Our Vision: “To Bring Christ and His message, in all its richness, into the hearts and lives of all.”

Principal’s Message

Dear Parents, Staff and Students

Creativity V Intelligence

“If you want creative workers, give them enough time to play.” – John Cleese

Last Friday evening some 15 teachers from St Therese’s attended the University of Newcastle to listen to a talk about creativity and the Australian context. All three speakers spoke about the need to focus on Creativity and how in the past and even today Governments and schools throughout the world are stifling creativity by insisting that the curriculum focuses on having a standard approach where testing and more testing is used to weed out creative children in schools and so focus on academia. As you are aware here at St Therese’s we have been for the past few years focusing on ‘Thinking’ especially creative and critical thinking but how do we test for this. Perhaps it is time to review our reporting procedures?! In the infant grades K to 2 we are currently looking at a play based approach to learning using the Early Learning Framework which focuses on children as learners from 0 to 8 years of age with a focus on four major areas; Religious Education, Literacy and Numeracy, Thinking and Well-being.

The symposium at the University revolved around the education system and how it was designed for the 19th Century to meet the needs of the Industrial Revolution. How are we meeting the 21st Century needs of our children and the Digital/Technological Revelation?

The debate as whether children should be taught to think (creatively and critically) or just learn to regurgitate fact and what constitutes intelligence is one that all educators and parents along with industry must have. Children are born inquisitive and creative! Why do we insist that we have them pass or fail in a school setting! Watch Ken Robinson speak about these very important questions on YouTube https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iG9CE55wbtY More to come!

Bishops Parish Visitation

Bishop William (Bill) Wright will be making his Parish visitation this coming weekend. Fr Stephen the Parish Administrator has invited people to come and meet with the Bishop on Saturday between 12noon and 2pm at Corpus Christi Hall. You are asked to bring a plate of food to share. Bishop Bill will be at St Therese’s this Friday from 1pm to 2pm speaking to Year 4 students about their upcoming confirmation.

Athletics’ Carnival

Congratulations to staff, students and parents for a great day. From this carnival the Regional Team will be selected and children notified as soon as results are available. Thanks again to Mr Smith for a job well done and to Mrs Maretich and Mrs Briggs for their organisation of the younger children. Feedback is most appreciated so that we can ensure that next year is even more successful. Thanks also to the year 6 parents who organised the canteen and to all those parents who sent in food to sell on the day.
Christina Anu

Yesterday Year 6 attended a musical concert by Christina Anu. By all accounts the children enjoyed the day and were extremely glad to have had the opportunity to attend.
Assistant Principals Message

Uniform
At this time of the year the weather can be very unpredictable. Students are permitted to wear either their summer or winter uniform until the official change over date which is **Monday 4 June**. Parents just a reminder that students should always wear their correct uniform with pride, as it represents our school in the community and shows we are proud to be a part of the St Therese's community. We have a number of students who have begun wearing black skate or canvas shoes. Additionally we have some girls who are wearing leather shoes with a single strap in a "Mary Jane" style. For safety these are not permitted. Correct footwear for our formal uniform is black leather lace ups or Velcro shoes that cover your child's entire foot. Year 6 need to be aware that ALL high schools have the same expectation of black, leather, closed in shoes, so going to high school next year should not be an excuse. Additionally, we have students wearing soccer or football jerseys rather than the correct royal blue sport jumper or navy formal jumper. Boys that still have a grey jumper are welcome to wear this, there is no urgency to purchase a new navy jumper.

Mathematics
Since Term 4 last year we trailed “guided numeracy” in some classes, and from this term all classes K-6 are using this teaching method in Math classes every week. Guided numeracy involves students working in groups independently or in small groups doing hands on tasks so that teachers can work with small groups of students each week targeting instruction to the needs of students. This ensures that all students are supported and challenged to achieve to their best in mathematics. As I visit classrooms and listen to teachers planning in Mathematics I am so impressed by the enthusiasm and commitment of our teachers. I am also so proud of our students who rise to the challenge of the tasks being set. All grades have also incorporated more problem-solving into mathematics, some students, at first, did not particularly like being challenged by the possibility of more than one answer or that some problems took more than one day to solve. But these are important lessons for our students to learn as mathematics in the "real" world often is challenging and a lengthy process, where we learn the most from our mistakes.

Math Trivia: When written as a word, what is the smallest number that contains the letter a?
Answer: 1000 (thousand)

Canteen Subcommittee
This Tuesday 29 May the canteen subcommittee will meet to discuss the canteen review undertaken by Hunter New England Health at the end of last term. In the newsletter next week, the canteen subcommittee will present their recommendations.

