Principals Message

Vale Glen Sturt
As you would all be aware by now, Mr Glen Sturt, husband of Anne Sturt, Year 5 teacher, passed away on Saturday last after a long illness. I take this opportunity to send our heartfelt condolences to Anne and her family at this sad time. The service for Glen will be held at St Therese’s on Friday at 11am.

Student Council
Last week grade 5 held speeches for the Leadership Teams. All children who gave speeches were fantastic and the executive were very impressed by their public speaking skills and desire to lead and serve others. Congratulations to members of the 2019 student council are. Environmental: Wilson T, Lilah A, Phoebe C. Active Lifestyle: Cooper M, Thomas A, Andie W. Social Justice: Esther L, Jonah Q. Kids Matter: Makayla L, William B. Student council members will now give School Captain speeches this week.

Staff Movement
I announce the appointment of Melanie Faehndrich to the position of Learning Support Co-ordinator. Congratulations to Mel and I look forward to the ongoing growth of the Learning Centre Service.

Our long time Teacher Librarian, Mandy Shumack, will be retiring at the end of this year and I thank her for all of her years of service and wish her every happiness in her retirement.

Ms Nicola Matheson, our Maths Extension Teacher will also be leaving. Nicola has taken up a more permanent position at St Joseph’s Merewether. I thank her for her service and wish her all the best.

Kinder Transition
I take this opportunity to welcome our new Kinders and their families to St Therese’s this Thursday 15th November as they join us for Open Classrooms. This is a very exciting time for the children and we look forward to them joining us in 2019.

A reminder that the next step in the process is Orientation set down for Thursday 22nd November followed by Playgroup on Friday 30th November and the Transition Day (with teachers) on 7th December.

Duilio Rufo
Principal

Dates to Remember

14 NOVEMBER
SCHOOL CAPTAINS SPEECHES

15 NOVEMBER
KINDER OPEN MORNING 9.30-11AM

16 NOVEMBER
KINDER MASS 9.30AM

18 NOVEMBER
COMMITMENT MASS

22 NOVEMBER
KINDER ORIENTATION 9.30-11AM

23 NOVEMBER
YR 5 LEADERSHIP DAY
YR 6 CRICKET GALA

26 NOVEMBER
SPORTS CAPTAINS SPEECHES

27 NOVEMBER
PRIMARY POOL DAY
Message from the Assistant Principal

**Inquisitive Minds**

Last Wednesday our Year 5 & 6 students participated in an "Out of the Box" workshop facilitated through Inquisitive Minds and the mathematical Association of NSW (MANSW). The students had a series of mathematical tasks to solve in groups of three. I was so impressed by the way students communicated, reasoned and justified their thinking in problem-solving situations; these are the skills needed to be an effective mathematician. The tasks were also quite challenging, with some stumping even the teachers and parent volunteers. Thank you very much to the parents that volunteered, we could not run these days without you. We will be running these workshops again in 2019.

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**Safe Online Behaviours**

We hear so much that we are now in the digital age and as such, online games and social platforms have a positive place in our world. However, we **must** be aware of how much time children spend online and exactly what they are doing online. Research indicates that the 3 most common reasons children and adolescents use the internet is to engage in social media, search for music and videos and send and receive emails and messages. There is a plethora of online risks and advice around safety of children using the internet, that all focus on main points:

1. ensure that your child is in a "public" area of your home i.e. not their bedroom, whenever they are online - this allows you to easily check what they are engaged in
2. ensure all games, chat rooms etc. are age appropriate - this is the area of biggest concern, as many children pressure their parents saying "everyone at school is playing this game/on this chatroom etc." Parents it is OK to say **NO** to your children. It is your choice as a parent as to what your child is allowed to engage in online, very few children are actually online playing games and in chat rooms
3. helping your child to understand communicating with "screen names" in a chat room or game is the same as talking to a stranger
4. having a balance between time online, time outside, time reading, time socialising face-to-face and so on - one hour a day is **more** that enough time to be online
5. ensuring that devices are not used an hour before bed as research indicates that using a device too close to bedtime interferes with normal sleep patterns

This year I have had an increasing number of parental and teacher concerns over students' online behaviours at home negatively impacting on academic, social and emotional wellbeing at home and school. Our students (even in Years 5 & 6) need our guidance to make good choices as they mature and learn.

