



## Principal's Message

Dear Parents



This week we celebrate Catholic Schools Week. Catholic education has been a part of Australia for 200 years and over the course of this year we celebrate the significant impact that catholic schools have had on Australian society.

After our Catholic Schools Week Liturgy on Monday we welcomed over 300 visitors who a lovely morning tea, a visit to the children's classrooms and their first look at the new school facilities.



## Mothers Day

Last Friday we celebrated an early Mother's Day (although every day should be a Mother's day). I would like to thank the children and staff who hosted the morning and in particular Belinda Palmer and her volunteers who did an amazing job feeding the overwhelming numbers. It was a lovely atmosphere in the Hall and a delight to welcome everyone back now that we have eased COVID restrictions.

## Mr Rufo's Leave

I am writing to inform you that I will be taking leave this week from Thursday and will return on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> May. We are away celebrating our 41<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary.

## Dates to Remember

**3-7 MAY CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK**

**4 MAY P & F MEETING 7.00PM ZOOM**

**BLUES 9'S RUGBY LEAGUE**

**7 MAY INFANTS ATHLETICS REGENT PARK  
SAUSAGE SIZZLE-NO CANTEEN**

**11-14 MAY NAPLAN TESTING**

**12-14 MAY YEAR 6 CAMP**

**17-20 MAY NAPLAN TESTING**

**24 MAY PRIMARY ATHLETICS**

**26 MAY DIO RUGBY**

**9 JUN CONFIRMATION & EUCHARIST  
YR 4 & 5 6.30PM**

**10 JUN CONFIRMATION & EUCHARIST  
YR 4 & 5 6.30PM**

**14 JUN QUEENS BIRTHDAY HOLIDAY  
PUPIL FREE DAY**

**18 JUN MISSION DAY**

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



#### Kinder Enrolments

We are currently accepting enrolments for 2022 and would ask that if you, or anyone you know, are intending to join the St Therese's community could you please forward the paperwork to our Admin office as soon as possible.

**Duilio Rufo**

**Principal**

#### Assistant Principal's Message

May the 4<sup>th</sup> be with you! Our Catholic School's Week Liturgy and Open Classrooms yesterday were such a wonderful start to Week 3. Thank you Mr Smith for the lovely liturgy, Mrs Palmer for the delicious morning tea and the Learning Support staff for serving tea and coffee. Seeing so many parents and grandparents at our Mother's Day breakfast last Friday and yesterday for the start of Catholic School's Week was so exciting. We have missed all of you so much, the school was enlivened to have you back with us. Thank you Mrs Schneider and Mrs Palmer for organising the delicious Mother's Day breakfast on Friday.

#### Playground Revitalisation

This Thursday 6 May, I am meeting with the CSO's Project Management Team to discuss the revitalisation of the back playground. At this meeting I will present the "wish list" developed by the parent group working on the garden project. Once concept drawings have been created by the landscape designers, we will present these to the Garden Team and wider parent community.

#### P&F Meeting

The P&F Meeting is on tomorrow 4 May at 7:00pm in the staff room. All parents and carers are warmly invited to attend. For those that cannot attend, a Zoom meeting has been set up, the link is below:

<https://mncatholic.zoom.us/j/92532631579>

Password: 841281

#### Whole School Assembly

We are in the process of re-organising the school assemblies. We are looking at the best day of the week, so that Mr Ward can be present to lead the band. **Until further notice**, assemblies will continue to be run through Zoom each Friday from 2:40pm. The Zoom code for assemblies is:

<https://mncatholic.zoom.us/j/95397837293>

Password: 013805

#### Office of Safeguarding (OoSG)

Parents who engage tutors to work with their child, should ensure the tutors have a current Working With Children's Check (WWCC). This is encouraged by the OoSG to promote the welfare and safety of children.

**Kaylene Maretich**

**Assistant Principal**

#### RE News

**Reconciliation** – Congratulations to the 60 students who last week made their First Reconciliation at St Therese's. Both evenings were beautiful celebrations of our Catholic faith. Thank you to the children and families who approached the sacrament with sincerity and reverence.

**Confirmation & Holy Communion** – These children, along with many Year 5 students, are now preparing for Confirmation & Holy Communion on the 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> June. For those families who have not already done so, please contact me to nominate your preferred evening. Please remember to also send in payment for the sacramental books to the front office.

