



## Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Carers

### **New School Leaders**

My congratulations to :

**School Captains** - Felix Marosszeky and Anna Van den Heuvel.

### **Student Council**

- Social Justice Team

Casper Hansen-Earley, Eliza Adams, Rose Hartcher and Anna Van den Heuvel

- Active Lifestyle Team

Archie Dein, Ruby Thomas & Mya Turnbull

- PBS Team

Felix Marosszeky & Tabitha King

- Environmental Team

Vincent Cashman & Sage Tonkin

### **Colour House Captains**

- Wright (Red) – Eden Henshaw & Toby Boettcher
- Casey (Blue) – Maggie Benjamin & Hamish Lawrence
- Walsh (Green) – Ivy Boyle & Harvey Ladmore
- Cyril (Gold) - Rosemary Clarence & Chandler Dooley

### School Grounds Beautification

Works are underway to returf the back playground, including a watering system and this is expected to be completed by the end of this year ready for next years students.

### End of Year School Mass

Yesterday we celebrated our end of year mass with Fr Sabu and Fr Camillus who officiated. My thanks to Luke Smith and the children for all they did to make this a memorable event.

### Band Performance

Today we enjoyed a rousing performance from our school band under the baton of our conductor, Mr Howard Ward. My congratulations to all the students for their hard work during the year – I am very proud of you.

**Duilio Rufo**  
Principal

## Dates to Remember

**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.*

Burke Street, New Lambton NSW 2305 | PO Box 321 | Phone 4957 4922 or 4956 2156 | Fax 4952 1637  
admin@newlambton.catholic.edu.au | www.newlambton.catholic.edu.au



## Assistant Principal's Message

Dear Parents, the end of the year is rapidly approaching, and it is always a bittersweet time. On the one hand, there is excitement as the holidays are approaching and we are preparing for the Christmas season to celebrate the birth of Jesus. However, the end of the school year also brings sadness as we farewell some families who are moving away in 2023, and all our Year 6 children leave to start their new journey into high school. I would like to thank all our Year 6 children, you have been excellent leaders this year, and have brought so much fun and laughter to the school over the years you have been at St Therese's, you will all be greatly missed.

### Christmas Events

I would like to invite all families to the Christmas Eve celebrations at St Therese's Church on Saturday 24 December, for the following:

- 6 – 6:30pm Christmas Carols and the Nativity Play
- 6:30pm Christmas Eve Mass

We will send home a note for the choir who will lead the congregation through the Carols on Christmas Eve and are also looking for children in K-6 to be a part of the Nativity Play at the church on Christmas Eve. I thank Mrs Aumuller for all the work she has done to prepare our choir for the carols.

This **Friday 9 December**, children are invited to wear Christmas clothing to school instead of their school uniform. Please ensure your children are wearing closed in shoes, a hat and t-shirts that cover their shoulders. Crop tops are not appropriate to wear to school.

### End of Year Awards

**Friday 16 December** is our awards ceremony for K-Year 5 students. The awards ceremony will commence at 9:30am in the school hall, and all families and friends are invited to come along to our final celebration for 2023. While we cannot give you an exact time for the awards, the following can be used as a guide:

- 9:30am start
- Kindergarten – Year 2 Awards
- Musical interlude with the band (Kindergarten will leave to prepare for the Nativity Play)
- Year 3 – 6 Awards
- Kindergarten Nativity Play
- Awards conclude

All children must be wearing their full formal uniform for the End of Year Awards Assembly.

### Year 6 Clap Out

**Friday 16 December** from 3:00pm. We ask all other families to arrive for afternoon dismissal **no earlier** than 3:15pm. All the dismissal points (especially Burke St) will be very congested, as we say a final farewell to our Year 6 students.

### Reports

Reports will go live this **Friday 16 December** at 4:00pm. Please ensure you have access to Compass, and open the reports on an iPad or PC, as the reports do not download well on mobile phones.

**Kaylene Maretich**  
Assistant Principal

## RE News

**Advent** – Sunday (4<sup>th</sup> Dec.) marked the Second Sunday in the season of Advent, a season of reflection and preparation. The reflection below, by Fr Michael Tate, titled: *Inaugurating A new Humanity*, reminds us of the anticipation we should feel at this time of year as we remember that our loving God came to us not only in the birth of Jesus Christ more than 2000 years ago, but indeed is always coming towards us to transform us through Divine Love:



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



*John proclaimed that the reign of God was 'at hand' as he immersed and plunged followers into the waters of the Jordan River. (His nickname was John the Immerser, or 'baptiser' in the Greek.) He used flowing water to symbolise the washing away of the past for those who repented so that they could be totally focused on the 'at hand' person who would inaugurate God's kingdom.*

