



Principals Message

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to all of you and a special welcome to all the new families that have arrived at St Therese's. I can't believe that a week has already passed in the 2020 school year. The new classrooms are looking good and the teachers and children are enjoying their new surroundings. It won't be long, June for that matter and the new school buildings will be finalised along with the new grounds.

Retirement

Over the January holiday Mrs Cheryl Roberts our Pastoral Worker decided to resign her position. Cheryl has decided to follow a new path. Cheryl has been a tower of strength for our children, parents and teachers over the past 15 years and her gentle but strong guidance will be sorely missed by all. I want to wish Cheryl all the very best in her retirement and I look forward to hearing about her new ventures.

Before and After School Routines

Drop off in the morning can occur at either Burke St or Royal St. Royal St entrance will now occur through the main gates between the Hall and new classrooms, where new paving has been laid. The Royal St gates between the two halls will only be open on Tuesday to allow band students to enter the hall. The following dismissal points will be used:

- Victoria St
- Burke St - cars
- Burke St - Bikes
- William St
- Royal St - cars
- Royal St - bikes and walkers
- Bus

Parents who pick up at Royal St, can either wait at the gates or in your car, and teachers will open the gates and dismiss children to their parents or a waiting car. All other dismissal points will remain the same as last year. We ask parents to be patient as the children get used to the new routine.

Duilio Rufo
Principal

Dates to Remember

4th FEB P & F meeting 7pm

**10TH FEB OPENING SCHOOL MASS
& ASSEMBLY 10AM**

12TH FEB REGIONAL SWIMMING

14TH FEB REGIONAL CRICKET

19/20TH FEB SCHOOL PHOTOS

**21ST FEB REGIONAL WINTER
TRIALS**

27TH FEB DIO SWIMMING

12TH MAR DIO CRICKET TRIALS

**17TH MAR REGIONAL TOUCH
FOOTBALL TRIALS**

**20TH MAR ANTI BULLYING DAY &
HARMONY DAY**

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



Assistant Principal's Message

Welcome Back!

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and relaxing holiday. I was lovely to see our students back last week, an extra special welcome to our new Kindergarten students and those students who have joined us from other schools. We look forward to an exciting 2020!

Welcome back to all our staff, especially our new teachers; Miss Alex Toscano (KW), Mrs Trish Aumuller (4L) with Mrs Wilson, Mrs Patricia McNeil (4N) with Ms Jackman, Miss Olivia D'Accione (2N) with Ms Warby, Miss Helena Elias (2L) with Mrs Schneider, Miss Phoebe Parker (3L) with Mrs Parker and Mrs Samantha Anthony (6N) with Mr Smith.

School Uniform

Many of our students are wearing the new school uniform, which looks very smart. The children also tell me that the new uniform is much more comfortable. There is a changeover period of 2 years, so the uniform is optional for 2020 – 2021, in 2022 all children will be in the new uniform. Whichever uniform children are in, we expect them to wear them with pride. Our school colours are blue and white, which includes accessories such as ribbons, hair ties etc. A reminder that sport uniform is to be worn only on sport days or representative sport days, which will be advertised through the year. Currently we are also transitioning to a new school hat, which can be purchased only through Lowes. The school currently has a small stock of small and large sizes of the "older" version of hat. The new hats are foldable and reversible, navy on the outside and either; red, blue, green or gold on the inside, to match our sport house colours. Students need to purchase the hat that has their house colour on the inside, which can be worn on sport days as well as for any carnivals and representative sport days. These new hats will only be stocked at Lowes.

A number of students have started wearing watches that have the ability to take photos and videos. These are causing some concerns, as students are taking pictures of other students without consent, additionally these are very expensive items. As a result, we ask that these watches be kept at home.

Building Update

The new K-2 classes look absolutely beautiful, and the surrounding gardens are also growing well. All the children looked very happy in their new room and I know the teachers are also loving their new learning spaces. There are a few minor issues that are being addressed such as bags racks, which should be installed in the next few weeks and the water pressure in the bubblers. We are also looking into a tap in the infant area where children can refill their water bottles during the day to take into class.

Stage 2 of the building project has also commenced, with the demolition of the old classrooms and ground works for the new learning centre and student toilet blocks. Once demolition is finished, the construction fence will be moved to give students more space in the playground. Stage 2 is expected to take until at least July, but weather can effect completion dates – we will keep you up to date throughout the process.