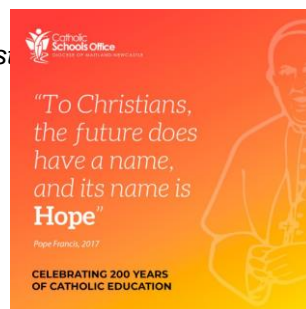
**Catholic Schools Week** – Thank you all for your attendance and participation in our Catholic Schools Week liturgy. It was wonderful to see so many parents, grandparents and friends back in our school. It was a wonderful celebration of *Faith in Our Future*!

**Luke Smith, Religious Education Coordinator**

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



*Taken from 'A Pastoral Letter from the Bishops of Australia to the leaders, staff, students and families of Catholic education in Australia,'*



Two hundred years ago the first official Catholic school opened in Australia. Since then, Catholic education has grown to the point that it now educates around 770,000 primary and secondary school students, in more than 1,750 schools, with nearly 100,000 staff. These are sponsored by dioceses and parishes, religious institutes and public juridic persons, and groups of parents. Six thousand Catholic catechists participate in the religious education of 200,000 children in government schools and parishes. Over the last few years, hundreds of Church sponsored early learning centres have been established, educating many thousands of pre-schoolers. Around 50,000 tertiary students are now enrolled in our two Catholic universities with their several campuses. It is an extraordinary achievement!

Catholic schools are a jewel in the crown of the Catholic Church in Australia, with few parallels in other countries. Alongside families and parishes, they are the Church's principal meeting point with young people. They are integral to the Church's mission of transmitting the faith to the next generation. It is there that many young people encounter Christ, intensify their knowledge and love of God, and are formed as future contributors to Australian society. We hope all our students will emerge from our schools with a deepened sense of the sacred and greater appreciation of the true, the good and the beautiful. Catholic education is steadfast in its commitment to evangelisation, catechesis, religious education and spiritual and moral formation.

Catholic schools are also a major part of Australia's educational ecosystem. They are the equal of other schools regarding educational programs, student achievement, teacher professionalism, facilities and innovation. They have provided high quality education to generations of young Australians, now numbering in their millions. They stand as a beacon in our society, for their contribution to the common good and to the nation's social capital. They have helped nurture a more just, tolerant and cohesive society. Catholic education is determined in its commitment to excellence and equity.

The extraordinary success of Catholic education did not occur by chance: it is fruit of the sacrifice of past generations and divine grace. We are heirs to that rich legacy, borne out of sincere belief, inspiring vision and unwavering resolve. The bicentenary of Catholic education in Australia invites us to remember the past with gratitude, be inspired by that story in the present, and look forward with faith in the future.

### **Newcastle Permanent Primary Online Maths Challenge**

Today our school entered for the first time a Maths Challenge organised the Newcastle Permanent. We were able to enter 2 teams of 4 students each. Our Year 6 team included Tyler B, Peter VDH, Pip A and Dylan S. The year 5 team was involved Liam Mc, Ava R, Anna G and Sachin R. Each team sat a speed and accuracy test and then a set of 20 'group' problem solving questions. The tasks were all super challenging, but the students enjoyed the experience. Well done to the students involved you are all wonderful mathematicians.

### **NAPLAN**

Next week marks the start of NAPLAN. A letter to parents was sent out earlier this week. Grade 5 students please remember to charge your device each night and to bring in your earbuds/plugs/headphones. We wish all the students in grades 3 and 5 the best of luck.



## PBS – School Spirit Awards

We congratulate the following students on receiving the PBS Spirit Award for demonstrating **Compassion** through *forgiving others*:

School Spirit Award for demonstrating COMPASSION by					
	Darcy B		Samuel B		Eamon K
	Maeve G		Grace H		Pippa W
	Brittany O		Maya J		Maddi C
	Orlando R		Riley L		Charlie F
	Georgia P		Christian B		Cedella B
	Maxime C		Noah B		Georgie A
	Griffin C		Cooper M		Milla G
	Zoe S		Trevina M		Noah J
	Olivia M		Hunter C		Coco F
	Eden H		Ava G		Josie W
	Antonio M		Eli H		Mae P
	Niah S		Cody C		Sonny P
	Oskar M		Peyton A		Willow B
	Buster F		Joshua A		Ayden C

### Principal Awards

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

**KN** - Maggie K; **KW** – Henry W; **KL** – Michael M; **1N** – Chase P; **1W** – Ace C; **2L** – Violet H, Max W; **3N** – Brock H, Ryder P; **3W** – Oliver S, Anna O; **4N** – Isaiah S; **4W** – Archie D, Hamish L; **6N** – George H

**Date:** Friday 7th May    **Time:** 2:40pm    **ID:** 953 978 372 93    **P/W:** 013805

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

**Janine Schneider,**  
Primary Coordinator

## School Community News

### School Fees Payment Frequency Form

Thank you to those parents who have returned the school fees payment frequency form. For those families who have yet to send their form in, please complete and return this form.

