



## Principal's Message

Dear Parents

What a fabulous surprise this morning to arrive at school and see the art installation depicting petals being blown in the wind. This project was managed by Odette Tonkin and her mother Catherine Walker who designed the art work and over the weekend they installed it with the help of the Tonkin family. The children were abuzz all morning to find their petal and feel proud to be part of the art work. If any parent visits the school during the week you are welcome to pop around to the back playground and view this for yourself. My sincere thanks to everyone involved in this massive undertaking.



## Athletics Carnival

Yesterday the Primary section attended their athletics carnival at the Fearnley/Dawes track in town. What fabulous facility to run such an event. My thanks to Mr Smith for overseeing the organization for the day as well as all those teachers and parents who helped make the day such a success for the children. It was lovely to see the large number of families who attended to support their children.

We look forward to welcoming families this Friday for the Infants Carnival to be held on the back playground.



## Dates to Remember

- 26 MAY DIO RUGBY**
- 28 MAY INFANTS ATHLETICS CARNIVAL 9.30-11.15**
- 1 JUN P & F MEETING 7PM**
- 9 JUN CONFIRMATION & EUCHARIST  
YR 4 & 5 - 6.30PM**
- 10 JUN CONFIRMATION & EUCHARIST  
YR 4 & 5 - 6.30PM**
- 11 JUN REGIONAL ATHLETICS**
- 14 JUN QUEENS BIRTHDAY HOLIDAY -  
PUPIL FREE DAY**
- 18 JUN MISSION DAY**
- 25 JUN LAST DAY OF TERM 2**
- 12 JUL STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY - PUPIL FREE**
- 13 JUL FIRST DAY OF TERM 3**

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



## Vinnies Winter Food Appeal

This week we launch the Winter Food Appeal for St Vincent de Paul to support those families in our community less fortunate than us. Here at St Therese's we have a very generous school community and I thank you in advance for getting behind this initiative.

## 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

Happy Wellbeing Week! In Week 6 each term, we take time to stop and focus on just "being". We encourage each family to have more family time and do things that are outside your regular routine. Recently, my family and I went on a walk through Newcastle, to look at street art. We started at Merewether Beach, then through cosy little laneways and ended up in Hamilton. The artwork we saw was extraordinary and so diverse. We are now planning a walk through Tighes Hill and Honeysuckle, where Newcastle-based artists have turned unused buildings into giant canvases. I often think of Melbourne as an artistic city, but am beginning to realise that Newcastle has just as much to offer. During Wellbeing Week, you might find something interesting walking through Newcastle, or even your local area, rather than driving in a car.

## Wellbeing Activities

- **Make a Wish List Monday** – families are encouraged to make a list of experiences to share during the week e.g. play board games together. Pick one a day to make someone's wish come true
- **Take a Stroll Tuesday** – families go for a walk after school to the beach, a park etc. Children will also be able to take a stroll around the block with teachers and the student leadership team during lunch.
- **Wacky Wednesday** – children are to wear their regular school uniform, but can add a "wacky hairstyle", odd socks etc.
- **Toe-Tapping Thursday** – students invited to a school disco run by the Year 6 leadership team
  - LUNCH 11:30 – 12:00pm Infant Grades
  - RECESS 2:30pm Primary Grades
- **Freestyle Friday** – families are encouraged to do something out of their usual routine

## School Mural



Over the weekend, Odette Tonkin and her mum Cathy, installed the mural on the back playground. Each child and member of staff, painted a petal for the mural, resulting in over 600 petals being attached to the mural. Odette and Cathy also created a flower that the petals were blowing away from. The mural takes inspiration from St Therese, our patron Saint, who was also known as the "little flower". The meaning of the mural is that each one of us might be small, like a petal, but together we create a beautiful whole – the flower. Our Year 6 students, are the final purple section of the mural, and these petals are more scattered as if floating away. This is how we see our Year 6 students, they will soon fly away from

St Therese's on the next part of their exciting life journey, but they will forever be a part of our St Therese's family.

Thank you so very much to Odette and Cathy, who have worked so hard to make this beautiful concept into a reality. I invite you to come into the back playground to see the mural and to search for the petal of your child.



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



### **School Gates**

A reminder that our school gates at Royal St and Burke St open at 8:45am each morning and close when the bell goes at 9:10am. If your child arrives before this time, they are to access the school via the carpark gates. If your child is late in the morning, you need to come into the front office and sign them in via the Compass Kiosk. If you have been delayed within the school grounds after the morning bell rings and the gates have already been locked, you will need to exit the school via the carpark gates on Burke St. In the afternoon the gates are opened by the teachers on each of the dismissal points shortly after the final bell rings at 3:15pm. The opening and closing times for the gates, are to ensure the safety of the children.

Please note that supervision of children in the morning starts at 8:45am. We understand that at times, children may be dropped off at school 5-10 minutes before this time, these children must drop their bag off at their classroom, then sit in the Catherine McAuley Courtyard until a teacher reports for duty. If you need to regularly drop your child at school earlier in the morning, please contact St Nicholas OOSH, who provides excellent before and after school care.

