



## Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Carers

### Cross Country

Unfortunately the weather did not cooperate yesterday and we have rescheduled the Cross Country for this Friday 31 March and if the weather still will not cooperate we have booked Monday 3 April as a back up back up date. My thanks to those parents who had volunteered to help out yesterday and I hope you may be able to join us on the alternate days.

### Pornography

It has come to my attention that some of our children have been "chatting" about pornography in the playground. Unfortunately in modern times and with the pervasive nature of the internet sometimes children come across these unsavoury sites. I would caution every parent to monitor their children's use of devices and if your child happens to come across these sites talk to them in a calm and rational manner and explain that this is inappropriate content.

### Easter Season

As we are moving towards one of the most significant times in our religious calendar I would invite parents to reflect on our Christian values and the real message of the Easter story. We here at St Therese's will be following the Stations of the Cross in the School Hall on Holy Thursday starting at 9.30am (see schedule below).

I invite you to join together with the wider Parish community to celebrate Easter – Holy Thursday 7.00pm St Therese's, washing of the feet, Good Friday Stations of the Cross 10am, Veneration of the Cross 3pm. Easter Sunday Mass of Resurrection 9.15am.

We are revisiting the tradition of the "Easter Bonnet Parade" to be held at 2.00pm in the School Hall on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April. All welcome.

### Year 4 Survey

A reminder to Year 4 parents to reply to the 1 to 1 devices survey by the end of this week.

### Long Service Leave

This is to inform you that Leanne Kepreotes will be on leave for the duration of Term 2. Ms Jessica Le Compte will be replacing her.

**Duilio Rufo**  
Principal

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



## Dates to Remember

3-6 APR – PP MEETINGS YRS 4 – 6

4 APR - YR 6 VISIT TO CIVIC THEATRE  
ANZAC SERVICE

6 APR – STATIONS OF THE CROSS &  
EASTER HAT PARADE

6 APR – HOLY THURSDAY – LAST DAY  
TERM 1

7 APR – GOOD FRIDAY

24 APR – PUPIL FREE – STAFF IN  
SERVICE

25 APR – ANZAC DAY – PUBLIC  
HOLIDAY

26 APR – FIRST DAY TERM 2

28 APR – ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

2 MAY – YR 4 CONFIRMATION INFO  
NIGHT 6.30PM MAIN HALL

8 MAY - MOTHERS DAY BREAKFAST

10-12 MAY – YEAR 6 CAMP

16 MAY - SCHOOL DISCO  
INFANTS 5-6.15PM  
PRIMARY 6.30-8PM

## Assistant Principal's Message

### Easter Celebrations

On **Thursday 6 April**, we will celebrate Holy Thursday with the following:

- All classes will be led through the Stations of the Cross, by Mr Smith
- We will hold an Easter Hat Parade, from 2:00pm in the Hall
  - The children will make their Easter hats at school, in a craft session on **Friday 31 March**. If you are able to assist with making hats in your child's class, please contact their teacher to express your interest.

### Easter Collection

Thank you to all families who have sent in their Easter donations, that will be packaged for the Ronald McDonald House and St John's Catholic Nursing Home in New Lambton. If you have not already sent your donation in, could you please do so by **Friday 31 March**, so we can prepare the hampers and deliver them in time for Easter.

- Kindergarten & Year 1 – a pack of medium sized hollow eggs
- Year 2 – “Elegant Rabbit” style Easter bunnies
- Year 3 - pack of small solid Easter eggs
- Year 4 – 10 packs of tea or coffee e.g. packs of Twinning's Tea, Herbal Teas, coffee sachets etc.
- Year 5 – packet of savoury biscuits
- Year 6 – packet of sweet biscuits

### ANZAC Day Service

I invite all students to participate in the Lambton-New Lambton Sub Branch ANZAC Day Commemorative Service. As a school group, we will take part in the march from Club Lambton, from 10:45am (formerly Lambton Bowls, Sports and Recreation Club). All students must wear their formal school uniform. We will meet at Club Lambton at 10:30am to give us time to assemble to be ready for the march. Mrs Maretich, Mr Smith, Mr Rufo and other staff, will be at the march with the students. Our school captains Felix and Anna will then participate in the ANZAC Day Service at Lambton War Memorial Swimming Centre, where they will lay a wreath on behalf of our school community.

