



Important Dates

MITIIOG week 3
and 4

Monday 28 October 2024

R-2 Excursion to
Martins Bend

Thursday 31 October 2024

Year 6 Pottery
Session

Monday 4 November 2024

Canberra Camp
Week 5

Sunday 10 November 2024

Remembrance Day

Monday 11 November 2024

Questacon Visit
SJSB

Tuesday 12 November 2024

Year 3/4 Roonka
Camp 27th - 29th
NOV

Wednesday 27 November
2024

SFOAC Year 6
Transition

Thursday 28 November 2024

SFOAC Year 6
Transition

Friday 29 November 2024

Carols Night @
5.30pm

Monday 2 December 2024

Reports Home

Friday 6 December 2024

Splash Day @ Berri
Pool

Tuesday 10 December 2024

Graduation @
6.30pm

Wednesday 11 December
2024

Year 6 Big Day Out

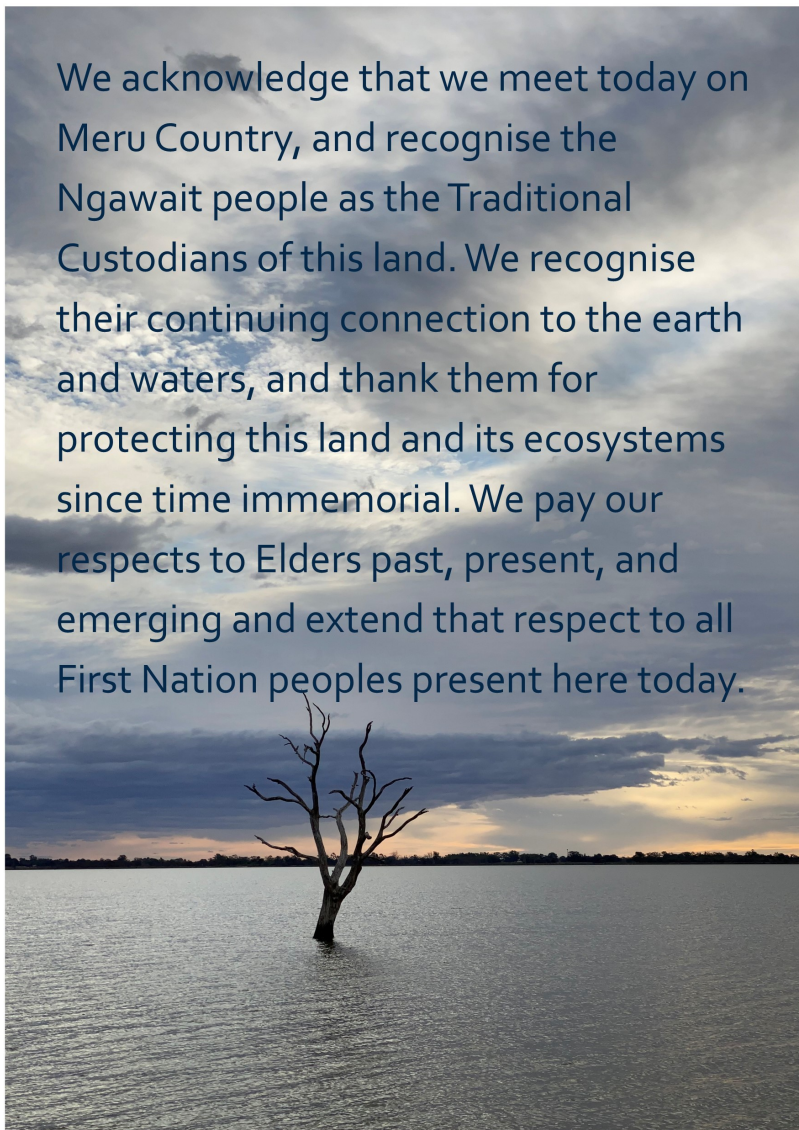
Thursday 12 December 2024

Last Day Term 4,
Assembly @
11.30am, Dismissal
@ 12.30pm

Friday 13 December 2024

Acknowledgement of Country

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.



