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

Last week I spoke to Grandparents about their role in family life and on reflection I want to speak to you about what is my view of what is really important in life. There is no doubt that love is a central craving in everyone’s life and it is the central principle upon which Christianity is built: love God, love yourself, love your neighbour as you love yourself. The often forgotten Feast of the Sacred Heart reminds us of the fullness of God’s love and symbolises both the human and divine love that God has for us. (from Print Scripture)

“Love enables us to change our lives so that we do not react out of resentment or anger or vengefulness or self-pity. Our love leads us to forgiveness as Jesus taught us, “Love your enemies, do good to them that hate you and pray for those who persecute you and speak evil of you.” Matt. 5:44.

Catholics have a religion of love as St John tells us in his first letter: “Let us therefore love, because God first loved us,” 1 John 4:19.

Community Day

Last Friday we celebrated our community day at St Therese’s. This year we took the theme of mental health and well being of our community. Some of the activities included yoga, martial arts and other fun activities involving parents, grandparents and children. Sincere thanks go to those who helped organise the day, in particular Danielle Niland and Julia Briggs and also to the P & F for generously paying for the sausage sizzle.

Fathers’ Day

This Friday we will celebrate Fathers’ Day. I want to take this opportunity to welcome all dads and grandads and encourage you to come and celebrate with your children on Friday 1st September from 7.00am until 8.30am, egg and bacon rolls with coffee etc.

Raising Funds for Brain Cancer

In 3 weeks’ time, Belinda Peden will be running the Sydney Marathon to honour a promise she made to her dear friend Kristen Keegan. Kristen was a loved member of our school community and a great mum to Nina, who is now in year 7 at St Pius High School. Kristen as most would know died last year of Brain Cancer. Belinda promised to run the Sydney Marathon for Kristen and raise as much money as possible for the Mark Hughes Foundation not only because they fund much needed research into brain cancer, but because, importantly, they fund a Brain Cancer Support Coordinator who assists people and their loved ones currently faced with the horror that is brain cancer. The Brain Cancer Support Coordinator was an incredible support to Kristen, and her loved ones.


Duilio Rufo
Principal
Assistant Principal’s Message

Lynette Barker and I attended the 6th Cultures of Thinking Conference at Bialik Jewish College in Melbourne over the weekend. The keynote speakers were:

Dr Ron Ritchhart who is a Senior Research Associate at Harvard Project Zero where his work focuses on such issues as teaching for understanding, the development of intellectual character, creative teaching, making students’ thinking visible, and the development of school and classroom culture. Ron is co-author of “Making Thinking Visible” and author of “Creating Cultures of Thinking” which looks at a diverse range of learning environments to show how teachers create classrooms where thinking is valued, visible and actively promoted.

Mark Church who is a consultant for various Harvard University’s Project Zero cultures of Thinking and Teaching for Understanding initiatives worldwide and co-author of the book “Making Thinking Visible.”

The conference offered much opportunity for us as school leaders and educators to contemplate the challenges we face in education in the 21st century to adequately equip our students for life in new careers and in an ever changing world.

St Therese’s has a focus on ‘Visible Thinking’ - a Harvard project that assists students in developing thinking habits via activities known as thinking routines. You can read more about ‘Visible Thinking’ at http://www.pz.harvard.edu/projects/visible-thinking

Our teachers strive to shepherd and steward curiosity and creativity – enabling students to develop their gifts and focus on their strengths.

NAPLAN Readiness test

These two tests will take place on Tuesday 5th September for Year 3 and Thursday 7th September for Year 5. As mentioned in previous bulletins, this is to test the viability and readiness of schools to begin NAPLAN Online permanently. No results will be recorded for these tests.

Sallyanne Stanbridge – Assistant Principal

RE News

Pope Francis on Light, God, Darkness

"I believe in God- not in a Catholic God. There is God, and I believe in Jesus Christ, his incarnation. Jesus is my teacher, my pastor, but God, the Father, Abba, is the light and the Creator. This is my being.”

Question of the week: Which vitamin do Christians need most of? B1… get involved in your church/parish

By now, children who wish to begin enrolling in the Sacramental program will have received their forms. If you have a child in year 4-6 who has not received the Sacrament of Penance- Reconciliation- please either have your child see me or contact the office with your details and I will contact you.