*Kaylene Maretich* Assistant Principal
**RE News**
Pope Francis @ pontifex
"Life is for loving, not for trying to possess as much as possible. People only 'own' what they give away. No one is master over the world's riches"

**Sacramental News**
Thank you to families who attended the meeting for Reconciliation last Tuesday evening. Please look for the information note in your child's bag regarding important dates. For those of you who could not attend the meeting, please come in to the Office and the ladies will assist you in purchasing the necessary items for your child's preparation for the Sacrament. ($10:00)

**Parish Sunday Mass**
Please join the community for 9:15 am Mass on Sunday November 18th. Thank you to those families who will respond to the invitation to assist in making this Mass a special welcome to our families and children making a commitment to preparation for the Sacrament of Penance - Reconciliation. Please return notes or email if you can assist in any way.

**Friday 16th November 9:30am Mass**
Please join Year 6 students and our beautiful Kinders as they come together to celebrate Mass and welcome our 2019 kindergarten students.

**Vicki Pettett Religious**

**School Community News**

**Canteen**

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<tr>
<th>Wed 14/11</th>
<th>Thurs 15/11</th>
<th>Fri 16/11</th>
<th>Mon 19/11</th>
<th>Tues 20/11</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lisa Daly</td>
<td>Marina Sheppard</td>
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<td>Lisa O'Donoghue</td>
<td>Natalie Watson</td>
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<td>Jacqui Osborn</td>
<td>Laura Street</td>
<td>O'Donoghue</td>
<td>Sarah Hughes</td>
<td>Amanda Sharp</td>
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<td>Amy Gibson</td>
<td>Sally Trevitt</td>
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<td>Karen Bodel</td>
<td>Megan Storey</td>
<td>Kristy Lawrence</td>
<td>Helen Shah</td>
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**School Fees**
Statements have been sent home this week with your child in regard to school fees. Thank you to all who are up to date. For those with fees outstanding your prompt attention to these would be appreciated. If you are having difficulties please contact the office to speak or make an appointment with Mr Rufo on 4957 4922.

Kind Regards

**Vicki McSpadden Bursar**

**Playgroup 16th November**

**News from the Classroom**

**Read Aloud**
Read Aloud has now finished for the year. It has been amazing to see the growth and enthusiasm in students’ reading. Thank you to the staff and parents who have able been able to support this great program. Please keep an eye out next year for details of when Read Aloud will start again.

Thanks

**Melanie Faehndrich** Learning Support Coordinator
Environment News

Nude Your Food
Just a reminder that every Wednesday is WASTE FREE WEDNESDAY - there are no bins on the playground. Try to reduce the amount of packaging in your child's lunch box.

Julia Briggs - Coordinator

Gardening Club
Many hands make light work! Daniel has been so kind to build a large raised garden bed, located behind YMCA, for our Gardening Groups, and today the soil arrived to fill it.

Thank you to everyone for their hard work and to the Year 6 students, who also came to lend a helping hand. Primary got to start the planting process in our new garden, planting carrots and corn. Great job everyone!

Looking forward to many fun times with both Primary and Infants, digging, planting and watching this peaceful area grow with lots of vegetables. Have a great week!

Mrs Lunn

Wellbeing
Kids Matter – We Are All Unique
Ever noticed a child playing by themselves, often quietly though sometimes loudly (depending on what they're playing). They seem content engaging in isolated play, happy even not to be in the company of other children. But how could this be right? Don't children, human beings need or even crave connection? Shouldn't we try to help them along by encouraging them to make friends, inviting ourselves or others into their play to help fill that need they obviously innately have?

Yeah.......no.

Introversion isn't an affliction. It doesn't need to be cured with a little bit of friendliness. It isn't that children can't make friends or play with others - it's that they don't want to...........And we shouldn't make them....

There's a difference between being an introvert and being shy. Shy children often hang out on the fringe of a group of children playing, looking in constantly. They want friends, they want connection and to play with others but either lack the social competence to introduce themselves into the play of others or lack the confidence to

Introverted children aren't like that. They are comfortable most when being completely clear of groups of children playing. They are content to play by themselves and prefer it often to playing with others. They are typically confident - self-confident where their confidence isn't reliant on the affirmation or validation of others.

It's important that we know and understand the difference between the two, we should be

To bring Christ and His message, in all its richness, into the hearts and lives of all.
appreciating the uniqueness of those who don't want or need the human connection that a lot of us think EVERYONE needs. They are still capable of empathy, understanding, meaningful relationships and in fact they often make the best friends to have, but they will never actively go looking for friendship, especially not en masse. Parents and teachers need to understand this distinction and respond to it accordingly.