Religious Identity and Mission



But I have calmed and quieted myself, I am like a weaned child with its mother; like a weaned child I am content. - Psalm 131:2

Connectedness is nowhere as strong as between a mother and child in the womb. And nowhere is the process of letting go as tangible as when cutting the umbilical cord. For nine months mother and child are one. For nine months mother and child are inextricably linked. And then, after the painful process of labour, the final separation follows. It is at this point that the drastic task of letting go begins, a task that lasts a lifetime.

Letting go is a skill that we learn as parents by doing it, but in which we never become fully accomplished. Every time I think I have mastered letting go, the textbook is expanded with yet another chapter; The first day of kindy, the first day of school, the first sleepover, the first time alone on camp, the first party....

The bible story of Moses and his mum Jochebed also speaks of letting go. Jochebed's child Moses was not allowed to exist in Egypt according to the rules of the ruling power. So Jochebed hides Moses, for three months, until hiding him becomes impossible. Jochebed then comes up with a plan that, through the eyes of a mother, seems accompanied with great uncertainties, yet through the eyes of faith speaks of great confidence. Jochebed hides her son in a wicker basket between the reeds on the banks of the river Nile. That same river where countless other Hebrew boys had come to an early end. That is letting go....

Centuries later we again, meet a young woman who has a son. This boy, too, is not wanted by the ruling power in his native country. His parents flee with him to Egypt, of all places. If the situation seems safe, they return and go to Nazareth as a young family. But in the years that follow the boy's mother, Mary, must learn, by trial and error to let go of her son Jesus.

The bible tells us many stories of women who had to learn to let go. Letting go of children, husbands, dreams and certainties. What happened to these women in the bible, still happens to women in some way every day.

God encourages us to let go. And as we, often with a heavy and fearful heart, let go of our children on their first day of school or their first school camp we are asked to put our trust in the hands of God. By trusting God, you are able, through the pain and worries, to create a space for growth; your own growth and the growth of your child.

Letting go means being less scared and having faith that all will be well.

Cast all your anxiety on Him because he cares for you. - Peter 5:7

From the Principal



Welcome to Term 4! As we enter this final term of the year, there is much to look forward to, from special events and celebrations to exciting learning experiences and camps. Term 4 is always a wonderful time to reflect on how far your children have come, and it's also a chance to finish the year on a high note together. Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community.

Celebrating teachers

Last week we celebrated World Teachers' Day is a special occasion to reflect on the remarkable work our teachers do each day. By celebrating their dedication and expressing our gratitude, we help foster a supportive and encouraging environment that allows teachers to thrive and continue making a lasting difference in our children's lives. A big thank you to our Parents & Friends for providing delicious cakes to help make the day even more special.

Musical

Our whole-school musical, *Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies*, was a fantastic success! It was heartwarming to see families come together to enjoy this incredible performance at the Bonney Theatre. This event is a true celebration of our school community, with students and staff—from the youngest to the oldest—working and performing side by side. A huge thank you to Ms Chloe Petty for her dedication and talent in directing the musical, ensuring each student and staff member felt included and confident on stage.

All Saints and All Souls Day

As November begins, we mark two significant days: All Saints' Day on November 1st, and All Souls' Day on November 2nd. On All Saints' Day, we honour all saints—canonised or not, known and unknown. This day is a beautiful reminder that there are many paths to sainthood, and that each of us is called to holiness in our own way. Celebrating by reading stories of the saints and praying to them can inspire us to follow their example of faith and dedication.

All Souls' Day is a time to honour and remember our loved ones who have passed away. We pray for their souls and ask them to intercede for us, reinforcing the eternal connection we share with them.

Interestingly, the popular celebration of Halloween, increasingly embraced in Australia, has roots in this tradition. The term 'Halloween' comes from the old English word 'hallow,' meaning 'holy' or 'blessed,' and was originally referred to as 'All Hallows' Eve'—the day before All Saints' Day. The saints and souls who have gone before us responded to the call of their time with imagination, courage, and

creativity, reflecting God's love so powerfully that others experienced God's presence through them.

