**Principals Message**

Dear Parents & Carers

Welcome back for the start of the 2019 school year I hope you had a relaxed and happy start to the year. A special welcome to all our new students and their families. Remember it takes time for children to settle back to routines so give them some time to get used to everything again but try and get your routines up and going as soon as possible.

As usual the builders are running behind but I am assured that building works will commence shortly. Again, I ask for your patience during this time as the school will need to be flexible. This week the children will try out new dismissal arrangements, but these might need to change once things are up and running.

The children have settled well into their classes and are enjoying being back with friends and new teachers. Having spoken to teachers, they tell me that there have been little to no issues from the children. All classes, over the next two weeks, from Years 2 – 6 are busy doing online Progressive Achievement Testing assessments in Reading, Math and Spelling and K & 1 are doing individualised assessments in readiness for commencing Initial-Lit Reading. Once the assessments have taken place, we will begin flexible groups ensuring that each child is targeted to what they need in the mentioned areas. It is important to understand that the flexible groups are also fluid in that children move between groups as they develop their skills or come across work that is more challenging for them.

A special welcome to our new staff, Anthony Moore Year 6, Teagan Newson Year 3 and Brianna Polson Year 4.

**The changing face of education**

This year St Therese's will continue with its focus on learning, ensuring that all children receive what they need to meet their educational, social and spiritual needs. This term we have engaged Brooke Trenwith an Educational Consultant in Gifted Education. Brooke will be here on Thursday 28 March and Friday 29 March to work with staff and parents in working with our more able students. Brooke will focus on how we can better differentiate the curriculum so that all students are given opportunities to reach their potential.

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**Dates to Remember**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 FEBRUARY</td>
<td>P&amp;F MEETING 7PM STAFF ROOM</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 FEBRUARY</td>
<td>REGIONAL SWIMMING CARNIVAL BOOK CLUB ORDERS DUE</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 FEBRUARY</td>
<td>SCHOOL MASS MAIN HALL 9.30AM</td>
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<td>20 &amp; 21 FEBRUARY</td>
<td>SCHOOL PHOTOS</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 FEBRUARY</td>
<td>DIO SWIMMING CARNIVAL</td>
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<td>1 MARCH</td>
<td>REGIONAL WINTER TRIALS</td>
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<td>4 MARCH</td>
<td>CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 MARCH</td>
<td>UNIFORM SUB-COMMITTEE 6PM P &amp; F MEETING 7PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 MARCH</td>
<td>ASH WEDNESDAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>29 MARCH</td>
<td>PUPIL FREE DAY</td>
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Brad Fuller from the Catholic Schools Office will work with staff exploring better ways of programming to better address and differentiate the Religious Education Curriculum.

And as mentioned before beginning in Term 2 we will be working with Mark Treadwell an Educational Futurist to begin our journey in refocusing on what children will need as they tackle the challenges of the 21st Century. Many schools’ worldwide have worked with Mark in addressing this important change. Mark’s focus is on ensuring that children come to understand and appreciate that the future is not about regurgitation of facts but rather on the application of knowledge.

Change to Assembly times
School Assemblies will now be held on Friday afternoons AT 2.30PM.

P&F
Reminder the first P&F meeting will be held tonight in the staffroom commencing at 7 pm.

Changes to Literacy and Numeracy Staffing
This year, we will trial using 5 teachers in the flexible groups arrangement across Years 1 – 6. That will mean that these grades will have an extra 2 teachers, along with the regular classroom 3 teachers. In Stage 1 we will target writing, and Stages 2 and 3 will target Maths. More information to come. In the next few weeks, due to these changes especially, in the delivery of Math, Extension (MEP) will not run in 2019.

Our Gifted Students
Today we highlight that Esther L travelled overseas as part of the Junior Theatre Festival.

“Way back in October 2017 I was selected to be part of the Aussie All Stars group going to America for the 2019 Junior Theatre Festival. In January I left for America and spent time in New York, Atlanta and LA, it was very cold in New York and I got to see snow there on my third day! The Junior Theatre Festival gives theatre companies for young people around the world an opportunity to perform and participate in workshops with people from all areas of theatre; from actors and directors to choreographers and writers. This year they had over 6,500 young people participate.

All performances are done without make up, props, a set or microphones. It’s all about us kids doing our best. The highlights for me were meeting Ben Pasek and Justin Paul who wrote the music for The Greatest Showman, La La Land, Dear Evan Hansen and so many more. Being part of the festival, going to DisneyLand and having over an hour with the cast and crew from King Kong on Broadway made it the trip of a lifetime!”

