REFLECTION
I asked some new students what they were looking forward to at St Lawrence in 2013?
Santiago Yr 1 “Friends and Math lessons”
Esperança Yr 1 “Looking forward to making new friends”
Armani Yr 1 “Maths and activities”
Luc Yr 2 “Painting, doing Maths and playing on the whiteboard at lunch”
Diego Yr 3 “Playing soccer and learning Italian at school”
Alex Yr 3 “Friendship and learning big new words”
Jasper Yr 4 “Having fun and getting a good education”
May all students’ wishes come true!!

WELCOME BACK
Welcome back to all involved with the St Lawrence School Community. I hope your holidays were refreshing and enjoyable with your families. Thanks to all staff who have been extremely committed in preparing themselves and their classrooms to ensure your child’s day one is beneficial. In particular I would like to welcome all new families to the St Lawrence Community.

NEWSLETTERS
In 2013 St Lawrence Primary School is going digital with all newsletters. Newsletters will be emailed each Wednesday afternoon directly to parents to ensure they receive the newsletter. Today each student will take home a form if you would like to update your email address. All newsletters will be available on the school website www.stlawbal.wa.edu.au. This new initiative is environmentally friendly and allows for greater photos and pages that were often limited due to printing costs.

PARENT TEACHER NIGHTS
Next week each of the classes from Year One to Year six will be holding a parent teacher night. It is essential that at least one parent from each family attends this very important meeting.

P&F BBQ
The P&F BBQ will be held on Friday 22 February at 5.30pm. I would strongly encourage all families to attend this community building activity that is organised by our P&F. Thanks to the School Board who donate all the sausages and buns for all families. This is a great opportunity to develop friendships with families that your children will spend many hours throughout the day.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DATES
The following professional development days for 2013 are as follows:
5 March  6 May  4 June  22 and 23 July  27 September

PRINCIPAL’S ASSEMBLY
On Friday there will be a short assembly with important information for the students and we will welcome all new students from Pre Primary to Year Six. All parents are most welcome.
TERM CALENDAR
Distributed to each family today will be the Term One Calendar for 2013. Please place this in a prominent position. All calendar dates are also on the school website and updated regularly.

PARENT INFORMATION BOOKLET
Attached electronically with this newsletter is the 2013 Parent Information Booklet. Please read as this provides valuable information for all families.

HEALTH CARE CARD
If you are a holder of a Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card, you are entitled to a discount on your tuition fees. An application form must be completed each year and a copy of your current card supplied. Further information and application forms are available from the school office.

SACRAMENTAL DATES
In 2013, following the Bishops’ directive, both Communion and Confirmation will occur during normal parish Masses. This is a significant change but is getting back to the true focus of the sacrament rather than the festivities associated with these sacraments. Confirmation will be held over four Masses and two weekends with a maximum of 12 students from the parish (students from St Lawrence and catechists students) receiving the sacrament at one time. The parish has decided the fairest way to assign who receives which sacrament at which Mass is to put an overview at the front of the church for the enrolment Mass for that sacrament and parents will choose which Mass best suits their family. Each family is allowed to write their own family for that Mass only. It will be first in first served. I will explain this to both the Year Four and Year Six classes at the parent teacher night next week. Attached below is a list of all sacramental dates for 2013.

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<th>Sacrament Dates for 2013</th>
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<td><strong>CONFIRMATION</strong></td>
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<td><strong>CONFIRMATION DAY</strong></td>
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<td><strong>RECONCILIATION - 18TH SEPTEMBER</strong></td>
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<td><strong>RECONCILIATION</strong></td>
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<td><strong>FIRST HOLY COMMUNION – 26TH/27TH OCTOBER 2 SESSIONS</strong></td>
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WHOLE SCHOOL MASSES
There are two whole school Masses this term. The first is Ash Wednesday which will be held on Wednesday 13 February and the other is on Monday 8 April celebrating the Annunciation of Our Lord. Mass will commence at 9.00am in the Church. Parents please refer to the newsletter and term calendar as to when your child’s class is rostered to celebrate a Mass, paraliturgy or class prayer. Years 4 to 6 will celebrate Mass in the Church and Pre-Kindy to Year 3 will celebrate paraliturgies/prayers in their classroom/school hall. Parents are encouraged to attend these special events.

