



# Week 11 Term 1 Newsletter

## Important Dates

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**First Day Term 2**  
Monday 28 April 2025

**SAPSASA Winter  
Hub Blyth -  
Football/Netball**  
Thursday 1 May 2025

**Junior Primary  
Bundaleer Excursion**  
Friday 2 May 2025

**School Photos**  
Tuesday 6 May 2025

**Confirmation/Communi  
Parent/Child Session  
6pm**  
Wednesday 7 May 2025

**Year 7/8 & 9/10  
Mountain Bike  
Championships**  
Thursday 8 May 2025

**SAPSASA primary  
Mountain Bike**  
Thursday 8 May 2025

**Buddy Mass -  
RE/AH, R1/LT, 6EW,  
5HW**  
Friday 9 May 2025

**Cross Country - Burra**  
Monday 12 May 2025

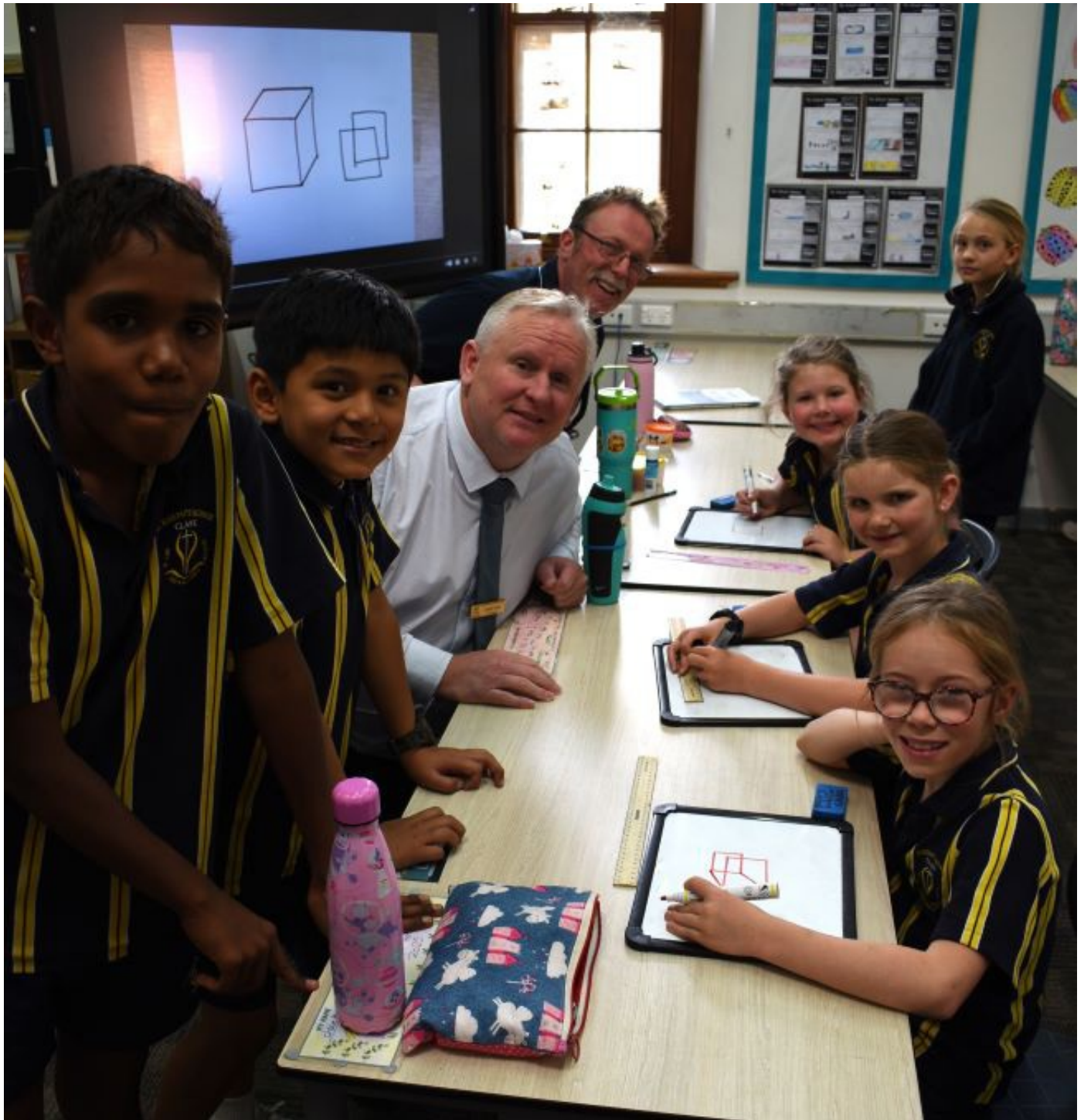
**SAPSASA Winter  
Hub Carnival  
Football/Netball -  
Riverton**  
Wednesday 14 May 2025

