



Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Carers

Morning Supervision

Please note that on site teacher supervision officially starts in the morning at 8:45am. If your child arrives at school shortly before this time, please talk to them about having to sit in the primary courtyard until the teachers commence duty at 8:45am. Children are not to join the St Nicholas OOSH games in the morning. If your work commitments require you to drop your child off at school prior to morning supervision, you might consider enrolling them at our St Nicholas OOSH, as we want all our children to be safe at school.

Diocesan PEG/Newcastle University Partnership

The Diocese in partnership with Newcastle University is committed to working with schools and parents to empower young girls and demystify the subject of menstruation. We at St Therese's will be hosting a Zoom information session on Tuesday evening as part of our PEG meeting. Michelle O'Shea will be talking about the period positivity programme from 6.30pm.

Topic: Barker, Lynette's Zoom Meeting

Time: May 23, 2023 06:30 PM Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:

<https://mncatholic.zoom.us/j/69767344546>

Password: PEG

Join from telephone (meeting ID: 697 6734 4546):

(02) 8015 2088 (Sydney)

(07) 3053 8570 (Brisbane)

(08) 7150 1149 (Adelaide)

(03) 8375 9112 (Melbourne)

Password: 814411

International numbers available:

<https://mncatholic.zoom.us/j/69767344546>

Join from Skype for Business (Lync):

<https://mncatholic.zoom.us/skype/69767344546>

On Thursday at 2.00pm students and teachers from St Paul's Booragul will visit to talk about their journey in relation to the period positive programme. Again there will be a session at the PEG followed by a talk to our students from years 4 to 6.

Dates to Remember

23 MAY - PEG 6.30PM MCAULEY

24 MAY - DIO RUGBY TRIALS

- 11AM SIMULTANEOUS
- STORY TIME

25 MAY - PEG 2.30PM MCAULEY

26 MAY - BOOK FAIR

SORRY DAY

28TH MAY - ILLUSTRATOR VISIT

29 MAY - SORRY DAY

5 JUN - BIG FUTSAL DAY

8 JUN - DIO SOUNDS

9 JUN - REGIONAL ATHLETICS

12 JUN - PUBLIC HOLIDAY - KING'S BIRTHDAY

15 JUN - CONFIRMATION 6.30PM

16 JUN - INFANTS MASS

23 JUN - PJ DAY

30 JUN - STAGE 2 MASS

18 JUL - REGISTRATION FOR COMMUNION

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



Objectives of the Project

- Period poverty is the lack of access to sanitary products, menstrual hygiene education and inadequate toilet facilities.
- It is also the stigma and feelings of shame and embarrassment of a normal bodily function, related teasing and bullying and subsequent impacts on mental health.
- Research indicates this is due to the high costs of feminine hygiene products, inadequate bathroom facilities and lack of inclusive gender education and awareness across student populations.

A Diocesan-wide working group was formed to investigate the impact of period poverty in our schools and examine the feasibility of:

1. Installing free period products in dispensing machines in our schools, aligned with the placement of the sanitary bins.
2. Developing an awareness education program for all schools in conjunction with the syllabus.
3. Developing a policy that will help reinforce the promotion of dignity, gender equality and reproductive health.

Staff Professional Development

This afternoon/evening the staff will be undertaking work in relation to preparing for the reporting process. There have been a number of amendments especially to the K- 2 reports. These new reports will better reflect the new English and Maths curriculum. Changes to the Years 3 – 6 reports will occur once the new years 3 -6 English and Maths curriculums have been implemented. The half yearly reports are due to be released in Week 10 and half yearly interviews will occur for most classes early in Term 3.

Duilio Rufo
Principal

Assistant Principal's Message

Winter Uniform

The official change over to the winter uniform is **Thursday 1 June**. As the temperature gets colder, please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather and that all clothing is labelled. Please ensure the regardless of whether your child is in their winter or summer uniform, they are wearing the correct St Therese's uniform:

- No branded clothing or hoodies
- Hair accessories need to be blue or white
- Beanies may be worn, but must be blue, otherwise students are to wear their school hat
- Jewellery is to be kept at a minimum – stud earrings and single chain with a cross are permitted
- Black leather laced OR velcro shoes are to be worn on all days other than sport days
 - Black skate shoes, black joggers and leather boots are not permitted
- Make up, nail polish and hair dye is not permitted
-

If your child is unable to wear their correct uniform for a day or two, please send an email or note to their teacher.

National Volunteers Week

Last week was National Volunteers Week across Australia. We have many volunteers at St Therese's: canteen, reading helpers, gardening, special events e.g. carnivals, discos, sausage sizzles, art activities, and so much more. Many parents/carers, students and staff also volunteer their time and expertise outside school for community events. To all of you **THANK YOU** for all that you do to create such a beautiful community at St Therese's and the wider community.