Morning Drop-Off

We ask all parents to drop-off your child in the morning and allow them to see their friends. If your child is having trouble separating from you in the morning, please see their teacher for assistance. The best way to reduce separation anxiety is to say a quick but loving goodbye, lingering will only upset your child. If you are concerned, please call the school to see how they have settled in. I can assure you that almost all children settle very quickly once they are distracted by friends and class activities. Kindergarten children are also very excited to see their Year 6 buddies, who meet them in the mornings. Getting your child into a good morning routine, helps them to settle into school quickly.

All children are asked to drop their bags off outside their classroom, then move to the back playground or the area between the primary classrooms. In the morning, the concrete areas around the infant rooms are "out of bounds" for playing as there is no supervision. At lunch and recess, children can use this area for handball, board games, reading etc.

Lost Property

Last week a student lost a rock called a Dalmatian Jasper on the back playground so is very special. If your child has found this rock, could you please return it to



Last week we already had 6 misplaced hats – all unlabelled. Please label **every** Year 6 students go through all the lost property and return any labelled item unlabelled clothing is washed and placed in our clothing pool and all other items

Kaylene Maretich
Assistant Principal

RE News

Welcome back to another school year for 2020!

Thank you also for choosing to support Catholic education by sending your precious children to our beautiful school, St Therese's. It is rather fitting that we begin the first school liturgy and assembly for the year reflecting upon Sunday's Gospel reading, Jesus' Presentation in the Temple. The symbolism of this passage reveals Mary and Joseph, as Jesus' earthly parents, both knew that although the infant/child Jesus was theirs to love, take care of and raise, ultimately he belonged (as we all do) to God.

Many of you engaged the same deep understanding with your own children, firstly at the sacrament of baptism and now again at the important milestone of school (some of you as parents of school-age children for the first time this year). This act of faith, of letting go and trusting, is a big 'Yes' on any parent's behalf. It is a 'Yes!' to God and to this wide, mysterious world and life (for good and bad) that we have been given.

It is our role as Catholic educators to work with you the parents, and your children, firstly to help them discover who they are as children of God and secondly, to then help guide them into becoming the fullness of that being for the betterment of the world. Thank you for allowing us this most special of privileges.

Important RE dates:

- Whole school prayer & liturgy (weekly – at Monday assemblies, 2:30pm)
- Opening School Mass – Monday 10th February at 10am (School Hall)
- Shrove Tuesday – 25th February
- Ash Wednesday – 26th February (Lenten Season begins)
- Catholic Schools Week – 1st – 7th March (Week 6)

Luke Smith
Religious Coordinator

This week in profile:



I have been asked to be the first in providing information for a new segment in our school newsletter this year, teacher profiles. My name is Luke Smith and this is now my fourth year at St Therese's Primary School but my first in the new and honourable role of Religious Education Coordinator after the retirement of our previous, long-serving REC, Mrs Vickie Pettett. I have big shoes to fill and I feel very humbled and privileged to be able to accept this position at such a wonderful school. Much of my personal faith journey and belief in Catholic education is alluded to elsewhere in the Newsletter under the weekly segment 'RE News'. I hope you will take the time to read this each week, along with joining us where possible to celebrate in prayer and the faith-life of our school community on the relevant dates.

Personally, my career in teaching and Catholic education began around 18 years ago after I graduated from Charles Sturt University (CSU) in Wagga Wagga at the end of 2001. I began my first teaching appointment in the Canberra-Goulburn Archdiocese at St Mary's Primary School, Young, a short commute each day from my hometown of Cootamundra in regional NSW. I then spent approximately 8 years here in the Maitland-Newcastle Diocese, firstly as a casual teacher and then working at St Mary's, Warners Bay and St John

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



Vianney, Morisset. It was during this time that I learnt to surf, which is still one of my great passions and pastimes to this day! I then returned to the Canberra-Goulburn Archdiocese for several years with my final appointment seeing me return to where it all began, St Mary's in Young; this time in the role of Religious Education Coordinator. Finally, I arrived back here in Newcastle to work at our beautiful school, St Therese's. Over the past few years I have taught on Grades 5 and 3, along with filling the role of Primary Coordinator. This year, in addition to my role as REC, I am a part of the Year 6 teaching team.

As well as my passion for surfing and the ocean, other hobbies and loves I have are music (last year I saw concerts by Gary Clark Jr., Ray Lamontagne and my favourite band of all time, the Red Hot Chili Peppers!), reading books, spending time in nature and hanging out with my family and friends. Please feel free to say 'hello' and introduce yourselves to me if I have not already met you and I look forward to sharing the continuing journey of primary school with you and your children.

Peace & Blessings,
Luke

School Community News

Canteen News

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help in the canteen this year. We couldn't do it without you and the kids really love seeing you. It's never too late to volunteer so if you find you can help out (it's one morning once a month) please let me know - Belinda 0447 509 968.

