



Important Dates

**10:00am - Year 2
Liturgy**
 Friday 28 February 2025

Shrove Tuesday
 Tuesday 4 March 2025

**9:15am - ASH
WEDNESDAY
WHOLE SCHOOL
MASS (Year 4s
hosting)**
 Wednesday 5 March 2025

**STUDENT FREE
DAY**
 Friday 7 March 2025

**Preschool RAA
StreetSmart Session**
 Tuesday 11 March 2025

**NAPLAN
Commences**
 Wednesday 12 March 2025

**Playgroup 'Ready,
Set, Progress'
Information Session**
 Wednesday 12 March 2025

**Preschool RAA
StreetSmart Session**
 Thursday 13 March 2025

**9:00am – Assembly
(Year 6s hosting)**
 Friday 14 March 2025

**10:00am – Year 1
Liturgy**
 Friday 14 March 2025

St JOSEPH'S DAY
 Wednesday 19 March 2025

**9:15am – WHOLE
SCHOOL ST
JOSEPH, SPOUSE
OF BLESSED
VIRGIN MARY
SOLEMNITY MASS
(Year 5s hosting)**
 Wednesday 19 March 2025

From the Principal

Tune-in and engage with your child

I share with you some advice that I recently came across in the 'Fathering Project' platform.

In today's society, there are many distractions that can prevent us from enjoying the present moment. When spending time with your child, try and reduce these distractions as much as possible so you can stay focused and engaged with your child. Being fully present can make all the difference in strengthening your bond and making them feel valued.

Ask yourself

- Am I truly present when I am spending time with my child or distracted by all the things going on in my life?
- Am I really engaged and listening or distracted with calls, texts, and emails when my child talks to me?

Top tips for engaging with your child

- Really 'be there'. Put away the phone, stop what you are doing and connect with your child.
- Be consistent. You never know when your child will decide, when they want to tell you something really important. Don't miss that moment.
- Making eye contact lets your child know they are important, and you are really listening.
- Stop and listen. Get to know about your child as an individual – their thoughts, their ideas, their wishes, their likes and dislikes, their friends and their dreams.

Takeaway action

Next time you spend alone time with your child, put away the phone and focus your attention on them. Your attention shows them they are valued, strengthening your bond and building trust. Small moments of connection create lifelong memories.

Official Opening of the Carlo Acutis Building

Last Thursday 20 February, we had the official opening of the Carlo Acutis Building. Our Archbishop, Patrick O'Regan, the Director of Catholic Education South Australia (CESA), Dr Neil McGoran, the Chair of South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools (SACCS), Mr John Neate; as well as other guests, including CESA leadership members, Payneham Parish representatives, Fr Michael Romeo, Sr Josie Labata, Sr Rita Ruzzene, and of course the students, staff and families were present, on the new oval for this significant occasion.

As I mentioned at the opening, we are fortunate to have the beautiful structure, the Carlo Acutis Building, at our school. I express my gratitude to all those involved in making this project come to life – from the initial concept design, the detailed planning, the physical structural work, the finishing touches, and ensuring all aspects have been made compliant. The students, teachers, staff and families now fill this space every day bringing positive vigour, vitality, and cheerfulness.

Carlo Acutis, whom this building is named after (and soon to be canonised a saint), is a fine example of a young person who was deeply connected to his faith and used his passion for using his gifts to make a difference in the world. Carlo's inspiring life encourage us to embrace a sense of wonder, kindness, and creativity as we explore, learn, and grow in faith and love at St Joseph's Payneham.

You can view the story that is in the Southern Cross publication by visiting the link here:

[New building dedicated to teenage saint](#)

School Board 2025

At the AGM on 18 February, election and endorsement of the 2025 School Board took place. I provide the names of the 2025 School Board Members:

Fr Michael Romeo (Parish Priest and President), Ernie Icolaro (Chairperson), Simon Mechis (Principal), Michael Musolino (Deputy Principal), Iolanda Calabrese (Treasurer), Tania Melfi (Staff Representative), Skye Campbell-Hand (P&F Representative), Daniel LaBella, Tina Caggiano, Vince Mascolo, Erica Giouleas, Matt Calabro and Sophia Saraceno.