### **Office of Safeguarding**

Here is a link to an excellent resource for parents about recent developments in education and wellbeing <https://www.ccsp.catholic.edu.au/newsletters>. During Wellbeing Week I also encourage parents to allow their children time to stop and have some time for silence and meditation. The general rule of thumb is 1 minute per age, so a child of 5 years would sit still for 5 minutes, while a 12-year old, would sit still for 12 minutes. This time of silence, allows children to settle their minds. I read an article over the weekend about the power of silence, while it was written from a Buddhist perspective, I think it applies to all of us. Each day we have so many things that happen, that our minds become churned up like a flowing river, sitting in silence allows the "mud" to settle so we can see through the clear water at the top.

### **P & F Meetings**

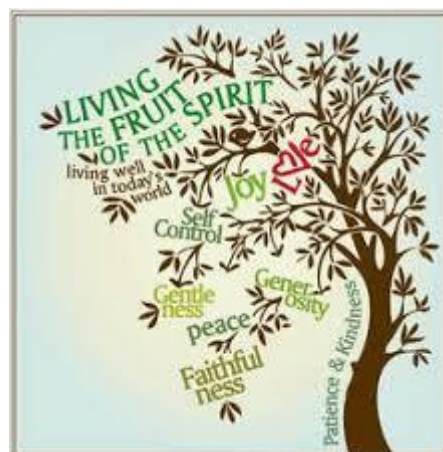
The next P & F meeting is on next Tuesday evening at 7pm in the staff room. For those families who would like to Zoom in the code is: <https://mncatholic.zoom.us/j/95397837293>

If you have any technical difficulties please let us know on the Wednesday following so that we can try and address these.

**Kaylene Maretich,**  
**Assistant Principal**

### **RE News**

**Pentecost** – This past Sunday was Pentecost Sunday. It is often referred to as the 'birthday of the Church.' This is the day we remember the coming of The Holy Spirit to Jesus' first followers. May we always remember, as followers of Christ, that this same Spirit is poured out into our own lives. Just as the first Apostles, we are now commissioned with bringing about the Kingdom of God...Jesus' mission is now our own! May the Holy Spirit give us the strength and courage to live out this mission and then the world will be full of the Fruits of The Spirit.



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



**Confirmation & Holy Communion** – 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. A specific note, containing final details and information for the evenings will be sent out by the end of this week.

**Reconciliation Week** – We will celebrate with a special liturgy during our regular weekly assembly time, **2:30pm on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May** (Week 7). The official dates for this week are 27<sup>th</sup> May – 3<sup>rd</sup> June and the theme for 2021 is, **“More than a word. Reconciliation takes action.”** The link below takes you to the official website and includes information and multi-media clips regarding the history of Reconciliation in Australia:

<https://nrw.reconciliation.org.au/>



**Luke Smith,**  
Religious Education Coordinator

## **PBS – School Spirit Awards**

We congratulate the following students on receiving the PBS Spirit Award for demonstrating **Compassion** by *being gentle* to others:

School Spirit Award for demonstrating COMPASSION by being gentle					
<b>KN</b>	Lila M	<b>KW</b>	Zara A	<b>KL</b>	Arnold H
	Levi H		Amelia E		Michael M
<b>1N</b>	Alexander P	<b>1W</b>	Jacob E	<b>1L</b>	Ayla P
	Ruby J		Oliver W		Gabriella S
<b>2N</b>	Andrew A	<b>2W</b>	Maria B	<b>2L</b>	Stirling R
	Brooklyn L		Chase M		Audrey J
<b>3N</b>	Ryder P	<b>3W</b>	Lucia R	<b>3L</b>	Bruno R
	Charlie T		Mackenzie R		Rosie S
<b>4N</b>	Tabitha K	<b>4W</b>	Patrick I	<b>4L</b>	Jayden C
	Sienna S		Ruby M		Eloise H
<b>5N</b>	Lukas W	<b>5W</b>	Liliana D	<b>5L</b>	Griffin S
	Ella C		Emily C		Sophia L
<b>6N</b>	Lachlan R	<b>6W</b>	Lara B	<b>6L</b>	Grace M
	Christina S		Arley T		Max T

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

## **Principal Awards**

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

**KN** – Roman H, Xavier S, Levi H, Mary W, Lewis P, Maeve G; **KW** – Vann R; **KL** – Ella C, Zali C, Audrey L, Archie S, Rinoa I, Ella C; **1N** – Eddie H, Ellie J, Louis W; **1W** – Bastian; **1L** – Abbey L, Joshua P, Larz G, Mia H, Ava H, Mabel C; **2N** – Alexi A, Harper S, Phoebe B, Mia C; **2W** – Oliver H; **2L** – Lilly C; **3N** – Scarlett H, Griffin C, Arlia C, Claire A, Isaac M, Ly M; **3W** – Trevina M, Patrick E, Harry N; **3L** – Noah J; **4N** – Hope B, Oliver B, Mia S, Liam R; **4W** – Sienna A; **4L** – Lola C, Rosemary C; **5N** – Grace S, Niah S.

