



Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

My goodness how time flies. As most of you would be aware I have been on leave recovering from Prostate surgery and I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your prayers and support. Last year I was diagnosed with prostate cancer and I wrote to you not so much to say that I had been diagnosed but rather to remind all that it is vital that we all look after our health. Men in particular are not very good when it comes to health matters especially our prostate health. If you have not done a PSA test talk to your doctor it's just a simple blood test and is covered by Medicare.

I want to thank the staff for all their hard work last term especially during such trying time, a very special thank you to Mrs Maretich for the excellent way she took on the role of Acting Principal, Mr Smith for his work as the Acting Assistant Principal and Mrs Sturt for her role as Acting Religious Coordinator. This term we welcome Alexandra Wilson as the Acting Religious Coordinator as Mr Luke Smith and his wife are on long service leave enjoying themselves in beautiful Brazil.

Believe it or not it was such a pleasure to walk back into the school this morning and seeing the children playing, laughing and getting ready to attend the Athletics Carnival. I am looking forward to catching up with parents, teachers and students as well as getting to know the new kindergarten students and those students that have this year enrolled at St Therese's.

I take this opportunity to invite you to the Anzac Service on Wednesday afternoon at 2.30pm and the Easter Liturgy on Friday afternoon, 2.30pm. These will be the first times in nearly two years that we have been able to welcome parents to assemblies and the teachers and students are very excited.

Congratulations and well done to all the children, Staff & Parents for a wonderful day yesterday at our Athletics Carnival. In particular a special thank you to Coach Hartcher for his organisation and running of the carnival.

Dates to Remember

**2 MAY - SCHOOL ASSEMBLY
2.30 PM**

4 MAY- DIO CROSS COUNTRY

**5 MAY - YEAR 4 – CONFIRMATION
MEETING**

**6 MAY - MOTHERS DAY B'FAST
7.30 AM-9AM**

9 MAY-20 MAY - NAPLAN

**13 MAY – INFANTS ATHLETICS
CARNIVAL**

**23 MAY- CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
WEEK OPEN CLASSROOMS**

1, 2 & 3 JUN - YEAR 6 CAMP

1 JUN – DIO RUGBY

**10 JUN – CENTRAL REGIONAL
ATHLETICS CARNIVAL**

**17 JUN – POPUP BOOKSTORE
CATHERINE MCAULEY CENTRE**

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



ENROLMENTS – If you are looking to enrol a child or you know of anyone who wishes to enrol a child at St Therese's can you please contact the office or visit our website for an enrolment pack. Please don't wait as places are filling quickly for 2023.

[Request An Enrolment Pack - St Therese's Primary School \(newlambton.catholic.edu.au\)](http://newlambton.catholic.edu.au)

Thanking you all once again for your support.

Duilio Rufo
Principal

Assistant Principals Message

Welcome back to Term 2. I hope you all had a lovely Easter Season, as well as a happy and restful holiday, and are looking forward to a great term ahead.

Athletics Carnival

Yesterday we had the Athletics Carnival at the Fearnley Dawes Track. It was an excellent day, with all the children enthusiastically involved in all events. It was also so lovely to see the children cheering on their friends and team mates. Thank you to especially to Mr Smith and Mr Hartcher, who organised the carnival and all the teachers that attended on the day. Thank you also to the volunteers, we could not have run the carnival without you. It was also so lovely to have all the family and friends watching the carnival.

Mother's Day Craft

In lieu of a Mother's Day Stall, each child will complete a Mother's Day craft activity. There will be one craft item per family, at a cost of \$12 per family. Please send your payment to the school office by next Friday 6th May.

Friday 6 May.

Mother's Day Breakfast

All Mothers and mother figures are invited to our Mother's Day Breakfast next **Friday 6 May at 7:30am** in the school hall. Children who attend St Therese's are welcome to attend, as well as any younger siblings.

Winter Uniform

The official change over to the winter uniform is **1 June**. The weather at this time of the year can be very changeable, so parents please dress your child according to the weather each day. Children can wear a mix of winter and summer uniform over the next few weeks. Please ensure that whatever uniform your child wears, they wear it with pride, and only wear our school uniform. Our official uniform can be purchased from Lowes at Kotara, but many uniform items are also readily available at Target and BigW. Please be aware that hoodies and sports branded clothing is not part of our uniform. Also children with shoulder length hair or longer must have it tied back whilst at school. This includes boys and girls. Nail polish of any colour is not permitted.

