This week is the beginning of Advent
If we were to put into ordinary terms, the meaning of Christmas, perhaps it would look something like this:

It is sharing your gifts, not purchasing gifts.
It is not wrapping presents, it is being present and wrapping your arms around the ones you love. It is not getting Christmas cards out on time, it is sending any card, any time, at the right time.
It is not having the best Christmas light display, it is displaying the Christ light that comes from your heart. It is not Santa coming down the chimney, it is Jesus coming down from heaven and giving us the gift of Himself.

SCHOOL BOARD AND P&F AGM
Last night over 40 community members attended our School Board and P&F AGM. It was pleasing to see so many parents and staff in attendance. Thanks to all School Board members and P&F as they volunteer their services and expertise for the betterment of the students of St Lawrence. Thanks to our P&F Executive who have decided to step down in 2017. Thanks to Narelle Zaknich, Sue Del Borrello, Rebecca Rzemek and Lucia Ewen for their many hours to raise funds for the school and build a community spirit.

Our School Board for 2017 is Fr Emil Ciecierega, Caroline Narbey, Michael Mucciarone, Diego Silva, Johanna Carbone, Michelle Millard, Narelle Zaknich, Patrick King, June Ross and John Rose.

Our P&F Executive for 2017 is Caterina Di Carlantonio, Frances Caccamo, Anja Mojas and Laura Russo-Battagliolo. Thanks to all these parents for making St Lawrence even better in 2017.

SWIMMING
It is pleasing to see all the Year One to Year Six students completing swimming lessons in recent days. We see MJR happening throughout the day with students and buddies assisting before, during and after swimming lessons. Thanks to Mrs Heavey who has co-ordinated this task.
CODERDOJO CLUB
In 2017 the school is planning on implementing Coderdojo on an afternoon each week. At Coderdojo students will get an opportunity to develop their coding skills and whilst staff will support this program it would be great to have a parent who could assist every few weeks during these sessions. Parents do not need to be coding experts and will be assisted by staff. Any parents who may be able to assist, please contact myself by the end of this school year.

FATHERING PROJECT
The next Fathering Project will be held this Friday 25 November at Gloucester Park at 7:00pm. The meeting point will be at JP’s, under the main building. It is the first week of the Inter Dominion Championships, so it should be some great racing. For any fathers who are not interested in the races it is a great atmosphere and an opportunity to meet up with others fathers in our community. Looking forward to seeing as many dads as possible, feel free to bring along an extra dad who may not have been to any events yet. Hope to see you there.

NEW ZEALAND STUDY TOUR
Over the last fortnight I was fortunate to visit New Zealand and look at their educational strengths in both Wellington and Auckland with 14 other Principals and leaders of CEWA. The group study tour experience brought in the Principal understanding of leadership. It supported Principals through professional growths in specific areas such as inquiry, high performance and levels of perspective about learning. Developing and improved knowledge and understanding of challenges facing leaders in a variety of settings and their approach to building positive cultures was a key focus. Furthermore, working with an educational expert with current research understandings about how organised learning in schools affects student outcomes. I would like to thank Miss Angela Leddin and the whole staff of St Lawrence who worked so diligently throughout my absence.

CHILDREN’S MASS
I hope to see many students at the Children’s Mass on Sunday at 5.30pm which will be followed by a party in the Alverna Centre.

John Rose  
Principal

With God’s Friendship and Love we Grow  

Friday 2 December  Pre Primary Nativity Play  
8.45am School Hall  

Guitar/Movie Concert  
2.30pm Undercroft  

Monday 5 December  Years 1 & 2 Advent Assembly  
2.00pm Church  

Year 6 Dance Concert  
With Balcatta Primary  
6.30pm Alverna Centre  

Wednesday 7 December  Kindy Nativity  
8.50am Undercroft  

Thursday 8 December  Year 6 Mass for Graduation  
6.00pm Church  
All Years 3-6 to attend
COMMUNICATION BOOKS
This week Science and Health books will be sent home for you to view and sign. Please return all books on Monday morning.

ADVENT LITURGY
On Monday 5 December at 2.15pm all Year One and Year Two parents are invited to attend our Advent Liturgy as we prepare for the Birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ. At this Advent Liturgy, which will be held in the Church, students from Year One and Year Two will be presented with the St Lawrence Medal award. All families are welcome to attend these celebrations.

