



Welcome to 2024

Welcome students and parents, to another exciting school year filled with endless opportunities for growth and success! We are thrilled to embark on this journey together, fostering a community of learning, exploration, and achievement. This year, students will immerse themselves in a fresh literacy framework inspired by the remarkable Jocelyn Seamer. They have seamlessly adjusted to this transition and are thoroughly enjoying the innovative literacy curriculum.

Student will still engage with the following specialist

RRRR- Mrs Fran Bennett

Digital Technology- Mr Jerrod Davidson

Visual Art- Mrs Jessica Carmichael

AUSlan- Tim

Please note that both the 3/4 teachers are always approachable if you have any questions or concerns. We are excited for the promising year ahead!

From Cheryl and Elli

MEET THE TEACHER



Cheryl Schwab

ABOUT ME...

Hi, my name is Cheryl Schwab and I will be teaching 34 CS class this year Monday-Thursday each week. I have been a part of the St Joseph's community for many years, both as a teacher and as a parent. For those of you who do not know me, I grew up in Essendon before moving to Rochester in 2000 where I now live on a few acres just out of town with my husband Darrel, my daughter Madeline. I also have two daughters, Hannah who lives locally and Eliza who is living and studying in Perth. I became a grandparent in May last year and love spending time with my grandson Harvey who brings us all so much joy. I have a cat Maisy and 4 chickens who are very friendly- often greeting me at my front door or following me around the garden.

We are a very close family and we spend most of our time with our extended family and dear friends from Melbourne holidaying and enjoying each other's company by going to the races, trying new restaurants, camping and jet skiing. I have a love of learning and will often challenge myself by learning about the best ways to improve student learning so they can be confident and happy learners.

In my spare time I enjoy staying fit and healthy, reading and trying new recipes each week for others to enjoy. I am looking forward to working with, and watching your children grow in many different ways throughout the year.

A FEW OF MY FAVOURITE THINGS...

- COLOUR: Green
- DRINK: Banana Smoothie
- PLACE: Lorne
- SOUND: Ocean waves
- ICE CREAM: Honeycomb
- MOVIE: Encanto
- HOLIDAY: Family Summer's camping at Rye



Please don't hesitate to contact me via phone 54841797 or email:

cschwab@sjrochester.catholic.edu.au

MEET THE LSO



Bianca Robins

ABOUT ME...

Hi, my Name is Bianca. I live in Echuca - Previously from a beautiful country town called Violet Town. I have 2 wonderful children Bella and Harley, I am very family orientated and my family is my world. I love animals, I have a small collection of them. I love music of any sort. Anything outdoors makes me happy. I spend my weekends with my children, camping, fishing, riding horses and motorbikes. I am relatively new to the education system and I am throughly loving my role. I have a can do attitude and love to spread positivity and kindness. I am so excited to watch the children at St Joes grow and develop in 2024.

A FEW OF MY FAVOURITE THINGS...

- COLOUR: Blue
- DRINK: Soda Water
- PLACE: Anywhere on the water
- SOUND: Music - any
- ICE CREAM: White Choc & Raspberry
- MOVIE: Man from Snowy River
- HOLIDAY: Anywhere on the Beach

MEET THE TEACHER



Elli Williams

ABOUT ME...

Hi All,

My names Elli Williams and I'll be teaching 3/4 EW this year. I'm looking forward to a fabulous year of learning, growing and having a lot fun getting to know all the wonderful students of 3/4 EW. Here is a little bit about myself.

- I grew up and still live in Bendigo. I commute to and from work every day and enjoy my daily coffee on the road.
- I am lucky enough to have 3 sisters and parents who are also my best friends.
- I love to socialise, spend time with my family and friends, exercise and to be outdoors.
- I play netball for Sandhurst FNC in Bendigo.
- I am a mad supporter of the Collingwood Magpies (AFL)- Go Pies!!
- I have completed a Bachelor of Primary Education at La Trobe and have also completed a Business Degree in Event Management, whilst in Melbourne.
- I have worked in many schools in Bendigo doing different roles such as; Learning Support Officer, Outdoor Ed and PE traineeship, Office admin and after school care.

I look forward to working together this year and please note that I am always available for a chat.

Thanks, Elli

A FEW OF MY FAVOURITE THINGS...

