



## Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Year 5 Leadership Day

Last Friday all of Year 5 participated in a Leadership Development Day. These days are an important part of the students' understanding of the responsibilities of being school leaders. My thanks to all the staff who organised and ran the day and I look forward to our Year 5 students stepping up next year to take on leadership roles.

### Kinder Transition

This Friday coming will be Transition Visit Day for our Kinder 2023 children. This is another step in the exciting journey of starting school and I'm looking forward to seeing all their smiling faces.

### Remembrance Day

This Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November we remember all our men and women who have served in the Armed Forces. In particular we pray for and remember those who paid the ultimate price. As a mark of respect our school leaders and myself will be placing a wreath at the Remembrance Service being held at the Lambton/New Lambton RSL.

### Blessing & Opening of School Buildings

A reminder of the Blessing & Opening of School Buildings to be celebrated on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November commencing at 10am. All are welcome and please contact the office if you are attending for catering purposes.

### Year 6 Farewell Function

My thanks go to the small band of hard-working parents who have organised and supported a number of fundraising events to put on a farewell celebration for our Year 6 students. This event is set down for Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November and I wish everyone a fun afternoon. My thanks also to Mrs Henshaw who has once again taken the reins on producing the Year 6 Yearbook.

**Duilio Rufo**  
Principal

## Dates to Remember

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.*



## Assistant Principals Message

### Office of Safeguarding (OoSG)

Parents have access to an online booklet on **Cyberbullying a guide for people under 18**. This booklet explains what cyberbullying is, how to report it, and how to get help if you are bullied online. [Link](#)  
There are also several upcoming webinars for Families from the eSafety Commission, join one of the free webinars for parents and carers. These live webinars give parents and carers the knowledge, skills, and tools to support their children to have safe online experiences. The eSafety Commission 2022 webinars include a broad range of topics that will be delivered by their expert education and training team, please access the [link](#) to see what is currently available.

### Assessment of Students

This week, we are undertaking standardised testing of all students, in line with the Catholic School Office Diocesan-Wide Assessment Schedule. Kindergarten students, and any student that has enrolled in St Therese's this year on other grades, will complete the Cognitive Achievement Test (CogAT), which assesses children in three categories: quantitative reasoning, qualitative reasoning, and spatial awareness. CogAT is designed to identify students who are gifted or high achieving across some or all these three categories. Progressive Achievement Testing (PAT) is completed by all students in Years 1-6, in Maths, Reading and Grammar & Punctuation (Years 3-6 only for this test). PAT is a diagnostic test, which assists teachers to forward plan teaching and learning activities that target areas students need to focus on. There is no "study" for CogAT and PAT, instead we encourage students to do their best.

### Vandalism at School

Over the past two weeks, it is disappointing to see an increase in graffiti on the walls of the toilets and on the play equipment, damage to school property (such as the lost property baskets being pulled off the wall) and damage to the plants. Despite a large amount of time being spent looking into these acts, we have not been able to identify the students directly involved. Please discuss this with your child/ren and encourage them to notify teachers if they see any of these negative behaviours. We have a beautiful school, and we are all responsible for ensuring our school environment is welcoming and well cared for.

**Kaylene Maretich**  
Assistant Principal

## RE News

**Year 5 Leadership Day** – Last Friday, Year 5 students spent the day, as part of our student faith and spirituality formation opportunities here at St Therese's, learning about Servant Leadership. The day was designed to not only develop the faith of each individual but collectively, prepare our Year 5 cohort to step up into the role of school leaders for 2023. As a Catholic community, we follow in the footsteps of Jesus Christ upon whom our model of servant leadership is built. Our students learnt about the value of teamwork and cooperation towards common goals and for the common good, along with opportunities to identify and reflect upon their own strengths and talents and how these can be utilised to serve the school community into the future. Regardless of position or title, our students walked away at the end of the day understanding that every person in our community is a leader and that we are all called to lead, as Jesus showed us, by serving others.



