



Principal's Message

Dear Parents

I would recommend having a holiday with your family in far north Queensland. My wife and I enjoyed beautiful weather, spectacular scenery and great hospitality in the Port Douglas area.

While I was away, it was a busy time at school. I would like to congratulate Ms Toscano and the dance groups for a wonderful performance. Even though the infants athletics carnival was postponed the Year 6 fundraising bbq/cake stall went ahead and by all accounts was a great success. My thanks to Donna Douglas and her band of volunteers for their hard work. Also Mrs Belinda Palmer who played a large role as well. My thanks also to Ms Kristy Healy who was successful in applying for a grant to establish at St Therese's a beehive project for Australian bees.

Today Year 3 and Year 5 are taking part in the NAPLAN tests. These tests are designed to create a base line for teachers so that they can focus on the learning needs of the students. We wish the children all the best with their efforts.

This week we see Year 6 off on the annual camp to Collaroy. The students are very excited for this adventure and I thank in advance those teachers accompanying them for their dedication to their students.

Last week we were visited by a team of landscape designers who are drawing up a master plan for the back playground. My thanks to those parents who met with the school last term and contributed their ideas for these plans. A sincere thanks also to the P & F who have agreed to offset costs for shade structures and new play equipment.

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

Dates to Remember

11-14 MAY NAPLAN TESTING

**13 MAY ST VINCENT DE PAUL
MASS 7PM**

12-14 MAY YEAR 6 CAMP

**17 MAY LIVE ASSEMBLY
MAIN HALL 2.30**

17-20 MAY NAPLAN TESTING

20 MAY POP UP BOOK STORE

24 MAY PRIMARY ATHLETICS

26 MAY DIO RUGBY

**9 JUN CONFIRMATION &
EUCARIST
YR 4 & 5 - 6.30PM**

**10 JUN CONFIRMATION &
EUCARIST
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.



Assistant Principal's Message

Assembly

We will resume live assemblies in the School Hall, on **Monday 17 May at 2:30pm**. We will no longer hold Zoom assemblies on Friday afternoon, the liturgy, awards and messages will now take place at the Monday assembly. We moved to Monday afternoons, as Mr Howard Ward is available on Monday afternoons to conduct our talented band. Band lessons will continue on Tuesday, so all band members will need to bring their instruments on Monday and Tuesday. The band can leave their instruments at school on Monday afternoon. I thank Howard for his commitment to St Therese's band. Each Monday, Howard teaches all day at another school, then will be at our assembly. We look forward to welcoming all parents and families back onsite each Monday for assembly. Please ensure you sign in each week, as this is a COVID Safe requirement.

Sickness

We remind all parents/guardians to keep your children at home if they are unwell. As the weather is cooling down, we have had so many children with cold and flu symptoms such as coughing, sneezing, sore throat and mildly elevated temperatures. Everyone who is experiencing cold and flu like symptoms are required to stay at home until recovered and a negative COVID result needs to be forwarded to school.

Children and adults with gastrointestinal symptoms such as vomiting and diarrhoea, are required to stay at home for **24-hours** after symptoms resolve. This is advice from NSW Health to ensure the risk of spreading germs is reduced.

We continue to practice good hygiene at school, such as washing hands before and after eating, after using the toilet and after sneezing and coughing. Please continue to reinforce this with your children.

Aerobics Competition

Due to the COVID hotspots in Sydney last week, the Aerobics Competition was cancelled, instead schools were asked to have their students perform within the school and a video taken to send to the judges for feedback. Last Friday, I had the pleasure of watching our infant and primary Aerobics Teams perform their routines in the Hall. Girls you were AMAZING, you performed so well together and you were having so much fun. A big "thank you" to Miss Alex Toscano for all your enthusiasm and hard work coaching the two teams. The girls will now progress through to the next level in Sydney in June, and if successful there – Gold Coast here we come! Thank you to all the parents, siblings and grandparents that came to the performance on Friday night, your support means the world to your children/grandchildren. The Director of the Catholic Schools Office, Mr Gerard Mowbray, was also in attendance and was very impressed by the teams as well as the large audience. I think we may have some parents and teachers who would also like to part of an aerobics team!

Year 6 Camp

This Wednesday to Friday our Year 6 teachers and students are heading to the Collaroy Centre for the Year 6 Camp. There are some very excited children at school this week, counting down the sleeps till Wednesday morning. Have a wonderful time children, camp is such a special memory for the final year at St Therese's.