- COLOUR: Purple
- DRINK: COFFEE!!
- PLACE: Albury
- SOUND: OceanNature
- ICE CREAM: Salted Caramel
- MOVIE: Trolls
- HOLIDAY: Noosa



Please don't hesitate to contact me via phone 54841797 or email:

ewilliams@sjrochester.catholic.edu.au

MEET THE LSO



Asha McConnell

ABOUT ME...

Hi, my name is Asha. I am originally from Moama and have lived in Rochester for 12 years. I have 2 children - Ivy and Jack. I enjoy reading and spending time with my family on the weekends. I also enjoy family holidays.

I am looking forward to working alongside Miss Williams this year and getting to know all the 3/4 students.

A FEW OF MY FAVOURITE THINGS...

- COLOUR: Pink
- DRINK: Iced coffee
- PLACE: The beach
- SOUND: A storm
- ICE CREAM: Rainbow
- MOVIE: 2nd Avatar
- HOLIDAY: Queensland

MEET THE LSO



Hannah Schwab

ABOUT ME...

Hi I'm Hannah, I will be working Wednesday - Friday as an LSO in 3/4 EW. I am looking forward to working alongside the wonderful year 3/4 and Miss Williams this year. I can't wait to get to know the class and share some fun moments. I will also be finishing up in July as I'm expecting my second baby. Here is a little bit about me.

- I live on property out in Corop with my partner Rodney and son Harvey which keeps us very busy.
- We have been on various camping trips with our friendship group and thoroughly enjoy it. When Harvey was just 4 months we conquered Cape York.
- I am very close to my Mum, Dad and 3 sisters. We travel and create lots of fun memories with each other.
- I love to get out on the ski and boat during summer as it's the best time of year!
- I have my Diploma in Children's Services and worked in the early childhood industry for 7 years before I started at St Joseph's.

A FEW OF MY FAVOURITE THINGS...

- COLOUR: Yellow
- DRINK: Iced Coffee
- PLACE: Rye
- MUSIC: Taylor Swift
- ICE CREAM: Hazelnut
- MOVIE: The age of Adeline
- HOLIDAY: Cairns or any beach

ENGLISH

In Term 4 2023 staff at St Joseph's began professional learning with Jocelyn Seamer (Jocelyn Seamer Education) with a focus on a whole school approach to Structured Literacy in 2024 and beyond. There is now a large amount of research about how to teach children to read in a way that works for the largest number of children possible. This involves:

1) Teaching children the relationship between the speech sounds of English and the letters that are used to represent them in writing. This is also known as phonics

2) Teaching children to blend sounds together to read words (blending) and pull them apart for early spelling (segmenting)

This is taught to children in explicit lessons where adults direct student attention and closely monitor progress. When children have strong oral language skills and can read words with ease, reading comprehension can happen. Making meaning is the goal of reading instruction, but phonics knowledge and being able to read words with ease makes this possible

Our Literacy Block look will look like



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Daily Review (15)	Daily Review (15)	Daily Review (15)	Daily Review (15)	Daily Review (15)
Explicit Morphology Introduction (20)	Explicit Morphology Day 2 (20)	Explicit Morphology Day 3 (20)	Explicit Morphology Day 4 (20)	Phonics Consolidation
Oral Reading Practice Introduction (20)	Oral Reading Practice (10) Handwriting (10)	Oral Reading Practice (10) Vocab follow up (10)	Oral Reading Practice (10) Handwriting (10)	Oral Reading Practice (10) Vocab follow up (10)
Sentence level writing + prosody (20)	Phonics Lesson (20)	Sentence level writing + prosody (20)	Phonics Lesson (20)	Sentence level writing + prosody (20)
Text Based Unit (45)	Text Based Unit (45)	Text Based Unit (45)	Text Based Unit (45)	Text Based Unit (45)

Daily Review-Students practice with each other foci from the previous lesson

Explicit Morphology-Morphology instruction involves the teaching of word parts (morphemes) and what they mean. For example played (play - base word) - ed is the suffix and means has happened.

Oral Reading Practice (Partner work)-In pairs students take it in turns sharing their learning with each other from the days lessons

Sentence level writing- learning about different types of sentences and how to use them to understand texts and write

Text Based Unit- students will explore background knowledge about the text features and purpose then enjoy the story with a focus each lesson related to the text features. For example, nouns and conjunctions, narrative features

In our first text unit, we will focus on Persuasive and Narrative genres. The first text, "Jetty Jumping," provides an opportunity for teaching persuasive techniques as it makes readers think about whether the character Milla should jump off the jetty.