PARKING
Please refer to pages 17 to 20 of the Parent Handbook regarding the School Parking Policy. Just a few reminders:
- Please do not park in front of the office in the morning as this is a drive through lane only until 8.30am.
- Please do not park along the PK/Kindy/PP fence or near the oval near the church as this not only causes congestion with the parishioners who may be attending morning Mass, but it is also a safety concern with parents and children who may be walking in the area.

ASSEMBLIES
Class assemblies will be held fortnightly in the school hall commencing at 8:45am. The first assembly will be a Principal’s Assembly on Friday 8 February.Merit certificates will commence at this assembly.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DAYS
The following days are when relevant classes will have their PE days in 2012:
Monday: Pre-Primary to Year Three
Tuesday: Year Four to Year Six
Thursday: Pre-Primary to Year Six

PARENT INFORMATION MEETINGS
Monday 11 February
Year 1 6:00pm, Year 2 6:45pm, Year 3 7:30pm
Tuesday 12 February
Year 4 6:00pm, Year 5 6:45pm, Year 6 7:30pm
It is important that at least one parent attends this meeting.

"The old has passed away; behold the new has come".
Welcome to a New School Year. I have spent my holiday in India visiting my family and relatives. Nothing else in the world gives joy except spending and enjoying time with family and relatives. I hope you too had a wonderful holiday with your children. Every new beginning brings lots of God’s abundant blessings. Let us entrust ourselves, all children, staff and all who we encounter everyday to the Lord. May the God of new beginning lead us forward this year.
With our faith let us welcome this year and be open to whatever is stored for us by God. In this Year of Faith let us focus our attention more on Christ by knowing Him through His Words and experience him in the Eucharist and proclaim Him through our way of life. Make every effort to implant the seed of faith to your children. To be a Christian is to believe in the new. To be a Christian is to believe in a God of newness, perpetually acting among us, forever bringing the new out of the old. May the Lord who lies ahead of us and beckons us forward and teach us to embrace 2013 gracefully. Have a blessed Year. Sister Chitra
Welcome to all the school community to a new school year and special welcome to the new students. May God bless you and your families. Welcome also to Father Mariusz Adamczyk who will be assisting me in the Parish this year. Fr Irek Czech, Parish Priest

St Lawrence and St Theresa Parish Annual 2012
The first edition of the St Lawrence and St Theresa Parish Annual is now on sale. This beautiful publication provides a look back at the events that took place at our Parish in 2012. Copies can be purchased from the school office at a cost of $15. Families are encouraged to purchase a copy as a memento of the wonderful Parish community that we are blessed to be a part of.

CLASS NEWS

PRE KINDY
I would like to welcome everyone to St Lawrence Pre- Kindy and I am looking forward to our first day together on Thursday.

Friendly reminders:
Firstly we are starting with a staggered day on Thursday with some children coming in the morning session (8.45- 11.15) and some in the afternoon (12- 2.30pm). The following week will be our first full day.
Please bring a piece of fruit, cheese or crackers to share that day. Lunch will not be needed. The children also need a water bottle, hat and a cushion which stays at school for rest time.

Mrs Simone Covich, Pre Kindy Teacher

KINDERGARTEN
Welcome to all our little Kindy children and their families. We are so thrilled to have you all with us. Thanks to all parent for being so helpful in ensuring the smooth start that we have been able to make. The children have found the first two of their three days this week interesting during our focus – Great to be at Kindy!

I make special mention of our Teacher Assistants, Gillian Austin and Michelle Seragusana. I am delighted to be working again with Gillian and Michelle because they do an excellent job in helping me care for your children. They are a great part of our team and form a very important role in how our Kindergarten runs.