Walk Safely to  
School Day  
Friday 16 May 2025

Year 8/9 Pedal Prix  
Taillem Bend  
Saturday 17 May 2025

Year 4 Camp -  
Glenhaven 19 - 21  
Monday 19 May 2025

## From the Principal



Dear Parents, Guardians, Students, and Staff,

As we near the end of a wonderful first term, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the incredible journey we've shared together at St Joseph's. It has been a term filled with growth, learning, and a strong sense of community, and as I've mentioned on many occasions, I am truly honoured to serve as your principal.

First and foremost, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all our families, students, and staff for the warm welcome you have extended to me this term. The start of this school year was both exciting and humbling. Our students have shown remarkable enthusiasm and commitment to their learning, and they have represented our school with great pride on many occasions throughout the term. I've been so impressed with how our staff have worked tirelessly to create a nurturing and inspiring environment for everyone.

I would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our parents and volunteers, whose support of various events and initiatives has made such a difference. Your involvement plays an essential role in the life of our school, and we deeply appreciate your partnership. St Joseph's is truly grateful for your passion and dedication to the school community. Please know that your contributions are making a real impact.

As the final two weeks of Lent approach, we continue our journey of renewal and reflection, preparing for the time of great hope—the celebration of Easter. Through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who overcame death to offer new life to all, we are reminded of the power of love and faith. In the classroom, our teachers and staff have embraced the spirit of Lent, guiding our students through lessons that highlight the importance of love, forgiveness, and service. One of the most meaningful aspects of this season is how it brings us closer together as a community.

Looking ahead to Term Two, I am excited for all that we will continue to achieve in the months to come. I am confident that our school will remain a place where excellence, faith, and community thrive.

I want to sincerely thank each one of you for your ongoing support and commitment to St Joseph's. Together, we are shaping a bright future for our students, grounded in faith, love, and respect. May God continue to bless our school community, and may we always strive to live out our mission, "To Live, To Learn, Love in All Things."

I wish you all a restful break and look forward to another wonderful term ahead.

### **Federal Election 2025**

CESA has requested that schools share this information with our school community:

Education is an important topic at every election. As we head towards the Federal Election on 3 May 2025, we are asking our families to consider how their votes will benefit the whole community. It is essential that everybody who cares about Catholic schools understands the key issues. A number of resources are available on CESA's Federal Election page here – [www.cesa.catholic.edu.au/election](http://www.cesa.catholic.edu.au/election).

*God Bless*

Joe



## From The APRIM Caritas Project Compassion



Thank you to families for generous support of Project Compassion so far this Lent. Please return any Project Compassion boxes to your class.

This Lent, we shared the powerful stories of three remarkable individuals who have overcome immense challenges. Thanks to the kindness of supporters like you, their lives - and the lives of those around them - have been transformed.

In Samoa, Toefuata'iga's life was changed with access to clean water through Caritas Australia's partnership with Caritas Samoa. Her school now has a water tank, improving health and allowing the school to focus on education.

Lam, from rural Vietnam, overcame the challenges of living with a disability by joining the I-SHINE program. He now runs a successful freelance graphic design business and inspires others to pursue their dreams.

