



## St Joseph's Primary School Korumburra

Principal: Sharon Anderson  
Address: 1-3 Bridge Street Korumburra Victoria 3950  
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Website: [sjkorumburra.catholic.edu.au](http://sjkorumburra.catholic.edu.au)  
Office Hours: 8:30am-4:00pm

## St Joseph's Korumburra / St Laurence O'Toole Leongatha

Parish Priest: Fr Stanly Devasia  
Parish Secretary: Ann Hemming  
Address: 37 Ogilvy St. (PO Box 166) Leongatha 3953  
Telephone: (03) 5662 2020  
Office Hours: Mon 1.30-5; Tues, Thurs Fri 9-5 Closed All Day Wednesday  
Email: [laurleongatha@vtown.com.au](mailto:laurleongatha@vtown.com.au)



## Welcome

Dear Families of St Joseph's

Thank you for choosing St Joseph's Primary School. Education begins at home with the family and as your child joins at school, we are privileged to join you as partners. We will continue to nurture your child's abilities by immersing them in a rich learning environment which is safe and engaging.

We are proud to offer an outstanding learning experience based on the Victorian Curriculum and Religious Education drawn from our Diocesan curriculum, "To Know Christ Jesus."

The children at St Joseph's experience learning within a vibrant, engaging environment which has been enhanced by contemporary learning spaces. Our staff are both experienced and expert and maintain the highest of professional standards. They deliver learning which is engaging, innovative and challenging, and plan targeted lessons to meet the needs of each individual student.

We look forward to welcoming you to our school and invite you to be an active member of our community.

Please don't hesitate to be in touch with myself or our staff if you have any questions.

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon Anderson".

**Sharon Anderson**  
**Principal**

## Vision Statement

At St Joseph's we are a welcoming, nurturing and forward thinking learning community with a focus on excellence where the Catholic Faith is at the heart of our identity.

## Mission Statement

At St Joseph's Korumburra, we aim to:

- Build a community of responsible, resilient, self-motivated learners who strive towards reaching their fullest potential.
- Nurture the skills of collaboration, co-operation and problem solving to prepare for an ever changing future.
- Welcome, encourage and celebrate each person's individual gifts.
- Show respect and care for ourselves, our community and our world
- Invite our school community to develop a close personal relationship with God and deepen their understanding of the Catholic Faith.



## St Joseph's Staff Team

<b>Principal</b>	Sharon Anderson
<b>Administration</b>	Kathleen Blair Lynn Spittal
<b>Classroom teachers</b>	Natalie Kratz Rania Tadros Natasha Kuyer Tammy Jones Rachael Mullin   Karen Sandman
<b>Physical Education</b>	Hannah Taylor
<b>RE   Art</b>	Catherine Riseley
<b>Auslan</b>	Daphne Ward
<b>STEM</b>	Megan Smith
<b>Education Support Officers</b>	John Livesey Ro Archer Belinda Whiteside Cate O'Brien Rachael Ramsay
<b>MHiPS</b>	Robyn Brownnett
<b>Learning Adjustment Leader</b>	Carole Livesey
<b>Learning and Teacher Leader</b>	Carole Livesey
<b>Parish Priest</b>	Fr Stanly Devasia



## Religious Education in our School

Our Faith is demonstrated in our learning and school environment. Children participate in daily prayer and have formal religious education classes. We celebrate school Mass or liturgies throughout the school year and encourage our parents and community members to strengthen their Faith by joining us in these celebrations.

## Sacraments and Liturgy

At St Joseph's our preparations for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation are in line with Sale Diocesan Policy and are seen to be the prime responsibility of parishes and families, while being actively supported and assisted at school. The Sacraments usually occur as follows:

Reconciliation Grade 3; Eucharist Grade 4; Confirmation Grade 6.

The school support the preparation for Sacraments from Grade Prep to Grade 6 through the Religious Education curriculum. Non-Catholic students do not make the Sacraments but are welcome to join in the celebrations with their class.

