



Our Vision

St Munchin's Catholic School aspires to reflect the life and love of Christ for His people.

Our Mission

In the tradition of Eucharistic sharing, St Munchin's Catholic School community aims to reflect the life and love of Christ for His people.

The school community works together to provide pastoral care for each person and to nurture the development of the whole child.

Term 1 Week 2
Wednesday, 10 February 2016

Jesus, full of compassion, look on us with tenderness
and give us the grace to walk on the path of mercy marked out for those who follow you.
Because you walked among us, you know our human experience.
You have shared our joys and sorrows.
You have healed and comforted us, sustained and renewed us.
Through these days of Lent may all we do reflect your merciful love.
Amen

(adapted from prayers of Catherine McAuley)

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends

Our first week of school progressed very smoothly and school routines resumed effectively by staff and students. It is very pleasing to note the children's enthusiasm and willingness to engage in learning in a variety of ways. At St Munchin's, we believe that a strong and positive partnership between home and school is one of the driving factors in the successful personal and academic development of students.

We encourage you to take time and plenty of interest in the work your child/ren do at school and also spend time talking over the school day.

Please keep the lines of communication open and frequent with your child/ren's class teacher/s so that you are fully aware of your child's progress at school and to pass on important information which may have an impact on progress.

Welcome Fr Philip Perreau

A special welcome to Fr Philip. We are looking forward to working with Fr in the spiritual and faith formation of our students and families. I know that the Gosnells community will make Fr Philip feel part of the community quickly and will assist him to settle in well and enjoy his time with us.

School Hours - Student Supervision

First bell sounds at 8.35pm and students proceed to their classrooms to prepare for the day and organise their belongings. This is also a time when incomplete work is completed. Classes officially begin at 8.50am. Recess is at 10.35-10.55am and lunch is at 12.35 -1.20pm. Classes conclude at 3.05pm

Supervision of students commences at 8.30am. Students should not arrive at school before 8.30am. If students arrive before 8.30am Yrs 1-3 must sit outside the junior block or in the undercover area and Yrs 4-6 in the undercover area until first bell. There is to be no playing of any sort of games in the morning or afternoon once the students have been dismissed. In the afternoon students must wait to be collected outside their class, at the back carpark or at the front car park under the supervision of teachers. Students not collected by 3.20pm will be escorted by teachers to reception to wait to be collected.

Kiss and Drive

Kiss and Drive is to allow for quick pick up and drop off. Please do not use this as a parking area. Some cars remain in the area for lengthy periods holding up the flow of traffic. Disabled Parking Bays are clearly marked and can only be used by people displaying an ACROD sticker. Your co-operation with these safety measures is much appreciated.

Uniform

Many thanks to parents for being diligent in ensuring that students are in correct uniform. The school has a uniform policy to make it equitable for all families and Mrs Yozzi works hard to assist all families with the correct uniform. There should be no reason for any child to be out of uniform therefore the staff will be monitoring uniform and if your child/ren are out of uniform you will receive a reminder to ensure you follow the policy.

Sports Socks

ALL CHILDREN MUST WEAR WHITE SPORTS SOCKS WITH THE ST MUNCHINS LOGO.

Staff Commissioning Mass

All Catholic Schools in the region will be participating in the Staff Commissioning Mass to be held next Tuesday 16th FEBRUARY at the Cathedral commencing at 4.30pm.

Staff will need to leave by 3.30pm so parents and caregivers are asked to assist us by collecting children no later than 3.20pm.

**Parent Information Night – Years 2 to 6
TUESDAY 23 February 2015
COMMENCING 6.30pm
SCHOOL HALL**

The evening will commence with a general gathering in the school hall at 6.30pm where I will review focus areas for 2016 and present the School Improvement Plan for 2016. This should take approximately 30 minutes.

Class teachers will then hold two consecutive sessions of 30 minute duration to cater for parents with a number of students in the school. The class teachers will provide parents/caregivers with much information on the class routines and procedures as well as student and parent expectations.

