



Principal's Message

Dear Parents

2021 has started at a fast pace. Covid-19 is still with us and we are all unsure of what to expect next. What I can tell you is that the children have settled well into the school year and are already working hard.

Next week parents will have an opportunity to meet with teachers to discuss your child's needs. I encourage all of you to take this opportunity to get to know your child's teacher. You can have either a zoom or face to face meeting. Please make sure you let your child's teacher know what is best for you.

As always afternoon pickup is a problem. I want to remind everyone that in Burke Street children are dismissed in alphabetical order that is surnames A-L at 3.15pm to 3.25pm and M-Z 3.25pm to 3.30pm. If you are running late don't panic a teacher will remain with you child until you arrive anyone arriving after 3.45pm will need to pick their child up from the front office. Can I also ask parents that if your child is picked up by a grandparent tell not to arrive at school at 2.30pm and block up the road. No child will be dismissed early, and all children will be supervised so there is no need to rush for pick up.

As we have already had a near miss at Bridges Road lights the police have been called. Be aware of the road rules and your obligations and responsibility to ensure the safety of the children.

P & F AGM Tuesday 9th February

I would take the opportunity to welcome any interested parents or grandparents to attend our P & F AGM tonight starting at 7pm in the Admin building. We are very fortunate here at St Therese's to have had a dedicated group of caring people who work for the good of the children and the school and you would be most welcome to join.

Ajay's Shave for Mama

Ajay in Year 1 is going to shave his head to raise money for triple negative breast cancer in honour of his dearly loved grandmother who passed away from this condition. You can make a donation and watch the video on the link below:

www.mycause.com.au/page243506/ajays-shave-for-mama

Dates to Remember

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
BOOK CLUB ORDERS DUE

22 FEB PP MEETINGS

25 FEB DIO PSSA SWIMMING CARNIVAL

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

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



Catherine McAuley Centre

As you are aware we have named the new learning centre, The Catherine McAuley Centre after the foundress of the Mercy Sisters who came out from Ireland at the invitation of the local Catholic Bishop to set up schools in what was then the Maitland Diocese. Below is a photo of this beautiful building which will serve our community for many years.



Duilio Rufo
Principal

Assistant Principal's Message

Welcome to Kindergarten

Last Tuesday our delightful Kindergarten children started school. They all looked so excited in their new uniforms, with the highlight of their day being settling into their new classrooms and meeting their buddy. We are looking forward to greeting to know each child, their interests and their talents.

Parent/Teacher Interviews

Parent/Teacher (PT) Meetings will be held in Week 4 for Years 1-6 and Week 6 for Kindergarten. The purpose of these meetings, is for you and your child's teacher to discuss your child's strengths, areas of concern and then to plan academic, social and emotional goals for your child. These meetings will be "face-to-face" in your child's classroom with their teacher. If you have children in a job-share class, you will meet with the teacher that is teaching on class the day of your interview. For job-share classes, only one teacher is listed to for an interview. We are looking forward to meeting parents onsite this year, however if you cannot attend a meeting onsite, Zoom or phone meetings will also be available. Please do not book back-to-back meetings with teachers, if you have more than one child enrolled at school, as this may lead to meetings going overtime, which inconveniences other parents. To book a PT Meeting, please go to Compass and open your child's profile. There will be a blue link on the right side of the screen, that leads you to the booking sheet. Booking will be open from **Tuesday 9 February 3:00pm until Friday 12 February 4:00pm**. When you book the interviews, you will be given the location of the meeting and whether your child's teacher will be doing alternate Zoom or phone interviews.

Kindergarten bookings will be opened following the Kindergarten Parent Information Evening, as we will demonstrate how to navigate through Compass.

Children who have Personalised Planning (PP) Meetings, will have their meetings in Week 5 (Years K-2). These will also be booked through Compass with bookings open from **Tuesday 9 February 3:00pm until Friday 12 February 4:00pm**. Child who have a PP meeting do **not** need a PT Meeting as well. We are looking forward to meeting you all at school, so that you can also see our beautiful school setting, now that the building works have been completed.

Safe Dismissal of Students

St Therese's is a large school, so we ask all parents/guardians for your cooperation to keep all our students safe, especially during afternoon dismissal. Afternoon dismissal is at 3:15pm, so please do not arrive earlier.

