



Acting Principal's Message

Dear Students, Parents & Carers,
Week 6 is Wellbeing Week. There is no homework this week, as parents and children are encouraged to spend more time together, some examples could be:

- Meditation Monday
- Taco Tuesday
- "Walk around the block" Wednesday
- Throwback Thursday – where you tell your child what life was like when you were their age
- "Fish n Chips" Friday

PAT

Progressive Achievement Testing (PAT) is being done this week for students in Years 1-6. All children in these grades will do Mathematics and Reading, and Years 2-6 will also do Spelling. These tests are completed online and the data from is used to identify student strengths and areas of focus for planning for 2021. All flexible groups will be suspended this week to allow for PAT to be completed.

Class Lists

Class lists for 2021 will be finalised in the next week. Class teachers consider the academic, social and emotional wellbeing of students and work closely with learning support teachers, English as an Additional Language or Dialect (EALD) teacher and specialist teachers to formulate class lists. If you have any concerns please contact me at school.

Student Council 2021

Following speeches and voting over the past 2 weeks, I would like to congratulate our student council for 2021;

School Captains: George H and Phillipa A

Student Council: Grace M, Poppy C, Lara D, Ayla D, Nicholas B, Tyler B and Lucas A

These students were introduced to our school community at our Zoom Assembly on Friday. I look forward to working with these wonderful children next year. I would also like to acknowledge all the children who were nominated for the student council and who gave a speech to their Year 5 peers, as it takes a great deal of strength and courage to speak in front of peers.

Dates to Remember

20 TH NOV	YR 4 MILO CRICKET
24 TH NOV	GINGERBREAD HOUSE ORDERS CLOSE
1 ST DEC	P & F MEETING 6.30PM
2 ND DEC	AGM FEDERATION OF P & F 6.30PM
7 TH DEC	YR 6 GRADUATION LITURGY & AWARDS
9 TH -11 TH DEC	YR 6 CAMP
10 TH DEC	SWIMMING CARNIVAL
16 TH DEC	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL & AWARD CEREMONY

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



Aspire

Following Aspire auditions, I would like to congratulate Arley T (5L) on his selection in the band. Well done Arley, we look forward to seeing you in the production "*The Pecking Order*" next year.

Kaylene Maretich
Acting Principal

Acting Assistant Principal's Message

2020/2021 ASPIRE

Traditionally, Stage 3 students have been involved in an ASPIRE excursion to the Civic Theatre, this year it is a little different and instead we will be watching the production via a screening session for all Stage 3 in February at school. There is however, a chance for families to a part of the studio audience in 2020. Below are some dates and times that may interest our school community and allows you to become a part of the 'studio audience' experience.

Thursday 11 February – Times to be determined by schools

An opportunity for all Catholic schools within the Diocese to enjoy ASPIRE's 2020 production, *The Pecking Order*, and celebrate the achievements of its cast and crew in sharing this original story. St Therese's will invite all students in Stage 3 to settle down in the school hall, or their classrooms, to enjoy the screening of this theatre production.

Tickets \$20 per person per session

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, ASPIRE has adapted the way it is to deliver its 2021 production, *The Pecking Order*. Normally a large-scale production with over 150 young people involved across six ensembles, ASPIRE is creating a filmed version of the original show. Each of the performance ensembles will have their own day of filming in the Civic Theatre in front of a live audience. The audience will be talked through the plot of the show as we go by cast members. The filmed individual ensembles production will then be cut together and screened at the Civic Theatre on 6 February 2021.

Individual days available for the ASPIRE Studio Audience Experience

Saturday 16 January 2021: Recording Music at the Civic Theatre at 1pm (finish time approx. 4pm)

Be part of the live studio audience for the ASPIRE stage band sessions. Watch as the band perform the music from the production 'The Pecking Order' as it is professionally recorded in readiness for later studio audience sessions for dance and vocal ensembles. This is a unique opportunity to see ASPIRE's talented young musicians front and centre as they take over the Civic Theatre Stage.

