



Principal's Message

Dear Parents

This week will be a very busy week for both parents and teachers due to Parent Teacher interviews. Could I suggest to parents to be prepared for the interviews by having a set of questions you would like to pose as well as being familiar with their report and their current classroom work. I thank the teachers for their dedication and time in ensuring this experience is a valuable one.

On Monday of next week (9th August) the school will shift from the SAS programme to the new Tech One system. Could I ask parents to hold off on paying any monies this week as we are in a transition period and unable to process payments. Can I thank the clerical staff and in particular, Mrs Vicki McSpadden, Bursar, for all the hard work she has put into the preparation for this major change.

P & F Meeting

Our P & F will be holding their August meeting via Zoom tonight at 7pm
<https://mncatholic.zoom.us/j/92532631579>

Password: 841281. All are welcome to join in and share their opinions.

Strategic Plan

As we come to the end of our three year Strategic Plan for St Therese's I write to inform you that the process is due to recommence. I will keep you informed as to our Strategic Plan as we confirm our direction up to 2024.

Vinnies Winter Sleep out



Last weekend Helene O'Neil rugged up to support the Vinnies Winter Sleepout as well as some of our families from St Therese's (see photos further on in Newsletter).

Well done to all involved.

Dates to Remember

- 3 AUG P & F MEETING ZOOM
PASSWORD 841281
- 4 AUG INTERRELATE ZOOM
GOLD COIN DONATION
FOR INDIGENOUS
CHILDREN'S DAY
- 10 AUG ICAS WRITING
- 11 AUG BOOKCLUB DUE
- 12 AUG ICAS DIGITAL TECH
- 16 AUG ICAS ENGLISH
- 18 AUG NEWCASTLE PERMANENT
MATHS TEST
- 20 AUG TOUCH GALA DAY
YR 2 SPACE DAY
- 23 AUG ICAS SCIENCE
- 25 AUG ICAS SPELLING
- 6 SEPT CHILD PROTECTION WEEK
- 7 SEPT SEASON OF CREATION
ZOOM
- 17 SEPT LAST DAY OF TERM

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



Last year parents, staff and children from Year 4 to 6 were asked to fill in the survey Tell Them From Me. The results of the survey are used to address the yearly Strategic Plan. Later this term you will receive a new survey link. I ask that you take the time to fill it in so that the school is able to address the matters that you and your children raise. Below is a summary of the key elements that the School addressed in relation to the Tell Them From Me (TTFM) survey. Thank you for your assistance.

STUDENTS	3 KEY LEARNINGS/AREAS FOR ATTENTION	STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS AREA NEEDING ATTENTION
	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The student results show that students feel safe and included.2. There is a strong sense in students that their learning is relevant, and that feedback is well received. Students believe that their teachers care about them and their learning3. In the student data, there was a downward trend from Year 4 to Year 6 in the areas of effective learning, relevance and rigour	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. In week 6 of each term, we have a focus on wellbeing2. Last 3 weeks of each term there is a focus on Child Protection3. PMs focusing on data and the use of descriptive feedback as well as bump it up walls to address relevance and rigour

PARENTS & CARERS	3 KEY LEARNINGS/AREAS FOR ATTENTION	STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS AREA NEEDING ATTENTION
	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The parents see the school as generally being supportive of them and their children.2. Parents appreciate the communication from the school.3. Bullying was an area of concern, particularly social/cyber bullying.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1.2.3. review of procedures in relation to social bullying, in particular cybersafe. Police Liaison Officer contacted for resources. Online cybersafe courses advertised in the Newsletter.

Duilio Rufo
Principal

Assistant Principals Message

Personalised Planning Meetings

Thank you to Ms M Faehndrich and Mrs A Schneider for organising all the Personalised Planning (PP) Meetings last week. Thank you to the teachers and learning support assistants involved and the parents/guardians that participated in the phone meetings to review Semester 1 goals and look at plans for Semester 2, for all our students with additional needs. Over this week, we will be holding Parent Teacher Meetings. Thank you in advance to all the teachers and parents for attending these meetings to discuss your child's progress thus far and to set goals for Semester 2.

Office of Safeguarding

During this time, children may be overwhelmed by what they see or hear on the news, radio, social media etc. about COVID-19 and its impact on our health. It is important that we are honest with our children, but also give them age appropriate information. Please supervise your child, regardless of their age, to ensure they are access correct information, from reputable websites. Open the lines of communication with your child, so that they ask you questions that worry them, instead of them getting inaccurate information from peers or online.

Wellbeing Week

Week 6 each term is "Wellbeing Week", with the focus being on slowing down, as often we all move at a frantic pace. During this week, teachers will not set any homework, so that families can spend more time together. Below are some activities that families can do at home, as well as some free activities we will run at school, during this week.