Burke St Last week we had a "near miss" at the corner of Burke St and Bridges Rd, as cars ran the red light as children and parents/guardians were crossing at the pedestrian crossing. In conversations with the police, the issue continues to be a gridlock on Bridges Rd each afternoon, as parents start to arrive as early as 2:30pm to pick up children from Burke St. The end of the school day is 3:15pm and children are not dismissed until this time, we also have staggered dismissal to try to further alleviate this gridlock. Children with surnames from A-L are dismissed from 3:15 – 3:25pm and children with surnames from M-Z will be dismissed from 3:25pm (this will be alternated each term). Please do not arrive earlier than your designated time, as this causes unnecessary confusion and long lines that cause major disruptions on Bridges Rd and to all our neighbours.

William St This dismissal point has become very busy, resulting in numerous complaints from neighbours at the end of last year, as well as into this year. Parents are double parked and parked across driveways, again, from as early as 2:30pm. Parents are also remaining on William St to talk to other parents. To alleviate some of the congestion, parents/guardians are encouraged to look at Royal St an alternative pick-up point.

Each afternoon almost all students are dismissed from the school by 3:30pm. The safety of the children is our priority, so we ask all parents/guardians to work with us and exercise some patience each afternoon.

Change to Volunteering at School

Please note that the procedure for volunteering at schools in the Diocese has changed.

All volunteers are required to have a National Police Check (NPC) registered and full clearance to be approved by the Catholic Schools Office.

In the latest Volunteer Induction Handbook (version 1.5), there is a Statutory Screening Selection Tool for Volunteers in Schools.

Each volunteer is required to complete this form which will determine if a Working with Children's Check is required (now only required for overnight camps if you are a close relative).

The instructions regarding identification and obtaining the NPC have also changed and this is also included in the handbook. The handbook is available on the school website or from Admin office.

Any volunteer that has already completed the NPC last year are still cleared to volunteer, however everyone else will need to resubmit their handbook and receive clearance.

We appreciate that there have been many changes over the last few years regarding this process and ask that if you have any questions regarding this matter to speak to the ladies in the front office.

Kaylene Maretich
Acting Principal

RE News

Ash Wednesday – Wednesday 17th February

The following information concerning Ash Wednesday comes from the CSO:

*Given the recent communication from the Vatican regarding the distribution of Ashes on Ash Wednesday due to the ongoing Covid-19 restrictions, the Diocesan Liturgy Office and CSO RE & S Team **request that schools refrain from distributing Ashes this Ash Wednesday in school or class liturgies.***

Therefore, as a school community, we will look at preparing something meaningful for our students that compliments the distribution of ashes within the Parish.

To attend one of the Ash Wednesday Masses within the Holy Trinity Parish, the times at the various churches are listed below:

7:00am – Lambton

12:00pm – Waratah

7:00pm – New Lambton

Lent – For anyone wishing to subscribe to an online Lenten program, the following link and subsequent daily videos may interest you:

LENT 2021 WITH THE CATHOLIC GUY

Be inspired, Be refreshed, Be renewed!

“Come on a 40 day journey with me and I know this will be a powerful and prayerful Lenten journey together. Receive a short inspiring video each day during Lent. This program is FREE and you can sign up here:” <https://BruceDownes.org/Lent>

Project Compassion – At St Therese's, inspired by Catholic Social Teaching, and as part of our Social Justice Framework, Lent is traditionally accompanied by our support of Caritas' Project Compassion. The theme for 2021 is, **“Be More”**. Resources (including donation boxes) will be distributed soon. Please find more information at: <https://www.caritas.org.au/>

Luke Smith

Religious Coordinator

School Community News

Canteen News

Every Tuesday sushi is available from the canteen. The sushi is made to order by Sushi for You in New Lambton. Please place your orders through Flexischools.

Family Discount Form 2021 School Fees

Thank you to those families who completed the Family Discount form last year. There are a significant number of families who have not returned this form. To ensure you receive the correct discounts on your bill, please complete attached form and return to office ASAP (copy attached to newsletter). If you have a Health Care Card please contact the office for the correct paperwork to complete.