School Picnic, Friday 21 March

The Feast of St Joseph, patron saint of our school, occurs on Wednesday 19 March. A School Mass at 9:15am will occur on this day. On Friday 21 March, to acknowledge this feast, there will be School Picnic at Payneham Oval (for Reception to Year 6 students). Families are welcome to join. A letter, with all the details will be sent home soon.

Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy and Keeping Safe, Child Protection Curriculum

In this Newsletter, I include for you the Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy; as well as The Keeping Safe, Child Protection Curriculum site for parents and caregivers (link below).

<https://www.education.sa.gov.au/parents-and-families/curriculum-and-learning/early-years/keeping-safe-child-protection-curriculum-information-parents-and-carers>

Donation of pancakes

We will soon commence the season of Lent, on Ash Wednesday (5 March). The day before we will observe an old age tradition, 'Shrove Tuesday', where traditionally, pancakes are consumed. I express my thanks to Norwood Foodland, as they once again will kindly donate ready-made pancakes for our students.

Student Mobile and Wearable Technology Policy

I draw your attention to the above Policy (which was recently updated) and is located on our website. This policy provides teachers, students, and parents/caregivers with clear expectations regarding the use of mobile and wearable technology devices during school hours. To view the Policy, please visit this link:

https://www.stjopayn.catholic.edu.au/files/22879/Student_Mobile_and_Wearable_Technology_Policy.pdf

Student Free Day, Friday 7 March

As per the Term One Calendar, please note that Friday 7 March is a Student Free Day. Staff will be involved in professional learning on this day. OSHC will be available if you require this service.

Condolences

I extend my sympathies to:

- The Sofia family (Emilia, 4RP), on the passing of her paternal great grandmother.
- Ms Tania Melfi (Year 2 Teacher) and the De Conno family (Lylah, 6CK), on the passing of their father and grandfather, Vincenzo.
- The Luppino family (Julian, 6CK), on the passing of his paternal grandfather.

Wishing you well!

Simon Mechis

From the Deputy Principal

SRC

A Student Representative Council (SRC) is a group of students who represent all students within the school. The SRC works democratically to represent the student body in school decision-making and organises ways for students to participate in and enjoy school life.

Some of the SRC roles and responsibilities at our school include:

- *Representation*: Serving as a link between students and school administration and leadership, ensuring students' voices are heard in decision-making processes. The SRC will meet with myself three times a term.
- *Advocacy*: Advocating for students' rights and well-being, addressing different school issues.
- *Event Organisation*: Planning and organising various school events, such as fundraisers, social events, and awareness

campaigns.

- *Leadership Development:* Developing leadership skills, public speaking abilities, and teamwork.
- *Community Engagement:* Participating in community service projects and initiatives to foster a sense of social responsibility.

I am eager to collaborate with the group to bring about more positive changes at our school this year.

SRC Members for Semester 1, 2025

RecCL	Eshaan
RecRD	Isabelle
RecLM	Aurelia
RecJN	Charlotte
1MP	Eleanor
1SW	Sienna
1DC	Lucas
1TC	Jack
2VB	Gabriel
2GG	Isla
2TM	Olivia
3MM	Madison
3CM	Advik
3WM	Sathya
4BR	Chiara
4RP	Shazan
4NZ	Stephanie
5YV	Carlisle
5AS	Paige
5AM	Zara
SRC Executives	Isabella, Catherine, Hugo, Ariana, Kabeer, Luna, Gareth, Zara

Classroom Pulse Check In

Each term in Weeks 5 & 6, Catholic Education SA school students undertake a 'Classroom Pulse Check In'. The purpose of the 'Classroom Pulse Check In' is to find out how students are feeling about their experience of school. Students are asked some simple questions about:

- Identity
- Learning
- Relationships
- Belonging.

Our aim is simply to "check in" with our students and measure how they are feeling. Your child's responses will help us to identify any potential social, emotional or learning needs they may have.

