



Important Dates

**New Parent
Gathering (La
Storta)**

Friday 21 February 2025

**Swimming Trials 9 -
11am**

Monday 24 February 2025

**SAPSASA Summer
Hub Yr 5/6 Tennis &
Cricket @ Clare**

Tuesday 25 February 2025

School Picnic

Tuesday 4 March 2025

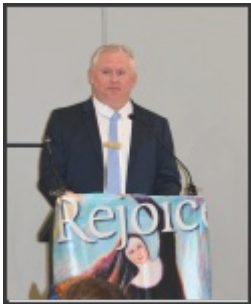
Assembly 9.00am

Thursday 6 March 2025

Pupil Free Day

Friday 7 March 2025

From the Principal



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Greetings as we journey together through the third week of Term One, which has certainly seen some warm weather. Our students continue to shine, even when experiencing some hot days and we are grateful for their positive attitude always.

I'm continually amazed by the beautiful spirit of welcome I am experiencing at St Joseph's. It's been a delight to continue to meet families and learn more about what makes up our wonderful community. The Parent Information Night was a great occasion and to see so many families in attendance really demonstrates the commitment to your children's education at St Joseph's.

Our 'Welcome Mass' was a wonderful celebration where we were reminded of the importance of being part of a faith-filled community. Our students had been engaging in prayer, and preparation for the mass and it was a joy to see their enthusiasm! Thank you to the families and parishioners who joined us, it highlights the importance of parish and school partnership, which I know is very strong at St Joseph's. We continue to give thanks for the pastoral work of Fr Kieran, who brings a smile and friendly presence wherever he goes within St Joseph's.

I'm incredibly proud of the work our teachers are already doing with students, as I conduct walkthroughs, and witness meaningful lessons that challenge and engage our students. Please check in with your child regularly about what they are working on and don't hesitate to reach out to our helpful teachers with questions.



Our School Board met for the first time recently and what an impressive group of people we are lucky to have, in service to our community at St Joseph's. A school board has a vital place in the life of a school and provides leadership, industry expertise, financial understanding and insights from their personal perspective. I am grateful to Matt Butler (Chair) and the team for their dedication and service. If you would like to be involved at some stage in the future, please do not hesitate in contacting me for a discussion.

God bless you all,

Joe Hicks

From the APRIM



FAMILY MASS

On behalf of the Sevenhill Parish, I would like to extend an invitation to all families to join us for Family Mass, this Sunday at 9am in St Michael's Church, Clare.

Family Masses are held on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 9am in St Michael's Church, Clare, during term time. The purpose of these masses is to engage children and young people in the Mass, with the songs and readings using language that is aimed at young people. Fr Kieran also addresses young people in his homily, which is a reflection on the readings.

Our Parish hospitality, with support of families, organise morning tea after Mass, which is a great opportunity to meet with other families and parishioners. We invite children and young people, regardless of their faith background to take an active role if they feel comfortable

to do so. Roles include reading, taking up the Offertory (bread and wine), collection, saying Prayers of the Faithful, bringing up the Lectionary in the Gospel procession and joining in the choir.

At this Mass, the Parish will formally welcome Joe Hicks as the Principal of our Parish school. A special blessing will also be prayed for all St Joseph's Staff.

If your child would like to undertake a role at this Mass, please see me prior to the start of Mass.



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM: SEVENHILL PARISH

The Sacramental Program in the Sevenhill Parish is run both through St Joseph's School and through the Parish.

Reconciliation. First Eucharist. Confirmation: Enrolments

Enrolments for these sacraments are sought at the beginning of the year that the celebration of the sacrament takes place. Enrolments are sought via the school and parish newsletters.

An enrolment form for the Sacraments of Reconciliation (Year 3 up) and Confirmation and Communion (Yr 4 up) can be accessed at the link below.

The celebration for Confirmation and First Holy Communion will be held on Sunday July 27 at 10am at St Aloysius Church, Sevenhill. Reconciliation will be celebrated mid-week in late Term 3 at St Michael's Church, Clare.

