



ST JAMES'  
ANGLICAN SCHOOL

# The Mainsail

ISSUE 4 • SEPTEMBER 2024



*The Mainsail*

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# From the Vice Principal

MRS LAURA BRIGGS

## The Heartbeat of St James'

It is hard to believe that we are headed towards Term 4 and we will soon be commenting on the heat, rather than the cold. With Valedictory just around the corner for our Year 12 students it is a reminder of just how quickly time passes and to remind ourselves to recognise the special moments that happen everyday.

When I walk around St James' I see so many things I am grateful for. The wonderful people that make up our community, the amazing grounds and buildings we are lucky to spend so much of our time in and the incredible opportunities that our staff provide to the students.

There are two things I feel so very proud of being a part of St James'. The first is how we give back to those in need. Community engagement is deeply rooted in our values. This year, we launched several initiatives aimed at strengthening our connection with the wider community. From charity drives that collect essential goods for local families to environmental projects that promote sustainability and empathy toward the planet, our students are not only learning about the world but actively making it better. Watching our young leaders understand that they have the power to create change is something I am extremely grateful for.

The second thing I am proud of is the way we celebrate each other's achievements and accomplishments, whether big or small. These take so many forms, from a teacher inspiring a class and seeing those 'lightbulb' moments in their students to those who have achieved awards, won competitions or tried something new for the first time. Every week feels like a celebration at St James' as we gather for various events, showcasing talent and creativity. From our art showcases to music concerts, sports days, and cultural festivals, we celebrate our diversity as each other's cheerleaders.

It is also important to acknowledge the challenges that come our way, as they are part of our experience. But even in tough times, we support one another. As Vice Principal, I have witnessed countless examples of resilience and kindness over the year. These acts of compassion reinforce the belief that we are never alone and that there is always someone close by, ready to listen and ready to help. I am so grateful to be a part of this wonderful community that is the heartbeat of St James'.



“We are more than just a school; we are a family. There’s an unspoken bond among students, teachers, staff, and parents that nourishes a sense of belonging.”





# From the Head of Senior School

MR CHRIS HALL

## Time to Shine!

As we prepare to bid farewell to our Year 12 students, I am reminded of the many moments that have woven together to form the tapestry of their incredible journey.

They stand before us today, as a united cohort of young adults ready to take on the world. Helping them grow and shaping their journey is one of the great privileges of each of our teachers and it is one I value deeply in my role as Head of Senior School.

In the coming months we will celebrate many things about the Class of 2024. For some it will be individual honours, prizes and recognition both in school and from organisations outside of St James'. The most important honour to be bestowed upon our graduates will not be through a certificate or prize, it will be how they are remembered - their legacy, their character and what they did to improve the lives of those around them.

Each student will have attended nearly 10,000 lessons in the Senior School. Each lesson builds skills and develops the confidence students need to pursue excellence. The formal lessons are important, so too are the informal lessons gained through shared experiences on camps, excursions and special events which will remain special and unique to this cohort; these are their memories, this creates belonging, and this bonds the group, forever!

So, as we prepare to farewell the Class of 2024, I will reflect on the friendships forged, the countless moments of joy, the immense pride when individuals overcame challenges, the support the students showed toward one another and of their willingness to embrace each other's uniqueness and celebrate this. You come from strong foundations; build on these to achieve great things - that is my challenge to you, that is your responsibility to one another!

As always, it is what you do next that counts most...





# From the Deputy Head of Junior School

MR NICHOLAS TOWNSEND

## Enhancing Social Skills with the Rock and Water Program

An approach to personal development and social skills is taking shape at St James' with the introduction of the Rock and Water program. This psycho-physical method is designed to equip students with essential life skills through a series of hands-on tasks, mostly involving partner work. In this program, students are learning to:

- Ground themselves through breathing and engagement of their muscles.
- Remain in control during stressful situations.
- Use their arms to block.
- Speak with a strong voice and use their eyes accordingly.
- Show respect for one another - this is a common theme in the program.

Central to the Rock and Water philosophy is the idea of 'Rock,' which symbolises the strength and control one can cultivate within oneself. Here students are learning to be assertive.

The 'Water' component of the program represents the fluidity and adaptability required for effective social interactions. By learning to flow like water, students practice negotiation and demonstrate empathy.

Every interaction is unique. Sometimes a rock approach is what's required, other times it is water, or even a mixture of the two. The combination of Rock and Water embodies resilience. Students learn to balance inner strength with social skills, equipping them to handle conflicts with poise and resolve.

