



Dear members of the Lisieux community,

Next week is **Branching Out Week**, an important whole-school focus on the importance of giving. Never is this more important than during the season of Advent and Christmas, where we are saturated with a media focus on building personal wish lists and getting more for ourselves. During Branching Out Week, we turn our focus to altruism, to acts of kindness, to building empathy for the needs of others. This is a great opportunity for us to help students express compassion, cultivate a sense of gratitude and strengthen community bonds. We do understand that in the current financial climate, many families may be struggling. The focus of the week is not just on giving material items – we will also be making cards for the lonely, visiting child care centres to read stories, and performing at an Aged Care residence. For those who are in a position to offer goods – even small donations are very much appreciated - below is our focus for each of the days of the week. We will have collection baskets at Reception and our Social Justice leaders will be involved in packaging up hampers to donate to local charities.

DECEMBER

Fri 1st Friday Flow Expo

2-3pm

Mon 4th Branching Out Week

Fri 8th Lisieux End of Year Mass

9.30am

Multiple Purpose Room

ALL WELCOME

Mon 11th Year 6 Graduation Ceremony & Dinner

ceremony a binn

Tues 12th Moving Up/Transition

Morning

Year 6 students DO NOT attend this day

Thur 14th Final Day of Term 4 Finish time 12.30pm



Suggested Christmas items: Bonbons, serviettes, bottled/canned items such as cranberry sauce/mint jelly; sweet treats.

Suggested Toiletry items: nice body gels, soaps, deodorant, etc.

Suggested Baby items: nappies, baby wipes, baby food, baby bottles, child toothbrushes.

Suggested Pantry items: long lasting food.



God's blessings for the week ahead,

Susan Ryan

Susan.ryan@lisieux.catholic.edu.au

Principal

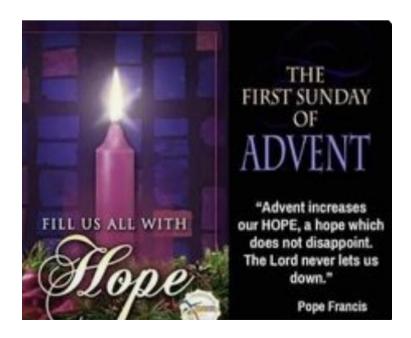


Prayer for the first week of Advent- a prayer for hope.

Isaiah 9:2:

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned."

Heavenly Father, we begin this Advent Season as 'Advent People' – people of hope, ready to do your will. This is a time of waiting and anticipation. Help us to wait in great expectation for your great light to shine in this world. Let your blessing come upon us as we light this wreath. May it turn our hearts to you in the days ahead. Amen















In this beautiful picture book, Australia's most loved children's illustrators have chosen their favourite nativity scene to illustrate. It is a wonderful celebration of the Christmas story, with breath taking illustrations. If you're looking for a special book to share the true story of Christmas with your children, then look no further than this delightful book.



We would like to remind all families that the exchange of candy canes is not permitted at Lisieux and we request that these are not brought along to school. We have found the high intake of sugar disrupts learning and the plastic wrappers end up throughout our school gardens.

Later this week, our fee structure for 2024 will be released via email to all Lisieux families. Please look out for this in your inbox. Early payment discounts will continue as an option for 2024.

Chicken Volunteers Wanted!

The school is seeking volunteers to take care of school chickens during the Summer Holiday break. Main duties include:

- ~ Letting the chickens out of their coop for the day
- ~ Ensuring food and water containers are full
- ~ Putting the chickens back in their coop at night.

Families who volunteer usually are timetabled to do this for no more than a week.

If you are interested please contact Gerard Douglas directly at gerard.douglas@lisieux.catholic.edu.au.

Once we have enough volunteers those families will be contacted and issued explicit instructions and a timetable.