*In this passage, John does not identify the 'Someone'! But he realised that this 'Someone' would have divine power to affect the future by immersing, baptising, his followers with the Holy Spirit and with fire.*

*At this stage of Advent, we should be like John's disciples, filled with a sense of anticipation, looking forward to the coming towards us ('Advent' in Latin) of the One who can flood our minds and bodies with the Holy Spirit and can immerse our hearts in Divine Fire.*

*We could pause for a moment to thank God that, even though we are unworthy to carry His sandals, there is One who is coming towards us wanting to transform us with Divine Power.*

**Christmas Eve: Nativity, Choir & Mass** – Mrs Aumuller is currently organising the dramatization of the Nativity to be accompanied by some of our choir singers. This will take place, starting at 6pm on 24<sup>th</sup> December at St Therese's Church. This will be a parish celebration before the commencement of the regular parish, Christmas Eve Mass at 6:30pm. If you are able to bring your child/ren along to be a part of this, please email me directly: [luke.smith@mn.catholic.edu.au](mailto:luke.smith@mn.catholic.edu.au)

**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 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 showing integrity:



School Spirit Award for demonstrating COURAGE by showing integrity.					
<b>KN</b>	Maeve C Heston G	<b>KW</b>	Evelyn V Cillian M	<b>KL</b>	Harry O Violet W
<b>1N</b>	Florence R Bonnie B			<b>1L</b>	Xavier O Evie N
<b>2N</b>	Blake F Noah M	<b>2W</b>	Orlando R Mabel C	<b>2L</b>	Ace C Ben C
<b>3N</b>	Phoebe B Ajay C	<b>3W</b>	Caleb A Bellamy W	<b>3L</b>	Dolcie D Noah F
<b>4N</b>	Zoe O Jasmyn M	<b>4W</b>		<b>4L</b>	Claire A Patrick E
<b>5N</b>	Ava G Daniela P	<b>5W</b>	Maiya A Nicolas B	<b>5L</b>	Eden H Isaac N
<b>6N</b>		<b>6W</b>	Eli A Olivia S	<b>6L</b>	Cody C Matisse M

### Principal Awards

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

**KN** – Hudson J, Mitchell L, Amelia M, Charlotte S & Isla P; **KL** – Violet W; **1N** – Levi H & August M; **2N** – Rosemary L & Oliver A; **3N** – Lee S; **3W** – Harper S & Zachery W; **4L** – Eamon S & Zoey D; **5L** – Ada N, Rose H, Aggy M.

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

**Date:** Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December

**Time:** 2:30pm

**Venue:** School Hall

**Janine Schneider**

**Primary Coordinator**

### **SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

Our 2022 St Therese's Swimming Carnival will be held on **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December** at the Forum Pool. Parents are invited to come along and cheer our swimmers on!

**Janine Schneider**

**Primary Coordinator**

### Vinnies Christmas Appeal

Thank you to the generous families that donated goods for the Christmas Appeal. We were overwhelmed with the response. The items donated will be distributed amongst local household in need. Wish you a Happy and Holy Christmas,

**Anne Sturt on behalf of  
Year 5 Mini Vinnies**

### *Professional Piano Lessons at School*

If you would like to give your child the opportunity to learn music from professional music teachers that have specialised in piano for the last 16 years then give us a call and we will take care of the rest.

Lillian's Piano Studio is back in St Therese after time off due to COVID and are ready to do what we do best. Limited spots available so please get in early.

\$25 lessons

Contact via email : [lillianspianostudio@hotmail.com](mailto:lillianspianostudio@hotmail.com)



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





**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](mailto: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](mailto: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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[www.arrendellsecondaryeducation.com.au](http://www.arrendellsecondaryeducation.com.au)



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.



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#### PLAYGROUP UPDATE

Sadly, this week is our last week of playgroup for 2022, and we will farewell our playgroup friends who are off to Kindergarten in 2023! We will miss all of your lovely smiles, amazing craft creations and joyous dancing, and we will also miss all of the wonderful playgroup parents who are moving on. You have all made playgroup the highlight of the week, and we are all very blessed to have such a friendly, kind and helpful group of kids and grown-ups to share the time with each Friday.

We are going out with a bang this week, with our Playgroup Christmas Party! Come dressed up Christmas themed, bring a small plate of food to share (also Christmas themed, if you like), and join in some Christmas music, games and craft.

Playgroup is open to younger siblings of current St Therese's students, and/or children enrolled for Kindergarten in 2023. Playgroup is on Friday mornings in the school hall from 9:30am to 10:30am, and costs a gold coin donation for family per week. We look forward to seeing everyone on Friday!





*Think, Grow, Shine.*



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





