**Principals Message**

Dear Parents & Carers

You might be wondering, as I am, about what's happening with the buildings. As always you are promised the world and then something happens. On Friday of last week I received word that after two months of the contract sitting on someone's desk in Sydney, it was finally signed off. I am awaiting an email this week with the specific date of commencement.

**Parent Teacher Interviews**

By now you would have been informed of the interview times and the process to book them. I encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity.

**Lent**

This is the season of Lent which is a time of reflection and giving. Project Compassion boxes were given out last week and I ask that, as a family, you make this a focus during Lent.

**Teacher Professional Development**

This week our staff will undertake professional development in the area of teaching of Religious Education. Mr Brad Fuller will be here on Thursday and Friday to work with staff in developing innovative teaching practices in Religion.

**PUPIL FREE/STAFF IN SERVICE DAY**

*Our Term 1 Staff In Service day is Friday 29th March.* There will be no staff at school on this day. If you would like to take advantage of the OOSH for child care on this day please contact them.

This in service is in the area of Gifted Education and we welcome Brooke Trenwith, who is a world renowned presenter is this subject. You are reminded that Brooke will be speaking to the parents about Gifted Education at 6pm on Thursday evening in the staff room.

*Duilio Rufo Principal*

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**Dates to Remember**

- **15 MARCH**
  - NATIONAL ANTI BULLYING & VIOLENCE DAY
  - SHAVE FOR A CURE FUNDRAISER

- **17 MARCH**
  - PARISH MASS 9.15AM

- **20 MARCH 11**
  - BOOK CLUB ORDERS DUE

- **22 MARCH**
  - HARMONY DAY

- **23 MARCH**
  - ELECTION DAY CAKE STALL

- **27 MARCH**
  - MCDONALDS FUNDRAISER

- **28 MARCH**
  - BROOKE TRENWITH TALK 6PM GIFTED ED - STAFFROOM

- **29 MARCH**
  - PUPIL FREE DAY

- **1 APRIL**
  - CROSS COUNTRY

- **3 APRIL**
  - CONFIRMATION MEETING CORPUS CHRISTI 6.OOPM
  - PIZZA COMBO DAY

- **12 APRIL**
  - LAST DAY TERM 1
Assistant Principals Message

“Shave for Cancer”

This Friday 15 March a number of students are shaving their hair to raise money for Shave for a Cure. We thank Amanda Sharp and Amanda Walton for coming in to do the shaves. This will take place in the hall from 1:15pm, and parents/families are invited to come along to cheer on our students - this will replace the 2:30pm Assembly for Friday. All other students may get their hair sprayed for $5.00, with the money raised from this also being donated to Shave for a Cure. Your child will bring home a permission note that MUST be signed, if a child does not have a written note from a parent/guardian they will NOT be allowed to get their hair sprayed. Hair spraying is also completely optional. Permission notes can be sent back to school anytime from now to Friday.

School Band

Up till now only our senior Band Members have played at the Friday Assembly. From this week, the band members in Years 4 - 6 will all perform at Friday’s assemblies. Band members in Years 4 - 6 are asked to bring in their instruments on Tuesday for lessons with Mr Ward as well as Friday for assembly. Our newest band members in Year 3 are still learning the National Anthem and School Song, so they will continue to have their lessons on Tuesday with Mr Ward, then will start performing at the assembly on Friday from Term 2.

Use of Mobile Phones

Parents and students are reminded that while it is a parent’s choice to provide their child with a mobile phone, all mobile phones brought to school, must be given to teachers in the morning and they will be returned before afternoon dismissal. All communication during the school day is to be conducted through the school office including: changes to afternoon pickup and messages. We have a number of students that are calling parents during the school day to say they feel unwell, have forgotten their lunch etc. Parents have then come to school to collect their child with the teacher or office having no idea that the child is sick. Additionally, if your child has forgotten their lunch, bag etc. the school will organise food through the canteen or the loan of resources. Children need to learn organisation, as well as knowing that a lack of organisation will have consequences. For the safety of your child, please do NOT contact your child with changes to afternoon procedures. In the event of an emergency this may result in the school being unable to locate your child in a timely manner.

Parent Teacher Interviews

This afternoon at approximately 4:30pm the Compass Bookings for Parent Teacher Interviews will go live. When you open your parent portal on your computer you will see all your children at St Therese’s. On the menu bar at the top, you will see an icon of 2 people and open “Conferences (formerly PST). You will then be able to choose the time to see your child’s teacher(s). This term interviews will be held in Week 10, except 2L - Mrs Schneider will hold her interviews in Week 9. If you have more than one child at St Therese's you may be able to organise all your interviews on the same day, as most teachers are having interviews on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday after school as well as some mornings. For those children that attend writing or math groups with Mrs Maretich or Miss Polson/Mrs Faehndrich, you will have the option of booking times with these teachers as well - this will be listed under your child's name.

