st therese's **Newsletter**

Think, Grow, Shine.

23rd June 2020 | TERM 2• WEEK 9



Acting Principals Message

Dear Students, Parents & Carers, Welcome to Week 9, I cannot believe how fast the term has flown. This

week is going to be a cold one, so please ensure all your children have adequate warm clothing and all clothing is labelled.

Virtual Art Competition

We had so many outstanding entries into the Virtual Art Gallery. Marni B's (5N) piece has been selected to be in the next Director's Bulletin. Well done Marni! The CSO are currently uploading all the entries into the Virtual Gallery, which should be available for viewing from the 1 July. Some of the artist's statements have been amended slightly to ensure they fit into the allocated spaces.

Outside Providers

It has been confirmed by the Catholic Schools Office that outside providers will not be permitted to see students at school for the remainder of the term. This includes lessons for music, drama, language, chess etc. as well as Speech Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, outside Learning Centres etc. In Term 3, this will be reviewed and communicated to parents as soon as available. The school is looking at how external providers support learning, while also ensuring the school curriculum is delivered to all children. From 9:15 -1:00pm each day, children are engaged in the core subjects of Religion, English and Mathematics. Additionally, from Tuesday-Thursday, students have library/technology, Music/Drama/Dance and PE lessons with specialist teachers, which only occur once per week. Maximal benefit to support learning at school, while also engaging in the expertise of external providers, would be to have providers come into school after 1:00pm, especially on Monday and Friday. In the past, a number of providers also see children from 8:45 - 9:15am or at lunch or recess.

The Office of Safeguarding is also looking at the way providers deliver their service at schools, as even though all providers have WWCC numbers, they also need to conduct their sessions in open spaces, such as on classroom verandas. Some providers have asked for the school to provide support staff for sessions, which we cannot do, as our funding is to assist with class programs.

Dates to Remember

26TH JUN MISSION DAY – PYJAMA DAY – GOLD COIN FOR CATHOLIC MISSIONS

$\mathbf{3^{RD}\ JUL}\ \ \textbf{LAST\ DAY\ OF\ TERM\ 2}$

WINTER FOOD APPEAL ENDS



20TH JUL PUPIL FREE DAY – TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT – NO SUPERVISION FOR STUDENTS CONTACT OOSH

21ST JUL FIRST DAY OF TERM 3



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

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Student News

We would like to welcome Anne O (2W) to our St Therese's family. Anne has come from chilly Canberra and has already made so many lovely friends, we all look forward to getting to know Anna and her family. Sadly last week we fare welled Harry M (2W) and Aidyn M (5L) who have moved to a new school. The boys will be greatly missed, we wish them all the best.

<u>Pyjama Day</u>

This Friday is Pyjama Day and all children are asked to wear their PJs and donate a gold coin for Catholic Children's Mission. All the staff are also looking forward to wearing our PJs to school.

Vinnies Winter Appeal

Thank you so very much for the generosity of all families. We have had so many donations for the Winter Appeal and will continue to collect donations till next Friday 3 July.

Good News Story

A local story this week. Many of you may have read about Lawson Rankin, who met with a terrible accident in Bali last November, resulting in him being in a coma with extensive injuries. He was flown back to Australia in December and spent many weeks in hospital. Lawson has a wonderful family and amazing friends who have been with him every step of the way. He is currently undergoing extensive physical therapy and is learning to walk and speak again and his dedication to get better amazes all those around him. I also hear his very cheeky sense of humour has never diminished and he continues to see the positives in life. Lawson is an example of true perseverance and grit, he and his family have always focused on the positives and worked together to give Lawson the very best chance to get better.

Putting life into perspective is something we all need to focus on. Rather than giving up or getting upset when things do not go as planned, let's all try to take a breath and look more subjectively at what is really happening. Take each task or day a step at a time and celebrate the small successes as well as reaching big goals. Life really is a gift, let's live each day to the best and appreciate each day for what it brings.

Kaylene Maretich Acting Principal

Acting Assistant Principal's Message

Virtual Art Gallery

Last week I wrote about the Virtual Art Gallery and this week I received an email from Mrs Sally Brock from the Catholic Schools Office (CSO). I thought I would share it with you all.

