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Issue Date 7 March 2025



Important Dates

Public Holiday

Monday 10 March 2025

NAPLAN Writing

Wednesday 12 March 2025

NAPLAN Reading

Thursday 13 March 2025

**Assembly 3/4OM
and RDS**

Thursday 13 March 2025

**NAPLAN
Conventions of
Language**

Friday 14 March 2025

Harmony Week

Monday 17 March 2025

**Cultural lunch and
dress day**

Monday 17 March 2025

NAPLAN Numeracy

Tuesday 18 March 2025

P & F special Lunch

Wednesday 19 March 2025

**African Drum
Workshop**

Friday 21 March 2025

**SAPSASA Athletics
Carnival**

Tuesday 25 March 2025

Liturgy 2JC

Thursday 27 March 2025

**Parent Teacher
Interviews**

Tuesday 1 April 2025

**Parent Teacher
Interviews**

Wednesday 2 April 2025

**SACPSSA Swim
Carnival**

Wednesday 2 April 2025

**Swim Week
Monday to
Thursday**

Monday 7 April 2025

**End of Term 1 -
1:30pm dismissal**

Friday 11 April 2025

Our Lady Queen of Peace School acknowledges the traditional owners of the land on which we work, the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains. We pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging.



Term 1 Week 6 2025 Newsletter

Useful Links

Useful links



Download any of the following documents by clicking on the link.

Student absence / late arrival / early departure information

- [Student Attendance Procedures 0225](#)

Policies

- [Uniform Policy 0125](#)

Playgroup & Occasional Care

- [Occasional Care flyer](#)
- [Playgroup flyer](#)
- [Playgroup Term 1 outline 0225](#)

Parents & Friends Committee

- Email: PnF@olqp.catholic.edu.au

Second hand uniform shop



- Please note that the Parents and Friends Committee is no longer accepting uniforms for sale on consignment.

Enrolments

- [Application for Enrolment form](#)

Canteen

- [Canteen menu and price list January 0125](#)

Qkr!

- [Qkr! instructions](#)
- [How to cancel a Qkr! lunch order \(before the deadline\)](#)

Calendar

- [Term 1, 2025](#) - updated 03/25
- [Term 2, 2025](#) - updated 03/25
- [Term 3, 2025](#) - updated 03/25
- [Term 4, 2025](#) - updated 03/25

From the Principal

From the Principal



This week, we gathered as a community in preparation for the start of the Lenten season. We were fortunate to have our amazing Parents and Friends come into the school and cook pancakes for our community on Shrove Tuesday, and we gathered in the church for Ash Wednesday mass. It was lovely to see our students be respectful in church and engage with Fr Jacek.



Increasing numbers / playtime

We have now passed the halfway mark of Term 1, and the school is still welcoming new families as they join our community. It is important that we, as a school, are reflective and proactive, ensuring we provide the best for the students in our care.

We recently implemented a new yard duty structure. We increased the number of staff on duty but, more importantly, we have reallocated and increased the areas of supervision during playtime. It is also important that students continue to be encouraged to seek the assistance of an adult when non preferred behaviour occurs.

It is imperative that students reflect on their own behaviour, rather than just focusing on what someone else has done. Like all schools, there are times when students can be unkind. They might say something to get a reaction from a peer, and when they get that reaction, they then go and see a teacher. On these occasions, these students sometimes fail to share how they have contributed to the reaction they received.

One of my favourite parables is:

“Why do you notice the splinter in your brother’s eye,
when you cannot see the log in your own eye?”.



Simply put, why criticise someone for their flaws or wrongdoing when you ignore your own much larger flaws or wrongdoings. I am not saying that students get what they deserve but our focus is ensuring that students develop lifelong learning skills, including reflecting on how they themselves are behaving; these skills support our students in making better choices.

We will continue to work with all students in regards to the development of their five social emotional competencies:

- Being self-aware,
- Being socially aware,
- Making good decisions, as well as
- Relationship skills, and
- Self management.

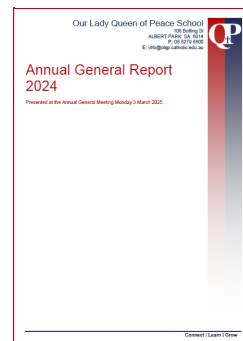
We teach all students about these five competencies using a variety of approaches.

