



St John's School

Kindergarten to Year 6

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TERM 4 WEEK 5

7 November 2024

Principal's Notes

Champions Cup – Basketball WA

Earlier this year, a team of Year Six boys represented St John's School in the Midwest Slam Basketball Competition, coached by Miss Tessa Venturini. As runners up in the competition, the team has been invited to play in the 2024 Fuel to Go & Play Champions Cup in Perth on Monday 18 November. St John's School is very proud of these boys and we wish them all the very best of luck.

2025 Kindy Orientations

On Monday, we welcomed the 2025 Kindy students and their parents/carers for Orientation. It was a lovely morning, a morning of mixed emotions for the children, and possibly their parents, with excitement, uncertainty, anticipation, joy and nervousness being experienced. We look forward to welcoming the students over the course of the next three Mondays for optional Transition Visits. These visits allow the students to get to know the staff, each other and their environment. Thank you to Mrs Van Eck for facilitating an informative, welcoming and engaging morning, suitably supported by Mrs Lisa Husking and Mrs Julie Strawbridge.

2025 School Fees

After three years of any changes to the school fees, the difficult decision has been made to introduce an increase to the 2025 school fees. As endorsed by the School Advisory Council, a 5% fee increase will be applied. This was a difficult decision to make as we are conscious of the cost of living for all members of the school community and as a school, we have also had to navigate price rises across all areas of our budget.

I would like to remind all parents/carers that should the cost of the school fees ever become problematic, please make an appointment to come and see me so we can discuss a mutually suitable solution. School fees should never be a reason for any family to think that their child cannot receive a Catholic education.

Annual Community Meeting (ACM) – Save the Date

Please pencil Tuesday 19 November into your diary as the date for the St John's School Annual Community Meeting. At this meeting, the School Advisory Council and P&F will conduct their respecting ACMs, including elections to both bodies and the presentation of the 2025 School Budget. I will also present my Principal's Report. A light supper and drinks will be provided. We hope to have your support.

School Advisory Council and P&F

The St John's School Advisory Council and P&F both have positions vacant for the 2025 school year. These two parent bodies work with various stakeholders in the school community, in the best interests of the students. If you are interested in nominating for one of these positions, please see pages five and six in the newsletter. Any queries can be discussed with me or an existing member of the School Advisory Council or P&F.

Staffing 2025

The Leadership Team has spent considerable time working on the staffing allocation for 2025. There are a few more pieces of the puzzle that need to be finalised before the full staff list can be made public to the School Community. Thank you for your continued patience.

Dates to Remember

Dates can also be found on the School Website

Monday 11 November

Kindy Transition

9:15am-10:15am

Prayer Assembly Year 5

Remembrance Day

Service

11:00am (Hall)

Wednesday 13 Nov

AERG Meeting

9:00am-2:30pm

Thursday 14 November

Assembly - Choir

2:20pm - Hall

Friday 15 November

Prayer Assembly

Year 4 - 8:45am

Nagle Music Incursion

11:20am

Monday 18 November

Kindy Transition Visit

9:15am-10:15am

Fuel to Go & Play
Champions Cup (Perth)

Year 6 Boys Basketball
Team

Tuesday 19 November

ACM - 5:00pm

School Hall-All Welcome

Principal's Notes

Good News Story

Over the past fortnight, the number of children displaying the best manners has been amazing. This includes saying please and thank you, holding doors open for adults, genuinely asking the staff how they are etc. The students of St John's School have always been very special in my eyes and these examples reinforce my beliefs.

Mrs Melissa Marquis

PRINCIPAL

Religious Education

Prayer Assembly

There will be no Week Five Prayer Assembly. Instead, we will gather to celebrate birthdays only, as we will come together as a school on Monday 11 November for the Remembrance Day service.

Friday of Week Six, at 8.45am, in the Undercover Area, the Year Four Class will be leading the school community in prayer. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Prayer Assembly at 11:00am - Remembrance Day Prayer Service

On Monday 11 November, the school community will gather in prayer to commemorate Remembrance Day at 11:00am in the School Hall. The Year Five Class will lead this service, and we thank them for taking on this responsibility. Families are welcome to attend. Let's not forget.

St John's School Feast Day

On **Thursday 21 November at 9.00am**, the school community will gather to celebrate St John's School Feast Day. St John the Evangelist's feast day falls on 27 December, when we are on school holidays. The 21 November has been chosen to celebrate our Feast Day as this date coincides with the Feast of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary on this day, whom the Presentation Sisters' Order is based upon. The Presentation Sisters were the founding sisters of St John's School.

