



Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Carers

First Communion

Last Sunday we celebrated the final group to receive First Holy Communion. Yesterday parents and the children gathered to share a celebration cake to mark this milestone in their Faith journey. My thanks to Mr Luke Smith, RE Coordinator, the class teachers and parents for supporting the children at this special time.

Staff Development – PUPIL FREE DAY

A reminder that Friday 8th September will be a **PUPIL FREE DAY** as our staff will be off site attending the mandatory Religious Education Professional Development day. You may consider our onsite OOSH for your needs on this day.

Father's Day Breakfast

On Friday 1st September I invite all fathers & father figures to join us for breakfast in the Main Hall from 7.15am – 8.45am.

Art Trail Opening – Focus on Visual Arts

On Friday 15th September we will be celebrating the Grand Opening of our Inaugural Art Trail at St Therese's. In the recent flyer advertising the Art Trail we made mention of a generous donation from the Drayton family. A protocol sent to us from the Diocesan office has meant that we are not allowed to serve alcohol at school functions where children are present. My sincere thanks to the Drayton family for their support.

School Fees

A new protocol from the Diocesan Finance Office will mean that from time to time families will receive a text message if they have not finalised their school fees within the time frame that the family nominated. If you do receive a text message it will have our Office Administrator, Vicki Carrick's name on it. Please be assured that it is not a scam and we ask you to contact us if you are having difficulty with your fees in the time frame.

Duilio Rufo
Principal

Dates to Remember

30 AUG – 8AM ICAS MATHS

31 AUG – WACKY WEDNESDAY

**1 SEPT – FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST
7.15AM**

**8 SEPT – PUPIL FREE DAY – STAFF
DEVELOPMENT**

**14TH SEPT – RUGBY, HUNTER VALLEY
GRAMMAR**

14/15 SEPT – LOTUS ART SHOW

15TH SEPT – INFANTS MASS 9.30AM

15TH SEPT – TOLCAL EXCURSION YR 2

15TH SEPT – ART TRAIL OPENING 3.30PM

**18TH SEPT – YR 6 TO ST PIUS FOR
SPORT DAY**

22ND SEPT – LAST DAY OF TERM

TERM 4

13 OCT – STAGE 3 MASS

**17 OCT – SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME
MEETING FOR 2023/24**

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



Assistant Principal's Message

Week 7 – Faith Community Week

This week is Faith Community Week at St Therese's, so there will be no homework. We encourage families to get out and about after school and enjoy the glorious weather we are enjoying. We will have **Wacky Wednesday** where children wear their school uniform, but add something "wacky" e.g. socks, hairstyles etc.

Child Protection Week

Next week, is National Child Protection Week, with the theme being "Where we start matters". During this week, we shine the light on child protection to ensure all our children are safe. We also start our child protection units in all grades, and the children will all read "*My Underpants Rule*". Encourage your child to tell you or a trusted adult anytime they feel unsafe. In next week's Newsletter, there will be further information and links for parents around this.

Back Playground

The back field will be closed all of Term 4, to re-lay the turf and fill all the uneven ground. In Term 4, children in Years 1-6 will have time each week at Alder Park to allow them to run and play soccer, etc. We will trial this in Weeks 9 and 10 this term. There may be days when the weather is too hot in Term 4, then children will stay at school. A roster of the days children will go to Alder Park will be published later in the term. As the children will be walking, Kindergarten will not go to Alder Park, due to the distance. The Kindergarten teachers are organising fun activities that will take place at school for Kindergarten children.

Summer Uniform

The official change over to the summer uniform is **Monday 4 September**, however, the weather can continue to be unpredictable until the end of Term 3. We ask parents to ensure children are dressed appropriately for the weather each day, and are wearing their correct uniform each day – which may be a mix of winter and summer uniform.

Kaylene Maretich
Assistant Principal

Religious Education

First Holy Communion – It was wonderful to see so many of our students complete their full initiation into the Catholic Faith over the past weekends as they received their First Holy Communion. Thanks so much to the families who prepared their children for this sacrament and to those who were able to attend our afternoon tea yesterday to commemorate the completion of the Sacramental Program.



Sacramental Program 2023/2024 (Year 3) – The next Sacramental Program will commence with an information & registration evening for our Year 3 parents in Term 4. On **Tuesday 17th October at 6:30pm**, all those parents who wish to enrol their children in the program are invited to come along to

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



the school hall. If you are unable to attend this evening though still wish for your child to complete the Sacramental Program, please email me directly: luke.smith@mn.catholic.edu.au

Stage Masses for Term 3 – The following dates and times indicate our remaining Stage Masses for this term. Parents and carers are most warmly invited to attend:

- Infants Mass – Friday 15th September at 9:30am
- Stage 3 Mass – *Due to a change in Fr Velerian's schedule this has now been moved to the first Friday of Term 4 – Friday 13th October at 9:30am*



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 are emailed at the end of each month 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. 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 Carrick
Bursar

Canteen

Mon 4/9	Tues 5/9	Wed 6/9	Thurs 7/9	Fri 8/9
Leone Nancarrow	Simone Slamet	Kim Jordan	Luke Wilson	Sally Curzi
Neroli Moran	Teigan Jobbin			Kelly Robertson
	Sarah Bourke			Sarah Lee Sarah Hughes

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ICAS Assessments

Dear Parents and Carers,

ICAS Assessments will occur during weeks 4-7 of Term 3.

Your child will sit this assessment at St Therese's in the Catherine McAuley Centre early on a Wednesday or Thursday morning before school commences. Ms Jackman supervises these assessments on the following dates:.

