



Tuesday 15 October 2024

Dear parents and caregivers

Welcome back to Term Four. I hope you had a restful and enjoyable break with family and friends and are ready to embark on the last term of the 2024 school year!

School Improvements

I am sure you have noticed the new concrete path outside the junior toilets since returning. We extended this space for the safety and comfort of your children...they now have plenty of room to sit and eat on the picnic tables. The school has also ordered umbrellas for the tables which should be arriving shortly.

Summer Uniform

Please note that students from Years Three, Four, Five and Six will need to be in full summer uniform as of Monday, 21 October. Please visit the school website if you need refreshing on the summer uniform requirements.

Year Three Prayer Liturgy

Thank you to Miss Williams and the Year Three class for a beautiful Prayer Liturgy last Friday. It was wonderful to hear you talking about an 'Attitude of Gratitude!'

Rosary

I invite you to join the school in praying the Rosary, every Thursday throughout the month of October, at 8:45am in the Church. The Rosary inspires us to meditate on the mysteries of the lives of Jesus and Mary. I would like to thank Mrs Simpson and the Year Five class who are leading us in praying the Rosary.

Prime Minister's Spelling Bee

Congratulations to Anthony Brader (Year Four) and Chelsea McCloskey (Year Six) who made the State Round of the Prime Minister's Spelling Bee last term. Fantastic work Anthony and Chelsea! Well done to Anthony who was awarded overall School Champion.

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**Antipoverty Week Community Food Drive (October 14 to November 1)**

Please support the Pinjarra Community Kitchen with their efforts to help those in need through the donation of non-perishable food items and personal hygiene products. Baskets will be in each classroom to collect your donations of tinned food, cereals, spreads, muesli bars, snacks, rice, pasta, baby supplies, crackers, tissues and toiletries (shampoo, conditioner, body wash, soap, deodorant and sanitary items). I thank you in anticipation of your support.

Year Four Prayer Liturgy

Please join us for the Year Four Prayer Liturgy, Friday 18 October in the Assembly Hall at 8:45am. If you are able, we would love you to join us for morning tea afterwards.

P&F Disco

Calling all groovers!

We'd love to see you at the Lesser Hall (next door to the Murray Library), Friday, 18 October for the final P&F School Disco for 2024! There will be fabulous prizes for the best dressed students...the theme is HIP HOP! Snacks and drinks will be available for purchase. The Pre-Kindy to Year Two disco is from 5:00pm to 6:30pm and the Year Three to Year Six disco is from 7:00pm to 8:30pm. Please note, there will be a designated area for younger/older siblings who may not be able to attend their age group disco. This is for safety reasons, so please adhere to these parameters. The P&F are asking for a gold coin donation to attend.

Catholic School Advisory Council (CSAC) Meeting

Please note, there is a CSAC Meeting, Tuesday 22 October at 5:00pm.

Numero

Selected students from Year Six will represent St Joseph's at the Interschool Numero Competition in Rockingham, Wednesday 23 October. Please keep an eye out for further information from Mr Cosgrove.



Socktober

It's October...and our feet know what happens in October...Crazy Sock Day!

Socktober is a journey towards and a celebration of World Mission Month. Through Socktober, our students are invited to learn about, pray, advocate for and financially support children and communities in need around the world. Students are invited to wear their craziest socks to school Friday 25 October and to bring a gold coin donation to support Catholic Mission.

Merit and Worker of the Month Awards

Please join us Friday 25 October for a Merit and Worker of the Month Award Assembly in the Hall at 8:45am.

Battle of Pinjarra Memorial

Every year, our Year Six students pay their respects and lead a Liturgy at the Battle of Pinjarra Memorial Area. The class will be visiting the site, which is on the west bank of the Murray River, just past the Murray Districts Hospital on Monday 28 October. The time is to be confirmed.

Game Changer Awards (GCAs)

Continuing on from our work with the GoSH Hackathon in August, Milla Anthony, Amelia Galloway and Charlotte Greenham have entered the Game Changer Awards. This STEM competition is an opportunity for students in Years Three to Six to showcase their innovative solutions to the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals using project-based learning, STEM skills, organisation, teamwork and presentation skills. Our young ladies will be representing St Joseph's Monday 28 October at the GCAs in Joondalup. I'm sure you will join me in wishing them all the very best of luck for this event!

Bushfire Response

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School is situated within a high fire danger zone as determined by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES). As a result, the School is required to have in place an up to date Bushfire Evacuation Plan.

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Inclusion on this fire danger zone means that the School may be required to invoke pre-emptive closure on any day for which a Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating (FDR) has been declared for the Shire of Murray. A Catastrophic FDR means that if a fire starts, it is likely to be uncontrollable, unpredictable, and fast moving. When given advance warning by DFES that a Catastrophic FDR has been forecast for a given day, St Joseph's Catholic Primary School would close for that day. The intention of this closure is to ensure maximum safety and minimum risk for students and staff.

Parents will be advised of the of closure, by SMS, on the day before the planned closure. Parents would be kept up to date on further developments, including the re-opening of the School by SMS.

Please contact the school on if you have any questions about the Bushfire Plan or possible planned School closures during the bushfire season.

The school's Bushfire Evacuation Plan can be accessed here

<https://www.stjoespinjarra.wa.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Bushfire-Management-Plan.pdf>

As we begin Term Four, let us continue to work together and foster an environment that encourages spiritual growth, a commitment to service and academic achievement. Our dedicated staff are always ready to support and inspire your children as they continue their journey of discovery, learning and personal development.

Have a wonderful week.

God bless

Ms Vanessa Gangell

Principal