Esther, Year 6

Staff on Sick Leave this term
Ms Mel Faehndrich (Learning Support) is unwell and will not be returning to school until 18th February. Mrs Naomi Parker will need to go into hospital next week and will be away for the remainder of the term. We wish both Naomi and Mel all the best for a speedy recovery.

Duilio Rufo Principal

ASSITANT PRINCIPALS MESSAGE
Welcome Back
Welcome to our wonderful students, especially kindergarten students and all new students and families. Our kindergarten children all looked so excited and grown up last week. Parents, sometimes the initial excitement of school wears off when children realise they need to come to school EVERY day. This is very normal behaviour and in most cases is not a sign that your child is unhappy, remain positive and bring your child to school a bit earlier, so they can connect with a friend before the bell rings, then leave promptly. Remaining at school until your child goes into class can give them the message that you too are worried about them at school. If you are concerned about your child, please see their teacher and let them know your concerns. Maintaining a regular and positive routine results in most children settling into school with a few weeks.

I wish all students and their families the very best for 2019.
School Uniform
This year we will undertake a full review of our school uniform - other than the sport shirt which was reviewed in 2017. I invite parents to be part of a “Uniform Subcommittee” to undertake this process. The role of this subcommittee is to:

- organise the timeline of the review
- liaise with Lowes, the uniform supplier, to organise uniform options
- present options to the school community
- compile a survey for the whole parent community
- present survey results
- finalise outcomes based on survey findings

It is expected that this process will take 3-4 terms, therefore will be finalised by the end of 2019. It is preferable that the subcommittee has 2 parent representatives from each grade, a member of the school executive and student representatives. Until final decisions are made, we ask that parents ensure their children wear the current uniform correctly and with pride each day. A copy of our uniform can be found on the website and is also listed below. Our first subcommittee meeting will be held on **TUESDAY 5 MARCH** from 6:00pm - this is just before the March P&F meeting.

Mobile Phones
Students who bring mobile phones to school are asked to give them to their teachers at the start of each day and collect them at the end of the day. NO student will be permitted to use a mobile phone which at school, even to call their parent. All communication is to occur via the school office.

**Available from Lowes at Westfield Kotara**

**GIRLS SUMMER UNIFORM**
- Dress: Blue with white check
- Hat: Blue with school crest
- Socks: White ankle style ‘Bonds’
- Shoes: Black leather

**BOYS SUMMER UNIFORM**
- Shirt: School blue short sleeve
- Hat: Blue with school crest
- Socks: Regulation school grey with blue stripe
- Shorts: Grey
- Shoes: Black leather

**GIRLS WINTER UNIFORM**
- Tunic: Navy Tartan
- Slacks: Navy half elastic back
- Blouse: White long sleeve Peter Pan
- Skivvy: White
- Sloppy Joe: Navy V-neck fleecy
- Jacket: Navy microfibre jacket
- Tab tie: Tartan on elastic
- Socks: White ankle style ‘Bonds’
- Tights: Navy
- Shoes: Black leather

**BOYS WINTER UNIFORM**
- Shirt: School blue deluxe long sleeve
- Trousers: Grey
- Sloppy Joe: Navy V-neck fleecy
- Jacket: Navy microfibre jacket
- Tie: School stripes
- Socks: Regulation school grey with blue stripe
- Shoes: Black leather

**GIRLS SPORTS UNIFORM**
- Top: Polo shirt with school crest
- Skirt: Royal blue netball
- Or
- Shorts: Royal blue gym Or royal skort

**BOYS SPORTS UNIFORM**
- Top: Polo shirt with school crest
- Shorts: Royal blue
- Tracksuit: Royal blue
- Hat: Blue with school crest
- Socks: White
Tracksuit: Royal blue
Socks: White
Shoes: White sports shoes

Kaylene Maretich  Assistant Principal

RE News
Pope Francis @ pontifex
"The secret to navigating life well is to invite Jesus on board. The helm of life should be given to Him, so that He can direct the route."

Welcome back to 2019! You may be interested in reading more of Pope Francis’ twitter words of wisdom; look on the above address!

Dates have been set for Confirmation for 2019: Tuesday 18th June and Wednesday 19th June. If you are interested in your children receiving this Sacrament and the Sacrament of First Eucharist, and have not already enrolled your child, please contact me here at the school or email me through the school administration.

School Mass
All families are invited to join us at our first school Mass in the Main Hall on Tuesday 19th February at 9.30am.

Celebration of Sunday Mass
The parish Sunday Mass is celebrated at 9:15 am each Sunday and we encourage families to come along to these Masses when they can. As a school community we work towards building strong links with the parish and once a month the families with children at the school are invited to participate in the liturgy in a variety of ways. Please check the messages on Compass and the Newsletter for dates, which will be published in the near future.