FATHERS DAY BREAKIE...

Please return notes with numbers for our event to be held on Friday September 1 from 7:00- 8:45 am.

Vickie Pettett - Religious Education Coordinator

School Community Notices

Working With Children Check

If any parent/carer/grandparent would like to volunteer at the school or any school activities it is a requirement of the State Government and the Catholic Schools Office that you provide the school with a current WWCC number which is issued through Services NSW (previously known as RTA) which can be applied for online. When you have this number you must present at the school office with 100 points of ID to complete the paperwork. See links below for further information: www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/check

Step 1; complete online application
Step 2; go to Services NSW (formerly known as RTA)
Step 3; bring WWCC email to school with 100 points ID

Skoolbag App

Parents are advised that the skoolbag app can be used to notify the school of your student’s absence.

Also we are uploading notes to the skoolbag app – look for them under “School Notes”.

Thank you to the parents/ grandparents who came along to celebrate Mass with stage 2 students and their teachers. The children were beautifully reverent and were led amazingly by our small choral group, thank you Father for sharing your time and saying Mass for us and with us.
School Fees
Term 3 fees are now due and payable. Your statement was either emailed or sent home with your child. Our system defaults to the primary fee payers’ email. If you would like to alter this email, please contact the office. You will notice that you may have been billed for the Infants Excursion, Dance classes and next years’ Swimming Carnival. The decision to bill parents in this way benefits both parents not needing to find these amounts close to the end of the school year and to also streamline office accounting and reconciliation at a very busy time. As this system proves efficient you will find more items will be billed in this way. If your child will not be attending an excursion please notify the office in advance to allow your account to be credited.

Vicki McSpadden Bursar

Playgroup – 1st September
This week at playgroup the children will have fun making craft for Father’s Day. Come along and join us at playgroup in the school hall this Friday 1st September from 9.15am - 11am. 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
We’re having a pizza combo day Thursday 14 September. $5 gets you a slice of pizza, a juice and a Freddo Frog. Orders via Flexischools only. Orders close Tuesday 12 September.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wednesday 30/8</th>
<th>Thursday 31/8</th>
<th>Friday 1/9</th>
<th>Monday 4/9</th>
<th>Tuesday 5/9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jess Woolven</td>
<td>Belinda Mortimore</td>
<td>Kristy Lawrence</td>
<td>Kim Leong</td>
<td>Michelle Randall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan Packham</td>
<td>Laura Bennett</td>
<td>Jo Buckingham</td>
<td>Narelle Aston</td>
<td>Lauren Ross</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Carol Aslett</td>
<td>Julie Gardner</td>
<td>Blair Brownlee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Katrina Tonniges</td>
<td>Nicole Mowbray</td>
<td>Amanda Fenwick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Katie Boyle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please be advised that is not appropriate for parents/carers to use the student toilets during the school day. This is for your own protection. If you need to use the toilet when at school please use the toilets in the hall or ask at the admin office and they will direct you to the staff toilets.

Library News
Until Book Fair the school Library will be promoting literature by explaining and highlighting genres.

This week’s genre is:

**Mystery**

*What is Mystery?*

A mystery is a story in which the character is focused on solving a crime or unusual problem.

**Characteristics of Mystery**

- Special characters such as detectives, sleuths, victims, suspects, or witnesses.
- Clues that will help the mystery get solved.
- The author includes foreshadowing to help the reader solve the mystery.

Examples of mystery books are *Scooby-Doo Decodes a Mystery* (Shannon Penney), *Down the Rabbit Hole: an Echo Falls mystery* (Peter Abraham), *Ichabod Hart and the Lighthouse Mystery* (James Roy) and of course the classic *Nancy Drew and Famous Five* series.

Thank you to the students that created a Wayne the Wombat image for me. They will displayed this week in the Library and the winner announced in next week’s newsletter.

We would love to know what you are currently reading and how you rate the story. Pick up a Book Review card from the Library. We will display your reviews in the Library.

Enjoy reading

Please note that our book fair will be held in Term 4 and we will be having a week celebrating literature and a **Book Parade on Wednesday 18 October**.

