



Principals Message

Dear Parents and Carers

This is Catholic Schools Week. You would have received information inviting you to join us for a school Liturgy in the Hall on Friday commencing at 9.30am followed by morning tea in the Hall and then Open Classrooms until 11am. You are all very welcome to join us for these activities.

William, Burke and Royal Street Parking Issues

We have been contacted by numerous parents concerned at the lack of respect that some parents are showing to our neighbours and to the rest of the school community. Parents parking over drive ways, parking and leaving their vehicles in "kiss & drop zones", double parking when picking up and dropping off and general unsafe behaviour. There are severe fines for breaking these rules and if the behaviours do not change I will be left with no option but to request the police to attend the area during drop off and pick up times.

Dogs at School

Please be aware that we do have some children in the school who have a legitimate fear of dogs as well as suffer from dander allergies (animal fur). If you would like to bring your pet into school for "show and tell" please make sure that you seek permission from the class teacher so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Due to the renovations and the congestion on the playground it is requested that no dogs accompany children/parents into the playground during pick up/drop off.

Enrolments for 2021

Wow! The year is already moving forward at a pace. It is now time to collect enrolment packs from the office to complete your application for Kinder 2021. If you know of any friends who would like to apply please pass this on to them.

Bag Racks

On Wednesday and Thursday of this week the installation of bag racks on the Kinder, Year 1 & 2 verandahs will take place.

Duilio Rufo
Principal

Dates to Remember

3RD MAR P & F MEETING 7PM

6TH MAR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
WEEK MASS 9.30 & OPEN
CLASSROOMS
NO PLAYGROUP

12TH MAR DIO CRICKET TRIALS

15TH MAR FAMILY PARISH MASS

17TH MAR REGIONAL TOUCH
FOOTBALL TRIALS

20TH MAR ANTI BULLYING DAY &
HARMONY DAY

24TH MAR WINTER SPORTS TRIALS

25TH MAR YR 6 ST PIUS X TALK

26TH MAR TOUR DE CURE 9.30

27TH MAR SCHOOL CROSS
COUNTRY

3 APR MISSION DAY TERM 1

9 APR HOLY THURSDAY
LAST DAY OF TERM 1

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



Assistant Principal's Message

Catholic Schools Week

This week we enter, Catholic Schools Week, which is the official start of the enrolment period in all Catholic Schools in the Maitland-Newcastle Diocese. The theme for this year is "Drawing from the Well. Invitation, Encounter, Witness". This acknowledges the CSOs vision that Jesus Christ is at the heart of all we do. Catholic Schools strive to deliver outstanding education, built on a foundation of our Catholic faith, beliefs and traditions. St Therese's is proudly Catholic, all we do centres around three traditions:

- Jesus' messages of love, forgiveness, tolerance and understanding
- Our Mercy values of care & compassion, respect, integrity and inclusivity, formed through the works of Catherine McAuley and the Sisters of Mercy
- St Therese the "little flower" who taught us the transformational power of believing in Jesus Christ

Throughout this week we will focus teaching activities on this theme, as well as what it means to be a part of St Therese's. Our celebrations will culminate on Friday 6 March, with a liturgy in the school hall from 9:30am, followed by morning tea for parents and grandparents, then open classrooms till 11:00am. I thank Mr Smith our REC for organising a special week to celebrate Catholic Schools Week.

Parent-Teacher Interviews

All our Personalised Planning Meetings (PP) were held last week with Ms Faehndrich, Mrs Schneider and class teachers and this week parents have the opportunity to meet with their child's teacher to devise goals for the coming year. This is a great way for parents and teachers to work together to achieve the best for all our children.

Kaylene Maretich

Assistant Principal/Acting Principal

RE News

Launch of Catholic Schools Week & Project Compassion – Last week, our School Captains & Councillors went to the Sacred Heart Cathedral in Hamilton, along with leaders from all Catholic Schools around the Maitland-Newcastle Diocese. The Bishop led us all in a liturgical celebration to officially launch Catholic Schools Week (2nd – 7th March) along with Caritas' Project Compassion. Special thanks to 3 of our Year 6 mum's, Helen S, Natalie W & Gillian M who volunteered to take our student leaders. All families should now have a Project Compassion box in their homes. Please give generously this Lenten Season.

