



## Acting Principal's Message

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to Week 8, and for Happy Pi day for yesterday (3.14159...). This week we have Kindergarten Parent/Teacher Interviews, which we are able to have onsite. Thank you to the teachers for their preparations for today and all the parents/carers that can join us over this week.

## COVID Updates

There have been a few changes to COVID Health Orders, with some more expected this week. If a household member has COVID, all household members must isolate, however, a household contact is not obligated to self-isolate as a contact more than once in a 21-day period. They must monitor for symptoms and if the person is diagnosed with COVID-19, they will need to self-isolate again. So, if your child gets COVID then all members of the household need to isolate, if a second child then gets COVID, they need to isolate, but the remainder of the family does not need to isolate, UNLESS, you become symptomatic or test COVID positive.

There has been a rise in the cases of COVID at St Therese's. Please be assured that the school is doing all it can to Minimise transmission:

- Sanitising
- Regular cleaning of high frequency touch points e.g. doors, light switches etc.
- Ventilation of classrooms

Please ensure that you do not send your child to school if they are at all unwell. Over the next few we do expect numbers may rise, for staff and students. We will do all we can to ensure consistency of teachers in classes, but there may be times that your child may have a number of different teachers across the week.

If your child has COVID, or is in isolation as a household contact, the Catholic Schools Office has created online Guided Learning your child can engage in when they are feeling better. To access these resources please go to the link <https://mncatholic.sharepoint.com/sites/DigitalUpdates/SitePages/RLHome.aspx>. Your child then access their stage, and starts at Week A, if they are off for more than one week, or go back into isolation later in the term, they would go to Week B, and so on.

## Dates to Remember

**15 MAR P & F SPECIAL  
GENERAL MEETING 7PM**

**16 MAR DIO AFL TRIALS**

**18 MAR DIO WINTER SPORTS  
TRIALS**

**16 & 23 MAR RECONCILIATION**

**1 APR SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY  
POLDING TOUCH**

**8 APR LAST DAY OF TERM 1**

**26 APR FIRST DAY OF TERM 2**

**SCHOOL ATHLETICS  
CARNIVAL**

**4 MAY DIO CROSS COUNTRY**

**6 MAY MOTHERS DAY B'FAST**

**23 MAY CATHOLIC SCHOOLS  
WEEK  
OPEN CLASSROOMS**

**1, 2 & 3 JUN YEAR 6 CAMP**

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



The stages are as follows:

- Early Stage – Kindergarten
- Stage 1 – Years 1 and 2
- Stage 2 – Years 3 and 4
- Stage 3 – Years 5 and 6

### **Parental Concerns**

If you have any concerns regarding your child academically and/or socially, please contact your child's teacher. In consultation with your child's teacher, you will develop strategies to address these concerns. At times, teachers may recommend learning support, the school counsellor, external providers or input from the school's leadership team. Initial conversations should be held with classroom teachers, who work with children each day, and who are aware of all the information regarding your child.

### **Special General Meeting**

Tomorrow evening, **Tuesday 15 March at 7:00pm**, we will hold a Special General Meeting, via Zoom, to decide on whether we will continue with a P&F or move to a Parent Engagement Group (PEG). I encourage you to attend or alternatively you can email me on [kaylene.maretich@mn.catholic.edu.au](mailto:kaylene.maretich@mn.catholic.edu.au) if you are unable to attend, but would like to indicate your preference for either of these options. I have attached information sent out earlier in the year about these two options, if you have not had the opportunity to read it as yet. If it is decided that we will continue with a P&F, this meeting will then be the Annual General Meeting (AGM) to decide on the executive positions. The link for the Zoom meeting is: <https://mncatholic.zoom.us/j/67881783012>

**Password: 590486**

### **Kindergarten Parent Information Evening**

Last Wednesday we had a Parent Information Evening for Kindergarten. It was so lovely to see so many families gather in a COVID-Safe manner. Thank you to our wonderful Kindergarten teachers for their organisation and information shared and the members of the leadership team that were able to attend the evening. We hope to plan more events where families can be with us here at school, as we really do miss seeing all the parents/carers, grandparents, younger siblings, and extended family and friends.



