



From the Principal



Dear Parents and Carers,

After school our **pick-up zone** can be like a well-oiled machine when we all do our part! To keep traffic running smoothly (and safely),

here's a friendly reminder of some key tips:

- Stay cosy in your car – The zone is designed for quick stops, so please remain in your vehicle.
- Keep the corner clear – Queuing around the Birkinshaw Ave corner can block traffic and cause unnecessary stress. If the zone is full, just take a lap around the block and try again.
- No sneaky 3 point-turns, please – While it might seem like a shortcut, U-turns in the pick-up zone create confusion and safety hazards. Let's keep it simple!
- Be a parking professional – Show our neighbours some love by ensuring your car isn't blocking driveways.

A little consideration goes a long way.

Positive Behaviour Supports (PBS)

We are excited to share an update on the implementation of Positive Behaviour Supports (PBS) at St Joseph's. PBS is an evidence-based framework that promotes positive behaviour and creates a supportive learning environment for all students.

Last year, we introduced three core values that are at the heart of our PBS program:

Kind, Respectful, and Learners. These values guide our actions and interactions, helping us to foster a school culture where every student can thrive.

Kind: We encourage students to show kindness in their daily interactions, whether through small gestures of compassion or acts of empathy. By being kind, we create a nurturing and inclusive community where everyone feels valued and supported.

Respectful: Respect is fundamental to our school environment. We teach students to respect themselves, others, and their surroundings. This includes using polite language, listening actively, and taking care of our school facilities. When we practice respect, we build strong, positive relationships and a harmonious school community.

Learners: At St Joseph's, we are committed to lifelong learning. We inspire students to be curious, engaged, and dedicated to their academic and social growth. By embracing our roles as learners, we cultivate a growth mindset and a passion for discovery.

Through the PBS framework, we consistently acknowledge and reinforce positive behaviours aligned with these values. Our staff members are trained to use proactive strategies and support systems to help students succeed. Additionally, we have established clear expectations and routines that create a predictable and safe learning environment.

We invite all members of our school community to join us in promoting these values and supporting our PBS initiative. Together, we create a positive, respectful, and enriching environment where every student is empowered to achieve their best.

Promoting Nude Food

We are committed to fostering an environmentally conscious and health-focused community. One of the initiatives we proudly support is the concept of "nude food" - food that is brought to school without any disposable packaging.

Benefits of Nude Food:

Environmental Impact: By reducing the use of single-use plastics and other disposable packaging, we significantly decrease our school's contribution to landfill waste. This helps to conserve resources and reduce pollution, contributing to a healthier planet for future generations.

Healthier Choices: Nude food often involves fresh, whole foods such as fruits, vegetables, nuts, and homemade meals. These options are generally healthier compared to pre-packaged snacks, which can be high in sugar, salt, and unhealthy fats. Encouraging nude food helps students develop better eating habits and promotes overall well-being.

Cost Savings: Families can save money by purchasing food in bulk and preparing homemade meals rather than buying individually packaged items. This also encourages creativity and involvement in meal preparation, fostering family bonding and developing important life skills.

Educational Opportunities: Integrating the nude food initiative into our school's curriculum provides valuable lessons in sustainability, nutrition, and personal responsibility. Students learn about the environmental impact of their choices and the importance of reducing waste, making them more conscious consumers.

Community Building: The nude food initiative encourages a sense of community and shared responsibility among students, staff, and families. By working together towards a common goal, we strengthen our school community and create a positive, supportive environment.

Exciting Update: Near Completion of Our New Sensory Nature Play Space

The transformation of our school courtyard into a vibrant new nature play space for our early years students is nearing completion! This innovative play area is designed to provide our youngest learners with enriching and joyful sensory experiences.

The play space will include interactive elements such as a water pump, sand kitchen and sensory pathways. These features will encourage hands-on exploration and provide multi-sensory experiences that support cognitive and physical development.

Our sand play area will encourage creativity and sensory exploration, allowing children to build, dig, and discover in a safe and stimulating environment. The texture and feel of the sand will engage their sense of touch, promoting fine motor skills and imaginative play.

The water play section will offer opportunities for experimentation and fun. Children will enjoy the soothing sound and feel of water as they splash, pour, and interact with various water features. This element will help them learn about the properties of water while providing a refreshing sensory experience.

Incorporating natural materials such as rocks, logs, and plants, the play space will create a sensory-rich environment that connects children with nature. The varied textures, scents, and sights of these elements will stimulate their senses and foster a deeper appreciation for the natural world.

By integrating these sensory elements, we aim to create a dynamic and interactive space that promotes physical activity, social interaction, and cognitive development. The new play area will not only enhance our students' outdoor playtime but also support their holistic growth and well-being.

Staff Professional Development Day

We are delighted to share from our recent Staff Professional Development Day, which focused on enhancing our teaching strategies in numeracy and problem-solving. This enriching day was led by our dedicated coaches, who provided valuable insights and hands-on training to help our staff better support our students' learning journeys.

During the professional development sessions, our coaches guided us through various approaches and techniques and numeracy games to make numeracy and problem-solving more engaging and accessible for all students. The goal was to equip our educators with the tools and knowledge needed to foster a deeper understanding of mathematical concepts and develop students' critical thinking skills.

