



Principal's Message

Welcome back to all our families and a special welcome to our new families in Kindergarten and throughout the school.

It was good to come back to the school building works being completed and the grounds being open for play. Our new Canteen is also up and running and we now have a dedicated Performing Arts Centre in the Father Walsh Hall. The Catherine McAuley Centre which is now the centrepiece of the school is already proving to be a great hit with the kids. The children have been using the facility and really enjoying all the new equipment and books available. The McAuley Centre is open to the children at both lunch and afternoon recess.

On the first day I had the opportunity to Zoom with the kids in their classrooms and it was great to see their happy smiling faces.

We have a number of new staff and returning from leave to part time teaching. This morning I really enjoyed meeting our Kinder 2021 children and their parents who all seemed excited and positive about this next chapter in their life.

We have a number of new staff and returning from leave to part time teaching. A full list appears on the following page.

Here at St Therese's we have an active and committed Parents & Friends Association (P & F) and I would take this opportunity to invite you to come along to the opening meeting and AGM to be held next Tuesday evening, 9th February, in the Staff Room (Admin building) commencing at 7.00pm.

I look forward to once again working with all of you in 2021 to strengthen our St Therese's community.

Kindergarten Afternoon Dismissal

For Weeks 2 and 3, Kindergarten student will be collected from their Kindergarten classroom at 2.30pm. From Monday, 15th February (Week 4), students will attend afternoon assembly lines with the rest of the school. Kindergarten parents need to complete the online form to indicate from which exit you will be picking up your child in the afternoons from Week 4. See link:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=x2JU50ZySU-2DkekmO6p1r69I_v7j3FOnKOy2u6ySuNUM0RaRDMYNEQzQTBZnjVVQU43TVozWTRZUC4u

to bring Christ with His message, in all His richness, into the hearts and lives of all.

Dates to Remember

- 5 FEB BASKETBALL & TENNIS POLDING
- 9 FEB P & F AGM 7PM
- 10 FEB REGIONAL SWIMMING CARNIVAL
- 10 FEB KINDER PARENT INFO NIGHT
- 15 FEB PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS
- 17 FEB ASH WEDNESDAY
- 22 FEB PP MEETINGS
- 25 FEB DIO PSSA SWIMMING CARNIVAL
- 1 MAR PP MEETINGS
- 10 MAR DIO AFL TRIALS
- 12 MAR DIO CRICKET TRIALS
- 19 MAR HARMONY DAY & ANTI BULLYING DAY
- 26 MAR MISSION DAY
- 1 APR HOLY THURSDAY – LAST DAY OF TERM 1

Please make sure you complete this form as soon as possible and no later than Friday 12th February, so we know how your child will be going home.

Compass Login

All Kinder and new parents will receive a letter advising them of their Compass login details. Compass is the communication App that is used by St Therese's to communicate with the parent body. The App is also used to notify the school of absenteeism, booking Parent Teacher interviews, school reports etc.

Staffing 2021

Principal – Mr Duilio Rufo

Assistant Principal – Mrs Kaylene Maretich

Religious Education Coordinator – Mr Luke Smith

Primary Coordinators – Mrs Janine Schneider, Ms Therese Jackman & Mrs Debra Petersen

Learning Support Coordinator – Ms Melanie Faehndrich

Learning Technology Coordinator – Mrs Lynette Barker

Clerical Staff – Mrs Vicki McSpadden, Mrs Louise Dawson & Mrs Jenny Hurst

Kindergarten – KN Mrs Julia Briggs, KW Miss Alex Toscano & KL Mrs Kristy Healey/Mrs Bernadette Duffy

Year 1 – 1N Miss Jennifer Curtain, 1W Mrs Naomi Parker/Miss Phoebe Parker & 1L Mrs Janine Schneider/Miss Helena Elias

Year 2 – 2N Ms Carmel Warby/Mrs Marcia Keenan, 2W Miss Elli Smith & 2L Mrs Melinda Helmers

Year 3 – 3N Mr John Rouse, 3W Mrs Leanne Kepreotes & 3L Ms Teresa Sokulsky

Year 4 – 4N Ms Therese Jackman/Mrs Patricia McNeil, 4W Miss Carly Mortimer & 4L Mrs Alexandra Wilson

Year 5 – 5N Mrs Debra Petersen/Mrs Trish Aumuller, 5W Mr Tim Breen & 5L Mrs Anne Sturt/Mrs Naomi Venables

Year 6 – 6N Mr Luke Smith, 6W Mr Anthony Moore & 6L Ms Shazmey Murray/Mrs Monica Griffiths

Teacher Librarians – Mrs Lynette Barker & Mrs Brigitta Gleeson

Specialist Teachers – Mrs Alina Brymora (Music) & Mr Joel Hartcher (PE)

Learning Support Teachers – Mrs Melanie Faehndrich & Mrs Angela Schneider

Gifted Education Mentor – Mrs Patricia McNeil

EALD – Mrs Samantha Anthony

School Counsellor – Mrs Tamara Burns

Duilio Rufo

Principal

Acting Principal's Message

Welcome Back!

