Principals Message

Dear Parents & Carers

We celebrated the Opening School Mass today. My thanks to Fr Stephen for giving us the opportunity to celebrate in the Hall. Thanks also to Vickie Pettett and the students who prepared the mass.

This is the last week that Kindergarten children will be dismissed at the earlier time of 2.30pm. As of next week we revert to a whole school afternoon dismissal – 3.15pm. I remind parents to ensure that you speak to your child’s teacher as to what gate your child is being picked up from. This saves any upset and confusion for the children. You are reminded that commencing next Monday, parents should no longer be coming into the grounds to collect students.

Diocesan Religious Literacy

Last year all Diocesan schools participated in the inaugural Religious Literacy Exam. This exam was implement by the Bishop as a way of assisting students to better understand their Catholic traditions.

I am delighted to announce that two of our former students Liam Hughes and Marcus Kerby were placed equal first throughout the Dioceses and St Therese’s School was recognised as the most outstanding all round primary school in its’ performance. This result is a credit to all our teachers and students.

Duilio Rufo Principal

Dates to Remember

19 FEBRUARY
SCHOOL MASS MAIN HALL 9.30AM

20 & 21 FEBRUARY
SCHOOL PHOTOS

28 FEBRUARY
DIO SWIMMING CARNIVAL

1 MARCH
REGIONAL WINTER TRIALS

4 MARCH
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

5 MARCH
UNIFORM SUB-COMMITTEE 6PM
P & F MEETING 7PM

6 MARCH
ASH WEDNESDAY

17 MARCH
PARISH MASS 9.15AM

28 MARCH
BROOKE TRENWITH TALK 6PM
GIFTED ED

29 MARCH
PUPIL FREE DAY
Assistant Principals Message

School Photos
This week we have our school photos on Wednesday 20 February and Thursday 21 February. Children are to be in their formal uniform NOT sport uniform. Our school colours are blue and white, so all accessories e.g. hair ties, head bands etc. should be blue or white. Attached is the photo timetable, please be aware this is an approximate timetable, as the photographers can run earlier or later. Classes 3N and 6N are to wear their formal uniform for photos even though their photos are scheduled on their regular sport day. For this week, these two classes are in library lessons on their sport day, so will not be disadvantaged by wearing their formal uniform. The band are asked to bring their instruments on Tuesday for regular band lessons, as well as Wednesday for their band photo.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wednesday 20 February 8:30 staff photo</th>
<th>Thursday 21 February</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• 4N – 9:30</td>
<td>• KN – 9:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 4W – 9:30</td>
<td>• KW – 9:40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 4L – 9:50</td>
<td>• KL – 9:50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 1N – 10:00</td>
<td>• 2N – 10:00</td>
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<td>• 1W – 10:10</td>
<td>• 3W – 10:10</td>
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<td>• 1L – 10:20</td>
<td>• 3L – 10:20</td>
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<td>• 2W – 10:30</td>
<td>• 5N – 10:30</td>
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<td>• 2L – 10:40</td>
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<td>• 3N – 10:50</td>
<td>• 5L – 10:50</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 6W – 11:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 6L – 11:10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Photos – 11:15</td>
<td>Family Photos – 11:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band – 12:00</td>
<td>• 6N – 12:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Year 6 whole group photo</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>School Council, House Captains etc.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Kaylene Maretich  Assistant Principal

RE News
Pope Francis @ pontifex
“Those who love use their imagination to discover solutions where there are problems. Those who love help others according to their needs with creativity, not according to preconceived ideas or common conceptions.”

The above words are at the forefront of our dealings with student behaviour, when we work with our students to help them find solutions when they are having difficulty with issues in their behaviour.

Upcoming events
Monday 5th March: CATHOLIC SCHOOLS’ WEEK LITURGY and LAUNCH of PROJECT COMPASSION
9:30 am in the Hall then morning tea
10:30 Open classrooms
11:15 Shared sausage sizzle lunch

Wednesday 6th March: Ash Wednesday Liturgy in the Hall: primary classes: 2:30 pm: families welcome!

Vickie Pettet Religious Coordinator
Belinda Palmer Supervisor

**Low Income Health Care Card**
Any families who hold a low income health care card need to produce it to the office ASAP 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.

**School Fees**
A paper copy of your school fees was sent home with your child last week. Future reminders will be via email. Please note that some regular school excursions, athletics and swimming carnivals as well as camp costs will be included on your school fees. If you are experiencing financial difficulty please contact the office to speak to Mr Rufo the Principal for assistance.

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 parents are asked to minimise the packaging used to wrap their child’s lunches and to take any wrappers/refuse home with them.

Thank you for your support of this environmentally friendly initiative.

**Gifted Education**
During March we have the pleasure of hosting Ms Brooke Trenwith. She will work with staff around Gifted Education. Specifically the Identification Process of students, catering for Gifted and High Achievers in our school and the use of data to influence the clustering process. Brooke is happy to also speak to parents on Thursday the 28th March at 6:00 - 7:00pm regarding Gifted Education with consideration given to students adapting to the environment, higher order questioning and intrapersonal support (ie perfectionism and anxiety). She is an energetic and knowledgeable speaker who I am sure our school community will find very insightful. Below is a profile of Brooke Trenwith for your information.

