



Principal's Message

Dear Parents & Carers

Interrelate Programme

Last week our children from Years 4 to 6 started the Moving into the Teen Years Programme. This will continue for the next two weeks for the Year 6 children. This has always been a valuable learning opportunity for the children and I thank the parents for supporting this.

Current COVID Considerations

As you can see from the School Calendar to the right, this is a very busy term in terms of visitors to the school and I would ask you all to consider making sure that you are symptom free before attending the school. We are still under pressure with the limited availability of casual staff to replace those members of staff who become unwell and are unable to attend school.

Parent Teacher Interviews

A reminder that the Compass system to make your bookings through has now closed. If you find that you have missed out on booking an interview and you would like one please contact the office for them to assist you. Also, if you are unable to attend your interview or are running late please make contact to minimise any inconvenience.

Staff Development Day – PUPIL FREE DAY

I draw your attention to the date set down for the Staff Development day 9th September – this will be a PUPIL FREE DAY. Our onsite OOSH will be available and the contact details are 0455 099 594.

Duilio Rufo
Principal

Dates to Remember

25 AUG - RUGBY LEAGUE GALA

26 AUG – GRANDPARENTS DAY
9.30AM – 10.45AM

30 AUG – SAUSAGE SIZZLE
YR 6 FUNDRAISER

1 SEPT – YR 6 ST PIUS SPORTS DAY

1 SEPT – NETBALL GALA

2 SEPT – FATHERS DAY
BREAKFAST 7.30AM

9 SEPT – PUPIL FREE DAY
STAFF DEVELOPMENT

10 & 11 SEPT – FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

13 SEPT – DIO NETBALL GALA

15 & 16 SEPT – LOTUS FUNDRAISER

18 SEPT – FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

23 SEPT – LAST DAY TERM 3

10 OCT – FIRST DAY TERM 4

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



Assistant Principal's Message

Tell Them from Me (TTFM) Survey

This year the Tell Them from Me (TTFM) Survey will be conducted from 5 September to 7 October. On Friday, we will send through a summary of the survey results from 2021, and the targets have been set by the school, to address the survey results. You will also be sent information about the TTFM, which is completed by all students in Years 4-6, staff and parents. If you do not want your child to complete the survey, you will need to complete a non-consent form. This will all be sent on Compass on Friday.

Parent Engagement Groups (PEG)

St Therese's have moved to a PEG this year, so we would like to offer two PEGs this term:

1. Social and Emotional Development in Children – allied health professionals, such as psychologists, speech therapists and occupational therapists will present evening sessions for parents regarding some trends in children's development, as well as strategies that parents can use at home to assist their child
2. Cybersafety – education officers from NSW Police will present information for parents around cybersafety and how to support your child to make safe decisions when online

Dates for these sessions will be published in the Newsletter in the coming weeks.

Year 6 Fundraiser

Year 6 will hold a sausage sizzle and cupcake stall on **Tuesday 30 August**, the canteen will be closed on this day. Sausage sandwiches will be \$2.50 and **must** be bought through Flexischools, cupcakes will be available for purchase on the day from 50c to \$2. We would like to thank Adam's Family Meats in New Lambton for providing all the sausages and cooking them on the day. Orders open now and will close at 9am on Monday 29th August.

Indigenous Literacy Foundation

Please see the flyer in the Newsletter regarding the Book Drive being organised by Sage T and Anna VdH in Year 5. You can send in your pre-loved books at anytime between now and the 5 September, please ensure the books are still in good condition. We have a number of exciting events planned for the Week 8 around Indigenous Literacy, including a book stall each lunch and recess – more information to come in the following weeks.

Office of Safeguarding (OoSG)

We have had an increased number of negative behaviours that are occurring online, including name calling, exclusion and negative talk. These incidents are occurring after school hours, with some students online all night. Parents, please be vigilant of your child's online behaviours and ensure your child is supervised when online. Children should not have devices in their bedrooms overnight, and all devices should be off or on silent. Research indicates that children technology can be a stimulant, making it harder to fall asleep and screens that are blinking and alerts on devices cause unwanted awakenings overnight. Technology is a wonderful tool when used correctly, please ensure you talk to your child and help them to learn appropriate online behaviours.