"Congratulations to St Therese's students and staff on the fabulous quality and quantity of artworks submitted for the Virtual Art Gallery. We have so enjoyed viewing the art and the artists' statements as we upload them into the gallery. I have included Marni B Stage 3 artwork with her statement in the next director bulletin. Thanks for your enthusiastic use of the Visual Arts project and Virtual Art Gallery. We plan to launch the website on Wednesday 1st July." Sally Brock

Well done Staff and students for your effort in this project, we are very lucky to have the opportunity to show case the talents of our students and I am thrilled that the CSO has recognised our efforts.

Lotus

Earlier in the term I mentioned that the Lotus Fundraiser that Stage 3 organise was on hold until we could work out the best way to move forward. I am pleased to announce the dates for Lotus 2020 are 26th – 28th October, week 3, term 4. Lotus will look very different this year but I am sure it will be just as powerful and the students will gain valuable life lessons from the fundraiser. The theme for our Lotus fundraiser this year is "Hope". 2020 has been quite an unsettling year for many and so far a year that has made people question 'what is really important in life?' Throughout the whole Covid-19 pandemic there have been stories of hope. Hope for a better future, hope for a vaccine to this virus and hope that our lives return to 'normal' (whatever that is).



Therefore, stage 3 students will complete an artwork that depicts their understanding of hope and of the girls in Laos that we continue to help educate. These artworks will be displayed physically in the main hall and virtually online for all to view. We will also ask all grades from K - Yr 4 to create an artwork around the theme. These class canvases will be auctioned as they have been at past Lotus fundraisers. Stage 3 children will also make other smaller items to be sold at market. If current policies stand whereby parents/carers and the public cannot enter the school, then we will add these items to an online market. We do have some further details to work out and I will keep the school community informed.

Winter Appeal – Mini Vinnies

The school community continues to be generous with food donations for the Winter Appeal. Mrs Helene O'Neill again came and collected the donations from the Mini-Vinnie students last week and delivered the food to St Vincent De Paul for bundling up into food parcels. She wishes to thank the school community and has informed me that they do not need any more Lifelong milk. They are in need however of cereal, baked beans, biscuits and soups. Grade 6 you have done a fabulous job at bringing in the milk and if you wish to bring anything else in you may like to think about one of the other items mentioned above. A huge thank you again to the school community, we really are making a positive difference in our world. We will conclude the appeal in Week 10.



Wellbeing of our School Community

Life is busy and sometimes unpredictable, (as we have just all experienced) which can impact on our energy levels as we manage competing demands and constant change. Taking care of our mental health and well-being with a focus on self-care is and should be a priority for all. Managing our energy levels will help to avoid burnout, exhaustion and depletion of our health. During the colder months it is so important to take time to ensure we are looking after ourselves both physically and mentally. I read recently that energy comes from four main wellsprings in our bodies: the body, emotions, mind and spirit. Developing healthy regular routines to maintain each of these wellsprings will result in improved health. Hopefully now that school is back fulltime some family routines are falling back into place. Take care of yourselves, enjoy your week and if we can help families in anyway please let the school know.

Deb Petersen Acting Assistant Principal

RE News

<u>Ordinary Time</u> – This Sunday (21st June) marks the beginning of the Church's longest season of Ordinary Time (symbolised by the colour green). Easter Time, and all of the subsequent celebrations, has come to an end and we now wait during this extended period until the arrival of Advent once again. How symbolic this is for our life....most of which is defined by '*ordinariness*'. We get up, go to work, cook diner, wash clothes, do the shopping, blah blah blah...and repeat! How poignant then, that the first words Jesus speaks in this Sunday's Gospel are "Do not be afraid." (*Matt 10:26-33* - and *He repeats this phrase 3 more times during the passage*). Indeed we need not be afraid, nor reject, this simple ordinariness of life. Our God sees us, knows us and loves us during all this. As author Paula D'Arcy says, "*God comes to us*



disguised as our life." Our job, is simply to awaken our hearts, minds and eyes to this reality...even,

..even,

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

and especially, in the seemingly mundane events of life. The blessing is, when we become aware of this, nothing can ever be '*ordinary*' again!

<u>Mission Day</u> – *Next Friday, 26th June*, we are inviting students to wear their pyjamas (a fresh set of course!) as part of one of our Social Justice Initiatives - *"Pyjama Day"*. We ask that, on the day, children bring a **gold coin donation** which will go towards the Children's Catholic Mission. We will also have a limited number of beanies and scarves hand-made and donated by one of our former staff members, Mrs Vickie Pettett (see some examples modelled in the photo). These will be on sale, at lunch time on the day, for \$5 each. Again, proceeds will go towards Children's Catholic Mission.