Day	Home Activities	Activities at School
Muscles Monday	Set up an exercise circuit at home	Aerobics in the Hall <ul style="list-style-type: none">LUNCH – Infant studentsRECESS – Primary students
Tasty Tuesday	Have a Tea-Party at home after school	Challenge your child you bring something new to school to eat for lunch. Who will be the most adventurous?
Wacky Wednesday	Do something a bit out of the ordinary e.g. eat cereal or toast for dinner, walk around the block backwards etc.	Children wear their school uniform, but can add something "wacky" e.g. hats, socks, hairstyles etc.
Toe-Tapping Thursday	Put some music on and dance	Disco in the Hall <ul style="list-style-type: none">LUNCH – Infant studentsRECESS – Primary students
Friendship Friday	Call or Zoom a friend or family member that you haven't seen in a long time	Games that build friendships and team work

Interrelate

Thank you to all the parents in Years 4-6 that have sent in your payment for the Family Evening with Interrelate. The Zoom code for the Family Evening will be sent home this afternoon. Please remember that a parent/carer, must be with your child during the presentation by Interrelate.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day

Wednesday 4 August is National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day. This day, is an opportunity for us to show our support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, as well as learn about the crucial impact that culture, family and community play in the life of every Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child. Children will complete activities through the day to encourage a culture of celebration, respect and recognition. This is an out of uniform day, and students are asked to wear the colours of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island flags - Black, Yellow, Red, White and Blue. Students are also asked to bring in a gold coin donation with all money raised going to the Indigenous Literacy Foundation. Please ensure your child wears a hat, closed in shoes and shirts that cover their shoulders. Thank you to Mr A Rufo and Mrs A Schneider for organising this day.

Kaylene Maretich
Assistant Principal

RE News

National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Children's Day – Wednesday 4th August. We will acknowledge this day across the school through prayer and a range of activities targeted towards the different age groups. This year's theme is, "*Proud in culture, strong in spirit*". The day is an acknowledgment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and communities who have provided love and care for their children, growing them up strong and safe in their cultural traditions, for thousands of generations. For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, safety, wellbeing and development are closely linked to the strengths of their connections with family, community, culture, language, and Country.



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Vinnies Family Winter Sleepout – Thanks to those families who participated in Friday night's 'Family Winter Sleepout @ Home' and sent in photos to show solidarity with the homeless. Hopefully it was an enriching experience for you and your children. Thank you for continuing to guide your children to put their faith into action.

Sleep out.
Change lives.



Lucy A snuggling up

Liam McD getting comfy for his sleepout



Ellie & Noah J enjoying a night under the stars

A Season of Creation – Later this term, the RE & Spirituality Team from the Catholic Schools Office will be running an online event around 'Caring For Our Common Home'. It will be about generating school-based, student-led ecological dialogue and climate action inspired by Pope Francis' *Laudato Si*. All schools are invited to attend the special online event (via Zoom) to celebrate the Season of Creation and as an invitation to be part of a new Diocesan Schools Integral Ecology Network. I know many of you may also be interested and passionate supporters of such an important initiative. I invite you, therefore, to save the date: **Tuesday 7th September, 3:30 – 5pm**. Zoom details will follow closer to the date.

Luke Smith,
Religious Education Coordinator

Year 2 Space Day

On Friday 20th August (Week 6), all Year 2 students will be participating in a '**Space Day**' as part of our Visual Arts program. All students are encouraged to come dressed in a space themed costume of their choice, the wackier the better! For example, an alien, star, planet, rocket ship, astronaut etc. The students will be engaged in a day full of intergalactic activities that cover all key learning areas.

Ellie Smith on behalf of Year 2 teachers **Compass Ancestry and Tech One**

A short while ago, we sent advice about changes to our Student Information and Finance Systems. I am pleased to advise that this week the school finance system will be off line between 2/8 and 6/8/21. After the 9/8/21 the new online Parent Action Centre and account details will be available via your Parent Portal. You will be able to consent online for student excursions and events. Please be patient with us and avoid making payments over the counter at the school during the off line period.

Please note, you may experience issues connecting to your school portal directly after we cut over. This is normally caused by a consolidation of your user account across more than one school. **You will now have one username and one password.**

If you receive a message prompting you to login or delete your school account please;

1. Enter your normal password. If you don't know this or it doesn't work, please reset via the prompts
2. If this doesn't work, please delete the school account and 'Add' once again. If you have another school account that works ok, **please use this username** instead of your old one.

Your future statement will look different, only outstanding transactions will show on new statements (this year only).