As of week 3, 12th February, all children will come together as a whole class. When the children come into class, I would ask that all parents assist by leaving immediately after helping your child unpack, as we are going to endeavour to have all children sitting on the mat in readiness for the first part of our session (this means the children will not come in to play at the tables as we did in the first couple of weeks). We will put out some books on the mat to share with each other while we wait for all children to gather between 8.30 – 8.45am. When our session begins formally at 8.45am we will have our morning greetings then I will explain our special activity for the morning.
Having parents leave straight away will enable us to settle the children more quickly and hopefully have fewer tears. Please make sure that if you are chatting with other parents after you leave the classroom that you move to the front of the school, out of sight, otherwise the children will still be able to see you through the glass doors and windows.

We appreciate your understanding and co-operation in this matter and assure you that the Kindergarten Staff will look after your children with the utmost of love and care, especially if your child happens to be a little upset when you leave.

Mrs Kaylene Bozich, Kindergarten Teacher
**PRE PRIMARY**

A very big welcome back to school to parents and children. We hope you had a lovely Christmas and enjoyed the special moments you spent with your families. I am looking forward to getting to know all the new faces in the classrooms and Mrs Baker and myself are excited to be spending this year with you working together to help your children transition into Pre Primary smoothly. This term we will be focusing on the Religious Unit ‘Special Me’. As part of this unit we will need the children to bring a small photo of themselves that we could use during circle time discussion. We ask that these photos be brought to school by Friday 15th February. If you are having trouble finding a photo please come and see me.

I will be placing a Parent Helper Roster outside of the Pre Primary classroom on the pin up board in the coming weeks. We would love to see you in the classroom. If you are having in trouble finding a time please come and see me and I’ll see what I can do.

Just a reminder there is a parent communication book located on the desk at the entrance to Pre Primary. Please remember to record any permanent pick up and drop off arrangements in the back of the book with names and any last minute changes to normal arrangement need to be recorded in the front of the book. I have provided an example in the book so you’re welcome to have a look.

Just a quick reminder library book exchange day will be on a Wednesday from now on. Please ensure your child has their book at school that day so that they are able to receive some new ones. If they do not have their books at school they will not be able to and this will have to be done in their own time.

I hope you have a great week back at school everyone, looking forward to working with you all this year!

Miss Rachel Keast, Pre Primary Teacher

**YEAR ONE**

Welcome back to all Year One families. We have three new children in Year One Armani, Santiago and Esperanca. I would like to welcome them and their families. All the children have settled in beautifully to the Year One routine.

Next Monday night the Year One parent night will be held at 6pm in the Year One classroom. I will be sending home some of the children’s books to be covered over the weekend. Could you please cover these in clear contact and return to school on Monday.

In the morning before school the children need to wait in the undercroft area from 8.15am a teacher will be there to supervise them. If they are here any earlier than this they need to wait outside the office.

Mrs Gloria Edwards, Year One Teacher

**YEAR TWO**

Welcome to Year 2! The children have got off to a great start and it was fantastic to hear all their exciting holiday news! I have sent books home to be covered. Parents could you please ensure all books are covered by the beginning of next week. The children will need to bring their Library bag to school every Wednesday morning for Book Exchange on a Wednesday afternoon. This year the students need to wear their sport uniform on Monday and Thursday.

I will be out of the classroom all of next week completing the Observational Survey for Literacy and the Maths Assessment Interview. These tests will give me a good indication of the strengths and weakness your child has in the areas of Literacy and Numeracy.

Homework will begin on Monday. Parents could you please sign your child’s Homework Contract each night. We are in need of parents to listen to reading in the mornings. A Morning Reading Roster is on the classroom door.

The Year 2 Parent Information Evening will be held on Monday, 11th February at 6:45pm.

