



# Week 6, Term 4 2024

## Important Dates

Spring Garden Sale  
Monday 25 November 2024

Spring Garden Sale  
Tuesday 26 November 2024

After School Sport  
Medal Presentation  
Tuesday 26 November 2024

Sacrament of  
Reconciliation  
Liturgy (For  
candidates and their  
families)  
Wednesday 27 November  
2024

School Disco  
Thursday 28 November 2024

Christmas  
Celebration  
Assembly Rec - Yr 2  
Tuesday 3 December 2024

Christmas Casual  
Day R - Yr 2  
Tuesday 3 December 2024

Christmas  
Celebration  
Assembly Yr 3 - Yr 6  
Wednesday 4 December  
2024

Christmas Casual  
Day Yr 3 - 6

End of Year Whole  
School Mass

2025 Class  
Transitions Visits

Pre School Blue  
Graduation

## Year 6 Graduation Mass & Dinner

Tuesday 10 December 2024

## Pre School Gold Graduation

Wednesday 11 December 2024

## From the Principal

### Children's University

Congratulations to our students who officially graduated from Children's University last week in the beautiful Bonython Hall at Adelaide University. Erin, Sofia, Zion, Nikolai, Mel, Elliott and Bruk accumulated many hours of learning on their University passports by taking part in visiting 'Learning Destinations' and engaging in volunteer and community activities during the year. Special mention to Bruk who has now engaged in over 130 hours of community learning opportunities.

### STEM MAD National Finals

Congratulations to Amelia, Isabella and Evangeline who, as SA winners, travelled to Brisbane earlier this week to take part in the STEM MAD National Finals. This formidable team of young 'solution finders' showcased their working prototype of the Dysgraphia Dyscalculia Screening Tool. In doing so, they engaged in sophisticated and articulate conversations with a multitude of people from all across Australia, explaining their process, challenges and demonstrating their final product.

I could not be prouder to share that Amelia, Isabella and Evangeline's work was recognised by being awarded the major prize for the category of 'Future is STEM' being the Primary overall winners. I would like to particularly acknowledge Bianca Annese, our inaugural STEM teacher, whose leadership in our STEM program in 2024 and 2025 has provided wonderful opportunities for our students to shine.



## Oval Update

Our oval has recently had some necessary preliminary work done to improve the soil and prepare for significant repair work over the

school holiday break. Whilst the lack of lawn coverage will remain an issue in these final weeks of the term, it is now safe and open for use. We have partnered with Dirtwork who will take full repair and maintenance responsibilities for the coming 12 months now that the original drainage problems have been addressed. During the time of recent closure, our students had the opportunity to engage in organised play activities in the Hall during recess and lunch to provide further space and options. Many thanks to our Year 5/6 leaders who facilitated the activities!

## Staffing Update

We will bid farewell to some of our staff members at the end of this term as they move to different schools and roles. Each have contributed in unique ways to our St Joseph's School community, and we appreciate the wonderful work they have each done during their time here. Leaving us at the end of the year will be:

Seva Maitianos (Leader of RE) who will return to her substantive position at Rosary School

Bianca Annese (STEM and Year  $\frac{3}{4}$  class teacher)

Natasha Marshall (Year  $\frac{1}{2}$  class teacher)

Kyria Laparidis (Preschool teacher 1 day per week)

Meg Fuller (Mid-Year Reception teacher)

Therese Slattery will also be taking some leave in 2025 and will return to us in 2026.

Due to these movements, we have been busily and carefully engaging in recruitment processes and can confirm our 2025 staffing soon.

## Transitions Visits

Over the past few weeks, we have welcomed 15 children into the school for Reception 2025 transition visits. These sessions provide lovely opportunity for these children to get to know the children who will be in their class next year as well as begin to experience a taste of school! We have also been thrilled to welcome 19 children into our Preschool for their transition visits over this time.

## Preschool and School Enrolments

We currently have waiting lists for our 2025 preschool positions so if you have a younger child yet to be enrolled please see Jasmine to begin the process. If you know of families who are considering or intending to come to St Joseph's Preschool or School, please advise them to come in and start the process as soon as possible!

## Reports and 2025 Classes

Teachers are currently finalising end of semester assessments and preparing reports for parents. Students from Year 1 upwards receive an A-E grade for each of the learning areas and all student reports will include a general comment which focuses on the learning achievements for 2024, particularly in Religion, Mathematics and English. Our graduating Preschoolers and Mid Year Reception students will receive a report outlining their social and early learning development. Reports for Reception to Year 6 are distributed on Monday of Week 9.

Also on Monday of Week 9, students will gather with their 2025 classmates and teacher/s for a transition visit. Some of our students may be nervous or anxious about these new beginnings, particularly if they don't find themselves in a class with a best friend or their favourite teacher.