## Parish Mass Times

Korumburra	Sunday 9:30am
Leongatha:	Saturday 5pm
	Sunday 11am

## Teaching and Learning

### Teaching and Learning Statement

At St Joseph's, successful learning is a collaborative journey of curiosity and innovation where learners are empowered to question, seek solutions, make connections and take action in our world. We believe that:

- All students can learn
- Children learn in a variety of ways and varying rates, from numerous sources.
- Children learn cognitively, emotionally, physically and socially.
- Children value learning and recognise their responsibility in the learning process
- There is an emphasis on basic skills of numeracy and literacy as a foundation that underpins the development of all other curriculum areas.
- There is a strong emphasis on the development of life skills.

### Victorian Curriculum

The Victorian Curriculum provides the basis of curriculum planning and development in Victorian Schools. The Victorian curriculum is made up of key learning areas and Capabilities.

Teachers at St Joseph's are highly qualified and continually attend professional learning so that the classroom environments that they provide for the children's learning are of the highest standard.

### Curriculum Days (School closure days)

The Catholic Education Office sets aside 8 days throughout the year to allow teachers to attend professional development workshops, at which time the school is closed to students.

### The Key Learning areas on which our curriculum is based are:

#### **The Arts**

- Dance
- Drama
- Media Arts
- Music
- Visual Arts
- Visual Communication Design

## English

## Health and Physical Education

## The Humanities

- Civics and Citizenship
- Economics and Business
- Geography
- History

## Languages

## Mathematics

## Science

## Technologies

- Design and Technology
- Digital Technologies

The Capabilities are:

## Critical and Creative Thinking

## Ethical

## Intercultural

## Personal and Social



## Technology

Computers and ipads are integrated into our classroom teaching. Network facilities are connected throughout the school. Our students are able to use the Internet for specific educational research purposes. For safety reasons, our school has facilities which confine and restrict students' to searching only vetted sites with a cache. All students and families are expected to agree to our e-learning acceptable use agreement at the beginning of each school year in order to participate in technology-based learning.

## School Reports

Reporting to parents is an important part of education. School reports are sent home as a digital document via PAM at the end of Term 2 and at the end of Term 4.

## Parent/Teacher Conversations

We hold parent/teacher interviews in Term 1 and Term 3. Parents are welcome to make appointments to see their children's teacher at any time throughout the year and can contact them via email. We also utilise an online system called SeeSaw through which parents can view and comment on their child's work throughout the year.

## Whole School Approach to Positive Behaviour Support (WSAPBS)

At St Joseph's we believe that every child has the right to a safe productive learning environment. Behaviours that make others feel unsafe or that disturb learning are not acceptable. We continually encourage and celebrate good behaviour through our school wide expectations of Respect, Responsibility & Caring. We understand however that making mistakes is a natural part of the learning process. When a child behaves poorly, the teacher will remind them of what is acceptable. If they continue to display unacceptable behaviour, age appropriate consequences will be enforced. In the case that unacceptable behaviour continues, parents will be contacted and a behavior management plan may be put into place.

## Transition from Kindergarten

To ensure the transition for children from kindergarten to school is a positive experience, our school provides transition sessions to give them a chance to become familiar with their 'new' surroundings and to meet the teachers at the school, there is also a parent information session that coincides with the transition days. New parents are welcome to meet with the Principal at any time throughout the year to have a conversation and a tour of the school.

As part of our transition program, Foundation students do not attend school on Wednesdays for the month of February. The children attend for full days for the other 4 days.

