

# St Joseph's School Uralla Newsletter



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14 FEB 2024  
TERM 1 WEEK 3

Dear Parents

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

### Ash Wednesday - Lent Begins

Today we attended the Ash Wednesday Mass and received the mark of the cross in ashes on our foreheads. Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent which is a time of preparation for Easter - a time of remembering the death and resurrection of Jesus. It is also a time of personal renewal when we make a renewed effort to be the best person we can possibly be. At St Joseph's, during Lent the children are asked to concentrate on 3 things: consideration for others; fasting (giving up a little treat eg lollies, fizzy drink) and making time for prayer. Our students will receive Project Compassion boxes to take home where they can choose to collect coins or pocket money for chores to place in the box. Project Compassion funds go to Caritas, a charity arm of the Catholic Church which helps the world in need. Please encourage your children in their efforts, especially towards prayer. We ask that these Project Compassion boxes be returned before the Easter break. Thank you for your support.

Our school's fundraising effort for Caritas began with our Pancake Day yesterday. Thank you Mrs Shaw for cooking 120 pancakes for us! Thank you to our families for your support and kind donations towards this effort - we have so far raised \$63. Well done!

### Beginning Year Mass and Welcome BBQ

Our Beginning Year Mass will be held next Tuesday 20th February at 6:00pm in St Joseph's Church. Induction of school leaders and commissioning of staff will be an important part of this Mass. This special Mass will allow us all to come together as a school community to celebrate the beginning of the new school year and to ask God's blessing for the year ahead. This will be followed by a welcome BBQ in the school grounds. We ask parents to please bring a plate of salad or dessert to share. All are welcome! The students are asked to come dressed in their school uniform. If there is anyone who could volunteer to cook the BBQ on the night please phone the office to let us know. Year 6 will be selling cans of drink for \$2 as part of their fundraiser for their end of year gift to the school - cash sales only. Your support is much appreciated.

### Swimming Carnival

Our school swimming carnival will be held next **Wednesday 21st February** commencing at 11:00am. All children from K-6 will attend this carnival. Please give permission for your child to attend this carnival via the COMPASS parent portal. Thank you.

**Important notes have gone home today with this newsletter asking for details of your child's swimming ability and confidence level. Please return the note ASAP.**

The day will involve a formal carnival and novelty events for less experienced swimmers. We encourage every child to compete to the best of their ability in whatever event or activity they feel confident to participate. The students need to come to school dressed in their sports uniform. Students can either wear their swimmers under their sports uniform or bring them to change into at school before we go over for the carnival. If you are available to help on the day it would be very much appreciated. Students are asked to bring a packed recess and lunch, there will be no canteen available at the pool. Don't forget to put sunscreen on your children, and pack a hat and water bottle. Just a reminder that no student is allowed in the baby pool unless a teacher is present. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Championship medals for Senior Boys and Girls, 11Yrs Boys and Junior Boys and Girls are on offer at the carnival. Please note for the students to be eligible for the championship medals in their age group they must swim 50 metres of a regulation stroke. Medals and ribbons will be handed out at assembly on Friday 23 February. For selection in the Diocesan carnival students must swim Diocesan qualifying times on the day of our carnival. The Diocesan carnival will be held in Gunnedah on Friday 1 March. Parents of students who qualify for this event will be notified at the conclusion of our carnival as nominations for the Diocesan carnival close that afternoon.

*Kind regards*  
*Judy Elks*

## INCURSION UNE DISCOVERY

As part of our Organic Learning unit this term (Material World) we have the UNE Discovery team coming to our school **next Monday 19th February from 9.00am to 3:00pm** to present science investigations for all students K-6. The themes for the day include: **Creative Chemistry and Crime Scene Investigation**.

These activities will engage students with age appropriate mysteries for them to solve, using clues, tools, and critical thinking. These activities will introduce students to a range of different techniques that detectives and forensic scientists use. These include matching fingerprints and footprints, identifying different chemicals using their unique properties, pollen analysis, as well as some good old logic and reasoning. Please complete your permission and make payments via the COMPASS parent portal as soon as possible.

## PT&F NEWS

At St Joseph's we have an active PT&F who support the school in a variety of ways. The PT&F will be holding its AGM on Tuesday 5 March at 5:30pm. All positions will be declared vacant and nominations are invited from parents to fill the following position: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and Canteen Convenor. Please contact the school office if you would like a nomination form for one of these positions. The AGM will be followed by an ordinary meeting to discuss plans for the year ahead. Everyone is welcome, please come along and feel free to offer your ideas.

