

Newsletter | Term 4 | Week 8 | 29 November 2023

From the Principal

God, give us grace to accept with serenity the things that cannot be changed,
Courage to change the things which should be changed,
and the Wisdom to distinguish the one from the other.
Living one day at a time, enjoying one moment at a time,
Accepting hardship as a pathway to peace,
Taking, as Jesus did, this sinful world as it is,
Not as I would have it,
Trusting that You will make all things right,
If I surrender to Your will,
So that I may be reasonably happy in this life,
And supremely happy with You forever in the next. Amen.

It seems a little surreal that this is my final newsletter.

As I write this, I am beginning to reflect not just on my time here at Sacred Heart but my time in the six other schools in which I have worked. Each school has had its own unique culture and environment and has left me with amazing memories.

From my beginnings in Busselton to some 40 years later finishing in Mundaring, every school has brought its joys and challenges. The core reason for there being a school is the children and it has truly been a privilege and a blessing to have had the chance to work with all of the children in each of the schools whether as the Principal or as a class teacher. It has been the children who have always kept me grounded and given me the boost to keep doing what I do.

Over the year I have been asked many times about my plans for the future. My planning is simple, I am going take the time to enjoy each day and importantly to take more time doing the things with my family that bring the most happiness.

I have always had a belief that I was supposed to be in a place at a given time. Many years ago, I was given a short reflection that has sustained me, especially when things have been difficult.

Do not think that what you have to contribute is insignificant.

For without you there can be no completion.

As the stars in heaven are in their appointed places

So you are in your appointed place.

For the opportunities that I have been afforded I am very grateful as many of these experiences have formed the person that I am today.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank all members of the Sacred Heart community; from the families of the school to the staff I have worked with and members of the wider parish community and especially the students. I thank each of you for the way that my life has been enriched by our dealings over the past 10 years. I wish you all every blessing for the future and hope that 2024 holds everything that you would like it to.

I would also like to wish Mr Mark Tenney all the best as he begins his Principalship of Sacred Heart next year.

ADVENT 2024



December 3 is the first Sunday of Advent. Advent is a season of preparation and waiting — preparing for the birth of Jesus. We wait for many things in our daily lives and as time gets busy in the lead up to Christmas I encourage you to use those periods of waiting to consider where Jesus is in our lives. So whether you are waiting at the checkout, traffic lights or for the kettle to boil, use this time to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas.

We acknowledged this important liturgical with an Advent Liturgy at Assembly this morning. Led by the youngest students in our school and supported by our Pre-Primary class. Their nativity story was amazing and the Kindy studnets carried out their roles like professionals. Congratulations to our Kindy class and to Mrs De Mol and Mrs Parsons for their preparation. Thank you to Mrs Elmore and Mrs Pruyn and the Pre-Primary for adding to the singing.

Our Year 6 students led us in the prayer liturgy to begin Advent. Thank you to Mr Fyfe and the students for the message and the reminder that the true meaning of Christmas is about the birth of Christ. During the next week Advent will be a focus for classes to support children in their understanding of the importance of Christmas.



ST VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL



One important way we can prepare for Christmas is by thinking of others in our community who need our assistance. Thank you to those who have donated gifts and hamper items for the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal. We have had a tremendous response and these items of food and presents will go a long way to help those families who make Christmas a celebration for those families in need.

There is still time to contribute. As donations will be collected by St Vincent de Paul next week, we require gifts/hamper items to be sent in no later than this **Friday, 1 December**. We appreciate your continued support of such a worthy cause.

YEAR 5 & 6 CAMP

Last week our Year 5 and 6 classes went on their school camp to Fairbridge in Pinjarra. Thank you to Mr Fyfe, Mrs Duncan and Mrs Mason for their work and for giving up their time to be at camp to supervise the children. I know that they had a great time and participated well in all the activities provided. Please see the write up and photos below about camp.

YEAR 6 LEAVERS

Wednesday 6 December is our Year 6 Leavers celebration assembly and morning tea. The assembly will start at 9.00am in the undercover area and will be followed by a morning tea for our Year 6 students and families.

Our whole school community is welcome to come along to acknowledge and celebrate our leaving class of 2023.

REPORTS – SEQTA Login

Teachers have been busy writing reports over the past few weeks. These will be released on SEQTA on **Thursday, 7 December after lunch**. I would like to remind all families to ensure you have logged into SEQTA **prior** to the last week to double check that you have access to the parent portal. The SEQTA log in page can be found on the school website or via the link SEQTA

Please contact the office via email admin@sacredheartps.wa.edu.au if you are experiencing any difficulty logging in.

2024 BOOKLISTS

A reminder school booklist orders must be completed online with Campion Education by **Friday 15 December 2023.** Orders placed on time will be dispatched for \$5.00. Orders placed past this date will incur a fee of up to \$8.00 and delivery prior to school commencing will not be guaranteed.

Booklists for 2024 are also available on the school website.

ABSENTEES

A friendly reminder that the school requires a signed note for any student absences. Please ensure all absentee notes that come home with students are completed and returned prior to the end of term. Spare notes are available at the office if required.

TONIGHT SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL AND P&F ANNUAL COMMUNITY MEETING

The annual ACM for both the School Advisory Council and the P&F is on tonight at 6pm in the library. All are welcome.

At the end of each year some positions become available on both the School Advisory Council and the Parents and Friends Executive. Parents are welcome to nominate for a position on either of these parent bodies in 2024.

I encourage parents to consider nominating for a role on either the Advisory Council or the P&F.

God bless.

