



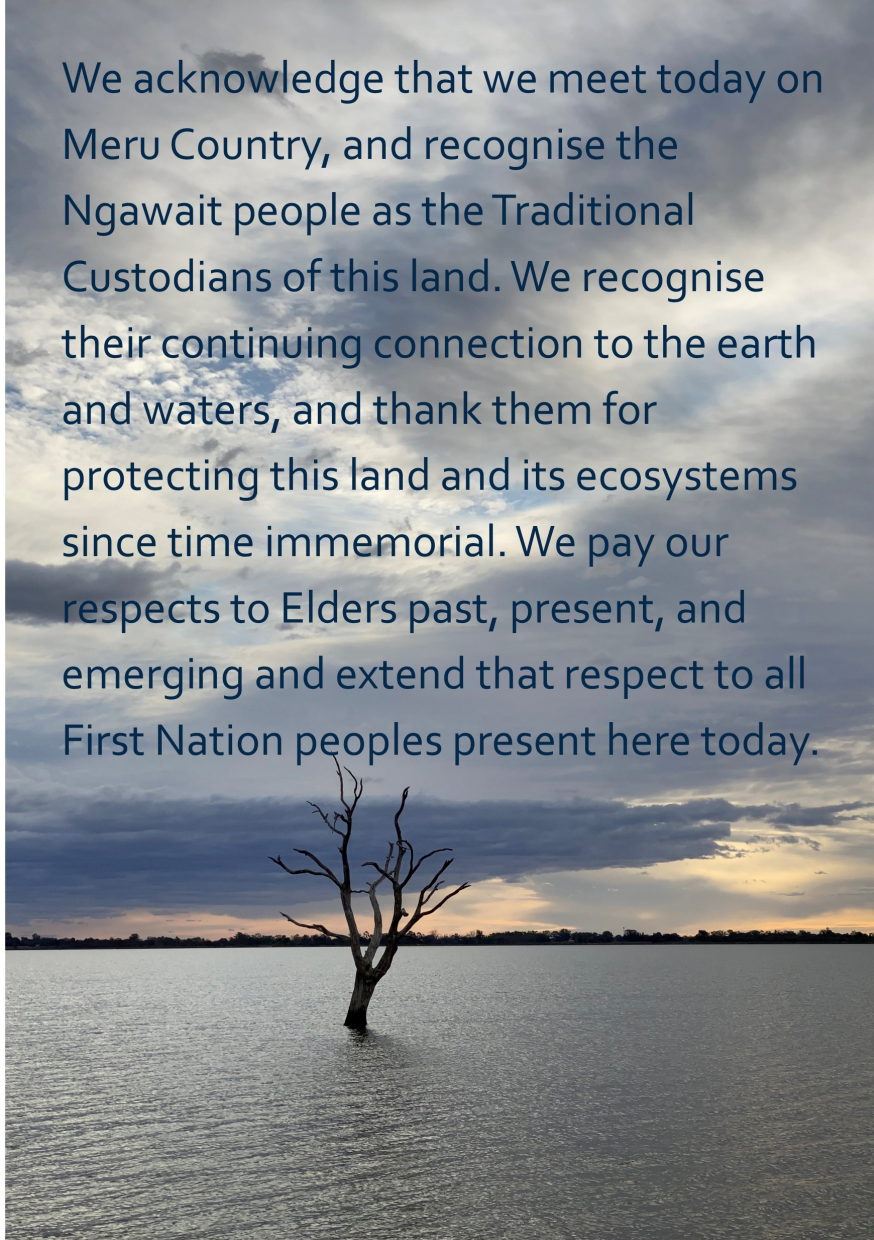
# Week 11, Term 1 2025

## Important Dates

<b>Palm Sunday</b> Sunday 13 April 2025	<b>Holy Week</b> Sunday 13 April 2025	<b>Good Friday</b> Friday 18 April 2025	<b>Easter Vigil</b> Saturday 19 April 2025
<b>Easter Sunday</b> Sunday 20 April 2025	<b>Easter Monday</b> Monday 21 April 2025	<b>ANZAC Day</b> Friday 25 April 2025	<b>First Day of Term 2</b> Monday 28 April 2025
<b>Catholic Education Week 11th-17th May</b> Sunday 11 May 2025	<b>Walk Safely to School Day</b> Friday 16 May 2025	<b>Laudato Si' Week 16th - 24th May</b> Friday 16 May 2025	<b>House Day</b> Friday 16 May 2025
			<b>SJSB Book Fair 20th - 21st May</b> Tuesday 20 May 2025
<b>StFoAC Immersion Day Year 5/6</b> Tuesday 20 May 2025	<b>Open Week Photo Shoot</b> Thursday 22 May 2025	<b>Showcase 2:10-3pm</b> Friday 23 May 2025	<b>National Sorry Day</b> Monday 26 May 2025
		<b>National Reconciliation Week</b>	<b>Student free Day</b> Friday 6 June 2025

## Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge that we meet today on Meru Country, and recognise the Ngawait people as the Traditional Custodians of this land. We recognise their continuing connection to the earth and waters, and thank them for protecting this land and its ecosystems since time immemorial. We pay our respects to Elders past, present, and emerging and extend that respect to all First Nation peoples present here today.







# Holy Week

I remember the first time my child was hurt. She was only about a year and a half old. We were in the backyard on a warm summer day. She was wearing little blue shorts and a white t-shirt, still a bit wobbly on her feet. As she toddled across the concrete, she lost her balance and fell, scraping her knee.

It wasn't a serious injury, just a graze really. She didn't cry. In fact, she seemed more surprised than upset. But I cried. It was the first time I had seen my child bleed. As I watched tiny beads of blood form and dry on her once unblemished skin, a deeper realisation washed over me: this would be the first of many scrapes, cuts, and bruises, both physical and emotional, she would face in life. I scooped her up, carried her inside, gently cleaned the wound, and held her close.

