

St Joseph's School Newsletter

Volume 34 No 10

17th April 2024



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OFFICE HOURS

**Monday: 8:30am-4:00pm
Tuesday: 8:30am-4:00pm
Wednesday: 8:30am-4:00pm
Thursday: 8:30am-4:00pm
Friday: 8:30am-4:00pm**

**WHERE POSSIBLE PLEASE PHONE THE
SCHOOL DURING OFFICE HOURS**

Calendar

Friday	19th Apr:	Fresh Fruit Friday (Hayley)
Monday	22nd Apr:	Office closed
Wednesday	24th Apr:	ANZAC Day service at flagpole 2:40pm
Thursday	25th Apr:	ANZAC Day public holiday
Friday	26th Apr:	Fresh Fruit Friday (Alex)
Sunday	28th Apr:	Celebration for 150 years of our Diocese
Monday	29th Apr:	Catholic Education Week
Thursday	2nd May:	Office closed
Friday	3rd May:	X-country (Beulah)
Tuesday	7th May:	Corrong visit (parent needed)
Friday	10th May:	Mother's Day Liturgy 10am Followed by morning tea
Monday	13th May:	Little Desert X-country (Nhill)
Tuesday	21st May:	SAC meeting 6pm

Dear Parents, carers, families and parishioners,

Welcome to Term 2! I hope you all had the chance to relax over the Easter break and have continued to enjoy the holidays following Easter. We are gearing up for a busy term, with Cross-country for all students and Winter Sports for senior students being high on the agenda!

A very warm welcome is extended to Fr Sajan Matthew, our new Assistant Priest. We look forward to working with Fr Sajan and welcoming him into our school community.

Our staff continued working on our school's reflection report for our School Review that will be undertaken next term. We spent Monday looking at data and reflecting on each aspect of Catholic Schooling, asking ourselves what our successes and challenges are, leading to what our future focus for improvement could be over the next 4 years. This work will continue throughout this term and next in the lead up to when the Review Panel visits in mid-August.

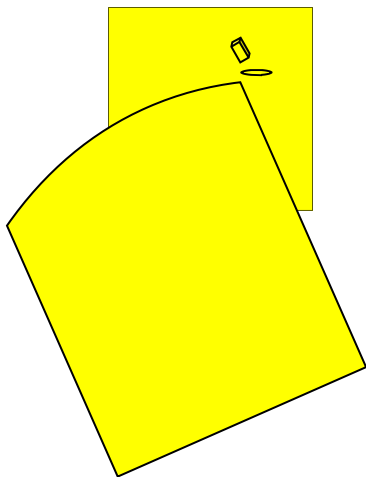
We continue the season of Easter in our church, with last Sunday being the Third Sunday of Easter. This marks a pivotal moment in the liturgical calendar, where the Resurrection of Jesus continues to resonate deeply. As we journey through the Easter season, the readings from last Sunday invite us to reflect on themes of recognition, transformation, and mission.

The Gospel reading from Luke 24:35-48 recounts the disciples' encounter with the risen Christ. Initially filled with doubt and fear, their uncertainty transforms into awe and joy as Jesus appears among them, offering peace and understanding. This narrative prompts us to contemplate our own moments of doubt and uncertainty, and how encountering Christ can bring about profound transformation and reassurance.

As we meditate on these readings, we are called to recognize the presence of the risen Christ in our midst, to allow His transformative love to dispel our doubts and fears, and to embrace our mission as witnesses of His resurrection. The Third Sunday of Easter serves as a poignant reminder of the enduring hope and promise found in Christ's victory over sin and death, inviting us to journey ever deeper into the mystery of His love.

May the peace of the Risen Lord be with you and your family. Cynthia

A COMMUNITY OF FAITH AND LEARNING



Corrong visits

The Junior Red Cross & Mission Group will visit Corrong on Tuesday 7th May and Tuesday 4th June.

The students leave school at 1:50pm and return at 3pm. If your child is in Grades 4-6 and you are able to help out by taking a small group down on one of these dates, please let the office know. Thanks!

ANZAC Day service


We will come together as a school community to commemorate ANZAC Day next Wednesday, April 24th, beginning at 2:40pm. All family members are warmly invited to join us at the flagpole for this special commemoration.



