



Acting Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Carers

It's Week 6, can you believe how fast this term is going? I know many children are already looking forward to end of year events, but we encourage them to focus on each day, and all the fun and experiences each day brings.

Morning Drop Off

We continue to have many children being dropped off at school as early as 7:45am, this morning we had over 50 children at school by 8:15am. St Nicholas OOSH is available for families that need to drop their child/ren off before supervision at school commences at 8:45am. We have had increasing numbers of children arriving at school very early, which is unsafe, as there may be no-one at school should an accident occur. While some staff arrive early, it is to plan for the day, to meet with colleagues or to contact parents. However, they are needing to go out to the playground as many children who arrive early are climbing on tables, jumping the fences, or playing on the playground unsupervised. There may be times where you may need to drop your child/ren off a bit earlier than 8:45am, children are then required to put their bags outside their classroom and sit in the shade outside the Catherine McAuley Centre.

Christmas Activity Day

On Friday 1 December, we have organised Christmas Activities for all the children between 12-2pm. There are 24 different activities, run across two sessions:

- Session 1: 12:15 – 1:00pm
- Session 2: 1:15 – 2:00pm
-

Children will return to their classroom between each session. The activities from Session 1 will be repeated in Session 2. Each child will be able to choose **one** activity in Session 1 and **one** activity in Session 2. Your child does **not** need to only do activities run by their class teacher; they can choose to do any activity they think they would like. To choose your child's activities, click on the links below – please note, when booking "tickets" please put your child's name as the **buyer**, and your email address to get confirmation of the activities chosen.

Dates to Remember

15 NOV – RECONCILIATION 6.30PM

16 NOV – RECONCILIATION 6.30PM

17 NOV – KINDER TRANSITION

20 NOV – INFANTS SPEERS POINT
FUN DAY

22 NOV – CHRISTMAS CAROLS
CONCERT 6 – 8PM

26 NOV – SCHOOL YOUTH MASS
WARATAH 5.30PM

27 NOV – SCHOOL ASSEMBLY 2.30PM
POETRY EVENING 6-7.30PM
NEWCASTLE COMEDY CLUB

4 DEC – BAND CONCERT

6 DEC – YR 6 GRADUATION MASS 6PM

11 DEC – SWIMMING CARNIVAL

14 DEC – GUITAR CONCERT 2.30PM

15 DEC – LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

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



Bookings will open on Tuesday 14 November at 5:00pm. The links for the bookings are below

Session 1 booking – <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/christmas-activity-session-1-tickets-757132954047?aff=oddtcreator>

Session 2 booking - <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/christmas-activity-session-2-tickets-757142191677?aff=oddtcreator>

Parent/carers are very welcome to join your child and assist with the activity on the day. Children are also invited to wear Christmas themed clothing on the day.

Vivace

On Friday 24 November, our concert band will be participating in Vivace, the first showcase of all our Diocesan concert bands. Students in the band will be taken to Newcastle City Hall for the rehearsal at 2:00pm, parents/carers are asked to pick up your child at City Hall at 4:30pm. Children will need to be back at City Hall by 5:30pm for the concert to start at 6pm. The link for tickets will be sent out as soon as it becomes available. Information regarding Vivace, has been posted on Compass for all our students in the band, parents please provide consent for your child on Compass.

Office of Safeguarding

SchoolTV

This week we focus on respectful relationships

(<https://newlambton.catholic.schooltv.me/newsletter/respectful-relationships>). There are a number of videos in this section, we recommend these in particular:

- How can we talk about the difference between rights and responsibilities with our kids?
- How closely related are good emotional regulation and healthy relationships?
- How important is it to teach our children to respect others' differences?

Respectful relationship all require effective communication and grow and change over time. Encouraging your child to talk about their relationships with others, and sharing your own stories with your child will help them to continue this important aspect of interacting effectively with others.

Parking and speeding around school

Please be extremely careful when driving and parking around our school. We have had complaints from our very patient neighbours about people parking across driveways, on corners, in no stopping zones, or speeding through the school zones.

Please slow down and make every attempt to slow down and take care around the school.

Kaylene Maretich
Acting Principal

Assistant Principal's Message

Kindergarten, Year 1, and Year 2 Excursion – Speers Point Park

The K-2 classes will be attending an excursion to Speers Point Park next Monday, 20th November. We warmly invite parents to join us on the day, however the students will need to come to school first and catch the bus with their peers and teachers. These coaches will have seatbelts. The children will come to school as normal and depart from Burke Street at 9:15am. We will leave the park at 1:00pm to return to school.

Parents will be able to sign their child out and take them home from the park on the day. You must see their teacher and advised them that you are leaving so the child can be marked off the roll.

Students will need to bring their own food and a water bottle. There will be no canteen available.

At the park the students will play on the amazing playground, and we will also take some sports equipment for them to play on the grassed area.

If you have not already completed the online consent please do so ASAP.

