



## Acting Principal's Message

Dear Students, Parents & Carers,

Happy Well Being Week! This week there is no homework, instead it is a time to "stop and smell the roses" so enjoy some down time with your children.

## Staff News

This week we welcome an intern, Isaac Fox, to our school. Mr Fox will complete his internship on 1W with Ms Sokulsky, we know he will enjoy his time here and be a valued part of our team.

Wedding Bells are again in the air. In the school holidays Ms Teresa Sokulsky and her fiancé John, will be married, surrounded by their immediate family. We wish Teresa and John much happiness and joy as they embark on this new journey together.

## Parent Teacher Interviews

Thank you to all the parents and carers that were able to join us via Zoom or phone conferencing for parent/teacher interviews last week. We had about 90% of families join us, which is fantastic, especially given the rather extraordinary times we are in. I would like to thank the staff for all their time and effort in preparing for the interviews. I have had a huge number of emails and calls about how effective the interviews were. Some parents had not been able to attend the interviews in previous years, due to work commitments, so the online/phone forum allowed them an opportunity this year.

## Building Update

The building is coming along and inside the new centre looks amazing. It is the focal point of the school and will be used by all students, staff and parents in the coming years. Over the next two weeks we should see major changes, as the concrete is laid outside the new canteen and learning area. There is also a ramp that will lead from the lower area of the school to the canteen and infant area. Not too long to go!

The playground often floods in heavy rain, so this week a "reflux valve" is being installed outside the current learning centre, which will alleviate some of the flooding. In the next few weeks, major works will commence to upgrade our stormwater and sewer system. As this is being done as part of the current building project, there will not be any extra disruption to the playground.

## Dates to Remember

**28<sup>TH</sup> AUG** PUPIL FREE DAY  
STAFF DEVELOPMENT

**31<sup>ST</sup> AUG** ICAS MATHS  
**1<sup>ST</sup> SEPT** ICAS SPELLING  
P & F ZOOM MEETING  
7PM

**7<sup>TH</sup> SEPT** CHILD PROTECTION  
WEEK

**11<sup>TH</sup> SEPT** WALK SAFELY TO  
SCHOOL DAY

**NATIONAL CHILD  
PROTECTION WEEK  
WHITE SHIRT DAY**

**25<sup>TH</sup> SEPT** LAST DAY OF TERM 3

**12<sup>TH</sup> OCT** FIRST DAY OF TERM 4

**PUPIL FREE DAY SET DOWN FOR  
FIRST DAY OF TERM 4 CANCELLED**

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



The building works have had an impact on the school – both positive and negative. A positive for me, is that I have learned so much about building, and can now talk quite confidently about scope of works, swales, retention pits, reduced levels (RLs), building codes and fit outs.

### **COVID Update**

There were a few new guidelines sent out last Friday, the most important one being that children and staff who have cold and flu-like symptoms will need to have a COVID-negative test, with the results sent into school, before they can come back to school. If you have not already read the notification I sent out on Friday through Compass, please take the time to read them. We now need to distance the children on the playground, this will be done as follows for this week:

- K-2: play on the concreted area near the infant classrooms, sandpit, rock garden and infant play equipment
- Years 3 & 4: Back field + primary equipment
- Years 5 & 6: Hall and pathway outside the hall
- Infant lunch support: learning centre
- Primary lunch support: grassed area between primary classrooms

The canteen will remain open, children need to purchase their ice blocks etc. and move back to their designated play area. Children are not to go to the canteen unless they are buying something. At recess, the learning centre will also be open for children who need a quiet space, this will be organised by teachers and support staff.

We will rotate play areas each week, and I will publish these in the Newsletter as well as through Compass. Please speak to your child(ren) about their play areas, as we all need to work together to make this work, so that all children remain safe.

