).

### Upcoming Events

A Term 1 School Calendar has been included as part of this week's newsletter. I would like to particularly draw your attention to the following events:

- **Parent Information Evening & School Board AGM– Monday February 28.**  
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 2021 and our future plans moving forward. All families are very welcome to attend. Please refer to the notice sent home to all families on Monday January 31 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.
- **Ash Wednesday – Wednesday March 2.**  
As a 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 Liturgy – Friday March 18.**  
As a whole school we will celebrate the feast day of St Joseph (March 19) on Friday March 18. The St Joseph House Team will lead our whole school liturgy which will be followed by several fun activities. Parents are very welcome to join our celebration. Further details about the day will be forwarded to you closer to the time.

- **Pupil Free Day – Friday April 1.**

Our staff will be involved in professional learning in the areas of Religious Education, Literacy and Numeracy. APRIM Simon McCullough and I will facilitate the day where staff will be involved in further developing their teaching pedagogy in these important learning areas. 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.

- **Whole School Assemblies**

Another of our community activities at St Joseph's is our school assemblies. Whole School assemblies will take place in Weeks 5 and 10 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 meet 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

**½ Price Sale**

Record what this means to you in as many different ways as possible.

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

Two fractions add to give  $\frac{3}{4}$ . 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.

### **Canteen News**

The canteen will return to being open 5 days per week in 2022 with Rebecca Allen returning to the role of fulltime canteen manager. Rebecca did a wonderful job supporting our front office staff on Tuesdays throughout 2021. This year Administration and Finance Officer Anne Turtle will take on this work.

### **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 2022. 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*

## Principal News Continued

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 Plan 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 6 documents along with the Australian Curriculum will inform our teaching and learning programs both in 2022 and into the future.

In 2022 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 and liturgy 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.

During the first three weeks of the school year, classroom teachers spend much of the time focusing on wellbeing and relationship building within their classes. This focus also incorporates components of the *Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum* which since 2008 has provided the framework to teach children and young people from ages 3 to Year 12 to recognise abuse, talk to trusted adults and understand ways to keep themselves safe. In 2013 the curriculum was updated to reflect contemporary child safety issues and to align with both the Early Years Learning Framework and the Australian Curriculum.

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.

### 2021 School Board Nominations

Nominations are now open to members of the school community who would like to serve on the school board in 2022. 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. Our first school board meeting for the year is scheduled for Monday March 28.

If you are interested in serving on the school board in 2022, please complete the attached nomination form (on the last page) and return it to the front office.

### 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 God continue to bless all of our families throughout 2022.

Working in partnership with you.  
Shaun O'Leary.

## APRIM News

### **Welcome back to the school year!**

I hope you and your family had a wonderful New Year. We would like to welcome you back as we start a new school year.

**Mass:** you are very welcome to join with us at these Parish Masses and school liturgies:

Ash Wednesday – 2/3 10am Mass and class liturgy

St Patrick's Mass – 17/3 10am

St Joseph's House group liturgy and celebration—18/3

Annunciation Mass 25/3 10am

## Parents and Friends News

### Parents and Friends and Volunteers

At St Joseph's School relationships between parents, carers, staff and students are highly valued. Parents and staff are partners in the educational process of the children in our care.

Our Staff prioritises and welcomes the development of good relationships with parents and caregivers. As parents are the key educators of their children we work closely with you to ensure that this shared journey assists our children to reach their full potential. Parents are a vital part of our school community and provide much needed and valued support to the school. The contribution families make towards the success of community events and celebrations throughout the year is central to the success we have in building a strong, hope filled community.

All parents and carers in our community are what we call Parents and Friends and we would love to support you in creating the community events and spirit that you want to have at St Joseph's. This might include fundraising, celebrations and community events and something as simple as making new families feel welcome here.

Parents volunteers are also so important to the life of the school in the classroom, canteen, school board and excursions.

All volunteer contributions are very valuable. To become a volunteer in the school there is a short process of induction and some requirements that need to be met. We can help you meet these requirements easily and appreciate your commitment.

Some of the requirements are: (We can help you to organise all of these).

- ◆ · Work Health and Safety induction for Volunteers
- ◆ · Responding to Abuse and Neglect online training for volunteers
- ◆ · Protective practices for working with children—applying for a Working With Children Check

If you wish to become a part of our P&F please complete the tear off slip on the last page and return it to the office.

## Chaplain News

Dear Parents & Caregivers -

Welcome to the 2022 school year!

I look forward to being part of the St Joseph's School Community again in 2022.

