Principals Message
Dear Parents & Carers

Catholic Schools Week celebrations
Yesterday we celebrated Catholic Schools Week with a meaningful Liturgy prepared by Mrs Pettett and supported by our school leaders. A special thankyou to Mrs Brymora and Mr Smith and our small choir for the lovely musical accompaniment.

My thanks to all the parents, grandparents and carers who came to join us for the open classrooms and cuppa. A big thankyou to Andrew and Jane Woodcock who manned our bbq from beginning to end – an outstanding effort!

Today our school leaders represented St Therese’s at the Catholic Schools Week Mass celebrated at Sacred Heart Cathedral. And tomorrow we will celebrate Ash Wednesday.

Parent Teacher Interviews
Please look out for the note that will come home advising you of the process to book your Parent Teacher interviews on Compass that will be held in Week 10.

Espanola
I have been approached to gauge the interest of the parent body in providing Spanish lessons to the children. There will be a small fee, dependent upon numbers. If you are interested in your child being taught Spanish, please return the slip at the end of the newsletter.

Shave for a Cure
Pictured below are four students who have volunteered to be a part of Shave for a Cure. This will be held at school on 15 March and my thanks to Mrs Amanda Sharp and Mrs Amanda Walton (both hairdressers) who have donated their time and skill for this worthwhile cause. Any donations can be made to the office.

Dulilo Rufo Principal
To bring Christ and His message, in all its richness, into the hearts and lives of all.
Assistant Principals Message

Uniform Subcommittee

Our first Uniform Subcommittee meeting to begin the review of our school uniform will be held on Tuesday 5 March at 6pm in the staff room - this is before the March P&F meeting. If you would like to be on the subcommittee, please email me on kaylene.maretich@mn.catholic.edu.au. Thank you to the people who have already indicated their interest.

Creative Writing

Last week, students in Years 3-6 participated in a creative writing workshop with Karen Eastwood. Karen is a published author, as well as being a part of the Newcastle Writers Festival, she also runs creative writing workshops in the school holidays. Karen focused on writing a narrative with our students, especially on the aspects of imagination, correct structure and creating a first draft. Our Years 3 & 4 students were given two objects to create a story e.g. goggles and a coin, jar and paper, clip and a can. They then created a story from these objects sometimes employing personification by imagining where the objects may have come from, what they were for or how they could have been used. In Years 5 & 6, students used their senses of touch, smell, texture and hearing, to bring life to an inanimate object, to add detail and interest to a story. The students were very excited after their session with Karen and I look forward to seeing their completed stories soon - who knows the next J.K. Rowling may be in our midst. We will publish some of these stories in the coming weeks through the Newsletter.
RE News
Pope Francis @ pontifex
“Sometimes we may feel we are alone in facing difficulties. But, even if He doesn’t intervene immediately, the Lord walks by our side and, if we keep going forward, He will open up a new path.”

LENT
This Church season begins with **ASH WEDNESDAY**, when primary students will meet in the Hall for a Liturgy at 2:00pm. Parents are warmly invited to attend this liturgy and we thank Father Stephen and Father Velerian for leading us on our Lenten Journey.

**Lent** is a time for “making sacrifices”, “making commitments” and “giving up distractions” so that we may draw closer to Jesus Christ. This week each family will receive a **Project Compassion box** and one suggestion is to keep our box on our dinner table to remind us that many people are not sitting down to meals, but rather are starving in many ways. We could then place in the box an appropriate amount of money each meal.

Sacramental News
A note will come home this week with details of plans for the reception of the **Sacrament of Confirmation and First Eucharist**. For any family new to our school, who has a child in Year 4-6 who has “missed out” on enrolment for reception of these Sacraments, please contact the team through the Admin Office. If you have already enrolled your child last year, please take note of the dates of meetings and the dates for reception of the Sacraments.

**Vickie Pettett Religious Coordinator**

School Community News

Canteen News

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wed 6/3</th>
<th>Thurs 7/3</th>
<th>Fri 8/3</th>
<th>Mon 11/3</th>
<th>Tues 12/3</th>
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</thead>
<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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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sally Trevitt</td>
<td>Stacey Kelly</td>
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<td>Holly van Schalkwyk</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Belinda Palmer Canteen Supervisor**

Conditions of Enrolment and Permission Note for Local Excursions
Thank you to those families who have completed and returned their **GREEN** form, for each child. Those who have not – please do so ASAP and return to school.

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 in week 3. 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.