<https://forms.office.com/r/gMzSXz8TWh>

2024 SACRAMENTS



CARINYA VISITS

Carinya is a residential care home located on Victoria Road, just down the road from school. Local ministers and priests take turns to host liturgies there on a Tuesday. The Catholic church leads the service on the 3rd and 5th Tuesdays of the month at 10am.

As part of our school's mission to serve in the footsteps of Jesus and St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, our classes take turns in accompanying Fr Kieran to services held during term time. The residents love hearing our children sing and join in the prayer service. Parents are welcome to accompany us to these services. Mrs Murphy and Mrs Nield's class will host the first Liturgy for the year next Tuesday, February 18.

CARINYA VISITS 2024



Beginning of the Year and Welcome Mass

Thank you to all families for joining us at this special celebration to begin our school year and welcome our new students and staff. A

special mention to our musicians, Mrs Bell, Mr Harding and Evie T and our small choir. Music is a fabulous way to pray.

We also welcomed Fr Kieran back from his well-deserved break where he got to spend time catching up with family.

God Bless

Helen Hay

Assistant Principal- Religious Identity and Mission

Welcoming Our New Students



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders News

Welcome to all new families and students. We pray you are settling into the routines of a new school. We extend a particularly warm welcome to Morgan in Year 5 and also to his family.

My name is Tim Packer, and I am the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander focus teacher. I was fortunate to teach in Alice Springs for a few years and this inspired my passion for learning related to Indigenous knowledge and perspectives.

All our students are regularly taught about Indigenous history, sustainability, art, culture and language, throughout their learning journey at our school. We are very blessed to have nine Indigenous students at St Joseph's and they add to the rich culture we have at this school. You will find their profiles on display in the front office. They regularly celebrate their cultural learning in class and on excursions.

We know that within our community we have numerous families who are continuing the exciting journey of exploring their Indigenous heritage. We pray they continue to grow in their cultural understandings.

This week, we have acknowledged Thursday 13 February as the anniversary of the apology by Kevin Rudd in 2008. It continues to be a significant event in the lives of First Nations people as they continue to walk with us in Reconciliation. This reminder serves to highlight



the injustice related to the policies extending to the Stolen Generation.

The Bringing Them Home report (produced by the National Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from Their Families in 1987), says that "at least 100,000" children were removed from their parents.

As you could well understand, this action has caused - and continues to cause - untold heartache and disconnection within our Indigenous people. I simply can't imagine my two boys, Jack and Henry, ever being removed from our family at such young ages.

Feel free to contact myself at school should you have any questions or require any information about how St Joseph's can further develop your child's cultural potential.

Warm regards and God Bless,

Tim Packer

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander focus teacher

Canteen Reminder

Our canteen service is greatly appreciated by both students and parents but does rely on volunteers to operate each week. Our recent call-out for helpers has not had the response we would like, and at this stage we are looking at having to consider our options. This may include moving to a fortnightly, rather than weekly, service.

If you are able to assist – just one day per term or semester (Thurs or Fri) – or perhaps a grandparent would like the opportunity to help out – please use the link below to complete the form and become part of our rostered canteen group of volunteers. We look forward to welcoming you!

[Canteen Sign Up](#)

Meet The Japanese Teacher



Meet the Teacher

Beck Sensei



About Me:

Konnichi wa! I'm excited to be teaching Japanese again at St Joseph's School this year. I've had the privilege of teaching Japanese for over three years now. My husband, two children, and I live on a farm in Condowie. In 2024, we had the amazing opportunity to travel to Japan with the Clare and Gilbert Valley and Bizen Sister City Delegation, where we experienced the rich culture and beauty of Japan, which I'm thrilled to share with my students. I'm also honored to have received a scholarship from the SA Department for Education for 2025, where I'll be heading to Japan for a two-week intensive Japanese language course in July. I look forward to bringing back my new skills and sharing them with the students from Term 3 onwards.