We celebrate Catholic Schools Week, and its theme of "Drawing From The Well", with a special liturgy this Friday morning at 9:30am in our school hall, followed by a morning tea and open classrooms. We welcome all parents & friends.



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Burning of the Branches & Ash Wednesday – This year we began a new tradition with our students on Shrove Tuesday (traditionally a day for making & eating pancakes), called the 'Burning of the Branches' liturgy. This short liturgy is to help our students understand the connection between the blessed palms used in the previous years' Palm Sunday celebration, which were now dead and dry, and are then burnt to be used the following day as the ashes the children received on Ash Wednesday. Thank you to Fr Camillus for celebrating Ash Wednesday Mass with our Primary students and to Mrs Janine Schneider for leading the Infants in their Ash Wednesday liturgy in the hall.



Important RE dates:

- Whole school prayer & liturgy (weekly – at Monday assemblies, 2:30pm)
- Catholic Schools Week – 2nd – 7th March (Week 6)
- **Catholic Schools Week liturgy – Friday 6th March at 9:30am (morning tea & open classrooms to follow)**
- School led Parish Mass – Sunday 15th March at 9:15am, St Therese's Church

Luke Smith
Religious Coordinator

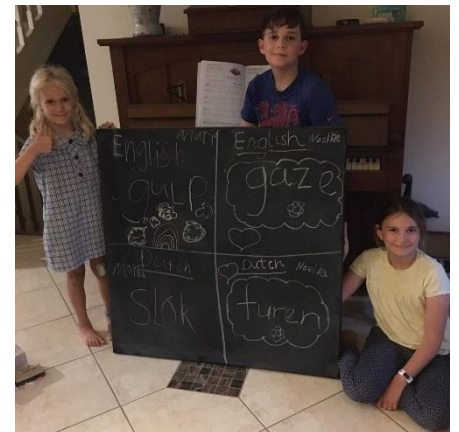
News from the Classroom



Word of the Week Fun!

We want to congratulate the Bremmer family (Sil, Year 6; Neelke, Year 4 and Maria, Year 1) working together to build their vocabulary one word at a time.

Trying out our new 'Word of the Week' initiative, the family kindly shared this photo. The children are practising the featured words not only in English, but also in Dutch – their home language.



I calculate that if Sil, Neelke and Maria practise both words every week, their vocabularies will be supercharged with 70 new words by the end of the year! (140 if you count both Dutch and English)
Now that's a pretty cool Super Power!
Keep Talking!

Maree Adams
EAL/D Teacher

School Community News

Playgroup

There will be NO playgroup this week due to the Open Classrooms & Catholic Schools Week Mass.

Canteen

The canteen now offers gluten free sandwiches and wraps. These can be ordered on Flexischools under the 'Make-Your-Own' option.

Also, a big thank you to all the parents and grandparents who have volunteered to help out in the canteen. The kids really love seeing you at the school and we certainly couldn't do it without you. It's never too late to volunteer so if you think you would be able to help one morning a month just let me know - Belinda 0447 509 968.

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



School Fees

Term 1 school fees have now been sent home. If you are having financial difficulties, please contact the school on 49574922 to arrange an appointment with Mrs Maretich. If you would like help setting up a regular payment please phone 49 574 922 or call into our office.

Vicki McSpadden Bursar

PBS

School Spirit Awards

Our focus last week was demonstrating **RESPECT** by displaying wonderful Manners. Well done to the following students who received this award. Thank you! Your manners are beautiful and you are an asset to our school!