Lynette Barker (Teacher Librarian)
Father's Day Stall
The Fathers' Day stall is set for Thursday 31st August. There is a great range of gifts available with prices ranging from 50c to $5. Items available for purchase include, coffee mugs, hats, socks, cooler bags, photo frames and pens just to name a few. The stall will commence from 9.30am through to lunchtime. If you can spare an hour or two to volunteer on the stall it would be greatly appreciated by the kids and their dads! Don't forget to send money with your children on the day. Maximum of two gifts per child. Contact Belinda Mortimore - Fundraising coordinator 0400931650 as soon as possible if you can help out on the day!

Belinda Mortimore

Curriculum

PBS
Congratulations to the students that received the School Spirit Awards at their grade/stage assembly for demonstrating CARE & COMPASSION by being a "good friend"

| School Spirit Award for demonstrating CARE & COMPASSION by being a good friend |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Toby B & Lola C (KB) | Vincent C & Rose H (KHD) | Oliver B & Emily F (KM) |
| Xavier G & Isla R (1C) | Hayley B & Bailey K (1CH) | Benjamin L (1WP) |
| Austin B & Harrison R (2A) | Poppy C & Max T (2M) | Sonny D & Alex S (2WM) |
| Lucy D & Jasper A (3K) | Archie G & Max P (3R) | Elijah C & Roan I (3SJ) |
| Indie B & Noah M (4C) | Archer L & Lachlan G (4N) | Seth J & Makayla L (4PV) |
| James C & Charlotte R (5B) | Isaac H & Cooper W (6M) | Xavier B & Meggan R (6S) |

For the next two weeks will focus on demonstrating CARE & COMPASSION by displaying friendship towards others. Friendship is sought by all of us; some need many friends and some need only a few friends. As adults we know that friendships change over time, this can be difficult for children to understand particularly when a valued friend no longer wants to spend time with us. Be open to discuss friendship issues with your child but assure them that changing friendships are a very "normal" part of growing up. Encourage your child to make friends through many different forums e.g. those who live nearby, through sport or hobbies, Scouts etc. We also need to help children learn how to be a good friend; by listening, offering encouragement, accepting friends for who they are and allowing them to be friends with others.

Kaylene Marelich Primary Coordinator

Wellbeing

Kids Matter ~ Community Day
Last Friday we held St Therese's Community Day. In the classrooms students enjoyed activities that promoted mindfulness, positive thinking, emotional regulation and a growth mindset. We had two parents volunteer their expertise during the morning session - thank you to Lyn Stanton and Skyy Crouch for working with Kinder and Year 1 students - the students thoroughly enjoyed your activities. A big thank you also needs to go to Belinda Palmer and all the parent helpers who cooked and put together the 1000 sausages on bread rolls - your organisation was fantastic and ensured everyone got their lunch in a timely manner. The weather started out a bit dubious, but sunshine arrived just in time for our shared lunch - it was lovely to have so many parents and grandparents join us - there was a buzz of warm conversations, families eating with their kids, parents catching up with other parents and lots of smiling faces. A good reminder that we should take the time to catch up and check in with how others are doing, enjoy time with our kids and take time to "smell the roses".

Many thanks, The Kids Matter Team
Sport

**Physical Activity Bags**

Each classroom now has their own PA bag to help support students in engaging in even more physical activities. Teachers have been busy using daily movement breaks and energisers with their classes to improve student concentration and a healthy lifestyle. A huge thank you to the P&F for funding the PA bags and in supporting the teachers with equipment to use with all the students at St. Therese’s.

**News from the Classroom**

Year 3 excursion to **Newcastle Museum and Fort Scratchley** is planned for Wednesday 11 October. Approximate cost is $20 each. Further details will be sent home soon.

**Year 3 teachers**

**GENERAL NOTICES**

**Save the date - Saturday 18th November 2017**

Dress as a gangster or a silent film star. Come as a flapper or come as you are. Roaring 20s cocktail theme night at Souths Leagues Club for the P & F Major Fundraising Event of the Year.

If you have a business or are in a position to donate any prizes or provide sponsorship for the night, please let me know.

Looking for volunteers to assist with various tasks in organising the theme night by handing out flyer to business in the local area who provide prizes, to parents at home who can call businesses and obtain quotes, to helping on the theme night. All volunteer roles are easy and won’t take up much time if we all band together, as they say many hands makes light work, let’s all pitch in and make the night a huge success.