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Thank you to the families who were able to attend the recent AGM. The purpose of the AGM is to summarise and reflect on the 2024 school year, as well as establishing the 2025 School Board. I was pleased to see so many families attend and want to be a part of the School Board.

The purpose of the School Board is that of an advisory group to the principal. The Board is the voice of parents regarding the strategic direction of the school. The School Board is not a forum for members to address their own personal agendas or concerns.

Families are always welcome to catch up and discuss with me their personal concerns, or even provide positive feedback, by making an appointment.



Parent Teacher interviews

In Week 10, parents and caregivers have the opportunity during Parent Teacher Interviews to discuss their child's progress with the class teacher. Ideally, it would be great if every family made a booking to see their child's class teacher during this time. In the event you are unable to attend, please make an alternative time to meet with them.



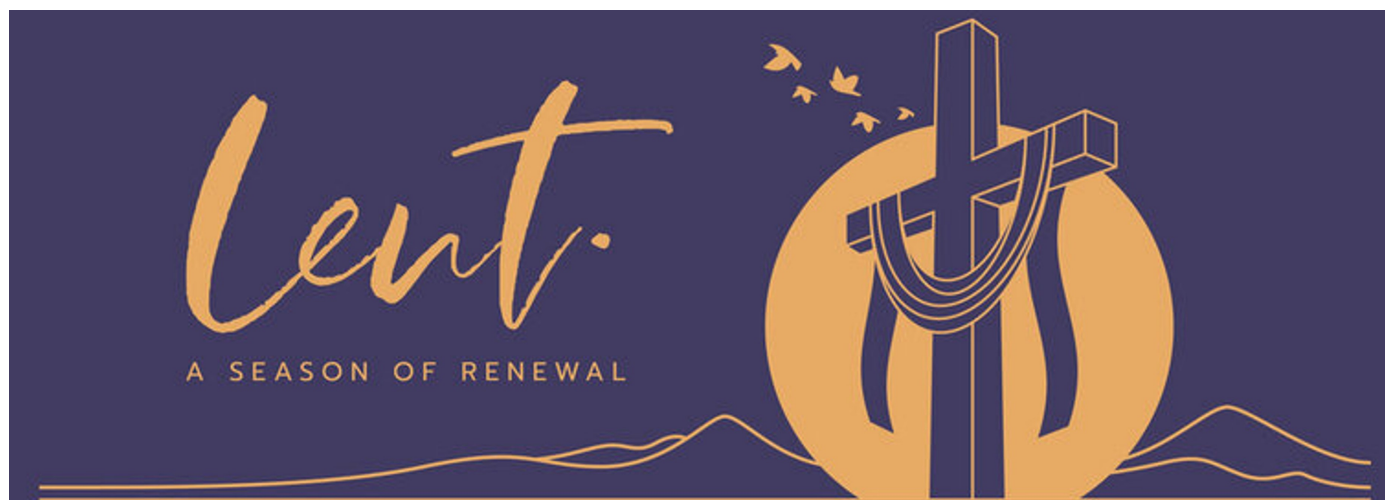
The booking form should go live next week, Week 7.

I hope you have a great long weekend.

Lee Abela

Principal

From the Assistant Principal Religious Identity & Mission



A time for reflection and renewal

This week, our school community marked the beginning of the sacred season of Lent with two significant events: Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday.



Shrove Tuesday: A day of celebration and preparation

This week we celebrated Shrove Tuesday, a joyful occasion of preparation before the solemnity of Ash Wednesday. Traditionally, Shrove Tuesday was a time to use up rich foods like eggs, butter, and milk before beginning the fasting of Lent. In keeping with this tradition, our Parents and Friends hosted a pancake day event, where our school community came together to enjoy pancakes and share in the community spirit. This fun and festive gathering symbolised the sweetness of God's forgiveness as we prepare our hearts for the season of Lent. Thank you to all the volunteers who supported this event; it is greatly appreciated.



Ash Wednesday: A call to repentance and renewal

We then solemnly observed Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. On this sacred day, we gathered as a school community to receive the ashes on our foreheads; a sign of our commitment to turning away from sin and drawing closer to God. During the Ash Wednesday mass, hosted by 5/6SH and Fr Jacek, we heard the words, "Repent and believe in the Gospel", a call to repentance and faith that set the tone for our Lenten journey.