Sports Day for Term 2

Sport days for Term 2 have changed. Please check your child's Term 2 day below. Students are to wear their sport uniform on sport days only. Formal uniform is to be worn on all other days.

- Kindergarten – Wednesday
- Year 1 – Thursday for Weeks 1-4, then on Tuesday for Weeks 5-10
- Year 2 - Tuesday for Weeks 1-4, then on Thursday for Weeks 5-10
- Year 3 – Wednesday
- 4N – Tuesday
- 4W – Wednesday
- 4L – Thursday
- Year 5 - Tuesday for Weeks 1-6, then on Thursday for Weeks 7-10
- Year 6 - Thursday for Weeks 1-6, then on Tuesday for Weeks 7-10

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



COVID – If your child tests positive to Covid please email or call the school to advise us of this as well as putting in an absentee note via Compass.

Kaylene Maretich
Assistant Principal

RE News

Welcome back. Easter is the most important time of the Catholic Church Year. I personally find God in the waves of the water, the laughter of children and the face of my daughter. I hope that wherever you were and whoever you surrounded yourself with brought you closer to God during this special time. Thank you to Mrs Sturt for her organisation of the beautiful Easter Liturgy and reflective Anzac Liturgy. We feel blessed to welcome the community to these events.

Confirmation and Eucharist –we are now preparing for the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist on the 8th & 9th June. This is sequential to Reconciliation. Please contact me via email (alexandra.wilson@mn.catholic.edu.au) to nominate your preferred evening. Please remember to also send in payment for the sacramental books to the front office if you have not already done so. An information evening regarding Confirmation and Eucharist is scheduled Thursday May 5th 6:30pm. This will be held via zoom.
ID: 407 426 3910. Password: 2022.

Project Compassion- we are looking forward to the upcoming collection of donations. The money goes to vulnerable communities globally, including education. Keep up the great work! I wonder which class will raise the most?



Young Voices Awards 2022 is an initiative led by Australian Catholics in conjunction with Australian Catholic University (ACU). The link below provides more information, however, it is only open to students in year 5 and 6. The entry can be in the form of a written piece, photography, a podcast, or a film. There are prizes for winners, along with having their work published. Please see the link for more details: [Young Voices Awards \(australiancatholics.com.au\)](https://australiancatholics.com.au/young-voices-awards)

School Community News

School Fees

School Fee statements will be sent out on Wednesday 4th May. For those parents who have nominated to pay via instalments (weekly, fortnightly, or monthly). If you require assistance setting up a Bpay or Direct Debit, please contact Vicki at the office on 4957 4922 or admin@newlambton.catholic.edu.au. These regular payments should finalise the 2022 fees by 31st November 2022.

For those families who have nominated to pay in one instalment, this must be received by 30 June 2022 and fully extinguish their school fee balance.

Please note that payments can be via cash, cheque or credit card. (Visa, mastercard or debit card payments can be taken over the phone.)

We would prefer parents did not use CompassPay for event and fee payments.

School Photos

If you wish to order a copy of the band photo, school leaders etc you can do this by using the following unique code: **69078DL**

VOLUNTEERING

The Catholic Schools Office (CSO) has created an online application for the volunteering process. On the volunteer site, you can find the Volunteer Handbook, and coming soon are videos that go through the Volunteers Induction. Applying through the volunteer site, results in your application going straight to the CSO, then the school gets updates once these are cleared. If you already have your WWCC and completed a paper volunteer application, there is **NO** need for you to reapply. If you would like to volunteer, and have not yet completed an application, please follow the link to do this online <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/people/volunteer/>.

When you apply online, you will be notified whether you require a WWCC and/or police check. Please note: it can take up to 6 weeks for your application to be approved. You now only need to apply once, further applications are only required if your circumstances change e.g. change in name etc WWCC expires.

Please advise the school via email when you register online and we will contact you when the clearance is received.

Vicki McSpadden,
Bursar

LOST PROPERTY

If you recognise any of these lost property items, please contact the office.



PBS – School Spirit Awards

We will return in full from week 2 of Term 2.

Principal Awards

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

KN: Vincent M, Penelope P, Chloe S; **KL:** Frankie C, Emilia H;

6L: Ella C, Sophie G.

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

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



PLEASE NOTE DAY CHANGED

Full School Assembly will now be held every Monday afternoon at 2.30pm (not Friday)

Date: Monday 2nd May Time: 2:30pm ID: 676 1390 6420 P/W: 859 740

Parents are welcome to attend our weekly school assemblies in the school hall on **Monday afternoons**.