The 2020 price list has been loaded onto the school website and is also on Flexischools. Some prices have increased due to supplier price increases throughout 2019.

A reminder that Fridays are online orders only at the canteen. No paper bag orders please.

The 2020 roster has also been loaded onto the school website. The roster is password protected and the password is 2305.

Belinda Palmer
Canteen Supervisor

NDA Bullying and Violence and Harmony Day

The National Day Against Bullying and Violence will be combined with **Harmony Day** this year on the 20th March. Our school is registered to support these great initiatives. Watch this space for more information about the details of this day.

Deb Petersen
Acting Principal/Coordinator

Family Discount Forms and School Fees

Thank you to all families who have completed your family discount form. I will be generating school fees later this week and if you haven't completed your family discount form, please complete one at the office asap. Also if you have a health care/ concession card please bring it into the office this week for it to be allocated to Term 1 fees. The first bill will be printed and sent home with your child. Every term thereafter it will be emailed out. If you require financial assistance, please contact the office on 4957 4922 to make with appointment to discuss with Mrs Maretich.

Vicki McSpadden
Bursar

News from the Classroom

Hi All,

Just reminding you all that the Learning Centre (old library) is open again for play at lunch and recess time for our students who need structured play/quiet passive play.

Environmental Message

1. Water is Precious- don't waste a drop

We are now on level 2 water restrictions.

- All hoses must have a trigger nozzle
- Outdoor watering permitted every second day before 10am and after 4pm recommended for up to 15 minutes per day (odd property number = odd date of the month, even property number = even date of the month). Outdoor watering applies to hand watering with a trigger nozzle and drip irrigation systems
- Wash vehicles and buildings with a bucket only
- Repair dripping taps and leaking toilets as quickly as possible
- No sprinklers
- No hosing of hard surfaces, except for health and safety reasons
-
- Limit showers to 4 minutes

Sport

Regional Swimming Carnival

I have the pleasure of taking a squad of 45 students to the Regional Swimming Carnival on Wednesday 12th February. Students will need to meet me at Lambton Pool (on the grass area) at 8:45am. For those children who have not yet paid or returned notes you will need to see me tomorrow to let me know if you are attending or not. You have currently been added to the program and therefore if you are not attending I will need to inform the convener.

Winter Trials for Sport

Our students will have the opportunity to trial for Diocesan representative places in the following winter sports: netball, rugby league, AFL, touch football, rugby union, hockey and soccer. Students must be talented and experienced in the chosen sport and ideally play at a representative level as these trials are NOT a gala day. Regional trials will commence in the coming weeks and students have the opportunity to progress to Diocesan and State trials. Parents must also commit to travelling with their child to trials at all venues, such as Tamworth or Bathurst, throughout the year. More specific information will be given, dependent on the chosen sport, when it becomes available. Sports with significant body contact are restricted to older students and may not be available to those in the lower primary classes. Preference is given to Stage 3 students.

Please note the sport dates thus far that may involve your child/ren.

12th Feb Regional Swimming Carnival
14th Feb Regional Cricket
21st Feb Regional Winter trials
27th Feb Dio Swimming Carnival
12th March Dio Cricket Trials
17th March Regional Touch Football Trials
19th March Dio AFL Trials
24th March Dio Winter Sport Trials
27th March School X Country
29th April Dio Touch Football trials
1st May Polding Winter Trials

Deb Petersen

Coordinator/Acting Assistant Principal



Code Club will be in the old Library
Tuesdays 11.30-12.00 Stage 3
Thursdays 11.30-12.00 Stage 2
Friday 11.30-12.00 Infants

Lynette Barker
Teacher/Librarian

ST NICHOLAS OOSH

Welcome back everyone to school and also to St Nicholas OOSH. After a very busy and fun vacation care it's good to be getting back in to our before and after school care routines. A big welcome to all our new kindergarten children who so far are showing great resilience to new environments. Just a reminder to please let us know if your child/children will be absent from OOSH especially in the afternoons. This prevents our staff spending a great deal of time searching for children and phoning parents and contacts. As of the week beginning 10th February a search fee of \$5 will be added to your account if we are not notified of your child's absence in the afternoon. Please phone or text the service on 0455 099 594 before 2pm to advise of any absences. Thank you.

