



## Important Dates

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**Mass. Hosted by  
1/2RR**

Wednesday 26 February  
2025

**Shrove Tuesday**

Tuesday 4 March 2025

**Ash Wednesday  
Liturgy. Hosted by  
Leadership**

Wednesday 5 March 2025

**Principal's Tour**

Friday 7 March 2025

**Community Prayer.  
Hosted by 4/5T**

Wednesday 12 March 2025

**Come and Play Day  
(New Families)**

Saturday 22 March 2025

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## From the Principal

We are already at Week 4 of the school term and quality learning is well underway in all preschool and school classes now that students have adjusted to their new teachers, classmates and routines.

## Commissioning Mass

School staff were commissioned for the 2025 school year by the Sacred Heart Parish community at Mass on Sunday morning. St

Joseph's School is one of five school in the Hindmarsh/Findon Catholic Parish, and we are pleased to have had an opportunity to be formally blessed and commissioned in our educational vocation.

## AGM and Meet the Teacher

Thank you so much to families who attended our recent AGM of the School Board. I wish to acknowledge Andrea Boseley who presented the Parents and Friends report, Jo Puccetti who presented the Finance Report, and Craig Costello whose report was tabled as he was unable to be in attendance. Please find a copy of our 2024 AGM Report [here](#).

Following this event parents moved to classrooms to our Meet the Teacher sessions. Here at St Joseph's, we believe that school and family collaboration is essential to successful spiritual, academic and developmental growth of our students. Our Meet the Teacher sessions are one of the ways we work to foster this partnership. We have noted over the past few years that not all parents attend these sessions. If you have any feedback on the timing or other reasons that prevent you from engaging, please reach out so that we can continue to strive to make this important event accessible for all. My direct email is [mfarrugia@sjsk.catholic.edu.au](mailto:mfarrugia@sjsk.catholic.edu.au) or else catch me in the yard before or after school!

## Year 5 and 6 Camp

As a part of their learning program, our Year 5 and 6 students have this week attended a 3-day camp at El Shaddai in Wellington. As one of the staff members in attendance, I was thrilled to see the way our senior students engaged in the activities with a positive mindset and resilience, giving their best and engaging collaboratively with their peers and instructors. I would particularly like to acknowledge our staff members in attendance, Jessica Taormina, Jemma O'Neil, Matthew Baird, Danielle Dedic, Celine Grandioso and Joshua Rouse. Each of these staff members took time away from their own family life to provide this opportunity for our students. I can vouch for how tiring it is to be responsible for close to 60 students for 24 hours a day! I would also like to acknowledge our newest student, Alannah in Year 5, who joined our school on the Friday before attending camp on the Monday! School camp provides a wonderful, fun opportunity for our students to grow their character strengths of bravery, perseverance, teamwork and zest, as well as build skills of independence.



## Children's University – Register now

Thanks to Gail Smith, parent of Isla and Erin, who has volunteered to support the Children's University program this year and thus we are once again able to facilitate this wonderful opportunity which will be open to children from **Year 3 – 6 only**. Following registration and payment, your child will receive a Learning Passport and, as a family, you can then record activities linked to Children's University that your child does outside of school to accumulate hours towards your learning passport. Children who accumulate at least 30 hours across the year are then eligible to 'graduate' from Children's University which occurs onsite at the University of Adelaide! Find out more about the Learning Destinations [here](#). Registrations are now open for 2025 directly with Children's University via this link [2025 CU Membership](#)

Registration Form. Once registered, we ask you to pay the annual fee via the QKR app and the school will make the final registration payment to CU.

The annual fee for 2025 remains the same and is **\$38.50** per member. A Passport is included in a member's **first year only** with any replacement Passport incurring a fee of **\$7.70**. Please note that membership fees for **School Card Holders** will remain at **\$16.50** per member also.

See Gail's message as CU Coordinator, later in this newsletter.

## Staffing News

Graziella Panazzolo has resigned her position as Assistant OSHC Director. Graziella, who has been on leave since late 2023, began with the service in 2022 and contributed significantly to our OSHC service over that time. Graziella, in her time as a parent in our community, was instrumental in our Parents and Friends group, assisting in both coordinating events and in catering for them with her delicious creations. We wish Graziella all the very best for her future endeavours.

## Parking Awareness

Please be mindful of road signs when parking nearby our school. There is a sign out the front of 42 Albemarle Street (opposite our school) that disallows parking unless you are a permit holder. The resident has informed us that she regularly arrives home around 3pm to find that she cannot access her park due to our families parking there.

Also be reminded that Kiss and Drop zones on Albemarle and Bertie Street are not for parking and families should only be using this area if their children are able to enter and

exit the car independently. If the indented area is congested, please drive on and around the block rather than blocking up the roadway by waiting in line. We appreciate your courtesy and patience during those few minutes of high demand time at the beginning and end of the school day.



## Strength Switch Parenting Course

The leadership team, along with our Visible Wellbeing Coordinator, Stephanie Iannotti, look forward to welcoming families at the first session of this course next Wednesday 26 February at 6:30pm. It is not too late to register! Make your booking for this 3 part workshop at this link.

## Advanced notice – Come and Play Day March 22

Once again, we will host a Come and Play Day, particularly for families who may be considering St Joseph's School and Preschool for their child's education. This event will take place on Saturday 22 March between 10:30am and 1:30pm. If you would like to come along



and help to promote our school to the wider community by assisting with activities or refreshment sales, please let me know via email: [mfarrugia@sjs.h.catholic.edu.au](mailto:mfarrugia@sjs.h.catholic.edu.au).



# Come & Play Day

Welcoming new families and community



**Saturday**  
**22nd March**  
10.30am - 1.30pm

**Free Entry • Sausage Sizzle • School Tours • Workshops**

Wishing you all a wonderful fortnight.