Miss Anna Brenkley, Year 2 Teacher
YEAR THREE
Welcome to Year 3. The children have settled in well and we have been busy learning classroom routines and expectations. We have started off in our teams and the children have chosen their team name and team cheers. We welcome two new students into our class, Alexandra and Diego. Homework has already commenced this week. Parents please sign each section each night to indicate that the homework has been completed. Morning reading groups will commence next Monday, if you have a spare 10 minutes in the morning (Monday-Thursday) could you please help out by listening to a group read. The roster is up outside the classroom door. Could all books please be covered by week 3. Year 3 are to wear sports clothes on Monday and Thursday. We have Library on Tuesdays and Music on Mondays.

The Year 3 Parent Information Meeting is on Monday 11 February at 7:30pm in the classroom. It is important that at least one parent attends this meeting. If you have any questions please email me at the address below. I look forward to a very enjoyable year together.

leddin.angela@cathednet.wa.edu.au

Miss Angela Leddin, Year Three Teacher

YEAR FOUR
Welcome back to all children and families. A special welcome to our new student Jasper.

On Monday I sent home a note explaining the books to be covered. Please follow this and try to have all books covered by next week. The Year 4 Library day is on Tuesday, therefore library books and bags to be remembered on this day. Our sports days are Tuesday and Thursday.

Morning reading began this morning, so just like last year I would appreciate 2 parents on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning to listen to a group of children read. This should take no more than 10 minutes. I have placed a roster on the pin-up outside the room - however if you have not filled your name in, but see that a group is waiting for a parent, please feel free to step in.

The Year 4 Parent Information Evening will be held on Tuesday the 12th February at 6pm in the classroom. If you wish to email me at any time my email address is: heavey.marie@cathednet.wa.edu.au

Mrs Marie Heavey, Year 4 Teacher

YEAR FIVE
A big welcome back to St Lawrence to all the students and families of Year Five. A new beginning and a new year for myself personally to be teaching. I am excited about what this year holds for the class and am very impressed with the way the students have hit the ground running! I look forward to meeting you all individually to discuss your child in the next few weeks. Just a reminder that we have a parent information evening on 12th February at 6:45pm it is an important meeting and I urge all parents to attend if possible. I also ask if all parents could sign up to Edmodo and link to their child’s account. Your child should have brought home a letter explaining how to do this. If you have not received this or have any questions about this then please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 12 February.

Mr John Stillitano, Year Five Teacher

YEAR SIX
Your child has finally arrived in Year 6. They are now expected to fulfil an important leadership role at St Lawrence Primary School. Thank you for preparing them and having books, stationery etc organised. All the exercise books and pads that they will be using in Semester One will be coming home to be covered in clear contact over the next few days. The diary can be covered in any suitable contact.

Our Parent Teacher meeting is next Tuesday, February 12 at 7.30pm and we have the joy of being the first class to present Assembly on Friday, February 22 at 8.45am. The Confirmation Enrolment Mass will be on Sunday, February 24 and all students making their Confirmation this year must be in attendance. The Confirmation Parent meeting will be on Wednesday, March 5 at 7.15pm.

With the State and Federal elections this year, it is timely that we take a closer interest in our parliaments and so we will be visiting the Governor’s House on March 13 and touring the WA Parliament House on March 22.

Mr Phil Haydon, Year Six Teacher
Year 6 students enjoying the new chess board

Year 4 students looking at how much the trees have grown in our orchard

Year 5 students playing hop scotch

Year 2 students admiring the renovated World Youth Day Cross

Yr 5 students busy at work

Year Three students doing a KAGAN cheer
Welcome to the 2013 school year. Once again we are about to embark on another exciting year in the library. Children’s library sessions for this year are as follows:

- **Tuesday**: Kindy, Years 3,4 and 5 – Lesson and Book Change
  Pre-Primary – Lesson only
- **Wednesday**: Years 1,2 and 6 – Lesson and Book Change
  Pre-Primary – Book Change

**All children must bring their library bags on their book change day.** This is most important as our books need to be protected on their journey to and from school.

**Help Needed:** We are always in need of help in the library, especially with shelving. It really helps children to find the resources for which they are looking if they are shelved promptly. If you are able to spare an hour or so on a Tuesday or a Wednesday, please come and see us in the library. We will gladly train any interested volunteers!