## URALLA SHOW 2024 AWARDS





## ROAD SAFETY IS A BACK TO SCHOOL ESSENTIAL

As children return to school, it is essential to keep safety in mind. Talk with your children about safely getting to and from school.

Keep children safe getting in and out of the car. Always use the door closest to the kerb.

Keep children safe by walking distraction-free. Expect your child to take off their headphones while walking.

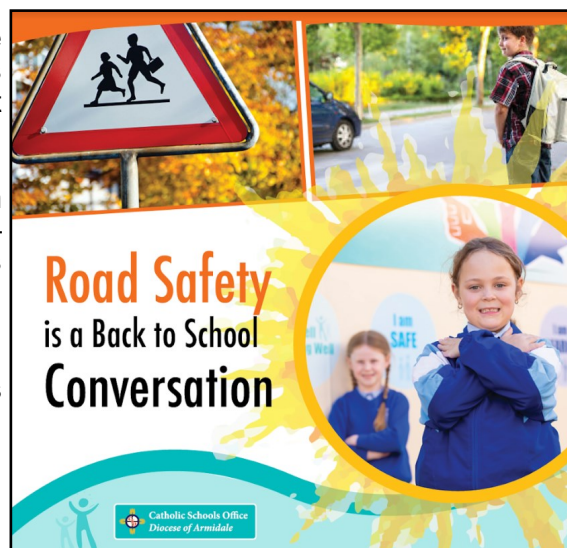
Keep children safe getting on and off the bus. Wait at the bus stop and stand at least one step back from the road's edge. Always meet your child at the bus stop. Never meet them on the opposite side of the road and call them across. Wait until the bus has gone before crossing the road.

Keep children safe while using wheeled transport. Children must wear a helmet when riding a bike in any public place – it is the law. Foot scooter, skateboard and rollerblade riders should wear helmets and protective equipment.

Be a positive role model when you are a pedestrian, passenger and driver. Children learn from what they see, as well as what we say.

Never sacrifice safety for convenience.

Source: <https://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/>



## CATHOLIC SCHOOL PARENTS AUSTRALIA

You are invited to participate in a research project being conducted in a collaboration between the University of New England and Catholic School Parents Australia.

### Research Project:

*School-Parent Communication: Perspectives of Parents, Principals and School Personnel.*

School personnel and parents may participate in either a one-on-one interview or small Focus group.

Further information is available from the school office. If you are interested, please contact the office on 02 6778 4063 and we will send the paperwork home with you child.

## HOW DO SCHOOLS AND PARENTS COMMUNICATE WITH EACH OTHER?



**CATHOLIC SCHOOL PARENTS AUSTRALIA** has extended an invitation to 46 schools across Australia including St Joseph's Uralla to be involved in a research project to hear the voices of parents and school staff about:

### How to build and maintain effective School-Parent Communication

A research team will visit St Joseph's on 14 March 2024 to conduct one-on-one interviews and focus groups.

**Want to be involved?**  
Contact our school office staff for more details.

## WEEKLY AWARDS

Congratulations to Term 1 Week 3 award recipients:

Kindy - Sonny and Miles



1/2 - Neve and Seth



3/4/5/6 -  
Liam, Justin,  
Aubrey and Remy



## CANTEEN ORDERS

Menu for Monday 19 February 2024

**MORNING TEA** - 50cents each:

Apple Cinnamon Pikelets with Fresh Cream

**LUNCH \$5** - ONE SIZE ONLY:

Grilled Chicken Burgers with Lettuce and/or Tomato on a Fresh Roll

### Drinks

Strawberry or Chocolate Milk \$2.00

Apple or Black Currant Juice \$2.00

### Other Items

Red Deli Chips \$1.50

Packet of Popcorn \$1.00

Cheese and Crackers \$2.00

Quech Sticks \$0.50cents



## Dates to Remember

**Mon 19 Feb:** Discovery UNE

Forensic Science

**Tue 20 Feb:** 6pm Whole School

Opening Mass

**Wed 21 Feb:** 11am-1:30pm

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

**Thur 22 Feb:** Music Program

**Fri 1 Mar:** Athletics Program

and Diocesan Swimming

Carnival in Gunnedah

**Thur 7 Mar:** Music Program

**Fri 8 Mar:** Athletics Program

**Week 7:** NAPLAN

**Fri 15 Mar:** Athletics Program

## BIRTHDAYS

**17 Feb:** Nate

**19 Feb:** Eden

**20 Feb:** Teddy