The professional development day was a fantastic opportunity for our staff to collaborate, share ideas, and learn from one another. We are confident that the skills and strategies gained from this day will have a positive impact on our teaching practices and, ultimately, our students' learning experiences.

Kind regards

Adrian Grbin, Principal

From the APRIM

Dear Families

Next week is a busy week as we commemorate St Joseph's Day, Harmony Day and Close the Gap Day.

St Joseph's Day

On **Wednesday** our theme for St Joseph's Day is Joseph: A man of hope.

Our community will have a prayer service at 8.45 am and over the day the children will work with each other to learn more about St Joseph as a man of hope. Each class will create a poster of hope which will be given to the parish and put on display in the church.

As is the tradition here, there will be a sausage sizzle at lunch. Each child will get a sausage in bread to compliment their lunch items from home. If you DO NOT want your child to have a sausage OR if your child has dietary requirements please let the class teacher know.

Harmony Day

On **Friday** we celebrate Harmony Day. It is a day where we celebrate the diversity of the people of the world. Children are invited to wear something orange to complement their sport school uniform ie orange hair tie, orange t-shirt (please note it is not a casual day).

Close the Gap Day

Friday Day is also Close the Gap Day. We will ensure that this day features in our prayers.

Lenten News

Project Compassion Boxes

Project Compassion Boxes are going home this week. They can be returned at the end of the term. Alternatively you wish to make a donation directly to [Project Compassion](#). Thank you for your support.

Chocolate for Charity Fundraiser

Oliver from 6HC has organised a fundraiser for Project Compassion. From next Monday, children will be able to guess the number of easter eggs and chocolates in a jar. The cost of a guess is \$1 for 1 guess or \$2 for 3 guesses. The jar will be on display in the Front Office and tickets will be on sale ALL of next week at recess time outside the Library. Once the fundraiser closes, the person who guessed the correct number first will win the jar of chocolates. Any other people who guess correctly after this will received an easter egg.

Annette McCard

Assistant Principal Religious Identity and Mission (APRIM)

Enrolments for 2026 and 2027 Open



Our classrooms are filling up! We have limited places available for 2026, and enrolments in 2027 is already growing. If you have a child due to start in either of these years, please ensure you submit an application form to secure your place. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact us in the office.

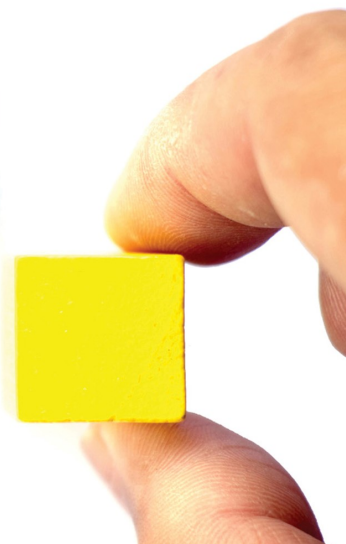
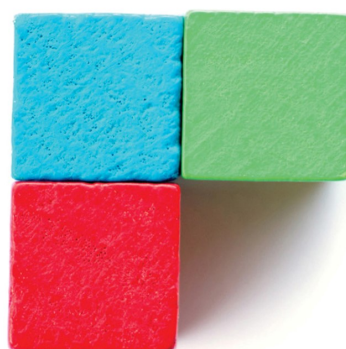
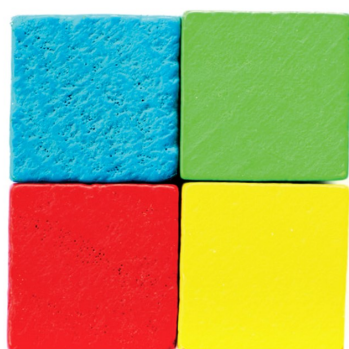
Joey's Playgroup 2025 – A Community Favourite!

Our Joeys Playgroup is thriving! This much-loved FREE community playgroup runs every Wednesday morning from 9-11am during the school term and welcomes families of all kinds—parents, grandparents, and caregivers alike.

Under the warm guidance of Tahlia, our wonderful playgroup coordinator, little ones enjoy a mix of structured and unstructured play, with fun weekly themes to keep things exciting. The key highlight is story and song time at the end—always a crowd favourite! If you're looking for a welcoming space for your child to play, explore, and make new friends, come along—we'd love to see you!



Literacy and Numeracy Team



Jump, split or compensation: strategies to solve addition and subtraction have changed...or have they?

Often, we hear from parents that strategies to solve problems involving the four-operations have changed since they were at school when the focus was on traditional written algorithms however people have been using all these strategies, or some forms of them, in their head for generations. Naming these strategies has allowed teachers and students to discuss their mental strategies using a common vocabulary.

The formal school algorithms are still used for larger numbers and decimals, but we encourage students to use an efficient mental strategy for two-to-three-digit addition and subtraction, and to do so, they need exposure to a range of strategies.

Think about the following problem in your head:

$$65 + 39$$

How did you solve it? Did you round the 39 up to 40 ($65+40$) then take one away? If you did, you used **compensation**!

