



Week 11, Term 1, 2024

Important Dates

ANZAC DAY

Thursday 25 April 2024

First Day Term 2

Monday 29 April 2024

Mission Australia NDIS session for caregivers

Wednesday 8 May 2024

Start of Catholic Education Week

Monday 13 May 2024

Twilight Carnival

Monday 13 May 2024

Catholic Schools Combined Day at StFoAC

Wednesday 15 May 2024

Catholic Education Awards

Thursday 16 May 2024

Grandparents and Special Friend Open Day

Friday 17 May 2024

Year 6 Immersion Day at StFoAC

Tuesday 21 May 2024

P&F 70's Quiz Night

Saturday 25 May 2024

Student Free Day

Friday 7 June 2024

King's Birthday Public Holiday

Monday 10 June 2024

Student Reports Home

Friday 28 June 2024

We acknowledge that we meet today on Meru Country, and recognise the Ngawait people as the Traditional Custodians of this land. We recognise their continuing connection to the earth and waters, and thank them for protecting this land and its ecosystems since time immemorial. We pay our respects to Elders past, present, and emerging and extend that respect to all First Nation peoples present here today.



Recent News

Catholic Identity and Mission



Jesus was a morning person.

I too love mornings. I will happily wake up with my alarm and bounce straight out of bed, picking up unfinished conversations with my husband from the night before and thinking through the day ahead. Mistakes have not yet been made, ideas have yet to be tested, and nobody quite knows exactly how the day will pan out. It's exciting if we allow it to be.

The Bible is full of references to the morning, using this tangible, everyday occurrence to illustrate the refreshment and renewal that Christians believe is on offer through the presence of God. The book of Lamentations reminds readers that, "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning".

Mornings, especially early ones, buzz with potential. Perhaps this is why Jesus embraced them, too. Luke's gospel tells us that Jesus

would preach in the temple “early in the morning”. Mark’s gospel similarly reports that Jesus would get up “very early in the morning, while it was still dark”, to pray. And, perhaps most significant of all, the resurrection of Jesus was discovered “at dawn on the first day of the week” (Matthew 28:1).

Easter Sunday is a time when Christians remember that the extraordinary, history–shaping resurrection of Jesus means a fresh start. A new day, filled with space for forgiveness, celebration, and hope. The resurrection is the sign to all who wish to see it that death – in all its pain – is not the end, and that another reality is possible. As is often the case in life, this idea is perfectly summed up by the inimitable Nina Simone: “*It’s a new dawn, it’s a new day, it’s a new life for me; and I’m feeling good*”.

From the Principal



As we close a term of learning, growth, and achievements, I am filled with pride and gratitude for the incredible journey we have shared together. Over the past 11 weeks, our students have embraced every opportunity to grow academically, socially, physically, and spiritually, embodying the values of *Kindness, Safety and Learning* that define our school community.

This term has been especially meaningful as we begin the celebrations for our school's 70th birthday. This milestone not only marks the passage of time but also celebrates the enduring legacy of excellence in education that has been a hallmark of St Joseph's School Barmera. As we honour our past and look to the future, we are reminded of the countless lives that have been touched and transformed by our school community.

I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge our littlest learners, who have completed their first 11 weeks of formal schooling. This is a significant milestone in their young lives, and we are incredibly proud of each one of them. Their enthusiasm, curiosity, and resilience serve as an inspiration to us all, and we look forward to watching them continue to grow and thrive in the years ahead.

As we prepare to break for the term, I want to thank every member of our school community for your unwavering support and commitment. It is through your dedication and hard work that we can create a nurturing and inclusive environment where every student can reach their full potential.

Staffing

We are excited to welcome Ms Louise Latz as the new Year 5/6 teacher to St Joseph's School Barmera, replacing Mrs Gropler who will be taking maternity leave from Week 3 in Term 2. Louise brings with her a wealth of experience and a diverse skill set that will enrich the learning experience of our students. With her specialisation in Health and Physical Education, Visual Arts, Chinese Mandarin, and Technologies, as well as her valuable experiences in Special Education settings, we are confident that Louise will make a significant contribution to our school community. Her most recent appointment at Kangaroo Island Community Education has further honed her abilities and we are excited to have her join us. Please join me in welcoming Louise to our school community.

Our bus driver Marilyn Brock is taking leave during term 2. Mr Alex Garoufalis will be driving the Berri bus in the mornings and afternoons. The process of contacting the bus driver with any changes remains the same. We welcome Marilyn back in term 3.