Vicki McSpadden, Bursar

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School Community News

PBS Spirit Awards

This term we are focusing on the values of **SERVICE & HOSPITALITY**. We congratulate the following students on receiving the PBS Spirit Award for demonstrating **Service** through *helping others*:

School Spirit Award for demonstrating SERVICE by helping others					
KN	Mary W	KW	Elin W	KL	Madeleine H
	Xavier S		Vann R		Archie S
1N	Vanessa C	1W	Ruby M	1L	Archie S
	Chase P		Benjamin C		Levi M
2N	Stella R	2W	Isobel I	2L	Lilly C
	Andrew A		Evie T		Cedella B
3N	Brock H	3W	Trevina M	3L	Oliver K
	Oliver M		Jake M		Miah F
4N	Liam B	4W	Agnieszka M	4L	Daniela P
	Spencer B		Felix M		Adriana S
5N	Ella F	5W	Isla R	5L	Olivia S
	Oisin M		Cody C		Sonny P
6N	Lilly R	6W	Myles N	6L	Austin B
	Sean D		Sarah R		Beau P

Principal Awards

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

KW - Adelaide K; **1W** - Emily S, Benjamin C; **1L** - Macey H; **2N** - Harry S; **2L** - Eloise C, Lennox F, Frankie H, Audrey J, Declan O, Marcus S, Lee S, Mason S; **3W** - Indigo H, Harry N, Lucia R, Luca R, Erin S, Alex J; **4L** - Leila O, **5L** - Lucas B, Benjamin C, Nicholas C, Paige F; **6L** - Quinn T.

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

Date: Monday 9th August

Time: 2:30pm

Venue: School Hall

If you 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

Playgroup

Last Friday, playgroup began their tour "Around the World", landing in Asia. We coloured in flags from different Asian countries, maps of Asia, and made paper lanterns. This week, we continue on our journey to Europe! Join us on Friday from 9:30 to 10:30am in the hall for craft and play - playgroup is a gold coin donation, and it is compulsory for grown ups to wear a mask and check in via the QR code. If you have any questions, contact Jo on 0439 435 287, or join our St Therese's Playgroup Facebook group.



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Sport

Diocesan Athletics Carnival

Last week I took a team of 15 students to the Diocesan Athletics carnival at Glendale. All athletes had a great day and there was lots of cheering from the stand for the students competing. At this stage, the Polding Athletics carnival has not been cancelled. However, it is very unlikely it will go ahead on the original date. We will keep you informed. Congratulations to all the students who competed and in particular to **Patrick in grade 6 who came 3rd in the 1500m.**

Deb Petersen
Coordinator



Active Lifestyle Team Spread Olympic Gold

Last Friday the Active Lifestyle spread their love for fun and healthy living to the rest of the students by organising several fun activities during lunch and recess time. The year 6 students helped the younger students learn how to play new games and encouraged everyone to be active and 'have a go'. In true Olympic spirit the Year 6 students running events also awarded a 'St Therese's Gold medal' to students who showed great sportsmanship and teamwork. Big thanks to the Active Lifestyle team members for bringing our school community together and spreading happiness.



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BOOK CLUB: Issue 5 Book Club is now available.

Closing date for orders is next week WEDNESDAY 11th August.

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 'Library 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 library.

SCHOLASTIC
Book Club LOOP
for Parents

LOOP is the Scholastic Book Club
Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform for parents.
To order and pay for Scholastic Book Club by credit card visit:
www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP

GET IT ON
Google play

Download on the
App Store

Oops, we printed the wrong year on our Issue 5 Book Club.

Rest assured the catalogue is filled with the latest Book Club hot titles from 2021.



REMEMBER: All orders earn valuable resources for our school.

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FREE!

Stay at home and
Zoom to join.



VAPING – What parents and carers need to know!

PAUL DILLON

Drug and Alcohol Research Training Australia (DARTA)

If you missed Paul in 2019 – you WILL NOT want to miss him in 2021!



Paul Dillon has been working in the area of drug education for more than 25 years. Through his own business, Drug and Alcohol Research and Training Australia (DARTA) he has been contracted by many agencies and organisations across the country to give regular updates on current drug trends within the community. He continues to work with many school communities across the country to ensure that they have access to good quality information and best practice drug education.

In 2009 his best-selling book for parents was published titled 'Teenagers, Alcohol and Drugs' and has since been released internationally, being translated into a number of languages. With a broad knowledge of a range of content areas, Paul regularly provides media comment and is regarded as a key social commentator in Australia, appearing on a wide range of television programs including Sunrise, TODAY and The Project discussing topical issues.

DATE: Thursday 12 August 2021

TIME: 6.00 – 7.30pm (including some time for questions)

VENUE: From the *comfort of your home* via ZOOM!

RSVP: cath.garrett-jones@mn.catholic.edu.au by midday on 12 August.

Zoom links will be sent after midday on 12 August to those who RSVP.

THIS IS A PARENT AND CARER ONLY EVENT.