Vicki Pettett Religious Coordinator

School Community News
Canteen News
Welcome back and thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help out in the canteen. Your kids love seeing you in the school and we certainly couldn’t run the canteen without you. Never too late to volunteer. If you have one morning free once a month and would like to help please feel free to contact me (Belinda) on 0447 509 968.

- We have a new look Juicie ice block - it looks like a Calypso ice block and comes in Orange, Wildberry, Tropical & Lemonade. Price is $1.
- Please remember to update your child’s class in Flexischools. We have had quite a few distressed children who can’t find their lunch order because it has gone into last year’s lunch tub.
- Just a reminder that every Friday is online orders only. Online orders are through Flexischools. No paper bag orders please.
- Sushi is available every Tuesday. Made freshly for us by Sushi For You in New Lambton. Orders should be placed through Flexischools.

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<tr>
<th>Wed 6/2</th>
<th>Thurs 7/2</th>
<th>Fri 8/2</th>
<th>Mon 11/2</th>
<th>Tues 12/2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Daly</td>
<td>Sarah Bagnall</td>
<td>Lisa O'Donoghue</td>
<td>Mad Standing</td>
<td>Natalie Watson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jacqui Osborn</td>
<td>Laura Street</td>
<td>Sarah Hughes</td>
<td>Martin Dobes</td>
<td>Amanda Sharp</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sally Trevitt</td>
<td>Stacey Kelly</td>
<td>Liz De Laurentis</td>
<td>Holly van Schalkwyk</td>
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Belinda Palmer Supervisor

To bring Christ and His message, in all its richness, into the hearts and lives of all.
2019 Family Discount & Diocesan Pastoral Contribution Form
Thank you to the families who returned this form last year. For those who have not yet returned their form, please do so by Wednesday 6th February to ensure you receive the correct discounts on your fees. Please note if you have children at other Catholic schools within this Diocese, you will need to supply each school with a copy of the form if you have not already done so.

Low Income Health Care Card
Any families who hold a low income health care card need to produce it to the office by Friday 8th February to claim the full year 50% tuition fee reduction. Health Care Cards produced later in the year will only allow discounts to apply to that term’s fees.
Kind Regards

Vicki McSpadden School Bursar

News from the Classroom
Waste Free Wednesday
Once again we are embracing Waste Free Wednesday here at St Therese’s – that means no bins will be placed on the playground for garbage and children are asked to minimise the packaging used to wrap their lunches and to take any wrappers/refuse home with them.

Thank you for your support of this environmentally friendly initiative.

Gifted Education
Virtual Academy
Last year we saw the beginning of a CSO initiative in Gifted Education. It was a platform for gifted students to branch out with like-minded students across the Diocese. The Virtual Academy was a huge success last year and this year we welcome Benedict S and Lewis O’D to the Virtual online classroom. Along with three Year 6 students I will keep our school community up to date with the tasks and accomplishments that come from this Academy. Please note the CSO are responsible for choosing which students are involved in this program.

The photo was taken at the Virtual Academy presentation with the CSO director, Mr Gerard Mowbray, in December 2018. Well done to Aidan P, Phoebe C, Sienna C, Christian P, Geordie O, Liam H.

Deb Petersen Coordinator

PBS
Welcome back to another school year. As a Catholic school, we incorporate the Positive Behaviours School approach to teach our children about the importance of showing our virtues and as a way to Make Jesus Real here at St Therese’s. This is also at the core of what it means to be a Catholic school, where we teach, acknowledge and reward our students not just for exterior achievements but for the personal growth and character development they display throughout the year. This year, we will commence with our Term 1 focus on Respect at this Friday's assembly, along with the recognition of weekly award winners in the next edition of the newsletter.

Luke Smith Coordinator
SPORT

Polding Trails
Our school community wishes Jonah Q and Cooper B the best of luck at the Polding Basketball trails this week in Lismore. Safe travels and enjoy.

Regional Swimming Carnival
All swimmers need to have handed in their permission notes for the Regional Swimming Carnival. Notes were handed out last year. Please remember to pay your $10 fee at the school office. Mrs Petersen will be running the carnival, so the students attending are to meet Mr Rufo at the front of Lambton Pool at 8:45am on 13th February.

Winter Sport Trials
The winter sport trials are for students in Stage 3 who currently play a chosen sport at an elite level or have a great potential in the sport. We are only permitted to send a small amount of children (between 4 and 6). If more than a few students meet the criteria we will hold a school trail. The Regional Winter Sport Trials will be held on the 1st March. More information to come.