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Irene, a single mother, found hope through Caritas Australia's partnership with Caritas Kongolo. By learning sewing and farming skills, she now provides for her extended family and mentors other women in her community.

Thanks to supporters like you, the lives of people like Toefuata'iga, Lam, and Irene have been transformed. But the work isn't done yet. There is still time to donate! Together, we can Unite Against Poverty and help transform lives this Lent.

## Holy Week Liturgies

Thank you to all the classes who have recently hosted Liturgies. Holy Week begins this Sunday, when Jesus returns from the 40 days in the desert and enters Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, finishing with the Easter Triduum.

To assist the children to gain a deeper understanding of Holy Week, classes recreated events through prayer and by reenacting the key events that took place.







# The Easter Season Explained...

The Easter Triduum holds a special place in the Catholic Churches' liturgical year because it marks the culmination of the yearly celebration in proclaiming the Passion and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Latin word triduum refers to a period of three days and has long been used to describe various three-day observances.

The Easter Triduum begins with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday and "reaches its high point in the Easter Vigil, closing with evening prayer on Easter Sunday".

## Holy Thursday, The Lord's Supper

The Triduum begins with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday to remember the Last Supper when Jesus gathered with the disciples to celebrate Passover. The traditional English name for this day, "Maundy Thursday", comes from the Latin phrase *Mandatum novum* — "a new command" (or mandate) — which comes from Christ's words: "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; even as I have loved you, that you also love one another" (Jn 13:34).

There are 2 key rituals that stand out at this service.

### 1. The Washing of the Feet

Jesus took a basin and washed the feet of the disciples, something that only a servant would normally do. He commanded his disciples to serve others as he had "I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do" (John 13:15).

### 2. Celebration of the Eucharist and the Eucharistic Procession

At the very first Last Supper, Jesus instituted the Eucharist for the Church. We are reminded that, through the sacrament of the Eucharist, we are, and we become even more the Body of Christ together.

There is no concluding prayer at this Mass. Once the celebration of the Eucharist is completed, there is a Eucharistic Procession (where the Eucharist that is left from Communion is processed to a Chapel of Reservation). This reminds us of Jesus' time in the garden of Gethsemane when he prayed through the night. The community is invited to join the procession and then join in the silent prayer and adoration until night prayer is prayed and the Eucharist is put in the Tabernacle. The congregation leaves in silence and returns in prayer the next day for the Good Friday celebration.

## Good Friday | Veneration of the Cross

The liturgy of the Lord's Passion consists of three parts: the liturgy of the Word, the veneration of the Cross, and the reception of Communion. The ceremony on Good Friday is not a Mass—it is a communion service using the consecrated hosts from Holy Thursday. Good Friday is the only day of the year where no Masses are offered. The ceremony generally takes place at 3 p.m., the hour that Jesus breathed his last on the cross.

The altar looks very different on Good Friday: it is plain and bare. There is no consecrated Host in the tabernacle at the main altar; it was carried away on Holy Thursday night to the "altar of repose" to signify Jesus' death. The candle or light by the tabernacle is out, and the tabernacle doors are left open to show that it is empty. Jesus is gone. This is quite dramatic, reminding us that Good Friday is a solemn day of mourning and prayer. This day commemorates the Passion, Cross, and death of Jesus Christ, and is therefore a day of fasting.

The cross is venerated (shown reverence, by touching, ) after intercessory prayers. The cross is covered in a veil and brought out in procession. The priest takes the cross, the upper part of the cross is uncovered, then the right arm of the cross, and then the entire cross. As each part is unveiled, the priest sings, "This is the wood of the cross." The rest of the congregation are then invited to approach and venerate the cross by touching or kissing it. In this way each person demonstrates their willingness to take up their cross and follow Christ.

## Holy Saturday and Easter Vigil

The Easter is the high point of the Easter Triduum and is filled with an abundance of readings, symbols, ceremony, and sacraments.

The Easter Vigil, the Church states, ranks "the mother of all vigils". Being a vigil — a time of anticipation and preparation — it takes place at night, starting after nightfall and finishing before daybreak on Easter, thus beginning and ending in darkness. It consists of four general parts: the Service of Light, the Liturgy of the Word, Christian Initiation, and Liturgy of the Eucharist.

