



Principal's Message

Dear Parents

Welcome back to Term 3 and another COVID impacted term. We will be keeping you informed of any changes as we are notified from Head Office. I thank you in anticipation for your support and understanding as things might change at the drop of a hat.

Today I welcomed the children back and they were all excited to be here at school. We will ensure that your children are safe by adhering to the COVID guidelines. I ask that you keep an eye on your children and if they are unwell they must be kept at home especially if they are displaying flu-like symptoms they will need a COVID test. When you have the result please forward this electronically to the office to amend your attendance records.

If you believe that your child's mental health is affected please contact their classroom teacher or a member of the Senior Leadership Team for support.

Parent Teacher Interviews

At this stage interviews will continue as booked on site. However, if the COVID rules in relation to access change, we would suggest that these booked interviews be undertaken via phone or Zoom. Obviously we will communicate that change to the parent body as soon as we can.

Practicum Staff

We welcome two final year's students, Emily in the Library and Renee who is joining Kindergarten with Mrs Briggs.

School Photos

At this stage school photos that are booked for 28/29 July will go ahead With COVID safe precautions in place.

Aspire- Year 5 & 6

Year 5 & 6 were due to see the ASPIRE production this term. Due to COVID restrictions, in lieu of the theatre experience we are offering a **live stream of the matinee** to schools on Wednesday and Thursday during the original show time of 11.00 am – 1.30 pm. As such any payments received from parents will be credited to your account. If you have any questions, please contact the office on 4957 4922.

Dates to Remember

- 19-23 JUL FUNDRAISING – SECOND HAND BOOK SALE
- 21 JUL **ASPIRE – YR 5 & 6 – CANCELLED**
- 23 JUL SIMULTANEOUS READING TIME
- 28-29/ JUL SCHOOL PHOTOS
- DIO ATHLETICS
- 2 AUG PT INTERVIEWS
- 10 AUG ICAS WRITING
- 12 AUG ICAS DIGITAL TECH
- 16 AUG ICAS ENGLISH
- 18 AUG NEWCASTLE PERMANENT MATHS TEST
- 20 AUG TOUCH GALA DAY
- 23 AUG ICAS SCIENCE
- 25 AUG ICAS SPELLING

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



Senior Aerobics Team

What a tremendous achievement by our senior girls to be the first team from this Diocese to reach the National Championships to be held on the Gold Coast. We have our fingers crossed that they will be able to compete. Congratulations to the junior girls for their enthusiasm and for making it through to the Regional Final. My thanks once again to Ms Alex Toscano for all the time and dedication she has poured into our girls. An outstanding effort and worthy of our appreciation.

Duilio Rufo
Principal

Assistant Principals Message

Interrelate

St Therese's, in conjunction with Interrelate, is providing a Family Evening Program for our students in Years 4-6 to explore a range of pre-adolescent and adolescent issues; including sexuality and relationship education, designed specifically for this important time in your child's life.

There will be a Family Evening Program on **Wednesday 4 August 2021**. At this stage, this evening will take place in our school hall, however, should COVID restrictions be put in place, families will be notified as soon as possible. There will be two sessions on this evening:

- Session 1: 6:00pm "Where Did I Come From?" for Years 4-6
- Session 2: 7:15pm "Preparing for Puberty" for Years 5-6

The cost to attend ONE session is \$32 per family or for BOTH sessions \$37 per family. The age groups suggested are a guide from Interrelate, however some students go through puberty earlier or later than others. If you are unsure of which session to attend, speak to your child's teacher or Mrs Maretich. If you feel your child is not ready to attend either session that is fine also. The Interrelate Family Evening Program is organised every year, so you may choose to wait another year. At least one parent/guardian **MUST** attend the sessions with their child and remain with them throughout the session. If you would like to attend, please fill in the slip attached and return it to your child's teacher by **28 July 2021**.

Students in Year 6 will also participate in the "Moving Into The Teen Years" (MITTY) Program. This is part of the school curriculum, so compulsory for all students with a cost of \$39.00 per student. The MITTY Program will be conducted during the school day and will begin in Week 5.

Information regarding Interrelate was sent as a Compass News Feed last term, and children in Years 4-6 received a note today outlining the program and the costs.

Interviews

This term, we will hold interviews as follows:

- Week 3 - Personalised Planning Meetings for students with additional learning needs
- Week 4 – Parent Teacher Meetings

Please go to Compass to book a meeting for your child/ren. The online booking system will be closed the week prior to the meetings:

- Personalised Planning Bookings will be closed on Thursday 22 July
- Parent Teacher Bookings will be closed on Thursday 29 July

School Photos

Our school photos will take place on Wednesday 28 July and Thursday 29 July (Week 3). A photo roster is included in this week's Newsletter to inform you of your child's photo day. Children are required to wear their full formal **Winter Uniform**, including their tie, for their individual and class photo. Family photos will be held during lunch time on **both** days. The roster takes into account a number of school timetables and the Regional Athletics Carnival. If your children have a family photo, they may be in a mix of sport and formal uniform, as sport occurs across multiple days.

Indigenous Book Stall

Next week Sage T and Anna VdH, will hold the Indigenous Book Stall. The stall will be held during lunch next week from Tuesday – Thursday, as well as after the Assembly next Monday. Next Friday 23 July, we will have a simultaneous reading time after recess. Thank you to all the families that have sent in pre-loved books for the stall. If you would still like to donate books, please send them in ASAP.