The Rock and Water program is being gradually introduced across the school. Year 4 students participated last term and this term, the program extends to Year 5 and Year 7 students. Other year groups will come online next term and next year. As Rock and Water becomes a cornerstone of the St James' curriculum, it promises to foster a supportive and resilient school community.

For more information, please visit [www.rockandwater.com.au](http://www.rockandwater.com.au)





# From the School Chaplain

REVEREND MARIE AITKEN

'Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.' - Hebrews 13:16

The School motto: faith, wisdom, service is emblazoned on the St James' school crest. Like any crest or logo, we can become oblivious to the finer detail because we see it so often, and yet, it remains easily recognisable when set amongst all the other school crests by its distinct colouring and shape. Each crest will have its own motto embedded into the shape.

2024 has seen the School push with intent on the Service aspect of our crest. This is a good thing, as it shows our students that there will, as the book of Deuteronomy states:

'Since there will never cease to be some in need on the earth, I therefore command you, 'Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbour in your land.'" - Deuteronomy 15:11

As individuals, we are becoming increasingly, self-absorbed, selfish and self-centred in a world that promotes power, success and entitlement. With the sense of being 'entitled' we are forgetting to treat others with courtesy and respect. Everything comes down to 'me - me - me'.

This means that we as a school, growing adults not just for today but into the future, have an important duty to impart to our students, the gift of 'service'. Enable them to see firsthand that many people in our community are in need in some way.

This year instead of holding fundraiser uniform-free days where every person contributes a gold coin for a worthy charity, we have had more practical ways of assisting communities in need.

In Term 1, every student was asked to bring in one pantry item of non-perishable food. We were overwhelmed by how much was donated on the day, with most students bringing in more than one item. In Term 2, each student was asked to bring in one item of non-perishable food, toys/blankets for animal shelters. Again, the result was impressive.

This term, the project was to bring in one item of toiletries. Each class group was assigned a different item, e.g. shampoo; deodorant etc. Yet again, our community service room is filled to overflowing.

In addition to those simple yet effective acts of generosity in service, some of the Year 10s raised money and attended the Anglicare WA School Sleep Out. This gave students a snapshot of the reality of living on the street, even if it was only for one night.

This year we have also seen a continuation of the vital Cub Sandwich project where students, staff, parents and parishioners come together once a term on one afternoon to make 1,000 sandwiches to help students at other schools who go without lunch regularly.

As if all of the abovementioned activities of generous giving and service aren't enough, the School community is supporting one of our own students, Archie, by raising money for him to receive necessary and ongoing medical treatment overseas.

As a school community, we live and breathe the motto on our school crest: faith, wisdom, service. Each aspect goes hand-in-hand and builds an individual's sense of being and purpose in this life.

'...give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.' - Luke 6:38

Blessings,  
Marie



# From the President of the P&F

MR CALVIN MAKWILI

As we embrace the vibrant spirit of our school, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on some recent heartfelt initiatives and extend an invitation to all our families.

First and foremost, I am filled with gratitude and pride as we share the incredible success of our recent fundraising initiative for our beloved Year 7 student, Archie.

In a show of solidarity and support, we organised a “Wear Red Day” where students and staff donned Archie’s favourite colour, symbolising our unity in this challenging time for Archie and his family.

The response from our community was nothing short of remarkable. Thanks to your generosity, we raised over \$8,000 to assist Archie and his family in seeking treatment overseas.

This overwhelming support exemplifies the compassion and strength of our St James' community. Thank you to everyone who participated, donated, and spread the word. Your kindness has made a significant difference in Archie’s journey, and we will continue to keep him and his family in our thoughts and prayers.

As we celebrate these achievements, I also want to take this opportunity to encourage an open dialogue between our families and the P & F Committee. I have had the pleasure of interacting with many of you, and it has been heartening to hear your positive feedback about our school and the direction we are heading.

However, I want to reiterate that your ideas and suggestions are always welcome. We believe that collaboration is key to fostering an enriching environment for our students, and your insights can help us enhance our community even further.

If you have thoughts on events, initiatives, or any other areas where you think the P & F can contribute, please don’t hesitate to reach out. Whether it’s a small suggestion or a big idea, we want to hear from you. Together, we can continue to build a supportive and engaging atmosphere for our children and families.

Thank you once again for your support and commitment to our school community. Let’s keep the momentum going as we work together for our students’ future.





