



Important Dates

9:15am - End of
Year School Mass
(Yr 4 & 6 hosting)
Friday 6 December 2024

Year 6 Retreat Day
Monday 9 December 2024

6:00pm -
Graduation Liturgy
for Yr 6s and
celebrations
Monday 9 December 2024

Last day for Year 6
students
Monday 9 December 2024

6:00pm - Year 6
Graduation Dinner
Tuesday 10 December 2024

Last day of 2024
School Year 3pm
finish
Wednesday 11 December
2024

From the Principal

Dear Families,

Reflections and acknowledgements

As 2024 draws to a close, I reflect on the challenges and successes that have taken shape throughout this last year. I believe it is always a meaningful exercise as a family to do the same; that is, have a conversation with your child/ren, asking about their achievements; most enjoyable learning moments; why we should be grateful; and to think about areas for improvement moving forward.

I express my gratitude and thanks for your support this year, and for the care and encouragement you have shown to each other. I acknowledge the many parents/carers, grandparents, and other members in the community who have generously given their time to make St Joseph's Catholic School Payneham a better place.

Our amiable Year 6s have a few days remaining as students at St Joseph's. They have been a great group and fine examples for the younger children. I thank the Year 6s for their vibrancy and positive influence on our school. Congratulations to the Class of 2024!

For other students and families not returning to Payneham, thank you for your involvement in our community. Best wishes for 2025.

End of Year School Mass and Volunteer of the Year Award, Friday 6 December at 9:15am

At the End of Year School Mass, tomorrow, Friday 6 December (at 9:15am in our church), the '2024 School Volunteer of the Year Award' will be announced at the end of the Mass. A cup of coffee/tea will be offered directly after Mass in the Staffroom. I especially encourage our volunteers to come along.

End of Year Student Reports

As cited in previous communication, the End of Year Student Reports, will be available via SEQTA Engage. This means you will be able to access your child's Report online. Student Reports will be issued online tomorrow, Friday 6 December. Families who wish to have a hard copy, can request this option from the Front Office.

2025 Classes and Orientation

On Monday afternoon, you will receive notification indicating your child's class teacher/s for next year. Your response is important, as it can determine your child's attitude and mindset moving forward.

Students will spend a little time with their 2025 teacher/s and peers on Monday 9 December. The intention is to reduce some of the anxiety that can exist for certain students. Knowing who is in their class, who is teaching them and being excited about the year ahead, generally helps our students to be ready for the challenges and opportunities of the new year.

Please note, that once class placements are determined, there will be no changes. It is a practice which the staff have been working on since the beginning of term, and many deliberations are considered to determine where every child is placed. Thank you for respecting the professional decision-making which goes into this process.

Free Pizza – donated by Inspire Care SA

On Tuesday 10 December, all students will receive free pizza, courtesy of Inspire Care SA (an NDIS Support Service). I appreciate the goodwill of Inspire Care SA to provide pizza for every student in the school. I also thank De Corso's Pizzeria (28 Reid Avenue, Tranmere), who are making and delivering the pizzas.

End of Year Concert thanks

Our End of Year Concert, celebrated last Wednesday 27 November, was a fantastic community event with a positive vibe. I am grateful for your attendance. The children were joyous in performing and looked spectacular on the stage.

I recognise the End of Year Concert Committee, Mrs Emily Parrella, Mr Donny Calabria, Ms Laura Parletta, Mrs Julia Johnson, Mr Dean Rattley, Ms Rebecca D'Amico and Ms Caitlin Librandi for the effort and time invested for this community event.

My appreciation also goes to the Parents and Friends Committee, who also were responsible for organising many aspects of the evening. Finally, many thanks to Anthony Ferragamo for supplying the stage.

Carlo Acutis Building

I remind you about the official opening of the Carlo Acutis Building, to take place on Thursday 20 February 2025 at 10:00am.