The Service of Light begins outdoors (or in a space outside of the main sanctuary) and in darkness. A fire is lit and blessed, and then the Paschal candle, which symbolises the light of Christ, is lit from the fire by the priest, who proclaims: "May the light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds." The Paschal candle will be placed in the sanctuary for the Easter season, then moved to the baptismal area so that during the sacrament of baptism, the candles of the baptised can be lit from it.



The Liturgy of the Word follows, consisting of seven readings from the Old Testament and two from the New Testament. These readings include the story of creation (Genesis 1 and 2), Abraham and Isaac (Genesis 22), the story of Moses and the Exodus, through to the Gospel of Luke about the empty tomb discovered on Easter morning (Luke 24:1-21). Not all churches necessarily do all the readings, but the purpose is to recall how God has supported humanity from the beginning and that God is present in our lives still today.

The Easter Vigil has been the time for adult converts to be baptised and enter the Church. After the conclusion of the Liturgy of the Word, catechumens (those who have never been baptised) and candidates (those who have been baptised in a non-Catholic Christian denomination) are initiated into the Church by (respectively) baptism and confirmation. The faithful are sprinkled with holy water and renew their baptismal vows and all adult candidates are confirmed.

## Easter Sunday

Easter is the celebration of Christ's resurrection from the dead. It is celebrated on Sunday, and marks the end of Holy Week, and is the beginning of the Easter season in the liturgical year.

As we know from the Gospels, Jesus Christ rose from the dead on the third day following his crucifixion. His resurrection marks the triumph of good over evil, sin and death. It is the singular event which proves that those who trust in God and accept Christ will be raised from the dead.

Since Easter represents the fulfillment of God's promises to humankind, it is the most important holiday on the Christian calendar.

In the Gospels, the exact details of the Easter narrative vary slightly, but none of these are critical to the main story as the key aspects of the Easter story all match. They all agree that the tomb of Christ was empty, which is the most essential fact.

The Easter date is movable and always falls on a Sunday between March 22 and April 25. Easter in the Roman Catholic Church is always on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the spring equinox.

Following Easter Sunday, the season of Easter begins and ends 50 days later with Pentecost, the birth of the Christian Church.

May you experience the joy of new life in your own way this Easter Season as we contemplate how we can carry on the resurrection to others.

## Meet our New ESO's

### ***Tessa Weckert***

I am a teacher, who has been lucky enough to have worked at Burra Community School and Snowtown Primary School before taking a break to have my 3 amazing children, Ted, Ralph and Lola. I decided to return to the classroom but in a different capacity, where I get to enjoy all the good parts; working with and building relationships with students, teachers and other community members. I have enjoyed getting to know the families and have felt very welcomed by everyone. I look forward to meeting more of you and hopefully making an impact big or small in your children's lives.

### ***Dione Grocke***

I have been working in education for 9 years now and find it so rewarding to witness the growth of the children throughout the year.

I grew up on the Eyre Peninsula and spend my free time either with family, on the beach, in the water or walking and exploring somewhere. I don't mind a little get away!

I have been warmly welcomed here at St Josephs and feel blessed to be a part of the community.

### ***Kate Wehr***

Hello! My name is Kate Wehr, and I have been lucky enough to have joined the wonderful community at St Joseph's School as a new ESO. A little bit about myself - I grew up in Clare but have lived most of my adult life in Adelaide. I have three daughters who all attend St Josephs and in my spare time I enjoy spending time at the beach with family and friends.



## From the Middle School



### Student Maths Challenge

A group of 16 Year 7 and 8 students have been selected to take part in the 2025 Maths Olympiad. This is a competition designed to challenge students' mathematical thinking as they work in teams to solve a series of problems. Each week, the students will receive coaching from our numeracy leader, Mrs Heinjus, to help them further develop the required knowledge and thinking skills. We are excited to see how these students take on this challenge.

