SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Second Candle - The Candle of Peace

A prayer from Sr Teresa

Lord, open our eyes
that we may see you in our brothers and sisters.

Lord, open our ears
that we may hear the cries of the hungry, the cold, the frightened, the oppressed.

Lord, open our hearts
that we may love each other as you love us.

Renew in us your spirit.

Lord, free us and make us one.

Amen

EDU DANCE 2014
This exciting new initiative is coming to St Lawrence next year. Edu Dance is an introductory dance program developed for primary school children focusing on dance for fitness and fun and culminating in a community concert. Many other Catholic schools have programmed for Edu Dance with fantastic and positive reviews.

All children from Pre Primary to Year 6 will participate in Edu Dance during their scheduled Sport lesson on a Monday during Term 1 from weeks 2 to 10. The cost for this program will be included in the 2014 school fees.

For Term 1 2014 all students from Pre Primary to Year 6 will have sport on a Monday and Thursday, this includes the first day of Term 1 on Monday 3rd February, 2014. Terms 2 to 4 we will return to our normal sports days.

ADVENT ASSEMBLIES AND ST LAWRENCE AWARDS YEARS 1 & 2
Years 3 to 6 will be presenting the Advent Assemblies on Monday 9 December at 2pm in the Church. Following this the St Lawrence awards for Years 1 and 2 will be presented.

GRADUATION MASS
Graduation Mass will be held on Thursday 12 December at 6pm in the Church. It is compulsory for all children in Years 3-6 to attend this mass. At the conclusion of mass the Year 6 awards will be presented as well as the St Lawrence awards for Years 3-6. All are welcome to attend as this is our final whole school celebration for the year.
SCHOOL BOARD 2014

Last night at the St Lawrence School Board meeting the positions for 2014 were elected. I would like to thank the whole School Board who volunteer their time. Thanks again Lucio Cicchini, Nancy Bonfiglio and Tammy Mottolini who are departing the School Board.

The School Board for 2014 is:

Chair : Caroline Narbey
Treasurer: Rob Femia
Secretary: Angie Mattioli
Members: Georgie Dragicevich, Nicola Micallef
P&F Rep: Narelle Zaknich
Parish Rep: TBA
Parish Priest: Father Irek Czech
School Principal: John Rose

KINDY NATIVITY

The Kindy students hosted a very special Kindy Nativity this morning. Thanks to Mrs Bozich, Mrs Seragusana and Miss Vears for all their hard work preparing the students.

PRE PRIMARY NATIVITY PRAYERS

The Pre Primary Nativity Play will be held on Friday 6 December at 9am in the hall. Thanks to Mrs Wake and Mrs Baker for all their hard work preparing the children.

REPORTS

School reports will be distributed on Friday 13 December. Teachers will be available for parent interviews on Monday 16 December. Thank you to all teachers for the hard work they put in to writing each child’s report.

LAWN VACUUM CLEANER

Thank you for the generosity of the school community for raising money for the P&F. Mr Tonge has a new lawn vacuum cleaner which allows him to keep our school beautiful. The P&F have also used the money raised to buy reading books, literacy resources, mathematic resources, dictionaries and many other items.

God Bless
Angela Leddin
Short Term Principal

CORRESPONDENCE FROM DR TIM MCDONALD
DIRECTOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN W.A.

Dear Parents

Over the past week you would have seen many media reports about the Abbott Government’s withdrawal from the previously agreed funding model known as the Better Schools Plan.

I am very pleased to advise you that on December 2, the Prime Minister reversed his stance on this issue and has now given a commitment to deliver funding certainty for Catholic schools over the next four years.

This announcement delivers certainty for our system both in terms of the total amount of Federal funds available and the manner in which it is delivered. It will ensure that all of our schools are able to plan appropriately over the short to medium term to support the current and future needs of students and staff.