Once we teach the skills of identifying the main idea or problem in persuasive texts, students are able to transfer these skills to other subjects to improve their comprehension.

Supporting children's reading development at home

Encourage children to 'sound out all through the word'. Help children practise their phonics.

Include opportunities to develop oral blending in everyday life. "Can you please pass me the /f/ /or/ /k/?"

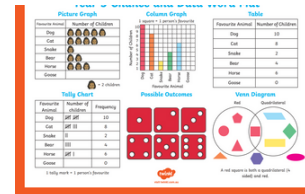
Encourage children to read the books they bring home multiple times. Help children develop oral language.

Encourage them to speak in full sentences. Encourage children to spend time with books they enjoy.

MATHEMATICS

Chance and Data

Our primary focus is on collecting, representing, and interpreting data. Beginning with data as a focus is an excellent way to commence the year, providing an opportunity to get to know each other's interests. During our maths sessions, both in small groups and as a whole class, we will engage in gathering data sets, such as favourite colours, foods, and animals and hobbies. The emphasis will be on exploring different ways to showcase our data, using authentic questions and topics to create our own pictographs, tables, bar graphs, tally marks to demonstrate our data. Additionally, students will concentrate on labelling their data displays and generating questions related to the data.

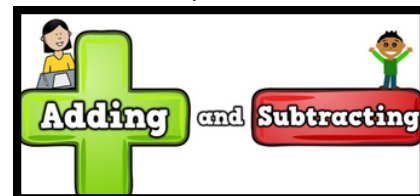


Space

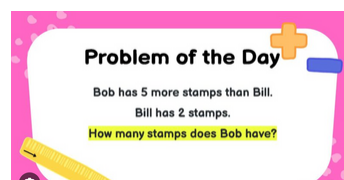
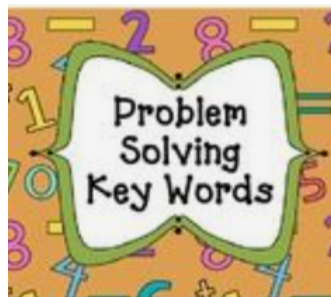
Students will make, compare and classify the properties of 2 Dimensional shapes and 3 Dimensional objects. They interpret and create two-dimensional representations of familiar environments. Students will be using the school environment to name and identify objects in relation to the space of 2D and 3D shapes and compare the similarities and differences between them. These will include vertices, lines, cone, spares and trapisums, flips and turns.

NUMBER- Addition and Subtraction

We will be exploring the mathematical language associated with addition and subtraction and also the inverse relationship between the two to solve the math problems. Students will also develop their number facts of tens facts, doubles, near doubles and add-subtract ten minus one $45 + 10 - 1$



Word Problems- Throughout the term, the students will encounter word problems regularly. These problems will serve as a platform for discussing mathematical language. When tackling these word problems, students will act them out, draw visual representations, create models using various materials and use tools like thinkboards to enhance their problem-solving skills.



RELIGION

Charism Unit—Living and Witnessing our Charism

We begin the year by delving into our Charism Unit—Living and Witnessing our Charism. The Brigidine Sisters maintain a bond with the Rochester community, and as we navigate through this unit, students will establish links by exploring the history and impact of the Brigidine Sisters on our school. Our exploration will extend to the present-day Brigidine order of sisters, as well as the various symbols within our school that signify our Catholic identity.

Scripture will be a guiding source, shedding light on how the Brigidine order exemplifies service to others. Using technology, we will investigate artistic exploration, researching representations that capture the Brigidine Sisters. Subsequently, students will craft their own interpretations of the Brigidine cross, in a presentation format of their choosing to share their newfound knowledge.



Lent & Easter

In the unit Lent and Easter the students are introduced to the period of Lent and Easter as the season in the Church's liturgical year and given the opportunity to explore how the community prepares for Easter through prayer, penance and good works. Students will be encouraged through the events of Holy Week, to remember and celebrate the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, and come to recognise Easter as the most important event in the Church year.

INQUIRY

Inquiry

To begin the school year the students will learn that by practising good habits for our mind and social skills for how to work effectively with others, they are developing lifelong skills. This gives students the opportunity to reflect on the in which they learn and what rules we need to follow so that everyone can do their best.