This invitation encouraged all of us to reflect on our lives, embrace humility, and begin this season of renewal with prayer and penance. The day was marked with deep reflection, as students and staff received the ashes and participated in the service, acknowledging the beginning of this sacred season.



A time of reflection and spiritual growth

As we move into the season of Lent, the Catholic community focuses on the three pillars of Lent:

- prayer,
- fasting, and
- almsgiving.

Prayer:

Our students will engage in daily prayers and reflections, deepening their relationship with God throughout this season of grace.

Fasting:

We encourage each student and staff member to reflect on personal sacrifices and ways to grow in self discipline during Lent.

Almsgiving:

Through acts of charity and service, we will continue to support those in need, embracing the Lenten call to share with others.

The celebration of Shrove Tuesday and the observance of Ash Wednesday have set the tone for a season of meaningful reflection, spiritual growth, and renewal. We invite all members of our school community to join us in this journey of faith, prayer, and service.

May this Lenten season bring us closer to Christ, guiding us toward a deeper understanding of his love and sacrifice.

In Christ's peace.

Marissa Redden

Assistant Principal

Religious Identity & Mission



From the APLET



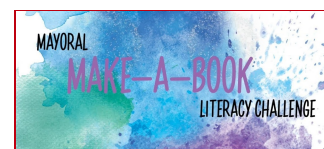
OLQP joins the Mayoral Make-a-Book Literacy Challenge!

We are thrilled to announce Our Lady Queen of Peace School's participation in the Mayoral Make-a-Book Literacy Challenge, an exciting initiative run through the City of Charles Sturt Council. This challenge invites young authors and illustrators to unleash their creativity by planning, writing, and producing their very own books!



To support our students on this journey, Our Lady Queen of Peace School has launched the Make a Book Club, held every Monday at lunchtime in the OSHC room. These sessions provide students with the opportunity to collaborate with staff and peers, guiding them through each stage of the book making process, from brainstorming ideas and planning layouts to writing, illustrating, and assembling their final products for submission.

We encourage parents to chat with their child about this opportunity - if their child is interested, they are welcome to come along and join in! This initiative not only nurtures a love for storytelling but also builds confidence, literacy skills, and a sense of accomplishment as students bring their stories to life. We cannot wait to see the incredible books they create!



Celebrating Harmony Week at OLQP!

Harmony Week is a time to celebrate Australia's rich multiculturalism and the successful integration of diverse cultures within our community. The message of Harmony Week is "Everyone Belongs", promoting inclusiveness, respect, and a sense of belonging for all.

We are excited to celebrate Harmony Week (17-21 March 2025) with a variety of activities. This is a wonderful opportunity for our school community to come together, appreciate different cultures, and celebrate the diversity that makes Australia such a great place to live.

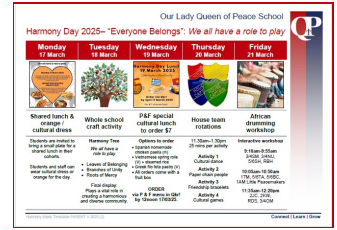
We have planned an exciting lineup of activities throughout the week:

- **Monday 17 March – Shared cultural lunch and Cultural Dress Day**
Students will enjoy a shared cultural lunch, where they can experience flavours from around the world and celebrate the different backgrounds within our community.
- **Tuesday 18 March – Whole school craft activity**
Students will participate in a creative tree craft activity that highlights cultural diversity, unity, as well as the values of Harmony Week and the school.
- **Wednesday 19 March – P & F special cultural lunch (\$7 pre order required)**
Our Parents & Friends Committee is organising a special cultural lunch that families can pre order for \$7.
A delicious way to explore different cuisines!
Click on the flyer to access more information.
- **Thursday 20 March – House team rotations**
Students will rotate through a variety of cultural activities and games within their house teams, promoting teamwork, understanding, and respect for different traditions.
- **Friday 21 March – African drumming workshop**
To wrap up the week, students will experience the energy of an African drumming workshop that will be both interactive and memorable.

Harmony Week is a wonderful chance to celebrate what makes us unique while embracing the values

that unite us. We look forward to a week filled with learning, sharing, and appreciation of the many cultures that make up our school family.

Adriana Pilla
Assistant Principal
Learning, Engagement and Teaching



Gardening Club

Class update - STEM



Have you got vegetable scraps? Help us grow something great!