Work Experience student

We welcome Liana Rechichi (from SEDA College) who will be conducting a work experience placement at our school this semester (Terms 1 & 2) on a Thursday each week. Liana will be supporting Adrian Mastrangelo (P.E. Teacher & Coordinator) in Physical Education lessons during this time.

'Mindful March' calendar

Please see attached the '[Mindful March](#)' calendar (for the upcoming month) from the 'Action for Happiness' website. We encourage you to share this calendar with your families at home to promote kindness.

Keep Well!

Michael Musolino

From the APRIM

Pilgrims of Hope – Our Year of Jubilee Begins

In Week 3, we gathered for our first assembly of the year, hosted by our leadership team. This was a special moment for St Joseph's Catholic School Payneham as we officially launched the Year of Jubilee, embracing its theme: *Pilgrims of Hope*. Drawing on the Jubilee logo, we are reminded that as pilgrims, we journey together in hope, renewal, and a spirit of community.



Ash Wednesday and the Beginning of Lent

On 5 March, our school community will gather for our Ash Wednesday Whole School Mass, marking the beginning of Lent, a sacred time of reflection, prayer, and almsgiving. In classrooms, students will notice a change in their prayer spaces, as we place a purple prayer cloth to signify penance, preparation, and reflection during this liturgical season.

Lent is also a time of action, and we begin our participation in CARITAS Project Compassion, our first fundraising event for 2025, where we unite to help our brothers and sisters in need, bringing hope, faith and charity to vulnerable communities around the world. We invite families to reflect on how they can contribute to this mission of compassion throughout Lent.

During the Season of Lent, our school community will come together for two other special liturgical celebrations in March:

- Wednesday 19 March – St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and
- Tuesday 25 March – The Annunciation of the Lord

Our Collective Reconciliation Journey of Hope

During the Season of Lent, we also take an important step on our Reconciliation journey of hope. We listen attentively, learn, and walk together with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Our school is committed to deepening our understanding and respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures through our Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). We warmly invite Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander members of our community to meet with us and share their perspectives as we work towards meaningful reconciliation. If you identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander or know someone in our community who does, we would love to hear from you. Please reach out to Patrizia Puglia ppuglia@stjopayn.catholic.edu.au or Nicole Baans nbaans@stjopayn.catholic.edu.au or ring us on 08 8206 5100.

Sacramental Preparation

Fr Michael would like to extend his thanks to the parents and caregivers of children who are preparing for their First Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Holy Communion in 2025. It has been encouraging to see so many of the candidates and families participating at Sunday Mass. Fr Michael reminds families that participation at Sunday Mass is essential to preparation for these three sacraments and is not something to be considered optional. Sacramental preparation is not just another class in which to learn information, it is growth in a lived friendship with Christ and the Church which the candidates are being initiated into.

Sunday Mass

There are four masses on a weekend at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church (6:00pm Vigil on Saturday evening (which is classified as a Sunday Mass), 8:00am, 9:15am in Italian and 11:00am on Sunday morning).

Parish Passport

The sacramental candidates have received a parish passport, *'My Sacramental Passport'*. The passport acknowledges that its bearer is on a journey of preparation to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation, and First Holy Communion as a fully initiated member of the Catholic Church. On designated Sundays, candidates will receive a holy card of a saint which corresponds to the sacraments they are celebrating. The sacramental candidates engage with the prayers in a meaningful way, learning them by heart. Fr Michael will be visiting classes to ensure the candidates have learnt the prayers before they celebrate each of the sacraments.

The prayer checklist for First Reconciliation includes: *Sign of the Cross, The Lord's Prayer, Hail Mary, Glory Be, and Act of Contrition*. Fr Michael also invites families, teachers and students to recite the *Prayer Before Meals* together daily:

*Bless us, O Lord,
and these your gifts which
we are about to receive from your goodness.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

Workshops

All candidates should have collected and be working through the *'Signs of Grace: you are forgiven'* student guide workbook. The expectation is that the workbook be completed with your child at home so that the time during the workshops can be dedicated to reviewing, clarifying and expanding on the work completed. Fr Michael will make reference to the workbook during our workshop.