Fundraising

We had a number of beautiful children fundraising last week. At the Assembly next week, these children will be acknowledged and the Newsletter next week will feature an article on the children and the charities they will be donating to.

Office of Safeguarding

All volunteers at school, must have a current Working With Children's Check (WWCC). Volunteers who had lodged their WWCC in previous years, may no longer be on the register at the Catholic Schools Office, as some procedures changed for this year. If you are unsure of whether you comply with the current WWCC procedures, please contact the school office to check. WWCC approval can take a few weeks, so we recommend all volunteers ensure the paper work is filled in and submitted prior to the school year commencing. For more information about WWCC please go to the link provided.

<https://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/child-safe-organisations/working-with-children-check/parent/information-for-parents>

Continuum of School Improvement External Review (COSI)

The COSI process, in a 6-year cycle involving yearly reviews of different areas of the school, an internal review in year 3 and an external review in year 6. This year, St Therese's will complete the external review. A COSI team of staff comprising of a teacher from each stage, learning support teacher, learning support assistant and clerical staff, have met to review our current focus areas then plan for future directions in Catholic Identity, teaching & learning, management & organisation. On the 7-8 June, a panel of four from the Catholic Schools Office will be at St Therese's to go through the review, observe life at St Therese's and talk to staff, students and parents about their experiences at St Therese's. We are looking for 8-12 parents/guardians to be a part of this process. It will involve a conversation with the CSO review team and will be held at St Therese's. If you would like to be a part of this process please email kaylene.maretich@mn.catholic.edu.au, by **Wednesday 19 May 2021**. This conversation will take approximately 1 hour and I hope to organise it at 9:00am or 2:15pm to coincide with drop off and pick up.

Kaylene Maretich,
Assistant Principal

RE News

Saint Vincent de Paul Mass – Over the years, Saint Vincent de Paul regional conference has held their Festival mass at St Therese's New Lambton. Unfortunately last year COVID-19 shut that down but it's back. In fact, the New Lambton chapter is celebrating 60 years of giving. Joy Lois the President mentioned how wonderful it is to have the presence of the **Mini-Vinnies kids** at their mass. So here's a personal invitation from Joy and conference members.

Mass Thursday 13th May 2021 at St Therese's church New Lambton at 7pm. It would be great to see some of our Year 5 leaders there whilst Year 6 are away at camp.

Confirmation & Holy Communion – Confirmation & Holy Communion on the 9th & 10th 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.

Luke Smith,
Religious Education Coordinator

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 forgiving others.					
KN	Bonnie B Lewis P	KW	Chelsea S Elin W	KL	Florence R Kurt B
1N	Tom C Vincent N	1W	Ashton P Mia D	1L	Larz G Tabitha M
2N	Tighe C Lucia F	2W	Ajay C Liam E	2L	Egan V Kurt P
3N	Alexander O Archie L	3W	Luca R Beau R	3L	Raiki P Lucas O
4N	Mya T Aleksander S	4W	Hugh B Sophie G	4L	Marly M Oliver R
5N	Matisse M Grace S	5W	Robbie S Dylan F	5L	Laura M Charlie K
6N	Tyler B Gabriella B	6W	Marni B Elijah M	6L	William H Austin B

For the next two weeks we will focus on demonstrating **Compassion** by *being gentle to others*.

Principal Awards

The following students will receive a Principal's Award at next week's School Assembly in the school hall:

KL – Zaliyah W; **1N** – Isaac S, Tom C, Hugo G; **2N** – Alexi A; **3N** – Hudson G, Aria H, John D; **4N** – Ruby T; **4L** – Gracie B; **5N** – Evie M; **5W** – Maiya A; **5L** – Audrey B; **6N** – Patrick B.

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



Date: Monday 17th May **Time:** 2:40pm

Venue: School Hall

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 3rd 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

St Vincent De Paul Mass

All families are welcome to attend the St Vincent De Paul mass on Thursday 13th May at 7pm. Mrs Sturt will accompany the Year 5 Mini-Vinnie students. Parents are responsible for the drop off and pick up of students.

Playgroup



As the Infants' athletics carnival was postponed and the weather was wet, playgroup met in the hall last week. The children found some hula hoops, and had a ball learning how to hula hoop with their grown ups. Playgroup will be back to our regular routine this week, meeting on Friday in the hall from 9:30-10:30am. Playgroup is a gold coin donation, and all you need to bring is a snack and water bottle. To minimise our playgroup environmental footprint, please try and bring reusable food and drink containers, and/or take any rubbish home with you. This term, playgroup is learning about different animals, starting this week with pandas. For further information, contact Jo on 0439 435 287 or join our St Therese's Playgroup Facebook group.