Janine Schneider
Primary Coordinator

FROM COACH HARTCHER

Join us in wishing our talented footballers all the very best in the Polding selection trials this Friday 29th April 2022. Mia S. Celeste A. Rhys B.

Message from Learning Support

Dear Parents,

A new children's clinic has opened in Merewether. At present, Hunter Children's Clinics has two Paediatricians and one Clinical Psychologist offering cognitive assessments. Attached to this newsletter is an information sheet about the range of assessments this centre are currently offering. It is my understanding that there is currently a short wait time to see a Paediatrician and/or psychologist.

For more information, please see the link below:

<https://www.hunterchildrensclinics.com.au/>

Melanie Faehndrich
Learning Support Coordinator

FREE ONLINE EVENT

World famous author, activist, and psychologist Steve Biddulph will be talking about how to raise open hearted, kind and strong men.

WHEN: Tuesday 10th May between 6pm and 8pm. (It will be pre recorded, lasts 85 minutes, and will be able to be accessed on the 10th May between 6pm and 10pm.)

HOW TO REGISTER

- Click the following link and fill out the form
(<http://forms.monday.com/.../c9f11df9410729334ba3be73a90cc...>)
- Fill out all relevant details, especially email.

Further information about the event will be shared closer to the event Registrations close on Tuesday 3 May, 2022



Hunter Children's Clinics
MEREWETHER

Information About Cognitive Assessments

What is a cognitive assessment?

A cognitive assessment, sometimes known as an IQ test, can be used to determine your child's overall intellectual ability compared with their same-aged peers. Cognitive and learning assessments can offer you a range of information about your child, and can be used for a variety of purposes. Some examples include:

- Assessment of general intellectual functioning
- Identification of any learning difficulties, and assess for cognitive delay
- Assessment for potential intellectual giftedness
- Identification of areas of strengths and weakness, and particular learning styles

These assessments can be used to support an application to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), or for additional funding in the school environment.

Who will be administering your child's assessment?



Your child's assessment will be completed by Amanda Kropp, Clinical Psychologist. Amanda is also a Board Approved Supervisor with the Psychology Board of Australia, and is a member of the Australian Psychology Society. She has experience in working with children in both assessment and therapy settings, and has a particular interest in cognitive assessment and childhood development. Amanda will help your child to

feel at ease and reduce any anxiety they might be feeling on the day of their assessment.

What cognitive tests do we use?

At Hunter Children's Clinics, we use only the most recent editions of the industry standard assessments of intellectual ability; the Wechsler Intelligence Scales. Grounded in many decades of scientific research, the Wechsler Intelligence Scales are used worldwide and are considered to be the most recognised, comprehensive, and reliable assessment of intelligence across the lifespan.

The Wechsler Intelligence Scales measure intelligence across several domains, providing a comprehensive picture of your child's intellectual ability.

Depending on the age of your child, it may also be useful to

HUNTER CHILDREN'S CLINICS

25 Llewellyn Street, Merewether

Awabakal Country, NSW 2291

P 02 4011 5938 F 02 4027 5754

E admin@hunterchildrensclinics.com.au

W www.hunterchildrensclinics.com.au

administer a test of achievement (or academic performance). When combined, intelligence and achievement testing provide a wealth of information that can be used to assist your child to perform to the best of their ability.

What assessments are available?

- **Cognitive Assessments:**

Wechsler Preschool and Primary Scale of Intelligence | Fourth Edition (WPPSI-IV)

The WPPSI-IV is designed to measure the intelligence of children, generally between the ages of 2 years 6 months, up to the age of 6. Providing a comprehensive picture of your children's general intellectual ability (also referred to as Full Scale Intelligence Quotient), this assessment measures intelligence across four domains:

1. Verbal IQ
2. Performance IQ
3. Processing Speed
4. Global Language

Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children | Fifth Edition (WISC-V)

The WISC-V is designed to measure the intelligence of children generally between the ages of 6 years and 16 years. Like the WPPSI-IV, the WISC-V assesses intelligence across five domains that impact performance:

1. Verbal Comprehension
2. Visual-Spatial
3. Fluid Reasoning
4. Working Memory
5. Processing Speed

Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale | Fourth Edition (WAIS-IV)

The WAIS-IV measures the intelligence of older adolescents and adults between the ages of 16 and 90 years. As Hunter Children's Clinic has a paediatric focus, this assessment will generally be used for individuals between the ages of 16 and 25. The WAIS-IV assesses intelligence across four domains:

1. Verbal Comprehension
2. Perceptual Reasoning
3. Working Memory
4. Processing Speed

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- **Academic Performance Assessment:**

Wechsler Individual Achievement Test | Fourth Edition (WIAT-4)

The WIAT-4 measures the academic performance of children between the ages of 4 and 19 years. While the areas of assessment are tailored to the age of the individual, they generally align with common school subjects, including:

1. Reading
2. Mathematics
3. Written Language
4. Oral Language

What is included in the assessment?