## Excursions and Incursions

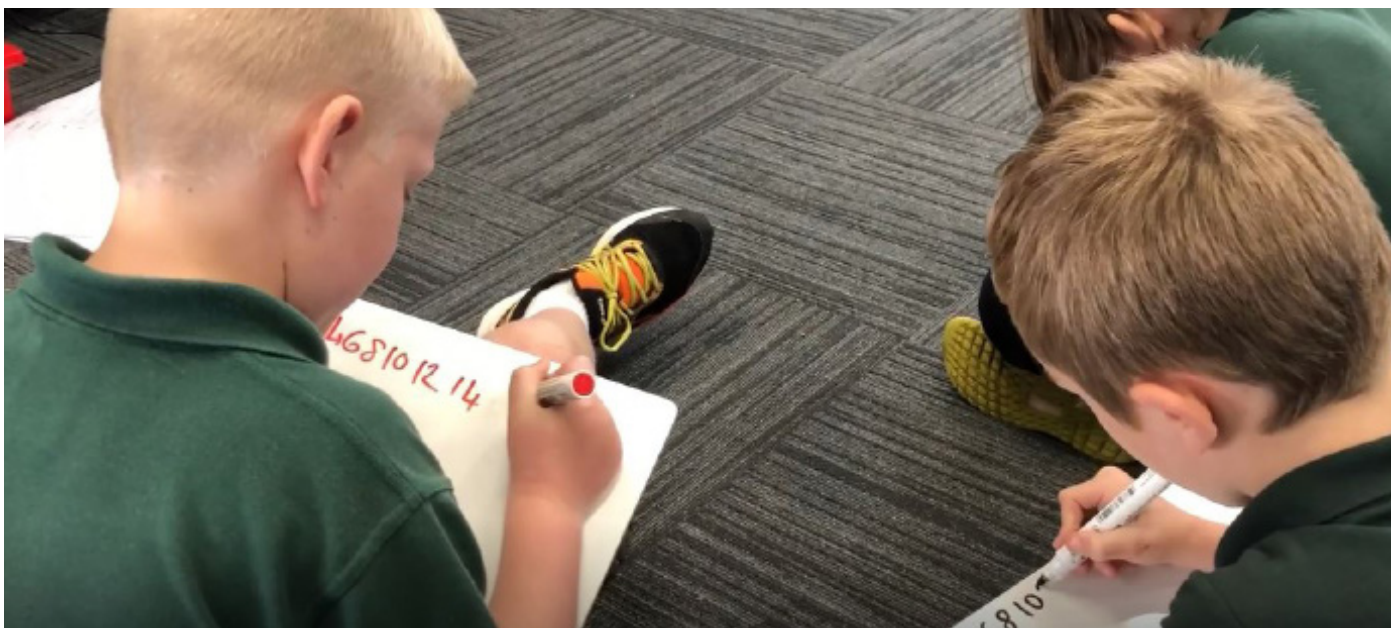
Excursions are planned for sound educational reasons and occur regularly throughout the year. A levy has been added to school fees to prevent parents having to pay for each event individually. Parental permission is required prior to children attending all excursions and camps and is sent out via PAM with information about the excursion. If a permission note is not returned prior to an excursion, your child will not be able to attend.

St Joseph's offer a number of incursions throughout the school year to highlight or build on our learning goals. Information is sent home via the school newsletter, PAM and Facebook page when an incursion is coming up.

We run a Bike Education program from years 3 to 6 and an intensive swimming program for all students.

## Camps

Grade 5/6 students will attend a 2 night camp each year; our Grade 3/4 students will attend an overnight camp each year.





## Administration

### School Office Hours

The school office is open from 8.30am—4:00pm Monday to Friday.

### School Hours

**Yard duty supervision begins at 8.30am.** *Students are not to be at school before this time.*

Bell times are:

8:50am	Commence school
10:50am	Supervised eating
11:00am-11:30am	Morning Recess
1:30pm	Supervised Eating
1:40pm-2:20pm	Lunchtime Recess
3:20pm	School End

**Yard duty supervision ceases at 3.30pm**

### Late Arrival/Early Departure

If your child is late for school or leaving early they will need to be signed in/out at the office.

### Absences from School

The Victorian State Government legislation is very clear on the importance of student attendance. Children are not allowed more than 5 unexplained, unreasonable absences per year. With this in mind, a family must request permission to have a child absent from school for a holiday. If your child is away from school for any reason please advise the school by phoning the office on 5655 2040, advising through PAM or via email [office@sjkorumburra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office@sjkorumburra.catholic.edu.au). If the school has not received notification of your child absence by 10am an SMS or email will be generated and sent to you.

## Communication Tools

### Newsletter

Every second Friday we produce a newsletter for the school. It contains school news and important upcoming events. This is a vital link between home and school. The newsletter is distributed via PAM, via our website and sent out via email.

### PAM

We utilise a Parent Access Module (PAM) 'one stop shop' for all our communications, notices, student attendance, emergency contact information and medical information collection. Once enrolled you will receive a user name and password to set this up. This can be accessed from our website also. Parents need to ensure that the school is notified of any personal details that need to be updated e.g phone numbers, emergency contacts and addresses.

### Social Media

We are active on Social Media. You can find us by searching for St Joseph's Primary School Korumburra and looking for our logo. Please be mindful that you have our official page to ensure you are receiving accurate information.