Kaylene Maretich,
Assistant Principal

Religious Education

Easter Season: The Ascension of the Lord – (Sunday 21st May, 2023) As we move towards Pentecost and then a return to the liturgical season of Ordinary Time, the following reflection on Sunday's Gospel by Fr Michael Tate reminds us what it is to truly know and live as, 'Easter People'. People who are the loving, joy filled and peaceful incarnation of the Risen Christ – Christ alive in us!

Where is the Body?

Our Risen Lord Jesus Christ could have continued to appear to groups of followers, century after century – until now!

But, he didn't, because the disciples had to be weaned of his Risen-mode of appearance among them lest they think that the victory over Death is meant for human beings alone.

But, as St Paul says, the Risen Lord is the One who 'fills all creation' with His power radiating out from his Risen Humanity.

However, dis-appearance is not the same as absence. We believe that Our Risen Lord is present in many modes, including as St Paul says '... the Church which is His Body'.

That is why the figures in white rebuke the disciples: 'Why do you stand looking into Heaven?'

The Disciples had, rather, to ready themselves to be the Spirit-filled body of Jesus Christ in their own time and place. As we do.



We might pause for a moment to stop staring into Heaven, to ready ourselves to receive the Holy Spirit as at Pentecost in order to be, 'The Church which is His Body.'

Taken from:

<https://www.liturgyhelp.com/calendar/date/2023May21/0/RefMiTa>

St John's Villa – This term, we have been able to re-establish our relationship with this local, aged-care facility. As an important part of our Mission as Outreach, small groups of Year 5 students are accompanied by Youth Minister, Miss Johanna Soo, each week to visit and interact with the residents at St John's Villa. This is a great opportunity for both our students and the residents to engage in cross-generational interactions as the play board-games, complete puzzles and participate in art and craft activities together. The photos below capture some of the precious moments & interactions of the first few visits.



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Reconciliation Week – This is preceded by **National Sorry Day** on **Friday 26th May** and runs from **27th May – 3rd June**. The week **concludes, Saturday 3rd June with Mabo Day**. We will acknowledge the significance of this week with a special liturgy at our afternoon assembly on Monday 29th May.

Stage Masses

We also extend a warm welcome to our parents, carers, grandparents and friends to attend, according to the dates and times below, as Fr Velerian will be celebrating Masses for our various stage groups over the coming weeks:

Friday 2nd June – 9:30am Mass for Stage 3 (Yr 5 & 6) - (Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Reconciliation Week)

Friday 16th June – 9:30am Mass for Infants (K, 1 & 2)

Friday 30th June – 9:30am Mass for Stage 2 (Yr 3 & 4)

Sacramental Program – Confirmation will take place, **Thursday 15th June 6:30pm at St Therese's Church, New Lambton.**

The **Information/Registration evening for First Holy Communion** will take place on **Tuesday 18th July at 6:30pm** (Hall or Zoom option available). Children will receive **Holy Communion on either of the weekend Parish Masses (Sun. 20th or 27th August at 9:15am).**

Year 3 students – will commence their Sacramental Program with a parent registration/information evening later in the year: Tuesday 17th October (Term 4).

Youth Matters

Trinity Youth Choir: The choir gathers on the third and fourth Sunday of the month at 4:30PM for choir practice followed by Mass at 5:30PM.

All are welcome! For enquiries email Johanna via trinity.youth@mn.catholic.org.au.

Youth Mass: The fourth Sunday of the month is a youth-led Mass at Corpus Christi Church Waratah 5:30PM.

All are welcome! If you would like to volunteer for the youth Mass or youth choir, please contact the Parish Office or email Johanna at trinity.youth@mn.catholic.org.au.

Youth Mass Dates for 2023:

- Sunday 28 May
- Sunday 25 June
- Sunday 23 July
- Sunday 27 August
- Sunday 24 September
- Sunday 22 October
- Sunday 26 November
- Sunday 24 December (*Parish Youth & Waratah School*)

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 and payments should have commenced. 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), contact 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

Vicki McSpadden
Bursar

Canteen

Mon 29/5	Tues 30/5	Wed 31/5	Thurs 1/6	Fri 2/6
Elesha F	Kylie M	Jacqui O	Sally F	Anna P
	Odette T	Connie M	Shelley H	Kareena G
				Laura M
				Amy W

PBS and Principal Awards

This term we are focusing on the value of **Compassion**. We congratulate the following children for receiving the PBS School Spirit Award for demonstrating **COMPASSION** by forgiving others:

School Spirit Award for demonstrating COMPASSION by being gentle to others					
KN	Augusta K	KW	Jarrah S	KL	Grace P
	Bodi S		Henry R		Charlie C
1N	Scout M	1W	Paola G	1L	Samuel C
	Bon T		Zara M		Georgie L
		2W	Alesandro M	2L	Madeleine H
			Xavier S		August M
3N	Macey H	3W	Annika W	3L	Vanessa C
	Vincent N		Maddisia C		Santiago P
4N	Grace O	4W	Brodie L	4L	Tayla A
	Frankie S		Stella R		Jack R
5N	Michael B	5W	Ryan von E	5L	Eamon D
	Zoe O		John D		Eden H
6N	Josie W	6W	Liam B	6L	Marly M
	Rose H		Harvey L		Toby B