- An assessment session with your child, using the age-appropriate industry standard Wechsler Intelligence Scales. Please note that if you require both a *cognitive assessment* and an *academic performance assessment*, testing must be completed across two separate sessions.
- A comprehensive report, with results and recommendations provided in a timely fashion (5-10 business days following the assessment session)
- A one-hour feedback session explaining the results of the assessment and any recommendations, and discussing any questions that may arise

If you would like to know more, please call Hunter Children's Clinics on **02 4011 5938**.

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P 02 4011 5938 F 02 4027 5754
E admin@hunterchildrensclinics.com.au
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Catholic Schools Office
PO BOX 741 Newcastle NSW 2300
841 Hunter Street Newcastle West 2302
P 02 4979 1200 F 02 4979 1209
E info@mn.catholic.edu.au
ABN 79 469 343 054

Joint accounts on Compass to manage permissions and payments

22 March 2022

The Catholic Schools Office recently transferred its finance systems to align with the Compass Student Information System used across our schools.

To ensure we have accurate information and accessibility for parents and carers to provide permissions for their child's schools activities, such as off-site school events and school excursions, it's important for families to have the correct access and where relevant, joint access.

For security reasons, Compass is established similar to other institutions where only one person has certain permissions. This form is for families that have a single debtor currently established with only one access to the portal for financial matters and we want to make this easier for you. We ask that you complete and return the information below and provide your consent for us to transition you to one jointly accessible account.

A jointly accessible account means that either of the named parties can provide their consent/ permission for school-related activities, view transactions or make payments. Updating your account to joint accessibility will not change your statement transactions.

If you choose not to provide your consent, your school can continue "as is" with only the one nominated parent or carer responsible for providing all consents and payments in the portal.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this change, please contact your school.

Please complete the below to enable us to update you to a joint account across All Schools your child/children are enrolled at. This form must be completed, signed and returned to cso.sassupport@mn.catholic.edu.au.

Insert name of parents/carers for joint accessible account	
Insert Student Name/s	Insert School Name and Suburb

We provide our permission to change the debtor title to be shown as a joint account i.e. with both names.

We understand the current transactions on this school fee account will not change, it is the title that is being altered to show both names.

We consent to transfer any outstanding fees to consolidate to a joint account.

We understand there is no change to the fee proportion of 100% per child.

We understand this change will allow all nominated persons the same access to the Compass portal.

We understand that with a joint account, we are jointly responsible and severally liable for the payment of all fees and expenses incurred while our child is enrolled within the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle irrespective of Court Orders or personal agreements made between parents and carers.

We acknowledge that we will advise the school of any change in our circumstances and ensure contact details are up to date as soon as practicable.

Print name: _____

Print name: _____

Signature: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____



SAVE THE DATE!!

We warmly invite all our Mothers and
Mother figures to a **Mother's Day Breakfast.**

When: Friday 6th May

Where: School Hall

Time: 7:30am - 9am

Come along and enjoy a lovely breakfast and catch-up with friends.
Please note, due to catering purposes, only St Therese's students
and toddlers/babies may also come along.

*Happy
Mother's Day*



SAVE THE DATE!

Infants Sports Carnival for all students K-2

When: Friday 13th May

Where: Back Playground

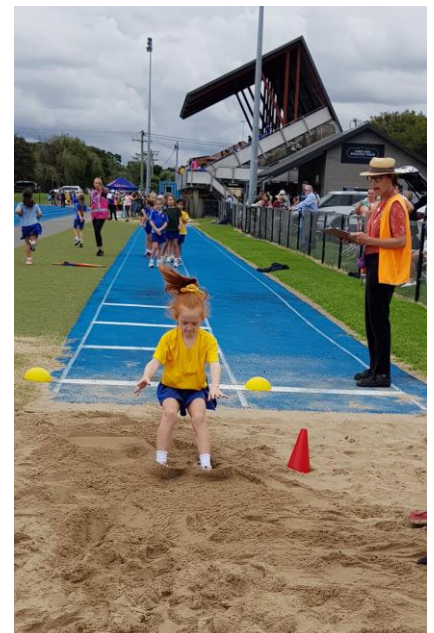
Time: 10:30 - 11:25am



Come along and cheer your little ones on as they race for fun! There
will be races, ball games, egg and spoon races and relays. No races
will be timed, and no ribbons will be handed out. This mini carnival is
just for fun!