Do you have vegetable odds and ends laying around? Not sure what to do with that sprouted onion or the base of your celery? Don't toss them—donate them to the Gardening Club!

With the help of Ms Ashleigh and Ms Stathis, I am leading our school's garden project, where students will plant, nurture, and eventually harvest delicious herbs, fruits, and vegetables. We would love to give new life to your kitchen scraps and grow fresh produce straight from our garden beds!

If you have any vegetable offcuts that could sprout a second life, bring them to the Discovery Centre on Wednesday or Thursday.

We also welcome all keen green thumbs to join us at the gardening beds every Thursday at lunchtime—let us all dig in and watch our garden grow together!

Elle Fairweather
Specialist Science teacher



Class update - 3/4SM

Class update - 3/4SM



Exploring democracy, equity, and fair play in HASS

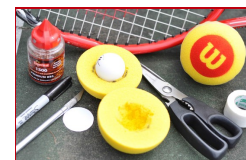
This term in HASS, 3/4SM students are exploring the principles of:

- democracy,
- rules and laws,
- community participation, and
- identity.

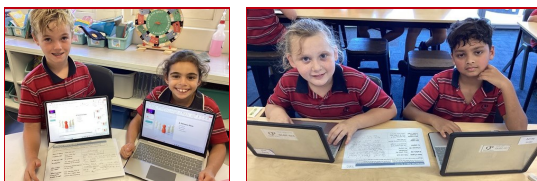


A key focus has been understanding equity and fairness in decision making, especially when creating rules.

To explore this, we watched a video about adapting the rules of play for blind tennis. This helped us see how small changes can make games more inclusive for everyone. Working with a partner, students were then challenged to choose a familiar game and modify its rules to ensure all players could participate fairly and equitably.



Incorporating technologies into our learning, students used digital programs to begin presenting their adapted games. A special thank you to Molly, who demonstrated the Purple Key of our Key Capabilities by being a confident and a careful creator and user of ICT.



Molly helped her peers share their PowerPoint presentations so that partners could collaborate on the same document in real time. Thank you, Molly! It is wonderful to see how we can all learn from each other - students and teachers alike!

Sarah May

Year 3/4 teacher

Class update - 3/4NU

Class update - 3/4NU



Reading stamina

In 3/4NU this term, we have had a big focus on reading stamina. Reading stamina is the ability to focus and engage with a book for an extended period of time without losing concentration or becoming fatigued.

Improving reading stamina can be achieved through consistent practice (engaging in reading each day) and choosing books that match students' interests.

In 3/4NU, we practise reading stamina daily in different ways, including:

- reading to self (independent reading),



- listening to reading, and
- paired reading.

Paired reading is a favourite amongst students as it gives them the opportunity to share what they are reading with their classmates.

Natalie Urdanoff
 Year 3/4 teacher

3/4NU class update gallery



Class update - 5/6TA

Class update - 5/6TA



This year the Year 5/6 classes have been excited to start a new literacy program called Playberry Laser. This program is a structured, synthetic phonics approach to teaching reading and spelling.

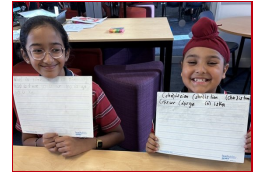
Students in 5/6TA have three phonology and two morphology lessons each week, and this includes a combination of work on mini whiteboards and book work. There is inbuilt revision within the program to ensure students reach a mastery level of each of the different concepts taught.



Multisensory learning is a huge part of Playberry Laser program. Auditory, visual and kinaesthetic learning is used as students:

- see and read,
- say and hear and do,
- spell and write.

The phonology and morphology lessons require a large amount of student participation and involvement, and students have enjoyed the opportunity to learn new routines and demonstrate their understandings in a variety of different ways.

