



Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope all our families enjoyed a restful break and have returned to school ready for a busy term.

Grandparents Day – Bishops Visit 27th October

Our Bishop Michael Kennedy will be holding a Pastoral visit to the Parish of Holy Trinity Blackbutt North commencing Friday 27th October and celebrating Mass at St Therese's church on Sunday 29th October at 9.15am. Bishop Michael will be visiting the school from 11.00am-12.30pm October spending time with the children and having lunch with the staff.

Staff News

This is to let you know that our Bursar/Senior Administration Officer Vicki will be leaving us at the end of this week and taking up a new role in the Diocesan Office. I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank Vicki for all her support and hard work over many years. We wish her every success in her new role. When the position has been filled I will inform the school community.

Inservice – Student Welfare

On Monday the staff attended an inservice delivered by Craig Moore from the CSO on the subject of positive behaviour support. This is our first step in the school's focus on student wellbeing and will lead to a review of our wellbeing and discipline policy. Over the course of Term 4 and in 2024 parents will be invited into this conversation. We look forward to working with the children in developing their wellbeing.

School Assemblies

For Term 4 there has been a change to the format of Whole School Assemblies. These will be held on **Monday 2:30pm in Week 2 - 17th October, Week 5 - 7th November and Week 8 - 28th November.**

Each grade will have either weekly or fortnightly assemblies in their classrooms where they will acknowledge birthdays, hand out Principal's and School Spirit awards and discuss the PBL fortnightly focus and how they are stewards of creations in our school environment. The assembly will also include a prayer or relevant scripture related to their class context. Following are the times and days for each grade:

Dates to Remember

12TH & 13TH OCT – INQUISITIVE MINDS

13TH OCT – STAGE 3 MASS 9.30AM

**17 OCT – SCHOOL ASSEMBLY
SCARAMENTAL PROGRAM
YR 3 RECONCILIATION 6.30**

**20 OCT – ST THERESE'S FEAST DAY
OUT OF UNIFORM GOLD
COIN DONATION**

25 OCT – SPORT FACE

**27TH OCT – GRANDPARENTS DAY
BISHOPS VISIT**

6 NOV – COLOUR FUN RUN

7 NOV – SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

9 NOV – KINDER ORIENTATION

15 NOV – RECONCILIATION 6.30PM

16 NOV – RECONCILIATION 6.30PM

17 NOV – KINDER TRANSITION

**22 NOV – CHRISTMAS CAROLS
CONCERT 6 – 8PM**

28 NOV – SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

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



Kinder: Friday 2:30pm
Year 1: Friday 2:45pm
Year 2: Friday 9:30am
Year 3: Friday 2:45pm
Year 4: Monday 2:30pm
Year 5: Friday fortnightly on EVEN weeks 2:30pm
Year 6: Fortnightly on ODD Weeks 2:30p

Invitation to Parents

You would have noticed that the area along the Father Walsh Hall has been cleared of the shrubbery. Our plan is to develop a play area for the Infants children. If you are interested in offering any suggestions a meeting will be held on Tuesday 17th 2.00-3.00pm to discuss what can be done. If you are unable to attend please feel free to submit your ideas via email or directly at the office.

Duilio Rufo
Principal

Assistant Principal's Message

Welcome back to Term 4! It is hard to believe we are in our final term for 2024, and it will be a busy and exciting term ahead.

HSC

The HSC starts this Wednesday 11 October, so I ask that you keep the Year 12 students sitting exams in your thoughts and prayers over the next four weeks. They have worked hard, especially over the past 2 years, and I am sure will do their very best. It is a stressful time for these young adults, as well as their families who have travelled the journey with them and we have a number of staff who have children or grandchildren sitting their exams, so we wish them all the best also.