As shared by Madhavi Nawana Parker, Director of Positive Minds Australia, 'As parents, we have the power to set the tone. Our optimism or pessimism is contagious.' Throughout this article, shared on Facebook over recent years, Madhavi shares several ways parents can support their children positively during class transition. Click on Read More below to view the full article.

CLASS PLACEMENTS: Helping children adapt to a new Teacher and peer group.

As the school year draws to a close, a sense of uncertainty is in the air and families are turning their attention to leaving the knowns of one year behind as they head towards the unknowns of the next.

Humans crave certainty. Change often feels unnerving - especially when change and uncertainty relates to your child. If you're worried about your child's class placement, you're not alone.

It's perfectly natural to have a preference for a particular teacher and peer group and normal to feel worried or disappointed if they don't get them.

A child's emotional adjustment to leaving this year's teacher and classmates, while preparing for next year's teacher and classmates can be heavily impacted by your feelings about it.

As parents, we have the power to set the tone. Our optimism or pessimism is contagious.

Here are some ways you can help make the transition smoother for your child if you or they didn't get the news you were hoping for.

1. Listen calmly. Hear out your child's feelings. Let them get it all out and listen quietly. Avoid trying to 'fix' their feelings by adding your own feelings, judgements and solutions. Feelings need to be expressed, processed and moved through constructively.

Children don't have to be immediately excited about their teacher, to learn from that teacher in the long run. The same goes for classmates. They don't have to have existing bonds or common interests to build them in the future. In fact, the more children they get to know with a broad range of personalities, the better for their growing social intelligence.

The feelings you see in that initial moment aren't necessarily reflective of how they will feel long term - especially if you don't react with them.

Humans need time to process change. When news is fresh, we can go through many feelings of resistance and uncertainty. That doesn't mean that what's coming is necessarily bad. You can warmly and gently say something like, 'you really hoped for XYZ and you're disappointed. I understand.' Allow time for them to process your words of support. Don't rush them. Try to avoid talking while their logical brain is still compromised because emotions are still high. Listening calmly and quietly is golden.

2. Support your child to build a connection with their new teacher. A mutually respectful connection with their teacher matters. Notice positive qualities in their teachers and see what your child might have in common with them.

3. Avoid looking uncertain about the placement in front of your child. If they are unsure, they will naturally look to you to help them feel confident and calm. This doesn't mean you have to 'fake' being excited if you're not (they'll see through that) but it does mean you do your best to be cool calm and collected. If you can't be hopeful (yet), try and be neutral. Children tend to use parents as an emotional compass when they experience uncomfortable feelings. If you're struggling, express your feelings with another adult to get things off your chest. Work out what you're worried about. Try and notice as many things that are good about what's ahead.

4. Before you greet them on the day they receive their placement, remind yourself to try and trust the process. There are multiple layers to how class placements are allocated that couldn't possibly be explained completely. School leaders and staff put in huge amounts of thought into student personalities, learning styles, teaching styles, class size, who asked to have who in their class and much more that is happening behind the scenes we're not aware of.

Schools genuinely do their best with this decision. If you're upset, it's possible they are too, but when weighing everything up, had no other direction to turn. Supporting your child's teachers and school is a crucial part of your child's psychological and academic success there.

5. Your reaction to next year's teacher news is hugely important to your child. Your confidence, hopefulness and regulated emotion is crucial. If you're not happy, try and keep these feelings in the back ground and discuss them privately with another adult. Children are too young to take on their parent's worries.

If there is a genuine problem, take logical action, without involving your child in the stress associated with it.

Your child's emotional connection to and respect for their teacher and school is deeply connected with your connection to and respect for their teacher and school.

More things to keep in mind:

Children learn, grow and strengthen in resilience by being with a broad range of personalities and communication styles. When things are unrealistically perfect and easy, they can get stuck in their comfort zone.

To build confidence for later on in life, you need to experience a broad range of peers and situations and discover that through talking

about feelings, asking for help, establishing boundaries and building your social emotional skills, you can handle a lot of what life has in store. Be there to hear their thoughts and feelings out, but above all show you have confidence in your child to get through.

If situations are dangerous, toxic or damaging your child's learning and psychological health, always talk to school staff and if necessary, other experts to ask for, and seek help. Seek out the support of a health professional too if necessary.

On the surface, do your best as your child's most important adult and leader, to show your confidence that your child will be safe and cared for, always.

Do something heartwarming and compassionate for yourself. If you're upset and stressed it's not because you're weak or incapable. It's because our children hold our hearts and when they hurt, we hurt. You need to look after yourself first and foremost.

The advice above is general and based on general child development, resilience and confidence research. It is written with the very best intention, to help you. Without knowing your individual circumstances it's not intended to replace your expertise as a parent or the expertise of educators and health professionals. Always seek tailored expert advice if you feel your child's physical or psychological health is at risk in any way.