Or did you add the tens then the ones ($60+30$) and ($5+9$) if so you're using the **split strategy**!

Perhaps you started at sixty-five and made three jumps of ten ($65 - 75, 85, 95$) then added nine ($95+9$), if so you used the **jump strategy**!

Danielle Hodson

From the Music Room

This term in music, our students have been exploring rhythm and beat—two essential building blocks of music. Understanding the difference between the steady pulse (the beat) and the patterns of long and short sounds that fit within it (rhythm) has been at the heart of our lessons.

To bring this learning to life, we have been using a range of percussion and mallet instruments, including drums, tambourines, xylophones, and glockenspiels. Through clapping, tapping, and playing, the children have been developing their ability to listen carefully, play in time, and work together as an ensemble.

Our activities have included:

- Stepping the beat while clapping different rhythms
- Echoing rhythms played on percussion instruments
- Creating our own rhythmic patterns and performing them for the class
- Playing simple pieces using mallet instruments, reinforcing both beat and rhythm

This hands-on approach has helped students not only understand the concepts of rhythm and beat but also improve their coordination, teamwork, and musical confidence. It's been wonderful to see their enthusiasm and creativity shine through.

To deepen our understanding, we have also explored rhythms from around the world, discovering how different cultures use rhythm to create their own unique styles of music. From the steady, driving pulse of African drumming to the syncopated Latin rhythms of South America, our students have been expanding their musical horizons while applying their knowledge of beat and rhythm.

Selina Roper
Music Teacher

[View this article online to read more](#)

From School Counsellor Tania Gal



***“Enjoy the little things, for one day
you may look back and realize
they were the big things”.***

Robert Brault

Year 1 Art Gallery Excursion

This week, our Year 1 students visited the Art Gallery of South Australia.

On the excursion, learners explored the different ways artists represent others and themselves. They toured the gallery to view a variety of portraits.

They then participated in the My Portrait, My Story: self-portraiture workshop and were invited to reflect on the portrait and self-portraiture as a form of artistic expression using Reggio Emilia's pedagogic approach.

The Year 1s enjoyed the opportunity to express their own identity by creating a multisensory self-portrait. In their Visual Arts lessons, the Year 1 learners are continuing to add collage and 3D elements to their self-portraits.



Summer Netball

Primary 3 Summer Netball

These girls have played netball together for 6 seasons and this summer season has been the most challenging but rewarding of all. The skills and strategies developed in training have made the girls into a strong team, where the ball moves quickly, the defence is tight and the shooting accuracy is near precise (bribery of lollies works like magic). The season is nearly finished and currently the team is second on the ladder - finals will challenge us all, but the girls will power through!

Well done to Rachel, Ruby, Lani, Tilly, Cartia, Xenia, Olivia, Sophie and Ava. We are all proud of you girls!

Ellen Atherton and Kasia Kerley (Coaches)

Netta 1

We were moved up to the top division this season and have had another fantastic season. The competition has been evenly matched, with wins and losses determined by a goal or two. The strength of the competition has helped us further develop our skills and teamwork. We have one more game next week to finish off the season and then we look forward to coming together to celebrate the fun of playing summer netball.

Sub Junior 3

We had a very successful season, coming out strong in the first half of the season we were moved up two divisions at regrading. This placed us with taller and tougher opponents. This challenge was accepted head on and our resilience and teamwork helped us come from behind to win games, and have placed us in a position to play finals for the first time. We have one more game next week against the top team before we start our finals journey. We are excited, look forward to our next challenge and above all, just are enjoying having fun playing netball together.

Jacqui Edgecomb

Coach



New Telephone Number

We have upgraded the School Telephone System and because of this process we have been given a new Telephone Number.

Our New Number is: 8217 8300

Please make a note of this number in your phone or your records.

How to Volunteer in our School

Information for Volunteering - Due to changes in the Child Protection Act

At St Joseph's School Tranmere, we are always grateful for the support given by our volunteers. Volunteering applies to a wide range of activities in the school including attending excursions, coaching sports teams, reading in the classroom, helping in the many committees and many other school-related activities.

If you would like to act as a volunteer in the school, you are required to have a 5-point check. Please provide the school with copies of the following:

- **Completed CESA Volunteer Registration pack - available from the school office**
- **A Catholic Police Check Clearance or Working With Children Check (WWCC from the Department of Human Services (if you need to obtain this clearance please come to the school office with 100 points of ID)**
- **A RRHAN-EC (Responding to Harm, Abuse and Neglect in Education and Care) training Certificate with new end date 31 December 2027**
- **Work Health and Safety on-line Induction for Volunteers Certificate**
- **Work Health and Safety signed form**

Please note: that all these processes are mandatory and must be completed in order to volunteer/continue to volunteer. This requirement is designed to ensure our children are protected and safe at school.

If you are missing any documentation above I can send you links to complete the paperwork once your Completed CESA Registration Pack has been returned to the School Office.

Please email Angela for further queries or information at agirolamo@stjotran.catholic.edu.au

Angela Girolamo
WHS Administrator