Vicki McSpadden

Bursar

News from the Performing Arts Centre

Welcome back everyone. It has been wonderful watching our students explore the recently completed building works, which also includes the space dedicated to the performing arts. The Father Walsh room has been transformed into a great space for learning in the areas of music, dance and drama.

Now that the Performing Arts Centre is up and running, we are looking forward to the opportunity to share a range of creative arts experiences to the students of St. Therese's.



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





Musical Theatre and Play Clubs

Many of the children have been asking about our Musical Theatre performance group. We were hoping for its return this term, but current Covid-19 restrictions limit our performance capabilities. Please watch this space for further information about when Musical Theatre will finally make its grand return.



Over the coming weeks, we will be putting into place some infants and primary music clubs. Once again, watch this space for further information.

The Mystery Music Table

Those classes who have come to the performing arts centre this week will have been introduced to a new listening initiative called "The Mystery Music Table". The aim of the initiative is to get families talking and learning about music at home. Every second week, I will be placing visual clues on the table. Try to link them together to guess a particular musical focus.

I have made the first table idea an obvious one – The Beatles. On the photo below you will see a picture of the Beatles who are from Liverpool in the UK (as indicated by the jersey and stamps). The Lego people on the street backdrop is a portrayal of their very famous album cover Abbey Road.



So, what's the point? As you link the clues together, use it as a family opportunity to chat about the music at home. Listen to their music, find out who they were, where did they come from? Pull out albums, CDs, tapes, records.

Parents and grandparents, share your stories about the Beatles if you have any – your favourite song, did you get a chance to see them, did you watch their cartoon series growing up etc? One student told me their parents have around 16 Beatles albums. I shared my own story with the students. My singing teacher (from my teenage years) was unable to leave his hotel room in Melbourne in 1964 because of the thousands of screaming fans who surrounded his hotel. I loved putting his story into context when I found an actual photo of the event online. Bought back wonderful memories of a teacher I really loved.

Music is a powerful force that links generations together. I'd love you and the students to use this as an opportunity to share your knowledge and experiences, to open our students' minds and ears to the world of music, and for you to share music together as a family. I really hope you enjoy this initiative. I look forward to sharing the next table clues with you in week 4.



Mrs Brymora Performing Arts Teacher

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



Sport

Regional Swimming carnival

A squad of 42 talented swimmers will participate in the Regional swimming carnival tomorrow, Wednesday 19th February at Lambton Pool. Due to Covid guidelines all students will need to travel to and from the event via bus. The bus will leave St Therese's at 8:35am on Wednesday morning. If your child is competing, please ensure they are here at School by 8:30am. Students will meet Mrs Petersen at the Burke Street entry to sign in. Girls need to wear full piece swimmers and all competitors need a swimming cap and googles. Students need to be wearing their swimmers and sport uniform. They can change at school after the event. The school community wishes all competitors the best of luck in their chosen events.

Deb Petersen
Coordinator

BOOK CLUB: Issue 1 Book Club is now available.

Closing date for orders is next week WEDNESDAY 17th February.



There are 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. Sorry no cheques can be accepted.

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

Parent pick-up is always available for discreet orders such as birthdays, Christmas, 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.



REMEMBER: All orders earn valuable resources for our school.

OOSH St Nicholas

Hello everyone,

What a great start to the new school year we have had here at OOSH. All of the children have adjusted back in to our regular routines really well. It's amazing to see how much they have all grown over the holiday period. Our new kindergarten children have had a really positive start to OOSH, making new friends and already learning so much. This week we will be celebrating the Chinese New Year with stories, crafts and a special afternoon tea. The team have started to plan for our next vacation care. If you have any suggestions for incursions, excursions or any activities we would really appreciate your input in to the program.

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

LETS SHARE LENT TOGETHER.

What is Lent ? Do you have concerns about the church ? Want to form new friendships ? Then join with me Helene O'Neill Family Ministry Coordinator and other parents as we journey towards Easter.

The program is a new local creative based on Contemporary dialogue (see below for explanation) that has been designed as an opportunity to gather together and discuss the Five Foundations that the Diocese functions on.