Tuesday 19 January: Recording Humans at the Civic Theatre at 1pm (finish time approx. 5pm)

Join the human characters of the Pecking Order as we film their scenes and songs in a special live studio audience event. This event involves Junior Drama and Vocal ensembles as well as lead characters from the Senior Vocal Ensemble. Join them all at 'Camp Capacity' a leadership camp run by Cash Vanity – leadership guru and egocentric entrepreneur as they learn about what makes a good leader and challenge their preconceptions.

Wednesday 20 January: Recording Bird Song at the Civic Theatre at 1pm (finish time approx. 5pm)

- Be entertained by a flock encompassing Rainbow Lorikeets, Fairy Wrens and Mynah Birds as they sing and dance their way through the bird related repertoire of *The Pecking Order*. This event showcases our dance and senior vocal ensembles who will dazzle with their beautiful bird song and fancy flying.

Thursday 21 January: Recording talking birds at the Civic Theatre at 1pm (finish time approx. 5pm)

Munch the Magpie is desperate to be leader of the flock, but when will it be her turn? Join ASPIRE's senior drama ensemble as they portray the most eclectic flock of birds in Australia. Follow the birds as they negotiate their relationship with the humans and find that in times of adversity, every member of the flock is vital.

Sunday 7 February at 1pm and 6pm

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This is it! It is my turn; it has to be! Munch the Magpie is desperate to be leader of the flock, but it seems like everyone else gets picked over her all the time. However, when members of the flock start to disappear will Munch have what it takes to save her friends? Featuring a host of colourful characters of both the avian and human variety, *The Pecking Order* asks what makes a great leader and encourages us to embrace people's differences. Filmed over the course of a week at the Civic Theatre this is an opportunity to see the complete version of ASPIRE's original production for 2020 on the big screen in the beautiful Civic Theatre.

Year 5 Buddies



Last week Year 5 students met their Kindergarten buddies for 2021. They took the new students for a tour of our school, played games with them, gave them some information about themselves and shared an ice block. From all accounts the students had a great time and I thank the Year 5 students for showing such great leadership and responsibility.



Summer and Hats

With the warmer weather comes the responsibility of being sun safe and wise. Please ensure your child or children have a school hat to wear each day at school. The new school hats are now available at Lowes Kotara. You may like to also encourage your children to apply sunscreen before school and to drink plenty of water during the hot days.

Deb Petersen,
Acting Assistant Principal

RE News

Papal Encyclical – ‘Fratelli Tutti’ (Brothers & Sisters All): This week we continue to explore the teachings of the papal encyclical, *Fratelli Tutti*, concerning Pope Francis' call to a more universal fraternity and social friendship amongst humanity. The following excerpt, taken from; <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2020-10/fratelli-tutti-pope-fraternity-social-friendship-short-summary.html>, gives a concise summary of the encyclical's fourth chapter titled, ***“A Heart Open to the Whole World”***:

To the theme of migration, the chapter, entitled “A heart open to the whole world”: With their lives “at stake” (Par 37), fleeing from war, persecution, natural catastrophes, unscrupulous trafficking, ripped from their communities of origin, migrants are to be welcomed, protected, supported and integrated. Unnecessary migration needs to be avoided, the Pontiff affirms, by creating concrete opportunities to live with dignity in the countries of origin. But at the same time, we need to respect the right to seek a better life elsewhere. In receiving countries, the right balance will be between the protection of citizens' rights and the guarantee of welcome and assistance for migrants (see Par 38-40). Specifically, the Pope points to several “indispensable steps, especially in response to those who are fleeing grave humanitarian crises”: to increase and simplify the granting of visas; to open humanitarian corridors; to assure lodging, security and essential services; to offer opportunities for employment and training; to favour family reunification; to protect minors; to guarantee religious freedom. What is needed above all – the document reads – is global governance, an international collaboration for migration which implements long-term planning, going beyond single emergencies, on behalf of the supportive development of all peoples (see Par 129-132).

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



Food for thought as we consider our own country's current policies and practices in regards to immigration and refugees. Please see the Term 4, Week 1 Newsletter containing links to the full encyclical and other sites which give insight and understanding into its teachings.