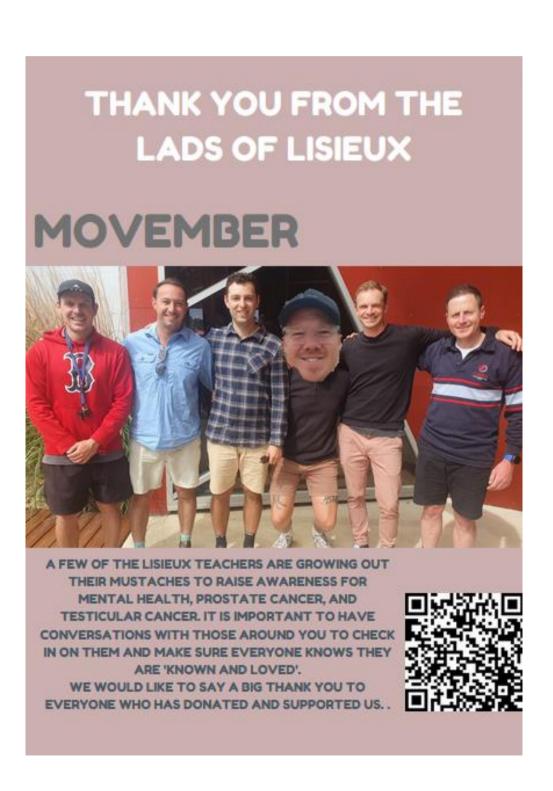
Thank you.



Library News!

Hello All Lisieux Readers,

It is hard to believe that we have come to the time of year when we pause borrowing from the school library! It would be appreciated if everyone can have a search at home for any Lisieux library books and readers. Any found can then be placed in the return baskets by December 8th, which are located in each year level learning space and also at the front entrance of our school. Any queries can be directed to library@lisieux.catholic.edu.au





5 reasons to give your child a book this Christmas

Via www.careforkids.com.au

There's a lot to love and learn when a new book lands in your child's hands.

Reading and storytelling are fantastic for a child's development, and over the holidays, a good book will excite and entertain young kids long after Santa has left the building.

With this in mind, here are 5 reasons to give your child a book (or two) this Christmas.

Books add a personal touch

Every child is different, and whether your tiny tot likes to lift the flaps or your middle grader is mad about dragons, there's a book out there that suits their age, reading ability and interests perfectly.

A well-matched book will encourage a love of reading, and as a parent, you show how much you care by choosing a book you know they'll love. Teaching your kids to love reading will have a profound impact on their life.

Generally speaking, titles with popular characters, sight words, beautiful illustrations, imaginative plots and/or a sprinkling of humour will be well-received, and online book round-ups and local booksellers can help you find the right book for your child.

Treasured books

When we think of heirlooms, we often think of jewellery, but a special book (or a whole box set) is a beautiful thing to pass down from generation to generation. Books given at a young age can be treasured forever.

If you still have some Beatrix Potter or Dr Seuss books from your childhood, you'll know how nice it is to revisit your favourites and share them with your own child. And if you don't have many (or any) books from your past, this Christmas might be the time to invest in some new classics and keep them in the family.

Screen-free entertainment

After the initial excitement of present-opening and lunch-munching, Christmas Day can feel long for little people (and parents), and a book is perfect to keep your child busy, yet quiet.

Activity books are a great go-to for younger children, graphic novels are engaging for reluctant readers, and book series will keep older children busy until well into the New Year.

Books bring people together

Siblings, parents, grandparents and other family and friends can all share in a good book, whether in person or via video, and there's much to be gained when you cuddle up with your child for storytime.

Raising Children explains that reading stories and storytelling:

- Supports your young child's early literacy skills including listening skills and comprehension
- Helps children learn new words
- · Sparks imagination and curiosity
- Helps children make sense of different events, emotions and cultures, and
- Builds their social skills, communication skills, concentration powers and critical thinking skills.

Listening to your older child reading aloud to you is also a brilliant way to connect with them, offer praise and encouragement, and share a great story in the written word. Allowing children to read words on their own promotes their language development and improves their reading comprehension.