**Kaylene Maretich**  
**Acting Principal**



## Acting Assistant Principals Message

**Primary Athletics Carnival** – Thanks to all those who have already responded to the Compass alert from last Friday(11<sup>th</sup> March), regarding this event. Consent is required for all children, but **please pay close attention to the deadline for nominations in the 800m & 1500m track events which ends this Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> March**. *All nominations will be passed on to our convenors at the Fearnley Dawes Athletics Track at the end of this day for entry into the database – no names will be added after this date.* Please refer to the Compass alert for all event details and information.

### National Day of Action against Bullying

On Friday 18 March 2022, is the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence (NDA). The NDA is Australia's key bullying prevention initiative, connecting schools and communities to find workable solutions to prevent bullying.

The theme for the 2022 NDA is Kindness Culture. St Therese's always strives to demonstrate Kindness Culture by promoting inclusiveness, respect and community belonging for all students.

Planning for a safe and supportive school community requires a whole-school community approach. Whole-school responses to bullying prevention build positive and supportive school environments by incorporating strategies for intervention at all levels, inclusive of students, teachers, parents and carers.

Three key characteristics outlined in the national definition of bullying distinguish bullying behaviours from other forms of peer aggression behaviours which do not constitute bullying. The key characteristics of bullying include:

1. power imbalance
2. deliberate intent to cause harm, and
3. ongoing and repeated behaviour.

While the following behaviours of peer aggression do not constitute bullying, these behaviours may still be serious and require intervention at home and at school:

- arguments and disagreements (where there is no power imbalance)
- single acts of social rejection or meanness, or
- isolated incidents of aggression, intimidation or violence.

It is important for our entire school community, including our staff, parents, carers and students to have a clear understanding of the definition of bullying to be able to distinguish these behaviours from peer aggression, and correctly identify and respond to incidents of bullying.

The full national definition can be [read here](#).

Knowing the [types of bullying behaviour](#) can also help you identify if the incident is bullying, or peer aggression. While neither of these behaviours are tolerated at St Therese's, they do require different management strategies, and the first step for responding is to correctly identify the behaviour.



If you have concerns that your child is being bullied, please contact the classroom teacher in the first instance. You will be referred to the Assistant Principal and/or Principal if a satisfactory outcome is not achieved. For more information, please visit the [Bullying. No Way!](#) website for additional resources.

**Previous Information** – Please remember that you can access any previously sent information from past Newsletters by visiting our school website, or clicking directly on the link below:

<https://www.newlambton.catholic.edu.au/news-events/newsletters/>

**Luke Smith, Acting Assistant Principal**

## RE News

Thank you for your generous donations on **Peace Day**. The children participated with love and reverence in the liturgy. The gold coin donations totalled approximately \$700.00 and has been forwarded to UNICEF for those in need. The class prayer mats are fantastic. Evidence of care and talent in each one. (see photos later in Newsletter).



Please remember that we continue to offer an online Prayer Liturgy & Assembly each Friday afternoon on Zoom at 2:30pm.

We would love to see as many of you as possible join with us in this way!

ID: 676 1390 6420

Password: 859 740

Johanna Soo our Youth Minister has commenced her work in the school getting to know our children and helping prepare for Friday's gospel part of the liturgy.

### **Sacramental Program 2022**

**Term 1** — Sacrament to take place over Wed 16th & 23rd March Time: 6.30

Place: St Therese's New Lambton

Dress: Casual

**Term 2** – Year 4 students: Confirmation (Registration/Info evening: Thur 5th May – Sacrament dates TBA)

**Term 3** – Year 4 students: Holy Communion (Registration/Info evening: Tue 26th July – Sacrament to take place during Parish masses on the weekends of 10/11th and 17/18th Sept)

**Term 4** – Year 3 students: Reconciliation (Registration/Info evening: Tue 18th Oct – Sacrament

Yours in Christ,

**Anne Sturt**  
Acting RE Coordinator

### **Mini-Vinnies news**

Thanks to the families who have started to send in photos and pet food,. I am sure the hall is going to be filled with family favourites. Providing temporary assistance with pet food removes one potential reason for families considering relinquishing or abandoning their pets, and will help people keep the pets they love. Every day that these families can feed their pets is one more day those pets stay at home.