Belinda Mortimore - Fundraising Coordinator (0400 931 650)

**For Sale:** 1 x St Therese's girls Winter tunic size 6 - $15  Text / phone: 0402838879

**OOSH**

It was another fun week here at the Y. Outdoor play was incredibly popular once again, with most children opting to hit the back playground with their peers. Football and soccer had the back field covered with teams, each player getting in there and having a go. The rock pit saw children working together to create mountains and gardens, mud cakes and cubby houses. The pavement doubled up as a handball court and scooter arena, with children delighting in challenging one another on foot or on wheels!

Indoors, educators encouraged further development of sewing skills. Last week, children created basic square felt pillows, but this week it was all about individuality! We saw pillows of all shapes and sizes – everything from pineapples to doughnuts! This was a great demonstration of creative flair and improved sewing technique. A budding rivalry surfaced at the ping pong table amongst the older boys, who were all keen to take out the championship and reign supreme. Other indoor activities provided included Wii Dance, Klikko, Zoobs, painting, trapeze, table soccer and dolls.

School holidays are right around the corner, and we have planned so many great activities that will promise to keep your children active and engaged! Our Spring Vacation Care program can be found online at: [https://www.ymcansw.org.au/centres/ymca-new-lambton-oshc/vacation-care/](https://www.ymcansw.org.au/centres/ymca-new-lambton-oshc/vacation-care/)

Follow the link and enrol now so that you don’t miss out!

**REMINDERS:** Please ensure all after school absences are being notified prior to 3pm. This assists greatly with our transition from school to OSHC.

Auskick: Please ensure children are reminded to attend roll call prior to Auskick. Children will be marked off and then escorted to the back playground.

Kind regards,

Stephanie

**YMCA NSW – Newcastle Region**

St Therese’s Primary School,
New Lambton NSW 2305
m 0402165617
e oshc.newlambton@ymcansw.org.au w [ymcansw.org.au](http://ymcansw.org.au)
Lina’s Project

You are cordially invited to a community gathering.

The Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has a well-known and shameful criminal history of child sexual abuse amongst both clergy and other church personnel.

This community gathering will acknowledge the devastation caused to victims of sexual abuse, their families, friends and our whole community through both the abuse and the Church’s cover-ups.

Lina, a victim of child sexual abuse at the hands of a member of clergy in the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle, has conceived this project of atonement. Lina’s hope is that this event will provide some healing for the whole community.

Friday 15 September 2017
Newcastle City Hall, Concert Hall | 5.30pm – 7.30pm
For catering purposes, please rsvp anonymously via
linasproject.com.au or 02 4979 1188
Personal details are not required to rsvp for this event.

The event is being facilitated by the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle on behalf of Lina and in consultation with others affected by abuse.

linasproject.com.au

12th Catholic Schools Parent Conference
FUTURE READY: Preparing our children for a changing world

A conference for parents of primary & secondary students, and educators

Proudly hosted by...

8, 9 & 10 Sept 2017
St Paul’s College, Manly

Keynote Presenter: Dr Lesa Waters

Founding Director of Positive Psychology Centre, University of Melbourne. Dr Waters is the President-Elect of the International Positive Psychology Association and has been listed in the Marquis Who’s Who in the World since 2006.

Workshop Topics:
- Raising your child in an online world
- Preparing for the future
- Mindfulness for the whole family
- Setting your child up for success
- Staying connected to your child
- For all information about speakers & workshops visit: www.catholicparentcon.com.au

Panel: What does being future-ready mean for our young people?

Moderator: Music Stewart/Weare Public Purpose Panel will include highly regarded members of business, school systems, tertiary education & past/present students.

The Inaugural Kid’s Conference: 5-8 years; 9-12 years; 12+ years
Doing your child this first conference where they will have fun learning skills for future success in Yoga, Mindfulness, Robotics, Coding, Circus Skills, Drama & Musical Creativity.

Conference costs:
$250 - Full Conference
$150 - Saturday only
$50 - Sunday only
$75 - Conference Dinner
$50 - Kids Conference (Saturday)

Booking Options:

Online via www.trybooking.com/294031

Complete registration form on page 4 of the Registration booklet

Music Lessons with Ben

Individual Guitar, Keyboard or Piano lessons for your child at just $20 for 30 minutes!

Now taking enrolments for Term 3 with lessons available on Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday. Lessons are available before or after school if required.

Please enquire with Ben on 0408504882