**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**

Welcome back to all of you for another exciting term. I hope that you and your children had a restful and fun time together. As always the term will be full of activity; The P&F Fun Run, Aspire, Inter-relate, Regional Soccer and Netball to name a few. On speaking to the children this morning they all seem excited to be back and they are ready for school.

Yesterday the staff had an opportunity to look at the new Administration Program called COMPASS. This program will take over from the current SAS program and so I am anticipating some teething problems while we at the school come to fully understand the workings of COMPASS. Once in place, possibly by term 4, parents will also have access to COMPASS which will make communication between school and home much smoother.

You would remember that last term the school began the trial of sending out an SMS if your child had not arrived at school in time for the roll call. All children are expected to be in the classroom by 9.15am. If your child is going to be late you should send in a message on Skoolbag or ring to alert the school so that you don’t receive a message. Parents need to understand that when your child is late, not only does it cause stress for your child but the time missed is accumulated and reported on. **Remember you will need to bring your child to the office to sign in if late – ie after 9.15am.**

I ask all parents to be patient while the new system is implemented. If you have any concerns please ring the school and we can explain things to you. Later this semester I will organise a parent meeting so that you can have a better understanding of what COMPASS can and will provide.

I welcome two interns for Term 3, Kate and Annabel. We look forward to working with them. We also welcome new students and their families: the Marshalls, MacPhersons and Seivers, and returning from overseas the Michelinis.

### Our Gifted and Talented Students

Last term I spoke about our Gifted Education Program and started to talk about some of our Gifted students and what they are doing. Today I’d like to tell you about Claire Fitzgibbon. Claire is a gymnast and recently competed with 177 gymnasts from all over the state at the NSW Country Championships. Claire placed an impressive 10th overall in the junior division with a 4th place on bars and 5th on beam. Claire has now qualified for state championships and will compete at Sydney Gymnastics Centre later on in August.

Last term I talked about the importance of practice & perseverance so that a gift can become a talent and Claire currently trains 16 hours a week including 3 nights and most of Saturday. Well done Claire and we look forward to hearing great things from you in the future.

If your child is displaying this level of performance, either academically or artistically outside of school, please contact the school to let us know.
**Term 2 follow up**
At the end of term 2 I spoke to the children about not putting their food down the toilet bowls. Parents please speak to your children and tell them that if they don’t want what you have given them then either bring it home or let you know so that they are not going without food at school.

_Duilio Rufo – Principal_

**Assistant Principals Message**
Welcome Back to Term 3! I hope you all had a lovely holiday, it is so nice to have a break from routines and alarm clocks. I am sure all the students are feeling refreshed and ready for another great term.

**Interrelate**
A reminder that Tuesday 31 July is our Family Information Night with Interrelate in the Main Hall. The sessions are:

- 6:00 pm - "Where did I come from?" (suitable for Grades 4-6)
- 7:15 pm "Preparing for Puberty" (suitable for Grades 5-6)

The cost is $30/family for one session and $35/family to attend both sessions. Notes were sent home last term with detailed information for students in Grades 4-6, if you did not receive a note please contact the school office.

Year 6 students will complete a 3-week in class unit on "Moving into the Teen Years", beginning on the 9 August - notes about this were also sent home last term.

**Mathematics**
Last term grades worked on developing "Guided Numeracy" activities based around problem-solving and hands on tasks to increase student’s skills and understanding of Mathematics. Over this term teachers will look at planning and programming considerations to ensure tasks are student-centered differentiated so that all our students can achieve to the best of their ability.

_Kaylene Maretich – Assistant Principal_

**RE News**
Pope Francis @pontifex
“Jesus invites us to build the civilisation of love together in the situations we are called to live every day.”

**Term 3 Masses**
Parents are warmly invited to join classes at the two Term 3 Masses to be celebrated in the St Therese’s Parish Church at 9:45 am on the following dates:
Tuesday 31st July when all Primary classes will attend
Tuesday 7th August when all Infants classes will attend

**SUNDAY MASSES**
As we try to build relationships between the Parish and school we are invited to have students and their families participate in the various ministries at Sunday Masses, particularly the Masses that fall on the 3rd Sunday of the month. The first of these will occur on Sunday 19th August, when a number of our students will be making their First Holy Communion. It would be lovely to have other families come to support these children as they complete their Sacraments of Initiation journey.

**SACRAMENTAL NEWS**
As mentioned above a number of our parish young people will be making their First Communion at the Sunday Masses on 19/8, 26/8, 2/9 and 9/9. Please come along to support them and their families. Parents please look for the special note coming home this week. Please respond to the various queries as soon as possible so that things move smoothly. Practices will be held for each small group so that the children feel confident for this special celebration.

_Vicki Pettett – Religious Coordinator_

**School Community Notices**

**Year 6 Fundraising**
The next McDonald’s fundraiser is 1st August at Broadmeadow McDonalds between 6-7pm. Thank you for your support.

**St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal**
Our gratitude for the overwhelming response and generosity of the parents, children and staff of this wonderful school, St Therese’s. Due to the response this winter we have been able to make up 70 hamper bags of food for those in need of assistance in the New Lambton areas.
Canteen News
While the weather remains cool in the mornings the canteen will continue to sell hot chocolates - $1.50 or if you bring your own cup it's only $1.20.