Principal Awards

The following students will receive a Principal's Award at **Week 6 School Assembly**:

KW – Samuel R; **1W** – Maeve C, Ruby N & Zara M; **1L** – Mila M; **2W** – Zaliyah W; **3W** – Sidney M & Louis W; **5N** – Oliver S & Molly G; **5L** – Evie C

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

Date: Monday 29th May

Time: 2:30pm

Melissa Pyers
Coordinator

Mini Vinnies

It is that time of the year again when Mini Vinnies is asking for your assistance in helping others. Our Winter Appeal begins next 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 Winter Appeal donations will be collected on Wednesday and Friday each week. It will finish Friday Week 8.

Kinder Baked beans, spaghetti, tinned snacks

Year 1: Pasta, Pasta sauce, noodles, tinned soup

Year 2: Tinned vegetables, tinned fruit.

Year 3: Toothpaste, soap, shampoo

Year 4: Cereal, Porridge, biscuits

Year 5: Spreads – vegemite, jam, honey etc Sauces – bbq, tomato etc

Year 6: Coffee, tea, milo, drinking chocolate

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



Coach's Corner

Wonder Soft Plastic Recycle for Sports Equipment:

Continues through to July 7th. Please keep bringing in your empty bread bags. We have filled one from 4 of our bins.

Many thanks,

Coach

SPORT

Regional Athletics – Congratulations to the children who have qualified for this next level of competition. Please ensure all notes and payment are received at the front office by the due date listed. A reminder that this is **due by Wednesday 31st May**. The event is scheduled to take place at the Fearnley Dawes Athletics Track on **Friday 9th June**.

Luke Smith, Coordinator

Playgroup Update

St Therese's Playgroup is held every Friday morning from 9:15am in the school hall. Everyone is welcome at playgroup, and it's perfect for the children to meet other children that might be in their year when they start school, or for parents to meet other parents in our school community. Come along for some craft and fun! Join our St Therese's Playgroup Facebook group or contact Jo on 0439 435 287 for more information.



Think, Grow, Shine.



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



Hi all,

We are very excited for all of the fun events we have planned in the library this week. Just a reminder that on Wednesday, infants children are invited to come dressed as a tradie, while on Thursday, the primary students are invited to come in their favourite sportswear to celebrate the visit from cartoon illustrator Tom Jellett. Our week of literature fun finishes with a bang with our annual pop-up book fair to be held in the Catherine McAuley Centre on Friday. A note with information and payment authority was sent home last week – please return these to school as soon as possible and we will collate them so that the children are ready to make their selections on Friday. Alternatively, if you would like to come in and shop with your child, you can either come during their allocated time as per the timetable below – or to accommodate working parents, the doors to the 'Pop Up shop' will be open from 8am.

Additional forms can be obtained from the office or email the school and we will supply you with another sheet.

TRADIE DAY

To celebrate illustrator Tom Jellett's visit to our school (Wednesday 24th May)

INFANTS students are invited to come dressed as a tradie. Get your fluros, your helmets and tools and let's have a gang of Tiny Tradies at St Therese's!!

Book Fair Times:

9.30	Kindergarten	11.00	2L	1.15	4L
9.45	and Year 6	12.00	3N	1.30	5N
10.00	1N	12.15	3W	1.40	5W
10.15	1W	12.30	3L	1.50	5L
10.30	1L	12.45	4N		
10.45	2W	1.00	4W		



To celebrate illustrator Tom Jellett's visit (Thursday 25 May), PRIMARY students are invited to come in their favourite sporty clothes.





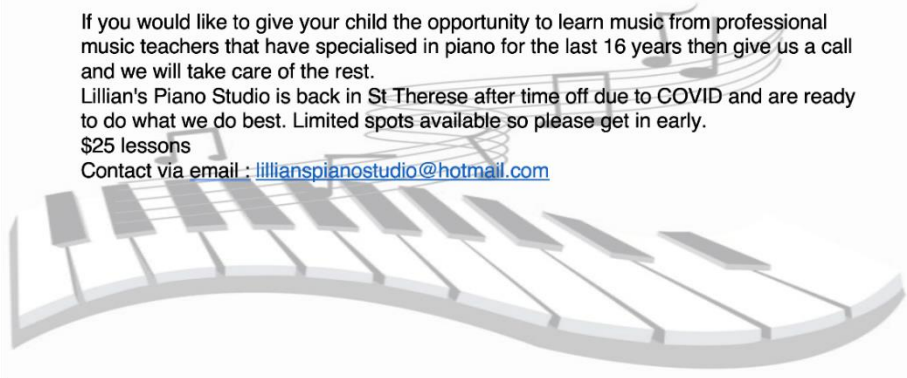
Professional Piano Lessons at School

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



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