Additionally, a letter was recently distributed to families about a wooden sculpted relief depicting Blessed Carlo (which will be installed and displayed in the building), asking for consideration of a contribution towards this art piece. Any donation will be thankfully received.

School Uniform

If requiring any uniform items, please contact our school's uniform shop Noone Apparel (previously Belgravia). Please refer to the communication that was recently circulated. The following link takes you to the store's website: <https://www.noone.com.au/school/st-josephs-payneham>

A reminder that by the start of the 2026 school year, all students need to be wearing the new school uniform, which was introduced this year.

2025 School Commencement date and 'Meet the Teacher and Family Day'

The first day of school for students will be Tuesday 28 January 2025, beginning at 8:40am. 'Meet the teacher and family day', where you and your child meet the class teacher/s for a short period, will occur on Wednesday 22 January. Next week, information will be sent home providing details, including booking arrangements.

Condolences

- The Gatt family (Sienna, Preschool 'Koala' group), on the recent passing of her grandfather, Alfred.

Congratulations

- Current Music and Performing Arts Teacher, Mr Dean Rattley, on being appointed to the position for 2025.
- The Clarke family (Audrey, mid-year Rec.), on the recent birth of a baby, Isaac.
- The Musolino family (Luisa, 6CK), on the recent birth of a baby boy, Roman.

Conclusion of the school year

Term Four, and the end of the 2024 school year, concludes on Wednesday 11 December at 3:00pm (the final day for our Year 6 students is Tuesday 10 December). Once again, thank you for your support this year. I trust everyone will have a safe and positive festive season and upcoming school holiday break.

Wishing you well!

Simon Mechis

From the Deputy Principal

End of Year Reflection

As the school year comes to an end, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all community members, including students, staff and families for your continued support and dedication. To our students, thank you for your hard work, enthusiasm, and resilience. To our staff, your passion for teaching and nurturing our students is truly inspiring. To our parents and caregivers, your partnership is invaluable. Together, we've created a thriving, inclusive environment where every individual can thrive. I look forward to another year of growth and success next year at St. Joseph's Catholic School Payneham.

Senior News Editors

Please see below our Senior News Editors who have shared some highlights from their Primary school years:

Name: Julian

Class: 6CK

What is your favourite memory from Primary school so far and why?

My favourite memory from Primary school was Year 6 camp because I stayed up all night with my friends and went boogie boarding. I also greatly liked Sports Days because it was very fun to be with my friends.

What lesson or subject did you enjoy the most during your time in Primary school?

I really enjoy P.E. lessons because I love playing sports. I also like Art lessons because I like to be artistic and creative.

Can you think of a time when you faced a challenge and how you overcame it?

I faced lots of challenges when I did the \$20 BOSS program in Year 6 because I was worried something would go wrong in our group. I overcame this challenge because we worked as a team and always came up with a solution.

What's one fun or exciting event or trip you'll always remember from your time at Primary school?

Some exciting events were being with my classmates at the Christmas Concerts and Year 6 camp.

What's something you are excited to take with you into secondary school from your Primary school experience?

I am excited to take all my learning with me to my new school. I am also excited to go to high school with some of my friends from Primary school and to make more friends at my new school.

Name: Charlie

Class: 6CK

What is your favourite memory from Primary school so far and why?

My favourite memory at Primary school was Year 6 camp because I got to have fun with my friends.

What lesson or subject did you enjoy the most during your time in Primary school?

I enjoyed P.E. lessons the most because I got to play games and do activities with friends.

Can you think of a time when you faced a challenge and how you overcame it?

One of the challenges I faced was making a business at school as part of the \$20 BOSS Program, however we managed to pull through, work together and open our business.

What's one fun or exciting event or trip you'll always remember from your time at Primary school?

I will never forget Year 6 camp because I got to stay up late with my friends and have so much fun.

What's something you are excited to take with you into secondary school from your Primary school experience?

I am excited to use everything I have learned when I go to high school.

Name: Aiden

Class: 6AM

What is your favourite memory from Primary school so far and why?