These interviews are to discuss with your child's teacher how they have settled into the school year and will be 10 minutes in duration. We ask parents to ensure they adhere to the 10 minutes, as other parents may be inconvenienced by longer interviews. If you feel you need a longer interview time please contact your child's teacher. These interviews are optional for parents to attend. If you have already had an interview with your child's teacher you may choose not to attend. If you have any difficulty booking an interview through Compass please contact the school office.

Kaylene Maretich  Assistant Principal
RE News
Pope Francis @ pontifex
"At the beginning of Lent, it would do us good to ask for the grace to preserve the memory of all that the Lord has done in our lives, of how He has loved us."

By now all families should have received a Project Compassion box, delivered to your youngest child by members of the Social Justice Team. There was an accompanying note with a few suggestions of how to help support the 100%“HOPE” slogan for 2019.

This week’s story come from Zimbabwe, where 12 year old Thandolwayo, who lives in a village with her grandparents. She has spent her life having to daily walk 7kms to collect water from a crocodile infested dirty river. She then has had to walk to school exhausted, as she dreams of one day becoming a nurse. Donations to Project Compassion have helped her village receive solar powered pumps to deliver clean, fresh water to the village. This is an example of how our donations are used to help others in need.

SACRAMENTAL NEWS
Mauve notes were given out last Friday to children previously enrolled in the Sacramental program. If somehow you did not receive your note, please get in touch through the Administration Office, who will let me know. I would appreciate receiving your forms back as soon as you have them completed. If you presented your child’s Baptism Certificate at enrolment and can’t easily find it, do not worry as it should be on record here.

SUNDAY MASS
We are hoping to see many families at our First School/Parish Mass this weekend. We particularly hope our senior students will take on responsibility for assisting at this Mass. Please return the sheet sent home if your family can help.

Vickie Pettett Religious Coordinator

School Community News
Canteen News
As we know Flexischools have been having some issues on Fridays. This seems to mainly be the app rather than the website. They are aware of the frustration this is causing and are working on fixing the problem. If possible, please use the website to make your Friday lunch orders, or maybe even place your order the night before. Hopefully the issues will be resolved soon.

Pizza Combo Day is Wednesday 3 April. Order online at Flexischools - no paper bag orders will be accepted on the day. Orders close Monday 1 April 9pm. A flyer will be going home soon.

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<th>Wed 13/3</th>
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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.

Working With Children Check clearances
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.

Volunteers or contractors are not able to work within the school until the school receives a clearance. Volunteers are to also complete the volunteer handbook, available on our school website.

Child Protection Training for Volunteers
Zimmerman House will be providing sessions at 841 Hunter Street on:

Wednesday 27th May 9am-1pm, Thursday 29th August 12pm-4pm, Monday 25th November 12pm-4pm
Register with Aleisha Pound on 49 791 319 or email aleisha.pound@mn.catholic.edu.au
2 weeks prior to session date.

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 using your phone to read the newsletter in the Compass App-you need to “view in browser”.

Vicki McSpadden School Bursar

NDA against Bullying and Violence
Friday 15th March is National day Against Bullying and Violence. As parents you may like to visit the website as it has may useful resources. Grades 1, 3 and 5 will participate in a martial art program on the day. Thank you to the Crouch family for organising the program and for offering your time to the school and students.

Deb Petersen Primary Coordinator

Playgroup
There will be no playgroup this Friday 15th March due to school activities in the hall. Join us again on Friday 22nd March at 9:15am.

P & F
Below is a link for the Council of Catholic School parents Newsletter. This is a valuable resource for news throughout the Dioceses.

https://ccsp.schoolzineplus.com/newsletter/55517

Easter Guessing Competition
The Easter Guessing Competition will start on 25th March there is one prize jar per year and the competition will run for 3 weeks. The jar will spend one week in each class and winners announced on Friday 12th April. Each guess is $1 and no IOUs are allowed.
Entertainment Memberships
The launching of the NEW 2019/2020 Entertainment Memberships has commenced. The Entertainment book is turning 25 this year and they have been working hard to make this the best edition yet.
Order now so you can take advantage of bonus Early Bird Offers.
Not only will you get to enjoy valuable bonus Early Bird vouchers but also you will receive a $20* Woolworths online offer
$50^ Cellarmasters online offer!
*$20 off your total shop when you spend $220 or more at Woolworth online.
^$50 off your total shop when you spend $120 or more at Cellarmasters online.
*Terms & conditions apply
Early bird Entertainment memberships can be purchase using the link Support St Therese's Primary School Entertainment Book now!