I often find myself returning to that moment during Holy Week, the week leading up to Easter. Holy Week is a time to reflect not only on the suffering and sacrifice of Jesus, but on the fragility and beauty of life itself. Holy Week invites us into a sacred space to pause and consider where we are wounded, body, mind, and soul, and how, through faith, we are made whole again.

The most solemn day of Holy Week is Good Friday. On this day, we remember the suffering and crucifixion of Jesus, his vulnerability, his pain, and his death. It is a day when the world grows quiet with reverence. On this day there are no miracles, no crowds celebrating and nobody being healed. On this day we encounter Jesus not in glory, but in humanity; broken, bleeding, and alone. Once someone's child, perhaps once scraped and comforted by a loving hand, he now bears the full weight of the world's suffering.


And yet, even in this moment of darkness, Jesus remains a light. He responds to hatred with love. He offers forgiveness to his executioners. He shows compassion for the thief beside him. He entrusts his mother to a friend. He does not turn inward in pain, but outward in grace.

How might we respond if we were in his place? When we are hurt, rejected, misunderstood, do we lash out or reach out? Good Friday reminds us that it is possible, even in great suffering, to be people of compassion and mercy.

Our world can feel deeply divided at times. But whether we are Catholic, of another faith, or simply seeking meaning, Holy Week invites us all to reflect on our shared humanity. Every person we meet carries invisible wounds. Every child scrapes their knee on life's rough patches. And in our response to one another, with patience, love, and kindness, we participate in the healing and resurrection that Easter promises.

May this Holy Week and Easter be a time of deep reflection and gentle renewal for you and your family. As we journey through sorrow into joy, may the light of Christ shine brightly in your hearts and homes.

## Easter Prayer



Dear God,

Thank you for giving us such good gifts.  
For our families who love us.  
For yummy food and tasty drink.  
For so many different beautiful animals.  
For parks with tall trees and soft grass.  
For birds that fly among the clouds.  
For seas and streams that are fun to paddle in.