I will be onsite each Thursday, and look forward to meeting up with you once again, as restrictions hopefully ease in the coming months.

Should you require help and guidance as we navigate the next several weeks, these two resources offer great information on a range of topics, as well as a counselling service via phone and email.

Wishing you safety and good health -

Michelle  
Chaplain/Pastoral Care



Parentline is here for you.

Sometimes you just need to talk to someone. Sometimes you need guidance.

**1300 30 1300**

More information and a range of topics at <https://www.parentline.com.au/kids>



Kids Helpline also offer comprehensive assistance to both children and adults:

**1800 55 1800**

**<https://kidshelpline.com.au> for online assistance**

## OSHC News

Dear Parents and Caregivers.

Welcome to the new year, Term 1, 2022 in OSHC.

Children are in a safe supervised environment; learning happens while children play, have fun, and make new friends. Please feel welcome to visit.

Morning care in OSHC is available, **6.30-8.30am. (by appointment or permanent booking)**

**You will need to make a booking for the 6.30am care.**

**OSHC is available each weekday 7.30-8.30am.**

**All parents using OSHC will need to check their myGov app to check for messages.**

**Follow the prompts—confirming that you used the OSHC service.**

**This occurs as we have just had a break, and Centrelink is just confirming you are using the service.**

**If you don't confirm you will not receive CCS (Child Care Subsidy).**

### Casual attendance in OSHC

Please remember check **your myGov app** and **Centrelink for messages.**

When parents use OSHC casually you **won't automatically** receive CCS (Child Care Subsidy).

Follow the prompts—confirming that you used the OSHC service.

**This will occur for casual attendance of the service.**

**Centrelink is just confirming that you are using the service.**

Parents/caregivers are welcome to read the OSHC Policies, feel welcome to ask and I will make copies available for your perusal.

Please remember to make a booking when you need OSHC.

All bookings can be made by ringing or messaging the **OSHC mobile on 0437 863 067.**

If there is no answer leave a message on the service. I will call or message you back.

Making a booking helps us keep the child/educator ratio in line with legislation.

24 hours' notice is necessary when cancelling a booking or charges will occur.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Mieke

OSHC Director

## Apps we use



The Skool Bag App is used to keep you up to date with that is happening within our school.

This is an information tool and we recommend that all families have this App.



The Qkr! App can be used to:

- Order from the Canteen
- Pay school fees
- Pay OSHC fees
- Book and pay for Occasional care.

## School Calendar

Term 1 2022

February		March		April	
28	<b>Parent Information Evening/AGM Meeting</b> 5.30 to 6.15 pm - Preschool, R/1C & R/1L 6.15 to 6.45 pm Annual General Meeting 6.45 to 7.30 pm Yrs 1/2D, 2/3H, 4/5P & 5/6S	2	Ash Wednesday	1	<b>Pupil Free Day</b> - Bookings are essential so please see Mieke if you need to make a booking
28	School Board Meeting	14	Adelaide Cup Public Holiday	14	<b>Term 1 Concludes 12:30 pm</b>
		18	St Joseph's Feast Day	<b>May</b>	
		28	School Board Meeting	3	<b>Term 2 Starts 8.45 am</b>



# Want \$500 to help you with school costs?



Saver Plus is a financial education program for families and individuals on a tight budget to develop life-long savings habits.

## To join Saver Plus, you must:

- ✓ Have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card **AND** an eligible Centrelink payment\*
- ✓ Be studying yourself **OR** have a child in school (can be starting school next year)
- ✓ Have regular income from work (either yourself or your partner)\*
- ✓ Be 18+ years old

\*Many types of income and Centrelink payments are eligible

## Here are some of the school costs the \$500 can be used for:



laptops & tablets



uniforms & shoes



books & supplies



sports fees & gear



lessons & activities



camps & excursion

## For more information, please contact your local Saver Plus coordinator:



Mandy Duncan



Mandy.Duncan@thesmithfamily.com.au



0417 060 559 or 1300 610 355

DELIVERED BY



everyone's family

Find out more at [severplus.org.au](http://severplus.org.au)

Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ and delivered in partnership with local community organisations. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services.

## Tear Off Slips

Please return to Shaun O'Leary

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 2022.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_



Please return to Simon McCullough

### Parents & Friends

I, \_\_\_\_\_ would like to support the 2022 Parents and Friends events or volunteer in another way.

My child / children are in: \_\_\_\_\_ (class)

I am best contacted on: \_\_\_\_\_ (phone / email)