

DATES TO REMEMBER

Ice-blocks sold on
Monday by Stage 3

Week 3

NAPLAN Yr 3 & Yr 5

Week 4

NAPLAN Yr 3 & Yr 5

Monday 16th May

Yr 6 St Mary's
Enrichment
Afternoons

Week 5

Monday 30th May –
Full Winter Uniform

PUPIL FREE DAY
Monday 27th June



ALL STUDENTS
Monday and Friday

****Newsletter will be
published on Monday
fortnightly in odd
weeks****

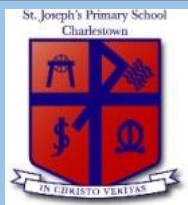
**ALL UNIFORM
ENQUIRIES:**



ORDER VIA QKR APP

All enquiries to email:

**chl.uniformshop@mn
.catholic.edu.au**



St Joey's News

'Truth in Christ'

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School,

32 Shelton Street, Charlestown NSW 2290

Ph 02 4943 5414 Fax 02 4942 3218

Email: admin@charlestown.catholic.edu.au



Week 3 Monday 9th May 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I trust you all had a wonderful **Mother's Day** yesterday and I hope our mums were spoilt with love and appreciation for all you do. We certainly enjoyed celebrating with our Mother's and Grandmothers, and some Dad's and Grandad's, on Friday, with breakfast and liturgy. Our beautiful Year 1 students reminded us of the reasons why we love our mums so much and the gospel reading, highlighted the important role model of Mary the mother of Jesus who embodies unconditional love and deep faith in God. I take this opportunity to thank our staff for preparing the breakfast and liturgy for our parents and carers. It was great to be together in such large numbers again! Huge thanks to Kim Smith and Katie Turnbull who organised and distributed the Mother's Day gifts with record numbers of orders supporting this fundraiser. All funds raised will be donated back to the school for resources for our students.



We look forward to our **Bunnings BBQ on Saturday 4th June at Bennett's Green**. Thank you to Anna Wadwell for organising this fundraiser annually. It is always a great success and a worthwhile event for our school to be involved in. If you can spare a couple of hours, please volunteer your time by signing up here: <https://signup.com/go/tskMyHH>. Believe me it is fun! I have participated in many over the years with my own children's sports clubs, and schools and you do get to meet new people and have a laugh while supporting P & F fundraising efforts. This year substantial funds from the P & F will be contributed to the playground upgrade on the middle passage This will support the *Community Building Partnerships* grant and will significantly develop a wonderful new play space for our students. Work on this area will begin in the next few weeks.

Congratulations to our cross-country runners who competed last week at the Diocesan carnival. Thank you to Mr Fox for attending with the children and who reported what great sports our students were in cheering each other on throughout the day. An amazing effort by the following students who qualified for the Polding competition to be held on the 7th of June: Eli S, Flynn L, Sophie A, Liam B, Hamish K.

During this week and next week our Yr 3 and Yr 5 students will be participating in **NAPLAN** assessments involving online tests in maths, reading, spelling, grammar, punctuation and writing. The results can assist teachers by providing additional information to support their professional judgement about students' levels of



literacy and numeracy attainment and progress. We also use the results to assist in evaluating and planning our school improvement, educational goals.

COVID continues to impact students, families and staff in our community with attendance rates fluctuating due to illness. Thank you for your support in keeping children at home with symptoms, updating absences on Compass, regular RAHT testing and communicating with the school regarding absences. Staffing remains a challenge due to the shortage and increased demand for casual teachers. We appreciate your understanding when we need to split classes to accommodate staffing shortages. Our dedicated staff even when sick, still plan the day, leaving work for our casual staff to ensure the least disruption to learning. I sincerely thank our staff who also support each other by assisting their colleagues and students to ensure continuity of learning as much as possible. To be honest our staff are working extremely hard every day to maintain consistency and routines for all our classes under very challenging times. They are often doing extra duties, covering each-others classes, foregoing their regular release from face to face teaching time, which is their planning and collaboration time and doing extra work outside of normal hours to assist each other and their students. All teachers were in school during the holidays preparing for the term and are often here on weekends. This is their choice and of course this is driven by their love for their students and commitment to their vocation. However, I would like to share, that teachers in general are fatigued and feeling the pressure of their jobs now more than ever. If you could spare some words of support or appreciation, I am sure it would mean a lot to our staff.

Kinder 2023 Letters of Offer were emailed to parents last Friday. If you know of anyone with a child for Kinder next year, please promote the school and tell them to contact the office for an enrolment package.