Thank you for your son, Jesus.  
We like to read about him in the Bible.  
He taught his disciples about you.  
He healed people who were sick,  
and walked on water  
He even died and came back to life.  
Help us to remember all the things he did,  
and celebrate him on this special day.

Amen.





## From the Principal



As we draw Term 1 to a close, it's a wonderful time to pause and reflect on the many rich learning experiences, community events, and acts of service that have shaped our first term together at St Joseph's School Barmera.

Thank you to all families, staff, and students who have embraced the start of the year with enthusiasm and care. The term has been filled with moments of joy, learning, and togetherness, reminding us that the heart of our school is the strong partnership we share as a faith-filled community.

As we prepare to celebrate the joy of Easter, we also pause to honour the season of Lent, a time for reflection, prayer, and giving. A sincere thank you to everyone who contributed to this year's Project Compassion fundraising efforts. From the warm and welcoming Lenten Breakfasts on Wednesday mornings to the creative and well-organised House Fundraisers led by students, your generosity has been outstanding. Your contributions have supported not only Caritas Australia's important work but also supported the values of empathy, justice, and compassion that we aim to nurture in every child.

We also extend a heartfelt thank you to all who supported the recent Parents and Friends (P&F) fundraisers. Whether you took a guess in the 'Guess the Eggs' challenge, sold and bought tickets in the Easter Raffle, ordered delicious treats in the Hot Cross Bun Drive, or danced the night away at the School Disco, your participation made these events memorable and successful. The funds raised go directly back into projects that enhance our students' learning and wellbeing. Thank you!

Last week we held our Learning Journey Interviews, a valuable opportunity for three-way conversations between students, parents/carers, and teachers. These discussions not only deepened our understanding of each child's academic progress, but also their social and emotional development. Importantly, these conversations help empower students to take greater ownership and responsibility for their learning which is an essential part of growing into confident, capable learners.

If any extra support is needed as a result of these interviews, we encourage parents and carers to continue the conversation with your child's teacher or relevant staff member. Strong partnerships between home and school are key to nurturing success and wellbeing. While the Learning Journey Interviews are a formal opportunity for reflection and goal setting, I warmly remind all families that open communication is encouraged throughout the year. Please don't hesitate to reach out if needed.

We were delighted to welcome Krystina Dawe to St Joseph's School Barmera in Week 9 as part of CESA's Aspiring Leaders Program. It's always refreshing to see our school through new eyes, and Krystina's reflections offer a unique and affirming perspective on the culture

and community we've built together. With her permission, we are pleased to share her testimonial with you as a reminder of the positive impact our school has, not only on those within our community but also on those who visit.

*I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to St Joseph's School, Bamera, for allowing me the incredible opportunity to undertake my Aspiring Principal placement. During my time at the school, I witnessed firsthand the authenticity of the hospitality, which was consistently warm, welcoming, and genuine.*

*What stood out to me most was how the school culture permeates every aspect of life on campus, deeply rooted in the Josephite tradition. It is clear that these values guide not only the staff but also the students, creating an environment of mutual respect, kindness, and purpose.*

*I was particularly inspired by the way students are empowered as agents of change, taking initiative in both their learning and their wider community. It was evident that they were not only learning academic skills but also developing a sense of responsibility and a desire to make a positive impact in the world.*

*The theme of "seeds of hope" truly resonated with me and is clearly lived out daily at St Joseph's School, Bamera. It's this commitment to nurturing hope, compassion, and growth that makes Catholic Education so special. The school's vision is not only present in its mission but is actively woven into the everyday experiences of the staff and students, reminding us all of the importance of fostering hope and faith in our community. This also compliments the academic learning for students rather than being in competition with it.*

*For me, the experience at St Joseph's School Bamera was transformative. I felt a true sense of belonging, as though I was part of something much larger than myself. The sense of vocation that I experienced during my placement, in the truest sense of the word, was deeply moving. It is more than just a school – it felt like a calling to be part of something greater, contributing to something meaningful and lasting. Nanda De Winter has encapsulated an authentic sense of service leadership and you can see the way in which this position has and continues to provide nourishment.*