MASS FOR GRADUATION
Mass for Graduation for our Year Six students will be on Thursday 8 December at 6.00pm. All students receiving the St Lawrence Medal Award will be presented following this Mass. All students from Year Three to Year Six are expected to attend this important school event.

Miss Angela Leddin and Mrs Marie Heavey

MJR (Making Jesus Real)

MJR In The Library
MJR is about the 1 percenters. In the library, this can be a smile and a hello from students when they come to borrow their lexiles; students thanking Mrs Frenzel after having their books scanned; students being good listeners when we share stories; or children regularly offering to do jobs in the library at lunchtimes. These small things are VERY IMPORTANT THINGS and they can certainly make our day in the library!

Mrs Lyn Archer, Teacher Librarian

The Weekly MJR Contribution
I have the pleasure of in-putting the weekly MJR inserts from staff to be included in the school newsletter. As the rostered MJR insert person for this week, I revisited all MJR contributions for 2016 - it was indeed a most enjoyable and inspiring read. THE SPIRIT OF JESUS HAS BEEN TRULY ALIVE DURING 2016 IN THE ST LAWRENCE SCHOOL COMMUNITY.

Mrs Marie Boyle
PARISH CHILDREN’S MASS

The end of year is fast approaching and the final children’s Mass for the year will be on Sunday 27 November at 5.30pm. This will be followed by the Annual Party for children to be held in the Alverna Centre. See flyer at the end of this newsletter. It will be the first Sunday of Advent, which is the start of the new church year (Cycle A). Hence, it will be our “New Year” celebration. We would like as many children as possible to participate both for the Mass and for the celebration after Mass. Please email myself or John Rose if your child would like to sing, read a Prayer of the Faithful or take up the Offertory. It would also be great to know numbers attending and dietary requirements for catering purposes. It has been a great year for children’s liturgy and Masses. Thank you to all the children and parents for your constant support. Looking forward to seeing you all in Church.

Toni Mattiaccio  Mattiaccio.toni@cathednet.wa.edu.au

CLASS NEWS

YEAR THREE
We are enjoying swimming lessons and the weather has warmed up just in time! Some important pieces of information for the last few weeks of the year: Parent teacher interviews are currently being held. The timetable is up outside the classroom door, please see me if you would any additional times/days. The children will have their final spelling test for the year this Friday. I will be sending home a permission slip regarding the end of year excursion tomorrow. All Year 3 students are required to attend the Mass for Graduation on Thursday 8 December at 6.00pm in their summer uniform. At least one parent is to also attend. The St Lawrence Awards for Year 3 will also be handed out at the end of mass. Thank you for your continued support in the classroom, reading roster and homework.

Miss Angela Leddin, Year Three Teacher

YEAR FOUR
The students are enjoying using their own iPads in class. I have signed each student up for a 30 day free trial of IXL English and Maths. They have worked very hard in completing activities in both Learning Areas. These activities provide a great revision of work they have learnt this year. I encourage them to use this app at home. The trial should continue until the 21 December. Our excursion to The Spirit of Anzac is on the 8 December. There are still places available for parent helpers. Over the next 2 weeks I will ask to see some parents for parent interviews. If I do not contact you to organise an interview you can still email me to make an appointment. Alternatively, you can come in to discuss your child’s report on Monday 12 December anytime during the day.

Mrs Marie Heavey, Year Four Teacher

YEAR FIVE
The Year Five students are enjoying their swimming lessons. We are currently completing our measurement activities and Europe projects. The Year Five Bishop’s Testing results were very pleasing. These will be sent home this week in the student’s assessment files along with our final class assessments. We have enjoyed having Miss Dooley in our class this term and we will farewell her on Friday. We thank her for the wonderful activities and learning experiences she has planned for the students. We look forward to our End of Year excursion on Tuesday 6 December, a permission note will be sent home next week.

Miss Emma Reid, Year Five Teacher

YEAR SIX
The Year Six students have enjoyed looking out for their Year One buddies each day of swimming lessons. Next Wednesday 30 November, we will be going to the Spirit of Anzac exhibition at the Perth Convention Centre. I need two parents to assist as we move around the exhibition from 10.00am to 11.00am. If you are willing to help out, please let me know. We will join with the students from Balcatta Primary School on Monday evening 5 December for our dancing finale. Details will follow shortly.

