Welcome to the 2017 school year! We will celebrate the start of our year with an assembly at 8.55am followed by mass at 9.30am.

We are excited about continuing to work in partnership with parents and community in the education of the students at St Laurence O'Toole. The staff have returned excited and energised about the task of guiding children on their learning journey.

Our school goals this year are around continuing to improve our teaching of reading and extending this into writing about reading and learning spelling skills and associated grammar and punctuation. We will measure our success through the outcomes of students in a range of school based and standardised testing. Our second goal is around ensuring every student has access to the curriculum and that adjustment is made for each child to meet their needs on the learning continuum.

We are very fortunate to have two staff members undertaking Masters level study this year. Bridget O'Keefe and Christy Roberts are studying in the Clinical Teaching field working to improve their knowledge and to lead the rest of staff in being more precise with evidence gathering, targeting teaching and knowing what students know and what the are ready to learn next. We look forward to their coaching our team and for the results we'll see in student learning.

As always the wellbeing of our students is paramount. We ask that you work with us to help your children develop their emotional intelligence. If your child is feeling upset please allow them to talk through the experience, ask if they need you to help and feel free to email your class teacher to get them to follow up.

This year we have been asked to tighten up our attendance procedures. Class teachers will need to be informed of absences with a reason either via tiqbiz, email or note. If your family has the opportunity to take a special holiday we ask that parents write a formal letter to the principal informing of the holiday, date and to request permission. We will respond in writing to give permission and make suggestion of learning opportunities during your holiday. This meets the Victorian Government requirements regarding student attendance.

Best wishes for a great 2017.

Kate Dourley
Any comments or questions or to be added to our emailing list: email: stlaurencepandf@gmail.com

President: Jo Denbrok joannedenbrok77@hotmail.com
Canteen: Deb: 0400 140 449
Second Hand Uniform: Krista 0409 585 080
OR Rachel on 0408 624 062

President: Jo Denbrok Vice President: Belinda Isted
Treasurer: Di Marinou Secretary: Melissa Denbrok

FIRST MEETING FOR 2017: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7th at 9:15am in the conference room. We have a great year ahead of us, so come along and share your ideas, get involved & meet new people. We’d love to have you on board. See you on Tuesday, 7th. Feel free to contact me via our email address above if you have any queries. - Jo

P & F
Tuesday Ice-creams/Slushies
Starting 7th February

SLUSHIES $1
CHOC COATED ICE-CREAMS $1
YOGHURT ICE-CREAMS $1
ZOOPER Doopers – 50c
ICYPOLES—50c

HELPERS NEEDED FOR TERM 1 ROSTER:
Deb is looking for helpers to go on the Roster for this term please. No preparation needed for this roster, you just need to sell them. You can call her on 0400 140 449.

SUNHATS
In Term 1, St Laurence’s blue school sunhats are to be worn. Hats are available from the school office.

“No hat, No play”

Cricket Style $10-00
Please note that it is not acceptable to have a frayed hat or have graffiti on hats.

2nd HAND UNIFORM SHOP
We have a selection of 2nd hand uniforms for sale at school. Please call Krista on 0409 585 080 OR 0408 624 062

SPECIAL: BAG AND HAT COMBO: $50

ICY POLES
FRIDAY LUNCH TIMES TERM 1
50 cents
To be sold at the kitchen window

As part of our School Social Justice Mission, grade 6 leaders will be selling icy poles donated by the staff each Friday in Term 1. All proceeds will go to CARITAS.

Basketball shorts and the netball/tennis type skirts are not accepted for sports uniform.

PLEASE CLEARLY LABEL ALL CLOTHING ITEMS IN AN LOGICAL PLACE SO THEY CAN BE RETURNED TO THE CHILDREN IF FOUND.

2017 TERM DATES
Term 1: 1 Feb—31 March
Term 2: 18 April - 30 June
Term 3: 17 July - 22 September
Term 4: 9 October - 20 Dec for students TBC & 22 Dec for staff

UNIFORM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summer Girls</th>
<th>Summer Boys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St Laurence’s School Check Dress/Shorts (white, blue, grey check)</td>
<td>Midford grey school shorts—basic style</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Laurence’s White Polo Shirt (short/long sleeved)</td>
<td>St Laurence’s White Polo Shirt (short/long sleeved)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Laurence’s School Rugby Windcheater</td>
<td>St Laurence’s School Rugby Windcheater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White school ankle socks</td>
<td>Grey School Ankle Socks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black (traditional leather type) school shoes/boots (NO SKATE SHOES)</td>
<td>Black (traditional leather type) school shoes/boots (NO SKATE SHOES)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal blue school hat</td>
<td>Royal Blue School Hat</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Hair ribbons – blue/white

Don’t forget about Michael’s Supa IGA Community Rewards program. Have you changed your old white tag to the new black ones? To support our school community simply present your black tag during checkout OR you can donate your points to the school. See in store or contact the office for more information.

As the program is solely reliant on the number of active tags to generate the funds, the question is, how many supporting families do we have? In other words if the majority of our school community families are not using the program, we are missing a great opportunity. The number of tags that have contributed to our school is 45. We have 129 families at school, so jump in and get on board this fantastic program.