It is expected that at least one parent attend. If unable to attend please inform your child's teacher so that they can make alternate arrangements to meet with you.

School Fee Accounts

School fee accounts will be sent home today. If you pay your accounts through CDF, weekly or fortnightly, please ensure that the amount covers full fees for the year. If the amount deducted does not cover the full amount you are asked to increase the amount to cover the fees.

Also, if you do pay with CDF you must renew the continuance as this does not automatically happen from year to year.

If school fees are not finalised by the end of the year and arrangements not made with the Principal, outstanding accounts will be placed in the hands of the debt collectors.

We are very understanding of people's situations and we attempt to do all we can to assist people in paying school fees if they communicate with us confidentially. We must collect fees as they are a substantial part of the school budget.

It is disheartening when no attempt has been made to respond to the school or make an appointment with the Principal to discuss fee hardships.

Safety Around Schools

Included with this week's newsletter is a brochure from the City of Gosnells concerning School Parking bylaws for 2016. Please take time to read the brochure and ensure you are aware of the laws.

Many of our parents are travelling too fast in the carpark areas and not being careful. Also some parents are parking in the Kiss and Drive zone which is a drive through area for pick up and drop off. All Community members must take responsibility for the safety and well-being of all who are part of this community.

Term Calendar

Last week the term calendar was included on the last page of the newsletter. Next week, this information will be on the first page of the newsletter as usual.

Wishing you all a very safe and happy week. God bless!

Kind regards

Rob Romeo, Principal



REMINDER:
No Dogs on
School Property





Celebrating Lent

Lent is a time in the Christian Church when we try to begin again to live the life of Jesus, into which God has called us. It is a time to allow the seed of God's life to grow so that we can bring about the life of God, the Kingdom of God, among all people. The liturgical colour of Lent is purple, a colour of repentance, of beginning again. It is a 'journey' of 40 days, calling us to look beyond ourselves to the needs of others, to "turn away from sin" (the things that distance us from God) and to use prayer, fasting and almsgiving to deepen our relationship with Him.

The forty-day Season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes on Holy Thursday evening with the Celebration of the Mass of the Lord's Supper. It is primarily the Church's time of preparation for the Easter mystery.

The word 'lent' originates in the northern hemisphere where it means 'springtime'. It comes from the Old English word *lencten* (lengthening of days). Here in the southern hemisphere Lent moves through autumn. This has a unique symbolism for us. At this time of year, in the southern hemisphere, the trees are relinquishing their foliage, thus enabling the light of the sun to shine through them more clearly. Similarly, we are encouraged to let go of our attachments to material goods – cleansing our lives by fasting, prayer and almsgiving as we prepare for the light of Christ at Easter.

The ashes which will be used to mark a sign of the cross on our foreheads are made from the blessed palms used in the Palm Sunday celebration of the previous year. The ashes are christened with Holy Water and are scented by exposure to incense. While the ashes symbolise our sorrow for the times we have not lived as God wants us to, they are also a reminder that God is gracious and merciful and always ready to forgive and welcome those who turn to Him. .

During Lent, many of us grew up with the practice of "giving something up and going without". This is one way to develop an appreciation for the gifts we have been given and how lucky we are to live in Australia. The Church also encourages people to consider "Taking something up for Lent" e.g. thinking nice thoughts of people, doing things for others, taking up love, taking up charity work etc. Teaching these values to our children helps them to grow into considerate, compassionate people, who go out of their way to help others rather than to make life more difficult for them. Many of us recognise the need to develop these values in our society today.

Below are some suggestions you may want to try.