### **Zoom P&F**

We welcome you all to a Zoom P&F on Tuesday 1 September at 7:00pm. Please join us using the following link <https://mncatholic.zoom.us/j/92532631579>, password: 841281

**Kaylene Maretich**  
**Acting Principal**

## **Acting Assistant Principal's Message**

### **National Child Protection Week**

Week 8 this term is National Child Protection week. Many families may recall that the students Health lessons for Weeks 8, 9 and 10 of each term are on Child Protection and working through the nine Themes of Protective Behaviours. The school will be involved in "Walk Safely to School" that week and will also do many other activities in the classrooms to ensure students know how to help keep themselves safe and who they can talk to if they need to. Students are asked to wear a **white shirt on Friday 11<sup>th</sup>** with their school sport shorts/skorts/skirts. This day is traditionally known as White Balloon Day and so in keeping with the colour theme, but also being environmentally friendly, we ask that the students wear a white shirt to school.

### **Working Together to Keep our Students Safe**

Throughout this year I have added resources available to our community via the Office Of Safeguarding department at the CSO. They have been used by many families to help keep our students and parents informed and safe. Please read the blurb below regarding Mandatory Reporting.

The Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has an absolute and abiding commitment to promote the safety, welfare and wellbeing of children. As a parent sending your child or children to a Diocesan school, you should be aware of your rights and obligations in protecting your child and all children in our schools.

### **The Children and Young Person's (Care and Protection) Act 1998**

In NSW we can report certain information to the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ). If we are concerned for one or more of the children in the school, we can discuss our concerns with a teacher, Assistant Principal or Principal. We can report our concerns to the Child Protection Helpline (Ph. 132 111, 24 hrs/7 days) if we have reasonable grounds to suspect that a child or young person is at risk of

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significant harm and our concerns are current. Risk of Significant Harm may occur from a single act or omission or to a series of acts or omissions. It is better to be safe than sorry, so if uncertain, talk to a staff member at the school.

Below are the links to the three Padlets that hold many resources. I encourage you to look at these Padlets even if you do not feel you need them now, it is great to know what is being offered on them.

**Kindergarten to Year 2**

[https://padlet.com/OfficeofSafeguarding/K\\_2](https://padlet.com/OfficeofSafeguarding/K_2)



**Year 3 to Year 6**

[https://padlet.com/officeofsafeguardingmn/years3\\_6](https://padlet.com/officeofsafeguardingmn/years3_6)



**Parents**

<https://padlet.com/officeofsafeguardingmn/parents>



**Lost Property**

This seems to be an ongoing issue for many and the number of jackets and jumpers that get lost without names is in the hundreds. I return the jackets where possible, if the name is labelled clearly, but this is often not the case. The office is currently overflowing with clothes. During this week I will keep the lost/unnamed jackets in my classroom (5N). During lunch time, I have some wonderful Year Five students who have volunteered their time to take the jackets out onto the grassed area between the primary classes and try to find a home for the lost property. If your child has misplaced their jumper or jacket please tell them to come to the grassed area near Year 3 and 6 and see if they can be reunited with their clothes!

**Summer Uniform**

After a chilly weekend I think we are all ready for some nice warm weather. Week 7 is the official change over into summer uniform. If the weather, however, is still a bit cold during Week 7 please use your discretion. Children can wear either the winter or summer uniform, until the end of the term. Please ensure whatever uniform is worn, it is correct.

**Deb Petersen,  
Acting Assistant Principal**



## **RE News**

**Who Do We Say He Is? (Take some time to slow down, ask the question & reflect)** - In Sunday's Gospel, Jesus is putting some questions to his disciples. During these times, I may be coming to prayer with some questions of my own. I ask the Spirit to give me peace.

I may like to read and pray this Gospel imaginatively. By using my senses to place myself in the scene, I might be better able to encounter the Son of the Living God. As I read the text (*Matthew 16:13-20*), pondering the interactions between Jesus and the disciples, I note what is going on within me. Peter is the first to acknowledge openly that Jesus is the promised Messiah. Perhaps I am touched by his honesty, his risk.



I might now imagine Jesus posing the same question to me. How do I respond? How would I like to respond? I take my time. I ponder who Jesus is for me ... then, maybe I consider: who am I for Him? Perhaps I can ask Him directly. I wait for His response ...

Do I trust His choice of me; do I know Him well enough to trust His promises? Finally, I might feel drawn to recognise that Jesus is not someone I have to work out, but is one given by the Father. It is through revelation, God's gift to me that my happiness comes. I end with a slow sign of the cross.