As we continue to focus upon the virtue of **Respect** this term, for the next fortnight we look closely at how being Obedient is a way of displaying respect for others. When we encourage our children to be obedient to our requests at home we are teaching them to respect us as parents but also building within them the capacity to respect others. If we allow our children to speak back to us rudely, ignore our requests or choose only what they want to do we are making it hard for them to learn to show respect through obedience. If we want our children to show obedience to the rules and expectations at school and in life and society in general, then it is important we begin instilling that at home first. When children can show cooperative and joyful obedience through understanding that they are part of a larger group (family, class, community, society etc.) then they have begun the journey to grow as respectful members of society.

Congratulations to the following student who will receive a Principal Award at next week's School Assembly:

Louie B (2W)

School Spirit Award for demonstrating RESPECT by displaying wonderful <i>Manners</i> . (Please record 2 names per class)					
KN	Joanna C Ace C	KW	Vanessa C Archer R	KL	Chase P Sadie S
1N	Noah F Maeve H	1W	Declan O Max W	1L	Alexander D Mia C
2N	Lucia R Raiki P	2W	Annabel J Tristan H	2L	Queenie C Isaac M
3N	Molly B Jayden C	3W	Toby B Poppy W	3L	Oliver R Maiya A
4N	Dylan F Anna G	4W	Amelia B Bailey K	4L	Shelby C Sachin R
5N	Patrick D Joshua A	5W	Demetria H Angus G	5L	Willow B James D
6N	Lucy D Max N	6W	Ruby S Austin H	6L	Hamish G Lucinda M

Janine Schneider
Coordinator

Environmental Message



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



Sport

Dio Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to our swimming squad of 9 talented students who attended the Diocesan swimming Carnival at Lambton last Thursday. Again I am very proud of these children and the wonderful sportsmanship and courage they showed to compete in such a great meet. A special congratulations to Noah G from Year 6 who has made it to the Polding Swimming Championships in Sydney on the 25th March. Well done on such a great achievement Noah. Noah will compete in the 50m Backstroke event.



Well being and Physical Activity

Often in week 6 of the school term we give "Well-being" an even bigger push for our staff and our students. We tap into our school community and check if we are going along ok and if we can help in anyway. Taking the pressure off students with "No Homework" or encouraging people to take some time to slow down and really appreciate the good things in our lives.

Physical Activity is one easy way of promoting happiness and health for kids and adults. When we move we release our 'happy' hormones and these help us to rationalise and handle situations that sometimes can be challenging. A simple walk, kicking the ball in the back yard, a swim at the beach or meditating can have a positive impact on our mental health and body. Happy well-being week and remember to take the time to ask yourself and those around if you are ok?

Deb Petersen

Coordinator/Acting Assistant Principal

ST NICHOLAS OOSH

Hello from St Nicholas OOSH New Lambton,
What's the news from OOSH? As always we were very busy at OOSH last week with new children coming on board almost every day. Together we weathered through a hail storm with some children being a little bit concerned but they showed great resilience and made it through. The most difficult part of that was keeping children inside as most wanted to go out on the veranda to see what was going on. Our room is looking nice and bright again with the children creating some colourful craft including water colour paintings, paper plate frogs, hand shaped penguins and autumn trees. Our seniors zone has had a makeover with new rugs, cushions and a few decorations to try and make this zone special for our year 5 and 6 children. On Friday afternoon we had a visitor from Newcastle Libraries who brought electronic kits for the children to experience. Children got to use batteries, magnets and other parts to make mini fans and alarms and various other electronic items. The children

enjoyed the experience and I'm sure they gained some new knowledge and maybe even sparked and interest in some of them.

Vacation Care programs and booking forms will be emailed this week to all families. Please return these as soon as possible to secure places for your child/children.

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

Music Groups at St Therese's

Our students have had a great musical start to the year. Exposure to music and musical learning is a valuable experience not only for children, but for adults too. Studies have consistently shown the benefits that music has on the development of the human brain, especially in young people.

I've attached a link to some general information regarding the benefits of music and music education. I encourage you to have a read, and think about the ways you might be able to foster a love of music in your own household.