- Identity and Community
- Worship and Prayer
- Formation and Education
- Mission and Outreach
- Leadership and Structure

Each week during Lent you are encouraged to immerse yourself in the range of resources. You are invited to connect with community across your school

Contemplative dialogue leads to a shared understanding, we listen from an inner silence that creates a space where something new can emerge. Our intention is to move beyond the personal as we probe significant ideas together and listen deeply for truth in another's point of view. Contemplative dialogue is a means of readying the ground for collective transformation, for helping shift from I to WE, from individualism to communion. Contemplative dialogue brings into focus the possibilities for genuine openness, listening, and transforming. Through the process of dialogue individuals can grow and better understand each other. Even when disagreement exists, the process of dialogue builds trust and greater connection.

You are invited to connect with community across the Diocese this Lent in contemplative dialogue as we prepare for the second session of Synod.

I would like to offer you the opportunity to be involved through the following sessions :

Mondays Feb 22 / March 1 , 8, 15, 22. 1.30-3.00pm prior to pick up time in the school hall.

If you are interested in exploring this program please let principal Jenny know or text Helene on 0400781374. If you can't commit to the entire program I'm happy for you to be involved in any way suitable to you. Hope you can join me Thank you.

HELENE O'NEILL





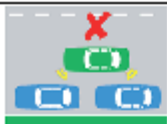


PARISH - FAMILY LIAISON OFFICER, DIOCESE OF MAITLAND - NEWCASTLE

P 02) 4979 1133 F M 0400 781 374

841 Hunter St Newcastle West NSW 2302 | PO Box 756 Newcastle NSW 2300

Email Helene.ONeill@mn.catholic.org.au Visit us online www.mn.catholic.org.au



	Offence	Fine	Demerit Points	Comments
	Disobey no stopping sign (school zone)	\$344 >	2pts	Vehicles cannot stop here for any reason
	Disobey no parking sign (school zone)	\$191 >	2pts	Vehicles may stop for 2 minutes ONLY and the driver must be more than 3 metres away from the vehicle (Mobility Parking Permit holders are allowed to park for up to 5 minutes in a No Parking area)
	Park vehicle longer than maximum period allowed	\$83		Vehicle cannot park longer that time period says regardless if they are in the vehicle or not
	Stop on/near pedestrian crossing/children's crossing (school zone)	\$457 >	2pts	Vehicles cannot stop here for any reason. Vehicle must be parked a minimum of 20mtrs before the crossing and 10 metres after the crossing in a legal parking space
	Double park (school zone)	\$344 >	2pts	Vehicles that park to the right of an already parked vehicle
	Stop at/near bus stop	\$344 >	2pts	Vehicles must not park within 20 metres before the bus stop sign, and within 10 metres after the bus stop sign
	Stop within 10 metres of intersection without traffic lights (school zone)	\$457 >	2pts	Vehicles cannot stop within 10 metres of any intersection for any reason



UPBEAT

VOCAL & PIANO

SINGING LESSONS
AVAILABLE NOW

Free Trial Lesson!
Enquire today!

Contact Courtney Thomas on:

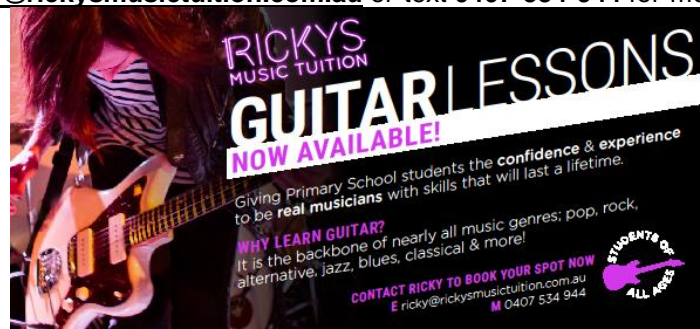
0413 040 586 or

courtney.upbeat@gmail.com

Lessons within New Lambton Heights area

Calling all Rock n' Rollers!! Learn guitar St Therese's in 2021

Open to years K to 6, students will learn everything from Billy Eilish to The Weeknd, to Post Malone, to Imagine Dragons, to Guy Sebastian, to Tones and I, to AC/DC, all whilst learning acoustic and electric guitar skills, learning to perform as part of a group and enjoying the excitement and experience of being a real musician with skills that will last a lifetime. All lessons are conducted in small groups, based on age and skill level, but also with a big focus on jamming with their mates. If you are interested in your child being involved please email: ricky@rickysmusic tuition.com.au or text **0407 534 944** for more



information

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





ASPIRE
MUSIC.DANCE.DRAMA

CREATE CHOREOGRAPHIC PROJECT

<https://aspire.mn.catholic.edu.au>

Please refer to the ASPIRE website for all ASPIRE information, forms, updates, photos and the newsletter from the Artistic Director

ASPIRE is again collaborating with internationally recognised Newcastle-based company Catapult Dance in 2021.