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




Please send in a photo of you and your pet to your class teacher. The photo **must** be accompanied by some pet food (dog, cat, bird,).


I cannot wait to see the beautiful photos,

Yours in Christ

Anne Sturt



The Catholic Community of  
**HOLY TRINITY PARISH**  
BLACKBUTT NORTH



## HOLY WEEK AND EASTER TIME TABLE 2022

DAY	DATE	MASS	CHURCH	TIME
Wednesday	6 April	Second Rite Reconciliation	St John's Lambton	7:00PM
Sunday	10 April	Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord	As per normal weekend Mass	Normal weekend Mass
Tuesday	12 April	Chrism Mass – Mass of the Oils	SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL	See Dio website
Thursday	14 April	Holy Thursday	St Therese's Church New Lambton	7:00PM
Friday	15 April	Good Friday Stations of the Cross	St John's Lambton	10:00AM
Friday	15 April	Good Friday Stations of the Cross	Corpus Christi Waratah	10:00AM
Friday	15 April	Good Friday Stations of the Cross	St Therese's Church New Lambton	10:00AM
Friday	15 April	Good Friday Passion	Corpus Christi Waratah	3:00PM
Saturday	16 April	Holy Saturday	Corpus Christi Waratah	6:00PM
Sunday	17 April	Easter Sunday	St John the Evangelist Lambton	8:00AM
Sunday	17 April	Easter Sunday	St Therese's Church New Lambton	9:15AM
Sunday	17 April	Easter Sunday	PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO SUNDAY EVENING MASS	

PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO SUNDAY MASSES AT WARATAH

## School Community News

### External Providers

If your child will be seeing a provider (eg; speech, OT, band, guitar, drama or chess) this year at school, please complete the attached application form and return to school. If you require further information, please call the office on 4957 4922.

Vicki McSpadden,

Bursar

## PBS – School Spirit Awards

This term we are focusing on the value of **Respect**. We congratulate the following children for receiving the PBS School Spirit Award for demonstrating **RESPECT** by being considerate of others:

School Spirit Award demonstrating RESPECT by being considerate of others.					
KN	Mila M	KW	Oscar M	KL	Frankie C
	Chloe S		Sidney S		Tom M
1N	Evie G			1L	Henry W
	Wren D				Darcy B
2N	Oliver A	2W	Tom C	2L	Ace C
	Gabriella S		Oliver F		Gabriella S
3N	Leo G	3W	Bellamy W	3L	Dolcie D
	Marcus S		Georgia P		Noah F
4N	Trevina M	4W	Bruno R	4L	Anna O
	Raiki P		Aria H		Kyanna M
5N	Emily F	5W	Jayden C	5L	Felix M
	Archie D		Isaiah S		Aggy M
6N	Eddie R	6W	Hugo D	6L	Madelyn O
	Nicholas B		Mark O		Amelia B

### Principal Awards

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

Macey H (2L), Hugo H (3N), Maeve H (3L) & Ada N (5L)

**Date:** Friday 18th March **Time:** 2:30pm **ID:** 676 1390 6420 **P/W:** 859 740

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

Janine Schneider, Primary Coordinator

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





## Peace Day







22 February 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the discussion held at the P&F Meeting on Tuesday 15/2/22. A key agenda item was the future forward for our school community, in relation to continuation of the current P&F Model or a Parent Engagement Group (PEG) model. Both options allow and encourage parents/guardians to work together with the school in relation to the education of their child/ren. The two models vary in their focus and implementation.