Uniform

We are thrilled to announce the arrival of St Joseph's School Barmera's new school uniform! After much anticipation, the dress is the last item awaiting formal approval. The students have had a sneak peek at the new uniform, and the reactions have been overwhelmingly positive.

To ensure that everyone has a chance to get their hands on the new uniform, information about pre-ordering will be sent out to families in week 1 of the holidays. This will give you the opportunity to secure your child's uniform and be ready for the start of the new term.

On behalf of St Joseph's School Barmera, we extend our heartfelt thanks to the uniform committee for their hard work and dedication over the last 18 months in bringing our new school uniform to life. Each member has played a crucial role in this process, ensuring that the uniform equals the demands of contemporary education with the intention to develop an inclusive uniform that accounts for diversity.

Special thanks to:

- Tracey Ivanovic
- Jade Wardle
- Jaylee Gropler
- Kylie White
- Tahnee Bannister
- Amey Thomas

Your commitment and efforts are truly appreciated, and we are grateful for the time and energy you have invested in this project. Thank you for helping to make our school community even stronger.

Positive Behaviour Interventions and Supports (PBIS)

This year we are introducing a behaviour education and support program at our school called Positive Behavioural Interventions & Support (PBIS). PBIS is a way to teach all students positive behaviour and encourage them to use it. It will contribute to the positive, safe and supportive learning culture at our school and enhance our existing wellbeing and behaviour supports. This approach aims to help all students feel valued, connected to the school community, and achieve better academic results, with staff and students having more time to focus on relationships and classroom learning.

Our staff are being trained and supported through Catholic Education SA as we implement this new program. We invite you to watch the video attached in this newsletter to learn more about PBIS and its benefits. More information will be shared as we progress through the roll out. Contact Lisa Rayner if you have any questions.

ANZAC Day

Every year St Joseph's School Barmera participates in the ANZAC Day dawn service at the Barmera Garden of Memory on ANZAC Day, April 25th, at 6:00 am. This solemn occasion provides us with an opportunity to pay our respects to the men and women who have served and sacrificed for our country.

Students are invited to join our school captains in laying a wreath during the service. This is a meaningful way for them to show their appreciation and gratitude for the sacrifices made by our servicemen and women.

Further information about the ANZAC Day dawn service, including details about how to participate, will be sent home via Seesaw during week 2 of the holidays. We encourage all families to consider attending this important event and to involve your children in this significant act of remembrance.

Lest we forget.

Safe Holidays

As I close this last edition of our school newsletter for term 1, I want to extend a warm farewell and best wishes to all our families, staff, and students as we head into the break. I hope this holiday period provides you with the opportunity to relax, rejuvenate, and create lasting memories with loved ones.

We are eagerly anticipating the start of the new term on Monday, April 29th, and look forward to welcoming everyone back. The upcoming term promises to be filled with new and exciting learning opportunities, as our dedicated staff continue to innovate and inspire our students.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to our school community for your ongoing support and commitment. Your involvement is truly valued, and we are fortunate to have such a strong and supportive community surrounding us.

Wishing you all a safe and enjoyable break, and looking forward to seeing you back at school, ready to embrace the challenges and triumphs of the new term ahead.

Nanda de Winter

Principal

CAREGIVER CORNER

Bullying

What is bullying?

Bullying is when someone repeatedly takes their aggression out on someone else in a way that hurts the other person, and the person being hurt feels like they have no way to stop it. This is more than just conflict or mean actions, because one person is dominating the other.

What causes bullying?

Bullying is a result of pain that we don't know how to process, that gets dumped onto other people. We live in a world that normalises blaming other people for the way we are feeling - we snap at our partner because we didn't get enough sleep, or we honk aggressively at a car that cuts in front of us because we're stressed that we're late. When actions like these become a pattern between people and one person has more power than the other it creates a bullying dynamic.

How can we stop bullying?

When we as adults see bullying happening, our first instinct is usually to protect the victim and punish the bully – this is a natural human response when we see this kind of domination and power imbalance. The difficulty with this approach is that we are reinforcing these two roles of bully and victim, and this actually promotes a continuation of the power imbalance. Being stuck in these roles of victim and bully is what causes the worst outcomes for kids. The first thing that helps shift these dynamics is to understand that both the child who is bullying and the one who is being bullied are in pain. One has learned to dump their pain onto others, and the other has learned to take on the pain of others. We can shift the power imbalance between these two by treating them as equals. Start by separating all parties involved and allowing them to calm down. Then have a conversation with each of them separately, showing them you care about them and see their pain, and encouraging them each to find their power to change the situation. Below is a script you can use as a guide in these conversations.