Mr Phil Haydon, Year Six Teacher
CLASS REP NEWS

KINDERGARTEN
Please come and join us for a class Christmas catch-up on Sunday 27 November at Toscanini's Hillary's at 9:30am. Hope to see you all there. Please RSVP as soon as you can to Caterina 0421648887 or Amanda 0417182731.

PRE PRIMARY
Please join us for Breakfast at Wild Fig, 190 The Esplanade, Scarborough on Friday 25 November at 9.30am. RSVP essential by no later than Friday 11 November 2016. Looking forward to our final catch-up for 2016. Melissa Cumace 0419 859 634

YEAR TWO
Please come and join us for our class Christmas catch-up on Friday 2 December at 6.45pm at the Tamarind The Mezz Mount Hawthorn 148 Scarborough Beach Road. Hope to see you all there. RSVP Jasenka 0417 178 636 or Amanda.

YEAR FOUR
The last event for the year will be at the Merrywell on the 25 November for dinner at 8.00pm. A $10 deposit to secure the booking needs to be paid before 4 November. Please pass this onto Nicole or Michelle. Hope to see you all there. Michelle Germano 0409 294 630

LIBRARY NEWS

Borrowing during Library Sessions has now finished for this year as we need to use the next few weeks to do collection maintenance and chase up outstanding loans. However, as a new initiative this year, children from Years 2-5 are invited to borrow up to 5 fiction books for the Christmas School Holidays. This invitation is only available to students from these years who have been careful and reliable borrowers throughout the entire year.

As there will be no library lessons in the last week of term, those children wishing to borrow can come to the library, in the last week of term, either before school or at lunchtime, on Tuesday or Wednesday. Parents are most welcome to accompany their children when they borrow.

Mrs Lyn Archer, Teacher Librarian

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

PRE-PRIMARY PARENTS

Please note that the last day the Uniform Shop will be open is Thursday 8 December, Week 9. Please ensure your children's uniform orders for commencement of Year 1 2017 are collected. Payment to be made by cash or cheque only. Thank you.

Mrs Angie Miola, Uniform Shop Manager
CAKE STALL (Movie Night)
A big thank you to all the wonderful mums that donated lollies and delicious baked goods for the cake stall. A special thank you to Frances Caccamo for helping out making the lolly bags and to Anita Condo for helping out with the cake sales on the night and organising “Guess How Many Lollies in the Jar”. Without the help of all these ladies, another successful cake stall would not be possible.

Thank you, Anja Mojas
3 tickets for $5.00 / 1 ticket for $2.00

- Children may still order lunch during swimming lessons.

- **Sausage sizzle – Friday 9 December**
  A treat for the children on the last day of school.
  Hot Dog $4.00; Combo $5.00 – hotdog, juice box or water.
  Orders must be in by Friday 2 December

- LOL will still be available for $2.00

**Thank You** to the volunteers this year, however it would be great to see new faces in the canteen in 2017. If you would like to volunteer in the canteen on a Wednesday or on a Friday please come see us.

- 12 pack of mixed soft drinks $6.00 still available for sale in the Canteen.
Celebrate the beginning of the new church year with a free party at the ALVERNA CENTRE.

Sunday 27 November 2016

After the 5.30pm Mass until 8.00pm

All children are welcome. Free food and drink and lots of fun!!
Enrol Now

2018 Year 7 enrolments are now open. Limited places available for Year 7 in 2017.

Please contact our College Registrar on 9444 6333 or visit www.servite.wa.edu.au for enrolment information or to book a tour.
Perth Children’s Hospital Volunteers

Since 1929, the volunteer presence at Princess Margaret Hospital has been extremely important to the experience that our patients and families have during their time here. Their concern for people and their ability to create an atmosphere of friendliness and goodwill is invaluable. With the exciting move to Perth Children’s Hospital we are expanding the volunteer team and we are recruiting now for various roles. If you want to make a positive difference to the lives of children and their families who visit the hospital then we would like to hear from you. Please contact Andy Wahid, Coordinator Volunteer Services 08 9340 8716 or email andy.wahid@health.wa.gov.au for further information.