This service provides an opportunity for us to come together in solidarity, gratitude, and reflection. Through the rituals of the ceremony, we acknowledge the debt we owe to those who have served and recognize the ongoing impact of war on individuals, families, and societies. ANZAC Day is a time to honour those who fought for our country and gives us the opportunity to commit to peace in our homeland and in our world.

We hope you are able to join us for this special occasion.

Grade 6 students will represent our school at the Dawn service, the 10am service and the service at Corrong Village on ANZAC Day. Our sincere thanks to Grade 6 and their parents for this commitment.



*Alleluia, alleluia!
Lord Jesus, make your
word plain to us:
make our hearts burn
with love when you
speak.
Alleluia!*

X-country

All students will head to Beulah on Friday 3rd May for the Southern Mallee Lakes Cross Country. Permission notes will be released on PAM. We will be leaving school at 9:10am and returning around 3pm.

Students need to wear their sports uniform and take their drink bottle, recess snacks and lunch. The Cross Country will be held at the Beulah Football Oval, beginning at 10am. Following the Cross Country students will participate in minor games. Grades 5/6 students will participate in football and netball trials for the Winter Sports to be held later in the term.



Parents are welcome to attend the cross country.

Attached this week:

Office closed

Please note the office will be closed on Monday 22nd April & Thursday 2nd May.



The Resilience Project-Empathy

Working on empathy helps us to identify, understand and feel what another person is feeling. When we show empathy or we do something kind for someone else our brain releases oxytocin. This leads to increasing our self-esteem/confidence, energy levels, positivity and overall happiness.

Whole Family Activity:

Neighbourhood Kindness Challenge

As a family, choose an act of kindness from the list below that you would like to do for a neighbour or family friend. Each family member can select one to commit to, or you can choose to do one together.

- Cook them something delicious like a cake or biscuits.
- Write a note to put in their letter box thanking them for being a great neighbour or friend.
- Design them a Thank You card.
- Pick or buy some flowers to deliver to them.
- Choose a little plant from your garden to give them.
- Make them a gift from things around your house.
- Offer to do a job for them, like wash their car or water their garden.
- Offer to take their pets for a walk.
- Invite them over for afternoon tea.
- Invite them on a walk.
- Recommend one of your favourite books to borrow and read.
- Ask them if they need anything from the shops next time you buy groceries.
- Say hello next time you see them, and ask them how their day is going.
- Feel free to do more than one and spread the kindness even further!
- Report back to each other in one week and share how your acts of kindness were received, and how doing them made you feel.

Family Habit Builder:

Every night at dinner, have each person thank another family member for something they've done or said today, or give another family member a compliment.



Aussie of the Month

Our March Aussie of the Month was Louie!

Louie is a good role-model to his peers and sets a high standard for himself and others. He just gets on with what needs doing, without any fuss or bother.

Congratulations Louie!



A COMMUNITY OF FAITH AND LEARNING

SAC meeting

The School Advisory Council met last night. Agenda items included:

- ◆ Induction & Renewal: SAC members took part in an Induction & Renewal workshop
- ◆ Child Safety: A child safety briefing was conducted for SAC members

A reminder that School Advisory Council members are always open to suggestions from families. Please talk to one of the Advisory Council members if you have an idea that you would like considered.

Catholic Education Week

We are headed to Sea Lake to celebrate Catholic Education Week on Thursday 2nd May. We will be leaving school at 9am and travelling by bus to Sea Lake. Students will participate in a Liturgy and special activities, before returning to school, arriving back at school around 3pm.

Students need to wear their normal school uniform and take their snacks and drink bottle. Lunch details are still being finalized; this will be communicated to you next week.

Catholic Education Week is an annual opportunity for Catholic schools in the Diocese of Ballarat to celebrate their distinctive ethos and mission with their school and wider communities. In 2024, 52 primary schools and 11 secondary Colleges educate more than 18,500 students and employ over 2,500 teachers and staff across the diocese from Mildura in the north, Portland in the south, and west to Edenhope and Nhill.



Catholic Education Week takes on special significance this year as our community of schools recognises the 150th Anniversary of the formation of the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat with the theme: ***Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction and faithful in prayer. (Romans 12:12)***

Mother's Day Raffle

The Junior Red Cross are conducting a Mother's Day raffle. Tickets are \$1 each, which give you the opportunity to win this beautiful scarf, candle, necklace, hand cream and reed diffuser.