Deb Petersen Coordinator

OOSH
Hello to everyone from YMCA Out of School Hours and Vacation Care and a huge welcome back to all of our families new and old.

We had a fabulous time throughout at Vacation Care with many St Therese’s Primary school children attending as well as children from around eight other schools which provided the opportunity to meet and make new friends. Some of the highlights were our incursions/excursions including – Face painting, Water Circus Play, Captain Bubbles, Clay creations and Hip Hop and Street dancing, ice skating, Mega Mania, HQ kids sports, Niagara Sports Park, Laser Tag, bowling and twice to the movies plus a trip to Speers Point Park. Other in house highlights were our Christmas party and colour run, pizza and movies day, tie dying and water play. Wow, I feel exhausted just thinking back on it but we did all had a great time.

Back to Before and After School Care now, and we are getting in to our routines. We have had a huge intake of Kindergarten children (34) which is wonderful and so far they are all settling in well and are happy to be here.

Just a reminder that staff walk the Kindies to their classrooms in the morning and they are collected from the Kindergarten verandas in the afternoons at 3pm.

We will be conducting practice evacuation and lockdown procedures for most of this week. We have discussions with the children before hand to ensure that they are aware of what will be happening and we also ask for their feedback about the procedures.

Also, we do make sure the children apply sunscreen before playing outdoors. If you child is unable to use our sunscreen due to sensitive skin/allergies etc. Please provide them with a suitable alternative in their bag.

PUPIL FREE DAY – FRIDAY 29TH MARCH – YMCA NEW LAMBTON WILL BE OPERATING FROM 6.30am to 6pm. If you need all day care for that day please go online and book in. Bookings will be open in the two weeks prior to that day.

Christine Morgan | Childcare Coordinator
YMCA New Lambton OSHC | Burke Street, New Lambton, NSW, 2305
p 0402 165 617
e Christine.Morgan@ymcansw.org.au w https://www.ymcansw.org.au/childrens-services/
Follow us! facebook | twitter | youtube | instagram
BOOK CLUB: Issue 1 Book Club is now available. Closing date for orders is next WEDNESDAY 13th February.

There are now two ways to order from Scholastic Book Club.
If you wish to make a purchase through the school, simply fill out the order form – place it in an envelope with the CORRECT money, or cheque made out to Scholastic Australia. Please write your child’s name and class on the front of the envelope as well as the order form.

ALTERNATIVELY, you may order through ‘LOOP’ which is on-line order and payment, with your purchases delivered to the school.
Office pick-up is always available for discreet orders such as birthdays, Christmas, rewards etc. Clearly mark the order ‘Office pick-up’ and add a contact number. ‘LOOP’ also has an option to tick a box for ‘gift orders’ which can be picked up from the office.

REMEMBER: All orders earn valuable resources for our school. Last year the school earned $1914.00 in rewards. Thank you for your continued support.

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CHESS!!

Learn to be a chess champion! Coaching for students at St Therese’s Primary School (New Lambton) is held on Mondays from 8:10am to 9:10am, starting on 11 February 2019.

Learning and playing chess helps children develop their logical thinking and problem solving skills, improves their concentration and focus, while also being a great source of enjoyment. Activities include group lessons on a demonstration chess board or interactive whiteboard, puzzle solving and fun practice games.

Students earn merit awards by making checkmates, or by displaying skills and positive qualities, which all good chess players strive to develop.

If your child is interested in taking part, you can collect an enrolment form from the school office, or email arrol@sydneyacademyofchess.com.au for a copy. For any enquiries, please contact Sydney Academy of Chess on (02) 9745 1170.

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Want to play hockey – come and give it a go.
West Junior Hockey Club / Central West Hockey Club is looking for new players (both boys and girls) to join their teams.

All training and games are played at
Broadmeadow International Hockey Centre

For more information please give me a call.
Matt Lewsam
President
West Junior Hockey
Mob: 0410 443 418
Email: westhockeyjuniors@gmail.com

Website: www.revolutionise.com.au/wjhc/

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To bring Christ and His message, in all its richness, into the hearts and lives of all.
SPOTLIGHT

Think, Grow, Shine.

BOOK CLUB
ISSUE 1 2019

Find out all about Adam Wallace!