1. Fast from anger and hatred. Do one act of kindness every day.
2. Fast from judging others. Before making judgments, recall how Jesus overlooks our faults.
3. Fast from discouragement. Hold on to Jesus' promise that he has a perfect plan for your life (Jer. 29:11).
4. Fast from complaining. When you find yourself about to complain, close your eyes and recall some of the little moments of joy God has blessed your life with. Make a Lenten gratitude journal and write about one thing you are grateful for every day.
5. Fast from the negative. Turn off the news and read a Lenten devotion instead. Find a quote that inspires hope. Download the [Caritas Lent Calendar app](#) for [iPhone or iPad](#)
6. Fast from spending too much money. Try to reduce your spending by ten percent and give these savings to the poor. As a family read about some of the people our Caritas coins can support <http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion>

Taken from Appleseeds.org



Project Compassion begins today, Ash Wednesday. Each child will be bringing home a family Project Compassion Box to try to fill with coins to support Caritas in supporting the poorest of the poor in our world. Encourage your child/ren to do odd chores around the house to earn some extra coins &/or to go without a treat from time to time and to put the money into the compassion box instead. Perhaps you could give witness to your child/ren by going without a coffee or a treat during the next 6 weeks too.

May God bless your next forty days with growth, hope and peace.

Uniform Shop News

Winter uniform orders need to be submitted by **Friday, 4th March 2016**.

Please allow for your child's growth as exchanges or refunds will not be given.

Placing an order is *important* as the Uniform Shop only holds a limited amount of stock.

Late orders will not be accepted.

Information To Be Returned

- IT Agreement
- Use of Publicity and Images (only if images are not to be used)
- Email Address
- Medication Requirements

Children with Medical Requirements / Medic Alerts

St Munchin's require a medical form to be completed for **all children** who need to take any form of medication or have a medical condition of which the school staff needs to be made aware. If you have kept medication in the office from last year, please check the expiry date.



Parent Contact Details

The school needs to successfully communicate with families, especially at short notice and it is important that family contact details are kept up to date. On many occasions, we encounter difficulties in trying to contact parents or guardians by telephone. Home and mobile numbers are often out of service, mobiles switched off, or message bank facilities lacking. Occasionally work situations have changed making day time contact by phone or email difficult. We ask that all families pass on any changes of contact details to the school as quickly as possible. **Please call into the office to advise any changes, phone 9234 7555 or email**

admin@stmunchins.wa.edu.au

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ WELCOME BANKERS IT'S OUR NEW OUTBACK SAVING ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ADVENTURE WITH SCHOOL BANKING—EVERY FRIDAY

Please hand your banking book in at the school canteen (except pre-primary/kindy—I will collect from class room) Banking is collected by myself Vanessa Killen and banked on the same day and banking books returned to you in the afternoon, if I don't see you on Friday, I will see you on Monday. If you have any questions or wish to start school banking please email me: killenvanessa@gmail.com or 0414 990 458

NEW 2016 Reward Items

These fun rewards are a great way to keep children motivated & demonstrate the value of saving:

- Flying Snake Tail – now available to order
- Wildlife Writer Set – now available to order
- Mud Splat Handball – Released in Term 2
- Outback Pat Bag Tag – Released in Term 2
- Backtrack Eraser Pen – Released in Term 3
- Jump and Skip Rope – Released in Term 3
- Bush Fly Fan – Released in Term 4
- Wriggly Glow Worm – Released in Term 4



Join the Dollarmites Club TODAY at your nearest Commonwealth Bank Branch



Winter Netball Registrations

Registrations are now being taken for winter netball. Children from Years 2 to 6 are eligible to play this year. The season begins April 30th and concludes August 20th.

Netball fees: \$210 (Years 5-6); \$180 (Years 2-4)

Uniform for girls are \$65 for a netball dress. Boys to wear their white school sports uniform.

Registrations close 8th March.

Please contact Brenda on 0423 653 144 to register.



- St Munchin's School Office 9234 7555 ● Out of School Care 9234 7511 ● Canteen 9234 7510
- KM 9234 7515 ● KW 9234 7516 ● PPM 9234 7517 ● PPW 9234 7522