Social Media Summit

Over the holiday break, I had the opportunity to attend the social media Summit in Adelaide, where experts gathered to discuss the impacts of social media on young minds. One of the key speakers, Jonathan Haidt, shared insights from his book *The Anxious Generation*, highlighting the growing evidence that early exposure to social media can significantly impact mental health, leading to increased anxiety and feelings of isolation in young children. Haidt emphasised that the best approach is to delay social media use for as long as possible, giving children time to develop social and emotional resilience. Here at St Joseph's, we recognise our shared responsibility to promote safe online practices and encourage families to consider the long-term benefits of keeping young children off social platforms. Working together, we can create an environment that priorities their well-being both online and offline.

Staffing Announcements

As we approach the end of 2024, we prepare to say farewell to Ms Louise Latz, who will be leaving our school community to continue her travels, heading to New South Wales over the Christmas break. We are deeply grateful for Louise's valuable contributions, and we look forward to formally thanking her as the year draws to a close.

Looking ahead to 2025, we are excited to welcome back Mrs Cobie Walters and Mrs Jaylee Gropler, along with Ms Chiara Brown, Ms Chloe Petty, and Mrs Natalie Westley as permanent staff members. Ms Melanie Steel will also return as our Leader of Learning in 2025.

While our class structures will remain the same, next year we will be implementing some exciting new learning structures designed to strengthen support networks for all students. These changes will allow us to provide targeted programming for both intervention and extension, ensuring each student has the resources to thrive. More information will be shared with families soon.

Camps

Our upcoming camps offer incredible opportunities for our students in Year 5/6, who will be heading to Canberra, and Year 3/4, who will venture to Roonka. School camps are not only about adventure—they're an invaluable part of learning that builds resilience, independence, and teamwork. In Canberra, our Year 5/6 students will dive into history, civics, and government, while at Roonka, our Year 3/4 students will enjoy hands-on outdoor experiences that foster problem-solving and collaboration. We understand the mixed emotions parents feel about letting go, as this can be a big step! But the life-long benefits—new friendships, confidence, and skills in independence—will serve them well beyond the classroom. Thank you for supporting these enriching experiences that will help our students grow in ways only possible outside of their usual surroundings.

Rose Festival

Our Year 1/2 class, with the help of Mrs Scadden, created an entry for the 'Create a Garden' primary school art competition as part of the Rose Festival. Congratulations to the Year 1/2 class, who took out first place. Another big congratulations to Breanna for winning first place for her age group in the individual competition. Amazing work from everyone!



Our Lady of the River Parish

Youth and Family Ministry Team present:

FAITH feed FUN

Join us for a youth gathering and sharing of being grateful

Supplied shared meal with a drink

Watch a movie on the outdoor screen with a bag of popcorn

on: Sunday 17th November at 3.30 pm

suitable for students from Year 4 to Year 10

at: St Joseph's School, 8 Joyce Street Barmera

for: movie afternoon on the outdoor screen.

Optional: followed by Sunday mass at St Francis Xavier's in Barmera beginning at 6.00 pm.

bring: water bottle and a bean bag/cushions (for movie)

This is a OLOR Youth and Family event - All Families invited to join in the fun.

RSVP: Wednesday 13th November to the following parish representative (listed below) to help with catering.

Barmera Louise Stavrou 0417 827 634

Loxton Carina Nicholson 0418 841 693

Renmark Sheridan Bonney 8595 4500

The attached photo permission / child safety form (next page) will need to be filled out and signed by parents/guardians for each participant to attend this event.

Permission forms for the Faith, Feed, Fun will be available at the front office. Please come and see Erin or Tricia for these if you wish to attend.

R/1 Windows of Creation

Year R/1 made 'Windows of Creation' where they foraged for items in creation without taking from trees or plants. Whatever they didn't use was returned to the land.



Fishing at Lake Bonney



School Musical



Socktober - Catholic Missions Australia





CHRISTMAS HAMPERS 2024

IT'S TIME TO PLACE YOUR CHRISTMAS HAMPER ORDER WITH FOODBANK!

TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS HAMPER \$50

Dark Fruit Cake - 700g
Fruit pudding - 400g
Plumrose canned leg ham - 450g
UHT Milk - 1 Litre
Tuna Safcol - 425g
Sweet biscuits/snack - x 1
Custard powder - 350g
Jelly cups - 6 pack
Pretzels - 350g
Confectionery - 190g
Pasta - 500g
Simmer/pasta sauce - x 2
Diced fruit - 4 pack
Canned vegetables - 420g x 2
Rice - 1kg
Instant mash potato - 350g
Teabags - 100 pack
Vegemite - 150g
Cereal - 1kg
Instant noodles - 5 pack
PLUS A SURPRISE!

FESTIVE TREAT PACK \$38

Dark Fruit Cake - 700g
Fruit pudding - 400g
Fruit Mince Pies - 6 pack
UHT Custard - 1 Litre
Plumrose canned leg ham - 450g
Sweet snack - x 1
Savoury snack - x 1
Jelly cups - 6 pack
Pretzels - 350g
Drink - x 1
Confectionery - 190g x 2
Diced fruit - 4 pack
PLUS A SURPRISE!



For information on how to order Call 8351 1136 or email hampers@foodbanksa.org.au

PLEASE NOTE:

Deadline for orders: FRIDAY 15TH NOV 2024. (While stocks last)

Payment required prior to pickup or delivery.

Hampers available: FROM MONDAY 4TH NOV 2024.

Final pickup day: TUESDAY 17TH DECEMBER 2024 - at Midday.

December and January • Ages 3 – 12 years • Beach, lake, river and pool locations



VACSWIM



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ME!



SUMMER STARTS WITH WATER SAFETY

LEARN LIFESAVING SKILLS
WITH THE EXPERTS



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SATURDAYS ARE FOR THE GIRLS



PLAY

RIVERLAND ALL-GIRLS HUB

Saturday 19 October - 23 November

U13 & U16 ROOKIES

Play for fitness, friendship, and fun!
Whether you're new to footy or a few years in,
Rookie Girls is designed with teens in mind.

Register now!

\$30



U13

Born 2012-2013

U16

Born 2009-2011



For more information, contact Kayla Mudge

E: kayla.mudge@sanfl.com.au

P: 0429 626 885

SATURDAYS ARE FOR THE GIRLS



PLAY

RIVERLAND ALL GIRLS HUB AUSKICK & SUPERKICK

Saturday 19 Oct - 23 Nov, 10:30 - 11:30am



\$50



5-7 year olds

REGISTER NOW!



Come find your awesome at NAB AFL Auskick. An introductory program to Australian rules football, teaching skills through fun activities and mini games.



8-10 year olds

REGISTER NOW!



Level up your footy with skills and modified match play in weekly sessions. NAB AFL Superkick is tackle-free and great for Auskick grads and newbies alike.



\$55

Discount code available

For more information, contact Kayla Mudge

E: kayla.mudge@sanfl.com.au

P: 0429 626 885

Get up to \$500 for education costs

Achieve a savings goal for 10 months,
and **ANZ will match it up to \$500.**

To be eligible, you need to meet these requirements:



18 years
or older



A regular
income
(you or your
partner)



Attend
free online
financial
education
workshops



Are studying
yourself or
have a child
at school, or
starting next
year



Current
**Health Care
or Pensioner
Concession
Card**

Saverplus.org.au

1300 610 355



Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is delivered in partnership with The Smith Family and Berry Street.
It is funded by ANZ and Department of Social Services.

The Haven RIVERLAND

Women's Information Service




VOLUNTEERS WANTED

The Women's Information Service (WIS) is looking for volunteers like you to assist at the Haven in Berri.

- ✓ Empower local women with information
- ✓ Give back to the community
- ✓ Training 4th, 6th, 11th, & 13th November

Sign up




 The Haven, 2 Ahern St, Berri

 wis@sa.gov.au

 wis.sa.gov.au

 WIS City: 8303 0590

 Haven: 0409 461 727



Government of South Australia
Office for Women