# A message of gratitude and appreciation

## THE FERRIS FAMILY

Dear St James' Community,

We hope this message finds you well. On behalf of our family, we would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for the incredible support you have shown Archie during this challenging time.

The recent fundraising campaign, where students and staff wore red in solidarity with Archie, truly touched our hearts. It is a testament to the strength and kindness of the St James' family. Seeing everyone come together to raise awareness and show their love for Archie has provided us with so much hope and comfort.

We are also deeply appreciative of the push-up challenge and all the donations collected to assist with Archie's treatment. The photos and videos shared by so many of you brought smiles and laughter to our hearts. Your generosity means more to us than words can express, and it is helping to make a significant difference in Archie's journey to recovery.

Thank you for keeping Archie in your thoughts and prayers. Your support not only uplifts Archie but also strengthens our entire family, both here and in the UK, during this difficult time. We are truly blessed to be part of such a caring and compassionate community and grateful to be members of the St James' family."

With all our love and appreciation,

The Ferris Family





# Introducing our 2025 Senior School Captains

We're proud to announce our 2025 Senior School Captains!

Congratulations to the following students who will take on leadership roles:

**School Captains:** Mason H and Matthew T

**Twilight Captains:** Harvey P and Abigale S

**Sydney Captains:** Shanay I

**Eglinton Captains:** Harrison W and Stephanie F

**Cervantes Captains:** Kieron M and Taylor C

**Sustainability Captain:** Lucas W

**Music Captain:** Rose M

**Arts Captain:** Jordana N

**Sport Captains:** Kalani P and Keaghan R

**Chapel Captain:** Eloise E

**Service Captain:** Robyn T





# Exciting progress in our Bush School

This year our Year 4 students have embarked on the Bush School project, a new initiative focused on outdoor learning.

The project allows students to design and create student-driven outdoor spaces to encourage creativity, sustainability, and a deeper connection with nature.

Students have actively participated in crafting their learning environments, bringing their ideas to life through detailed 3D models.

A vital feature of the Bush School is the hands-on approach, including planting native seeds to enhance the biodiversity of the school grounds.

Introducing a special uniform for outdoor learning ensures students can engage comfortably in these activities.

Teachers Ms Colleen Carpenter and Mrs Renae Vuleta say the project has encouraged teamwork, problem-solving, and a sense of ownership among students.

“The Bush School has transformed the way our students approach learning. Not only are they developing an appreciation for the environment, but they are also gaining invaluable life skills like teamwork, problem-solving and sustainability,” said Mrs Vuleta.

“Watching them design and construct the artistic fence that now borders the area was particularly special – it’s a project that gave them the chance to express themselves creatively while contributing to our school community,” Mrs Vuleta added.

“We are proud of what our students have accomplished – the Bush School exemplifies the hard work, creativity and growing sense of responsibility our students have for the world around them,” Ms Carpenter added.

Stay tuned for more exciting news and updates from the Bush School during Term 4.







# Deja Brew's commitment to community and sustainability

We are proud to have participated in a nationwide initiative to combat homelessness through the Café Smart campaign.

Our café, Deja Brew, contributed to this vital cause by donating \$1 from every hot beverage sold, joining countless roasters, cafes, and coffee enthusiasts across Australia in the fight against homelessness.

The funds raised through Café Smart will directly benefit initiatives aimed at helping individuals experiencing homelessness, providing them with essential resources and support.

In addition to our fundraising efforts, we also debuted our new eye-catching Coffee Cup Separation Station, made possible thanks to the support of our school's P&F Committee.

Designed to tackle the litter risks associated with disposable coffee cups, this innovative station encourages proper waste disposal by separating lids, cups, and liquid into individual streams.

The bright and engaging design not only makes recycling easier but also raises awareness about the importance of reducing waste in our community.

Our Year 10 students Meisha C, Ava S and Kiki B showcased their commitment to sustainability and social responsibility by demonstrating how the separation station works.





# Year 11 & 12 students dive into adventure at Coral Bay Marine Camp

Our Year 11 and 12 Marine Studies students embarked on an unforgettable adventure to Coral Bay, where they immersed themselves in the wonders of marine life and the vibrant ecosystems that define the region.

This practical and hands-on experience was not just a field trip; it was a journey of discovery, developing a deeper understanding of marine environments and the delicate balance of ocean life.

The tour allowed students to engage in various activities designed to enhance their practical knowledge of marine biology. Diving and snorkelling sessions brought them face-to-face with an array of marine creatures, from colourful coral formations to curious fish swimming through the clear waters.