Sport Days

Please see below for the sport days for Term 4

- Kindergarten - Wednesday
- Year 1 - Thursday for Weeks 1-4, then Tuesday for Weeks 5-10
- Year 2 - Tuesday for Weeks 1-4, then Thursday for Weeks 5-10
- Year 3 - Wednesday
- 4N - Thursday
- 4W - Tuesday
- 4L - Wednesday
- Year 5 - Tuesday for Weeks 1-6 then Thursday for Weeks 7-10
- Year 6 - Thursday for Weeks 1-6 then Tuesday for Weeks 7-10

Inquisitive Minds

This Thursday 12 Oct and Friday 13 Oct, students in Years 1- 6 will participate in Inquisitive Minds. These workshops focus on mathematical reasoning and problem solving, in a fun and interactive format. The roster for Inquisitive Minds is as follows:

Thursday 12 October

- 9:30 – 11:15 Year 4
- 12 – 1:45 Year 5
- 2:30 – 3:15 Year 1

Friday 13 October

- 9:30 – 11:15 Year 3
- 12 – 1:45 Year 6
- 2:30 – 3:15 Year 2

Office of Safeguarding - Safe and Respectful Peer Relationships

The Kids Helpline website has a number of great resources that are child friendly to help support safe and respectful relationships. Some topics include:

- Fights with friends
- Bulling is not ok
- Making friends
- Being ok with being different
- How to be happy being yourself
- My friends are fighting
- Wanting to fit in
- Treating others well

Please take some time to show your child the Kids Helpline website so they can learn to navigate through these resources should they ever want to know more information on some of these topics or others. - <https://kidshelpline.com.au/kids/issues>

Kaylene Maretich
Assistant Principal

Religious Education

Sacramental Program 2023/2024 (Year 3) – A new Sacramental Program will commence with an information & registration evening for our Year 3 parents next week on **Tuesday 17th October at 6:30pm**. Please note, this is still the date as I believe there was a misprint on the front page of the last newsletter for Term 3. All those parents who wish to enrol their children in the program are invited to come along to 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

St Therese's Feast Day & Mission Day – Next **Friday, 20th October**, we will celebrate our patron saint's feast day with a Mission Day. Children are asked to **bring in a gold coin donation and come out of uniform**. There will be a range of activities for students to learn more about the life of St Therese and to engage in our own school Socktober shootout. All money raised on the day will go towards the Socktober, Catholic Mission fund.

Totem Pole Project & ATSI Family Day – Next Wednesday, 18th October, Mr Evis Heath will once again be back at our school to lead our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in a community day around the Totem Pole Project. As many of you may have observed, the totem poles outside the administration office have faded over time and Mr Heath has accepted our invitation not only to redesign these but connect each pole to an important local indigenous story. More will be shared about this as the project continues. Below is Mr Heath with his most recent artwork, '*GENERations*' (2022), now hanging proudly in our Catherine McAuley Centre.



Catholic Mission: 'Socktober' – Yesterday, our Year 6 students spent most of the first day back at McDonald Jones Stadium as part of a Diocesan-wide event with other schools to promote support for Catholic Mission and Socktober. Socktober is an annual event to raise awareness of social justice issues around the globe. This year, the focus is upon helping people within the communities of one of our closest neighbours, Timor Leste. The day consisted in a liturgy, led by Bishop Michael Kennedy, along with an opportunity to engage in some on field activities and fun. Hopefully, all the children came away with a deeper understanding of the importance of Catholic Social Teaching with, *"Hearts on Fire and Feet on the Move"*.



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 beginning 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

Year 6 parents are reminded to check their fees are up to date to ensure a fee clearance for their new high school.

Vicki Carrick
Bursar

Canteen

Mon 16/10	Tues 17/10	Wed 18/10	Thurs 19/10	Fri 20/10
Elesha Finlay	Kylie Marten	Connie Martinellia		Anna Perkins
Catherine Devine	Odette Tonkin			Kareena Gupta
	Sue Jones			Sally Curzi

PBS

Principal Awards					
KN	Emily M	1N	Hudson B	1L	Hooper H
3N	Zara R	3W	Ruby M	3L	Santiago P Alexander P
4W	Maxime C				

Principal Awards

Congratulations and thank you, children, for upholding the values and principles of St Therese's. The above students will receive a Principal's Award at their next Grade Assembly, please see the newsletter for details on the days and times for Grade Assemblies.