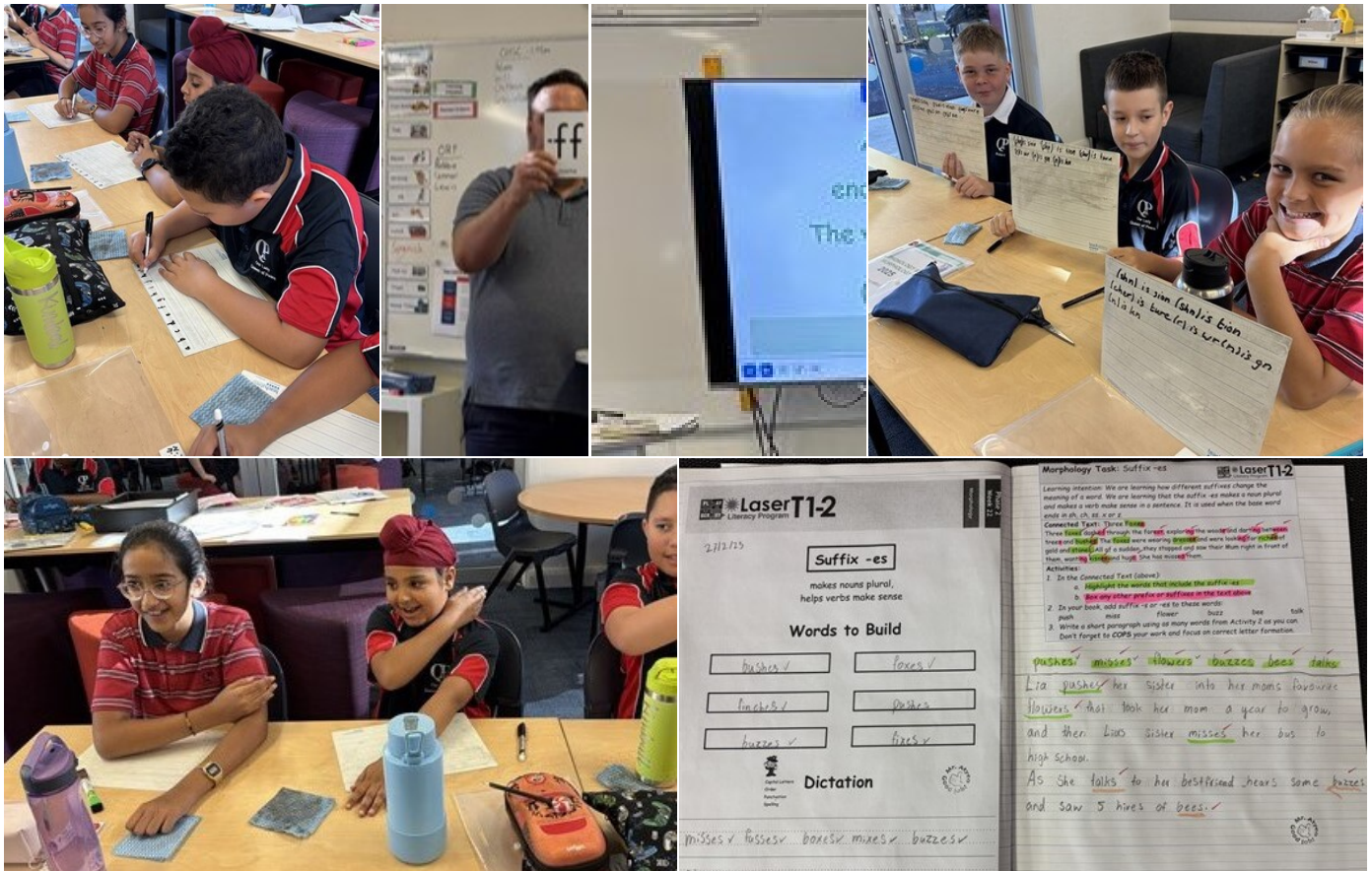


We also include activities from this program in our weekly homework schedule as an opportunity to revise what was learnt the week before.

We look forward to sharing more about our new literacy program as the year progresses.

Tom Atyeo
Year 5/6 teacher

5/6TA class update gallery





Our art classes started as they have in the past couple of years with a whole school, collaborative art project. This year we have focused on creating snakes to coincide with the 2025 Lunar New Year of the Snake celebrations.

This project gives students the opportunity to review the elements of art (line, shape, space, volume, form, texture) and incorporate some of these elements into their own artwork.

We learnt about what the snake represents in the Chinese culture and how it links in with the beginning of the school year. Most relevant was the concept of snakes shedding their skin, symbolising good luck and rebirth / new beginnings which connects well with the start of the academic year.

The snakes will be joined together to create one very long snake that circles the Discovery Centre.