Congratulations to our Learning Support Teacher, Ellie Ryan and partner Tom, who celebrated their engagement during the holidays. We wish them a lifetime of love and happiness together.

Deepest sympathy to the Cashman family on the sad passing of their grandfather. We keep you all in our thoughts and prayers and pray that your memories of your loved one bring you comfort.



Winter Uniform

We are continuing to experience all weather seasons in one day, with this in mind students can stay in summer uniform for the next few weeks with a transition to full school winter uniform by **Monday 30th May**.

Dates to Remember

P&F Meeting – Monday 9th May and Monday 6th June, 6:30pm in the Staffroom

NAPLAN Year 3 & Year 5 – 10th May – 20th May

Catholic Schools Week Liturgy and Open classrooms from 9:30am Wed 25th May

Change to winter uniform- Monday 30th May

MSP Catch Up – Thursday 2nd June Missed photo opportunity

Bunnings BBQ Fundraiser – Saturday 4th June – Bennett's Green -Volunteer on
SignUp.com: <https://signup.com/go/tskMyHH>

Athletics Carnival – Thursday 16th June

PUPIL FREE DAY – Monday 27th June

Last day of Term – Friday 1st July

God bless,

Kate Drakee

Principal



A focus on Learning, Collaboration & Improving Student Outcomes

Dear parents,

We are off to a great start this term with lots of learning and fun activities planned. Please check the school calendar for what is coming up, so you are well prepared for any changes to routine.

NAPLAN- YEARS 3 & 5

Over the next two weeks Year 3 and 5 engage in this National Assessment in the areas of writing, reading, language conventions and numeracy. Year 3 and 5 have been busy revising and refining their knowledge in these areas. NAPLAN is an opportunity to see how our students are doing at this particular point in time, regarding their educational journey.

This Trend data over the years provides the teaching staff with areas of strength, and areas of need that we can work on. Our current trend data is reflective of the emphasis we have placed on writing including a new additional focus on Numeracy.

For us as teachers NAPLAN results are a shared responsibility and accountability of all involved in the education of all students no matter what year we teach. What we ask of students is to always try their best in all aspects of learning and assessment opportunities. This way the students themselves demonstrate that they too are responsible and accountable for their learning and assessment results.

REPORTING

This semester we have our formal reports K- 6. These reports are an assessment of your child's progress over Terms 1 and 2. Teachers are constantly making judgements about student's understanding of concepts and helping them to make learning goals. Unlike NAPLAN, our Semester reports are not based on a point in time test. Reports will be live in Compass on Friday 24th June (Week 9).

SMART WATCHES

Some students are wearing SMART watches to school. These come under the same rules as mobile phones. They are not to be used at school for any other purpose than to tell the time. They are not to be used for communication, or anything else that mobile data can access. If students are found to be using their SMART watches inappropriately, they will be asked to take them off and put them in at the office till the end of the day.

School Uniform

Thank you for your ongoing support. A reminder that fully enclosed polishable black leather school shoes are required to be worn on normal school days (joggers for sports days). Year 6 shirts are to be worn on Sports days only.

When a student is not in uniform, she/he is expected to have a note of explanation. The note must be shown to their class teacher. It must be signed by you, as parent/guardian, dated and indicate why and for how long your child will be out of uniform.

We ask for your support in doing all that you can to ensure that the situation is rectified promptly. In situations of financial hardship and where a prompt response is difficult, appropriate support will be provided once the school is made aware of the situation.

With every best wish,

Nikki Norley
Assistant Principal



Religious Education News

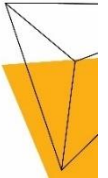
Catholic Schools Week

In week 5 we celebrate Catholic School's Week. This year's theme is "Fully Alive." The theme aims to remind us that we are most alive when we are in touch with our inner selves and can acknowledge deep connections between ourselves, God, others and creation. At St. Joseph's we will celebrate Catholic School's Week on Wednesday, 25th May at 9:30 am with a liturgy followed by an opportunity to visit classrooms.

**FULLY
ALIVE**



Our 2022 theme reminds us of the invitation given to each one of us to see the holy in ourselves, in others, and in our world: to see as God does.



Sacramental News



Last weekend children were welcomed into the confirmation program. Confirmation is a sacrament where there is a deepening of the release of the Holy Spirit, established previously in infant baptism and the development of the gifts of the Holy Spirit including wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, holiness and reverence. Confirmation sessions will recommence this week.

Catholic Mindfulness

This year one of our Strategic Goals has been to improve wellbeing and adopt mindfulness practices. This term we are incorporating Catholic Mindfulness in line with our Catholic traditions.