My favourite memories from Primary school were when I would be drawing or playing with my friends.

What lesson or subject did you enjoy the most during your time in Primary school?

I loved doing hands on and Art activities.

Can you think of a time when you faced a challenge and how you overcame it?

I remember when I had a hard math question and my friends helped me solve it without telling me the answer.

What's one fun or exciting event or trip you'll always remember from your time at Primary school?

I could never forget our camp to Aldinga this year and we got to see lots of kangaroos we saw.

What's something you are excited to take with you into secondary school from your Primary school experience?

I am excited to showcase my artistic skills to my new friends at high school.

Name: Luisa

Class: 6CK

What is your favourite memory from Primary school so far and why?

My favourite memory of Primary school was sharing so many fun times with my friends. This has given me many memories to bring with me to high school and which I will keep with me for a long time to come.

What lesson or subject did you enjoy the most during your time in Primary school?

In Primary school, some of the subjects I enjoyed the most were P.E. and HASS.

Can you think of a time when you faced a challenge and how you overcame it?

During my Primary school experience, I have faced a few different challenges, mostly to do with a hard task or friendship issues. To overcome these things, I spoke to the teachers and asked for an extra explanation to help me successfully complete the task. For my friends, we are lucky enough to be able to forgive each other and continue being kind and loyal.

What's one fun or exciting event or trip you'll always remember from your time at Primary school?

My favourite year in Primary school was Year 6 when we got to do many different things. Something I will always remember is Year 6 camp. It was such a fun time for all our classmates to bond and build strong relationships with each other.

What's something you are excited to take with you into secondary school from your Primary school experience?

As I slowly transition into secondary school, I am lucky enough to have a lot of friends coming with me, and most importantly lots of amazing memories which I shared with my classmates.

December Kindness calendar

Please find a link to the '[December Kindness](#)' calendar from the Action for Happiness website. Please share the calendar with your families to promote kindness.

Happy Holidays

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a positive and rejuvenating holiday break.

I look forward to another year of growth and success in 2025.

Keep Well!

Michael Musolino

From the APRIM

A Year of Faith, Growth and Gratitude

The final term at St Joseph's Catholic School Payneham is a time of joy, reflection, and community as we prepare our hearts for Christmas and bring the school year to a close. Classrooms are alive with the wonder of the Christmas story, as students learn about Jesus' birth and its message of hope and love. The air buzzes with creativity, from glittering nativity crafts to festive decorations adorning every corner. The busyness of the season is marked by community celebrations, where the spirit of the season shines through music and storytelling. Amidst the celebrations, we also prepare to bid farewell to our Year 6 graduates with a special Liturgy and Retreat Day, honouring their journey and blessing their future. It is a time of bustling joy and sacred reflection, as we embrace the true meaning of Christmas together. We give thanks to God for the blessings, challenges, and growth we have experienced together. This year, our school community has journeyed together with hearts full of hope, hands ready to serve, and minds eager to learn.

Celebrating our Catholic identity

Last Sunday, the First Sunday of Advent, was a special day for our community as we celebrated our first Italian-English Mass at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish. This bilingual Liturgy of the Word, a shared dream of Fr Michael and me, brought together faith, culture, and generations in a meaningful way. I had the privilege of preparing the Italian texts, ensuring the prayers were simple and meaningful for our Year 3 children. With the support of the classroom, Italian, and music teachers, we brought this celebration to life.

Our Year 3 students, who will receive their sacraments in 2025, participated joyfully alongside their families and the Italian members of our parish. The Mass was filled with the love and devotion of our elderly Italian 'nonni' (for whom this serves as their regular Mass), who welcomed the children with warm smiles and proud hearts.

A touching moment came as the children collected their Sacramental Passports, marking the start of their sacramental journey. This celebration was a beautiful expression of communion, where young and old united in faith, prayer, and the joy of Advent to prepare their hearts for the arrival of Baby Jesus.