CDF Student Notice Saver Account

**The Catholic Development Fund (CDF)** can provide your child with a student bank account that is operated through the school. All parents of kindergarten students should have received a welcome letter which included a new account application. If you would like to open a CDF student account for your child please send the application form and an initial deposit.
to the office and a new account will be opened for your child. If you do not currently have a student account application form you can pick one up at the school office.

The CDF also offers savings opportunities for parents – call 1800 810 330 for further information.

Working With Children Check clearances
There has been a change of procedure for WWCC. Please see attached new form to be used. We do not need to have 100pts of ID- instead we need to sight photo id. They will email back within 5 days to notify the school that the volunteer has a clearance.

Volunteers or contractors are not able to work within the school until the school receives a clearance. Volunteers are to still complete the volunteer handbook as well.

Thank you to those parents who have provided the WWCC to the school. If you wish to volunteer at the school, you must provide the school with your WWCC and show photo ID. Once the CSO has cleared you (generally 5 days) you will be able to volunteer at school. WWCC can be applied for at the childrensguardian.com.au.

Newsletter Update
Currently newsletters are distributed via:
- Compass
- Email
- Website
- Hardcopy for those parents who have requested it.
From Week 7 newsletters will no longer be sent out via email. If you do not have electronic access to the newsletter, please let the office know and a hardcopy will be sent home with your child.
Note: when reading the newsletter on Compass, you need to “view in browser”.

Vicki McSpadden School Bursar

School Band - Howard Ward Music
There has been a change of name from Allan Ward Music to Howard Ward Music. Please ensure all payments reflect this new name. Also Howard Ward Music has been approved to accept the Creative Kids Voucher. Anyone wishing to use your voucher needs to contact Howard via email at ward62@bigpond.net.au.

Yours in Music
Howard Ward

NDA against Bullying and Violence
On March 15 Shihan Danny, Sensei Jessica and Sensei Layton will come to St Therese’s as part of our acknowledgment of the annual initiative “National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence” for an interactive class with students in grades 1, 3 and 5. It will address peace through discipline and discouraging violence. This is of utmost importance to maintain a community where children feel safe and thrive. Mental Self-Defence is a necessity in building resilience and is the first line of defence. Each session will be run in 3 stages:

1) Shihan Danny will firstly explain to students that Martial Arts is not centred in violence or aggression (as it is all too often portrayed in the Media, TV and Movies. Instead, Martial Arts is a useful tool based on conflict resolution with physical self-defence being a last resort.

2) The Instructors will keep students in their class groups and work through the three Ps of Action:
- Prevent - By being aware of surroundings and identifying potentially confronting or dangerous situations inside school and outside of school, including stranger danger.
- Plan – Depending on the situation, plan to walk away, run, seek out a teacher or responsible adult, call for help.
- Protect – In the event that you have a physical threat, knowing how to sufficiently protect vital areas predominantly the head and torso.
3) Shihan Danny will then summarise the class, emphasising key points and answer any questions from students.

Special thanks to Skyy and Daniel Crouch for your time and expertise in this area.

**Deb Petersen Primary Coordinator**

**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.

**Environmental warriors**

Hello I would like to introduce St Therese’s Environmental Warriors for 2109 (Photo) These Year 6 students are presently implementing a “Tidy School Initiative” They have allocated certain areas of the school that each Grade will keep tidy. Each week members of the Environmental team randomly peruse these areas and select the tidiest area. This Grade is presented with the Environmental Warriors “WIN BIN” trophy at Friday’s School Assembly. The winning Grade display the trophy in their room for the following week. Last week Grade 3 was awarded the Environmental Warriors “WIN BIN” trophy. Well Done Grade 3. We constantly aim to recycle, reuse and reduce our rubbish and appreciate your support in this endeavour.

Lilah A 6N, Phoebe C 6N, Danielle M 6N, Ava C 6N, Aislin McC 6W, Molly B 6W, Eve M 6N, Jessy B 6N, Annalise B 6W, Annie E 6N, Tilly L 6N, Jack C 6W, Jack M 6W, Justin A 6W

**Therese Jackman Primary Coordinator**

**Playgroup**

Join us again, on Friday 8 March for some all ages fun. Please contact Cath on 0450922205 if you have any questions about playgroup.

**Gifted Education**

Last week I had the pleasure of attending a Professional Development day with the key speaker being Dr Karen Rogers. I have placed a summary of her qualifications on my Gifted Education blog “Discovering Potential”. She spoke about the research on Flexible Groupings involving clustering. To view this blog and add a comment please go to [http://debrapetersen.edublogs.org/](http://debrapetersen.edublogs.org/). I am looking forward to working with our GE committee staff members to ensure some of Dr Rogers practical ideas are used within our classrooms.