This letter will summarise the key points between the two models, for the full *Guide for implementing a P&F Association or PEG in schools*, developed by the Federation of P&F Associations developed by the Maitland-Newcastle Diocese, please follow the link <https://www.mn.catholic.edu.au/media/49841/a-guide-for-implementing-a-pf-association-or-a-peg-in-schools-2021.pdf>. This document is also attached to this Compass Push.

The differences between the two models are set out below:

#### **P&F Association**

- P&F Associations are the formal, traditional model for parent groups in schools.
- In our Diocese, P&Fs are governed by the Parents & Friends Association Constitution, a 'rule book' which provides direction on how to run a P&F meeting and guidance for members who nominate and are elected to Executive roles.
- Each P&F Association elects parent or carer members to act in the following roles:
  - President
  - Vice President (optional)
  - Treasurer
  - Secretary
- Each P&F Association also elects two (2) Federation Delegates to be their representatives at the diocesan peak parent body – the Federation of P&F Associations.

#### **Parent Engagement Group (PEG)**

The PEG is a new option for schools where the P&F Association model is not regarded by the school community as a viable option.

Some schools may choose to adopt the Parent Engagement Group model (PEG) rather than have a constituted P&F Association. This may be because the formation or continuation of a P&F Association has been problematic, or the school community would prefer to adopt a model that does not include the election of Executive from its membership.

This model focuses on supporting authentic family engagement in student learning to strengthen the partnership that exists between home and school.

The purpose of BOTH the P&F and PEG is:

- a) promoting the interest of the School and Catholic education generally by bringing together Parents, students, clergy and teaching staff, both religious and lay, in a spirit of collaboration and close cooperation
- b) providing a forum for members to raise and discuss issues related to the spiritual, social and academic development of their children, at School, Diocesan, State and National levels
- c) ensuring funds raised by the P&F OR PEG are acquitted in accordance with section 83(c) of the Education Act 1990 (NSW)
- d) reaching out to all associated with the School to build a friendly and welcoming community which seeks to involve all its members
- e) providing a parental perspective to assist the Principal, Parish Priest and School staff in furthering the educational endeavours of the school
- f) acting as a mechanism for representing Parents when it is appropriate to do so
- g) supporting Parents in their involvement in their children's learning at home and School
- h) providing opportunities for Parents to gain insights into the life of the School, current developments in education and Catholic education in particular

I encourage all parents/guardians to read the *Guide for implementing a P&F Association or PEG in schools* <https://www.mn.catholic.edu.au/media/49841/a-guide-for-implementing-a-pf-association-or-a-peg-in-schools-2021.pdf>

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





[peg-in-schools-2021.pdf](#), in order to make an informed decision on whether the school should continue as a P&F or a PEG. We will hold a special general meeting on **Tuesday 15 March at 7:00pm** via Zoom, to decide on whether we will dissolve the P&F and move to A PEG.

If the decision is to continue with a P&F continues, then this meeting on **Tuesday 15 March at 7:00pm**, will be held as the Annual General Meeting (AGM) where all P&F executive positions are open.

The code for this will be sent closer to the date.

Kind regards,  
Kaylene Maretich  
Acting Principal

# Arrendell


secondary education centre™

## Back to school Term 1, 2022

Individual & small  
group lessons.  
Online & face to  
face sessions  
available.

Our experienced, qualified, specialist teachers have helped thousands of Hunter students to develop confidence and enthusiasm in their learning and to achieve their goals.

We can provide the personal advice and support that helps with important decisions.