*I leave with a renewed sense of purpose, inspired by the school and the staff which are integral to establishing such a rich culture. The impact which the experience has had on me will be one that lasts and is taken with me into my future leadership journey.*

*Thank you once again for this invaluable experience. It has left an indelible mark on my personal and professional growth.*

As we enter the Easter break, may you and your families be blessed with moments of peace, renewal, and joy. We also pause to commemorate ANZAC Day during the holidays, honouring those who have served and continue to serve our country with courage and dedication.

Term 2 promises to be full of excitement, growth, and learning. We look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready to continue our journey together.

Wishing you a safe, restful, and holy Easter break.

Nanda de Winter

Principal



# THRIVE WITH 5

## 4. EAT WELL

When children eat well they have energy for learning and play. They concentrate better and achieve more. Limiting your child's sugar intake, drinking water rather than soft drinks and ensuring plenty of fresh food sets up the right habits for later in life. Eating well yourself is the best way to influence your child's attitude to eating.



1. PLAY

2. TALK

3. READ

4. EAT WELL

5. SLEEP

READINESS FOR LEARNING



APPA Australian Primary Principals Association

### Families can do a lot to help their children eat well!

For children, healthy food means a tasty variety from five special groups: vegies, fruits, grains, dairy, and proteins. Each group has its own superpowers to help them grow.

- **Lead by Example:** children learn by watching you, so show them how yummy and fun it is to eat healthy foods by eating them yourself.
- **Involve Them:** Take your child grocery shopping and let them pick out fruits and vegies. They'll be more excited to eat them if they've chosen them themselves.
- **Make it Fun:** Turn mealtime into an adventure! Let children make some decisions about what everyone will have for meals and involve them in cooking to make it exciting.
- **Offer Variety:** Introduce a wide range of foods from all the food groups. Let them explore different tastes and textures.
- **Set a Routine:** Regular meal and snack times help kids know when to expect food, reducing the chances of them getting too hungry and cranky.
- **Eat Together:** Family meals are a great time to bond and encourage healthy eating habits. Sit down together and

enjoy your meals as a family. It's also a good time to talk / yarn about the day and tell funny stories.

## YEL Excursion

Hello! Our names are Ronak, Anneliese, Imogen and Breanna and we are your Young Environmental Leaders for 2025. On the 3rd of April we attended our first YEL forum in Loxton at the PIRSA Research Centre. PIRSA taught us all about the life cycle of the fruit fly and we designed ways we could break the cycle to protect our fruit. Caroline from Biological Services shared her knowledge of insects including wasps and Peter took us on a farm tour and showed us how science is used in farming.

Some of our highlights were:

- Watching sterile fruit flies being dropped out of a plane.
- Having a tour of the farm and seeing the white fly on the plants.
- Learning about how "good bugs" can be used to get rid of pests without using harmful pesticides.
- Learning about leadership and how being a YEL member can help the environment. Although we are a small group, we can have a big impact!

We are looking forward to teaching you more about the environment and protecting endangered species at our showcase days and through newsletters.





# SAPSASA Athletics

Our talented students proudly represented St Joseph’s School Barmera at the Waikerie SAPSASA Athletics Carnival. Competing against students from across the region, our athletes demonstrated incredible determination, sportsmanship, and team spirit in a variety of track and field events. It was wonderful to see their hard work in training pay off, with many personal bests achieved and some outstanding individual performances. A special congratulations goes to Stella, who broke the Riverland record in shot put , a record that had stood since 2007! We are so proud of the way our students supported one another and displayed our school values throughout the day.



# SJSB Neon Disco

What an incredible night at the P&F School Disco!

A huge thank you to our amazing Parents & Friends team for their fantastic organisation.