We remind you that fee payments should have commenced by now and if paying by instalment we ask that accounts are finalised by 30 November 2021. If paying in full please finalise prior to 30 June 2021. Payments can be made via BPay, direct debit or credit card.

For families experiencing financial hardship, or wishing to discuss other payment arrangements please contact the Office.

### Private Service Providers – New Conditions

Parents who engage contractors to provide services (eg OT, Speech, Rickys guitar, Lillians Piano, Howard Ward Band, Chess, Drama Club) to their children onsite at St Therese's need to complete the attached Contractors application form for 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Contractors and submit it to the admin office. If you have any questions please call the administration office on 4957 4922.

**Vicki McSpadden, Bursar**

**Canteen News** - This Friday 7May the canteen will be closed for lunch orders as Year 6 are running a fundraising Sausage Sizzle. This can be ordered through Flexischools until 9am on Thursday 6May. All orders must be placed through Flexischools and unfortunately, no orders can be taken on the day. The canteen will only be open to sell ice blocks on Friday 7 May.

### Entertainment Membership:

Thank you to everyone so far that has purchased an Entertainment Membership.

Don't forget with Mother's Day coming up what a great way to celebrate by purchasing Mum the Entertainment membership.

Spread the word memberships can be purchased by anyone – family, friends, neighbours just give them the link to the online payment process to start saving now.

For orders, please follow the link: <https://www.entbook.com.au/340x66> Any questions please call Donna on 0425 342 924.

Mother's Day Special  
One time only  
Support us. Buy your Membership & receive a BONUS  
**\$20 or \$40**  
eGift Card\*  
Support us & buy now

We are fundraising with Entertainment

HURRY! LIMITED TIME

THE ICONIC

\*Offer for a limited time only, for TSC's visit [entertainment.com.au/promotions](https://www.entertainment.com.au/promotions)

### Playgroup



Due to the Infants' athletics carnival this Friday, playgroup will take place at the playground at Novocastrian Park starting from 9:30am. Everyone is welcome to join us, and there will be no gold coin donation for playgroup this week.

Last week, playgroup celebrated an early Mothers Day with some craft and lots of glitter. Playgroup will return to the school hall next Friday 14th May, from 9:30-10:30am. Bring a lunchbox and water bottle for your child, and please try and keep playgroup rubbish-free by using a reusable packaging for snacks and drinks. Playgroup is a gold coin donation, and feel free to contact Jo on 0439 435 287 and/or join our St Therese's Playgroup Facebook page for further information.

### Sports News

#### Infants Mini-Sports Carnival

All Infants students K-2 will participate in a our mini-Sports Carnival on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May at Regent Park 9:30-12pm. Information notes regarding this event were sent home last week and were also sent out via Compass. Any parents who would like to volunteer to help on the day need to fill in the slip at the bottom of the note and return to school ASAP. **Please note, only parents who have already completed and returned their Volunteer Handbook to the office, and have been given clearance, are allowed to be volunteer supervisors on the day.** Volunteer jobs will be given to parents who return their notes promptly. All other parents are most welcome to meet us at the park and watch their children have fun!

Janine Schneider  
Coordinator

LOWES  
2 DAY VIP EVENT – 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> MAY  
ZERO & REWARDS CARD HOLDERS  
**20% OFF**  
SCHOOLWEAR  
& EVERYTHING ELSE!  
DON'T HAVE A CARD? APPLY IN-STORE OR  
ONLINE & START ENJOYING THE BENEFITS

\*Offer available between 6.00am and midnight (AEST) 7th May 2021. Offer not available to members of the Lowes Rewards Club. Excludes Gift Cards and Schoolwear. Savings of original price. Cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer, no refunds.