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



Sports News

Blues 9s Rugby League Carnival

On Tuesday 4th May, the St Therese's Rugby League team competed in the Blues 9s Carnival at Raymond Terrace. The boys played 3 tough and competitive games against other schools and finished first in their pool. The team showed great skill and sportsmanship throughout the whole day, acting respectfully towards all the other teams and the officials. Thank you to the parents and carers who came along to support and help coach the team throughout the day. Well done boys, we are extremely proud of you.

Elli Smith



Primary Athletics Carnival –

Monday 24th May will be our Primary Age Athletics Carnival. This will take place at the **Fearnley Dawes Athletics Track** in Newcastle West. All primary students will attend the day and compete in the events of shot-putt, long-jump, 100m and 200m. All of those **Year 2 students who were born in 2013** (those students who have or will turn 8 in 2021) **will also attend**. There will be a special note concerning the day coming home this week also with further details. The majority of students will come to school as per usual and be transported by bus to the grounds after the roll is marked. The events will **officially commence at 10am**.

Important: If you wish for your child to compete in the **800m track event**, it will be essential for that section of the note to be returned to the front office **no later than Wednesday 19th May**. A Compass Event for these students will need to be created for roll marking purposes and they will require private transport to the track prior to the 8:30am start of this event.

Dance News

Last Friday our senior Aerobics team and our infants dance team were meant to compete at their very first competition at St Pius High school.

Unfortunately, Covid stopped this plan from occurring and the Premier made the announcement that all Tier 3 events were cancelled.

Even though it was disappointing that we couldn't compete at St Pius, we were still able to perform at our own school hall in front of family, friends and staff members!



We filmed the routines and now sending it to the head judges to receive feedback on what we can improve for our next competition in June in Sydney!

The girls have all worked extremely hard and it was very rewarding watching them shine on stage!

Bravo girls!

Kind regards from one very proud coach,
Alex Toscano





MEDIA RELEASE

Newcastle Youth Orchestra in association with Avondale Conservatorium and Julie Logan Music
presents a cast of over 110 performers in
Benjamin Britten's *Noyes Fludde* - A Feast of Sound and Vision

In May Newcastle Youth Orchestra is presenting Benjamin Britten's well-known children's opera *Noyes Fludde* (Noah's Flood). *Noyes Fludde*, completed in December 1957 and first performed during the 1958 Aldeburgh Festival, is his most extended and elaborate work for children.

Britten's unerring skill in seamlessly integrating these various elements with musical invention of a consistently high quality is undoubtedly one of his finest achievements while the church setting, and general method of presentation clearly point the way forward to the 'Church Parables' of the 1960s.

Under the direction of Ghillian Sullivan the production will feature over 110 performers, including a 55-piece orchestra, conducted by Dr Ian Cook. The cast will be led by Sydney-based baritone Robert McDougall as *Noye* and mezzo soprano Kathryn Dries as *Mrs Noye*. Robert performed in the recent production of *Chess* at the Civic Theatre as Walter. Newcastle Youth Orchestra will combine with students from Julie Logan Music and Avondale Conservatorium to present this feast of incredible music. Our production of *Noyes Fludde* is a great family show suitable for all ages. The approximate length of the performance is 1 hour ten minutes.

Performances:

May 15 – 7.00pm Avondale College Church, Cooranbong

<https://events.humanitix.com/noye-s-fludde-avondale>

May 29 – 7.00pm Factory Theatre – St Pius X, Adamstown

<https://events.humanitix.com/noye-s-fludde>

The Team

Newcastle Youth Orchestra/Avondale String Orchestra – Conductor Dr Ian Cook

Voice of God - Carl Caulfield

Noye - Robert McDougall

Mrs Noye - Katherine Dries

Students - Julie Logan Music and Avondale Conservatorium

Stage Director - Ghillian Sullivan

Chorus Directors - Julie Logan – Julie Fawcett

Congregational Singing led by Aleta King

Media Contact

Sally Ebert: NYO Manager E: sally@nyo.com.au

M: 0457 356 932

29th April 2021



Timothy, Trevina & Tabitha M, Elizabeth W, Anna VH, Malia & Lucas W – past and present students from St Therese's.

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





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 30th 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 7th at 7pm.

Register quickly so you don't miss out!