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all our students and families, especially the kindergarten children and those that have joined our school family this year. We had a staggered start to school this year, as both Kindergarten and Year 1 are now part of the “*Successful Foundations*” project. Our Kindergarten and Year 1 teachers had extra professional learning opportunities over the past few days to prepare for the year ahead.

Settling Into School

Today we welcomed our kindergarten children, who were all very excited to be at “big school”. All the children settled in well and had a wonderful day. Over the next few weeks, your child may have days where they are reluctant to come to school, especially when they start to get a bit tired. The best way to help your child is to make sure they have a regular routine, including going to bed at a reasonable time. Children aged between 5-11 years, need between 9-11 hours sleep per night and teenagers need between 8-10 hours sleep. Research indicates that many children get only 6.5 – 7.5 hours sleep every night, which has a negative impact on their mood, behaviour, cognitive ability and academic performance.

If your child is worried about school, firstly remember this is very normal and not necessarily a sign that anything is wrong. Be positive about school and focus on the positives. If your child continues to be reluctant, or you are worried, make an appointment to see your child's teacher to discuss this.

School Uniform

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



Please ensure your child is wearing the correct school uniform each day. If your child is unable to wear their correct uniform on the rare occasion, please send in a note of explanation to your child's teacher. Uniforms can be purchased through Lowes Kotara as well as our Second Hand Clothing Pool.

Building Works

It is with great delight that we announce that the building works have come to a conclusion, with only a few minor modifications still to complete, that will not impact the students. The children were very excited to be able to play in a much larger area, as well as visiting the Catherine McAuley Centre. This Centre houses our school library, podcast room, two learning spaces and an office. The front of the Centre has a large artwork that children will be learning about over the next few weeks.

During this year, we will start to design our playground revitalisation. Thank you to the parents that sent in their name to be part of a working party to focus on this. Please send me your name if you would like to join this group and have not already done so kaylene.maretich@mn.catholic.edu.au. We will organise a meeting in the next few weeks to start creating ideas.

We are all looking forward to a wonderful year ahead

Kaylene Maretich
Acting Principal

RE News

Welcome Back – Over the break, I hope everyone experienced the joy of Christmas, spending time with loved ones and had a positive start to the New Year. Welcome back to a new school year and a special welcome to all of the new families who are joining our wonderful St Therese's community. May 2021 bring us many blessings and may we continue to walk together with our God and one another, strengthening relationships, throughout the year.

Parish News: The link below will take you to our Holy Trinity – Blackbutt North parish bulletin page, where you can open the most recent bulletin and read some important information regarding; **current regulations around Mass attendance, Dispensation, Livestream Mass opportunities and the current situation with Sacramental Programs**. There has been a recent update to the bulletins' format which now also includes scripture reflections and children's activities and worksheets. Please take the time to have a look at this link and remain connected with our wider parish community. I will provide regular updates concerning parish news throughout the year in this newsletter also.

<https://holyltrinityparishblackbutt.com.au/parish-bulletins/>

Diocesan Synod – A Synod - the word means "*journeying together*" - is a formal assembly of representatives of the whole diocesan community: priests, religious and lay people. Through the Synod process, which involves collaboration, discernment, governance and communion, the Bishop seeks advice on matters concerning the good of the whole diocese. Diocesan Synods are important instruments and occasions for effecting renewal. The Diocese is holding two Synods in 2021: one in May and one in November. The synod is an important moment in the governance of the Maitland-Newcastle Church.

Schools are the critical space where we find families. Families are the central cell of the Church. In order for the Synod to be authentic, we need to ensure that they are represented. Please find the following link if you are able to be a part of this important and historical moment in our Diocese – **ASAP** (*Expression of Interest close at the end of this week*).

<https://www.domnsynod.com.au/get-involved/delegates/expression-for-interest-form/>

Luke Smith
Religious Coordinator

School Community News

Family Discount Form 2021 School Fees

Thank you to those families who completed the Family Discount form last year. Please find a copy of the family discount form attached for those families who are yet to return this to the office. If you have a Health Care Card and wish to have the discount applied to your school fees, please contact the office to receive the correct paperwork.