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





# **Pop-Up Book Store 20 May 2021**

Our beautiful new library is now fully operational and to celebrate our love of books, we are hosting a pop-up book store in the Catherine McAuley Centre!

We have been lucky enough to secure Paul MacDonald from The Children's Bookstore to come along with a fabulous range of children's literature to suit all ages.

The entire school will visit the book store and have the opportunity to purchase a book of their choice. With easing restrictions, we are thrilled to also invite parents and carers to come along and share in this exciting event for our library.

More details will follow shortly, but in the meantime – note the 20<sup>th</sup> May in your diaries!



### Information Sheet for Parents / Carers

This document provides important information for parents and carers who are considering requesting that NDIS-funded services are delivered to their child while at school.

There are four key steps for parents and carers to follow when seeking to have NDIS-funded services delivered in the school:

- Step 1: ask the school in writing
- Step 2: meet with school staff to discuss details
- Step 3: your school Principal will consider your request
- Step 4: if agreed, the Contractor will need to meet the screening requirements

Catholic schools within the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle and the National Disability Insurance Agency recommend that therapy services funded through a child's NDIS support plan are best delivered outside of school time. This allows the school to focus on teaching your child and all other students and ensures your child does not miss out on important learning. In some cases, however, it may be more suitable for these services to be provided at school.

If this is the case, the school Principal will manage these services in a way that does not affect your child's opportunity to take part in class. It is important that your child does not miss out on important learning and school programs because they are receiving therapy services.

The Principal will also make sure that the school is able to run to benefit all students without undue disruption to learning.

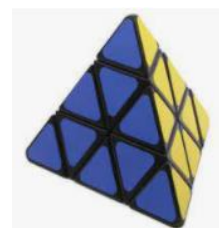
#### How to request the service for your child to be provided at school

1. Complete and submit the *Application for a Category 5 Contractor to Provide Services to a Student in a Diocesan School* form to the school.
2. The Principal, or his/her delegate will contact you to organise a meeting to discuss your request. Please note that this may form part of your usual planning meetings with the school in relation to your child's learning and support. You may wish to invite the contractor to the meeting or include them in the discussion.  
NB: Schools will not meet any costs for contractors to attend meetings at school.
3. Bring all relevant documents and information to the meeting. This may include reports from specialists, therapists or, your child's NDIS support plan. The meeting will help the Principal to consider whether providing the service at school will fit with your child's personalised learning and support provisions and the operational arrangements at the school. This might include discussion of the times when the service would be provided.

The Principal will then need time to consider your request. A Contractor will not be able to work in a school before approval has been given by the Principal. If the Principal agrees to the service being delivered at school, the school will advise you.







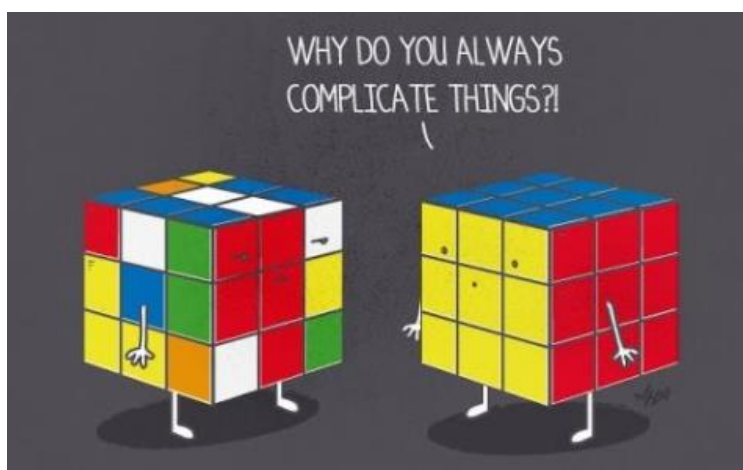
## Speed Cubing Competition!

**St Therese's Primary School, New Lambton** will be hosting a Speed Cubing Competition for the Hunter region on **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> May, 9am-4pm**, in our school hall!

There will be 3x3, 2x2, 4x4 and Pyraminx rounds!  
Any keen speed cubers **of any age** who wish to take part in this exciting competition need to go to the **WCA (World Cubing Association) website and create an account.**

**Registrations open on May 7<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.**

Register quickly so you don't miss out!





**MOTHERS DAY 2021**





*Think, Grow, Shine.*



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





Open classrooms 2021





*Think, Grow, Shine.*



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