### Student Leadership

Over the past few line-ups and assemblies, we have seen our Year 9 leaders taking on more responsibility in helping to run these events. It is great to see their confidence growing and setting a great example for all year levels.

### Year 7 Fundraising

The Year 7 students and parents have been working hard at the Mitchell's farm, chopping wood for the annual Year 7 trip to Canberra. We have currently sold and delivered 60 loads of firewood and have enough wood to fill another 20 trailer loads.

I love this fundraiser, the time spent with the students and their parents is very rewarding and enjoyable. It is so good for our students to see the hard work that goes into raising money for the opportunities and activities provided for them. It also is a great way to build our community, particularly for the dads who traditionally don't have as big a presence at school events.



If you need some firewood, get in quickly to secure your load before they are all sold out.



## Year 8 Camp

I was fortunate to attend one day of the Year 8 camp, spending a few hours watching our students have a go at surfing. Every student stepped outside of their comfort zone and had a go, and to their surprise, they were successful. Everyone caught a wave and got to feel the sensation of being pushed along by the ocean. It was an addictive feeling for them all. A good number of students were able to stand up and ride waves to the shore. These moments of seeing our student being kids, pushing themselves and being so proud of what they achieve are a reminder of why we wanted to be teachers.

## Holiday break

Please have a restful and recharging holiday, I look forward to seeing everyone coming back re-charged to get stuck straight into Term 2 and kick a few goals!

*Tom Gilligan - Assistant Principal*

## Visual Arts

*In Visual Art we have been looking at textiles and political art pieces (radical art). Miss Mooney showed us that you can voice a message/ concern through a piece of art.*

*We started our project by learning how to weave. We cut slits in the paper, then cut strips of paper and wove it. These artworks joined in a collaboration, making a big sheet of paper.*

*We then learned how to do different stitches. Our first sewing task was to sew our names on to small pieces of fabric which we made in to a big blanket with our names on it.*

*Our final assessment for the term was to convey a social or environmental message through a symbol. Our task was to sew our statements onto a 20cm x 20cm square piece of fabric. To start this process, we made a collage of our concerns and world problems that were personal to us. We picked the issue we thought we could stitch and considered the materials, colours and stitches we would need.*

*My artwork was a wilting flower with the word poverty above it. I used a running stitch and a lot backstitches for the writing.*

*Our finished artworks will be joined with other schools making a big blanket. This will be displayed in the Art Gallery of South Australia in August as part of SALA (South Australian Living Artists Festival), so if you are in Adelaide then, pop into the Gallery!*

*Georgia - Arts Minister.*



## Communication's Ministers Podcast

# ST JOSEPH'S MIDDLE SCHOOL PODCAST



With Communication Ministers  
Hugo & Millie



This week Hugo and Millie talk Ag News, Halogen Leaders Conference, Athletics and more. Follow the link above to hear what has been happening around the school

[Podcast Link](#)

## Halogen Leaders Conference



## Halogen National Young Leaders Day lessons

Our student leaders had a day out of the classroom last week to focus on their leadership roles, attending the Halogen National Young Leaders Day. The students were lucky enough to hear about goal setting and success from Tom Jonas, AFL footballer; Thomas Duncan-Watts, screenwriter and author; Jess Stenson, Olympic marathon gold medallist; and the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia.

Here are some of their reflections:

Isla, Year 9 said "I have learnt about how other people have used leadership in their life and that leadership can mean a lot of different things to different people, so it is important to focus on the things that you are good at that have to do with leadership. I have also learnt that Leadership is very positive and is very inspiring which can help personal growth."

Sophia, Year 6 said "Jess Stenson was really inspiring. She taught me to not give up even if you think you can't do it. She said the more you fail, the more you get closer to your goal."

Max and Brodie in Year 6 reflected that Jess Stenson encouraged them to dream big – and work towards those big goals. This has encouraged all our Year 6 leaders to think about what their goals are. Clara heard Thomas Duncan-Watt remind the students that he failed and tried many times before he became a successful author.