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<th>Wednesday 25/7</th>
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<th>Friday 27/7</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lisa Daly</td>
<td>Marina Sheppard</td>
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<td>Stephanie Kon</td>
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<td>Jacqui Osborn</td>
<td>Laura Street</td>
<td>Sarah Hughes</td>
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<td>Amy Gibson</td>
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Belinda Palmer – Canteen Supervisor

Playgroup 27th July
Playgroup is back for Term 3 in the school hall this Friday 27th July. So come along and join us 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. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Playground Improvements
We are very grateful to The Mens Shed at Cardiff for all their hard work in fencing our creative play area. This area has undergone a number of improvements lately and the children enjoy this space every day.

Julia Briggs - Coordinator

News from the Classroom
ICAS Assessments
Well done to all the students who participated in the ICAS Science Assessment. The following students achieved outstanding results:

**Distinction:** George H, Gabe T, Christian P,
**High Distinction:** Peter V

Well done to all participants.

Reminder: The **ICAS ENGLISH ASSESSMENT will be held, next Tuesday 31st July at 8.00 am sharp** in Miss Mortimer’s Year 6 classroom.

Julia Briggs – Coordinator

Curriculum Activities

**Extra Writing Opportunities for Students - Attention all Writers:**
Write4Fun – POETRY & SHORT STORY COMPETITIONS - Entry is NOW OPEN in the 2018 Schools Writing Competition! Students all over Australia are invited to enter their poems OR short stories, and battle it out for the great cash prizes on offer. There is no theme!! Entrants are encouraged to let their imaginations run wild and get their creative juices flowing to write on ANY TOPIC and in ANY STYLE. Students from ALL GRADES are welcome to enter - Kindergarten to Grade 6. Entry is FREE and all entries must be in by the extended closing date of Friday 31st August 2018. Please see Mrs Petersen for an entry form on **Friday 27th July, Week 1, Term 3.**
Word Mania
Word Mania has been shown to improve the variety of skills involved - including phonics, spelling, and vocabulary and word knowledge - on average by 36%. It is an online game that involves spelling and knowledge of spelling rules. Word Mania is one of Literacy Planet's most popular exercises, a race against the countdown word building challenge. The competition is free, and a fun and effective way to learn about literacy. Word Mania is accessible on desktop and mobile devices. If you would like your child to participate in this program, please give your child’s name to Mrs Petersen by lunchtime on Thursday 26th July.

Deb Petersen - Coordinator

PBS
Welcome back to Term 3 everyone. Throughout this term we are focused upon the virtues of Care & Compassion. This means that here, at St Therese’s, we strive to look after each other and that all members of our community are treated with care and kindness. We aim to understand others better and have the ability to put ourselves ‘in the shoes’ of others, therefore, treating them with gentleness and compassion, particularly those who are hurt or suffering. There are many ways we can live out these virtues in our daily living, the first focus of which is upon the virtue of Cooperation. When we are cooperative, we help others and offer genuine acts of service to show those around us that we care.

We will resume the acknowledgement of weekly award winners as well as Principal’s Award at next Tuesday’s Assembly.

Luke Smith – Coordinator

Sport
Soccer - The Gala day for the Senior and Junior Boys soccer Teams will be held on Thursday 9th August. The teams have been made up and each team will need a parent manager to be able to attend the day. Your child will let you know if their team needs a manager by the end of this week. All other details will be sent home to you via a permission note for this event. As of today the organisers have not yet sent this information to me. The Senior and Junior girls will play on Thursday 16th August.

Touch Gala Day
This event was a huge success last year and we will attend it again this term on Tuesday 24th August. This event is for Stage 2 and 3 only. Watch this space for more information in the following weeks.

DIO. Athletics Carnival

Sport Days Term 3
Kinder Wk 1 - 5 Friday, Wk 6 – 10 Thursday
Year 1 Friday Year 2 Thursday Year 3 Wednesday Year 4 Wednesday Year 5 Friday Year 6 Thursday

Deb Petersen - Coordinator

General notices
OOSH
Hi and welcome back from the OOSH. We had a very busy Vacation Care programme during the last two weeks and things are now returning to normal at OOSH. We have returned to our usual space, entry via Burke Street.
Kind regards, Christine Morgan, YMCA NSW – Newcastle Region 1 St Therese’s Primary School, New Lambton NSW 2305
m 0402 165 617 e oosh.newlambton@ymcansw.org.au w ymcansw.org.au

School Band
The school band is playing very well and it is not too late for any new players to join. You can call Allan Ward Music on 40237674 for all the information on the “Try Before You Buy” rental system available at school. Saxophones, Clarinets and Flutes are required. Ask about our special deals. Allan Ward, Allan Ward Music, Ph: 02 4023 7674, Fax: 02 4023 7673
Dear Parents & Guardians,

St Therese’s Primary School is holding a Tea Towel fundraiser which is to raise money towards the Year 6 Farewell at the end of this year.

Students from Kindy to Year 6 have drawn a “self-portrait” onto a tea towel – one tea-towel for each Year. (see sample below)

The tea towels are made from 100% white cotton (50cm x 70cm) and are fully washable. These would make great gifts for Father’s Day, Christmas, Birthdays, Grandparents etc. or just a keep-sake for home.

Tea-towels cost $10.00 each and will be available to order via Flexischools from week 1 in term 3.
21st Annual
Special Needs Mass

Bishop Bill Wright, the community of Holy Spirit Primary School Kurri Kurri, together with the Federation of P&F Associations and The Special Needs Working Party, warmly welcome all to join with principals, teachers, schools staff, families and parishioners for this special celebration.

Tuesday 11 September at 7pm
Holy Spirit Catholic Church / 100 Barton St, Kurri Kurri

No RSVP required
For more information please contact Cath Garrett-Jones 02 4979 1303
cath.garrett-jones@mn.catholic.edu.au