



# St Columba's School Bayswater

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Faith      Wisdom      Peace      Grow in Faith      Seek Wisdom      Live in Peace

3 February 2023

Dear Families of St Columba's,

Welcome back for the commencement of 2023.

I am truly grateful to be the new principal leading your school community. It's been a pleasure to work with Art, the leadership team and the staff at the conclusion of 2022 for handover.

I've met many new faces this week and I look forward to meeting you all. I place high priority on the development of quality relationships to support all learning. It was an honour to be awarded Catholic School Parents of WA Principal Award for Building Positive Catholic School Communities in 2020 during my time as Principal of St Paul's Karratha. My sincere hope is to use my skills and experience to add to the wonderful St Columba's community.

I describe myself as a lifelong learner and someone who enjoys inspiring others to share in this joy. Our work is about assisting our children to reach their potential by giving each child what they need to experience success. We can always use more resources to do this, but it is in a spirit of service in which I and the staff work to help develop the spiritual, intellectual, emotional, social and physical development of each child.

As I met each of the classes this week, I explained my number one rule is to take care of each other and in turn our environment. As Principal I am entrusted to provide for the well-being and learning for all students and staff. Our dedicated staff assist me to do this, but each student also plays a role to care for each other and what we have been provided. When we do this, great learning can happen. In the words of St Mary McKillop, "Never see a need without doing something about it."

As I settle into this beautiful community, I look forward to listening and hearing about the journey of St Columba's Primary School from all members of the community. My goal is for there to be a smooth transition for all into this year. For the most part, it will be business as usual. Priority for any changes will be as the school has already identified in the 2023 Catholic School Improvement Plan. In addition to this, the St Columba's will undergo a school compliance review in July. This is a requirement for the Minister of Education and occurs in each school every five years to ensure all schools are compliant with the Registration Standards for Non-Government Schools in Western Australia. We will inform you of any required changes as we work through these two processes.

Thank you to you all for your words of welcome and encouragement. It really means a lot. I look forward to getting to know you and working alongside you in the education of your child. You can find me on 'Kiss N Drive' duty most mornings and Wednesday afternoon, or I can be reached via the school office or email.

I pray that 2023 brings you much joy, growth and health.

In gratitude,

Gina Burns

Principal