Julia Briggs - Coordinator

Gifted Education
Myth 2: There are no gifted and talented students at our school
Fact: Until the mid 1980s, definitions of giftedness and talent used in Australia were mostly based on performance and children or adolescents who were identified as gifted were usually the successful, motivated students who were already achieving. Over the last ten years a majority of Australian views have changed. Gagné defines giftedness as having natural abilities significantly beyond what might be expected for one's age; however, Gagné also acknowledges that giftedness may or may not be evident within the classroom. Gagné suggests that approximately 10%, at least three or four students in a mixed-ability class of 30, could be gifted; another three or four could be physically, intellectually, creatively, socially or perceptually gifted. He states that some gifted students may have well above average ability but may have not yet been able to translate this into above average performance

PBS
Reaching Out To Others – When we reach out to others we are being inclusive. Others feel welcomed and cared for. This is also an important part of building relationships and widening our own friendship circle. As we reach out to others, we may find that we begin to grow in our ability to empathise with them and become a more compassionate person. Reaching out to others also includes building relationships with those outside of our own immediate friendship group and including those we may not always mix with. Jesus reached out to everyone, especially those who were judged and rejected by the rest of society. Our challenge is to do the same!

| School Spirit Award for demonstrating INCLUSIVITY through Accepting Differences. |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| **KN**           | Louie B. & Zoe O. | KW               | Jack T. & Harrison W. |
| 1N               | Jorja G. & Amelia O. | 1W               | Tilly C. & Oscar K. |
| 2N               | Madeleine C. & Charlie K. | 2W               | Isla-Grace B. & Chloe M. |
| 3N               | Willow B. & Nicholas B. | 3W               | Gabriella B. & Cooper C. |
| 4N               | Anika B. & Lewis O. | 4W               | Matilda C. & Cooper S. |
| 5N               | Mattia D. & Lachlan S. | 5W               | Jessy B. & Porscha B. Chynna M. & Noah M. |
| 6N               | Dominic M & Annelise M | 6W               | Ayden C. & Holly M. |

Principal Award recipients for this week:

Luke Smith Coordinator
Sport

Lambton Pool Party
Last week notes went home to the Primary students regarding the Pool Party on 27th November. Thank you to those people who have already returned their permission slip. The permission notes go to your child's classroom teacher. School hours will be as normal. Students will be marked off in the morning with their classroom teacher before boarding buses and will return to school in time for normal dismissal in the afternoon.

Swimming Carnival
Don't forget to return any permission notes and swimming entry forms this week. Thank you to those parents who have volunteered to help on the day. Forms not received by Friday will miss out on events. I will be in touch with you soon.

Milo Cricket
On Friday 9th November the Year 4 teachers had the pleasure of accompanying our children to the Milo Cricket Gala Day. The children were excellent and it was wonderful to witness their great sportsmanship, team building and sense of fun.

The day couldn't have proceeded without the generous support of 12 parents who volunteered to be team managers on the day. A huge thanks to Natalie W, Samantha S, Michael L, Anna B, Sam R, Helen S, Therese F, Grant S, Amy H, Phillip M, Simon A and Amanda S.

Year4 Teachers

OOSH
Hi from all at YMCA Out of School Hours Care,
This week we will be giving our room a bit of a make-over. Our staff are constantly looking at how to improve the service for the children and their families to continue to be an exceeding service. We have noticed that some of the senior students were starting to use our ‘quite area’ as a gathering place. We recognise that the year 5 and 6 students need a space for themselves so we are changing the whole room around to create a ‘senior zone’ and still keeping our ‘quiet area’ too. Christmas crafts are starting to get displayed which is also helping to make our room look even better. Please take the time to look around when you come into the service and let us know what you think.

VACATION CARE – bookings are now open for Vacation Care so please go to our website and take a look at our fabulous program and make your bookings. Just a reminder that Excursion days fill up quickly so please make your bookings as soon as you can.

www.ymcansw.org.au/newlambton

IMPORTANT – IF YOU ARE NOT MAKING CHANGES TO YOUR 2019 BOOKING YOU STILL NEED TO GO TO YOUR MY FAMILY LOUNGE, OPEN YOUR CHILD’S ENROLMENT AND SUBMIT THE ENROLMENT FOR 2019.

Christine Morgan | Childcare Coordinator
YMCA New Lambton OSHC | Burke Street, New Lambton, NSW, 2305
p 0402 165 617
e Christine.Morgan@ymcansw.org.au w https://www.ymcansw.org.au/childrens-services/

Follow us! facebook | twitter | youtube | instagram

YMCA NSW acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands we work upon and we pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.
5 November, 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

Each school year the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle reviews the fees for students in our diocesan schools for the coming year. By far the greater part of our schools’ funding now comes from State and Commonwealth government funding, but it is noted with gratitude the commitment and continuing financial contribution of parents and parish communities that is so essential to fill the gap between the funds provided by government and the actual cost of running our schools.