Encounters with majestic sea turtles and schools of vibrant reef fish was a highlight, enhancing their passion for marine conservation and an appreciation for the fragile ecosystems they explored.

Guided by experienced instructors, students learned to identify different species and understand their roles within the ecosystem. They participated in discussions about the significance of coral reefs, their threats, and the importance of sustainable practices to protect these vital habitats.

Beyond the academic benefit, the tour enabled camaraderie among students as they shared experiences and created lasting memories.

As they return to the classroom, students carry with them not only the knowledge acquired during their dives but also a renewed commitment to protecting our oceans.

We're proud to support our students in these immersive learning experiences, building future leaders who will champion marine conservation and develop a passion for the natural world.



MalooMarineInteractions



# St James' to participate in AI pilot to assist with teacher workloads

St James' is one of eight WA schools selected to participate in an Artificial Intelligence (AI) in education pilot program aimed at reducing teacher workloads in WA.

Co-funded by State and Federal Governments, the initiative will use AI at the schools to reduce lesson planning time so teachers can spend more time in the classroom and less time doing admin.

The WA Department of Education will deliver the pilot in partnership with Catholic Education WA, the Association of Independent Schools of WA, and the School Curriculum and Standards Authority.

By using generative AI solutions for developing lesson plans and teaching resources using quality-assured source documents, teacher workload will be reduced, allowing teachers to focus more of their time on their interactions with students that enhance engagement and connections to the learning.

Teachers will be supported to differentiate lesson plans and teaching resources for the individual student context or classroom using the AI solution.

Quality assurance for generated AI content will ensure lesson plans and teaching resources are aligned to the mandatory curriculum.

The other seven schools involved in the program are Harrisdale Primary School, Joseph Banks Secondary College, Lesmurdie Primary School, Emmanuel Catholic College, Ursula Frayne Catholic College, Carey Baptist College and the School of Isolated and Distance Education.





# Celebrating Cultural Connections

MRS ALANA TURNER

We recently celebrated two significant events that highlighted the importance of cultural understanding and global connections.

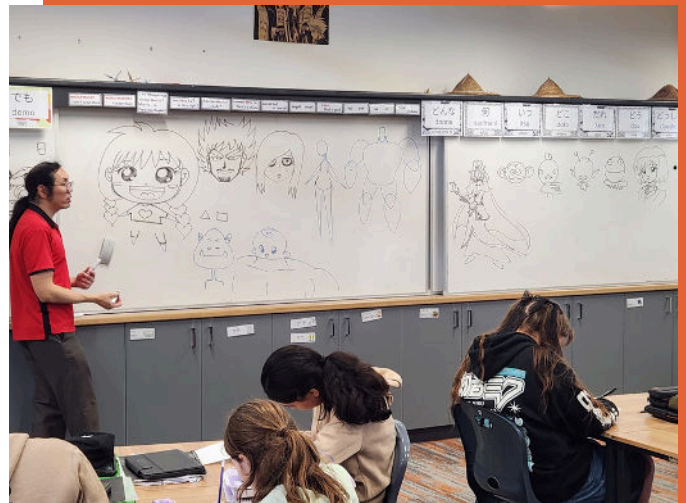
Languages Week was a showcase of cultural diversity and linguistic talent across all year levels. The week featured a variety of activities designed to immerse students in different aspects of world cultures, specifically Japanese. Year 8 students were mesmerised by an origami magic session, where they learned the delicate art of paper folding. Students from Pre-Primary to Year 4 participated in a dynamic karate incursion, experiencing the discipline and skill of this martial art firsthand.

Creative expression took centre stage for our Year 9 and 10 students, who explored the world of manga through a workshop with renowned artist Kenny Chan. Senior School students also had the chance to dive into this creative art form during a special lunchtime session. Year 7 students were introduced to the beauty of Japanese calligraphy, learning to write the kanji for Japan, 日本. The best entry will proudly represent our school in the WA Japanese Calligraphy Competition.