Wishing you all the very best with class placement news.

Love, Madhavi Nawana Parker [♥ ]

Wishing you a wonderful week,

Marianne Farrugia

Principal

## From the APRIM

## Mary MacKillop Today

A Heartfelt Thank You – Mary MacKillop Feast Day Fundraiser

We are grateful to celebrate that our Mary MacKillop Feast Day Fundraiser, held last term, was a wonderful success! Thank you to the generosity of our St Joseph's school community, we raised an amazing \$1,549 for Mary MacKillop Today. We have received a special certificate in recognition of this incredible achievement.



A heartfelt thank you to all students, families, and staff who participated, donated, and volunteered. Your support will make a significant difference in the lives of those in need, both in Australia and overseas, through the vital work of Mary MacKillop Today.

This achievement is a beautiful reflection of the compassion and community spirit that Mary MacKillop inspires in us all.

## Christmas Fundraising

This year, we are supporting both the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal and the Moore Street Day Centre Christmas Appeal.

**For St Vincent de Paul, we will be hosting:**

**A Christmas Casual Day (Gold coin donation):**

Rec -Yr 2 on Tuesday 3rd December 2024

Year 3 - 6 Wednesday 4th December 2024

This coincides with our Christmas Celebration Assemblies.

**Our Term 4 Spring Garden Sale:**

We will be hosting our Term 4 Spring Garden Sale next week!

Session times below:

Monday 25th November: 11:00am

Tuesday 26th November: 8.30am, 11.00am, 1.00pm

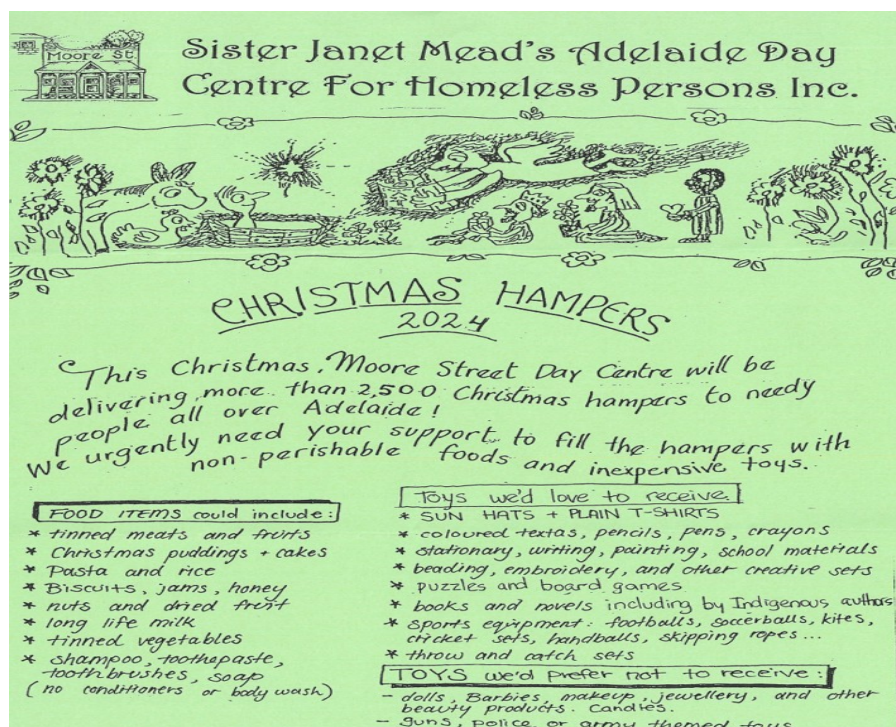
There will be \$1 & \$2 items for sale and all funds raised will go towards St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal.

**For Moore Street Day Centre:**

**Giving Tree:**

To help the Moore Street Day Centre prepare hampers for those in greatest need in our community, we invite you to donate to the Giving Tree.

From Monday, November 25, please place non-perishable food items and toys under the Giving Tree in the front office. For a list of items needed, please refer to the flyer below.



Thank you for your generosity and support!

## Cyber Safety Presentations: Empowering Our Community

Recently, our school had the privilege of welcoming Todd Murfitt, from Cybersafe Families, who delivered two impactful presentations—one for our Year 5/6 students during the school day and another for our families in the evening. The sessions were designed to address the growing importance of digital safety, effective communication, and how we can all work together to protect our children online.

Todd's key message centred on the importance of open communication between parents and children, and how vital it is to stay connected and informed about the digital world our children navigate daily. We believe this message is crucial in empowering families to create safe, supportive online environments.

It was particularly heartening to hear from several families that their children, initiated conversations about their online experiences at

home after the presentation. This shows that Todd's words resonated with our students and started valuable discussions—exactly what we hoped for! It's wonderful to see our students and parents alike taking proactive steps in creating safer online spaces.

