



Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Carers,

Kinder Orientation

This Thursday we will be welcoming our 2023 Kinder children and their families to St Therese's. The day will commence at 9.30am with a Liturgy in the Main Hall, followed by a light morning tea. The new Kinders will visit classrooms and meet their buddies. Transition visits are booked for Friday 11th November for the Kinders who are joining us. This is always a busy time in the school but a fun time too and I thank all the staff who have worked behind the scenes to ensure that all involved have a positive experience.

Farewell to The Director of Schools

Yesterday our staff gathered to farewell Mr Gerard Mowbray, Director of Schools who is retiring at the end of the year. Gerard spoke warmly of his appreciation of the calibre of the staff at St Therese's and of their commitment to the children and families. I would like to thank Gerard for his many years of service and leadership and wish him all the very best in his future endeavours.

Blessing and Official School Opening

We are just a few weeks away from the Blessing and Official Opening of the school buildings set down for 18th November. This event is gathering momentum and we are looking forward to welcoming those officiating on the day and our St Therese's families. The programme for the event will be published next week so all can be "in the loop".

General Health Notice

We are noticing an increase in the number of colds, flu and gastro bugs in the school. If your child is unwell the best place for them is at home. The practice of "just see how you go at school today" often results in a phone call for a pick up as the child deteriorates and needs to be at home. We also have a number of staff who become unwell and need time off and it is becoming increasingly difficult to secure casual staff.

Duilio Rufo
Principal

Dates to Remember

3 NOV – KINDER ORIENTATION

4 NOV – YR 5 LEADERSHIP DAY

**ICE CREAM DAY
YR 6 FUNDRAISER**

10 NOV – YR 6 PIUS VISIT

11 NOV – KINDER TRANSITION

**DIO PSSA BASKETBALL
TENNIS**

STAGE 2 MASS 9.30AM

**18 NOV SCHOOL BLESSING &
OPENING CEREMONY
10AM MAIN HALL**

8 DEC YR 6 GRADUATION

9 DEC – MOTIVATE SPORT YR 6

12 DEC SWIMMING CARNIVAL

16 DEC LAST DAY FOR 2022

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



RE News

School-led Parish Mass – Thank you to the families who were able to join us on Sunday and especially to those who supported their children in taking on a role within the Mass. It was greatly appreciated.

Stage Masses – Thank you also to those parents who were able to join us last Friday for our Stage 3 Mass, it was great to have your presence there. A reminder that the next Stage Mass will be for Years 3 & 4:

Stage 2 – Friday 11th November at 9:30am

Catholic Mission – At the end of this week (*Friday 12pm*), I will officially close our school 'Socktober' fundraising page for Catholic Mission. At the time of writing this, we have raised almost \$1000 towards our school goal of \$1500. If any of you are able, please consider clicking on the link below before the closure date to help those communities in Ethiopia that are being supported by Catholic Mission in 2022. <https://www.socktober.org.au/fundraiser/sttheresesprimaryschoolnewlambton>

Gospel Reflection – I thought that the reflection below by Dianna Bergant on Sunday's Gospel passage was worthy of sharing. I hope it speaks to your heart as it did mine, especially as **Hospitality is one of our core Mercy Educational Values here at St Therese's**:

The change of seasons is always an opportune time to marvel at the magnificence of the natural world of which we are a part. Its colours, its textures, its smells all reflect the limitless imagination of the creator. Perhaps the most marvellous feature of the world is the interconnectedness of all the elements of which it consists. Somehow the spirit of the creator is manifested through each aspect of this universe. And we are part of it all. The universe may be as a grain in the balance or a drop of morning dew, but each grain and each drop contains within it the possibilities of the future.