Luke Smith,

Religious Education Coordinator

School Community News

Canteen News

Garlic Bread & Cheesy Garlic Bread is now available from the canteen. Home-made garlic butter spread on a hot dog roll, \$2 for plain & \$2.50 for cheesy.

Entertainment Memberships

Thank you to everyone who has purchase an Entertainment Membership so far. Old memberships ran out on 1st June, to purchase a new membership please click on the following link: <u>Support St Therese's Primary School Entertainment Book now!</u> There are no Hardcopy books this year only electronic!!!

School Fees

School fees were sent out last week. For those families who have requested a COVID 19 deferment, this statement is for your information only.

During the COVID crisis, we have been mindful of the financial impact experienced by our families, the Diocese established an online form to either defer your school fee payments or to apply for a COVID Concession to reduce your school fees. This process is still available to our families, please contact the school office on 4957 4922 directly for assistance.

We are appreciative of those families who have continued and will shortly resume their commitment to school fees.

Vicki McSpadden

Bursar

PBS

This term we are focusing on the value of **Integrity**. We congratulate the following students who received the School Spirit Award last week for demonstrating this value by **persevering**:

This week we continue with our focus on **persevering** and showing grit to complete our tasks and achieve our goals.

Principal Awards

The following students will receive a Principal's Award at this week's Zoom school assembly:

Edmund H (KN), Jake H (KN), Harry D (KW), Maya C (KL), Eden C (KL), Hamish M (2N), Maggie B (3N), Nicholas B (3N), Rose H (3W), Rosemary C (3L) & Wil S (4N).

Date: Friday 26th JuneTime: 2:40pmID: 965 9284 7849P/W: 133626Congratulations and thank you children, for upholding the values and principles of St Therese's.



School Spirit Award for demonstrating INTEGRITY by Persevering. (Please record 2 names per					
class)					
KN	Ben C	ĸw	Roman A	KL	Jennifer J
	Brittany O		Eliza B		Oliver W
1N	Aart M	1W	Alexi A	1L	Ayla W
	Harriet O		William F		Stirling R
2N	Scarlett H	2W	Louie B	2L	Harry H
	Michael B		Arabella H		Milla G
3N	Tilly C	3W	Anna V	3L	Eden H
	Leila O		Blythe P		Bodhi M
4N	Myles H	4W	Ben L	4L	Isla R
	Maya F		Evie M		Lukas W
5N	Phoenix J	5W	Charlotte L	5L	Claire O
	Elijah M		Demetria H		Arley T
6N	Samirah A	6W	Felix D	6L	Noah G
	Siena S		Ava R		Ocea B

Janine Schneider Primary Coordinator

News From the Classroom

"Over the last few weeks all grades participated in activities for Reconciliation week. Stage 3 viewed a movie called "In my blood" while other grades completed beautiful artwork. It was wonderful to see the enjoyment and participation of all students and

staff here at our school."





Environmental News

1. Use leftover bathwater or grey water to water plants





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Can you believe we are almost HALFWAY through the Premiers Reading Challenge?!

Students in Year 3-6:

Hopefully you have been logging all of the books you have been reading, but if not – don't worry – there's still plenty of time! Plus, as a result of COVID-19, there have been important updates to the 2020 PRC to help you reach your target.

With public libraries closed, and ours out of action at the moment, you may be finding it difficult to get your hands on PRC titles to read. For the 2020 year, all students will be able to include 10 choice books, giving you more flexibility over what you read this year. Video instructions for how to enter these choice books can be found here: <u>2020 Bonus Books</u>.

To make sure you can access a range of titles, check your bookshelves, borrow books from your friends, even add titles that you have read in class with your teacher. Don't forget about Sora – our digital library app. Details on how to use this can be found on <u>Mrs Barkers Learning Lounge</u>.

Any questions, please email me at

brigitta.gleeson@mn.catholic.edu.au. Please remember that I am currently only working on Thursdays. I will try and respond to your emails as promptly as possible though at times there may be a little delay!

Enjoy these chilly nights by snuggling up in a warm bed with a great

book 🕹 Mrs Gleeson







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