I commend the Federal Government for their commitment to improving educational outcomes for all students across the country.
**TERM DATES**

Term Four concludes for students on Friday 13 December
Term One 2014 commences for students on Monday and concludes on Friday 11 April

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**Week at a glance…..**

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<td>Pre Primary Nativity Prayers</td>
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<td>Monday 9 December</td>
<td>Advent Assemblies 2pm Yr 3 – Yr 6</td>
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<td>Tuesday 10 December</td>
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<td>Wednesday 11 December</td>
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<td>Thursday 12 December</td>
<td>Graduation Mass 6pm – Years 3, 4, 5 &amp; 6</td>
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<td>Friday 13 December</td>
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**FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL**

**ADVENT ASSEMBLIES**
The children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be presenting the Advent assemblies on Monday 9th December commencing at 2pm in the church. The Year 1 and 2 St Lawrence awards will be announced following the assembly.

**CATHOLIC MISSION – LIFE GIVING GIFTS**
Catholic Mission is the official mission and agency of the Catholic Church. They call out, give life and call people in the world to faith, justice and love. They operate in over 160 countries around the world and support initiatives in 1100 dioceses, including remote Australia.
There is a brochure in the office explaining how to give a life giving gift for Christmas. We hope that some families may consider doing this over the festive season. Please take a brochure if you are interested.

**GRADUATION MASS**
A reminder that Graduation Mass will be held next Thursday evening, in the church commencing at 6pm. All children in Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 are expected to attend and sit in their class groups.

**BOOKLISTS FOR 2014**
All children have now received the booklists for 2014. All orders must be placed online with OfficeMax.

**ST LAWRENCE YEARBOOK**
Will be distributed to each family this week.

**REPORT GRADES**
Parents please note the wording for the grades allocated in your child’s report. The achievement descriptors for each grade are listed below:
Achievement descriptor
A
Excellent
The student demonstrates excellent achievement of what is expected for this year level.
B
High
The student demonstrates high achievement of what is expected for this year level.
C
Satisfactory
The student demonstrates satisfactory achievement of what is expected for this year level.
D
Limited
The student demonstrates limited achievement of what is expected for this year level.
E
Very low
The student demonstrates very low achievement of what is expected for this year level.

Mrs Marie Heavey, Assistant Principal

A Moment with Sister Chitra....

The Immaculate Conception of Mary
On 8th December the Church celebrates the feast of Mary’s Immaculate Conception. In teaching that Mary was conceived immaculate, the Catholic Church teaches that from the very moment of her conception, the Blessed Virgin Mary was free from all stain of original sin. This simply means that from the beginning, she was in a state of grace, sharing in God’s own life, and that she was free from the sinful inclinations which have beset human nature after the fall.
A woman in the crowd exclaimed: "Blessed is the womb that bore you...." He replied: "Rather blessed are they who hear the word of God and keep it."
Let us ask Mary’s guidance to find out God’s will in our lives and do it willingly.

Mary conceived without sin – Pray for us.
PRE KINDY
The Christmas theme is in full swing and the children are really enjoying all the fun. We are now so close to the end of our Pre-Kindy year! The children have grown and matured so much over the year. A reminder of what will be happening for the last day next Thursday: come dressed in Christmas clothing and colours and please bring a plate of food to share for lunch. There is a list outside near the rosters if you would like to say what you will bring. Lastly you are invited to come at 2pm to see Santa's arrival and to say our final goodbyes.

Mrs Simone Covich, Pre Kindy Teacher

KINDERGARTEN
Thank you to everyone who were able to join us for our prayers this morning. It was wonderful to be able to share the true meaning of Christmas in such a beautiful way with our Kindy children re-enacting the birth of Jesus. It is such a special time for us culminating some very hard work for the children but so wonderful to see their innocence in front of such a big audience. It is always such a highlight for our staff. Their behaviour and enthusiasm was exceptional! We remind all parents about our last day next Friday 13th December and the food that we have asked for you to send in on that day to share. The children may also bring in their water bottles. They do not need to bring in any recess or lunch.

Mrs Kaylene Bozich, Kindergarten Teacher

PRE PRIMARY
Our Pre Primary Nativity Assembly will be held in the School Hall this Friday 6th December. We are very excited! All family and friends are welcome and we look forward to seeing you there. A reminder that children need to be at school at 8am so they may be ready in their costumes to start assembly.

Mrs Rachel Wake, Pre Primary Teacher

PRE PRIMARY CLASS REP NEWS
Pre Primary end of year dinner reminder - Thursday 5 December at 6pm Siderno’s Restaurant Main Street, Osborne Park. Children and partners are welcome. See you there!