This letter is to inform you of the fee arrangements for 2019. The following rates and discounts have been reviewed by the Catholic Schools Office (CSO), Diocesan Finance Council (DFC) and the Trustees of the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle (the Trustees). Upon the advice of the CSO, DFC and the Trustees, they have been approved by Bishop Wright.

The school fees constitute 3 components:
1. Diocesan Tuition Fees
2. Individual School Resource and Service Fees
3. Diocesan Family School Building Levy (DFSBL)

1. Diocesan Tuition Fees 2019

A one-off contribution from the Catholic Schools Office to each school in the diocese, will allow the Diocesan Tuition Fees to remain at 2018 levels. This means that for 2018 Diocesan Tuition Fees, full rate, will be:

- Kinder to Year 6: $1,233 (no change from 2018)
- Years 7 to 10: $1,698 (no change from 2018)
- Years 11 to 12: $2,559 (no change from 2018)

In 2019, the Family discount on Diocesan Tuition Fees, full rate, will be:
- 1 child family: 0% - full rate to be applied
- 2 child family: 10% - each child
- 3 child family: 20% - each child
- 4 child family: 40% - each child
- 5+ child family: 50% - each child

2. Individual School Resource and Service Fees

These are set by individual schools and can cover a range of costs including the supply of resources such as textbooks, school supplies, exercise books, subject levies, technology, excursion costs etc. The cost and nature of the fees can vary between schools and will be set out in the Parent Handbook provided by the school and itemised in the school fee account from the school.

3. Diocesan Family School Building Levy (DFSBL)

The DFSBL is charged to the oldest child for each family. The DFSBL is pooled to contribute towards past, present and future costs for building projects across all existing schools, and for the development of new Catholic schools within the Diocese.

This DFSBL contribution from families is spent on major refurbishment and capital works in existing schools, including classroom replacements, toilet facilities, specialist rooms, and playground areas. In new schools the DFSBL provides...
all capital works including administration block, general purpose learning areas, chapel, specialist rooms, toilet facilities, and non-teaching spaces including playground and oval spaces.

The Catholic Schools Office is committed to a robust building and development program across the school system that will truly enhance the physical facilities for students.

The DFSBL in 2019 will be $990 per family. The contribution is reviewed, recommended and approved in the same fashion as mentioned earlier.

4. Diocesan Pastoral Contribution

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle consists of parishes, schools, CatholicCare Social Services, St Nicholas Early Education and the Curia offices. The Diocesan offices exist to support the work of Parishes and other pastoral ministries that are the responsibility of the Bishop and the diocesan community. There are approximately 100,000 Catholics residing in our diocese.

The voluntary diocesan pastoral contribution for 2019 will be $300 per family ($100 per term for 3 terms). These funds will support the ongoing pastoral works of the Diocese which include, amongst many initiatives:

- The diocesan pastoral ministries office and the activities of its many advisory councils - the Diocesan Pastoral Council, the Adult Faith Formation Council, the Liturgy Council, the Ecumenical and Interfaith Council, the Social Justice Council and the Diocesan Council of Ministry with Young People.
- The provision of chaplains ministering in the following areas – Newcastle University, Newcastle Port, Prisons, Hospitals and CatholicCare Social Services.
- Family Community-Faith Coordinators who work to reach out to and connect families with their local parish and school.
- Pastoral Coordinators who work in those parishes without a resident Parish Priest.

Fee Reductions

To assist families with limited financial resources, Catholic schools in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle offer a lower tuition fee to means tested low income families such as Health Care and Pension Card holders. This rate is 50% of the Diocesan Tuition Fee full rate for each child. This discount applies only to the Diocesan Tuition Fee, not to the DFSBL or other resource and service fees charged by each individual school.

Please note, however, that it is our policy that financial hardship should not prevent a child from attending a Catholic School and no child will be denied a Catholic Education because of a family’s genuine inability to pay the required school fees. This does not apply only to the eligible Health Care/Pension Card holders mentioned above. Any family experiencing financial difficulties is entitled to fee assistance. The Principal of the school can be contacted to discuss such situations.

Together with parents, clergy and school staff, we are committed to offering the children and young people in this diocese, schools in which their faith can be nurtured in outstanding learning environments. We seek to assist young people to realise their full human potential, spiritual, intellectual, physical and social. We value the opportunity to work in partnership with you to that end, and thank you for your continuing support of Catholic Education in this Diocese.

Yours sincerely

Most Reverend William Wright
BISHOP OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE

Gerard Moxbray
DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS (ACTING)