There are also books covering big issues - like climate change and equality, and these stories can be used for kickstarting and teaching kids important conversations for them to consider the world more deeply.

According to the National Reading Panel Report, the more adults read aloud to children, the more you can help a child learn to learn letter sounds and recognize words much easier. As a matter of fact, just a few months of reading aloud can improve your child's brain development and literacy with spoken words. Decades of studies also suggest that explicit phonics instruction is beneficial for beginning readers, especially those early childhood struggling readers, or young primary school readers who are having difficulty.



Books are great value

A quality children's book brings priceless benefits to your family, but the item itself isn't costly. A favourite book will be read and re-read, handed down and passed around, and if you're looking for an affordable gift for other people's kids, a book is always a winning idea.

If your extended family isn't spending Christmas together this year, books for your young nieces and nephews can be sent by snail mail without a risk of breakage, and all in all, a book is a beautiful thing that will bring pleasure on December 25 and beyond.

Starting your child's reading process at an early age gives them the background knowledge for understanding what they see, hear, and read. It boosts their brain development to make sense of the world around them. Independent reading also improves language skills, phonemic awareness and phonics skills and more importantly, encourages a child's imagination. Engaging young children in the written language is how skilled readers learn to read.







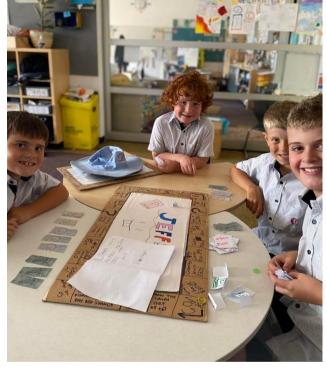




















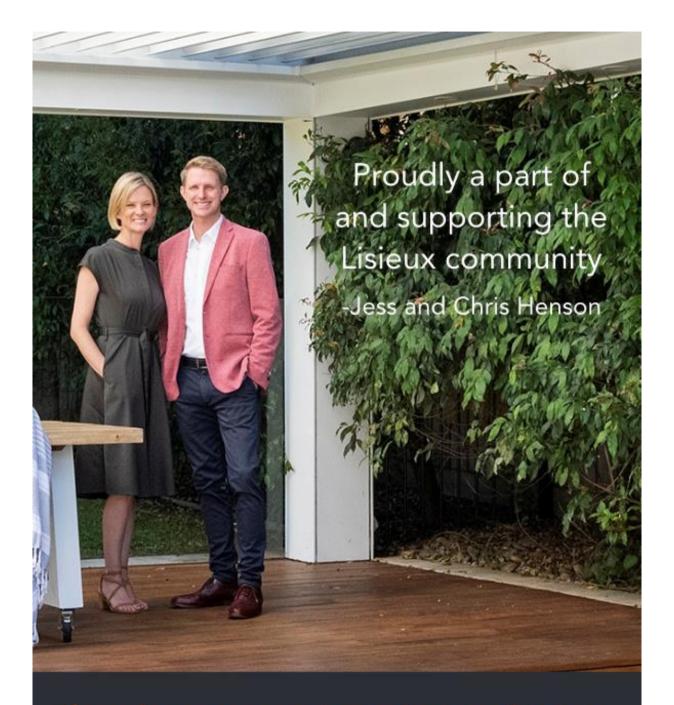
Staff Days of Christmas.

As a Thank You to all of the staff and to take one present off your shopping list, we'll be organizing the Days of Christmas for the staff to say Merry Christmas and Thank you for all of the work they have done throughout the year. You can contribute to this through the Events section through School 24 before Monday 4th Dec

Cement your place in Lisieux history and purchase a family/student paver. The pavers will create a feature in front of the pottery studio, which will be used for outdoor classes and other school activities. To order your paver click here



Lunch orders: Thursday lunch orders will finish on Thursday 7th December and Friday lunch orders are finished for the year.



If you have any questions about real estate, we're always happy to have a chat.



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TO A HOME LOAN SPECIALIST



PHIL HASLAM



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