(taken from the source: <https://www.australiancatholics.com.au> )

**Luke Smith,**  
**Religious Education Coordinator**

## **Term 3 School Fees**

The school bills over three terms only, therefore this is the final instalment for this year's fees. Fee statements were emailed out on Friday last week to the nominated fee payer. If you did not receive your copy, please check your spam folder in case they have gone there if they are not there, please contact the office and another copy will be forwarded to you. If you are experiencing financial difficulty please contact our Acting Principal, Kaylene Maretich on 4957 4922 or email at [admin@newlambton.catholic.edu.au](mailto:admin@newlambton.catholic.edu.au) and mark it confidential.

## **School Community News**

### **NRMA Road Safety Program**

The NRMA road safety program concludes at the end of this week. This week the students have been discussing the safety points for:

- crossing the road safely
- How to fit your helmet
- Are you a distracted pedestrian?

Two flyers are attached to this newsletter on 'bike safety tips' and 'riding safely on shared paths'.

### **Walk Safely to School Day**

11th September (week 8) is the national walk safely to school day. We will meet at Adamstown Train Station at 8:10 and the Active Lifestyle team will be there to help the younger children walk safely to school. No scooters or bikes please as it is about 'walking'. Please note: due to restrictions, parents/carers will not be able to walk with us. A number of teachers will supervise all walkers.

**Leanne Kepreotes**  
**Coordinator**

## PBS

### School Spirit Awards

This term we are focusing on the values of **Care and Compassion**. We congratulate the following students who received the School Spirit Award last week for demonstrating this value by **being Welcoming**:

School Spirit Award for demonstrating <b>CARE AND COMPASSION</b> by being <i>Welcoming</i> .					
<b>KN</b>	Alexander P	<b>KW</b>	James P	<b>KL</b>	Annika W
	Mia D		Noah M		Chase P
<b>1N</b>	Francesca R	<b>1W</b>	Lee S	<b>1L</b>	Marcus S
	Reid M		Stella R		Mia C
<b>2N</b>	Hamish M	<b>2W</b>	Claire A	<b>2L</b>	Indigo H
	Lucas H		Molly G		Ryder P
<b>3N</b>	Nina D	<b>3W</b>	Spencer B	<b>3L</b>	Sophie S
	Tully H		Chandler D		Oliver S
<b>4N</b>	Luka M	<b>4W</b>	Rhys B	<b>4L</b>	Chloe B
	Maya F		Liliana D		Cody C
<b>5N</b>	Nicholas B	<b>5W</b>	Taylor Y	<b>5L</b>	James D
	Ayla D		Thomas B		Chloe D
<b>6N</b>	Jack P	<b>6W</b>	Andy P	<b>6L</b>	Harry S
	Emily T		Nina B		Tom S

This week and next our focus moves to showing **Care and Compassion** through **displaying Friendship**. Children often quickly and naturally seem to make new friends (*as adults, maybe we could try to learn from our children in this regard and hold onto, or regain, such open spontaneity*). As adults though, we play an important role in modelling what true and positive friendship looks like for our children. For example, do our children see and hear us treating our friends with kindness and reaching out to help or simply spend time with them? Or, do they hear us talking about our friends behind their backs, or trying to control and manipulate friendships? These examples cannot be underestimated as the eyes and ears of our children are upon us, looking to our example of how we build and maintain true, lasting friendships.

### Principal Awards

**Due to our Pupil Free Day this Friday there will be no school assembly this week.**

The following students will receive a Principal's Award at Week 7's Zoom school assembly:

**KN** - Talulah A; **KW** - Noah M, Maya J, Ruby J, Macy G; **KL** - Ava H, Benjamin C; **1N** - Maeve H, Benjamin W, Isobel I; **1W** - Brooklyn L, Declan O; **1L** - Mason S; **2W** - Luca R, Lucas O, Rosie W; **2L** - Eden H, Mackenzie H, Harry H, Mackenzie R, Mia S; **3N** - Daniela P, Samuel M, Sofia D; **3W** - Hunter C; **3L** - Oliver B, Sienna A, Felix M; **4W** - Oliver H, Isla-Grace B; **5N** - Max T, Sarah R; **5L** - Zoe L, Kruz D, Chloe D, Sophie K, Jack L;

**Date: Friday 4th September Time: 2:40pm ID: 965 9284 7849 P/W: 133626**

Congratulations and thank you children, for upholding the values and principles of St Therese's.