**Stage Masses** – A reminder that the next Stage Mass will be for Years 3 & 4 students: **Stage 2 – This Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> November at 9:30am. All parents welcome!**

**Gospel Reflection** – This week's reflection below, by Dianna Bergant, speaks of the radical and liberating nature of our lives should we be able to live fully transformed by the power of the Resurrection:

*Both the reading from Maccabees and the passage from the gospel speak of resurrection. The first is a testimony of faith, the second demonstrates a measure of scorn that accompanies unbelief. Belief in resurrection is not the same as the conviction of the immortality of the soul. The latter is based on the makeup of the human person; the former rests on the fidelity of*

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



God. The doctrine of resurrection is grounded in the concept of covenant, which claims that God has established a relationship with human beings. At issue is whether or not death is powerful enough to break the ties that bind us in covenant with God. Jesus says 'No!' If this is the future that awaits us, how are we to live until it dawns? Actually, it has already dawned. This is the eschatological hope in which we live by the grace given us from God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Our future is already present and, therefore, we are called to live lives that have been radically transformed. However, the future has not yet completely dawned, and so we find ourselves living both in this age and in the age to come. Thus we live future lives, but we live them in the present. As difficult as this may be, we have the promise that the Lord will strengthen us and guard us. We have the instruction of our religious tradition that directs our minds and hearts. When we live lives of the future, we truly enable that future to dawn in the present.

Sourced from: <https://www.liturgyhelp.com/calendar/date/2022Nov06/0/RefDiBer>

**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 some 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 changes 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

### PBS and Principal Awards

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 cooperative:

School Spirit Award for demonstrating JUSTICE by being cooperative.			
<b>KN</b>	Charlotte S Mitchell L	<b>KW</b>	Darcey P Evelyn V
<b>1N</b>	Maeve G Logan D		<b>1L</b>
<b>2N</b>	Joshua P Zac H	<b>2W</b>	Amelia S Harry D
<b>3N</b>	Brodie L	<b>3W</b>	Zachery W
		<b>KL</b>	Reuben M Viana G
		<b>2L</b>	Samuel B Maddy H
		<b>3L</b>	Levi M Maya C Jasper W



	Phoebe T		Harper S		Lucy C
<b>4N</b>	Michael B	<b>4W</b>	Miah F	<b>4L</b>	Ryan V
	Annabel J		Beau R		Eamon D
<b>5N</b>	Hamish L	<b>5W</b>	Niah N	<b>5L</b>	Anna V
	Ruby T		Spencer B		Toby B
<b>6N</b>	Lainey H	<b>6W</b>	Oliver H	<b>6L</b>	Ava R
	Nicholas B		Grace H		Toby E

### Principal Awards

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

**KN** – Shaun H; **KL** – George J; **1N** – Audrey L; **1L** – Chrishelle P & Emilie A; **2N** – Noah M; **3N** – Louis F & Milla C; **3W** – Harry S & Eloise C; **3L** – Aart M; **4N** – Annabel J; **5N** – Hope B; **5W** – Vivienne B, Francesca J, Oscar K, Bodhi M & Sienna S; **5L** – Eva F & Harvey L.

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

**Date:** Monday 14th November

**Time:** 2:30pm

**Venue:** School Hall

**Janine Schneider,**  
Primary Coordinator

## SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL - SAVE THE DATE!



Our 2022 St Therese's Swimming Carnival will be held on **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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

### St Therese's Gingerbread House Fundraiser

Christmas is sneaking up on us all again! This year our gingerbread house take home kits are available for families to purchase and decorate. For those families keen to get together we are also holding a decorating event in the school hall on the 10 December 2022 from 2pm to 4pm. Orders can be placed via flexischools and you must advise your whether you will be take the kit home to decorate or attending the school event. If the decorate at school event is cancelled due to numbers, those orders will convert to take home kits. For more information please see the Gingerbread House flyer included in the newsletter or log on to flexischools.

St Therese's - Decorating Event

# GINGERBREAD HOUSES

**\$35 PER KIT**

**Flavours:** Gingerbread, Gluten Free Gingerbread, Chocolate

**Includes:** Gingerbread house kit, baseboard, piping bag with icing in it, cellophane and ribbon. Lollies are not included.

**OPTION 1: DECORATE AT ST THERESE'S SCHOOL HALL**  
Sunday 10th Dec, 2pm - 4pm. Please bring your own lollies.

**OPTION 2: ORDER KIT TO TAKE HOME AND DECORATE**  
For anyone not participating in the event you can still order a kit/s and they will be distributed to the students to take home.

**ORDERS CLOSE WED 23RD NOVEMBER 2022**  
[www.flexischools.com.au](http://www.flexischools.com.au)

For additional product information, including nutritional details, you can visit our supplier; Gingerbread Folk at [www.gingerbreadfolk.com.au](http://www.gingerbreadfolk.com.au)



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# 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



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 [otclinic@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:otclinic@newcastle.edu.au)



**VA Building, University of Newcastle Callaghan Campus**