When asked about the impact of the Halogen Leaders Day on themselves, Isla responded "It made me think more about how life has ups and downs but if you have a good attitude, you can face them." Clara and Sophia have decided they are going to think about what their own goals are, so they work out a plan to work towards them.

Some other reflections from the students below –

*"To lead by example and let the past be the past and don't let it worry you."*

*"It was exciting to listen to some people and some others were quite boring, but overall, it was a good day that was influential to the elected leaders."*

*"I learnt about peoples' childhoods."*

*"Realising that it is not all about being the best but being the kindest and how you want to be remembered."*



## Assembly - Week 11 Term 1

## Honour Award Information



## Student Success

*The Interschool State Championships of 2025 were held at Strathalbyn on the weekend and Sophie & Ellie attended under the St Jo's banner. This is a major event to go towards selection for Nationals later in the year to represent SA and travel with the State team to Sydney.*

*Both girls took 2 horses each and riding in Dressage, Show Horse, Showjumping & Combined Training. Great riding by Sophie and Ellie saw some impressive results and obtaining qualifications.*

*Ellie picked up Reserve State Primary Champion on her pony Darcy and Sophie also was awarded Reserve State Intermediate Champion on the horse Breezy. In her Dressage Sophie managed some good placings again on Breezy with her main horse Skye becoming lame on the Thursday so couldn't attend.*

*Ellie also had great results in her 70cm & 80cm Showjumping on Panda but her highlight was receiving Combined Training Primary State Champion. She had 2 wins claiming the big prize.*

*There are more chances to keep obtaining qualifications and going towards there high point totals which winds up in June then selections will be held for the State Team.*





**Primary school  
Art and craft group  
Thursdays at lunch time  
Outside the Year 3 classroom**



This week the lunch time craft group decorated Easter eggs with tissue paper and textas



## Screen Time for your child



There is a lot of conflicting advice and emerging research around screen time. The right amount of screen time can depend on a range of factors like your child's age and maturity, the kind of content they are consuming, their learning needs and your family routine.

Follow [this link](#) for hints and tips on how to manage screen time for your child

## Inclusive Education

### **Inclusive Education at St Joseph's School, Clare**

St Joseph's School understands that each child has individual learning, social and emotional needs. As Literacy and Inclusion Leader I work closely with Classroom Teachers and Education Support Officers (ESO's) to ensure all our students are learning to their potential. This may involve meeting with parents/carers and allied health professionals (e.g. occupational therapists, speech pathologists or psychologists) to create appropriate strategies and resources to support students if they have specific needs.

The Personalised Plan for Learning (PPL) is a document that promotes learner engagement and achievement. It enables flexible design of curriculum so that learners can co-construct and apply their learning and promotes the highest quality education for all. Through the PPL, teachers respond to the individual characteristics of the learner, identifying any functional impacts on student learning, and adjustments that are being made so the student can access the curriculum. A PPL for your child may have been discussed recently at interviews.

A PPL is a legal requirement for children and young people in care and learners identifying as Aboriginal. It is highly recommended for those learners with disability and supports all four areas of evidence required for a learner's inclusion in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD). The adjustments made for students may range from social/emotional strategies, communication, social skills, self-regulation, as well as curriculum support in literacy and numeracy, allowing us to support your child as best we can.

As part of a PPL a student may require external allied health support to assist with their learning and wellbeing. A range of Allied Health Professionals visit our school regularly to provide one-on-one support via NDIS packages or as a private engagement with parents. Allied health services available in our region (either through NDIS plan or privately) are:

*Thrive Health Centre*- speech pathology, occupational therapy, psychologist, developmental education, physiotherapy, podiatry, dietetics Ph: 08 8632 1100 Email: [admin@thrivehealthgroup.com.au](mailto:admin@thrivehealthgroup.com.au)



*Play Partners*- speech pathology, physiotherapy, occupational therapy Ph: 0400 487 965

Email: [playpartners@outlook.com](mailto:playpartners@outlook.com)

*Live Well OT* - occupational therapy Ph: 0432 720 661 Email: [lauren@livewellotsa.com.au](mailto:lauren@livewellotsa.com.au)

*Country Health Connect* - public service Ph: 1800 944 912 Email: [CountryHealthConnect@sa.gov.au](mailto:CountryHealthConnect@sa.gov.au)

Baptcare – a National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) partner in the community who provide support to individuals with disability, families, and the greater community. They have drop-in information sessions (for anyone needing NDIS information) at the Clare Library on Thursday 29th May and Thursday 12th June between 10.00am & 12.00pm. Alternatively, call 1800 960 595 and speak to a Local Area Coordinator.