Offering hospitality is a profound social act. When we offer hospitality, we invite another into our world, into our lives. We shift our attention from our own cares and concerns to the needs and comfort of the other. By the act of hospitality we transform strangers into friends and intimates, just as Jesus did with Zacchaeus. The hospitality that Jesus offers dissolves all constraints. Relationships disregard the biased measures of propriety, forging bonds of reconciliation and issuing everyone an invitation to intimacy. The hospitality that Jesus offers recreates the world from one of insider versus outsider to one of universal inclusivity. Sinners become friends, the lost are found, and all are restored to the rightful place as children not merely of Abraham but of God. The creativity of the creator is matched by the compassion of the re-creator.

Sourced from: <https://www.liturgyhelp.com/calendar/date/2022Oct30/0/RefDiBer>

Luke Smith
RE Coordinator

School Community News

Changes in the office

Belinda Palmer had her last day in the office last Friday, 28th October. Belinda has taken up a new role within the Catholic Schools Office Finance department. Jenny Hurst & Lisa Bechly will be sharing the Finance role for the next 7 weeks till the end of term and our wonderful Vicki McSpadden will be returning Term 1 2023. Please be kind to the ladies whilst they have their L plates on!

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 unsure about any of these payment methods, please contact our office.

Jenny Hurst/Lisa Bechly
Bursar

PBS

This term we are focusing on the value of **Justice**. We congratulate the following children for receiving the PBS School Spirit Award for demonstrating **JUSTICE** by being fair to others:

School Spirit Award for demonstrating JUSTICE by being fair to others.					
KN	Chloe S Hudson J	KW	Kai D Harry A	KL	Lorenzo D Imogen L
1N	Isabella F Eamon K			1L	Fox C Henry W
2N	Thomas P Maisie S	2W	Abbey C Oliver F	2L	Eliza B Mia D
3N	Thomas L Francesca R	3W	Harriet O Lachlan S	3L	Knox R Dolcie D
4N	Jake M Zoe S	4W	Noah K Bruno R	4L	Ethan O Eamon S
5N	Sienna A Oliver M	5W	Martin W Marly M	5L	Olivia L Ava B
6N	Lucy A Laura M	6W	Taiyo P Olivia H	6L	Celeste A Sachin R

This term we are focusing on the value of **Justice**. We congratulate the following children for receiving the PBS School Spirit Award for demonstrating **JUSTICE** by being fair to others:

Principal Awards

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

KW - Iggy P, Laila N, Finn M, Cillian M, Zara M, Kai D & Penelope F; **KL** - Bon T, Max J & Hazel H; **2W** - Louis W, Benjamin C, Mabel C, Isaac S & Harry D; **3L** - William F & Iris S; **4N** - Bailey B, Brock H, Vienne T & Annabel S; **4W** - Evie C; **5N** - Archie D; **5L** - Sage T, Brody B & Jackson L; **6N** - Lucy A; **6L** - Matisse M & Amelia B.

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

Date: Monday 7th November

Time: 2:30pm

Venue: School Hall

Janine Schneider,
Primary Coordinator

Year 6 fundraiser – Friday 4th November 2022

ICE CREAM TREATS – SWEETEN YOUR FRIDAY
4TH NOVEMBER 2022.

ICE CREAMS WILL BE AVAILABLE YEARS KINDY TO 2
AT LUNCHTIME AND YEARS 3-6 AT RECESS

ICE CREAM CONES WITH OR WITHOUT SPRINKLES

\$2.00 EACH



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

SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL - SAVE THE DATE!



Our 2022 St Therese's Swimming Carnival will be held on **Monday 12th December**. All students who can swim 50 metres competitively, are invited to participate in the carnival.

This event is only open to children who will turn **8 years or older** in **2023**. In the coming weeks we will open an Event on Compass where parents can click on which races/events they would like their child to compete in.

If parents would like to volunteer to help at the carnival, please email janine.schneider@mn.catholic.edu.au

Please note, parents who would like to volunteer **must have their Volunteer Clearance** from the Catholic Schools Office. Please contact the school office for further information.