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

**Date:** Monday 31st May **Time:** 2:40pm

**Venue:** School Hall

If you are unable to attend our school assembly and would like to Zoom in, please use the following Zoom ID and Password:

**ID:** 953 978 372 93 **P/W:** 013805

**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.

### **General Viruses**

Parents and carers, please be advised there is a virus that presents with very high temperature, weak, migraine, nausea and fevers. This happens very rapidly. We have been advised that general viruses are going to be worse this year due to social distancing not being so strict. If your child is unwell, please keep them at home until they are fully recovered.

**Vicki McSpadden,**  
**Bursar**

### **Vinnies Winter Food Appeal**

It is that time of the year again when Mini Vinnies is asking for your assistance in helping others. Our Winter Appeal begins next 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 Winter Appeal donations will be collected on Wednesday and Friday each week by the members of Mini Vinnies up until Friday Week 9 Term 2 "Pyjama Day."

Kinder Baked beans, spaghetti, tinned snacks	Year 4 Cereal, Porridge, biscuits
Year 1 Pasta, Pasta sauce, noodles, tinned soup	Year 5 Spreads – vegemite, jam, honey etc
	Sauces – bbq, tomato etc
Year 2 Tinned vegetables, tinned fruit, instant pudding	Year 6 Coffee, tea, milo, drinking chocolate
Year 3 Toothpaste, soap, shampoo	

Thank you for your support  
Year 5 Mini Vinnies

## Sports News

### Infants Athletics Carnival

The Infants Athletics Carnival will now be held on our back playground on Friday, 28th May, 9:30-11:15am.

Parents and carers are welcome to come and cheer our little ones along and may stay for a picnic lunch afterwards. You may like to bring a picnic rug or camp chair for comfort!

**Janine Schneider**  
Coordinator

**Primary Athletics Carnival** – Firstly, a huge thank you to everyone for making this such a great event for our school. The teachers worked hard, the students were beautifully behaved and gave their very best and it was great to see so many parents and family members turn up to spectate. Of course, in mentioning parents, the day could not have run as smoothly as it did without the generous and hard-working support of the following parents: **Michael Eccleston, Belinda Allen, Nikki Crouch, Michelle Randall, Teresa Coulthard & Lauren Ross... Thank You!**

Secondly, next **Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May** at our regular school assembly (2:30pm), **we will present our event winners, overall age-champions and winning House colour** from the day. These details, along with more photos, will be included in next week's Newsletter. Information will be sent out soon for those students who have qualified for the next level of competition at the Central Region carnival.

**Luke Smith**  
Coordinator

### Walk safely to School Day



**Deb Petersen**  
Coordinator

Last Friday an enthusiastic bunch of staff, students and parents joined to together to take part in the National walk Safely to School Day. It was a beautiful way to start the day by chatting and walking from the Adamstown Train Station to school. Thank you to all the people who took some time out to join us and promote active and healthy lifestyle choices.



### **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.**

Register quickly so you don't miss out!



WHO DO YOU THINK IS COMPLICATED? BUNGER

## Library Fun – Week 5

What an amazing week we enjoyed in the library last week! On Wednesday, the entire school participated in the National Simultaneous Storytime, in which we listened to Philip Bunting introduce his book "Give Me Some Space", before watching Dr Shannon Walker read the book – from the International Space Station! Over 1.9 million people were registered as attending the event – and St Therese's is proud to be included in that number. The children loved watching the book suspended in zero gravity – while Dr Walker floated off!!



Our primary students were also lucky enough to participate in drawing workshops with author/illustrator Sami Bayly. Sami showcased her amazing talents, but also brought her wonderful enthusiasm and energy to our school – we loved having her.

The children absolutely loved Sami and took delight in all the experiences she provided. We had wonderful feedback from parents – some said their children were buzzing with excitement when they returned home from school, others couldn't wait to show the drawings they had completed with Sami, and many parents said that their dinnertime conversations were filled with animated tales of the day.



Look at all those eager hands in the air!!



Sami was even asked to sign footballs!

On Thursday we had Paul and Beth from The Children's Bookshop in Sydney come to our school to run a pop-up bookshop. They brought a delightful range of books for all ages and offered wonderful suggestions and fun conversations about reading. We would like to extend a huge thank you for all of your support and your generous purchases and donations.



**We hope you are all enjoying your beautiful new books!!**



We had over 100 books donated to the school – and earned over \$1,600 for our school to purchase additional books. Keep an eye out for these new titles in your library – they will be ready to borrow very soon 😊

Sami Bayly generously donated her time and returned to St Therese's on Thursday to sign copies of her book. We sold over 100 of her titles on Thursday and she was absolutely blown away by the support. She walked into a room of children excitedly poring over her books and later described the experience as 'surreal'.



Sami commented on how talented our children were and thanked the school for making her feel so welcome. Paul and Beth also commented on the beautiful manners shown by our children and the warm and friendly approach of the parents. To hear this feedback is a wonderful credit to our school, and we would like to thank you for your efforts in developing such a fabulous school community.



Darcy Birch (KN) was one very excited shopper on Thursday.

After selecting the book "The Hole Idea" to purchase, he was thrilled when we told him that Paul and Beth, the lovely couple who ran our bookshop – were the actual AUTHORS of this book!