**Kaylene Maretich,**  
Assistant Principal

## Religious Education

**Mission Day Success** – Last Friday was a great success as we raised a total of **\$777.65** for Caritas' Project Compassion. This was made up of the money donated by all students for coming out-of-uniform, along with **\$150.50** donated by the sale of Loom Bands at lunchtime by a group of Year 3 girls who generously donated their time and resources to this initiative. They were: **(3N)** Violet R., Maya J., Elana B., Talulah A. **(3W)** Abbey C., Paige M., Emily S., Annika W. **(3L)** Vanessa C. and Olivia M. Thank you girls for your commitment to such an important Social Justice initiative!

Please start sending in your Project Compassion boxes from home over the coming weeks so that we can bank all funds and send through to Caritas as soon as possible.




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







**Holy Week: Stations of the Cross** – Next week, the last day of Term 1 will be Holy Thursday (6<sup>th</sup> April). Our students will participate in the Stations of the Cross in our school Hall throughout the day and we will then conclude the day with an Easter Hat parade before the holidays. You are most welcome to come along and join in our Stations of the Cross at any time that suits you. Please see the schedule below, indicating the times for the various classes:

Time	Class
9:30	Kindergarten & 2W
10:00	Year 1 & 2L
10:30	Year 4
LUNCH	
12:00	Year 3
12:30	Year 5
1:00	Year 6
1:30 – EARLY RECESS	
2:00 – Easter Hat Parade	



### Fifth Sunday of Lent 25 & 26 March






Project Compassion brings together Australian schools, parishes and supporters to raise funds for people in vulnerable communities across the world. This year, we introduced you to the story of four inspiring people whose lives have been transformed with your generous support: Laxmi, Tereesa, Priscilla and Thu.

Today, they are creating a better world for their families, their communities and for all future generations.

Project Compassion is a demonstration of the faith, empathy and generosity of our supporters. It is the lifeblood of Caritas Australia – without it, we could not do the vital work we do. Thank you for helping transform lives today and for all future generations.



**Please donate to Project Compassion 2023.**

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations**.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](https://caritas.org.au/project-compassion), or by calling 1800 024 413.

Photo: Richard Wainwright/Caritas Australia

Luke Smith  
RE Coordinator

## School Community News

### Volunteering

Throughout the year, we welcome all parents/carers to volunteer at the school. To volunteer, you must complete the volunteer's induction via the link <https://www.mn.catholic.edu.au/families-communities/volunteers/>. This process can take up to 6 weeks, so you are encouraged to complete this early.

### School Fees

The annual school fee statements have been emailed. When you receive your statement, please arrange for a regular Bpay, Direct Debit or an annual payment. Cash payments can be accepted at the administration office between 8.00am-3.30pm Monday to Friday or credit card payments can be taken over the phone on 4957 4922. You will find a direct debit form attached to the newsletter for your convenience. If you have a health care card (HCC), please complete the attached HCC discount form, and return it along with a copy of your HCC to [admin@newlambton.catholic.edu.au](mailto:admin@newlambton.catholic.edu.au). Please avoid using the Compass pay option.

Additionally, any family experiencing financial difficulty is entitled to fee assistance and will be appropriately and confidentially supported to assess what is affordable for their family. Please email the Principal, Mr Duilio Rufo directly at [duilio.rufo@mn.catholic.edu.au](mailto:duilio.rufo@mn.catholic.edu.au)

**Vicki McSpadden,**  
Bursar

## Sport

**School Athletics Carnival – The first Friday of Term 2 (28<sup>th</sup> April)**, will be our whole-school Athletics Carnival at the Fearnley Dawes Athletics Track, Newcastle West. This year, we will return to a whole-school event with all students, K-6 participating on the day. This promises to be a great way to build community spirit. Most students will be transported both to-and-from the track inside regular school hours. The day, however, will run as two separate events:

- Those students in Kindergarten and Year 1 (*along with a small number of Yr 2 students who do not turn 8 in 2023*) will attend and participate in a fun-day of races, relays and rotational tabloid events. These same students, after the completion of all activities, will return to school on buses around 12:30pm.
- All other students who turn 8, or older, in the 2023 calendar year will participate in the competitive version of events as they will be eligible to continue through to Regional level should they be successful. The events that these students will participate in on the day are: 100m (**age-based**), 200m, shot-put and long-jump (all **category-based** events).

To explain the above, for example, an 8yr old girl will compete in the 100m race against ONLY other 8yr old girls (*there may be several heats, so results will be determined based upon times*). The same 8yr old girl will compete in the Junior Girls (8-10yr girls) for the category-based events of 200m, shot-put and long-jump.

The categories are as follows: Junior Girls & Junior Boys (8-10yrs), 11yr Girls & 11yr Boys, and Senior Girls & Senior Boys (12-13yrs). These are the same categories that are in existence at the higher levels of competition (*Regional, Diocesan, State, etc.*).