Members of the Junior Red Cross & Mission Group will have tickets to sell by the end of the week. Catch up with one of them if you'd like to purchase a ticket.

This raffle will be drawn on our Mother's Day celebrations on Friday 10th May.



Thank you to Puck, Patto & Brody for delivering our tables and seats for our outdoor leaning area.

The tables were purchased last year as part of a grant for outdoor learning areas. The members of the Hopetoun Men's Shed have ensured their safe installation on our pavers. We look forward to these beautiful additions to our grounds being utilized for outdoor learning.

Thanks also to the team of dads that also fixed the leaking pipe on our oval before school returned.



A COMMUNITY OF FAITH AND LEARNING



Easter fun!

Thank you to all families members who came along on the last day of Term 1 for our Easter Liturgy and special lunch. The students led and participated in the Liturgy very reverently and respectfully. Students spent time with their buddy, creating an Easter basket. There was lots of fun to be had in the Easter Egg Hunt before enjoying a delicious lunch of fish, chips, salad and hot cross buns. Thanks to all the mums who helped to prepare lunch for us. It was a lovely way to end our term!

A big Congratulations to Willa on correctly guessing 131 eggs in the container. \$78 was raised for the Junior Red Cross & Mission Group. Thank you to everyone who supported this fundraiser.



A COMMUNITY OF FAITH AND LEARNING

Congratulations to the following students who received awards at assembly last week:

- ♦ **Ralph:** for being thoughtful and engaged in our integrated studies lesson this week. You took your time and created an awesome timeline of your life. This showed great understanding of your history and stories from the past. Awesome job Ralph!
- ♦ **Tamani:** for giving great feedback, polite reminders and positive support during paired fluency this week. Keep up the great work!
- ♦ **Cheyenne:** for being an all round outstanding member of our class and school this Term. You have asked questions and persisted through challenges, particularly in math. The way you have incorporated feedback into your paired fluency is superb. You have practiced the First Fleet Play scene and have worked hard on it all term with your group, particularly focusing on speaking with a nice, loud voice for your audience! Keep being your kind and happy self and congratulations on a ripper Term Chey!
- ♦ **Harry:** for showing a great positive attitude towards some tasks this week. You have been super engaged in our latest class novel Detention, which is awesome. When working in your Drama group this week it was great to see you get involved and play your role for the group as Narrator which you are seriously top notch at performing! I really enjoyed our chats about your dream house, reptiles in the bedroom and all! Keep up the positive attitude towards all things. Well done Harry!

Playground raffle: **Ellerdy:** for helping clean up the court after the storm
Popi: for helping clean up the court after the storm
Elka: for being helpful to staff



Star of the Week



My favourite day of the week is Friday because there is sport.



If I was an animal, I'd be a tiger because they are fun and you can chase things.



My favourite family tradition is fishing off the pier in Melbourne.



Jakob



I am thankful for being able to go to Melbourne as a family.



How would your friends describe you? Caring and fun to hang out with.



What is something awesome about your teacher? Mrs Phelan helps us learn.



In this week's edition of School TV – Gambling and young people



The digital era has made gambling more accessible, and certain factors are elevating the risk of problematic gambling among young people. A new grey area is emerging, with smartphones at their fingertips blurring the boundaries between gambling and entertainment, especially within the realms of video games and social media. The current generation of young people are growing up in an unprecedented time and research highlights that a significant percentage of adolescents are involved in gambling activities.

Reports of young people gambling are frequent with many experiencing adverse consequences such as diminished academic performance and strained relationships. Today's youth are growing up in a digital age characterised by constant connectivity, and the gambling industry has evolved significantly during their formative years. Simulated gambling, such as in video games, can further increase the likelihood of teenagers transitioning to real-money gambling and developing future gambling-related problems.

It's crucial to foster open discussions about positive media choices to help children navigate through responsible online gaming and gambling. By encouraging a balanced approach to screen time and promoting alternative activities, will help set some clear boundaries to avoid potential gambling-related issues.

This Special Report provides guidance on how to empower young people to make responsible choices in this digital age.

We hope you take time to reflect on the information offered in this Special Report, and as always, we welcome your feedback.