Mathematics 30th August (week 7)

The exams start at 8am sharp and students are to bring their own device to the Catherine McAuley Centre- if they don't have one, we will supply one.



Here are some of our amazing local businesses that have donated prizes to be won from our LOTUS raffle.



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PBS

PBS Awards

This term we are focusing on the value of **Hospitality**. We congratulate the following children for receiving the PBS School Spirit Award for demonstrating **HOSPITALITY** by being welcoming to others:

School Spirit Award for demonstrating HOSPITALITY by being welcoming to others					
KN	Bodi S	KW	Saul G	KL	Alice C
	Vinny O		Sam R		Tansy T
1N	Chloe S	1W	Harry A	1L	Freya H
	Laila N		Mitchell L		James D
		2W	Fox C	2L	August M
			Evie N		Archie S
3N	Bella A	3W	Tom C	3L	Charlie F
	Talulah A		Joshua		Amelia G
4N	Emilio S	4W	Stella R	4L	Callen K
	Louis F		Egan V		Oliver H
5N	Vienne T	5W	Lucas H	5L	Sophie L
	Phoebe M		Lily P		Miller C
6N	Noah M	6W	Ivy B	6L	Nicholas B
	Niah N		Bodhi M		Mackenzie P

Principal Awards

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

Principal Awards					
KL	Thomas B	2W	Lewis P Adriana H Arnold H	2L	Elin W Henry W Isabel B
3W	Ruby J	3L	Vanessa C	4W	Bellamy W Maeve H
4L	Aart M Audrey J	5N	Orson M	5L	Ryder P Annabel S

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

Date: Monday 4th September

Time: 2:30pm

Venue: School Hall

Melissa Pyers
Coordinator

SAVE THE DATE!

Grandparents of our K-2 students are warmly invited to our:

Grandparents Day Celebration!

Date: Friday 27th October

Time: 9:30-10am – Liturgy in the School Hall

10-10:15am – Morning Tea

10:15-10:45am – Open Classrooms



101 DAYS OF KINDERGARTEN 2023





ASPIRE YOUNG ACTORS PROGRAM

LEFT UNATTENDED

FRIDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER 11AM AND 7PM
SATURDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER 7PM
PERFORMANCE ARTS CULTURE CESSNOCK,
198 VINCENT STREET, CESSNOCK

Bring them back!

find our parents!

Put the Prime Minister on the naughty step

ASPIRE | Catholic Schools Office
MUSIC DANCE DRAMA | DIOCESE OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE

Profitable parenting

Taking risks and asking questions

With guest speaker and author, Daisy Turnbull

**FREE ONLINE
EVENTS**
for parents and
carers of children
and teens

12TH & 13TH SEPTEMBER 2023

Parents and carers are invited to take part in free, online presentations that will empower you with engaging and practical ways to raise your child or young person to be resilient and ready to take on the world!

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle's Federation of P & F Associations has invited teacher and high-profile author, Daisy Turnbull, to share practical advice with parents and carers on ways you can develop your child's independence and confidence.

Daisy's presentations will draw on the knowledge of some of the world's leading psychologists, but it's her relatable style and realistic suggestions that reflect her experience as both a parent and the Director of Wellbeing in schools that will leave you feeling empowered to navigate the modern-day challenges associated with raising children and teens.



BUILDING RESILIENCE AND INDEPENDENCE IN YOUR CHILD

**Most suitable for parents and carers of
children ages 5-10 years**

In this session, Daisy will encourage parents and carers to get outside their comfort zone, by encouraging their children to take more risks. She'll explain how this approach helps nurture kids' independence and resilience, by teaching them to recognise and assess consequences for themselves, readying them for life and all that it brings.

Attendees will leave this session with loads of fun ideas on ways that they can connect with their children that will also help to build their young one's physical and social skills, responsibility, and character.

DATE Tuesday 12 September

TIME 7.30pm - 8.30pm

Registrations essential at:

www.mn.shor.in/PFBUILDING

FOSTERING COMMUNICATION AND CONFIDENCE IN YOUNG PEOPLE

**Most suitable for parents and carers of
young people ages 11-18 years**

This session is for parents and carers seeking to build a stronger connection with their tweens and teens. Daisy will help parents and carers to better understand the social and emotional needs of young people and provide them with ideas on how they can help them to navigate common concerns that arise during adolescence including friendships, consent, self-compassion, managing conflict, mental health, boundaries and media influences.

Attendees will leave this session with (realistic) conversation starters that will promote their teens' awareness of the world and encourage them to take responsibility and understand consequences and risks in a fast-changing world.

DATE Wednesday 13 September

TIME 7.30pm - 8.30pm

Registrations essential at:

www.mn.shor.in/PFFOSTERING



mn.catholic.edu.au

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STUDENTS OF ALL AGES

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





COME AND SEE YOUR
CHILDREN'S BEAUTIFUL
ART CREATIONS AT

ST THERESE'S 2023 ART TRAIL

**ENCOUNTER: JOURNEY TOGETHER
THROUGH THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT**

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

15TH SEPTEMBER

BETWEEN 3:30PM-5:30PM

**JAZZ BY HOWARD WARD AND HIS
OLD MANS DIXI BAND**

WINE BY DRAYTONS FAMILY WINES

Join us Mondays in Term 4!

Henderson Park Hall Lockyer Street Merewether

A FREE Healthy Lifestyle program for kids aged 7-13

Starts 09/10/2023 from 4pm-6pm.

Kids play active games, make new friends, build confidence, learn about nutrition.

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starts with
small
steps**

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