CHRISTINE MORGAN

NOMINATED SUPERVISOR - OOSH | ST NICHOLAS OOSH
| PO Box 775 Newcastle NSW 2300
Email christine.morgan@stnicholasoosh.org.au
Visit us online www.stnicholasoosh.org.au

Extra curricula activities at St Therese's



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Students study improvisation, scriptwork and performance;
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Contact Principal: Shane Skerly
T: 02 4969 2338 / 0490 126 430
E: dramacorp@bigpond.com
FB: o'grady drama - newcastle

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<https://www.facebook.com/TheWaratahsRugbyUnionClub/>

Instagram-
[Thewaratahsrugbyunionclub](https://www.instagram.com/thewaratahsrugbyunionclub)

Email -
thewaratahsjuniorrugby@gmail.com
waratahsrugbyunion@gmail.com





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- 9.30am Little Tigers (ages 2-6)
- 10am - 11am Karate & Muay Thai Kickboxing (ages 7 - Adult)
- 11.15am DEMONSTRATIONS
- 12pm BBQ & LIVE MUSIC



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When: Thursday mornings

Where: School Hall

Time: 8.15am – 9.00 am

Cost: \$12.00 per lesson

Contact: Sandra Rojas, 0422 968 782
Sandra1rojasp@gmail.com



St Therese's Primary 2020 School Photos

All 2020 School Photos are to be ordered online.

To view packages and to place your order please visit

www.newcastleschoolportraits.com

and enter your code.

201171

Orders to be done before photo day to avoid late fee.
Payments can be made with any Mastercard/Visa cards.

School Packages

Qty Ordered	A Pack		Cover, Traditional Class Photo, Composite Year Photo.
	\$65		Portraits included: Colour 1-(5x7) 2-(2.5x3.5) 4-Wallets with an extra set in B/W & a 8x12" Enlargement & Free low res Digital Image of individual.
Qty Ordered	B Pack		Softcover Album 8x10" 30 page to store many years of photos.
	\$47		Cover, Traditional Class Photo, Composite Year Photo. Free low res Digital Image of individual.
Qty Ordered	C Pack		Free low res Digital Image of individual.
	\$42		1-(5x7) 2-(2.5x3.5) 4-Wallets with an extra set in B/W & 8x12" Enlargement.
Qty Ordered	D Pack		Traditional Class Photo, Composite Year Photo.
	\$30		There are no individual photos in this package.
Qty Ordered	E Pack		Free low res Digital Image of individual.
	\$22		1-(5x7) 2-(2.5x3.5) 4-Wallets & low res digital image.
Qty Ordered	F Pack		Hardcover Book includes Title Page, Traditional Class Photo, Composite Class Photo, Principals Message & Autographs Page.
	\$70		Portraits included: Colour 1-(5x7) 2-(2.5x3.5) 4-Wallets with an extra set in B/W & a 8x12" Enlargement & Free low res Digital Image of individual.
Qty Ordered	Photo Album		8x10" 30 Page Photo Album A great way to store your child's photos over the years. Photo Album is available for purchase without purchasing a photo pack. These albums contain no photos.
	\$25		

Family Package are also available online but must be ordered by 9pm the night before Family photo day.

Family Packages

Qty Ordered	Family A Pack	
	\$25	
		1-(5x7) 2-(2.5x3.5) 4-Wallets & Digital low res image of family.
Qty Ordered	Family B Pack	
	\$35	
		1-(5x7) 2-(2.5x3.5) 4-Wallets & 8x12" Enlargement & Digital low res image of Family.

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4965 4114





Mondays 6pm-8pm
Feb 24th - Mar 30th 2020



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Richard 0423 704 922

Peter 0459 346 486

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leaderbuild@nsw.scouts.com.au



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Cnr. Queen and Fleet Streets,
New Lambton

Contact: Ben Cannings

p: 4950 0999

e: ben.cannings@nsw.scouts.com.au



Why learn Italian?

The benefits of learning a second language go beyond the skills gained in speaking and writing a new language. Our year-long course provides your child with an extensive range of learning benefits including:

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The Co.As.It. OSH program will immerse your child in Italian language and culture. Students will:

- Enjoy free supplementary educational aids;
- Participate in competitions;
- Perform in end-of-school year Italian performances;
- Have the chance to win a Minister's Award for excellence.

About the curriculum and the teachers

This program is partially funded by the NSW Department of Education – Community Languages Program. Co.As.It. teachers are friendly, dedicated, experienced and approved to teach by the Department of Education – Community Languages Program. Our teachers follow the OSH teaching program developed by Co.As.It. in conjunction with the K-10 Italian Syllabus of the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA).

How to enrol



Online

coasit.org.au



By email

learning@coasit.org.au



By fax

(02) 9569 6648



By post

Co.As.It.
P.O. Box 342
Leichhardt NSW 2040



In person

Casa d'Italia
67 Norton Street
Leichhardt NSW 2040



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