Why we learn a second language

Research shows that learning a second language enhances cognitive abilities, such as memory and concentration, while also fostering social and cultural benefits, including increased open-mindedness and empathy toward people from different cultures.

At St Joseph's School, Clare, we are proud of our long history of teaching the Japanese language and culture through weekly classes, from Reception to Year 6.

Learning Japanese at our school also strengthens our connection with the Clare and Gilbert Valleys' sister city, Bizen, Japan. The next delegation/exchange visit from Japan will take place in August 2025. Please contact me if you are interested in hosting a Japanese student in term 3 2025.

My contact information:

 bwundke@stjoclar.catholic.edu.au

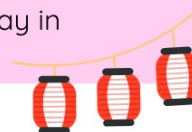
Classroom expectations

To make our learning experience as engaging and fun as possible, I kindly ask students to:

- Raise their hand if they would like to speak.
- Practice active listening - please avoid talking while others are speaking.
- Follow Japanese greetings, including bowing.
- Be mindful not to distract others during class.
- Show cultural respect (please avoid saying "yuck" or "gross" during Japanese videos).
- Give their best effort and, most importantly, have fun!

Upcoming Japanese news

Thursday 19th June - Up to 12 year 6 students will be selected to attend the statewide Japanese quiz day in Adelaide.

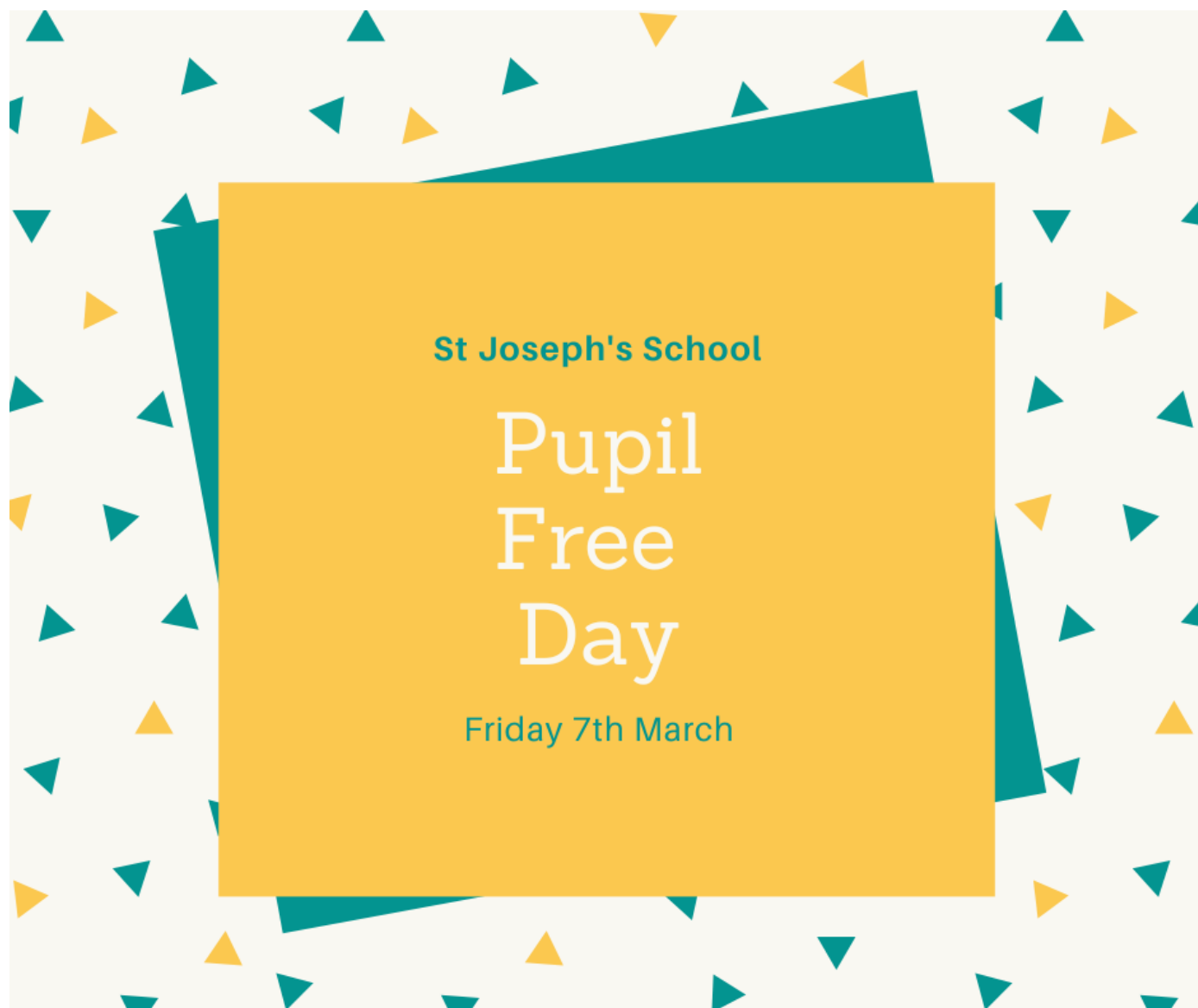


Deb Lemon

This week, several staff caught up with Deb Lemon to see how she is managing retirement after over 20 years as a teacher in our busy school. We all commented on how relaxed she looked! It was also an opportunity to present Deb with our staff gift, two "school children" for her garden, as a memento of her time at St Joseph's.



Pupil Free Day



.... to enable staff to do work around Planning and Assessment, Literacy & Numeracy Agreements, and data analysis.