<https://www.learningpotential.gov.au/musical-benefits>

We have created extra opportunities for our students to engage in musical groups at our school. Please take a look at the following options offered at St. Therese's, discuss these with you children and please let us know if your child would like to participate.

Musical Theatre Group

We would like to invite students from Years 3-6 to be a part of our Musical Theatre Group (MTG). MTG was established last year to promote the performing arts within our school, and to give our students an opportunity to share their talents in the community. Our performance group will be working towards performing at a variety of school occasions throughout the year.

Rehearsals will be held every **Wednesday morning at 8.20am in the 3L classroom**. Rehearsals will be 40 minutes in length and will begin in **Week 6 (Wednesday 4th March)**.

We hope to establish a troupe of around 30 students. We enjoyed great success last year with performances at assembly and the "Australian Made" concert. I encourage you to discuss and promote this with your children. The performing arts are a wonderful and positive outlet for many of our children.

Year 6 Rock Band Information

There are many students in Year 6 who possess a great talent and competent skill level in playing a musical instrument. We would like to offer these students an opportunity to be part of a school rock band. Some students have already registered their interest in this project which will run during Terms 1 and 2. The aim of this project will be to learn a selection of songs as an ensemble to perform at upcoming school events. Students who would like to join the band should have some level of experience in one of the following fields: keyboard/piano, guitar, bass guitar, vocals, drums, and dance/movement. Some students may not have lessons/experience in the areas listed here, but they may have a great interest in the performing arts and a great attitude to learning. Please encourage them to come and see me if they would like to be a part of this project.

Rehearsals will be held every **Tuesday during recess at 2.30pm in the 6L classroom**. Rehearsals will be 25 minutes long and will begin in **Week 5 (Tuesday 25th February)**.

If your child is interested in joining MTG and/or the rock band, could I please ask you to email me with the following details:

Child's Name

Child's Class

Parent Name

My email address is: alina.brymora@mn.catholic.edu.au

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



Please note: There are times when children will not be able to attend rock band and MTG due to representative events such as sport or illness. However, we do ask that once your child commits, they attend each week as we will work to build not only individual student skills, but also the skills of the groups as a whole.

Infants Creative Arts Play Club Information

As the building project continues throughout the school, we would like to offer our students another avenue to engage in play off the playground.

Students in the infants school will have an opportunity to play music/drama/dance games **every Thursday at recess in the 2L classroom**. This is a casual group that does not require students to attend every week. It is just an avenue for our younger students to play in a performing arts environment.

We look forward to sharing our musical successes with you throughout the year.

Kind Regards,

Alina Brymora
Music Teacher



DARA WOULD LIKE TO INVITE STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAMS TO JOIN WITH US IN SUPPORTING AND ENCOURAGING CHILDREN FROM REFUGEE BACKGROUNDS TO PLAY SOCCER.

To support these children, we encourage the collection of pre-loved soccer boots that will be donated to children of refugee families. The simple act of donating boots unlocks a multiple of avenues and allows them to be involved within the sport, generating new opportunities such as friendships and community spirit.

Some of these children and their families can't afford soccer accessories, and due to the financial barriers, precludes them from participating. Simply by collecting used boots, allows these children to be included and can present their skills and abilities no matter their life context. Sport is at the crux of Australian culture and is one concept that brings all Australians together. Let us encourage this spirit to all, through your community's generosity.

For any further questions or to establish your collection operation, Please contact:

JOHN SANDY DARA PROJECT LIAISON OFFICER - 0428 822 526

CATHERINE MCCARTHY DARA VOLUNTEER - 0414 714 836



DARA.ORG.AU

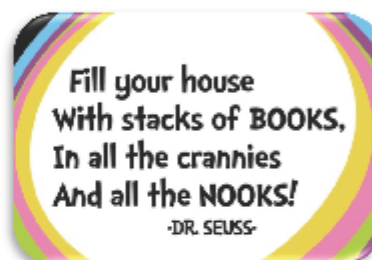


Our library shelves are very bare,
Though dear students, don't despair!
Your teachers are all here for you
To guide the way and get you through.
While our space continues to build,
Grab a book and feel all chilled...
We can pretty much guarantee
That you will love the PRC!!