Hardcopy books will be still be available for purchase and collection at the school office from second week in April ready to be used for the school holidays.

Year 6 Fundraising
Election Day Cake Stall - 23rd March outside the School Hall
Come along and purchase some yummy homemade treats including cupcakes, slices, biscuits and more. All available until sold out.

McDonald's Night – 27th March
Please support the Year 6 fundraising effort by purchasing a meal at McDonalds Broadmeadow on Wednesday 27th March between 6-7pm. 10% of drive thru and in store purchases during this time will be donated to the Year 6 fundraising.

Pizza Combo Day – 3rd April
Wednesday 3rd April is Pizza Combo day at the canteen. Please purchase through Flexischool. Your choice of Cheese, Hawaiian or meatlovers pizza with chocolate and a juice. Gluten Free available (+$1.00) Orders close Monday 1st April at 9pm and orders are not transferrable.

Donna Douglass Vice President

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.

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.

Principal Award recipients for this week:
Jack R. (KW), Ella F. (3L), Zoe L. (4L), James M. (4L), Penny M. (4L), Felicity R. (4L), Christina S. (4L), Alex S. (4L), Zahi S. (5L) and Tom S. (5L)
BOOK CLUB: Issue 2 Book Club is now available. Closing date for orders is next WEDNESDAY 20th March. 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.

SPORT

Mascot Cricket Challenge
Stage 1 and Kindergarten have been participating in the Sydney 6’s Mascot cricket challenge. Students have been learning various cricket skills. To conclude this great program the ABC radio will be here on the final day (Friday March 22nd) to interview some children and teachers about the skills they have learnt and how they have enjoyed their time learning about the game of cricket.

Deb Petersen Coordinator

Cross Country
We will hold our school Cross Country on Monday 1st April, Week 10. Students and teachers will walk to Regent Park to complete the event and then back to school. All students are expected to attempt the cross country. Parents should have already signed an excursion permission note at the beginning of the year that covers the cross country. If you still have not sent this green note back in, please do so asap.

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The 8, 9 and 10 year olds will run 2km (estimated to start is 9:45am) and the 11, 12/13 years olds will run 3km. If any parents would like to volunteer to assist on the day we would be very grateful, please email or phone the school office to let us know if you can help. (You must have produced your WWCC number to the office and been approved).

**Year 6 teachers**

**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 are again inviting parents, grandparents, siblings or community members to volunteer their services this Harmony Day. Volunteers may choose to read a story (for example) from their own 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. *Unfortunately, this is not an open classroom morning. Rather, an invitation for volunteers to assist with spreading the message of Harmony.*

If you are able to offer your time for 20 minutes or a few hours, please email Maree Adams, EALD Teacher, at maree.adams@mn.catholic.edu.au. You will need to have a current Working With Children’s Check number and have completed the necessary paperwork 5 days prior to volunteering. Thank you sincerely for your continued support, and I look forward to meeting you and hearing your stories on Harmony Day.

Yours in Harmony,

Maree Adams
EAL/D teacher

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**ESPANOLA – EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST**

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

Receiving Spanish lessons.

I understand there will be a small fee.........................................................

Parent/Guardian

To bring Christ and His message, in all its richness, into the hearts and lives of all.
OOSH
Hi from YMCA.
It’s time to book your children in for Vacation Care. Once again we have a fun packed program with fun and interesting incursions and excursions so get in quickly.
IMPORTANT – If your child/children do not have a 2019 enrolment please go to your My Family Lounge and resubmit your child’s existing enrolment so that you are able to book in.

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
St Therese’s Primary School is fundraising with Entertainment!

Your support really helps, so we’re thrilled to let you know about special bonus Early Bird Entertainment Membership Offers for early supporters.

Pre-order the NEW 2019 | 2020 Entertainment Membership before April 4 2019 and receive bonus offers you can use right away!

Order online at www.entbook.com.au/340x66

ZERO & REWARDS CARD HOLDER EXCLUSIVE OFFER

LOWES

1 DAY ONLY

20% OFF SCHOOLWEAR AND EVERYTHING ELSE

INSTORE & ONLINE THURSDAY 14TH MARCH.

To bring Christ and His message, in all its richness, into the hearts and lives of all.
St Therese’s Church  a welcoming  Community

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!

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