Two students from Pre-Primary to Year Six will be presented with a Nano Nagle Award at this celebration. The recipients, chosen by their classroom teacher, have adhered to the three pillars of Nano Nagle during the 2024 year: **Sharing, Caring and a Sense of Justice.**

Fruit of the Spirit

This week, St John's School will focus on the Fruit of the Spirit, Self-Control:

'No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

(1 Corinthians 10:13)

Temptation is a routine part of life. Our desire to sin can sometimes feel so much more powerful than our desire to do what is right before God. In response to that kind of desire, this scripture offers reassurance: overcoming any given temptation is entirely possible if we trust in Christ our king.

Library News

Library books are kept for one week and then returned to school. A Library Bag is required to borrow books.

Library Days

Wednesdays - Year 1 & Year 2

Thursdays - Pre Primary, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 & Year 6

Library News

The last week for students to borrow books from the library is Week 6. All library books will need to be returned the following week during library time in Week 7. I will be sending out overdue reminder notices at the end of Week 7.



Thank you to the students who have given me their Christmas photos to add to the Christmas display. I have had a couple of photos with students and the mischievous elf who is getting ready for some seasonal fun!

My favourite book this week is from the Book Fair commission **Flora – Australia's Most Curious Plants**, published by the National Library of Australia. This book is a companion to **Fauna – Australia's Most Curious Creatures** and is already in our library collection.



Parish News

Annual General Meeting

Annual General Meeting of the Catholic Parishes of Geraldton is on Sunday, 17th November at 10.30am in the Catholic Centre. Parishioners from all parishes are invited and encouraged to attend.

Grand Nativity Display in Our Parish for a Week

Marking the conclusion of 800th anniversary of the First Nativity Scene created by St Francis of Assisi in Italy in 1223, Father Savio is setting up a grand nativity display with more than 150 nativity sets of various sizes, nature and culture. The display will be in the Catholic Centre for a week commencing from **Sunday, 24th November to Sunday 1st December**.

Please do not miss out this unique and once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see this grand display in our Parish. The initial concept of this exhibition is from the Administrator Father Gerard Totanes, who himself is a member of the Secular Franciscan Order. Saint Francis of Assisi had a special devotion to the Child Jesus. It is believed that Saint Francis was first inspired by this idea after visiting the historical place of Christ's birth on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, the humble stable in a Bethlehem cave.

It is likely that this event deepened his devotion to the Child Jesus, who was born into the world in such poverty, humility, and simplicity. In fact, St Francis founded his new religious Order to imitate these very virtues which are very hard to find in the modern world even among the Catholics. Saint Francis recreated the scene of Christ's birth in a special ritual and Mass he held inside of a cave in Greccio, Italy, inviting both his fellow friars and the townspeople to join in the celebration. Saint Francis' recreation of that first Christmas night was so popular that the devotion spread to private homes, and in modern times even to secular institutions, so much so that it's now impossible to imagine Christmas without a nativity scene to behold. It is a historic Catholic tradition and a tool for meditation on the humility, simplicity, and poverty of Christ that he took on, from the moment of his Incarnation, out of his boundless love for his lost sheep.



Mrs Laura Lang - ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL - RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Administration News

Assembly

Our final school assembly for the year will be held on Thursday 14th November at 2:20pm, with our Choir students presenting an item. We invite all parents and carers to attend the assembly in the School Hall.

2025 Student Booklists

The process for ordering student booklists has changed as we head towards the 2025 school year. The decision has been made that as a school we will go with a bulk ordering approach, rather than families having to order and supply individual booklists for students and bring them to school on the first day of the new school year. This decision has been made for multiple reasons and includes but is not limited to:

- reduce costs for families.
- to ensure that all students have the required materials.
- a long term approach toward improving our school sustainability.
- to allow resources to arrive and be organised prior to the start of the school year, allowing a smoother start to the first day for students, families and teachers.

Parents will continue to pay for student booklist requirements through the amenities fee, included in each child's school fees. If you have any questions about these changes, please do not hesitate to contact me.

P&F News

pandf@sjr.wa.edu.au

P&F Committee

Meeting Dates

Term 4

Tuesday 19 November
(Annual Community Meeting)

All meetings are held at 6:00pm in the Meeting Room.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

Events - Term 4

Thursday 21 November
St John's School Feast Day

Monday 2 December
P&F Canteen Day (Ice Cream Sundaes)

Order forms have gone home and all orders must be placed and paid for by 3:00pm on Tuesday 19 November



2025 Kindy Orientation Day & Transition Visits

We were excited to meet our newest St John's students for 2025 as they attended the Kindy Orientation Day. We can't wait to see them as they come back to St John's for the follow up Transition Visits. Please see the dates below which have been scheduled to support the transition of students as they commence Kindy next year.

Monday 11th November: Kindy Transition Visit, 9:15-10:15am.

Monday 18th November: Kindy Transition Visit, 9:15-10:15am.

Monday 25th November: Kindy Transition Visit, 9:15-10:15am.