Melissa Pyers
Primary Coordinator

SAVE THE DATE!

Grandparents of all our students are warmly invited to our:
Grandparents Day Celebration!

Date: Friday 27th October

Time: 9:30-Welcome in the School Hall K- 2

10-10:15am – Morning Tea

10:30-11.15am – Open Classrooms



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



Sport

Newcastle Knights Rugby League 9s

Late last term, some selected students represented St Therese's in the Newcastle Knights rugby league 9s tournament in Cessnock. All students represented our school with pride and displayed a high level of skill. Congratulations to the following Stage 2 students:

Alexi, Georgie, Henry, Ajay, Ace, Jackson, Hugo, Hamish, Brooklyn, Aart, Sidney, Levi, Reid, Chase, Slade, Ashton, Archer, Orlando and Iris.

Thank you to Christie Malyon and Andrew Price who helped prepare and organise the students at the carnival, to all the parents who transported the students and lastly to Matthew Kilkeary for the amazing photographs. Please visit the school Facebook page to see the full range of amazing photos.



Sports FACE Meeting

We will be holding the next Sports FACE meeting on Wednesday 25th October in the McAuley Centre at 4pm. All parents are welcome to discuss the feedback from the Swimming Carnival survey and other sport related matters. A specific agenda will be sent to parents prior to the meeting.

Ben McCarthy
Assistant Principal



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SESSIONS AVAILABLE

- HSC & Yr 11 ADVANCED ENGLISH
- HSC & Yr 11 STANDARD ENGLISH
- YEAR 7 -10 ENGLISH
- YEAR 6 HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH READINESS
- SMALL GROUPS AND 1-1 AVAILABLE

TERM 4 - REGISTER NOW

Carols By Candlelight returns to St Therese's

After a lengthy hiatus due to the school rebuild, Covid and back field renovations, we are proud to announce the return of Carols by Candlelight to St Therese's in 2023. This year's theme is "British Pop Christmas". All students across the school will be part of this performance. They will entertain us with songs from some of Britain's greatest bands and artists.

Please pop the following details into your calendars:

Date - Wednesday 22nd November (Week 7)

Time - 6pm - 8pm.

Where - St Therese's Primary School (outside the Catherine McAuley Centre).

What to wear - students are invited to wear a Christmas themed t-shirt or costume.

What to bring - families can bring picnic rugs and chairs, picnic food.

We are very excited to host the return of another whole school community event. Not only will you be entertained by the wonderful voices of your children, you will also be accompanied by the talents of our teachers as we sing communal Christmas carols and songs. Please join us for this wonderful community event.



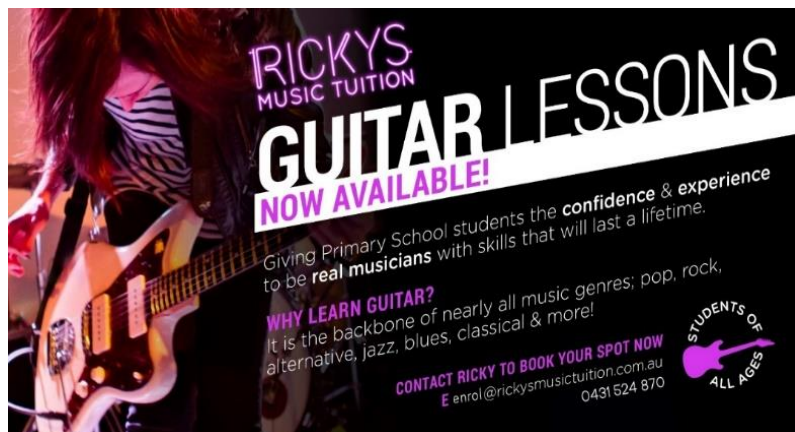
To bring Christ and His message, in all its richness, into the hearts and lives of all.



Ryder and Chase went to Brisbane in the school holidays for the National school futsal competition. Ryder's team was undefeated throughout the comp but lost in the semi finals. Chase's team was also undefeated and ended up winning the grand final. Chase also received the MVP award and Ryder received the Allstars award.



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