A huge thank you to Marianne for her dedication in organising these events and to Catholic School's Parents SA for sponsorship. It was clear that both sessions were well-received, and we are grateful to Todd for his expertise and the positive impact he has had on our school community. [Resources](#) | [Cybersafe Families](#)

A big thank you to our Year 5/6 students who shared some of their valuable insights following the presentations. Your thoughtful reflections are a testament to the impact of these sessions, and we appreciate your engagement in this important conversation.

**Phoenix** – “It was informational about what we should and should not do online. I learnt about what I need to discuss with my parents before I access online sites and apps. Todd told us what to report about when we are contacted online by someone we don't know or inappropriate material.”

**Sadie** – “I found it interesting that Todd used his life and experiences and connected it with our lives. I learnt about threats and online safety.”

**Lotye** – “Todd demonstrated activities and applications that most of us have accessed before.”

**Chelsea** – “Todd made the presentation interactive and interesting to listen to.”

God Bless,

Seva Maitianos

Leader of Religious Education

## STEM

On Wednesday, Lana, Maya, Abel, Nahom, Grace and Olive represented our Year 5/6 students of St Joseph's Hindmarsh at the Makers Empire Naturally Brave Showcase Day. All Year 5/6 students engaged in the program for their STEM learning over the past semester. The program is designed to get students thinking creatively using the Design Thinking Process about how they can help people during a Natural Disaster. Our students created solutions for bushfires, strong winds, earthquakes and floods! We had a very successful day and are very proud of all their achievements.



## Visible Wellbeing – Relationships Year 1/2 Unit

As we approach the end of the year, we have been reflecting on the positive relationships we have formed in Year 1/2. We listened to the story “Have You Filled A Bucket Today?” and created a Praise A Peer Placemat. We wrote positive comments about each person from our class and shared how this activity made us feel about ourselves.




# In All Things Love

At St Joseph's Hindmarsh, learning is co-constructed and dynamic. Learners are encouraged to IMAGINE, DISCOVER and CREATE and to make meaningful connections with their world.

As capable learners they are given opportunities to develop capabilities that build their confidence and skills to engage with the curriculum and ACHIEVE excellence.

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 info@sjsh.catholic.edu.au



# 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.

Artwork by Tjungkiya Wukup  
(Linda Syddick) Napaltjarri



St Joseph's  
School  
HINDMARSH

A festive poster for a Christmas Celebration Assembly. The background is dark red with white snowflakes and musical notes. Three Christmas ornaments (purple, red, and green) hang from the top. The text is white and reads: 'St Joseph's School Christmas Celebration Assembly', '\*Reception - Year 2: Tuesday 3rd December', '\*Year 3 - Year 6: Wednesday 4th December', 'SCHOOL HALL @ 9am', and 'Friends & Family WELCOME!'.

St Joseph's School  
Christmas Celebration Assembly  
\*Reception - Year 2: Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December  
\*Year 3 - Year 6: Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December  
SCHOOL HALL @ 9am  
Friends & Family WELCOME!



School  
**DISCO**  
*St Joseph's School Hindmarsh*

**\$5 per child via QKR**  
**Dress in your brightest party clothes**

**Thursday, November 28 2024**  
**In the school hall**

**R-2 6:15 pm - 7:15 pm**

**3-6 7:30 pm - 8:45 pm**

# Del Sante Gardens Calisthenics College

We're looking for future stars aged 11-13 to  
join our Junior team!



Come & try calisthenics at DSG and receive  
2 lessons **FREE!**

**When?** Wednesdays 5:15pm-7:00pm

**Where?** Flinders Park Primary School



0419 268 322



delsanteseecretary@gmail.com



Advent Retreat "Let Every Heart Prepare Him Room"

Saturday 30th November 9:15am - 4pm

At Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church 420 Seaview Road Henley Beach.

The day will include

Talks given by Fr Manu Kumbidiyamackal MSFS Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Reflection Reconciliation Benediction Please bring your own lunch tea/coffee provided. Enquiries and bookings phone Pauline 0403002240 by 27th November. Cost by cash donation. All Welcome



MARY  
MACKILLOP  
*today*

**"We must teach more by example  
than by word."**

*Mary MacKillop 1867*

# LEARNING Through MUSIC



**ENROL NOW  
FOR 2025!**

Join our school instrumental  
music lessons for 2025!

Contact us to find out what  
instruments are available to learn

Lessons are held at school once a week

Instrument hire is available

Email us for lesson prices or an enrolment form



Contact LTMusic for more information  
or to complete an enrolment form:  
[info@LTMusic.com.au](mailto:info@LTMusic.com.au)  
[www.LTMusic.com.au](http://www.LTMusic.com.au)

<http://www.ltmusic.com.au>

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