If you do have any concerns about the wellbeing of your child, please contact the school for further information or seek medical or professional help.

Here is the link to your special report:

https://sjhopetoun.catholic.schooltv.me/wellbeing_news/special-report-gambling-young-people-au

Child Safe Standards: Engaging Families and Carer's in Child Safety Policy

Catholic education is an active partnership between families and caregivers (carers and guardians) and school, where this relationship is recognised as the first and ongoing educators of their children and young people. Schools, families and caregivers partner in the shared privilege and responsibility for children and young people's faith formation, learning, safety and wellbeing.

St Joseph's Primary School, Hopetoun holds the care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people as a central and fundamental responsibility of the entire school community. This commitment is drawn from and inherent to the teaching and mission of Jesus Christ, with love, justice and the sanctity of each human person at the heart of the gospel.

The full policy can be accessed via the school's website:

http://www.sjhopetoun.catholic.edu.au/uploads/8/9/4/9/8949668/sjh_engaging_families_and_caregivers_in_child_safety_policy_2022.pdf

We are committed to continuous improvement in our approach to child safety and wellbeing and welcome feedback from families and members of our school community on ways we can further strengthen our child safety policies, procedures and practices.

If you have any suggestions, comments or questions, please contact Cynthia.



A COMMUNITY OF FAITH AND LEARNING

Vision Statement

St. Joseph's School is an inclusive community of faith and learning with Christ at its centre. St Joseph's School will educate its students to be of service to society in the Catholic tradition of love, faith and hope.

Mission Statement

As a Christ centred school we celebrate our Catholic beliefs, values, practices and traditions.

As an educational institution we:

- Will support the development of the whole person.
 - Will provide a comprehensive curriculum, which challenges all students in their pursuit of success.
 - Will cater for the varied learning styles of our students.
 - Will be a child safe school by providing a physical and online environment that is happy, safe and welcoming.
 - Will respect the dignity of the individual and value the participation and contribution of all.
 - Will work in partnership with parents, the parish and the wider community.
 - Will encourage our students to make a difference in the local, national and global communities in which they live.
-

HOUSEKEEPING!!

Student Absence from School

A reminder that it is a legal requirement for parents to explain absences from school. We do not need to know 'nitty gritty' details, simply sickness, doctor's appointment or family reasons will suffice. ***Please remember to log on to PAM to complete the notification or email or phone the school prior to 10am on the day of absence. An absence SMS otherwise will be generated. If there is a scheduled absence please advise us in advance.*** Thank you.

Sunscreen

Sunscreen is provided by the school for our students, however we do encourage the children to bring their own sunscreen to school to assist with sun protection. Students are regularly encouraged by teachers to apply sunscreen throughout the day.

Hats

School hats **MUST** be worn at all times when students are outdoors, except for extremely windy days where hats blow over the fence. School Hats are now \$15.00.

Signing out

Please remember to sign out your child at the office if you need to take them from school during the day. This is not only a legal requirement but also an important part of our emergency management plan.

P & F docketts

A reminder that any purchases for P & F from IGA must be put on the P & F account (not school account). Docketts then need to be sent to school please.

Pie warmer containers

A reminder that students can bring lunch to school wrapped in foil or in a foil container to be heated in the pie warmer.

Pie warmer containers are available from the office for **\$15.00** for 50 containers.

Grounds Roster: April- M Webster, D Bellinger



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2024 Hopetoun P12 College Presentation Ball

Friday 26th April

Hopetoun Memorial Hall

Doors Open at 6:30pm

Presentation 7:00pm

Meet Me
At
Midnight

Tickets available
on the night
\$20 Adult
\$15 Secondary
\$5 Primary
(cash only)

BVO: Nibbles and Drinks



SHIRLEY STARBUCK VOLUNTEERING

FREE TUTORING SESSIONS

AVAILABLE TUESDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS

3:30- 4:30PM - 30MIN SESSIONS

AT HOPETOUN AND DISTRICT NEIGHBOURHOOD
HOUSE

Prep to Year 2

having difficulties in reading and spelling

FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT US ON 50833408

Worked at
Woodbine for 10
years

30 years private
tutoring

**Shirley
Starbuck**

10 years full time
teaching

20 years as
substitute

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