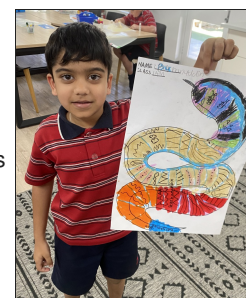


Art Club

Art Club is run every Tuesday during lunch and is open to all students. It gives students an opportunity to use specialised materials as well as catch up on their school art projects.

We will be focusing on textiles in Art Club for the second half of the term, focusing on sewing and different types of simple weaving.

Suzanne Healey
Visual Art teacher



Visual art update gallery





Whether your child is just beginning to explore Spanish or building on prior knowledge, there are many fun and engaging experiences planned for this year.

This term, in Reception, Year 1, and Year 2, our focus will be on introducing the basics of the Spanish language in a playful and interactive way. Through songs, games, and visual aids, we will help students become familiar with:

- greetings,
- colours,
- numbers,
- animal vocabulary, and
- simple phrases.

The aim is to spark curiosity and set the foundation for future learning.

For students in Years 3 to 6, we will expand on these skills, starting to introduce more vocabulary and phrases that will allow them to engage in basic conversations. Topics this term include: daily routines around the house, with an emphasis on understanding the language through games, stories, and role play. In addition, we will start working on basic grammar, focusing on sentence structure, verb conjugation, and pronunciation to develop a deeper understanding of the language.

Alongside language skills, we will be exploring various aspects of Spanish speaking cultures, from food to festivals. This term, we will be exploring how Easter is celebrated throughout Spanish speaking countries.

I am excited about the year ahead!

Should you have any questions, please feel free to reach out.

Hasta pronto!

Rebecca Belperio

Year 5/6 teacher



Spanish update gallery



Early Learning @ OLQP!

Playgroup & Occasional Care



Come and join the fun!

- Occasional Care
9am-12noon Tuesdays for children 3-5 years.
- Playgroup
9am-10.30am Wednesdays for children 0-5 years.

For more information, please access the flyers regarding Playgroup and Occasional Care from the **Useful Links** section at the beginning of this newsletter.

More questions?

Contact - Andi Benzija

- Phone: 8279 8800
- Email: Andi.Benzija@olqp.catholic.edu.au



P & F Committee



Upcoming Events

- Term 1
 - 19 March: Harmony Week special lunch
- Term 2
 - 6 May: Mothers Day stall
 - 8 May: Sports Day BBQ
 - 9 May: Showdown Donut Day

Corin Mitchell

Chairperson

Parents and Friends Committee



Second hand uniform shop

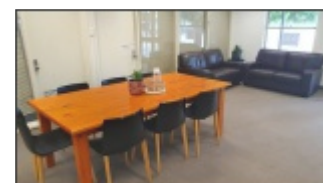
Second hand uniform shop



Opening times:

Fridays

- 8.40am – 9am
- 2.45pm – 3pm



The second hand uniform shop service, facilitated by a dedicated group of parents, supports the community to access quality and affordable second hand uniforms for their children.

Donations of quality second hand uniform items needed!

Donations are needed. If you have any quality items at home that no longer fit your child, please consider donating to our shop through the front office.

Proceeds raised from the sale of these donations go towards student centred projects and activities at our school.

Location:

Located in the P & F Room (near the girls' toilets, adjacent the basketball courts).

Call 8279 8800 if you require more information, or alternatively, you can email the P & F Committee using this email: PnF@olqp.catholic.edu.au.



P & F Committee

Before & After School Care

Before & after school care



New families and permanent bookings:

All new family bookings and permanent bookings need to be made through the OSHC office.

Please contact OSHC on **0417 840 700**, or pop into either the OSHC office or front office for an information pack.

Community News

Community news



Jiu Jitsu

Jiu Jitsu is a self defence and grappling based martial art. It promotes values such as discipline, integrity and respect.

Jiu Jitsu enhances fitness, athleticism and confidence, while teaching children life skills they can benefit from not only now, but well into the future as adults.

Sensei / coach Mike has 20+ years experience with international level teams, degrees in Youth Studies, and works with children under DCP guardianship. Fully police checked and insured.

Click on the flyer to access more information.

Please contact Mike directly with any enquires.

- Phone: 0481 380 784



- Instagram: bkr_JiuJitsu_sa

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