



Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Carers

Year 6 Farewell Disco

Last Sunday evening the children and parents of our Year 6 attended a final year celebration in the school hall. My sincere thanks to the parents on the organising committee who put together a marvellous evening. The children enjoyed themselves immensely and it was a fitting end to their seven years at St Therese's.

End of Year School Mass

I warmly invite you all to attend our end of year Mass to be held in the School Hall on Monday 5th December starting at 9.30am sharp. I thank Fr Sabu in advance for celebrating this important event on the school calendar and take this opportunity to thank him for his spiritual guidance over the past three years and wish well as he moves to Melbourne in 2023 to continue his priesthood.

Year 6 Graduation

On Thursday evening 8th December we will celebrate the Graduation of our Year 6 students. The evening will begin with a Mass at 6pm in the Church followed by presentation of awards in the school hall. All parents and carers are invited.

Presentation Day 2022

Parents are invited to attend our Presentation Day on 16th December commencing at 9.30am in the school hall. An order of service will be published closer to the day to allow for parents to attend. The Kinder nativity will also be enacted on this day – time to be confirmed.

Staffing

Due to unforeseen circumstances we are still in the process of interviewing for new staff appointments for 2023. Once staffing is finalised I will pass this information on.

Duilio Rufo
Principal

Dates to Remember

30 NOV – RECONCILIATION 6.30PM

**02 DEC – LAST DAY FOR MINI
VINNIES DONATIONS**

**05 DEC – END OF SCHOOL MASS
HALL 9.30AM**

**06 DEC – BAND PERFORMANCE
SCHOOL HALL 10AM**

8 DEC YR 6 GRADUATION 6PM

9 DEC – MOTIVATE SPORT YR 6

12 DEC SWIMMING CARNIVAL

**16 DEC PRESENTATION DAY
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 Principal's Message

Aspire District Band

Lola and Sage, both in Year 5, represented St Therese's Primary School on Monday, 28th November, after being chosen to be a part of the Newcastle Diocese Aspire Concert Band. The band is a combination of students from across the diocese from years 4- 12. They performed their first concert to family, friends, and Diocese and school representatives playing a range of music styles from jazz to rock, traditional concert band songs to Mariah Carey's famous "All I Want For Christmas is You," at St Pius's Factory Theatre and it was enjoyed by all.

Kaylene Maretich
Assistant Principal



RE News

Advent – Sunday (27th Nov.) marked the beginning of a new season in the Church's calendar. Advent, much like Lent - prior to Easter, is a season of reflection and preparation. The reflection below, by Dianne Bergant, reminds us of this and highlights some important reminders of exactly '*what*' we should be reflecting upon and journeying towards during this season:



We may be accustomed to think of Advent as the time when we prepare for the coming of God, but the readings also train our attention on our own journey to God. We see this most clearly in this first Sunday with readings that tell us the identity of the pilgrims, the destination toward which they travel, and the way of life that is required of them on their journey. As the Vatican Council has proclaimed: We are a pilgrim people.

Both the reading from Isaiah and the psalm response speak of the pilgrimage to the mountain of the Lord, the place where God can be found. Although the psalm speaks about Jerusalem and refers to the temple there, the broader theological significance of the mountain, the city and the temple is one and the same. They represent the presence of God in our midst, and this presence is the goal of our striving. There are clear directions about how we are to live while we are on this pilgrimage to God. In Isaiah we learn that we must put away our instruments of violence and hatred, our swords and our spears. Lest we pick them up again, we are told to convert them into life-producing implements, into ploughs and pruning hooks. Paul exhorts us to put away our deeds of darkness and self-indulgence and to clothe ourselves instead in the deeds of Jesus Christ. Matthew points out the need for alertness, attentiveness, a disposition that is open to a change of heart.

<https://www.liturgyhelp.com/calendar/date/2022Nov27/0/RefDiBer>

First Reconciliation – Last Wednesday was a beautiful & prayerful celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation for many of our students. The second cohort of our students will make their First Reconciliation this Wednesday evening. Please keep them and their families in your thoughts and prayers:

Wednesday 30th November at 6:30pm

End of Year Mass – Next Monday (5th Dec.), we will celebrate our whole school End of Year Mass in the Hall. Mass will commence at 9:30am. Those parents who can attend, are most welcome.