- HSC - English, History, Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Biology
- Junior High and Upper Primary School  
- all levels of English, Maths and Science
- Stage 2 Primary - literacy and numeracy support or extension
- Selective Schools and Scholarships - exam preparation
- Easter Holidays - Senior Writing Workshop (taught by HSC markers)

*45 years experience helping Hunter students achieve their goals*

☎ 0408 692 045 🏠 11 Scott St Newcastle 2300

arrendell@ozemail.com.au | [www.arrendellsecondaryeducation.com.au](http://www.arrendellsecondaryeducation.com.au)

## APPLICATION FOR A CATEGORY 5 CONTRACTOR TO PROVIDE SERVICES TO A STUDENT IN A DIOCESAN SCHOOL

<b>1. Details of responsible adult and student</b>			
1.1 Responsible adult's name			
1.2 Mobile		1.3 Email	
1.4 Relationship to student			
1.5 Student's name			
1.6 Grade			
1.7 Class teacher			
<b>2. Details of category 5 contractor and requested access</b>			
2.1 Contractor's name			
2.2 Trading or company name			
2.3 Address			
2.4 Mobile		2.5 Email	
2.6 Contracted service to be provided			
2.7 Frequency / duration	<input type="checkbox"/> Monday <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday <input type="checkbox"/> Friday <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly <input type="checkbox"/> Fortnightly <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly    Other: _____ Start time for service: _____      Duration of service: _____		
2.8 Start date of service		2.9 Review / end date of service	



3. Declaration and consent for the contractor to provide the contracted service to my child

I, \_\_\_\_\_ am the responsible adult  
Name of parent / guardian  
making this application for a third-party contractor to provide a service in St Therese's Primary  
School

By signing this document, I:

- State that I have used reasonable care to ascertain that the Contractor has the appropriate qualifications, licences, certifications and professional memberships necessary to provide the contracted service to my child, as listed in section 2.6 of this application.
- State that I have used reasonable care to ascertain that the Contractor holds public liability insurance.
- Consent for the Contractor to have unsupervised access to my child for the purposes of conducting the contracted service.

I confirm that I have advised the Contractor that:

- Prior to being given access to the School, the Contractor must show their current WWCC status, using the *Service NSW* application. Being unable or refusing to do so will result in the Contractor being refused entry.
- The Contractor will be required to complete a *Safeguarding Commitment for Contractors Working with the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle* form and submit it to the School.
- The contractor is granted access to the School for the singular purpose of providing my child the contracted service and should minimise contact with any other child.
- He/she will consult with my child's class teacher or the School leadership about any relevant information that the Contractor may have in relation to my child and will share information about my child.

Signed:

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Good for kids

good for life

## NEWSLETTER

### Welcome to the Good for Kids Term 1 2022 e-Newsletter

Please share this newsletter with all school staff including teachers, school admin and school canteen managers. You could also print a PDF copy to put up on your staff noticeboard.

#### In this issue:

- ✂ Good for Kids Update
- ✂ Energiser of the Term
- ✂ Nutrition Resources
- ✂ Transport
- ✂ Professional Development Opportunities
- ✂ Health School Canteens
- ✂ Funding Opportunities
- ✂ Latest Research



© Lara Went  
"The Heart of a Child"

Good for Kids acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of the land that we live and work on as the first people of this country, and pay our respects to Elders past and present.

## GOOD FOR KIDS UPDATE

### - What We Do

The Good for Kids Primary School Team support schools to promote healthy eating and physical activity to their students. Based in the Population Health Unit, our team come from a range of health and education backgrounds and are all passionate about encouraging healthy lifestyle habits for children across the Hunter New England region.

We provide support in a variety of ways including:

- Face to Face (or telephone) support to meet the Live Life Well @ School desirable practices
- NSW Healthy Canteen Strategy support
- SWAP It Lunchbox Program
- Professional Development opportunities
- Access to playground stencils, blender bike, resources, and presentations
- Teacher E-Newsletter and Newsletter snippets for parents/carers each term

Please contact us at [HNELHD-GoodForKids@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:HNELHD-GoodForKids@health.nsw.gov.au) to meet your School Support Officer!

[www.goodforkids.nsw.gov.au](http://www.goodforkids.nsw.gov.au) | Phone: (02) 4924 6499 | Fax: 02 4924 6490  
email: [HNELHD-GoodForKids@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:HNELHD-GoodForKids@health.nsw.gov.au)

If you have any questions about this newsletter, or no longer wish to receive the newsletters, please email us.