**Deb Petersen Coordinator**

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

**RESPECT: – Encouraging Others**

One of the great ways we can show Respect for people is by encouraging them. When someone has a particular talent or ability we can show respect of that ability by offering words of encouragement and positive affirmation. In the same way, even if someone is not experiencing success we can show praise for their efforts. When we encourage others in this way, we show Respect for them as a person and hopefully give them the courage and perseverance to keep on trying. So, let’s show our Respect for one another by offering kind words of encouragement at all times.

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

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<th>KN</th>
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<th>KW</th>
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<th>KL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1N</td>
<td>Harry H. &amp; Lucia R.</td>
<td>1W</td>
<td>Brock H. &amp; Mackenzie R.</td>
<td>1L</td>
<td>Brock H. &amp; Mackenzie R.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2N</td>
<td>Eliza A. &amp; Molly B.</td>
<td>2W</td>
<td></td>
<td>2L</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3N</td>
<td>Xavier R. &amp; Niah S.</td>
<td>3W</td>
<td>Zavier G. &amp; Isla R.</td>
<td>3L</td>
<td>Zavier G. &amp; Isla R.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>5N</td>
<td>Benjamin B. &amp; Lucy D.</td>
<td>5W</td>
<td>Anika B. &amp; Ruby L.</td>
<td>5L</td>
<td>Anika B. &amp; Ruby L.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>6N</td>
<td>Annie E. &amp; Aidan P.</td>
<td>6W</td>
<td>Justin A. &amp; Jacob L.</td>
<td>6L</td>
<td>Justin A. &amp; Jacob L.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Principal Award recipients for this week:**

Louie B. (1W), Daniel J. (4L) and Zoe L. (4L).

*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.

Please bring your family and friends to Bunnings Kotara on Sunday 24th March and buy a sausage sandwich (or two) to support the school. A BIG thank you to those that have volunteered their time to assist us.

*Natalie Evans  P & F President*

**SPORT**

**Dio swimming Carnival**

Congratulations to all the students who attended the Diocesan Swim carnival on Thursday last week. It was a wonderful day and we had success in both the relays and individual events. Well done to the Senior Boys Relay Team (Cooper B, Noah G, Mostyn B, Marcus P) and Andie W, Marcus P and Mostyn B who will now compete at Homebush. An amazing effort from all our swimmers. Thank you also goes to Indie B, Cooper M, Nash C, Ollie M, Blake S, Archer L who helped out all day at the carnival.
**Winter Sport Trials**

Congratulations to all students who attended the Trials last Friday. Well done on your super talents and great sportsmanship.

These children will now attend the Dio Trials in their chosen sports.

Rugby League - Cooper McK
Soccer – Maddison B, Violet P, Rhys F & Thomas M

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**Our State Champ**

State nippers championships were held over three days at Swansea Belmont last weekend with nippers aged 9-14 from all over the state competing.

Andie W competed in a number of individual and team events. She was successful earning a gold medal in U12 female individual surf race and bronze medal in U12 female surf team race.

Andie W and Gabe W were both part of contributing to Cooks Hill Surf Club winning the overall point score for the weekend. Congratulations on a great effort.

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**Deb Petersen Coordinator**

**Harmony Day**

Harmony Day is a special day when we celebrate the diverse backgrounds that make up our school and local communities. We are blessed to have students and families from many different countries and cultures here at St Therese’s, and Harmony Day allows us to acknowledge and celebrate this diversity.

Children are encouraged to wear orange clothes or accessories to symbolise the message of Harmony that “everyone belongs.”

We would again like to invite parents, grandparents, siblings or community members to visit our classrooms on the morning of Friday March 22.

Visitors may choose to read a story (for example) from their own or a favourite cultural background, retell a story or journey of migration, or perhaps teach a class to count to 10 in another language. The possibilities are endless depending on your own availability and ideas.

If you are able to offer your time for 20 minutes or a few hours, please complete the form at the bottom of the newsletter and return to your child's teacher as soon as possible. Thank you sincerely for your continued support, and I look forward to hearing your stories on Harmony Day.

Yours in Harmony,

Maree Adams
EAL/D teacher

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*To bring Christ and His message, in all its richness, into the hearts and lives of all.*
I, __________________________________________(name) would like to assist
in celebrating Harmony Day on Friday March 22nd.
I would be willing to share a story / read a book / teach some basic language skills or
______________________________________________________________________
(please circle) in Class: ______________________.