Building on the success of previous programs, the Create Choreographic Project will offer students enrolled in schools in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle the opportunity to participate in an intensive contemporary dance and collaborative choreographic program.

Students will be provided with a dance and performance art experience that is inclusive, non-competitive, creative and collaborative, and that reflects the working processes of the professional industry. Students will be encouraged to have a voice, and present their thoughts and ideas in a studio setting at the end of the program.

The Create Choreographic Project will run from Monday 22 February 2021 to Friday 26 February 2021.

Dancers will be split into Junior (Years 4–6) and Senior (Years 7–12) groups to create an original piece to perform. They will work alongside professional choreographers at Catapult Dance's studio in Newcastle West.

Secondary students need to have dance training. Primary students must have a genuine interest in and flair for dance, but don't necessarily have to attend dance lessons outside of school.

Students can register for the program by filling out an application form, which must be signed by a parent/carer and teacher from their school. Please forward completed forms via email to anne.atkins@mn.catholic.edu.au

Scholarship places are available for students in genuine need of financial assistance. Please contact Anne Atkins for further information.

PROJECT DATES

COST

Junior	Monday 22 February 2021 – Tuesday 23 February 2021	9.00am – 3.00pm	\$60.00
Senior	Wednesday 24 February 2021 – Friday 26 February 2021	9.00am – 3.00pm	\$90.00

To register please complete the form overleaf and return to Anne Atkins
anne.atkins@mn.catholic.edu.au or call Anne Atkins on 02 4979 1331 for more information.

ASPIRE

Good for Kids good for life

GET SET FOR HEALTHY SNACKS!

Healthy snacks are important to keep kids' energy levels up and meet their nutritional needs.

Choose snacks based on vegetables, fruit, milk, cheese, yoghurt and wholegrain breads, crackers and cereals.

Some tips to make choosing healthy snacks easy:

- Include a vegetable and fruit snack each day.
- Keep a range of healthy snacks in the fridge and pantry e.g. vegetables and fruit, pikelets, popcorn, yoghurt and cheese.
- Cut up vegetables and fruit so they are easier to grab for snacks during the week.
- Get your kids to help prepare snacks.
- Add vegetables into homemade snacks (muffins, scones and slices).
- Show your kids you enjoy eating healthy snacks.



Health
Hunter New England
Local Health District

HNELHD-GoodForKids@health.nsw.gov.au
<http://www.goodforkids.nsw.gov.au/>

**Would you like to improve your fitness, health and wellbeing for free, at your local park?
Plus, get an ecofit fitness pack worth over \$50 and vouchers for participating...**

**Sign up by yourself,
with friends
or family**



ecofit

Ecofit is an evidence-based research program to increase physical activity levels through the use of local parks and facilities. It includes the use of a smart phone app, a group training session and a health check.

We are seeking people to participate who:

1. Are not meeting aerobic and/or resistance training public health guidelines (<150 mins of moderate activity per week, and/or <2 days of strength training),
2. Have access to a smart phone,
3. Will have passed the pre-exercise screening test (by answering questions about your health).

Locations

- Cameron Park
- Dixon Park
- Maitland
- Islington Park
- Lambton Park
- Speers Point
- Stockton Foreshore
- UoN Callaghan
- Wangi Wangi
- Warners Bay
- Fernleigh Track Adamstown and more to come.



Interested In this research?

Get more info and see if you are eligible by emailing us at ecofit@newcastle.edu.au or call either 4985 4060 or 4921 7391

Chief Investigator Prof R Plotnikoff. This project has been approved by the University's Ethics Committee, HREC Approval No H-2018-0060. If you have any concerns please contact the Human Research Ethics Officer, Research Email: Human-Ethics@newcastle.edu.au Ph: (02) 49216333