Ben McCarthy
Assistant Principal

Religious Education

First Reconciliation – Please pray for all our candidates as they receive the sacrament this week on either Wednesday or Thursday evening. For those wishing to come along in support, the liturgies will start at 6:30pm in the church both evenings.

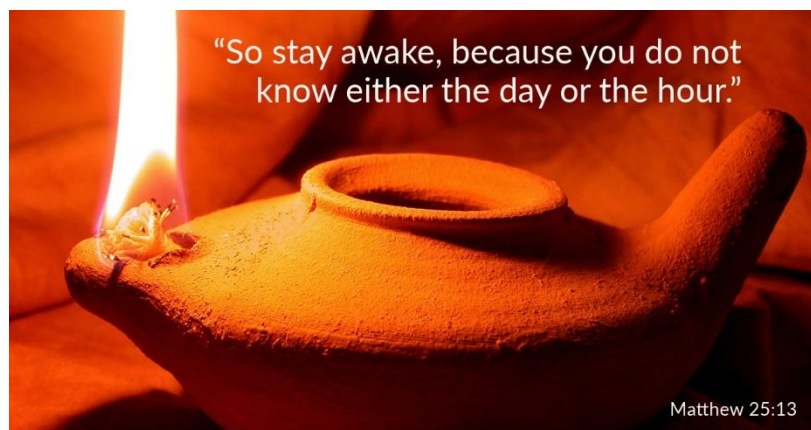
A Message from Pope Francis as we Move Towards Christmas – The following piece, written by Nick Brodie, is a nice summation of Pope Francis' reflection on Sunday's Gospel passage (*Matt 25:1-13*) The Parable of The Ten Bridesmaids, and serves as a reminder of what Christianity is all about as we move closer towards Christmas and the coming of Christ:

Reflecting on this Gospel passage, Pope Francis affirms that 'Jesus wants to tell us that we must be prepared for the encounter with him'. Jesus gives a pretty blunt message of preparedness, after all: 'stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour'.

But the Pope reminds us that this readiness of which Jesus speaks is not meant to be just for 'the final encounter'. Jesus wants us to be ready, as the Pope puts it, 'for the everyday great and small encounters'. Jesus wants us to be prepared by being wakeful. That means being alert and active.

As Pope Francis further reminds us, the lamps symbolise faith and the oil symbolises charity. We might therefore ask ourselves whether and how we prepare our lamps of faith to shine? Do we see Jesus in the poor, the sick, the lonely, the forgotten peoples of this world, and act accordingly? Or do we sleepily wander through life fixated only on the final encounter, slowly letting the oil of charity run dry and the lamp of faith grow dim?

Taken from: <https://www.liturgyhelp.com/calendar/date/2023Nov12/0/RefNickB>



Luke Smith
RE Coordinator

School Community News

School Medication

Please ensure that any changes to your child's medication is notified in writing and that you receive a reply from the office within 48 hours. If you don't hear from us please contact us immediately. We are in the process of updating our Administration of Medication procedures and this will be communicated to the school community in due course.

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

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



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.

Jenny Hurst
Acting Bursar

Canteen

Mon 20/11	Tues 21/11	Wed 22/11	Thurs 23/11	Fri 24/11
Magda Ramsay	Lauren Ross	Jacqui Osborn	Anthony Hawes	Kristy Lawrence
Amy Staikos	Marissa Harvey			Kristin Searl
	Charlene Price			Holly Van Schalkwyk

A special reminder that the Poetry Club Performance Night is coming up. A group of dedicated poets and writers meet fortnightly at school to write and have fun with words. They are performing their poems at the Comedy Club in Newcastle.



To assist us with numbers, can you please fill out the following form if you are attending:

<https://forms.office.com/r/nY8C6nUjgH>

There is no cost for this event. Nibbles and refreshments will be provided. We cannot wait to see you on the night.

Any queries, please contact Patricia McNeil
patricia.mcneil@mn.catholic.edu.au

PBS Awards

This term we are focusing on the value of **Justice**. We congratulate the following children for receiving the PBS School Spirit Award for demonstrating **JUSTICE** by being cooperative:

School Spirit Award for demonstrating JUSTICE by being cooperative (Please record 2 names per class)					
KN	Taj H Henry P	KW	Hannah M Jazmine M	KL	Charlie C Lucas B
1N	Angus M Darcey P	1W	Stella H Evelyn V	1L	Samuel C Noah D
		2W	Chelsea S Alesandro M	2L	Emilie A Isabella A
3N	Violet R Larz G	3W	Sadie S Ruby M	3L	Noah M Amelia G
4N	Lachlan S Marcus A	4W	Amelia H Jasper W	4L	Violet H Lennox F
5N	Phoebe M Ella R	5W	Isaac M Anna P	5L	Evie C Cooper M
6N	Zoe M Niah N	6W	Harvey L Sophie S	6L	Mya T Liam R

Principal Awards

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

Principal Awards					
KN	Chloe H Moe P	KW	Julien A	KL	Alice C
2W	Vann R Adelaide K Maeve G	3N	Vincent N	3W	Tabitha M
4W	Liam E Noah F	5N	Trevina M Noah J Annabel R Mahali R	5W	Henry G Lauren T
5L	Alex O Indigo H Anna O				

The above students will receive a Principal's Award at their class assembly.