Tips for helping your child cope with bullying

1. SCRIPTED RESPONSE: WITH THE CHILD WHO BULLIES

Ask about feeling: "I saw you said something unkind. I know you're a caring person so I wonder what you were feeling that made you act that way?"

Validate feeling: "I understand how frustrating that can be!"

Encourage accountability: "It's not OK to treat others that way. What could you change next time, and how can you repair it? I believe in your ability to do things differently!"

Set boundary: "You know what the rule is when we hurt each other, so let's do that now."

2. SCRIPTED RESPONSE: WITH THE CHILD WHO IS BULLIED

Ask about feeling: "What were you feeling when they said that to you?"

Validate feeling: "I'm so sorry you feel that way and that you had to go through this! It's not your fault – people only treat us badly when they are in pain themselves and it has nothing to do with you!"

Encourage accountability: "What's one thing you can do to take care of your feelings or help yourself in this situation?" (Eg. Ignoring them, walking away, asking them to stop, finding other friends, remembering it's not my fault, or thinking about the people that care about me).

COME DOWN FOR A WALK,
RIDE OR RUN WITH FRIENDS
AND FAMILIES

ZOE'S BLOODY

LONG WALK

SUNDAY 28TH APRIL, 2024

**START AT 9:00 AM | BARMERA CLUB FOR LOOP
AROUND LAKE 20KM**

**START AT 10:30 AM | BARMERA CLUB FOR 2KM OR
6KM ROUTE**

On behalf of the school community, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you for your incredible support in our fundraising efforts for the Mito Foundation and Zoe's Bloody Long Walk. Your generosity and enthusiasm have been truly inspiring, and we are thrilled to announce that we have surpassed our fundraising goal thanks to your contributions.

Your support will make a real difference in the lives of those affected by mitochondrial disease (mito), and we are proud to have been able to contribute to this important cause. It is through the kindness and generosity of our school community that we are able to make a positive impact on the world around us.

Sonya Scadden

Curriculum ESO

Easter Liturgy



We are happy because Jesus has risen!
Teachers acted out the gospel of the empty tomb during the Easter Liturgy.

Disco

What a night to remember! Our school's 70th birthday celebration kicked off in style with a fabulous 70's Disco evening, all thanks to the incredible efforts of our P&F!

Special thanks to DJ Sarez for getting the party started and keeping it going with the grooviest tunes! A huge shoutout to Miss Rachael for the fabulous face painting that added an extra touch of fun to the night! Our students (and staff!) had an absolute ball! Let's keep the birthday spirit alive as we continue to celebrate this milestone year!







Holiday Guide

Berri Barmera
COUNCIL

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

School Holiday Guide

APRIL 2024

Scan the QR code to get your digital copy today!

Let your Light Shine Award

Let Your Light Shine

This year as our schools diocesan theme is: 'Let Your Light Shine' and we are introducing an End of Term Assembly Award to acknowledge the people in our community that 'Let their Light Shine'

At the end of each term this award will be given to someone in the school community or the wider community that has done something special, extraordinary or just showing us all their 'Light'.

This award is open for teachers, parents, staff and students. If you see someone in our Community showing their 'Light' in some positive way please come into the front office and add their name to the 'Let Your Light Shine' voting box.

The voting will be open for the last few weeks of each term, votes tallied and the person receiving the most votes will receive the award.

The voting slips will be next to the box, you will need to provide a name and also the reason why you have chosen this person for the 'Let Your Light Shine' award.

Thank you.



Zoe's Bloody Long Walk

COME DOWN FOR A WALK,
RIDE OR RUN WITH FRIENDS
AND FAMILIES

ZOE'S BLOODY LONG WALK

SUNDAY 28TH APRIL, 2024

START AT 9:00 AM | BARMERA CLUB FOR LOOP
AROUND LAKE 20KM
START AT 10:30 AM | BARMERA CLUB FOR 2KM OR
6KM ROUTE

TICKETS : \$ 10
PER PERSON

REGISTRATION TO BE DONE AT BARMERA CLUB



Happy Healthy Kids

LIVE ONLINE WORKSHOPS

BOTH OUR **EDUCATOR & PARENT** WORKSHOPS
WILL BE RUN **LIVE ONLINE** IN TERMS 2, 3 & 4

JOIN FROM ANYWHERE IN AUSTRALIA!

TERM 2 DATES

Educator workshop: Wednesday 22nd Thursday 23rd
& Friday 24th May 9am - 10.45am

Parent workshop: Thursday 6th & 13th June 7-8.30pm

Secure your spot via our website www.happyhealthykids.net.au

Please visit our website to ensure this workshop is right for you

**100% of participants would recommend our workshop to other
parents and educators!**