Kaylene Maretich – Assistant Principal

RE News

From Pope Francis @ pontifex.
“The mystery of the Blessed Trinity invites us to live in communion with one another, in love and in sharing: certain that wherever there is love, there is God." 28.5.18

Sacramental News

We are still waiting for half the response sheets for Confirmation and Eucharist. Please send yours in by Thursday, so we can let people know if they have the date they chose.

This coming Friday June 1, Bishop William Wright will be visiting the Parish. He will visit our school and will meet all the children who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Year Six Religious Literacy Test

Our Year 6 students are preparing for this test, held in all Catholic schools in week 7. See if you can answer the following questions from a previous test:

1. The Sacraments of Initiation are:
   A. Eucharist, Marriage, Holy Orders
   B. Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist
   C. Baptism, Marriage, Anointing Of The Sick.
   D. Confirmation, Reconciliation, Eucharist

   ANSWERS 1:  A B C D

2. Which is the correct order for the Mass?
   A. Introductory Rites, Liturgy of the Word, Concluding rites, Liturgy of the Eucharist.
   B. Introductory Rites, Liturgy of the Word, Liturgy of the Eucharist, Concluding Rites
   C. Introductory Rites, Liturgy of the Word, Homily, Concluding Rites,
   D. Liturgy of the Word, Introductory Rites, Liturgy of the Eucharist, Concluding Rites

   ANSWERS 2:  A B C D

Vickie Pettett - Religious Education Coordinator
Library

Book Fair – Earth Day Plans

A reminder that this year’s Book Week theme is **FIND YOUR TREASURE** and we will be celebrating this, along with Earth Day, in Week 6.

Classes will be reading and exploring books with an environmental theme throughout the week. Whole school activities include:

- **Tuesday 5th**: The environmental team plan and organise fun lunchtime activities with an environmental theme.
- **Tuesday 5th**: Book Fair viewing
- **Wednesday 6th**: Book Fair buying and parade. Students are encouraged to dress up in a costume they already have or create something from recycled items. The Book Parade will be after recess.

To coincide with our **FIND YOUR TREASURE** Book Fair theme we are offering our students the opportunity to donate a pre-loved book and buy a new book.

- Simply drop off a book in good condition at the Library, and we will forward your treasure for outback children to read.
- Books4Outback is a non-profit group of volunteers who personally deliver pre-loved books to enhance the lives of children in regional areas.

Thanks, Library Staff

News from the Classroom

**Year 5 Excursion – Murray’s Beach**

On the 9th May all year five students went on an excision to Murrays and Moonies beach. Mr Breen, Mrs Sturt and Mrs Griffiths gave the students $1,000,000 to decide where they wanted to buy a house. They firstly arrived at Murray’s beach where they all gathered at the information centre and all listened and asked questions of a worker called Warren Tresidder. Warren answered all the questions they asked about Murray’s beach. After talking to Warren, the teachers and students walked around Murray’s beach taking photos of the environment, after they finished taking photos all the students got back on the bus and went to Moonies beach where they spoke to Crystal who worked at the tourist centre. After listening and asking questions of Crystal, they walked around Moonies beach taking photos after they finished taking photos they all got on the bus and went back to school. After seeing what Murrays and Moonies beach is like all the students will be making a documentary on where the students would like to buy a house at Murrays beach or Moonies beach.

Eli J
Gifted Education
This week I will attend a Gifted Education Mentor (GEM) Networking day with other GEM's in our region. We will be taking a closer look at Differentiation and focusing on the Virtual Academy for Gifted students in our schools. I will attend an information evening on this initiative on the 7th of June. For your interest we nominated a small number of children in Stage Three to take part in the inaugural Virtual Academy which is being developed by the Catholic Schools Office for high to profoundly gifted students. Congratulations to these children who have been offered a trial in the Virtual Academy from our school, Liam H, Christian P, Geordie O, Sienna C, Aidan P, Phoebe C.

Deb Petersen – Primary Coordinator

School Community Notices
Entertainment Books
Have you bought your new Entertainment Membership – your current memberships expire this Thursday night. To purchase a new membership go to https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/340x66 or if you are still not sure have a look at the flip book which gives the list of the vouchers. https://online.flippingbook.com/view/1030784/ Every membership bought money is donated towards the school.

Second Hand Clothing Sale
Thank you to Mrs Lunn and Mrs Mulley for organising this second hand uniform sale. If you have any uniform items that you no longer need please send them to replenish our stocks. This service is a great benefit to our families.