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 **Courage**. We congratulate the following children for receiving the PBS School Spirit Award for demonstrating **COURAGE** by being honest:

School Spirit Award for demonstrating COURAGE by being honest.					
KN	Taylor V Vincent M	KW	Harvey F Penelope F	KL	Tom M Emilia H
1N	Nate R Adriana H			1L	Zaliyah W Vann R
2N	Archer R Talulah A	2W	Benjamin C Mia H	2L	Eloise H Jacob J
3N	Samuel E Marcus A	3W	Frankie H Lennox F	3L	Violet H Ashton S
4N	Nash Q Bailey B	4W	Aria H Lily P	4L	Malia W Zoey D
5N	Hope B Hunter C	5W	Chandler D Sophie M	5L	Liam R Tabitha K
6N	Keana C Anna G	6W	Paige F Ezra T	6L	Rhys B Sophie G

Principal Awards

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

KN – Lachlan A, Mila M, Chloe S, Vincent M, Maeve C, Elizabeth H & Camille W; **KW** – Stella H, Scout M, Angus M, Oscar M, Darcey P, Lucas M & Audrey G; **KL** – James D, Madeline P, Hudson B, Vianna G & Max J; **2L** – Jennifer J, Roman A & Paige M; **3N** – Marcus S, Tighe C, Maxime C & Tayla A; **3L** – Grace S, Maeve H, Audrey J & Oscar Y; **4W** – Henry G; **5N** – Archie C, Jordy T, Lachlan M, Ruby T, Hamish L, Maggie B & Kye T; **5W** – Eliza A, Ivy B, Ivy M, Olivia M, Marley M, Isaiah S, Mya T & Vincent C; **5L** – Alyssa H, Toby B, Anna V & Oliver S.

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

Date: Monday 5th December

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.



Our 2022 St Therese's Swimming Carnival will be held on **Monday 12th December**.

The Compass Event set up for parents to nominate their children in a race/s has now closed.

If you have missed entering your child into a race/s, and would like to do so, please contact Janine Schneider directly at janine.schneider@mn.catholic.edu.au

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

Coach's Corner

Polding Tennis Trials:

Toby B recently attended Polding Tennis trials and was successful in being selected for the Polding Tennis side - congratulations Toby! We are very proud of your efforts!!

This will see Toby competing in Lismore in early February next year. We wish you all the best in this and your preparation for this tournament.

Coach Hartcher
Sports Coordinator

Library News

Christmas has arrived at our Library with a great selection of books to entertain the children and spark their imagination.





ASPIRE

MUSIC.DANCE.DRAMA

CREATE CHOREOGRAPHIC PROJECT

<https://aspire.mn.catholic.edu.au>

Please refer to the ASPIRE website for all ASPIRE information, forms, updates, photos and the newsletter from the Artistic Director

ASPIRE is again collaborating with internationally recognised Newcastle-based company Catapult Dance in 2023.

Building on the success of previous programs, the Create Choreographic Project will offer students enrolled in schools in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle the opportunity to participate in an intensive contemporary dance and collaborative choreographic program.

Students will be provided with a dance and performance art experience that is inclusive, non-competitive, creative and collaborative, and that reflects the working processes of the professional industry. Students will be encouraged to have a voice, and present their thoughts and ideas in a studio setting at the end of the program.

The Create Choreographic Project will run from Monday 27 February 2023 to Thursday 2 March 2023.

Dancers will be split into Stage 2 (Years 3-4) and Stage 3 (Years 5-6) groups to create an original piece to perform. They will work alongside professional choreographers at Catapult Dance's studio in Newcastle West.

Students must have a genuine interest in and flair for dance, but don't necessarily have to attend dance lessons outside of school.

Students can register for the program by filling out an application form, which must be signed by a parent/carer and teacher from their school. Please forward completed forms via email to anne.atkins@mn.catholic.edu.au

Scholarship places are available for students in genuine need of financial assistance. Please contact Anne Atkins for further information.

PROJECT DATES

COST

Stage 2	Monday 27 February 2023 – Tuesday 28 February 2023	9.00 am – 3.00 pm	\$80.00
Stage 3	Wednesday 1 March 2023 – Thursday 2 March 2023	9.00 am – 3.00 pm	\$80.00

To register please complete the form overleaf and return to Anne Atkins
anne.atkins@mn.catholic.edu.au or call Anne Atkins on 02 4979 1331 for more information.

ASPIRE

Arrendell

secondary education centre™

Summer Holiday School

17 - 20 Jan 2023

Bookings close
20 Dec 2022

Junior Students

- Selective Schools Workshop (yrs 5 & 6)
- Writing for Future Experts (yrs 6 - 8)
- Remedial Maths (yrs 3 - 8)

Senior Students

- Craft of Writing - practical preparation (yrs 10 - 12)
- Unseen Texts - HSC exam strategy & skills (yr 12)
- Practical Physics Workshop (yrs 10 - 12)
- Individual & Small Group Lessons (all yrs)
English, Maths and Sciences.



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TALENT QUEST!

I am pleased to announce that St Therese's will hold a Talent Quest for Year 5 and 6 students this year. There will be afternoon performances in Week 9, Term 4.
Days and times to be advised.

Categories:

Singing
Dancing
Instrumental
Stand up
Drama
(Either solo or with a group)

If your child is interested in participating in this year's Talent Quest, please nominate as soon as possible. Nomination Forms are with class teachers for Year 5 and Year 6 students to collect.

Please ensure students bring their chosen music to school on their performance day.

Note: all chosen music must be appropriate for primary school children.