AUTHOR SPOTLIGHT

- Adam has written fifty-two reel, live books, and he illustrated nine of those books.
- Over 1,000,000,000,000 Adam Wallace books have been sold. That number was meant to be a million. A few extra zeroes were added by mistake, on purpose.
- He is always called Adam Wallace by kids at school, and his friends call him either Adam Wallace or Wally or Foxy. His mum wishes someone would just call him Adam. Which is weird, because she calls him Ben.
- Adam has had four books on the New York Times Bestseller List, some of them more than once. This is exciting. He wants to go to New York.
- Cowboy and Birdbrain is the most fun series Adam has ever written. Sometimes he acted out Birdbrain’s antics. This made him knock himself out four times.
- The first book he wrote was called Frogmen of the USA. He was in Grade 4. It was about frogs who bit people’s heads off. It was based on his sister.

AGES 3+
What could go wrong?
Smashing and splashing! Jumping and thumping! Fighting and biting! Mecca is looking after his nieces and nephew and they are nothing but TROUBLE! How will Uncle Mecca name this unruly trio?

AGES 7+
Who are you going to call?
Cowboy and Birdbrain are best friends who work for I.F.F.Y. Deliveries, a company that do the riskiest, zaniest, most bizarre deliveries ever. They’re known for their F.A.R.T.S (Fast and Reliable Tracking Service). Will they be the best delivery duo ever?

AGES 7+
Can Dog Man be outsmarted by a cat?
Dog Man and the Supa Buddies are a paw-erful force against evil, but has Petey, the World’s Most Evil Cat, finally outsmarted them? Petey has created another confusing contraption and is determined to destroy Dog Man once and for all. Can Dog Man’s nose for justice and LiL Petey’s heart of gold finally convince the cunning kitty to do good?

AGES 10+
An amazing life journey!
Follow Malala’s incredible journey to recovery in the aftermath of the attack, from the life-saving surgery she received in a Birmingham hospital, to her reunion with her family and their eventual relocation to England.

MAKE SURE YOU GET YOUR ORDERS BACK TO SCHOOL BY:

Malala: My Story of Standing Up for Girls’ Rights
Malala Yousafzai
Item 037—Page 06

To bring Christ and His message, in all its richness, into the hearts and lives of all.
JOIN US in 2019
Newcastle Youth Orchestra

Join NYO or NYO Kids
Audition now for our upcoming 2019 season
Visit our website for more details:
www.nyo.com.au

Rehearsals
10am-1pm Sundays
(10am-12pm - NYO Kids)

Follow us on Facebook:
NewcastleYouthOrchestra

Music Lessons with Ben!
Individual Guitar, Keyboard or Piano lessons for your child at just $20 for 30 minutes!
Some spaces are still available for this Term Lessons available on Tuesday or Thursday
Please enquire with Ben Pettett on 0452 320 342

the hearts and lives of all.
2019 Family Discount & Diocesan Pastoral
Contribution Form

**FAMILY DISCOUNT**
This form is required for all your children enrolled in the Maitland/Newcastle Diocese; issued per school. The family discount is applicable to tuition fees, please be aware the family discount will not be processed on the school account until this form is returned. Students listed on this application must have the same residential address to qualify for the family discount.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of students per family</th>
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<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5+</th>
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<tr>
<td>family discount rate per student</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>50%</td>
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**Office Use Only**
- No of Students in Family:
- Family Code:
- DFSBL applicable for billing? Y/N

**Name of Fee payer for students listed below:**

(Please clearly write the full Name of Person Responsible for fees)

**Fee payer’s Signature:**

Please list all children attending Maitland/Newcastle Diocesan Schools in 2015 who reside at the same address and the person (as above) is responsible for the payment of fees.

**Residential Address for ALL Students listed:**

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<tr>
<th>Student Name/s</th>
<th>Name of School, Student is attending in 2019</th>
<th>2019 Year/Class</th>
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**HEALTH CARE CARD**
Eligibility for reduction off tuition fees for ‘means tested’ low income Health Care/Pension Holders. This discount is up to 50% off the Diocesan Tuition Fee full rate, percentage granted is determined by family discount applied. In order to receive this discount, you are required to complete paperwork and provide a copy of your Health Care Card to the School at the commencement of each school year. NB: Student HCC are not accepted.

**FEE ASSISTANCE** Any family experiencing financial difficulties can seek fee assistance, please contact the School Office to arrange an interview and complete the necessary paperwork with the Principal at the beginning of each year.

Family Diocesan Pastoral Contribution will be notarised on the school fee account for the eldest child in the Diocese. As this contribution is voluntary, please tick your preference below. This contribution will help support the initiatives of the Pastoral Ministries within the Diocese.

- I elect to pay the Diocesan Pastoral Contribution.
- I elect **NOT to pay** the Diocesan Pastoral Contribution.
- I will contact the school to arrange a nominated amount to contribute to the Diocesan Pastoral Contribution.

This form is to be returned, to this school by Friday 16th November 2018.