**Optional Events:** Both the 800m & 1500m races are optional events (category-based also), with the **800m races commencing at 9:00am. The children who wish to enter this event will need to arrive at the track by 8:45am via private transport** to meet with myself in preparation for marshalling. The 1500m race will be the final event of the day. There will be a Compass event created and sent out soon regarding nominations for these. When this occurs, please be aware of the final nomination date as no late entries will be able to be submitted.

**Parent Helpers:** Please email me directly ([luke.smith@mn.catholic.edu.au](mailto:luke.smith@mn.catholic.edu.au)) if you can help on the day – please list your child's name/year group so I know which of the two events to place you at during the day.

**Luke Smith, Convenor**

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



## **PBS – School Spirit Awards**

This term we have focused on the value of **Respect**. We congratulate the following children for receiving the PBS School Spirit Award for demonstrating **RESPECT** by using **self-discipline**:

<b>School Spirit Award</b> for demonstrating RESPECT through using self-discipline					
<b>KN</b>	Vincent O	<b>KW</b>	Henry R	<b>KL</b>	Charlie D
	George A		Henry K		Rose M
<b>1N</b>	Iggy P	<b>1W</b>	Viana G	<b>1L</b>	Taylor V
	Chloe S		Evie P		Leo G
		<b>2W</b>	Roman H	<b>2L</b>	Mateo V
			Xavier S		Michael M
<b>3N</b>	Bella A	<b>3W</b>	Jackson F	<b>3L</b>	Oliver F
	Luke P		Sadie S		Amelia G
<b>4N</b>	Emilio S	<b>4W</b>	Baylen T	<b>4L</b>	Frankie H
	Sienna G		Chase M		Jordan S
<b>5N</b>	Eloise D	<b>5W</b>	Lucas H	<b>5L</b>	Evie C
	Noah J		Louie B		Alex O
<b>6N</b>	Ollie B	<b>6W</b>	Archie D	<b>6L</b>	Hunter C
	Sam P		Lola C		Thao L

Next term we will be focusing on the value of **Compassion**. We will be encouraging our students to live out this value through forgiveness, gentleness, kindness and tolerance.

### **Principal Awards**

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

Eloise H (3N) Tabitha M (3W) Anna O (5L) Patrick E (5W) Isaiah B & Zoe S (5N)

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

**Melissa Pyers,**  
Primary Coordinator

## **School Buses – Temporary Changes**

### **From 3 April – for approx. 3 weeks:**

Bus stop McCaffrey Drive at Rosedale Crescent (ID: 2287294), Rankin Park

This stop will be temporarily closed for approx. 3 weeks due to City of Newcastle footpath construction work.

Students will need to use the closest bus stop, McCaffrey Drive opposite Duval St (2287293) which is a 3-minute walk up the hill (east) towards Duval St.

### **From 12 April – for approx. 4 weeks**

Bus stop McCaffrey Drive opposite Duval St (ID: 2287293), Rankin Park

This stop will be closed temporarily for 4 weeks due to City of Newcastle tree and construction works.

Students will need to use the temporary bus stop located approx. 65m up the hill (east).

Signage will be posted on these bus stops to inform customers and students, but we ask that you also communicate these changes where possible to minimise any disruptions to student travel.

The following services are affected:

**760      831**

If you need any further information, please contact Mandy Cartwright on 49 741 605.

[mandy.cartwright@keolisdowner.com.au](mailto:mandy.cartwright@keolisdowner.com.au) <<mailto:mandy.cartwright@keolisdowner.com.au>>

## Coach's Corner

### Wonder Recycling Rewards for Schools:

Hello All, please be aware that we have signed up and are involved in a new recycling program offered by Wonder (white) Bread.

It involves collecting and bringing in all your empty - and clean - bread bags - (any brand).

These are collected and traded for points to spend at RHSports for new equipment towards the end of the year. Recycling begins NOW! And goes through to **7<sup>th</sup> July**.

Please send all empty bread bags to our Main Office where we have the collection bin.