Parents and Carers are invited to bring
along lunch and picnic blanket/chairs and
stay for lunch.





A Multicultural Day in the Garden

– *it's your place too!*

WEDNESDAY 11 MAY
10am – 1pm

Join us to share your thoughts on local life and
taste the diverse flavours of world cooking

Come along and enjoy a great social day!

Great food, coffee and entertainment

Social discussion with our CALD communities
about local multicultural life

Cooking demos, cultural exchange through food

Planting a garden for cultural cooking

Live music and face painting for the kids

FIND US ON 

All welcome! It's your place too.

Hunter Multicultural Communities 2a Platt Street, Waratah

FREE food and activities

RSVP MONDAY 9 MAY
Phone 4960 8248
or book via [Eventbrite here](#)



"It's what's inside ... that's Newcastle" Artists Tunzi & Olos One



PLAYGROUP UPDATE

For our last week of playgroup in Term 1, we celebrated Easter! We had a small group attend, and everyone had a fabulous time making and decorating beautiful Easter hats, including the grown-ups. Our next playgroup will be this Friday 29th April, celebrating Earth Day. Meet us in the school hall on Friday morning from 9:30-10:30am. Please bring your own morning tea and water bottle, and you are welcome to wear a mask, if you prefer. Playgroup is currently open to siblings of current St Therese's students, and/or children enrolled to start Kindergarten at St Therese's in 2023, and costs a gold coin donation per family. It's a wonderful space for the children to meet some new friends before starting kindergarten, and for grown-ups to meet other St Therese's parents. If you would like any further information, please join the St Therese's Playgroup Facebook group, or contact Jo on 0439 435 287 or jo.kim@outlook.com.



Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle Catholic Schools Office ADDITIONAL NEEDS INFORMATION DAY

The Special Needs Working Party is an initiative of the Federation of Parents and Friends Associations – Diocese of Maitland Newcastle. The 2022 Additional Needs Information Day allows parents and carers of children and young people with additional needs enrolled in our catholic schools to join together and hear from experts from the Catholic Schools Office about a range of issues from funding to supporting learning, mental health and wellbeing.

We would be delighted to welcome you and invite you to share morning tea and a light lunch with us.

WHEN: Wednesday 4th May 2022

WHERE: St Brigid's Primary school Hall – Raymond Terrace

TIME: 9.00am – 1.00pm

COST: FREE

Morning tea and Light lunch included.

Please register using the link below.

[Click Here](#)

Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact:

Cath Garrett-Jones

Family Engagement Officer

Catholic Schools Office

P: 4979 1303 E: cath.garrett-jones@mn.catholic.edu.au



if your child is **away** !!! for more than 10 school days

Parents and carers are encouraged not to withdraw their children from school for family holidays. If your child needs to be away from school for a period greater than two weeks (ten school days) you will need to contact the school and apply for either an **Application for Extended Leave Form - Travel or an Exemption from Attendance Form (if for the purpose of Elite Sport or Elite Entertainment Industry)**. This form needs to be completed, initially by the parent / carer and then by the Principal of the school.

It is important that the exemption form is completed **before** the period that the child is to be away from school. Exemptions **cannot** be issued retrospectively.

The school attendance roll will then be updated to ensure that your child's absence is legitimate and explained.

A certificate of Extended Leave - Travel or a Certificate of Exemption will then be issued. If the Principal feels that the extended absence is not in the student's best interests they may decline the application for exemption. Depending on the circumstances and how long the leave will be, you may ask the school to provide tasks that can be completed while your child is absent.

For periods **under** ten days, you will contact the school as per the normal school procedure: note, sms, email or phone.

Contact the school for further details



Kids look to you to keep them safe

No parking areas and/or kiss and ride zones have been installed at most schools to help parents and carers safely drop off and pick up children.

For these zones to work effectively, parents and carers need to:

- **Be timely.** If there is no indicated time on the No Parking sign, you are only permitted to stop for 2 minutes. If your child does not enter or exit the vehicle within that time, you are required to exit the zone and re-enter when the child is ready
- **Not move more than three metres from your vehicle.** For example, a driver may get out of the car, open the boot and help children with their bags, but they must not move any further than 3 metres from their vehicle
- **Stop their vehicle as close as possible to the head of the zone, this will allow other parents and carers easy access to the zone.**

#10343AUG14