Melissa Pyers
Primary Coordinator

Band Concert 4th December 2023

Our Annual Band performance and Presentation will take place on Monday 4th December at 10am !
This invitation is to all Parents , Grand Parents and friends to show off our Talented Concert Band.
A great opportunity for our Year 2 Parents to come along and listen to our Band. Mr Ward will be happy to answer any questions you have about your child starting an instrument 2024.
Our Ladies in the office have forms for any interested Students !

Howard Ward Music
Ph: 0419 663 389

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



St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal 2023

It is that time of the year again when Mini Vinnies is asking for your assistance in helping others. Our Christmas Appeal begins this 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 Christmas Appeal donations will be collected on Wednesday and Friday each week by the members of Mini Vinnies up until Wednesday 6th December. More information will be given to your child's grade regarding requested items. Thank you for your support,

Year 5 Mini Vinnies

Kinder – sweet biscuits, fruit cakes

Year 1 – lollies, cordial

Year 2 – breakfast cereals, long life custard

Year 3 – chips, nibbles

Year 4 – tinned fruit & vegetables

Year 5 – pasta, spreads

Year 6 – savoury biscuits, spreads

Thankyou, Year 5 Teachers

Coach's Corner

Congratulations Netballers!

Congratulations to the following St Therese's students who were selected in Newcastle Netball Representative teams/squads for 2024. The girls attended a series of selections and trainings in October to be selected. They will all take part in the Newcastle Netball Representative program next year.

Evie C - 11's Development Squad

Jasmyn M - 11's Development Squad

Grace O - 11's Development Squad

Stella R - 11's Development Squad

Miah F - 12's Representative team

Lily P - 12's Development team

Basketballers shooting Hoops:

Congratulations to Miah F, Nash Q and Hudson G who were successful at the recent Regional Basketball trial and have been selected to attend the upcoming Diocesan trial on the 24th. We wish you all the very best!

Joel Hartcher

Sports Coordinator

Christmas Concert Update

The end of year Carols By Candlelight concert is fast approaching. Here are some more details regarding the night.

- Concert details: Wednesday 22nd November @ 6pm - outside the Catherine McAuley Centre. Gates open at 5.30pm.
- Band students - please meet Mr Ward in the hall at 5.30pm. You will unpack your instruments there, tune, then head over the performance space outside the library.
- Kinder students - please meet outside the kinder rooms by 5.45pm. You are performing straight after the band.
- Students to dress in a Christmas outfit or Christmas t-shirt.
- Visitors are welcome to bring picnic blankets, chairs and picnic food. Please remember that alcohol cannot be brought onto the premises during the event.
- The expectation is that all students will participate in the concert. Could we please ask that you start making arrangements if your child has any after school activities. Please let your classroom teacher know if your child cannot make due to pre-arranged travels.
- All song lyrics have been sent to parents and carers via Compass. Could we please ask you to help your child with memorisation of the lyrics for the night.

Students are working so hard at creating these fabulously big-sounding choirs. The energy around making music together is positive, contagious, and really good for building our community spirit. We really are very much looking forward to sharing our music with you at the concert.



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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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- 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

Email tanyafearnley@learninglegendsacademy.com

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Sport



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



St Therese's Fundraiser

GINGERBREAD HOUSE

Take-home decorating kit

\$40 PER KIT

Includes: Gingerbread house kit, baseboard, piping bag with icing in it, cellophane and ribbon. Lollies are not included.

Flavours: Gingerbread, Gluten Free Gingerbread, Chocolate.

ORDERS CLOSE TUES 14TH NOVEMBER 2023
www.flexischools.com.au

Delivery is expected no later than 8th December. The kits will then be distributed to the students to take home.

For additional product information, including nutritional details, you can visit our supplier; Gingerbread Folk at www.gingerbreadfolk.com.au



Good for kids
good for life



Keep an eye on screen time

Screen time and digital technology can be part of a healthy lifestyle **when it's balanced with other activities**. This includes physical activity, creative play, reading, socialising and getting enough uninterrupted sleep.

Follow these tips to use technology in a balanced and healthy way:

- Make rules about screen time
- Aim for short screen time sessions, with active breaks
- Encourage outdoor play
- Encourage creative activities
- Encourage play with others
- Avoid screen time before bed
- Avoid digital technology in the bedroom, especially at night



Source: Screen time and digital technology use for children 6-11 years: tips for balance (raisingchildren.net.au)



Developed by Hunter New England LHD

HNELHD-GoodForKids@health.nsw.gov.au
<https://goodforkids.nsw.gov.au>



Good for Kids acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of the land that we live and work on as the first people of this country, and pay our respects to Elders past and present.