YEAR ONE
The children are enjoying their swimming lessons. I have been very proud of how well organised they have been. Thank you to our wonderful buddies for all their efforts. We enjoyed having our buddies help us make our Nativity scenes using our shoe boxes. They look fantastic and are on display in our classroom. Thank you parents for returning the permission slips for our excursion. I will email parent helpers tomorrow. A reminder that the children will be participating in the Pre Primary Nativity assembly on Friday. The children need to wear a Christmas coloured t-shirt for this. They can wear the t-shirt to school and then change into their sport shirt after assembly. Please ensure the children are at school by 8.30am.

Have a wonderful week, Mrs Pizzino Year One Teacher

YEAR TWO
The Year 2 students are extremely excited for their excursion next week. Remember that on Monday students need to come to school in their faction shirt. They need to bring their normal sports uniform to school, so they can change for the Advent Assembly. The St Lawrence medal recipients will be announced during this assembly. This is the last week for homework. Apologies – I forgot to set their Mathletics homework until today! Enjoy the remainder of the term.

Miss Anna Brenkley, Year Two Teacher
Just a reminder that all library books, including lexiles, need to be returned by Monday of next week - December 9.
Next week we will be doing our annual stocktake. As part of our collection maintenance, we have *Two Sets of World Book Encyclopedia* that we no longer require. If any families are interested in taking them, could you please come and see us in the library.

*Mrs Lyn Archer, Teacher Librarian*

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**UNIFORM SHOP NEWS**

Please be aware that the Uniform shop will be closed during the school holidays and **the last day open** of this term will be **Thursday 12 December** and will re-open **Wednesday 5 February 2014**.

Parents are reminded that students return to school in Term 1 2014 in SUMMER UNIFORM.

**Collection of Uniforms for Year 1 2014**

Pre-primary parents you are reminded that collection of uniform orders for commencement of Year 1 2014 are now ready. Payment is required at this time and can be made in CASH or CHEQUE only (No EFTPOS facilities available) and cheques are to be made payable to: ST LAWRENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Uniform items can be collected now and through to the end of Term 4.

**UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS**

**Wednesday 8.30am to 9.30am and Thursday 2.30pm to 3.30pm**

*Mrs Angie Miola, Uniform Shop Manager*
Hello all, the school year is nearly over.

**Christmas Raffle at the Canteen**
There are five great hampers to be won. Hampers are displayed at the canteen every morning so come on down and view them. Tickets are $2 each or 3 for $5. The raffle will be drawn on 13 December. Come on down and purchase your tickets.

**Sausage Sizzle**
There will be a sausage sizzle on the last day of school 13 December. Cost is $3.50 each. Orders can be taken at the canteen or left with the School Office. Please ensure name and year level is clearly marked on the order. Kindy and Pre Primary may also order. For catering purposes please have all orders in by Wednesday 11 December. **Note** that there will be NO other orders available on this day.

**Christmas treats** will be on sale at recess on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday next week. Cupcakes will be individually wrapped for children to take home as a gift. Cost is $2 each. Also available will be Christmas cookies, cups of snowballs and tiny teddy sleighs. Prices will vary from $2 to 50cents.

Parents a reminder that freshly brewed coffee is available Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings after 8.30am for $2.50 each. So come on down and enjoy the Christmas treats.

Thank you to Paula Bulich for her help last Friday. It was very much appreciated.

*Hope you all have a great week. Mrs Frances Svilicich, Canteen Manager*
Merit Award Winners

Italian Buddies
Parents and Friends Federation of WA Inc.

PFFWA News

The planning for our 60th Anniversary Annual Conference is progressing well, with our theme being ‘Grassroots to Government – celebrating 60 years of service and influence’.
For the latest updates and information please visit our website at…


2013 has been an extraordinarily busy year for PFFWA and to keep abreast of what we have been up to on your behalf, and our focus for 2014, please visit us at…


We very much look forward to seeing many of you at our 60th Anniversary celebrations!!

We wish you a ‘Happy and Holy Christmas and a Wonderful New Year’ and we look forward to seeing you at the conference!