**Janine Schneider**

**Primary Coordinator**

### ICAS Test Dates:

Mathematics: Monday 31st August (Week 7)

Spelling: Tuesday 1st September (Week 7)

On the morning of their test, students are to go to:

Where: 4N Classroom (Ms Jackman's room)

Time: 8.10am.

Years 5 & 6 students are to bring their own devices. Years 3 & 4 students will have a device provided for them.

All students doing the Spelling Assessment need to bring their own head phones.

If for some reason a student is unable to attend their test, please see Ms Jackman ASAP as make up times are limited.

**Therese Jackman,**

**Primary Coordinator**

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



## Environmental News

Get and pay your bills electronically



## OOSH St Nicholas

Please keep an eye out for the upcoming Vacation Care program. The program will run between Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October with the exception of Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October when we are close due to the public holiday.

**IMPORTANT** – St Nicholas OOSH will be operating from 7am to 6pm on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September as this is a pupil free day. Please book for this via the Xplor app using the vacation care option.

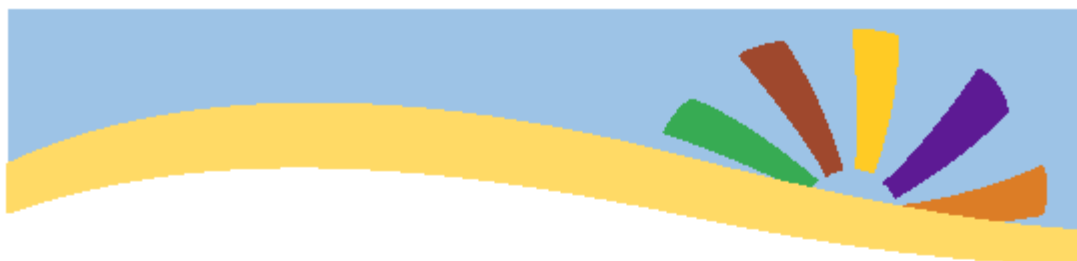
### **CHRISTINE MORGAN**

NOMINATED SUPERVISOR - OOSH | ST NICHOLAS OOSH

Phone: 0455 099 594

Email [christine.morgan@stnicholasoosh.org.au](mailto:christine.morgan@stnicholasoosh.org.au) Visit us online [www.stnicholasoosh.org.au](http://www.stnicholasoosh.org.au)





**ASPIRE 2021 INFORMATION FOR PARENTS  
FOR THE 2021 PROGRAM AND AUDITION PROCESS**

**Wednesday 26 August 2020**

**10.00 am**

**and**

**7.00 pm**

To reserve your place please at either of these timeslots or if you would like more information please Anne Atkins on 02 4979-1331 or [anne.atkins@mn.catholic.edu.au](mailto:anne.atkins@mn.catholic.edu.au) by Tuesday 25 August 2020



**ASPIRE 2021 INFORMATION FOR PARENTS  
FOR THE 2021 PROGRAM AND AUDITION PROCESS**

Anna Kerrigan, Artistic Director for the ASPIRE Program will be presenting an information session about the ASPIRE program and audition process for parents whose children might be interested in auditioning for 2021.

Anna will give an overview of the ASPIRE program and answer any questions you might have in relation to ASPIRE program.





## NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK 2020 OFFICIAL PROGRAM



### National Child Protection Week

6 – 12th of September 2020

<https://www.napcan.org.au/official-program-webinars-events/>



Register

eSafety's parent guide to popular apps

*Taking a look at TikTok, Instagram, Snapchat and YouTube*



The eSafety Commissioner has invited the parent/carer community to participate in their live (no cost) parent/webinars for National Child Protection Week.

This live webinar (no cost), focuses on popular apps used by young people. It will include case studies, research, and targeted advice so you can support the young people in your life to have safe, enjoyable online experiences.

WEDNESDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2020

NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK | OFFICIAL PROGRAM



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FRIDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2020

NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK | OFFICIAL PROGRAM