That's right, even though we don't have a physical library at the moment – we will continue to run the Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) again this year. The PRC is a state-wide program which encourages students to read a certain amount of books with the aim to foster a love of reading for pleasure. A suggested book list provides students with the opportunity to experience quality literature.

The challenge runs from the 2nd March to 28th August 2020. Every student who completes the PRC will receive a commemorative certificate from the Premier.

K-2 children are automatically enrolled and will complete the challenge in class with their teacher and during library lessons.



Children in Years 3-6 take ownership of their own reading. Any primary aged children wishing to complete the challenge will need to see Mrs Gleeson to be issued with their log-on details. As we do not currently have a library collection to borrow from, the children may need to borrow PRC titles from any branch of the Newcastle Library, or find titles in their own personal collection. Get the word out – perhaps there are friends or family around who might have a copy of a book which your child may like to read!

Students must read the following number of books to complete the Challenge:

Challenge	Number of books you must read	Minimum number of PRC books	Maximum Number of Personal Choice books	PRC booklists you can read from
K-2	30	25	5	K-2, 3-4, 5-6
3-4	20	15	5	3-4, 5-6, 7-9
5-6	20	15	5	5-6, 7-9

PRC booklists, as well as all the rules and information are available at <https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>. Any questions, please email me through the school email address or ask me on my teaching days – Wednesday and Thursday.

Let the reading begin 😊
Mrs Gleeson



Lee Holmes is a mum, a nutritionist, wholefoods chef and yoga teacher. Lee will be offering tips on how to Supercharge Your Kids diet and give you a helping hand when it comes to being able to create fresh, wholesome and nutrient rich meals that your children will eat again and again. She will also be sharing her top tips on how to cut down on sugar & processed food, giving you some insight into what nutrients are helpful & will show you some easy ways to sneak super foods into meals.

You'll learn what foods are good for mood and concentration, energy and performance, plus you'll discover some helpful ways to create a healthy lunchbox.

WHEN:
Tuesday 10th March

WHERE:
Charlestown Multi-purpose Centre, 17 James St, Charlestown

COST:
Free, seats limited

BOOKINGS:
mullenhealth.com.au/events
or call 4961 4075

www.superchargedfood.com • www.mullenhealth.com.au



MULLEN NATURAL HEALTH CENTRE



Enter Now!

2020 Harmony Day Poster and Song Writing Competitions

Theme: 'Picture a World in Harmony'

Poster and Song Writing Competitions

Prizes will be awarded in two categories:

- Senior (Year 7 – Year 12); and
- Junior (K – Year 6)

Poster Competition Prizes

In each category the following prizes are awarded:

- State Winner \$500
- Regional Winner \$150
- State Winner's School \$500

Song Writing Competition Prizes

In each category the following prizes are awarded:

- First Prize \$300
- Second Prize \$150

Closing Date:

10 April 2020

Entry Forms and Competition Rules

Are available at:

www.movingforwardtogether.org.au

Prize Giving Function

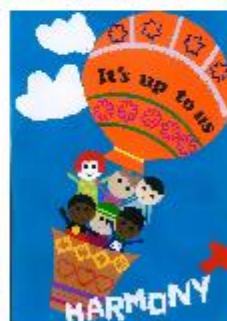
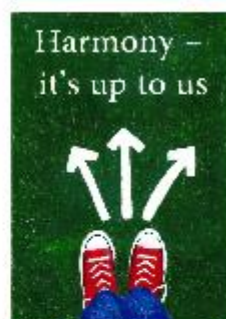
Will be held at the NSW Parliament House
in June 2020

Certificate of Participation

Every entrant will receive a Certificate of
Participation

More information from:

- yona.cass@bbnsw.org.au
- Poster@movingforwardtogether.org.au
- Song@movingforwardtogether.org.au



Winning posters from 2019