Bakers Delight School Rewards: Easy Fundraising. When you buy your bread and baked goods at Bakers Delight mention that you would like your points to go to St Laurence’s Primary School. A portion of your purchase goes to the school. At the end of the year we receive a cheque that goes to the P & F to buy resources for our school.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS NEWS

Summer Girls
St Laurence’s School Check Dress/Shorts (white, blue, grey check)
St Laurence’s White Polo Shirt (short/long sleeved)
St Laurence’s School Rugby Windcheater
White school anklet socks
Black (traditional leather type) school shoes/boots (NO SKATE SHOES)
Royal blue school hat
Hair ribbons – blue/white

Summer Boys
Midford grey school shorts—basic style
St Laurence’s White Polo Shirt (short/long sleeved)
St Laurence’s School Rugby Windcheater
Grey School Ankle Socks
Black (traditional leather type) school shoes/boots (NO SKATE SHOES)
Royal Blue School Hat

Helpful Hints:
Basketball shorts and the netball/tennis type skirts are not accepted for sports uniform.

Please clearly label all clothing items in an logical place so they can be returned to the children if found.

St Joseph’s Primary School
5672 1052
St Joseph’s Primary Korumburra
5655 2040

Faith In Their Future
Partners in Catholic Education in South Gippsland with
Mary MacKillop College
5662 4255
ALL FAMILIES SHOULD NOW BE ON TIQBIZ. IF YOU HAVE NOT DOWNLOADED THIS SCHOOL APP PLEASE DO SO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE - NEED HELP WITH THE APP? PLEASE CALL THE SCHOOL FOR ASSISTANCE. SUITS SMART PHONE, COMPUTER, TABLET, IPHONE. www.tiqbiz.com

From tiqbiz your can submit absences, access school interviews, access newsletters and notifications and calander dates. Need to contact the office, speak to a teacher, have a query, change bus afternoon bus ? You can do all this from tiqbiz.

TIQBIZ

No School for Preps:
Wednesday 8th Feb
Wednesday 15th Feb
Wednesday 22nd Feb
Preps attend every day onwards from 1st March.

WORKING WITH CHILDRENS CHECK

This year we will continue to explore improved parent participation and help in the classrooms and on excursions. However, it is important to remind you that parents wishing to help in schools are required to have a Working with Children Check and inform the office once this is complete as we keep a data base of parents who have this check. This check can be applied for through the post office and is free for volunteers.

TIQBIZ

ASSEMBLY - Friday assembly is at 8.55am in the Big Shed. All parents welcome.

MEDICATION

If your child requires medication at anytime during the year, you must fill in the official medical form which is available from the office. All efforts will be made to meet medication times.

STUDENT ABSENCES

If your child is absent from school at any time, including being late or withdrawing from school early, the school must be informed. Please fill in the appropriate form available in the office next to the sign/out book. Please note that this form does not take the place of the sign in/out book.

A parent or guardian must sign in late children or early withdrawal of children.

Children do not learn when they are unwell. Out of respect for staff and students, please keep your children home from school if they are unwell. It is recommended that children are kept home for 24 - 48 hours after gastro illness.

ASThma MANAGEMENT PLAN

Parents need to provide the school with an updated Asthma Management Plan each year. Please have the new plan to the office by the end of February.

LATE ARRIVALS AND EARLY DEPARTURES

We understand that on occasions there may be circumstances that mean that children may arrive late to school. By law children arriving late (after 8.55am) must be signed in by a parent/guardian. The same applies if your child/ren need to leave the school early. Parent/Guardian must notify the office and the child signed out.

Students cannot leave the school grounds during the day without adult supervision.
Yummy baked goods

_______________________________________________________________________________________________________

St Laurence’s, Leongatha — St Kevin’s Meeniyan — St Joseph’s, Mirboo North — St Andrew’s Tarwin Lower & St Joseph’s, Korumburra — St Vincent’s, Loch

Parish Priests Father Aju Varghese - Father Jeneesh Jose - Parish Secretary: Anne Hemming
REMINDER REGARDING BUS PASSES

The bus network is for students to get into and home from school from outlying areas. It is not a public bus service. We have direction from the bus co-ordinator that passes ARE NOT to be issued for such things as sporting activities, music lessons, parties, sleepovers.

It is a requirement that should you need a pass in an emergency ONLY, ideally 48hrs is required. **Ask for passes outside of this criteria puts pressure on the office staff when requests are rejected.**

OGILVY STREET BUS ZONES:

REMINDER— It has come to our attention that some parents are using Ogilvy Street to pick up children after school or drop off children in the morning. Some parents are pulling in just after the bus zone and blocking buses in.

We remind you that from 8:15am—9:30am and 3:00pm—4:00pm is FOR BUSES ONLY. Please do not use Ogilvy Street for drop off or pick up during these times.

The speed limit for school zones along Ogilvy and Brumley & Horn Streets is 40 kmls.

CAMP, SPORTS AND EXCURSION FUNDING (CSEF)

CSEF eligibility

To be eligible for the fund, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

- on the first day of Term one
- Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder, OR
- Be a temporary foster parent, and;
- Submit an application to the school by the due date. * A special consideration eligibility category also exists. For more information, see: [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef)

Parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with one of (a) or (b) above.

Eligibility Date

For concession card holders CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/legal guardian’s concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink on the first day of either term one (27 January 2016) or term two (11 April 2016).

Closing Date

Application close by 28 February 2016, so that payments can be made from March 2016. However schools can accept parent applications up until 03 June 2016.

CSEF payment amount

The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of the eligible student.

- Primary school student rate: $125 per year.
- Secondary school student rate: $225 per year.

The CSEF is paid directly to your child’s school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child.

**APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE.**