<https://www.wonder.com.au/articles/what-can-you-recycle>



#### What can you recycle?

You can recycle any type of bread bag as part of the Wonder Recycling Rewards program! To clarify what we classify as a bread bag, read below: The rule of thumb is that if it has contained bread of some sort and is a soft plastic, then it's a bread bag. If it hasn't contained bread, then it's not a bread bag. How do we collect the bread bags at school\*? Set up your Wonder Recycling Rewards Collection Box (there are four sent to you in your Wonder Recycling Rewards Kit). We suggest you set up one box at a time in a location that is easy for students to see and access. Can we recycle other materials other than bread bags? As part of the Wonder Recycling Rewards program we are only collecting bread bags. Do our bread bags need to be clean? Bread bags should be as free from crumbs as they can be to keep the recycling process free from contamination (there is no need to wash them). How are the bread bags recycled when we have collected them? Our recycling partner APR Plastics manages the recycling process

[www.wonder.com.au](http://www.wonder.com.au)

Time to carb load for the environment!

Coach.

### *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)





### Year 1 & 2 League-Tag Gala Day

Last week, on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, a group of Year 1 and 2 boys and girls competed in a League-Tag Gala Day at Lyall Peacock Oval, Toronto. All 3 of St Therese's played 3 games against other schools. The teams showed great skill, eagerness to learn, teamwork and sportsmanship throughout the whole day, whilst acting respectfully towards all the other teams and officials. St Therese's walked away with all 3 teams being undefeated and most importantly a special acknowledgement from a few officials on how respectful they were as a school.



Thank you to the parents and carers who came along to support the students. A special thank you to Drew Houston, Tom Robertson, Kyle Manak and Chris Walkom for volunteering to coach the teams on the day and leading them to success. Well done St Therese's, we are extremely proud of you,

### Elli Hunt



### Canteen

Wed 29/3	Thurs 30/3	Fri 31/3	Mon 3/4	Tues 4/4
Cath Oakley	Luke Wilson	Michelle Randall	Elesha Finlay	Kylie Marten
		Nicole Green		Odette Tonkin
		Amy Robinson		

Dear Year 6 Parents

Following an update on the yearbook:

**Questionnaire - Jot-form: DUE FRIDAY 14 APRIL:**

Many thanks to those who have completed the Yearbook Jot-form Questionnaire. The jot-form link expires **FRIDAY 14 APRIL** so please ensure you and your child have reviewed and submitted prior to this date. The link is: <https://form.jotform.com/230719024804855>

### Photos:

In the coming days you will receive a Compass push talking about the photos and ways to upload. Any questions please don't hesitate to reach out.

Thank you,

**The Yearbook Team**

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



## Gifted Education News Term One- St Therese's New Lambton

Our fantastic teachers work collaboratively to create programs and learning activities for our students that are highly engaging and challenging for all students, including those that are gifted and talented. Staff monitor student work samples, contributions in class discussions and specific data to ensure each student is working to their true potential.

Our school has an appointed Gifted Education Mentor (GEM)- Patricia McNeil, who oversees the Gifted Education programmes at St Therese's in consultation and collaboration with the CSO and schools in our cluster.

KOTARA SOUTH St James' Primary School  
LAMBTON St John's Primary School  
MEREWETHER BEACH Holy Family Primary School  
MEREWETHER St Joseph's Primary School  
NEW LAMBTON St Therese's Primary School  
ADAMSTOWN St Pius X High School  
ADAMSTOWN St Columba's Primary School  
WALLSEND St Patrick's Primary School



### Developing a Growth Mindset

Learning behaviours and thinking are key to students being motivated and positive about their learning. At school, we talk to students about having a Growth Mindset. This is a way of thinking that encourages us to try new learning opportunities. When you have a Growth Mindset, challenges are seen as learning opportunities and mistakes are embraced as part of the learning journey.

Learners with a Growth Mindset can:

- Learn from their mistakes
- Use feedback constructively
- Be challenged
- Persevere with learning
- Use effort and a positive attitude for all learning tasks



This way of thinking and self-talk has proven results. It is not only a way of thinking for students but for learners of all ages! Those students who may be perfectionists about their learning, benefit from adopting a growth mindset as mistakes and errors are seen as learning opportunities.

### The Virtual Academy Program 2023

This specialised program which is unique in the Catholic School's Office for Stage 3 gifted students is focussed on students exploring a real-world problem and providing solutions based on data collection and comprehensive research. Students present their research in Term 4 across the Virtual Academy community of schools.

Congratulations to our new Virtual Academy students in Year 5; Harry N and Phoebe M who are working studiously in the program and are already so organised and focused on their tasks. Our Year 6 students, Sage T, Rose H, Eden H and Anna V are continuing their work in the Virtual Academy and being excellent mentors to our Year 5 students.