LOTUS

Stage 3 students are currently involved in preparing for LOTUS. This foundation has been raising money for young girls in Laos, to enable young girls to stay at school. Often young girls in Laos, need to leave school in order to work to raise money for their family. Year 6 students are currently creating artworks that will be displayed in an Art Show for Year 6 parents to view on **Thursday 15 September, 2022 from 6:00pm**. All grades K-5 will be able to visit the Art Show on either the 15 or 16 September, where they can buy art craft. The craft is being created by Year 5, and there will be beautiful items to buy. I thank all the Stage 3 teachers and students for their enthusiasm and dedication to LOTUS.

Kaylene Maretich
Assistant Principal

RE News

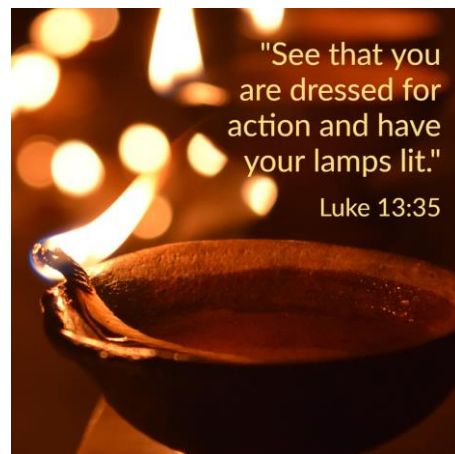
Sunday Gospel Reflection – The following reflection, by Dianne Bergant, is based upon Sunday's gospel passage (Luke 12:32-48) and highlights the importance of faith and vigilance on our Christian journey:

In the middle of Ordinary Time we discover a theme normally associated with the end of the liturgical year and the season of Advent – vigilance in anticipation of the return of the master. This vigilance demands that we live lives of faith. We do not know when God will open the door of our existence and call us into a deeper realisation of the sacred dimension of life itself. Vigilance is a characteristic of a Christian at all times, for all times. We must be ever vigilant.

While we live in the expectation of the coming of God in the future, we also live now in the presence of God. This means that God is present with us now, as a companion in our lives. It also means that this presence is the context within which our lives unfold. However, until all things are brought to fulfilment, we live in this presence by faith. Faith and hope are intimately joined. As believers we are called to trust in the promises of God, even when what is promised seems impossible.

We are assured that we will be blessed, but we can never be sure of the exact nature of the blessing. In faith, we put our trust in God and then carry out our responsibilities. In faith we wait for the Lord, who is our help and our shield, not really knowing under what guise he will come to us. Faith is both the cost of living as a disciple and the reward.

<https://www.liturgyhelp.com/calendar/date/2022Aug07/0/RefDiBer>



First Holy Communion – All families should now have received a copy of the preparation booklet for this sacrament sent home last week. If you have not already done so, please don't forget to let me know, via the note sent home, of your preferred date for the First Holy Communion Masses and to send in \$10 for the preparation booklet. Any questions or concerns, contact me directly: luke.smith@mn.catholic.edu.au

Confirmation – A reminder for any families who took up the option of having the individual or family photos taken prior to the liturgies, please contact Newcastle School Portraits directly: go to www.newcastleschoolportraits.com and click order and choose specialty photos. You will be asked for a code and password which is 69078DL (code and password the same). This code/password is case sensitive. If you have any issues with this process, the phone number is: 4965 4114.

Luke Smith
RE Coordinator

School Community News

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.

Payment options

We wish to advise that the preferred method of payment of fees, excursions or other items is either via credit card, BPAY or direct debit. Although Compass Pay is an option on the Compass platform, we request that this NOT be used due to technical difficulties with the system.

Please note that if at any time you need assistance with your fees or are unsure about any of these payment methods please contact our office.