Cricket Carnival

Good luck to both teams of students who are participating in the Woolworths Cricket Blast School Carnival this Friday 8th November. Thank you to Mr Antonovich for your hard work organising the teams, we can't wait to hear how they go!

Nagle Catholic College Music Department Tour

Students in Pre-Primary to Year 6 are looking forward to the students from the Nagle Music Department visiting St John's on Friday 15th November. We are very grateful that the students are coming to visit and share their musical talents with us.

End of Year Concerts

The following dates have been set for our end of year concerts.

- **Friday 29th November:** Pre-Primary to Year 6 Concert, 5:30pm.
- **Wednesday 4th December:** Kindy Concert, 9:30am.

More information regarding the concerts will be sent home in the coming weeks.

Year 6 Graduation

Please save the date for the Year 6 Graduation on **Wednesday 4th December at 5:30pm**. Location to be advised, and further details will be provided to parents and guardians in the coming weeks.

Mrs Sarah D'Mello

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL - ADMINISTRATION



St John's School

Rangeway, Geraldton

Kindergarten to Year 6

ST JOHN'S SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL NOMINATION

There will be an opportunity for a member of the school community to serve on the School Advisory Council this year. Interested persons are requested to nominate themselves, seek nomination or nominate others to this important position in our school community.

FUNCTIONS OF THE SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

The functions of the Advisory Council include working with the Principal on:

- support planning for the present and future operation of the Catholic school;
- provide membership, at the principal's request, on selection panels for the employment of staff to the Catholic school in accordance with the relevant CECWA Policies and Executive Directives;
- provide membership on the panel that recommends the appointment of a Principal in accordance with the relevant CECWA Policy and Executive Directives;
- in consultation with the Principal, communicate about the Catholic school and about Catholic education to persons and organisations in the School Community;
- endorse the Catholic school's annual budget before submission to CECWA for approval; and
- advise the Principal on school financial matters such as performance against budget, sustainability, and capital and recurrent planning.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Membership of the School Advisory Council is based on:

- a commitment and desire to promote Catholic education and give service to the Catholic School Community;
- a commitment to the safety, wellbeing and pastoral care of all students and staff;
- an ability to work cooperatively and constructively with the Principal, school leadership team and all other members of the Advisory Council;
- the possession of skills, competencies and experience that are reflective of, relevant and beneficial to the Catholic School Community; and
- a sufficiency of time to devote to Advisory Council duties.



ST JOHN'S SCHOOL 2025 SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL NOMINATION

I,, nominate for a position on the School Advisory Council.

.....
Signature

.....
Date

St Vincent de Paul Society Christmas Appeal

St Vincent de Paul are requesting items to be donated to make up hampers to give to local families in need at Christmas time. St John's School will once again contribute to this worthy cause.

All items need to be received between 18th November and 29th November and placed in the boxes at the back of each class. The items will be collected from the classrooms and stored in the School Office area for collection by St Vincent de Paul.

Useful items for a Christmas hamper:

1. Canned Goods (e.g. soup, beans, vegetables, fruits, tuna)
2. Pasta & Rice
3. Cereal or Oats
4. Long-Life Milk or Juice Boxes
5. Jam, Honey, or Spreads
6. Instant Coffee or Tea Bags
7. Biscuits or Crackers
8. Holiday Treats (e.g. chocolates, mince pies, Christmas pudding)
9. Boxed or Tinned Soups
10. Cooking Essentials (e.g. olive oil, salt, pepper)
11. Toiletries (e.g. soap, shampoo, toothpaste)
12. Gift Vouchers for supermarkets (to help families purchase fresh items)

Adding a few festive items like Christmas napkins or small decorations can make the hamper feel even more special!



Garage Sale

Sunday 10 November 2024

GATES OPEN at 8:30 am

Closes at 1:30 pm or earlier if sold out.

**Held at St Lawrence's Catholic Primary School
Undercover Area – 350 Chapman Road – Bluff Point**

All Proceeds from Sales go to St Lawrence's Catholic Church

GARDEN CENTRE
Beautiful
LUSH GREEN PLANTS
Indoor and Outdoor

TOOLS

We have something for everyone.



**Come and find a
TREASURE**



WOW!
EFTPOS
Available

Clothing
Jewellery
Shoes
Pictures
Vases




Crunchy Spring Rolls
Delicious Curry Puffs
Plump Tasty Sandwiches
Incredible Sausage Rolls

Raffles
Great Prizes
First and Second Prize

Cash and Surprises
For the lucky winners

Bowls
Kitchen Ware
Plates
Mugs
Cooking Utensils

TOY CORNER
Teddies, Games, Balls
And Lots More


Cuppa Time
Homemade Cakes
Ask for JANE

Look for Ainslie's BOOKS