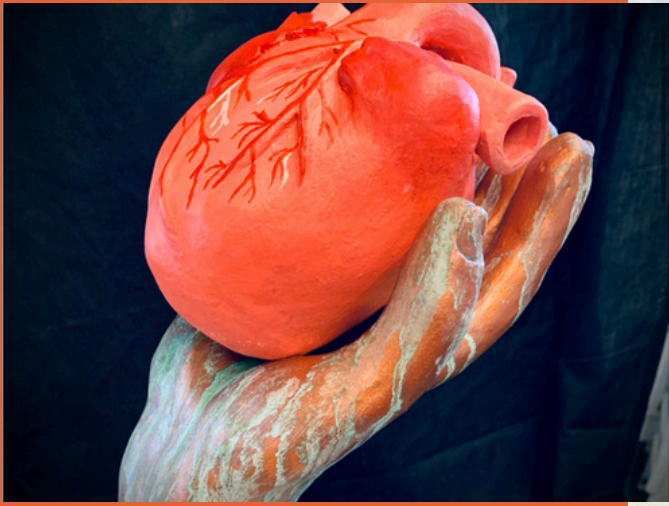
For our Year 11 and 12 students, Languages Week offered a taste of Japan – literally. They learned to make ichigo daifuku, a traditional Japanese sweet made with strawberries and mochi, delighting their taste buds. Junior School students also participated in traditional Japanese games during lunchtime, enjoying a playful yet educational experience.

The entire school community came together for our ongoing "1000 Cranes" project, with students from Years 5-12 competing in PCG competitions to fold the most origami cranes. Younger students in Kindy to Year 4 showcased their creativity in a crane colouring competition.

In the following week, we were honoured to host a visit from 20 students from Kogyokusha High School in Tokyo. As part of their week-long trip to Perth, these exchange students spent two days at St James', where they were paired with buddies from Years 8 to 12. Our students enthusiastically welcomed their Japanese counterparts, guiding them around the School and accompanying them to classes. This visit provided a valuable opportunity for cultural exchange and the formation of new friendships, as our students shared their daily school life and learned more about Japanese culture directly from their peers.







# Celebrating the creativity of our Year 12 Visual Arts students

We are delighted to share with you some incredible artworks from our Year 12 Visual Art students Ella C, Mia G and Charlotte C.



Our Year 12 Visual Art class have dedicated countless hours to perfecting their craft.

From intricate paintings and evocative sculptures to innovative mixed media pieces, each artwork tells a unique story and reflects the individual perspectives of our talented students

Under the guidance of our passionate Art teachers, the students have explored various themes and techniques, pushing the boundaries of their creativity.



As we celebrate their achievements, we are reminded of the importance of art in education.

It nurtures creativity, critical thinking, and self-expression, which are vital skills for the leaders of tomorrow.

We are incredibly proud of our Year 12 Visual Art class and look forward to seeing where their artistic journeys will take them in the future.







## Koodah program continues to build connections

Koodah pairs Senior School students with their younger counterparts in the Junior School, with the aim of creating an environment of social belonging and comfort for the younger students. The images here were taken of a recent session involving our Year 2 and Year 8 students. The students read to each other, play games, and engage in conversations to feel at ease in their environment.



The interactions build the confidence of our Junior School students and nurtures their sense of identity within our school community, while providing our Senior School students with an opportunity to exercise empathy and leadership skills. Koodah is one of several programs connecting our Junior and Senior Schools students, helping to build a sense of community spirit and advancing our students socially and academically.

## Supporting our local communities

We welcomed Lynn and Keith from the St Vinnies Clarkson Conference to collect 60 bags of tinned food generously donated by our students and families during previous House Charity Days.

This impressive collection, totalling over 1,200 items, supports the Tinnies for Vinnies campaign. The donations will be used to create food hampers for families in our local community, ensuring that those in need have access to essential supplies.

Meanwhile, donations of period products from our Term 3 House Charity Day were distributed to Share the Dignity. This organisation plays a crucial role in assisting women and girls who are homeless and affected by domestic violence by providing them with essential period products.

Thank you again to everyone in our school community for your generosity and making a meaningful difference in the lives of people in need.





# An evening of fun and laughter at Bounce Joondalup

Our Year 7, 8 and 9 students shared an evening of fun and laughter at BOUNCE Joondalup.

BOUNCE centres are an adrenalin playground comprising interconnected indoor trampolines and adventure features, offering activities such as dodgeball, basketball, climbing, jumping and obstacle courses.

Students had the opportunity to create their own adventure itinerary throughout the evening.

It was fantastic to see friendships strengthen outside of the classroom and new connections formed through shared laughter and friendly competition.



# Exciting night for our Year 2s at their school sleepover

Recently our excited Year 2s had a fun night with a sleepover at school.

The night was filled with lots of dancing, singing and happy faces.

For some students, it was their first sleepover EVER!

The students all did a great job and went home with smiles the next day.

Our sincere appreciation to our staff and parents who assisted in making this a memorable event for our students.





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