**Marianne Farrugia**  
**Principal**

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## Lunar New Year in Preschool

To celebrate Lunar New Year, the Preschool Blue children shared their family traditions and celebrations. We read stories and information books and watched videos of Lion and Dragon dances together.

After watching a video of some children making their own dragon, the children got to work creating their own dragon to display in our class. Children had free reign on what resources they used to create. We had textas, crayons, pencils, feathers, glue, sticky tape, masking tape, paper plates and lavender from the garden.

As the children worked, they spread out along the dragon's body and then a small group branched out to create the face. We saw wonderful collaboration as the children created a dragon to display.



## Chaplaincy at St Joseph's 2025

Chaplaincy will continue at St Joseph's School this year. I am happy to let you know that I will continue in my role, coming to engage with the school community each Tuesday. School Chaplaincy plays a crucial role in supporting the spiritual, emotional, and moral development of students in a faith-based educational environment. My intention is to continue to support families and staff by providing pastoral care, offering a listening ear, spiritual guidance, and care to students, staff, and families.

One of my responsibilities as chaplain, is to support the community in promoting a culture of respect, kindness and service, helping to create a compassionate and supportive environment where we can all grow and find strength and purpose in our daily lives.

It's a privilege for me to build relationships with individual students, small groups, classes, staff and parents. I am respectful of the individuality of all those I get to work with.

Please don't hesitate to come up for a chat when you see me around or contact the school if you would like to meet with me.

Margaret Speechley



**Margaret Speechley**



My name is Gail and I am going to be the Childrens University (CU) coordinator this year for our school. My daughter is in year 4 and participated in CU last year, she gained hours in her CU 'passport to learning' by going to TreeClimb, Bounce, Monarto Zoo, playgrounds, and extra curricular activities including swimming lessons, gymnastics and martial arts. She also learnt about the Antarctic, the Olympics, exotic animals, created claymation, made ice cream, balloon rockets and a whole lot of other super fun activities covering topics such as science, sustainability and space; animals, plants and the outdoors; travel, food and cooking; making and doing; music and movement. There really is something for everyone!!!

Students who achieve 30 hours of extracurricular learning participate in a graduation ceremony at the University of Adelaide to celebrate their achievements. Depending on the number of hours completed they are presented with an undergraduate level award, certificate, diploma or degree.

They even get a gown and mortarboard cap for the occasion!!

If you would like more info, please feel free to contact me:

[gailsmith321@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:gailsmith321@hotmail.co.uk)



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

St Joseph's Catholic School, Hindmarsh, acknowledges that we gather on the Country of the Kaurna People of the Adelaide Region. St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, was passionate about supporting and working alongside Indigenous Australians here in South Australia and across many parts of our country.

As a proud Josephite School, we acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this land on which we learn and play today, the Kaurna People. We pay our respects to Elders, past, present, and emerging, for whom this Land is sacred. We honour the presence of the Ancestors who reside on this Land and whose spirituality flows through all creation.



**St Joseph's School**  
HINDMARSH

Artwork by Pilbara 11

# THE STRENGTH SWITCH PARENTING COURSE

- developed by Professor Lea Waters AM, PhD

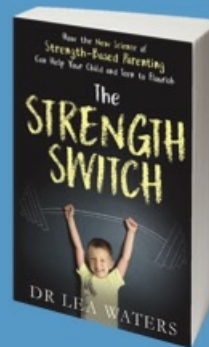
Trained Psychologist, Founder - Visible Wellbeing, Honorary Professorial Fellow - University of Melbourne  
Bestselling author of THE STRENGTH SWITCH

## How can you help your children to thrive by drawing on what's best in them and you?

Based on Professor Lea Waters AM, PhD bestselling parenting book *The Strength Switch*, this course provides you with evidence based strategies to bring strength-based parenting to life. It helps your children to understand themselves and their strengths better, helping them to navigate life's ups and downs.

The research by Dr Waters has linked strength-based parenting to:

- Increased wellbeing and life satisfaction
- Improved grades and academic achievement
- Lower rates of depression and anxiety
- Increased parent satisfaction.



Professor Lea Waters, mother of two and pioneer in the field of positive psychology, designed this course to equip parents with a tool-kit of strategies, as well as the confidence to start practising strength-based parenting at home.

Come together for this three-workshop series, with other parents from our school community and learn how to tap into your strengths to help both you and your children flourish in life.



This Course is proudly presented by  
**St Joseph's School, Hindmarsh**  
Facilitated by  
Courtney Quigley  
Visible Wellbeing, Facilitator and Coach





# THE STRENGTH SWITCH PARENTING COURSE

## Who is the course for?

Parents of kids of all ages - it's never too early or too late to start applying the principles of strength-based parenting.

## What will I come away with?

- Action plans to help you start to change some of your immediate reactions to certain behaviours at home, focusing more on strengths.
- Confidence in applying the concepts you've learnt having had the opportunity to practise them with other parents.
- Fun activities to do with your kids that strengthen family bonds.
- Expertise from your facilitator for those tricky issues.
- An increased awareness of your strengths and how you can use them during both good and tough times.
- A network of other parents who you can share your journey with.

## Dates

**Wednesday, 26th February**

**Wednesday, 5th March**

**Wednesday, 12th March**

## TIME:

**6:30pm – 8:00pm**





# OLSH

OUR LADY OF THE  
SACRED HEART  
COLLEGE



At Our Lady of the Sacred Heart (OLSH) College, girls can be themselves, explore big ideas, and pursue their goals with confidence. Here, they're not just students—they're part of a community that supports them every step of the way.

# OLSH OPEN

Sunday, 16 March



[Q OLSH College](#)

A CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL  
FOR GIRLS IN YEARS 7–12