**Wanted – Pre Loved Library Bags:** If anyone has a spare library bag from a previous student, would you consider donating the bag to the library. This would be very much appreciated.

_Mrs Lyn Archer, Teacher Librarian_

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**CANTEEN NEWS**

Welcome to a new year. We are now open **four days a week**: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. We are serving fresh homemade food every day, according to the canteen guidelines. It is all made fresh every morning for lunches and morning tea.

Sushi will be available on Wednesday 13 February, Ash Wednesday. The varieties are tuna, vegetarian and cost is $4. **Please pre-order by Monday 11 February or you will miss out!**

We will be having fun days throughout the year. Will keep everyone informed – commencing with Easter next month. I hope everyone has a great start to the year.

Parents, if you would like to volunteer in the canteen, please come and visit me.

_Mrs Frances Svilicich, Canteen Manageress_

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**UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS**

**Wednesday 8.30am to 9.30am**  **Thursday 2.30pm to 3.30pm**
Dear Parents

As your 2013 P & F Executive -

Tammy Mottolini, President
Joanne Gregorio, Vice President
Chantelle Arrigo, Secretary and
Belinda Agnello, Treasurer

we welcome you all, existing and new families to our great school community in 2013.

We look forward to continuing the strong tradition of the P & F commitment. We hope to make it a successful year of raising funds through everyone’s generosity and widespread support. The funds will contribute to purchasing new resources for the benefit of our students and school.

Class Representative 2013
The P & F are now seeking nominations for these positions. This can be a timeless, but rewarding role where you promote class mum/parents get togethers encouraging parents to get to know one another. Each Class Rep is encouraged to attend P & F meetings and act on behalf of the parents within their school year.
If you are interested, please complete the nomination form below and submit to the office.
Should you have any queries, please call Tammy on 0409997988.

P & F Meeting
We are pleased to extend you all a very warm welcome to our first P & F Meeting - Monday 18th February at 7pm in the school hall.
We hope this will be suitable to many of you, and hope you can give up 30-45min of your time to discuss our plans for 2013 and discuss in-depth reports presented by our principal, Mr John Rose. Please come along, help us to learn what you as the parent body want and what St Lawrence needs to make it as successful and productive as it possibly can be. We are sure, that as parents, we all share this one common interest for our children’s future at St Lawrence.

P & F Meetings will be noted on each Term Planner, being 2 per term:
- Monday evening at 7pm
- Thursday morning at 8.45am

Family Sausage Sizzle on Friday 22 February 2013
We take this opportunity to invite you all to the first event for the year. Burgers, hotdogs, tea and coffee will be provided. A flyer has been sent home with further information to all families.

NOMINATION FOR CLASS REPRESENTATIVE 2013

I ________________________________ would like to nominate for the position of Class Representative for Year __________________. My mobile phone number is __________________

My email address is ____________________________

Signed ________________________________
How Parents Can Make a Good School Better

- Make an effort to understand what the school is trying to do. If you can, express your support for its aims and the values it expresses.

- If at all possible, participate on committees and in discussion groups that consider educational issues and give opinions to the staff.

- See the school as YOUR school. Encourage your children to see it in the same way.

- By all means offer constructive criticism and suggestions and direct your information to the right people.

- Go to school activities - open days, plays, concerts, picnics, sporting functions, and celebrations. Take a friend.

- Join the official parent group and look after the school's interests.

- Welcome new parents. Help them feel that they belong. Build their confidence in the school.

- Support a broad and balanced curriculum. Resist attempts by any pressure groups to narrow the curriculum to things that are purely functional and measurable.

- Encourage your children to cooperate fully, to join in all school activities and to take a pride in the buildings, the grounds and the school community as a whole.

- Let the Principal and the teachers know that you support them, even if sometimes you have to be a friendly critic or a critical friend.

(from Barry Dwyer - Parents, Teachers, Partners)