Sacrament of Reconciliation Workshop

Date: Wednesday, 26 March 2025

Time: 6:30pm-8:00pm


Place: St Joseph's Catholic School, Gym.

Candidates are reminded to bring their Reconciliation booklets, *'Signs of Grace: you are forgiven'*, *'My Sacramental Passport'* and a pen. The workbooks will be collected at the end of the workshop. Candidates will be given the Confirmation booklets: *'Signs of Grace: you are sent'* at the end of this workshop.

Inspired by Pope Francis: A Prayer for His Health

As we reflect on what it means to be *Pilgrims of Hope* in our own school, community and homes, we turn to Pope Francis, whose life and servant leadership continue to inspire us to be better people, better Christians, and a Church and people that walk alongside the most vulnerable and protect our Common Home.

The Holy See Press in Vatican City informs us that Pope Francis had another good night at the Agostino Gemelli Hospital in Rome, where he was admitted on 14 February. During this time as our beloved Pope faces health challenges, we keep him in our prayers.

<p><i>Loving God, We pray for Pope Francis, a shepherd who leads with compassion and humility. Grant him strength, comfort, and healing. May his witness of faith inspire us to walk in hope and love. Amen.</i></p>	
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May this season of Lent, in this special Year of Jubilee, encourage us all to renew our hearts, walk together in faith, and bring hope to those in need.

God bless,

Patrizia Puglia

Assistant Principal Religious Identity and Mission

School Fee Reminder

Dear Parents/Caregivers

You are reminded that the 1st instalment of school fees are due by 1st March 2025.

Families on direct debit plans are advised that their 1st direct debit from their bank account or credit card will occur on 1st March 2025.

Should you have any queries please contact Mrs Helen Crosato on 82065103 or via email hcrosato@stjopayn.catholic.edu.au

Enrolment Information

Please ensure that you enrol each of your children at least 18 - 24 months ahead of their starting date, in order to secure a place. Complete the Enrolment Application Form that covers Preschool to Year 6 and return to the Front Office. A separate Piccolini Enrolment form is also needed.

Playgroup: For children 0-4 years of age, attending with their parent or carer. Book online via QKR app from Mondays to attend on a Wednesday morning.

Occasional Care (Piccolini): For children aged 3-4 years of age. Book online via QKR app 24 hours ahead of each session. Days available are Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Preschool: For children who turn 4 years of age before 1st May. Children who turn 4 from 1st May – 31st October, can commence mid-year.

Piccolini Occasional Care



St Joseph's School
PAYNEHAM



Piccolini Occasional Care

Welcome to St Joseph's Payneham, Piccolini Occasional Care - an Early Years Program for 3-4 year old children.

Two sessions per day available each week from **Tuesday to Friday**.

Session 1: 9am - 12pm
Session 2: 12pm - 3pm

Bookings are essential via the Qkr App and open up 24 hours prior to each session with a maximum number of 15 children per session at a cost of \$25 per session.

Our friendly Piccolini Coordinator, Celesta Seal meets and greets families in the Preschool play piazza and multipurpose areas. We look forward to seeing you!

 08 8206 5100
 www.stjopayn.catholic.edu.au

Preschool and Playgroup

Please click onto the link below for further information

[Playgroup](#)

[Preschool](#)

[Preschool Mid-year intake](#)

OSHC

Please click onto the link below for further information

[Out of School Hours Care \(OSHC\)](#)

Community News

[Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy - Archdiocese of Adelaide](#)

[Mary MacKillop College Open Night](#)

Canteen

Canteen Sponsorship

Does your business need Promoting or Advertising?

Do you want to get involved and support your child's Canteen?

Sponsor the Canteen for just \$250 (tax deductible)

By becoming a Sponsor you will receive free advertising for the whole term in the School Newsletter and on the St Joseph's Payneham social media pages.

Any queries please contact Mrs Helen Crosato on 8206 5103.

St Joseph's Catholic School Payneham Sun Protection Policy



[SJP Sun Protection Policy 2024](#)

2025 School Term Dates

28 January to 11 April

28 April to 4 July

21 July to 26 September

13 October to 10 December

Calendar of Events for 2025

[Calendar of Events for 2025](#)