To all the families who came along and joined the fun, thank you for your energy and enthusiasm!

And a very special shoutout to Rachael for the illuminating face painting and Andrew ‘Sarez’ Sarakinis for setting the vibe with great tunes and keeping the dancefloor buzzing!

Such a joyful celebration of our wonderful school community!









# Holy Week Stations of the Cross

In the lead-up to Easter, our students have been deeply engaged in re-enacting key moments from Jesus' final days, beginning with His triumphant entrance into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. With palms in hand and hearts full of joy, students brought to life the moment Jesus was welcomed as a king. Each day leading up to Good Friday, classes have also taken part in reverent re-enactments of Jesus' journey to Calvary through the Stations of the Cross. These powerful daily reflections have helped students to walk in Jesus' footsteps, contemplating His sacrifice and deep love for humanity in a way that is meaningful and age-appropriate.





## Chrism Mass Port Pirie

This week, our student leaders travelled to Port Pirie to take part in the annual Chrism Mass at St Mark's Cathedral. The Chrism Mass is a special liturgical celebration held the week before Holy Week where the Bishop blesses the holy oils that will be used throughout the Diocese for sacraments such as Baptism, Confirmation, and Anointing of the Sick. It is also a time when priests renew their vows of service. Our student leaders represented our school with reverence and enthusiasm, gaining a deeper understanding of the significance of this sacred tradition and the unity it brings to our Diocesan community.



St Francis  
of Assisi College  
*Laudato Si'*

2026  
ENROLMENTS  
NOW OPEN!

for Years 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12

**For more Information:**

Contact Claire Smith,  
Executive Administrator.

8595 4500

[info@assisi.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@assisi.catholic.edu.au)





Woolworths

**NETSETGO!**

**BARMERA**  
Netball Club

The fun starts here.

All children welcome!

Starting term 2, Wednesday 30 April  
4.30pm @ outdoor courts.

Go to the Barmera Netball Club  
facebook page to register.

We're a provider!

**Sports  
Vouchers  
Plus**

Save up to

**\$200**

per child, per calendar year  
on sport, active recreation  
and music fees.



**Net:** 5 years old to year 1.

**Set/Go:** year 2 to 9 years old (or 10 if not playing 11u). Set/Go also play modified games against other towns on Friday after school, starting around week 3, term 2.

Each participant will receive a NetSetGo participant pack containing:

Size 4 netball / T-shirt- Suncorp Super Netball Team branded (choose size when registering) /  
Netball key chain - Suncorp Super Netball Team branded.

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

# School Holiday Guide



**AVAILABLE NOW!**

Scan the QR code to find out  
how to download or collect a  
printed copy of the guide

**12 -27 APRIL 2025**

[berribarmera.sa.gov.au](http://berribarmera.sa.gov.au)

**Berri Barmera**  
COUNCIL





**GOOD CLEAN FUN**

**PLAY.AFL/AUSKICK**

**BARMERA MONASH FC**

**Friday Nights**  
**2nd May - 4th July**  
**4:30pm-5:30pm**  
**Free with your ORSR**  
**Sports Voucher!**







**GOOD CLEAN FUN**

**PLAY.AFL/AUSKICK**

**BERRI FC**

**Friday Nights**

**4:30pm - 5:30pm**

**2nd May - 4th July**

**Free with your ORSR  
Sports Voucher!**







BERRI ROWING  
CLUB



# COME AND DISCOVER ROWING!



Are you an adult looking for a new low-impact activity to enjoy on our beautiful Murray River?

- Social, positive club atmosphere
- Low membership fees (all year round)
- No experience needed
- Ages 18 and up
- Rowing on Sunday mornings and Wednesday afternoons



The Berri Rowing Club invites you to **'Come and Try' Rowing** during Autumn.

A fantastic time of the year to be out on the water!

\*Only **\$5 per session** for the first three sessions (to cover insurance).



Contact Sue for more information or to register:

**0418 824 914** or  
**sue1672@gmail.com**