Year 3 Students collecting their Sacramental Passports from Fr Michael and Sr Josie



With gratitude, we also reflect on our current Year 4 students who completed the sacramental program in the month of November. It was a journey of grace for students receiving Reconciliation, Confirmation, and First Holy Communion. These moments are not just milestones but profound encounters with the love of Jesus Christ. Thank you to our parents and caregivers and the sacramental team, especially Fr Michael and Sr Josie, for their accompaniment.

Walking gently on God's Earth

This year, our Year 4 Eco Squad and Year 1 Mini Eco Squad have taken up the call to care for creation. Inspired by Pope Francis' *Laudato Si'*, they have shown us that even small acts of kindness towards the earth, like raising awareness about reducing waste and running nature-based activities, can help protect our common home. Their example is a sign of hope, reminding us that God's creation is a gift we must treasure and nurture.

Nurturing creativity

Our students, inspired by the Eco Squad and the Year 2 Drawing Club, embraced creativity as a form of gratitude for the gifts they have received. From the 'Toyota Dream Car' competition to the '2024 Archbishop's Christmas card' competition, they have dreamed boldly and shared their unique perspectives with the world. Pope Francis often speaks of the importance of dreaming, saying, "Do not be afraid

to dream big, to have courage, to be better every day.”

1DC's entry to the Archbishop's Christmas card competition



Talia Giancaspro participates in the Toyota Dream Car Art Contest



Preparing for the arrival of Baby Jesus

On the journey through Advent, the season of waiting, we are reminded that God's love comes to us in unexpected ways. Like the shepherds who heard the angel's song, we are invited to prepare our hearts to welcome Baby Jesus and to prepare for Christmas by learning about the joy of giving. Through our participation in the Vinnies Christmas Appeal, our young children learn that the true meaning of Christmas is found in sharing God's love and goodness with others.

We invite you to open your heart and hands to give generously to our brothers and sisters in need. A Christmas Wish List of much needed non-perishable food items is included, and you will also find it on posters displayed around the school. Please ensure that all donated items are within their expiry dates before bringing them to school. Supermarket Shopping Vouchers are also welcome (placed in an envelope with your name and a Christmas message of hope). Vouchers can be dropped off at the office during school hours.

You may bring your non-perishable food donations to your child's teacher in the mornings this week and next week. They will be packed in a special hamper.

We welcome your donations until the close of business on Wednesday 11 December. This gives our volunteers enough time to deliver the special hampers for families to enjoy on Christmas Day. Your efforts in supporting initiatives like the Vinnies Christmas Appeal show how we can embody Jesus' love and care for the people in need.

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.

Please contact Lanette Burke on 8206 5106 or lburke@stjopayn.catholic.edu.au for further information.

OSHC

Please click onto the link below for further information

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

Canteen

We would like to acknowledge and thank the following businesses for sponsoring Special Meal Deals in 2024.



Nicole Calabro from *Breathe In YIN YOGA*

Please contact Nicole on Instagram, Messenger, or email breathein.yinyoga@gmail.com



Simon Wilks from *Cherry Homes*

Address: 2/14 Provident Avenue Glynde, SA 5070 **Phone:** 0411 983 469

Email: simon.wilks@cherryhomes.com.au **Web:** www.cherryhomes.com.au



Nick Roma from *Ray White Norwood*

Mobile: 0418 891 893 **Telephone:** (08) 7078 5802

Web: <http://raywhitenorwood.com.au/>



Darcy Wood from *Inspire Care SA*

Mobile: 0427 584 188 **Email:** inspirecaresa@outlook.com

Address: 361 Main North Rd, Enfield SA

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.

Community News

[Mary MacKillop College and new fee structure for 2025](#)

St Joseph's Catholic School Payneham Sun Protection Policy



[SJP Sun Protection Policy 2024](#)

2024 School Term Dates

29 January to 12 April

29 April to 4 July

23 July to 27 September

14 October to 11 December

Term 4 Calendar of Events 2024

[Term 4 Calendar of Events 2024](#)