My name is: _____________________________________________________________.

My children/children name/s: ____________________________________________.

My contact phone number is:____________________________________________

..............................................................................................................

ESPAÑOLA – EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

I am interested in my child ................................................................. class................

Receiving Spanish lessons.
I understand there will be a small fee.

................................................................. Parent/Guardian
Premier’s Reading Challenge 2019

Keen to take the challenge?

Kinder – Year 2

Teachers are completing the PRC with their students in class. They are reading the required number of books to the students throughout the year. If you would also like to complete the challenge at home with your child, you are very welcome to collect a form from the class teacher.

Years 3-6

To complete the challenge, you must read a certain number of books from the ‘Premier’s List’. All rules and reading lists are available at:

https://www.premiersreadingchallenge.nsw.edu.au

If you are completing your Reading Record online you will need a Login Code and password. Please ask your class teacher or Mrs Barker for your code. Complete your online Student Reading Record by 30 August 2019 (11:59 pm)

You may prefer to keep a written record. Ask your teacher for a form. Return your form to Mrs Barker by 17th August 2019. It will be entered by the school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenge</th>
<th>Number of books you must read</th>
<th>Minimum number of PRC books</th>
<th>Maximum number of Personal Choice books</th>
<th>PRC booklists you can read from</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K-2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>K-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-9</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-4</td>
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<td>15</td>
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<td>3-4, 5-6, 7-9</td>
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<td>5-6</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>7-9</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5-6, 7-9</td>
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</table>

Good Luck – Have Fun!

Thinking and Technology

At St Therese’s we aim to develop a ‘Culture of Thinking’. That is, we want our school to be a place where thinking is valued, visible and actively promoted. We use thinking routines to make thinking visible. This week we used the Fact Question Answer routine with Year 5. Read about it on our School Website – Learning Blog
Hello to everyone from YMCA Out of School Hours Care. Bookings are now open for the Autumn Vacation Care period. Please see the attached flyer and go online to book in for some holiday fun with us.

Reminder: If you have not already resubmitted your child/children’s enrolments for 2019 please do so as soon as possible. It is a requirement that all children have an up to date enrolment to be able to use the service.

Go to your My Family Lounge account choose VIEW ENROLMENT, make any changes you may require and then choose the SUBMIT tab. Please feel free to call the service if you need assistance to do this.

Reminders:
Friday 29th March is a pupil free day and YMCA will be providing care from 6.30am to 6.00pm. If you require care this day you can go on to My Family Lounge two weeks prior to this day to make your Pupil Free Day booking.
Vacation Care program and bookings will be open in the next couple of weeks so look out for notification of that commencing.

Christine Morgan | Childcare Coordinator
YMCA New Lambton OSHC | Burke Street, New Lambton, NSW, 2305
p 0402 165 617
YOU ARE INVITED to

SUNDAY PARISH MASS

9:15 AM Sunday 17th March

Join the Parish community to celebrate Mass. Senior students will be taking on the responsibility of involvement in the liturgy with welcoming, Altar Serving, proclaiming the Word, offering the gifts in the Offertory procession, etc.

The musicians welcome any children from 8:30am to revise the words of the hymns to be sung.

Morning tea and Iceblocks after Mass!
# Working with Children Check (WWCC) Clearance

## Personal Information

<table>
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<th>Field</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Name</td>
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<td>Surname</td>
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<td>Date of Birth</td>
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<td>Home Address</td>
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<td>Location of Work (Agency/School)</td>
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<td>Position Title</td>
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<td>Commencement Date</td>
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<td>WWCC Number</td>
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## Employment Information

- **Volunteer**
- **Employee**
- **Contractor**

**BUSINESS NAME**

I, [Name], have conducted a Proof of Identity Check for the person named above OR I have known the applicant for a minimum of 12 months and can attest to their identity.

**Signature**

**Date**

## Next Steps

- All information on this form must be checked as correct, particularly spelling of names and dates of birth (incorrect details will delay processing time).
- Surname provided must match against surname registered on WWCC.
- Please complete all information required.
- Once completed, submit this email to: [wwcc@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:wwcc@mn.catholic.org.au)

## Processing Period

Please note that it may take up to 5 business days for a WWCC verification or renewal to be processed during peak periods, however the team will do its best to process checks in 2 business days.

Once a WWCC has been verified, the form will be returned with confirmation of clearance and verification.

## Human Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>No</th>
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<tr>
<td>Verification Date:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expiry Date:</td>
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To bring Christ and His message, in all its richness, into the hearts and lives of all.