



## Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Carers,  
**Remembrance Day**  
 Last Friday the School Captains Eden H and Xavier R and myself attended the Remembrance Day Service held at Lambton/New Lambton RSL. It was a moving acknowledgement of our fallen soldiers who paid the ultimate price.



## Blessing & Opening of School Buildings

This Friday we are celebrating the Blessing and Official Opening of our new school buildings. The school choir will be performing accompanied by our school band. All parents/carers are invited to attend. A light morning tea/lunch will follow.

## PEG at St Therese's

I would like to take this opportunity to invite all interested parents to come along to our PEG meetings being held on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November and Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November in the Catherine McAuley Centre. Parents are asked to confirm their attendance via Compass.

**Duilio Rufo**  
 Principal

## Dates to Remember

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

**22 NOV PEG MEETING 6-7.30PM  
 MCAULEY CENTRE**

**29 NOV SCHOOL BAND  
 PERFORMANCE AT  
 UNITING CHURCH**

**29 NOV PEG MEETING 6-7.30PM  
 MCAULEY CENTRE**

**8 DEC YR 6 GRADUATION**

**9 DEC – MOTIVATE SPORT YR 6**

**12 DEC SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

**16 DEC LAST DAY FOR 2022**

WE WISH ALL OUR FAMILIES A HAPPY AND

HOLY CHRISTMAS AND SAFE TRAVELS

FROM MR RUFO & ALL THE STAFF

**27/30 JAN STAFF ONLY DAYS**

**31 JAN FIRST DAY YRS 1 - 6**

**2 FEB FIRST DAY FOR KINDER**

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



## **Assistant Principals Message**

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

This month we will run two PEGs on **Tuesday 22 November** and **Tuesday 29 November**. Both evenings will start at 6:00pm in the Catherine McAuley Centre. The focus of the evening will be as follows:

- Tuesday 22 November – facilitated by Jenni Gilmore (Child Psychologist) and Tenille Johnson & Ellen Mason (Occupational Therapists)
  - Diagnosis of different forms of anxiety
  - Early identification and intervention for gross motor and fine motor concerns
  - Important childhood milestones for gross and fine motor coordination
- Tuesday 29 November – facilitated by Matthew Stanton (Child Psychologist) and Michelle Batey & Esther Duffy (Speech Pathologists)
  - Anxiety in children
  - Early identification and intervention for speech and language concerns
  - Important childhood milestones speech and language development

We hope you can join us on one or both evenings, as all the facilitators have a wealth of knowledge in their respective fields and, as a school, we often consult with them to design effective strategies for students. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions in each session. Please indicate your interest in attending these evenings, by booking a ticket through Eventbrite – there is no cost for the evenings. The Eventbrite link is below:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/parent-evenings-tickets-467276525667>

### **School Uniform**

As we near the end of the year, we are seeing an increase in the number of students wearing “non-uniform” clothing. Hoodies and branded clothing are not permitted, including socks with logos. Students are also not permitted to wear any makeup, nail polish, or to colour their hair. All footwear should be black leather for the formal uniform and joggers on sport day. We understand some of our Year 6 children have outgrown their shoes, however, all high schools have the same expectations of black leather school and joggers, so we expect students to be in the correct shoes. All children with hair that is shoulder length or longer, are expected to tie their hair up – this is the rule for both boys and girls.

**Kaylene Maretich**  
Assistant Principal

## **RE News**

**Catholic Community Week** – Next week, Week 7, is now traditionally marked as Catholic Community Week each term here at St Therese's. This is a week where students are free from homework and we encourage families to connect through activities that you may not normally engage in due to the busyness of daily life, or simply enjoy spending time together. The family unit is an important and central component to the overall health and wellbeing of our lives and, from a faith perspective, the place where our faith is first taught to us. Therefore, it makes sense to take time to reflect on our family-lives, reconnect and spend time together building and strengthening our relationships because healthy families produce healthy individuals and together, we all then contribute to our wider community.

It is also rather timely to reflect on the meaning of the word ‘catholic’ and I deliberately choose to use the lower-case letter. The word catholic, as opposed to Catholicism (the religion), can be simply defined as: “including a wide variety of things; all-embracing.” Synonyms such as, diverse, wide, broad or eclectic could also be applied. In this regard are we, within our families, “all-embracing” and truly living catholic lives? Are we able to find a Christ-like love for all of our family members, especially at those times when it is most challenging? If we can do this and model for our children the way to follow Jesus’ Gospel values of love, compassion, forgiveness, justice, peace and joy, then we are truly giving our children the greatest gift of all.