Vicki McSpadden
Bursar

Canteen News

Thank you to everyone who has offered to help in the canteen this year. The kids love seeing you and we certainly couldn't feed them without you. It's never too late to volunteer so if you can spare one morning a week once a month please contact me on 0447 509 968.

Belinda Palmer, Canteen Supervisor

OOSH St Nicholas

Hello to everyone from St Nicholas OOSH New Lambton and welcome back to school and OOSH. A big welcome to all of our new students, especially the kindergarten children.

We had a fabulous vacation care period over December and January that was packed full of fun. It was great to be able to take the children on excursions again and as always these were particularly popular days.

Some of the highlights in vacation care: Excursions to Red Alert Laser Tag, Lake Cinema Boolaroo to see Trolls 2 and another day to see The Croods where we all enjoyed some yummy popcorn, Supa Putt Golf, Springloaded, Ten Pin Bowling at Dullboys and another trip to Red Alert Laser Tag. Our incursions were Supercamps "World Challenge Warriors", Gymnastics 21, Pollets Martial Arts, Kite making and flying, Blocklers lego kits to build and take home, Super Camps "The Great Cap" and Andy's Rap and Rhyme. We also had a Christmas Party in December and celebrated Australia Day in January. We created a lot of art and craft including wool crafts, clay creations, chalk painting and so much more.

St Nicholas OOSH New Lambton now has its own Facebook page so you can join and see all of the fun we had through vacation care and what's to come this term.

The Facebook group is named St Nicholas OOSH New Lambton. This is a private group and is by invitation only. You are welcome send through an invite to join.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/stnicholasooshnewlambton>

As we are still limiting parents accessing our OOSH room due to Covid restrictions we have and will continue to make some window displays that can be viewed from the veranda so that you can see some of the children's creations. Please take the time to have a look as a lot of it is from our new "Children's Voices" program that we will be continuing throughout the year.

Kind regards,

CHRISTINE MORGAN

NOMINATED SUPERVISOR - OOSH | ST NICHOLAS OOSH NEW LAMBTON

P 0455 099 594

Email newlambton@stnicholasoosh.org.au Visit us online www.stnicholasoosh.org.au

Think, Grow, Shine.



GO4FUNONLINE.COM.AU | 1800 780 900



Join Go4Fun Online Term 1 2021

Free healthy lifestyle program for
children aged 7-13 years.

Learn about healthy eating, getting
active and receive a Garmin Fitness
Tracker for participating!

Register before 5th February 2021.



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



ST THERESE'S CANTEN PRICE LIST - 2021

SANDWICHES & SALADS

Vegemite	\$2.00
Cheese	\$2.00
Egg	\$2.00
Egg & Lettuce	\$2.50
Salad (Lettuce, Cucumber, Tomato, Carrot)	\$3.00
Ham	\$3.00
Ham & Salad	\$4.50
Caesar Salad (Lettuce, Egg, Bacon, Cheese, Croutons & Dressing)	\$5.00

Add 50c for Roll or Wrap

Add 50c for Extras - Avo, Egg, Cheese etc

HOT FOOD

Chicken Drumettes	\$0.60
Garlic Bread (Add cheese 50c)	\$2.00
Small Pie (Low Fat)	\$2.20
Sausage Roll (Low Fat)	\$2.20
Hot Dog with Sauce	\$3.00
Large Pie (Low Fat)	\$3.20
Chicken Burger (Chicken Breast Patty, Lettuce & Mayo)	\$4.00
Hamburger (Beef Patty, Lettuce & Tomato Sauce)	\$4.00
Chicken Chili Wrap (Chicken Tender, Lettuce, Tomato, Cheese & Mayo) Add an extra chicken tender for \$1.00	\$4.50
Nachos (Mexican Mince, Corn Chips & Cheese)	\$5.00
Sauce Portions (Tomato or BBQ)	\$0.30

TOASTED SANDWICHES & WRAPS

Baked Beans	\$2.00
Cheese	\$2.00
Ham & Cheese	\$3.50
Ham, Cheese & Tomato	\$4.00

Add 50c a Wrap

FRUIT & VEG

Bag of Carrot Sticks	\$0.30
Apple	\$0.70
Banana	\$0.70

DRINKS

Water	\$1.20
100% Juice (Apple, Orange)	\$1.50
Flavoured Milk (Choc, Strawberry)	\$2.00

SNACKS

Choc Chip Cookie	\$0.80
Popcorn	\$0.80
Red Rock Chips (Plain, Honey Soy)	\$1.50

COLD TREATS

Nice'n Joosey	\$0.50
Lemonade Fizz	\$0.80
Ice Mony (Terms 1 & 4 only)	\$0.80
Dixie Cup	\$1.10
Moosie (Choc, Strawberry)	\$1.20
Slushie	\$1.50