George Firns

Important Dates

Wednesday 29 November ACM – P&F and School Advisory Council, 6.00pm in the Library

Friday 1 December P&F COLOUR RUN

Wednesday 6 December YEAR 6 LEAVING CEREMONY, 9am in the Undercover Area

SCHOOL THANKSGIVING MASS & FAREWELL TO GEORGE FIRNS, 5.30pm in the

Undercover Area

Friday 8 December LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS!



On Wednesday 22nd November the Year 5 & 6 classes set off on the bus to Fairbridge Camp just out of Pinjarra!

Once they arrived, they immediately settled into their dorms and made themselves at home for the next few days.

Shortly after arriving and for the following three days, the children participated to their best ability in a range of challenging activities such as high ropes course, abseiling, rock climbing giant swing, archery and bike riding. The children were also immersed in parts of the history of Fairbridge and visited the museum, the church and some of the original buildings that were once used.

At the end of each day, we all thoroughly enjoyed the special treat of using their pool for some much-needed time to refresh and cool off!

The children were extremely happy and appreciative of all the yummy meals that were served. The desserts, bacon and hashbrowns were a winner for sure.

Highlights include one of the instructors, George, who was an amazing influence and facilitated many activities including spotlight at night.

Overall it was an outstanding time away to bond and consolidate friendships as the Year 6's leave on to high school and allow our Year 5's to become the new leaders of our school.

A Note from Our Social Worker

May I wish for students, parents/carers and families of our Sacred Heart Community some peaceful space and time. As the term comes to a close and Christmas approaches, may those who are able, enjoy the company of loved ones with some joy and laughter. I extend my thoughts and prayers to those who will be alone, in grief or separated from family and friends. To those who live in fear, poverty, war. To those without shelter or safety of any kind, felt most keenly at this time of year.

Let this be a time we all reach out, listen and notice others and offer little kindnesses in what we say and do that just might ease the plight of another human being.

Thank you and farewell to Mr George Firns, our Principal, with whom it has been an honour to work alongside over many years. Thank you to the whole Sacred Heart Community - students, staff, parents/carers/families for your support and commitment through 2023. I look forward to offering a School Social Work Service in 2024, under the leadership of our new Principal Mr. Mark Tenney.

Hilary Campos

Birthday Celebrations



Happy birthday to the students below who have celebrated their birthdays since the last newsletter.

Lewis Murray

Harper Pidgeon



Merit Award & Values Award Recipients



CHRISTIANITY AND MERIT AWARD WINNERS

Brandon Dines

Nathan Chen

OUR VALUES AWARD WINNERS



BRONZE AWARD: Congratulations to **Max Jefferies, Jack Novak, Hunter Warby, Bailey Harmon and Matilda Eveson** from Year 2 on recently receiving a Bronze award for collecting **ten** values cards. Fantastic effort and keep up the great work!



GOLD AWARD: Amazing! The following students recently received a Gold award for having collected **thirty** values cards. Congratulations to you both. A wonderful effort in reaching the top values award at Sacred Heart!

Lewis Murray

Odette Gauci

Uniform Shop

Time is flying by and a reminder current Pre-Primary students will need to be in the full school uniform for Year 1 next year! Come along on a Thursday morning for fittings or arrange an alternative time with the school office staff.

Uniform orders can be placed through www.quickcliq.com.au.

The Uniform Shop is open Thursday mornings from 8.45am to 9.30am.

If you have any problems or queries, please feel free to email or phone the school office.



Canteen has now finished for the school year.

A very big thank you to Kristy Scott for taking on the role of coordinator for this year.

Thank you also to the wonderful parents and grandparents who have volunteered their time throughout the year and who have helped at the last minute so our children did not miss out on their canteen day!

Canteen would not be able to operate without our helpers!

We are currently looking for expressions of interest for the Canteen Coordinator role for next year. If you would like more information or think you would be interested, please email the office admin@sacredheartps.wa.edu.au

P&F News



Little Hearts Playgroup



Playgroup finishes for the year with a final session this Friday 1 December.



Thank you to our wonderful coordinator, Jess Morrison, for her tireless work this year. Friday mornings have been very busy this year with many new families coming along to Playgroup.



We hope to see you all back for Playgroup in 2024!

Parish News



Mass Times:

Saturday 8:30am & 6:00pm (Vigil) | Sunday 7.30am Chidlow 9:30am Mundaring

Tuesday 8.30am | Wednesday 9.00am | Friday 8.30am

Parish Priest: Fr John Daly

Telephone: 9295 1059 **Email:** sacredheartmundaring@westnet.com.au

Pastoral Care Co-ordinator: Deacon Paul Reid 0455 818 718 Sacred Heart Care Co-ordinator: Please contact Father.

Community News





Scoliosis

Scoliosis is an abnormal sideways curvature of the spine. It can be detected by a simple examination of the back.

The normal spine has three curves – one in the neck, on in the upper back and one in the lower back. These curves can be seen from the side, but when you look from behind the spine should appear straight. If the spine has a sideways curve, this is scoliosis.

Please read through the scoliosis information provided by Raising Children Network and check your child for scoliosis as described.

If you have any concerns, please contact your General Practitioner or Community Health Nurse, (Mary Milligan) on (0406531852).

Enrol for Pre-Primary 2024













At Sacred Heart School our Pre-Primary program is a play-based learning program following the Early Years Learning Framework and the WA Curriculum. We offer a caring and supportive environment in which to begin your child's formal learning journey. Our six Gospel school values permeate the daily school life in all that we say and do, helping all to learn, to care and to give. Your child's learning is supported with dedicated teachers, excellent resources and a wonderful outside learning space in our Early Learning Centre.

Sacred Heart School Mundaring