**Brooke Trenwith**
 Brooke is President of the New Zealand Association for Gifted Children, a New Zealand Representative on the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children and a MOE Accredited consultant. She has taught early childhood through to university level, been a GaTE Coordinator and was assistant director of an English Language School in Taiwan.
Brooke was project leader of the *Te Toi Tupu* contract, helping schools develop robust, transparent and cohesive approaches to gifted education. Brooke’s specialisations include giftedness, inclusive education, relationship-based learning/cultural responsiveness, coaching/change management, thinking skills, digital fluency, innovative learning and collaborative practice. In 2018, Brooke was on the Reference Group for the Ministerial Review of Curriculum, Progress and Achievement (Year 1-10).

I would like to get an idea of numbers interested in attending this session. Please complete the below Expression of Interest and either hand it back to the school office or to myself, Mrs Petersen. I would encourage you all to attend as she is inspirational and she has many great things to teach us all. Thank you

I am interested in coming to the Gifted Education session with Brooke Trenwith on March 28th.

Name: __________________________________________________________

My child/children are in grade:

K 1 2 3 4 5 6

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**PBS**

**RESPECT: Manners** – This term, we will be focusing on the virtue of Respect. The first way in which we are exploring how to show respect through the use of Manners. We use our manners through words; saying “Please”, “Thank you” & “Excuse Me”. We can also teach our children to show manners through their actions; by taking turns, standing back and allowing others to go first, holding the door open for another, etc. When we take the time and patience to repeat these messages to our children (and it does take many reminders!) we are instilling in them the importance of showing Respect to others. Trust me, others will thank you for this and appreciate it as your children grow to be respectful members of society!

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**School Spirit Award for beginning the year with Great School Spirit.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KN</th>
<th>Maeve H. &amp; Declan O.</th>
<th>KW</th>
<th>Callen K. &amp; Stella R.</th>
<th>KL</th>
<th>Liam E. &amp; Andrea P.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1N</td>
<td>Hudson G., Noah J. &amp; Phoebe M.</td>
<td>1W</td>
<td>Henry G. &amp; Ly M.</td>
<td>1L</td>
<td>Claire A. &amp; Hamish M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2N</td>
<td>Jordy T. &amp; Hope B.</td>
<td>2W</td>
<td></td>
<td>2L</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3N</td>
<td>Olivia M. &amp; Lukas W.</td>
<td>3W</td>
<td>Emily C. &amp; Justin P.</td>
<td>3L</td>
<td>Nevaeh D. &amp; Ben L.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5N</td>
<td>Felix D. &amp; Ava R.</td>
<td>5W</td>
<td>Nina B. &amp; Timothy M.</td>
<td>5L</td>
<td>Isaac W. &amp; Macey W.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6N</td>
<td>Nash C. &amp; Tilly L.</td>
<td>6W</td>
<td>Samuel L. &amp; Harry M.</td>
<td>6L</td>
<td>Makayla L. &amp; Andie W.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Principal Award recipients for this week:**

Elena M. (5L), Elliot S. (5L)

*Luke Smith Coordinator*
P & F News

Easter Raffle
As space is at a premium this year, we will not be holding our famous Easter Raffle. Instead, we will have a guessing competition. Watch this space for further details.

Bunnings BBQ Fundraiser
We are still in need of volunteers for our sausage sizzle on March 24th at Kotara Bunnings. Please contact Madeleine Standing (tmstand81@bigpond.com) to volunteer. Shifts are just 2 hours and all proceeds go towards air conditioning and furniture for our new classrooms.

Lunch Orders at the Canteen
Thank you to all our parents who understand that with a combined lunch break and reduced numbers of helpers, that Belinda and her volunteers do their utmost to get out the lunch orders on time. However, accidents happen and sometimes children receive the wrong lunch order. Parents please let your children know that if something in their lunch order is incorrect that they need only take it back to the canteen and the volunteers will happily fix it. If you are able to volunteer, even for a couple of hours, on the canteen, please contact Belinda Palmer on 0447509968, any and all help is greatly appreciated.

Uniform Sub committee
We are forming a sub-committee to explore all aspects (except the new sports shirt) to our uniform. If you would like to be a part of this group please email your interest to Kaylene Maretiuch (admin@newlambton.catholic.mn.edu.au) with the subject “Uniform Committee”. The committee will meet at 6pm in the staff room on the first Tuesday of each month, just prior to the P&F meeting.

Natalie Evans President

SPORT

Regional Swimming Carnival
Congratulations to all the students who participated in the Central Region Swimming carnival. It was a wonderful day that showcased the excellent sporting skills of the school’s best swimmers. From a squad of 46 students we congratulate the following children who had further success and will now compete at the Diocesan carnival on the 28th February at Lambton Pool. Those swimmers are Andie W, Gabe W, Lucinda M, Mostyn B, Cody C, Tyler B, Noah G, Marcus P, Wilson T, Angus G, Cooper B and Patrick B. A huge thank you must go to our parent helpers on the day. The school relies on your support often at sporting events and you do a wonderful job, THANKYOU!!!

Pictured at right – Senior Swim Squad

Deb Petersen Coordinator

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