### High Quality Programs and Differentiation

The staff at St Therese's are highly skilled in differentiating the curriculum to provide challenging and robust learning activities in subject areas for all students. Students in Stage 1, Stage 2 and Stage 3 participate in Enrichment Writing and Mathematics groups that compact the curriculum and promote critical and creative thinking. Real-world issues are investigated that link with curriculum outcomes. For example, the Year 2 Mathematics group analysed a site from the Australian Museum about collecting data on endangered frogs. This linked with work on number and data and students were excited to be posed so many questions that applied their mathematical thinking and reasoning. It was also fun to investigate endangered frogs and hear the sounds they make!



### Maths Extension

Children in Stages 1, 2 and 3 that have been identified as being gifted in Maths, or very high achieving based on assessments and standardised tests, participate in a Maths Extension groups. These students work at a faster pace, learn content that is 6-12 months ahead of their same age peers and explore tasks that allow them to apply their knowledge to real-world challenges. Students look for ways to explore mathematical patterns in our everyday lives. Students were excited to explore Pi on "International Pi Day" the 14<sup>th</sup> March 2023 (3.14159...)



We are thrilled to offer a **Poetry Club** at our school for **passionate writers** in Kindergarten to Year 6. Susan Sheridan, a parent volunteer is coordinating the Poetry Club which was enjoyed by students last year. Susan is highly skilled and qualified in teaching Poetry and has previously lectured at universities and organised Poetry Clubs in the United Kingdom.

Each fortnight, starting on **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May at 8:00- 8:45 am in the library**, students will analyse different types of poems such as nonsense and shape poems or rhyming couplets. They will produce their own poems and learn techniques of performance as well.

It will be lots of fun and a fantastic opportunity for those that love poetry, words and writing. There is no cost.

If your child is interested- please complete the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/r/32YH1WkRYQ>


We have a limit of 20 students- **so it will be the first 20 students that apply.**

Your child will receive a note to show they have been accepted into the program.

If you have any queries about the Poetry Club or Gifted Education programs at our school, please do not hesitate to contact me at: [patricia.mcneil@mn.catholic.edu.au](mailto:patricia.mcneil@mn.catholic.edu.au)

**Patricia McNeil- Gifted Education Mentor**

St Nicholas OOSH Autumn Vacation Care programme is below for the upcoming holidays.













**St Nicholas OOSH**  
DIOCESE OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE

# VACATION CARE: AUTUMN 2023

**ST NICHOLAS OOSH – NEW LAMBTON**

TELEPHONE: 0455 099 594 EMAIL: oosh-newlambton@stnicholasmn.org.au

Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> April	Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> April	Wed 12 <sup>th</sup> April	Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> April	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> April
<b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b> <b>Service Closed</b>	<b>Day Camp \$67</b> <b>(75 children)</b> <b>Paint and Sip</b> Come and sip on punch whilst letting your inner Van Gough shine 	<b>Incursion \$77</b> <b>(60 children)</b> <b>Hip Hop Workshop</b> Put on your dancing shoes and pop & lock into OOSH for our Hip Hop Workshop 	<b>Day Camp \$67</b> <b>(75 children)</b> <b>STEM DAY</b> Let's challenge our minds and develop our problem solving and creativity skills through our exciting STEM activities 	<b>Excursion \$87</b> <b>(60 children)</b> <b>Niagra Park Sports Park</b> Channel your inner sportsperson and try your luck with a range of indoor sports 
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> April	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> April	Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> April	Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> April
<b>Day Camp \$67</b> <b>(75 children)</b> <b>ART ATTACK</b> Whack, Splat. Come and attack our art and craft activities with all the creativity and imagination you've got, we can't see the visions you bring to life. 	<b>Excursion \$87</b> <b>(75 children)</b> <b>Red Alert Laser Tag</b> Zip, Zap, Zam. With a range of group games and free for all's, build your accuracy, sneaking skills and strategies at Red Alert. 	<b>Day Camp \$67</b> <b>(75 children)</b> <b>Wellness / PJ Day</b> Come in your comfiest PJ's and fluffiest slippers to relax and enjoy a day of self-care and pampering activities. 	<b>Day Camp \$67</b> <b>(75 children)</b> <b>Super Hero/ Villains Wheels Day</b> Are you team Marvel, DC or even a Disney prince/ princess? Bring your superhero powers, favourite wheels and your helmet to enjoy the day. 	<b>Incursion \$77</b> <b>(60 children)</b> <b>Bop Till You Drop- Disco and Harry Potter Day</b> Dress up as your favourite witch or wizard and dance the day away. 
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> April				
<b>Day Camp \$70</b> <b>PUPIL FREE DAY</b> <b>(75 children)</b> <b>Ninja Circuit</b> Use your natural ability to move like a ghost at our Ninja Day. 				

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