Playgroup - Friday 1st June
Playgroup will be back in the school hall this week so come along and join us this Friday 1st June from 9.15am - 11.15am. Cost is $3 per family with morning tea provided for parents. Please bring a drink and snack for your children. Please contact Kate if you have any questions about playgroup on 0414952491. Look forward to seeing you there.

Canteen News
The Year 6 fundraiser Pizza Combo day is this Wednesday - 30May. The canteen will be closed for all other lunch orders but will be open for ice blocks.

Belinda Palmer – Canteen Supervisor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wednesday 30/5</th>
<th>Thursday 31/5</th>
<th>Friday 1/6</th>
<th>Monday 4/6</th>
<th>Tuesday 5/6</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lisa Daly</td>
<td>Marina Sheppard</td>
<td>Lisa O'Donoghue</td>
<td>Stephanie Kon</td>
<td>Natalie Watson</td>
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<td>Jacqui Osborn</td>
<td>Laura Street</td>
<td>Sarah Hughes</td>
<td>Stan Kon</td>
<td>Amanda Sharp</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amy Gibson</td>
<td>Sally Trevitt</td>
<td>Megan Storey</td>
<td>Simone Nolan</td>
<td>Jo Axiak-Hill</td>
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Eco Warrior Challenge

Julia Briggs & The Environmental Team
Wellbeing
Kids Matter – Friendship Conflict

Childhood is the training ground for children to learn how to negotiate the world, school, relationships and living. It is a social experience from which kids develop and reinforce their skills as they grow into adulthood. Helping them to manage conflict, communicate their needs and wants, and effectively resolve disputes can be a challenge, requiring calm understanding and practical strategies from parents.

While there are always going to be times when parents need to get involved to ensure the safety of the child and forestall a worsening situation, intervening in disputes doesn't always mean taking over and laying down the law. Parental intervention can also be in the form of mediation where parents can play an active role in helping kids manage their emotions, communicate their needs and empower them to come up with their own solutions.

- **Model positive conflict resolution** - Modelling positive conflict resolution, including reflection and empathy, creative problem solving, impulse and emotion control, and good communication skills provides a valuable example for your children. As parents we need to coach, encourage and model better ways for our children to have their needs met and develop healthy relationships.

- **Create a safe environment for sharing** - It can be difficult for parents to see their kids in distress so it is important to handle your own emotions. Maintain calm and listen to your child with understanding, sympathy, and loving support. To help them feel comforted and safe, allow them to express themselves openly and honestly without fear of a negative or emotional reaction.

Whatever the situation, teaching kids conflict resolution skills can help them grow and develop positive social and emotional skills. Learning from personal experience is just one of the ways in which kids learn to negotiate and resolve conflict.

- **Use effective communication** - Talking with your child in a non-judgmental way, using lots of active listening, can help them calm down, identify their feelings, work out what the problem is and find solutions.

- **Work out how they feel** - Talk it over to help them identify and process their feelings - are they're angry, sad, frustrated, worried, embarrassed or scared?

- **Teach them strategies to help them cool off and release pent up emotions** - These could be anything from deep breathing and relaxation, to exercise or physical activities, to writing, drawing, painting or other expressive activities.

- **Work out what they want** - Talking it over with kids can help them to calm down and begin to understand their own motivations - what they really want or need, what the other child wants and how they might be feeling.

Conflict with friends is a fact of everyday lives for our kids. As parents and teachers we need to coach, encourage and model better ways for our children to have their needs met and develop healthy relationships.

*Julia Briggs - Coordinator*

**PBS**

This week we look at the virtue of **Trustworthiness**. Trustworthiness is being worthy of trust. People can count on you to do your best, keep your word and follow through on commitments. You do what you say you will do. Trustworthiness is important because it allows others to believe in us. It is a key to success in anything we do.

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**School Spirit Award for demonstrating INTEGRITY through displaying Trustworthiness**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KN</th>
<th>Zoe O. &amp; Mackenzie R.</th>
<th>KW</th>
<th>Zoe S. &amp; Rosie S.</th>
<th>KL</th>
<th>Eliza A. &amp; Toby B.</th>
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<tr>
<td>1N</td>
<td></td>
<td>1W</td>
<td>Sienna A. &amp; Isaiah S.</td>
<td>1L</td>
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<tr>
<td>3N</td>
<td>Claudia D. &amp; Quinn T.</td>
<td>3W</td>
<td>Sean D.</td>
<td>3L</td>
<td>Beau P. &amp; Jocelyn Y.</td>
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<td>Claire N. &amp; Benedict S.</td>
<td>4W</td>
<td></td>
<td>4L</td>
<td>Angelina M. &amp; Riley M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5N</td>
<td>Thomas A. &amp; Layne B.</td>
<td>5W</td>
<td>Zara C. &amp; Jacob L.</td>
<td>5L</td>
<td>Patrick B. &amp; Hailey C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6N</td>
<td>Claire F. &amp; William S.</td>
<td>6W</td>
<td>Aiden B. &amp; Tilly L.</td>
<td>6L</td>
<td>Shakiya B. &amp; Zalia C.</td>
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**Luke Smith – Coordinator**