Each week we are focusing on a different saint and drawing on the resilience and practices that they demonstrated and imparting these with students. Last week's focus was St Joseph. We are drawing from the text *Sitting like a Saint* by Gregory and Barbra Bottaro. The text reminds us that *Joseph was often silent. This helped him to focus on each of his responsibilities and always be open to hear the voice of God in his heart so he could take care of his family.*

Here are our beautiful Kinders during their mindfulness session and some reflections.



***I was talking to God like St Joseph- Leo
I like being quiet and talking to God- Kai***

***Many Blessings,
Clare Paff***

PBL

For the next 2 weeks of Term 2 we are focusing on the MAKING GOOD CHOICES value on our SJC PBL matrix. In class we will be talking about this focus value and teachers will be reinforcing this with positive feedback and regular prompts for our students to assist them to demonstrate this behaviour in all settings.

Congratulations to the following students:

PBL Awards Term 2 Week 3

BRONZE 30	SILVER 60	GOLD 90	PLATINUM 120	MEDAL 150
Leo M Jesse W Aria L Adelina D Kai W Axl Mc Madelyn G				



Kind regards,
Karen Nolan

SPORTS NEWS

Congratulations to all students who attended the Diocesan Cross Country in Week 2. A special mention to Eli Smith in Year 2, Flynn Larnach in Year 3/4, Sophie Abbott in Year 5/6, Liam Barr in Year 5/6, and Hamish Kirkman in Year 5/6. All five students will be representing the Diocesan at Polding in the coming weeks.

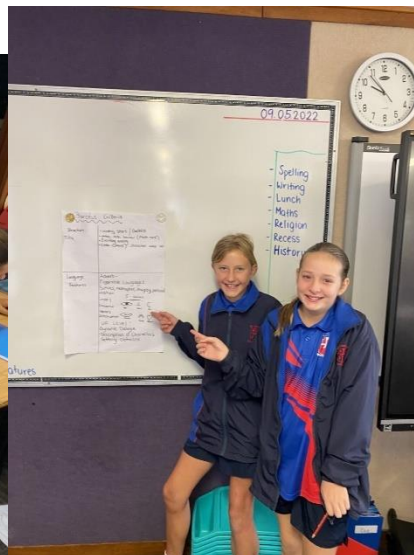
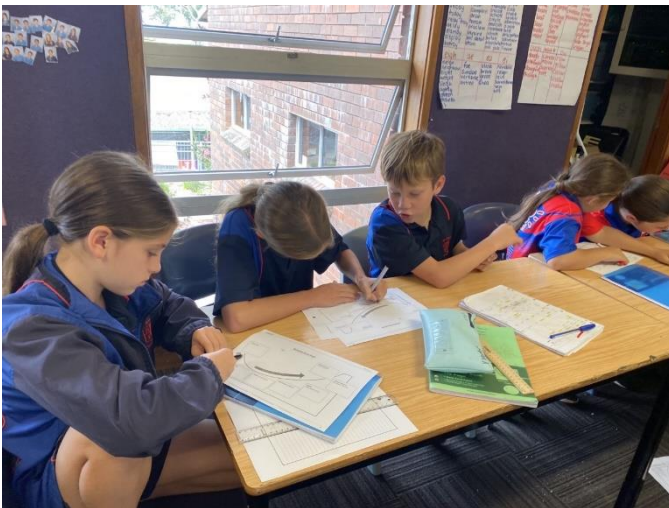
All of the students performed extremely well and should be incredibly proud of themselves. Thank you to the parents who tagged along and helped cheer on the students as they competed.

Issac Fox



Stage 3 Writing:

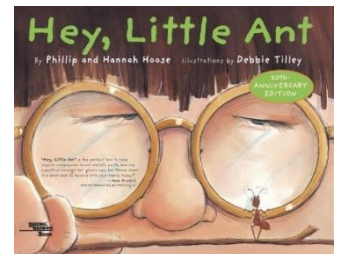
In Stage 3 we have been learning to write an imaginative text to entertain an audience. The students have all been working on their individual goals to improve their writing skills. We have been focusing on the Power of Planning your text in order to be engaging and the importance of a character wrap up to conclude your story (the moral/ lesson behind the story). It has been wonderful to hear the excitement from the students as their stories evolve and the feedback the students give to each other to improve. The students love referring to the Success Criteria and Bump it Up Wall to up-level their work. Well done Stage 3, you are true authors.