Family Discount Form

The family discount form was sent home last week with the eldest child in the family. Please complete and return to ensure you receive the correct discount on next year's fees. If you have a Health Care card, please enquire at the office as there is a new form to be completed for this. I have attached a copy of the family discount form for your convenience.

"Please find attached Catholic Schools Office 2021 fees, levies and family discount for your information"

Vicki McSpadden
Bursar

Canteen News - The 2021 canteen roster is now in development. If you:

- are currently on the roster but will not be available to volunteer in 2021, can you please let me know by the end of November.
- will be leaving the school next year, please let me know by the end of November.
- are on the current roster and are happy to volunteer again in 2021, you don't need to do anything. I will keep you on the same day with the same people.

I can be contacted on 0447 509 968. Thanks. Belinda

Vinnies Christmas Food Appeal

It is that time of the year again when Mini Vinnies is asking for your assistance in helping others. Our Christmas Appeal begins this week. Each grade is asked to bring food items allocated to their year group. Students will bring 1-2 food items each that can be donated to the St Vincent de Paul Society, who will make up parcels for the needy in our community. Please help us to help those who are not as fortunate as we are. The Christmas Appeal donations will be collected on Wednesday and Friday each week by the members of Mini Vinnies up until the Thursday of Week 8, 3rd December. More information will be given to your child's grade regarding requested items.

Thank you for your support,
Year 5 Mini Vinnies

Kinder – sweet biscuits, fruit cakes

Year 1 – lollies, cordial

Year 2 – breakfast cereals, long life milk

Year 3 – chips, crackers

Year 4 – tinned fruit & vegetables

Year 5 – cake mixes, spreads

Year 6 – savoury biscuits, spreads

PBS

School Spirit Awards

This term we are focusing on the value of **Inclusivity**. We congratulate the following students who received the School Spirit Award last week for demonstrating this value by **Accepting Differences Within Others**:

School Spirit Award for demonstrating INCLUSIVITY through <i>Accepting Differences</i> .					
KN	Mabel C Ashton P	KW	Archer R Abbey L	KL	Oliver Emily S
1N	Maeve H Ashton S	1W	Marcus A Dolcie D	1L	Andrew A Oscar Y
2N	Michael B Beau R	2W	Orson M Malia W	2L	Mackenzie H Milla G
3N	Molly B Isaiah S	3W	Toby B Mia S	3L	Ruby M Ivy M
4N	Ayanna F Madailein C	4W	Amelia B Justin P	4L	Sopia L Knox M
5N	Xavier S Lucinda P	5W	Tom B Knox M	5L	Oscar M Ayden C
6N	Sil B Emily T	6W	Milla E Sarah D	6L	Zahli S Max P

This week we move to instilling the value of **Inclusivity** in our children by encouraging them to **celebrate the unique gifts of others**. Being able to accept and celebrate the unique gifts of others leads us to be more tolerant and inclusive members of society.

Principal Awards

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

KW - Vanessa C, Zac H; **KL** - Riley L, Eloise H, Mason O; **1N** - Jack M, Christian B; **2N** - Hamish M; **2W** - Louie B, Oliver K, Blake K; **3N** - Molly B, Francesca J; **3W** - Mya T, Hugh B; **4N** - Athena W; **4W** - Madelyn O; **4L** - Lainey H; **5N** - Spencer M; **6N** - Mitchell G, Stella W, Samirah A, Eva C, Lucy D, Hayley S, Kieran S.

Date: Friday 20th November **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

Environmental News

Buy recycled



World's Greatest Shave

Samuel P from Year 3 is taking part in the World's Greatest Shave! He has been growing his hair all year and has decided to shave it and raise money to help beat blood cancer. Samuel's goal is to reach \$350. Below is the link you can use if you would like to donate!

<http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/samuelpascoe>

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OOSH St Nicholas

Hello to everyone from St Nicholas OOSH New Lambton,
Please take note of the following dates that we are operating or closed over the Christmas and New Year period.