**Sport**

**SOCCER GALA DAY CHANGE OF DATES**

Last Thursday I attended a Regional Sport Meeting at St James Kotara, during the meeting the up and coming soccer Gala day was discussed at length. As a result the dates have been changed as well as the format for the day. We are now limited in the number of teams we can take and therefore will need a trial for the Senior Boys teams. I am in the middle of organising this and I trust you will be patient until such time as I can announce the teams. Thank you to the parents who have already offered to help coach teams. I will let you know further details as they come to me. The new dates are;

**Junior and Senior BOYS - 9th August, Term 3, Week 3.**

**Junior and Senior GIRLS - 16th August, Term 3, Week 4.**

**All Schools Rugby League Competition**

Today our senior boys competed in the All Schools Newcastle Knights Carnival. Thank you to Kyle Manak for coaching the boys and to those parents and supporters who cheered the boys on. Congratulations boys for representing our school in your chosen sport.

*Deb Petersen Primary Coordinator*

**General notices**

**School Disco**

Wristbands will be distributed on Thursday to everyone who has purchased a ticket. This will gain you entry to the disco on Friday night.

**OOSH**

Hello to everyone from YMCA OOSH. Wow this term is flying by and it won’t be long until we are taking bookings for our Vacation Care Program so keep an eye out for that on our website [www.ymcansw.org.au](http://www.ymcansw.org.au), we have another great program for you packed full of fun.

Last week at OOSH was fun, with so much going on. The focus with the children was MANNERS. The children thought of how we can use our words to display good manners. Some of the ideas were saying ‘Can I please?’, ‘That’s ok’, ‘Excuse me’ and ‘May I?’ It was positive to see the children putting these suggestions in to practice and kindly reminding each other at times as well.

We had some very cute animals made from pine cones, the children showed a lot of patience, concentration and creativity in making them. Other indoor activities included some new card games which have quickly become very popular, self-made pokemon cards, large group games of Ducks in the Pond and Ship, Deck, Shore as well as construction, dramatic play and reading. Outdoors soccer games are still very popular as well as large equipment tips and playing in the rock area. We have also had a couple of cricket matches, tips and hide and seek.

A big thank you to those who have brought along some succulents from their own gardens to contribute to making our own. The garden is starting to take shape but we will need many more succulent cuttings to fulfill the children’s plan to fill the whole garden with succulents.

**REMINDER** – due to the playground being used for AFL clinic on Wednesday afternoons we will be using the hall to play group games between 4 and 5pm. Also remember our ‘jumper/jacket on from 4.30pm for outdoor play’ to prevent the children from getting cold on these chilly afternoons.

*Kind regards,*

Christine Morgan

YMCA NSW – Newcastle Region | St Therese’s Primary School,
New Lambton NSW 2305

m 0402 165 617
e oshc.newlambton@ymcansw.org.au w ymcansw.org.au

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**Principal Award recipients for this week:**

For Sale - girls’ winter uniform tunics, I have a size 6 and a size 10. $25 each. My contact no. is 0497110001 – please text me. Annette

Tutoring
Hi my name is Lexi. I’m 19 years old and completed my HSC last year. I studied 4 units of Maths and am available as a Maths tutor. So if you feel like your child needs some confidence going into high school, and a better understanding of Maths, please contact me. I live in the Cardiff area and can come to your home if preferred.
Lexi Hemson, lexihemson1@gmail.com, Ph 0435796008
School disco

Friday 1st June 2018
School Hall
Infants – 6pm to 7pm
Primary – 7.20 to 8.45pm
Please bring own drink bottle, water will be provided.
$10 per child (includes drink, chips, choc and glow stick)
Merchandise can be purchased on the night from 50c to $2.

Reminder to order tickets on Flexischools by 9pm Tuesday 29th May.

Kinder and Year 5 parents are volunteering for this event. If you feel like your child requires you please volunteer as well as no other parents will be allowed in the hall.
Year 6 Fundraising Event

When: Sunday 17th June

Where: Event Cinema at Kotara

Time: 6.30pm

Cost: $12 per ticket, only available through Flexischools

Note: All children must be accompanied by an adult. Please note the slight time change from 6pm. Movie starts at 6.30pm.