Janine Schneider
Primary Coordinator

Sport

U12s Rugby League Gala Day

On Thursday 27th October, the Stage 3 St Therese's Rugby League teams competed in a Gala Day at Dudley Oval. The boys played 3 tough and competitive games against other schools, both teams won 2 out of the 3 games. The teams showed great skill and sportsmanship throughout the whole day, acting respectfully towards all the other teams and the officials. Thank you to the parents and carers who came along to support and help coach the team throughout the day. A special thank you to Ryan Finlay for being a great mentor and coach to the Year 6 team on the day. Well done boys, we are extremely proud you.

Elli Hunt



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



Playgroup News

Last week, playgroup celebrated Halloween with dress-ups, and Halloween masks and crafts, and a few little treats. Important dates coming up for playgroup:

Friday 4th November: Playgroup will be meeting at Novocastrian Park at 9.30 am.

Friday 11th November: Playgroup will be meeting at Novocastrian Park at 9:30am.

Friday 18th November: No playgroup this week.

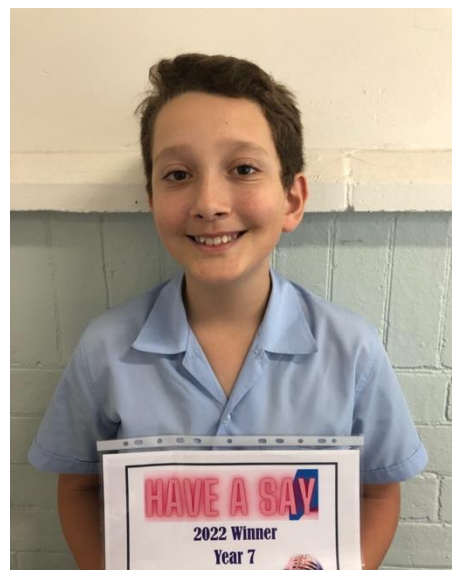
Friday 25th November: Kindergarten 2023 Playgroup in the school hall! Morning tea provided for grown-ups.

Friday 9th December: Playgroup Christmas Party!

Playgroup is currently open to siblings of current St Therese's students and/or children enrolled for Kindergarten in 2023, and runs on most Fridays from 9:30-10:30am. If you require any further information, please join our St Therese's Playgroup Facebook group, or contact Jo on 0439 435 287.



Congratulations to Wil S who won first place in the 'Have A Say' competition. Students had to present a video of a topic or issue that they were passionate about. Wil spoke about gender inequality, and he won first place amongst Year 7 entrants which is very impressive!

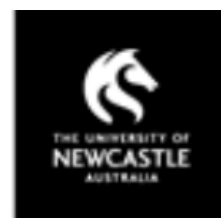


Poetry Club 2022

We are so thankful to have had a parent volunteer Susan Sheridan work with a group of students to inspire a love of poetry and writing. Each fortnight, students have met at the library before school and studied different poems, learnt literary techniques and performed their own poems. It has been a lot of fun too. The best part has been seeing the children arrive proudly with their own writing journals and enthusiastically wanting to share their work. For children to spend time each day writing, journaling and being creative is just fantastic. Poetry Club will finish for the year on Wednesday 9th November. We are looking forward to continuing Poetry Club in 2023.



OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY CLINIC



JANUARY 2023 SCHOOL HOLIDAY GROUP PROGRAMS

JANUARY 9TH-13TH

KINDER NINJA

9:00am-10:30am

Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri



**CYCLE
CLUB**



Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri

1:00pm-2:30pm



Party Rockers
10:00am-11:30am Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri

JANUARY 16TH-20TH

KINDER NINJA 1:00pm-2:30pm
Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri

MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 9:00am-10:30am
Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs

WRITING REV UP Mon, Wed, Fri
TEEN CONNECT AND CHILL Tues, Thurs

The poster features a blue background with various colorful icons: a party hat, stars, a sun, a ninja, a spy, and a tree. The text is arranged in white rounded rectangular boxes.



HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE

4985 4273

otclinic@newcastle.edu.au

VA Building, University of Newcastle Callaghan Campus

The banner has a blue background with a stylized tree on the right. It includes icons for a phone, an envelope, and a location pin.