**First Reconciliation** – A reminder that the sacrament of First Reconciliation will be celebrated by many of our students over the coming weeks. Please keep these children and their families in your thoughts and prayers as they continue preparing for this sacrament. The sacrament will take place in St Therese's Church over the following dates:

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November at 6:30pm

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November at 6:30pm

**Luke Smith, RE Coordinator**

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



## 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 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>	Elizabeth H Seth M	<b>KW</b>	Maddison B Freya H	<b>KL</b>	Hazel H Massimo P
<b>1N</b>	Levi H Audrey L			<b>1L</b>	Isabel B Darcy B
<b>2N</b>	Maddisia C Isabella G	<b>2W</b>	Jackson F Amelia G	<b>2L</b>	Ava H Emily S
<b>3N</b>	Stella R Lee S	<b>3W</b>	Lilly C Annabella A	<b>3L</b>	Andrea P Alexi A
<b>4N</b>	Jack T Vienne T	<b>4W</b>	Miriam G Dempsey G	<b>4L</b>	Ly M Isaac M
<b>5N</b>	Maggie B Archie D	<b>5W</b>	Mya T Isaiah S	<b>5L</b>	Brody B Ruby M
<b>6N</b>	Maya F Alex J	<b>6W</b>	Ezra T Ryan C	<b>6L</b>	Lukas W Mollyjane R

### Principal Awards

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

**KW** – Hudson T; **KL** – Mailey B, Daniel M, Harry O & Logan O; **2N** – Sadie S; **2W** – Orlando R; **2L** – Olivia M; **3N** – Georgie A & Amelia W; **3W** – Jack M; **3L** – William F, Egan V, Reid M & Christian B; **4N** – Annabel J, Ryder P, Raiki P, Alexander O, Trevina M, Erin S; **4L** – Claire A; **5N** – Liam B; **5W** – Mia S, Hugh B & Poppy W; **5L** – Leila O, Molly B & Isaac N; **6N** – Alex J; **6W** – Taiyo P.

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

**Date:** Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November

**Time:** 2:30pm

**Venue:** School Hall

**Janine Schneider**  
Coordinator

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





## SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL



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**.

A Compass Event titled **2022 Swimming Carnival** has been set up. Please access your child's profile on Compass to select which races you would like them to enter. Further information explaining this has also been sent out on Compass.

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 Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal 2022**

It is that time of the year again when Mini Vinnies is asking for your assistance in helping others. Our Christmas Appeal begins this week. Each grade is asked to bring food items allocated to their year group. Students will bring 1-2 food items each that can be donated to the St Vincent de Paul Society, who will make up parcels for the needy in our community. Please help us to help those who are not as fortunate as we are. The Christmas Appeal donations will be collected on Wednesday and Friday each week by the members of Mini Vinnies up until the Friday 2nd December. More information will be given to your child's grade regarding requested items. Thank you for your support,

#### **Year 5 Mini Vinnies**

**Kinder – sweet biscuits, fruit cakes**  
**Year 1 – lollies, cordial**  
**Year 2 – breakfast cereals, long life milk**  
**Year 3 – chips, nibbles**  
**Year 4 – tinned fruit & vegetables**  
**Year 5 – pasta, spreads**  
**Year 6 – savoury biscuits, spreads**

Thankyou,  
Year 5 Teachers

### **Library Stocktake Time**

It has been wonderful to see the children enjoying our beautiful library books this year, but it is now time to gather all books and stocktake the collection!

This is the last week for borrowing, and all books will need to be returned by the end of next (Week 7 Friday 25 November).

You are encouraged to visit your local library over the Christmas break and explore their great collection.



**Please  
return  
your library  
books by  
Nov 25th**

### **Coach's Corner**

#### **Diocesan Trials:**

Recently St. Therese sent some of our very talented students to Regional Trials in the sports of cricket, basketball and tennis. We sincerely thank those competitors for all their efforts; from all accounts you have done yourselves and our school a wonderful job! Well done!

With respect to these trials, we have had two individuals selected and invited to the next level of trials, our Diocesan trials.

Please join me in congratulating Vincent C for his selection for cricket and Toby B for tennis. Well done lads! We are very proud and supportive of you both!

#### **Jet Setting!**

Congratulation to Rhys B, who has recently been selected into the U13s Jets Academy side AND in a team to tour Europe playing and viewing some of the biggest Clubs in the game!

Well done Rhys - football holds great things for you!

#### **Stars of the Future**

The Girls Under 10's Newcastle City Knights Touch team attended the Regional Competition in Mudgee last weekend. The girls ended up winning 2 out of 4 games coming 3rd and just missing out on Grand Final. Pictured below are Georgie & Alexi A who played during the weekend.



**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)





**LOWES**

**NOVEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup> & 18<sup>TH</sup>**

**2 DAY VIP EVENT**

**20% OFF**

**EVERYTHING\***  
INCLUDING SCHOOLWEAR

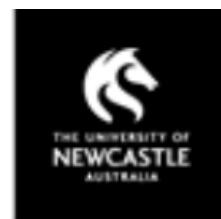
**ZERO & REWARDS CARD HOLDERS  
USE YOUR CARD AT CHECKOUT!**



**SHOP INSTORE & ONLINE**

\*T&C'S APPLY, SAVINGS OFF ORIGINAL PRICES.

# 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