Belinda Palmer, Bursar

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



Sport

Coach's Corner

Diocesan Athletics Carnival:

Congratulations to all 14 students that competed last Wednesday at the Diocesan Athletics Carnival. It sounded like a wonderful day and by all reports an enjoyable day. We are very proud of you all.

We further congratulate and are excited to relay that Ben C and Spencer P have run an amazing race to qualify for Polding 100m in September! Congratulations boys and congratulations to all Diocesan participants.

Coach Hartcher



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PBS

PBS and Principal Awards

This term we are focusing on the value of **Service**. We congratulate the following children for receiving the PBS School Spirit Award for demonstrating **SERVICE** by helping others:

School Spirit Award for demonstrating SERVICE by helping others.					
KN	Evelyn A	KW	Georgie L	KL	Violet W
	Shaun H		Aadan M		George J
1N	Zara A			1L	Elin W
	Kurt B				Sam B
2N	Blake F	2W	Mia H	2L	Ava H
	Chase P		Santiago P		Roman A
3N	Max C	3W	Frankie H	3L	Ashton S
	Phoebe B		Noah B		Dolcie D
4N	Phoebe M	4W	Jackson R	4L	Rosie W
	Blake K		Harry G		Hamish M
5N	Ruby T	5W	Samuel P	5L	Harvey L
	Jordy T		Olivia M		Mackenzie S
6N	Ayanna M	6W		6L	Sophie G
	Charlie K				Matilda K

Principal Awards

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

KW – Jamison C, Lucas M, Sidney S & Hudson T; **1N** – Kurt B; **1L** – Maggie K, Zaliyah W, Kai R & Mia S; **2N** – Chase P, Luke P, Talulah A, Amelia M & Sadie S; **2W** – Ellie J & Isaac S; **2L** – Paige M, Eliza B, Ben C & Ashton P; **3N** – Georgie A & Mason S; **3L** – Evie T, Grace O & Frankie S; **4L** – Hamish M; **5L** – Tabitha K & Agnieszka M; **6N** – Keana C.

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

Date: Monday 15th August

Time: 2:30pm

Venue: School Hall

Janine Schneider

Primary Coordinator

SAVE THE DATE!

Grandparents of our K-3 students are warmly invited to our:

Grandparents Day Celebration!

Date: Friday 26th August

Time: 9:30-10am – Liturgy in the School Hall

10-10:15am – Morning Tea

10:15-10:45am – Open Classrooms



FREE

Email to
receive a
Zoom link



40th ANNIVERSARY 1981-2021

Federation
of Parents & Friends
Associations
DIOCESE OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE

Dr Justin Coulson is back!

31st August and 1st September 2022

...to share with us his wisdom and advice about the issue of

Anxiety and Resilience

The Federation of P & F Associations is very pleased to provide this **FREE** opportunity to the parents and carers of children and young people enrolled in our Catholic schools.



Dr Justin Coulson is the co-host and parenting expert on Channel Nine's *Parental Guidance*, the founder of happyfamilies.com.au, and one of Australia's most trusted parenting experts.

Over the past decade he has helped innumerable families with his 6 books about raising children, his hundreds of media appearances (including all of Australia's major news outlets, and even the Washington Post and the New York Times), and two viral videos that have been viewed a combined 80 million times!

Justin earned his PhD in Psychology from the University of Wollongong. He and his wife Kylie have been married since the late 1990s and are the parents of 6 daughters.

Anxiety & Resilience for parents/carers of Primary school students

Date: 31 August 2022
Time: 6.30pm start – 8.00pm
Venue: via Zoom
Cost: FREE

To receive the link for this event, [click here](#)

Anxiety & Resilience for parents/carers of Secondary school students

Date: 1 September 2022
Time: 6.30pm start – 8.00pm
Venue: via Zoom
Cost: FREE

To receive the link for this event, [click here](#)

Farmers Day at St Therese's



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



In the Veggie Garden