Clare OSHC will be available for our families if required on this day. Please contact them directly on 8842 1430 to book as needed.

Bakery Fundraiser



St Joseph's School P&F

Easter Bakery Drive

Order Form available via QR code.
Order and pay via QKR!

Please return forms with payment by Friday 28 March.

ITEMS AVAILABLE TO COLLECT
FROM SCHOOL ON THU 10 APRIL



.... this is in partnership with the Little Red Grape at Sevenhill. Fill your freezer with goodies ready for Easter during the school holidays.

Order Form

Uniform

Brand New in Stock

Middle School 2-in-1 active navy sports shorts

- inbuilt bike shorts under lightweight sport fabric
- slight stretch
- hidden side zip pocket

Sizes 10C, 12C, 14Y, 8A, 10A, 12A, 14A, 16A

Order on Qkr!

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

Community News

[CLARE RODEO - Get ready for a night of Bulls, Broncos and Barrells, Saturday 15 March, 2025.](#)

SMART EARTHWORKS

CLARE Rodeo 2025

Featuring Live Music by **DAY DRIVE**

Get Ready for a night of Bulls, Broncs & Barrels

TICKETS

SCAN ME

Visit: ticketabo.com.au/clarerodeo or purchase at the gate

EVENT DATE:
15 MARCH 2025
GATES OPEN 4PM
CLARE SHOWGROUNDS

Adult	\$ 30
Child	\$ 15
Family 2A +2C	\$ 70

Camping available Friday - Sunday
 Recovery Breakfast Sunday morning

Payment Facilities:
 Limited Eftpos, Cash preferred

No Glass No Eskies
No Dogs No BYO

0448 452 122
clarerodeo@gmail.com

In the Classroom

On Monday February 10, Courtney Gunn (Year 1 Teacher) got a big surprise, Sid had made special birthday cupcakes for her and the class. What a lovely gesture, Sid.



Student News

On 17 January, Matilda and Austin both shot air rifles at the Moonta Sporting Shooters Association of Australia Club. They were in the

indoor range where they shot 4 target cards, 10 shots on each card to be scored for points going towards a final score at the end of the season. The club is welcoming new families, if you are interested please reach out to Scott Camilleri for more details.