Thursday 17th December 2020 – vacation care

Friday 18th December 2020 – vacation care

Monday 21st December 2020 – vacation care

Tuesday 22nd December 2020 – vacation care

Wednesday 23rd December 2020 – closed

Thursday 24th December 2020 - closed

Monday 4th January to Monday 25th January 2021 – vacation care

Tuesday 26th January 2021 – closed

Wednesday 27th January 2021 – Before and After School care resumes.

Kind regards

CHRISTINE MORGAN

NOMINATED SUPERVISOR - OOSH | ST NICHOLAS OOSH

Phone: 0455 099 594

Email christine.morgan@stnicholasoosh.org.au Visit us online www.stnicholasoosh.org.au

St Therese's P&F

GINGERBREAD HOUSE

Take-home decorating kit

\$35 PER KIT

Includes: Gingerbread house kit, baseboard, piping bag with icing in it, cellophane and ribbon.

Flavours: Gingerbread, Gluten Free Gingerbread, Chocolate

ORDERS CLOSE TUES 24TH NOVEMBER 2020
www.flexischools.com.au

Delivery is expected no later than 10th December. The kits will then be distributed to the students to take home.

For additional product information, including nutritional details, you can visit our supplier; Gingerbread Folk at www.gingerbreadfolk.com.au



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Federation of Parents & Friends Associations
Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle Diocese
P O Box 714 Newcastle 2300
Phone: 4979 1303
Fax: 4979 1208

Email: cath.garrett-jones@mn.catholic.edu.au

3 November 2020

Dear Principals,

The Federation of P & F Associations will be holding its **2020 Annual General Meeting on 2 December 2020 via Zoom.**

We look forward to this meeting as an opportunity to affirm our commitment to Catholic education and the important role of parents and carers in the partnership that exists between schools, parishes and the broader community.

This meeting will provide all P & F Associations, through their Delegates, an opportunity to vote to recommend the adoption of a new Constitution and an alternate Parent Engagement Group model. Copies of these documents will follow.

The details for this meeting are as follows:

FEDERATION OF P & F ASSOCIATIONS

2020 Annual General Meeting

Date: 2 December 2020

Time: 6.30pm – 7.30pm

Venue: via Zoom

Zoom link will be sent on 2 December to all those who RSVP to this invitation.

We hope you can join us and seek your **RSVP by 20 November** to the email address below to receive your Zoom link.

Cath Garrett-Jones
Family Engagement Officer
E: cath.garrett-jones@mn.catholic.edu.au

Yours faithfully,

CHERYL MURPHY
PRESIDENT - FEDERATION OF P & F ASSOCIATIONS

CATH GARRETT-JONES
FAMILY ENGAGEMENT OFFICER

LAST CHANCE TO ORDER FROM BOOK CLUB 2020



BOOK CLUB: Only 38 days until Christmas!!!

Closing date for orders is NEXT WEEK WEDNESDAY 25th NOVEMBER

Books make wonderful stocking fillers and gifts for nieces, nephews and friends. Issue 8 is the last Book Club for the year; **no late orders can be accepted through the school.**

Please note: Parents who order through LOOP online from Friday 27th November will be offered a home delivery option for a fee.

Do not miss out!

There are now two ways to order from Scholastic Book Club.

If you wish to make a purchase through the school, simply fill out the order form – place it in an envelope with the CORRECT money. Please write your child's name and class on the front of the envelope as well as the order form.

ALTERNATIVELY, you may order through 'LOOP' which is on-line order and payment, with your purchases delivered to the school.

Library pick-up is always available for discreet orders such as Christmas, birthdays, rewards etc. Clearly mark the order 'Office pick-up' and add a contact number. 'LOOP' also has an option to tick a box for 'gift orders' which can be picked up from the office.

Book Club LOOP
The EASIEST way for parents to order and pay for Book Club!

Parents: Are you registered for LOOP?
LOOP is the easiest way for you to order and pay online for your child's Book Club order, if you wish to pay by credit card.

Parents who are registered for **LOOP** receive exclusive sneak peeks, downloads and offers throughout the school year—don't miss out!

BONUS!

Head to [scholastic.com.au/LOOP](https://www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP) and register today!

SCHOLASTIC

REMEMBER: All orders earn valuable resources for our school.

KINDER ORIENTATION 2021