Kaylene Maretich, Assistant Principal

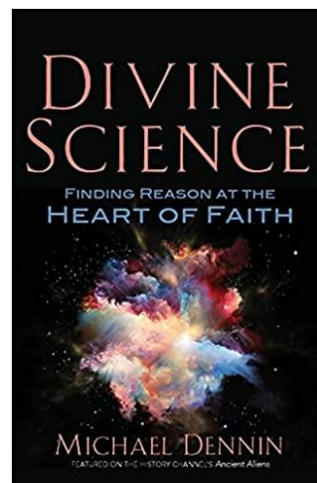


RE News

Faith Formation – On the Monday just passed, whilst students enjoyed a pupil-free-day, the staff here at St Therese's enjoyed the opportunity to participate in a Professional Development day around the essential aspect of 'Faith Formation'. It cannot be underestimated how essential this aspect of our lives, not only as staff but for our students and you as parents/carers/grandparents, is to the authentic catholicity of our community. Without faith formation, without the deepening of our own personal and communal relationship with God, we stand to lose the essence of who we are as a Catholic school.

The formation we undertook on Monday was led by Professor Michael Dennin, a US-based scholar in the area of physics & astronomy and conducted via Zoom. The program for the day, "Faith, Reason and Miracles", was derived from Professor Dennin's book, *Divine Science: Finding reason at the heart of faith*, and centred around 3 major sections:

1. Debating faith & science
2. The fullness of reality
3. Let us not confine God



I strongly recommend any of you who are interested in building upon your own faith formation to seek out this publication.

NAIDOC Week – Whilst we were on the school holidays, NAIDOC Week took place (4th – 11th July) under the theme, "**Heal Country**".

<https://www.naidoc.org.au/news/2021-naidoc-week-theme-announced-heal-country>

Much of what is required to 'Heal Country' in terms of bringing greater recognition to, reconciliation with and providing a voice for our Indigenous brothers and sisters can be found in, *The Uluru Statement From The Heart*. In this document, the call for **Voice, Treaty & Truth** ring loud and clear. If you have not read and signed up to this statement, I strongly urge you to do so in order to bring about greater social justice within our nation. The link below will take you there:

<https://ulurustatement.org/the-statement>



Luke Smith,
Religious Education Coordinator

PBS – School Spirit Awards

This term we are focusing on the values of **SERVICE & HOSPITALITY**. Giving without expectation of receiving is the truest definition of being of **service**. The first way in which we will be exploring how to show **SERVICE** is through **Helping Others**. Giving back and assisting others is the basis of community service; it connects us to the community by improving it, and making it a better place for all of us to live in. Teaching our children to help others is good for their mental health, their emotional well-being, and their self-esteem.

Principal Awards

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

KW – Chelsea S, Miller M; **1W** – Emily S, Gabriella S, Oliver W, Abbey C; **1L** – Isabella G, Sidney M, Talulah A, Maddisia C, Thomas P; **2N** – Brodie L, Tighe C; **2W** – Natasha P, Grace S, Noah B; **2L** – Leo G, Stirling R, Eloise C, William F; **3N** – Ryder P, Luke R, Louie B, Eamon D; **3W** – Jake M, Lily P, Koby P, Thomas T, Zoey D, Darcy L, Phoebe M; **3L** – Jackson R, Miah F; **4N** – Jordy T, Rose H, Oliver S

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Sage T; **4W** – Hugh B; **4L** – Bailey K, Neelke B, Nicholas C; **5N** – Madailein C, Madelyn O; **5L** – Sonny P, Knox M, Anna G; **6L** – Xavier S, Poppy C

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

Parents & visitors are no longer able to attend school assemblies, however if you would like to Zoom in, please use the following Zoom

ID and Password:

ID: 953 978 372 93

P/W: 013805

Time: 2.30pm

Janine Schneider
Primary Coordinator

School Community News

Fee Statements

As you are aware we have moved to an annual billing cycle.

School fee statements were sent out at the end of May. We ask that parents that have not yet returned their Payment Frequency Form please complete and return to the Finance Office as soon as possible

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.

Vicki McSpadden,
Bursar

School Photos

Please be advised that our school photos will be on Wednesday 28th and Thursday 29th July.

The shoot code is 210804

Orders to be done **before** photo day to avoid late fees. Payments can be made with any Mastercard/Visa card.

See attached for the photo schedule.

Vicki McSpadden,
Bursar

Vinnies Winter Food Appeal

Pictured at right is a selection of the food that was donated by our very generous and caring families to support the St Vincent de Paul winter food drive. The ladies from St Vincent de Paul asked that we pass along their thanks to the school community for the overwhelming response. They were able to distribute over 50 hampers to those in our neighbourhood who are less fortunate.

Year 5 Mini Vinnies



Sports News

Term 3 Sports Day

Below are the sport days for Term 3 for all grades. Students wear their full school sport uniform on these days.

Kindergarten - Wednesday

Yr 1 - Tuesday (Wks 1 -4) Thursday (Wks 5-10)

Yr 2 - 2N Tuesday - 2W Wednesday - 2L Thursday

Yr 3 - Wednesday

Yr 4 - Thursday (Wks 1-4) Tuesday (Wks 5-10)

Yr 5 - Tuesday (Wks 1 -6) Thursday (Wks 7 -10)

Yr 6 - Thursday (Wks 1 -6) Tuesday (Wks 7-10)

School Photo Roster 2021

Wednesday 28 July	
9:30	KN
9:40	KW
9:50	KL
10:00	1N
10:10	1W
10:20	1L
10:30	4N
10:40	4W
10:50	4L
11:00 – 12:00	Family Photos
12:30	Band Photo
Thursday 29 July	
8:30	Staff Photo
9:30	2N
9:40	2W
9:50	2L
10:00	3N
10:10	3W
10:20	3L
10:30	5N
10:40	5W
10:50	5L
11:00 – 12:00	Family Photos
12:30	Student Council Photo
12:40	Sport Captains Photo
12:50	Year 6 – whole groups photo
1:00	6N
1:10	6W
1:20	6L

Humming & Strumming at St Therese's



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