First Contact

Students will investigate the histories of the First Australians preceding the arrival of European settlers in Australia, exploring the motives and circumstances that led to the First Fleet's journey. Immersed in narratives of the initial interactions between Indigenous Australians and European settlers, they will begin to build the skills of historical thinking and action.

Throughout the unit, students will deepen their comprehension, to support a presentation where they share their learning with a small audience.



RRRR

with Mrs Bennett

My name is Fran Bennett. This year I will be teaching the Specialist subject RRRR. Students will be participating in the subject Resilience, Rights and Responsible Relationships (RRRR) as part of their Specialist rotation. The aim of this program is to develop each students' social, emotional and positive relationship skills. Social and emotional skills help students develop the resilience to deal with change, challenge and unpredictability.

In Term One, we will be learning all about emotions. Students will take part in learning experiences that will help them describe the influence that people, situations and events have on their emotions. They will investigate how emotional responses vary in depth and strength and build an understanding of how to interact positively with others in different situations. The second part of the term will focus on the students identify and describing their personal strengths. Activities will assist children in describing factors that contribute to positive relationships with people at school, home and in the community. Students will also identify communication skills needed to enhance relationships and describe cooperative behaviour needed to work in group situations.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

with Mr Davison

Welcome to the new term in Digital Technologies! This term, Grade 3/4 students will explore online safety through our Cybersmart modules.

In "Cybersmart Forever," they will learn to safely share content, protect images online, understand risks of friending strangers and recognise when to seek help.

Moving on to "Cybersmart Detectives," students will navigate issues like inappropriate contact, privacy, and personal information. They'll identify safe online information sharing, use strategies in uncomfortable situations, recognise online deception, and know how to seek help.

The final module, "Cybersmart Hero," focuses on respectful online behavior, cyberbullying, and being a positive bystander. By the end, students will identify cyberbullying, use strategies when feeling targeted, recognise when to seek help, and be positive bystanders. We look forward to an exciting term of learning essential online skills!

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

with Ms McEvoy

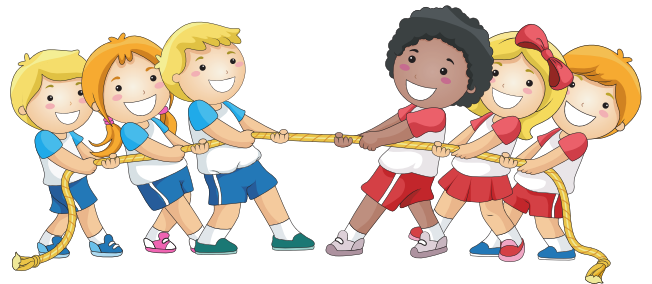
Welcome back to all students and families to what plans to be a fun and fulfilling school year in Physical Education. My name is Olivia McEvoy and I am delighted to be returning in 2024 to undertake the role of the Physical Education educator across all grades. I look forward to introducing some new and exciting sporting programs throughout the year.

This term will begin with a cricket program which will be the major focus for the first 4 weeks. The skills learnt during the program will be batting, bowling, fielding and throwing where students will learn the correct technique for these skills. These lessons are based on the 'Change It' approach which centers around ensuring activities are engaging and adaptable for students of all abilities. The 'Change It' approach stands for Coaching, How to score, Area, Number of students, Games rules, Equipment, Inclusion and Time. Students will conclude the program with a modified cricket round robin.

The following 4 weeks students will complete a tennis program which is similar to that of the tennis 'Hot Shots' program. The program modifies courts, racquets and balls to cater for varying skills and abilities. Students will learn to progress and extend tennis specific skills, strategies and matchplay.

KELLY SPORTS

with Wade



This term students will participate in a 9 week Kelly sports program with a "sports" focus. Students will have a 40 minute session each Friday which will be facilitated by Coach Wade.

They will have the opportunity to focus on the following sports - basketball, netball, T ball, hockey, AFL and soccer. Each week, through a focus on a particular sport, students will use the basic skills associated with each sport eg; dribbling, passing, shooting, handballing, marking and kicking. The skills will be taught and practiced through a range of fun skill based games and activities. Students will also participate in a Mini Olympics circuit with a range of events to test their athletics abilities. They will be invited to create team banners and choose a country to support for the session. In the final session of the term students will participate in team building activities where they will need to work in teams throughout a variety of challenges to promote working together as a team. It will be an action packed term with lots of fun and learning to be had by all.