### School Assemblies

Every second Friday morning at 9am, a small school assembly is held to celebrate successes, birthdays and upcoming events. All parents, guardians and community members are most welcome to attend. Please ensure you follow our sign in procedures or contact the office for assistance.



### First-aid / Illness at school

If a child suffers a minor injury at school, staff will administer appropriate first-aid, you may receive an email notification from PAM. In the event of a serious accident, appropriate action will be taken and an ambulance will be called if required; parents are responsible for any associated costs. Parents will be notified as soon as possible.

If a child needs to be withdrawn from school due to illness, a parent will be notified. In the case a parent is unable to be contacted, the parents nominated emergency contact will be contacted and asked to collect your child.

### Medical Conditions

Students with specific medical conditions are required to have a management plan. The plan/s need to be developed in consultation with your child's doctor. If your child requires ventolin, an epipen or any other medication, you must supply it to the school along with a copy of their plan. Current plans are also to be attached to the child's PAM profile.

### Medication

If your child is required to have medication at school, please ensure the medication is clearly marked with your child's name, dosage and time at which it is to be administered. Please give the medication to the office staff on arrival to school and complete one of our medication request forms.

### Head lice

To help prevent the spread of head-lice, please ensure shoulder-length hair is tied back during school hours. Please regularly check your child/ren's hair for the presence of lice or nits. If you find lice or nits in your child's hair, please notify the school. All children found to have an infestation must be treated before returning to school.

### Lost Property

To avoid your children misplacing clothing etc, please clearly label all items. Items with a name will be placed straight back into classroom tubs. Lost items that have remained in the office for over a week will be taken to the second hand uniform area.

### Electronic Devices / Mobile phones etc

Children are not permitted to carry mobile phones or electronic devices of any kind. If your child needs to bring electronic devices or phones to school they must be left with their classroom teacher during school hours.

### Toys / Valuables at School

Students are discouraged from bringing any toys or items of value to school with the exception of toys for 'show and tell'.

## School Fees

School fees are set in conjunction with the Catholic Education office prior to the commencement of the school year. Families are given various options to pay their school fees; weekly, fortnightly, monthly or term installments. Fees need to be paid in full by the end of Term 3. If families experience financial hardship at anytime they are encouraged to make an appointment to discuss various options with the principal.

We have an number of discounts available to parents who hold a valid health care or concession card. Please speak to administration staff for more information.

On enrolling your child/ren to St Joseph's, you are entering into a legally binding contract to pay school fees.

## School Entry Immunisation Certificates

A school entry immunisation certificate is a specific document demonstrating your child's record of immunisation. It is a legal requirement to provide a school entry immunisation certificate on enrolment to primary schools in Victoria, this also applies to conscientious objectors. For more information about how to obtain a school entry immunization certificate visit [www.health.vic.gov.au/immunisation](http://www.health.vic.gov.au/immunisation).

## After school care

Our school children have access to before and after school care run by Karmai Community Children's Centre. Karmai staff walk the children to school in the morning and sign them in at the office. Our staff walk with the children in the afternoon to the centre which is located at Korumburra Primary School. Contact the Karmai community Children's centre on 5655 2121 to arrange bookings. Both the school and Karmai must be notified if usual arrangements change.

## School Uniform

The students at St Joseph's are required to wear full school uniform. Our school uniform is available online through Edu Threads <https://eduthreads.com.au/collections/st-josephs-korumburra>. All students are required to wear black leather school shoes with the exception of Wednesday when students wear their sports uniform and sneakers to school. All students are expected to wear a broad-brimmed hat in terms 1 and 4 to comply with our sunsmart policy. Children who do not wear a hat at school will be required to sit in the shade during recess and lunchtimes.

### Uniform Requirments:

#### Summer Girls

Summer school dress

Polar Fleece jumper

Short sleeve polo shirt

Grey Box pleat skort

Green Surf Hat

White socks

#### Summer Boys

Short sleeve polo shirt

Polar Fleece jumper

Grey shorts

Green surf hat

White Socks

#### Winter Girls

Winter box pleat skirt or grey pants

Winter box pleat tunic or grey pants

Long sleeve polo

Polar fleece Jumper

Short sleeve polo

Grey tights or socks

#### Winter Boys

Short sleeve polo

Long Sleeve polo

Polar Fleece Jumper

Grey Pants

Grey Socks

#### Sports Uniform

Long sleeve school polo

Short sleeve school sports polo

Black Tracksuit pants

Black basketball shorts

Polar fleece Jumper

Sports Jacket

White socks

Runners

Students are to wear black leather school shoes or runners on their sports days. Reader bags and school backpacks are also available.