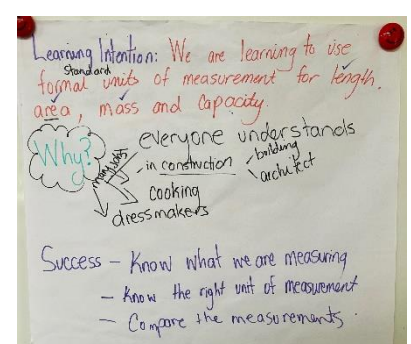
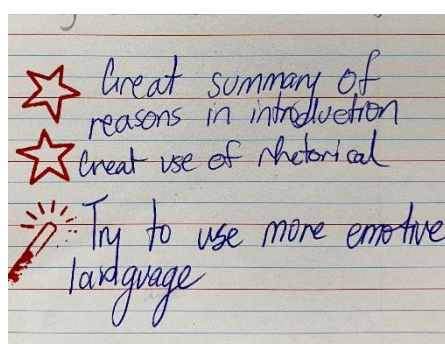
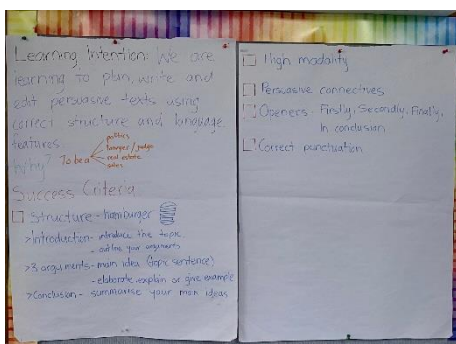
Stage 2 Writing and Maths

This term we are revisiting persuasive writing. We have begun reading a number of mentor texts which model the techniques used in persuasive writing such as *Hey Little Ant* by Hannah and Phillip Hoose. Stage 2 have considered the “why” they should learn about persuasive writing and have noted the real world purpose to their learning including marketing, real estate and debating which require the powerful skills of persuasion.



Our initial writing experiences demonstrate high level interest and a keen sense of striving towards our co-constructed success criteria.

In maths we commenced the term with an in depth consideration of measurement topics length, area, mass and capacity. We engaged in hands on activities using scaled instruments reporting and comparing our findings.



Happy Birthday to the following
students!



Birthdays for Term 2 Weeks 3 and 4

Jordan I	Mya C	Sybella W	Elise C
Jesse W	Neve T	Aria L	Jacob E
Jeremy H	Marlo E	Danny G	Nyah C

From the Learning Hub SORA E-library

St Joseph's students have access to a digital borrowing platform called SORA by OverDrive. This collection is the second largest eBook library in the world and includes both e books and audio books! Access to this e-book library is through an app called SORA. It can be used on tablets, laptops, desktops and smartphones. Detailed instructions for logging on for the first time are below. Download the app for free from your app store, or go to www.soraapp.com

Getting started with Sora

With Sora, you can get free eBooks and Audiobooks!

- 1** Install the Sora app from your app store or go to <https://soraapp.com>
- 2** Select **My school isn't listed**
- 3** Search for ACEN
Select **This is my school**
- 4** Sign in using **ACEN Member Collection** - and enjoy!

We want your Photo

NATIONAL SIMULTANEOUS STORYTIME 2022
#NSS2022 #1MillionKidsReading www.alia.org.au/nss

Wednesday 25 May 2022

CALLING FOR FAMILY PHOTOS

We are preparing for National Simultaneous Storytime which will be held on 25 May. The book being read across Australia on this date is called Family Tree by Josh Pyke.

We will be creating a school family tree display in the Hub and would love to include photographs of the children with their families. If you would like to contribute, please email your photo to stephanie.tranter@mn.catholic.edu.au

Good for kids

good for life



Active travel to and from school

Active travel involves walking, bike riding, scooting or catching public transport when travelling between home and school. It can be all or part of the way!

Tips:

- Plan your route ahead of time – what way is safest?
- Practice the journey as a family on the weekend
- Join up with other families in your neighbourhood
- Park your car further from school and walk the rest of the way
- Children under 10 should always hold an adult's hand when crossing the road



If your child can't safely walk or ride to school incorporate physical activity into your day another way.

Source: Healthy Eating Active Living - Active travel to school (nsw.gov.au)



Developed by Hunter New England LHD

HNELHD-GoodForKids@health.nsw.gov.au
<http://www.goodforkids.nsw.gov.au/>

Nutrition Snippet

ALTERNATIVES TO HAM



Reduce your cancer risk by cutting down on eating processed meats.

Keep ham out of the lunch box using these simple sandwich fillings instead:

- BBQ chicken with skin removed
- Cheese
- Boiled eggs

For more ideas read our [Alternatives to Ham blog](#).

healthylunchbox.com.au



Cancer Council
Healthy Lunch Box