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AUSLAN

with Tim

Students at St Joseph's learn Auslan with a deaf teaching assistant, Tim. Auslan emphasises that for Deaf individuals, sign language (like Auslan) serves as their primary mode of communication, similar to how spoken language functions for hearing individuals. In Auslan the children learn the significance of non-manual signals, such as eye contact and facial expressions. Eye contact in Auslan serves a similar purpose by signalling who the signer is addressing. This helps clarify the communication and ensures that the message is directed appropriately. Facial expressions in Auslan are likened to the tone of voice and body language in spoken language communication. They convey a wide range of emotions, attitudes, and subtle nuances of meaning, enriching the overall communication experience.

VISUAL ART

with Mrs Carmichael

Welcome to another year of Visual Art!
We are thrilled to be in a dedicated art room with all our supplies at our fingertips and vinyl on the floor ready to get creative! For some students visual art is their favourite place to be and for others inspiration doesn't come as easily.

While working together students will be reminded that everyone can be an artist -

EVERY
CHILD
IS AN
ARTIST
~PICASSO

BE AN ARTIST

A

Art materials stay in our art making space

R

Respect the materials, your work and everyone's ideas

T

Talk about your ideas, they are important!

I

Imagine, experiment, don't be afraid to make mistakes

S

Share and be kind - everyone is trying their best

T

Tidy up your art making space once you're done

This term, students will be spending the beginning weeks exploring and using colour; primary colours and work by Piet Mondrian, secondary colours, tones and shades. The focus will then shift to the Rochester Mural Festival and exploring their theme of "I have a dream...". Students will be given the opportunity use a range of mediums such as paint, oil pastel and watercolours to produce their art work.

SCHOOL DATES

<p>Week 2</p>	<p><u>Tuesday 6th February:</u> Safer Internet Day</p> <p><u>Wednesday 8th February:</u> Foundation students rest day</p> <p><u>Friday 9th February:</u> 9.30am: Beginning of Year Mass or Liturgy (venue to be confirmed) Kelly Sports & Auslan</p>
<p>Week 3</p>	<p><u>Tuesday 13th February:</u> Boys to the Bush (students will be notified of this opportunity)</p> <p><u>Wednesday 14th February:</u> Foundation students rest day</p> <p><u>Thursday 15th February:</u> Welcome Night (5.30pm – 7.00pm) BYO Picnic Tea On the grass at St Joseph's Classrooms open between 5.30pm – 6.00pm Friday 16th February: Kelly Sports & Auslan</p>
<p>Week 4 <i>Wellness Week</i></p>	<p><u>Tuesday 20th February:</u> Boys to the Bush</p> <p><u>Wednesday 21st February:</u> Courage & Crowns – day 1 Foundation students rest day</p> <p><u>Friday 23rd February:</u> Kelly Sports & Auslan</p>
<p>Week 5</p>	<p><u>Tuesday 27th February:</u> Boys to the Bush</p> <p><u>Tuesday 27th February:</u> Foundation students rest day</p> <p><u>Friday 1st March:</u> Kelly Sports & Auslan</p>



SCHOOL DATES

Week 6	<p><u>Tuesday 5th March:</u> Boys to the Bush</p> <p><u>Friday 8th March:</u> Pupil Free Day</p> <p><u>Saturday 9th March:</u> Elmore Charity Ball (a fundraiser for our school)</p>
Week 7	<p><u>Monday 11th March:</u> Public Holiday</p> <p><u>Tuesday 12th March:</u> Boys to the Bush</p> <p><u>Wednesday 13th March – Friday 15th March:</u> Grade 5/6 Camp Cave Hill Camp, Beaufort</p> <p><u>Friday 15th March:</u> Kelly Sports & Auslan</p> <p><u>Saturday 16th March:</u> Elmore Tractor Pull (a major fundraiser for our school)</p>
Week 8	<p><u>Tuesday 19th & Wednesday 20th March:</u> Learning Conversations</p> <p><u>Wednesday 20th March:</u> Courage & Crowns – day 2</p> <p><u>Friday 22nd March:</u> Golden Hammer Day</p>
Week 9	<p><u>Monday 25th March:</u> Community Learning Day – Holy Week</p> <p><u>Tuesday 26th March:</u> Chrism Mass – Grade 6 students</p> <p><u>Thursday 28th March:</u> End of Term</p>



SCHOOL INFORMATION

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Miss Toni Cripps
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(please note this phone is not manned at all times and any urgent messages should be given via phone call)