Finally, if you'd like to learn more about supporting our neurodiverse learners, come along to listen to Mark Le Messurier, on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 6.30-8.30pm at the Bentley's Hotel. He is a wealth of information about neurodivergence and supporting kids, and you will learn something from him. Information and contact details to RSVP are available [here](#).

If you have any concerns about your child's learning, please contact your classroom teacher, or make an appointment with Michelle Edmondson, Literacy & Inclusion Leader ([medmonds@stjoclar.catholic.edu.au](mailto:medmonds@stjoclar.catholic.edu.au)). We are here to support you in your child's learning journey, as we all know that working in partnership with you is the best way to benefit all our children.

## ATSI NEWS

### Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Excursion-Appila Springs

When we arrived, we followed the signs that guided us to the spring, which is located away from the main road. The beautiful drive and the excitement of finding a hidden treasure made our adventure even more thrilling.

At Appila Springs, we participated in various activities aimed at deepening our knowledge of the environment and its rich cultural background.

The informative displays gave us great insights into the local wildlife and ecosystem, making it a perfect destination for nature lovers. Some of the highlights included: We spent time wandering around the area, taking in the variety of plants and animals, and learning about the significance of conservation.

We all had a blast making ochre paint during an Aboriginal education activity, which provided us with a unique view of the region's Indigenous history. We also made use of the picnic facilities to enjoy a meal in the tranquil surroundings, giving us a chance to relax and appreciate the natural beauty of the springs.

Our trip to Appila Springs was fantastic, combining education, adventure, and relaxation. The calm atmosphere and the chance to connect with nature made it an unforgettable experience for everyone.

Bec Aguis, our Ngadjuri teacher, was inspirational and allowed us to enter into some quiet reflective time which enabled us to truly listen to our environment.

*Written by Charlotte S -ATSI school leader*





# RECEPTION HARDING

April 2025

## Literacy

In Reception Harding, we've been diving into the exciting world of bookmaking as part of our literacy learning. Each week, we explore a book by Aaron Blabey as part of our ongoing author study. His stories inspire us and help us discover different writing conventions that we can experiment with in our own books. We've been learning how to make pictures that match our words, add writing to our pages, include detailed illustrations, and even use big and bold writing to make our stories pop! It's been a creative and fun journey as we grow as young authors.

In the past 11 weeks, our writing has come so far! Check out how some of us have used some letters to tell our stories.

We have also experimented with different genres of books. We are so proud of our books, and we hope you like them too. Here are some examples of our amazing information and story books, and even some birthday cards!





## St Jo's Patch

It has been another busy fortnight in the garden.

The Year 5 students have been working hard pulling out the dead plants, trimming the creepers, shovelling new, fresh soil into the garden beds ready for planting and feeding the worms. The students have planted some seeds which would really appreciate a good rain, as would we all !!!!

This is the last newsletter for the term, not sure where those 11 weeks have gone. I hope you all have a lovely break over the school holidays and a safe and happy easter.

Jen Vine

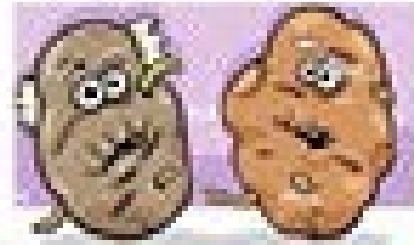




## *Joke of the Week*

Q. What do you call a retired veggie?

A. A has bean!!



# Clare Running Festival April 2025



## Altar Server Roster

### School Photos

[School Photo Information](#)