## Anti-bullying

Children go through many stages as they grow and develop. In trying to establish their character and work out how to interact with others, children may at times become over assertive and uncharitable towards their peers. We accept that this is part of growing up, but we do not accept bullying behaviour. It is our job along with families to teach our children better ways of communicating and meeting their needs. We try to instill in our children values of empathy, love, forgiveness, understanding, acceptance and compassion. We want our children to understand the impact bullying behaviour has on others.

## Resilience

Resilience is the ability to bounce back after adversity. We teach our children how to become bully resistant, we want them to be self-assured, assertive and resilient. We all need to stand up against bullying. We need children to understand that it is not okay to bully nor is it okay to encourage or watch others bullying without acting. If you are not part of the solution you are part of the problem. It is vital that parents inform the school if their child is feeling threatened or bullied in any way, so we can follow up, support and teach both the perpetrator and the victim.

## Pastoral Care

Pastoral care is integral to our whole school life. At St Joseph's we know that if a child is to have optimum gain from the teaching and learning they must firstly feel safe and happy. Our Learning Adjustment Leader arranges programs and assistance for children who require extra support or specialist intervention and assists with the wellbeing of all students. She is always available via email and a time to talk with school families can be arranged.

## Buddies

At St Joseph's we have a **Buddy Program**. The Foundation students are paired with a senior student. We timetable various interactions to allow the Foundation students to feel comfortable with older students and to have a familiar face on the playground whom they can turn to for support. This also helps our senior students to develop confidence and responsibility. The program reinforces the sense that at St Joseph's we all care for each other.



## Classroom Organisation

Each school year at St Joseph's Primary School, classes may be organised differently depending on numbers and the needs of the students. In 2024 we have one Foundation/1 class, one 2/3 class, one 3/4 class and one 5/6 class. Whilst this is an administrative necessity, the principal and staff believe that multi-age form of organization is an educationally sound approach.

Each child is recognised and catered for individually regardless of their class structure.



## Parent Participation

We welcome, and are appreciative of, the tremendous contribution made by parents at our school. This wonderful involvement assists us in the achievements of many of our academic and social objectives. Parents support the school with the children's education by participating in the sporting and swimming programs, excursions, camps, assisting in the classroom, working bees, social activities, school events and much more. A Working With Children Check must be obtained prior to being able to assist with any activities and the school must have a copy of your current Working With Children Check on file. The forms can be downloaded directly from the website: [www.vic.gov.au/working-with-children-check](http://www.vic.gov.au/working-with-children-check). In every volunteer capacity you must sign in at the office before commencing your duties and sign out on completion. This is a legal requirement and part of our child safe policy.

## Bus

Our students access a network of buses from surrounding areas including Poowong, and Loch. If your child will be travelling to or from school via bus, please complete a bus application form and return it to the school office so that it can be passed to the bus co-ordinator at the Korumburra Secondary College. Any casual bus travel must be organised through our school office.



## Parents and Friends

### Goals:

**The goals of St Joseph's P&F are to embody the Gospel values of care/compassion and service by supporting the families of students attending the school in the following areas:**

1. To promote the interests of the school by bringing parents, students and teaching staff into closer cooperation.
2. To support by care and friendship families at the school who have suffered any hardship, bereavement, illness etc
3. To assist financially, through fundraising activities, so as to provide resources, sports equipment, teaching aides, library books and the like as requested by the teaching staff through the principal.

We welcome any parent, grandparent or guardian who would like to join our committee at any time of the year. The P & F plays a vital role in the success of our school.

Examples of how you can help are:

- Volunteering for the committee
- Assisting with the organisation and running of events throughout the year
- Cooking for families in our community who are suffering from hardship

We look forward to seeing you throughout the year.

If you would like to visit our school, please contact the office on 5655 2040 to arrange a tour and a conversation with our principal Sharon Anderson.







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