



St. Thomas More's Newsletter

Wednesday, 13th March 2019

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St. Thomas More School is a Child Safe School

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents,

Catholic Education Week

This week we celebrate Catholic Education Week, focusing on being educated in faith. This Friday 15th March, we invite all grandparents and special friends to visit our classrooms and spend time with the staff and the students. For some families, the grandparents live nearby and they are able to visit the school; for other families, for all sorts of reasons, the grandparents are not able to attend. Therefore, we also invite a child's special friend to come along and see the wonderful learning that is occurring.

We begin the morning with Mass in the gym at 9.15am. The Mass has been prepared, and will be led by 3/4K&J. Visitors will then be able to visit the classrooms until morning tea in the gym at 11.30am. We look forward to meeting many of our family friends.

Parking will be available in each of the usual parking areas, as well as the oval. Please ask any visitors to follow the directions of the staff.

Thank you to all the parents who help make the morning such a great success!

Professional Learning Day

Last Friday, staff spent a major part of the day with Patrice Wiseman, Catholic Education Melbourne. Patrice focused on positive behavior guidelines and revisited the school student expectations. A copy is attached to the newsletter; you may like to go over them with your children or you could choose to use some of the language at home.

A second component was looking at processes for times children's behavior is dysregulated and how staff can respond. There was open discussion around strategies to support children in these difficult times, but at the same time ensuring the safety of all children.

Staff will look at reviewing the current student behavior policy.

Car Park Safety

Cars are parking in the no parking area above the crossing. This is a no-standing area, as it causes bad visibility for children and parents crossing.

There has been an incident of a child moving behind cars near the drop off zone; please ensure your child stays behind the barrier, and walks in front of your car if they need to move off the curb.

Student Medication

Our school is committed to supporting students who require medication during the day to assist their recovery from an illness or as ongoing maintenance. Guidelines are in place to ensure the safe administration of prescribed medication.

Medication will be administered from the office and stored as per the authorization form, securely away from children.

Written advice must be provided via the *Medication Authorisation Form* (attached) for any medication to be given. A record is kept of medicine administered showing the medication, the dosage, the time and the staff who administered the medication.

Please note: the exceptions are Epipens and Asthma medication, e.g. Ventolin. These must be housed with the child, in their classroom. Up-to-date information on these medications should be available on the Asthma or Anaphylaxis Management Forms.

Year 5/6 Camp

Our Year 5/6 students and 11 staff are heading off to their outdoor camp at Marysville next Monday morning. Children are asked to assemble in front of the church by 8.30am for a 9am departure. Thank you to all the staff who so willingly give of their time to make camp a positive experience for all.

The buses will need to enter the car park in front of the Parish Community Centre, as they are not permitted to park in the street. If you park in there, you may be hemmed until the bus leaves!

Uniform Reminder

Blue socks are part of both the sports and main uniform.

Next newsletter date: 27th March

Enjoy the week ahead.

Mrs Pat McConvill

Principal

Term Dates

March

15th—Grandparents and Special Friends Day

15th—Working Bee, 4-6.30pm

18th—20th—Year 5/6 Camp

18th—Classroom Helper Training, 2.15pm

22nd—Year 5/6 Summer Lightning Premiership

22nd—School Mass, 12.15pm, led by 1/2J&E

25th—Classroom Helper Training, 2.15pm



Fee Reminder

The first quarterly instalment was due on Friday 8th March and payment in full was also due by this date. Thank you to all the families who have paid their fees or who have made a commitment to pay fees by instalment. A variety of fee payment options, including payment by EFT, direct debit and credit card deduction, are offered.

Please contact Jo Muller if you have any questions or would like some more information.

Sports Information

Congratulations to all our division swimmers who competed today
Well done.



Deputy's Report

Working Bee This Friday!

Friday 15th March - 4pm

The working bee this Friday night will begin at 4pm. The theme of this Working Bee is a site tidy up. Cleaning up garden beds, clearing gutters and cleaning out under buildings etc. With all the wood and materials from the site we will compile what is worth keeping for a future garden project and what can be sent to disposal.

Many hands will make light work and the best thing is there aren't any special skills to participate for the afternoon which will conclude with a BBQ and refreshments at 6pm.

We are hoping to have as many people attend as possible, not only to assist on the night but help plan the following working bee projects. There are some great ideas that are being put forward and it would be excellent to hear others at the BBQ once all the work is done.

Looking forward to seeing everyone this Friday 15th March.

The dates for the working bees in 2019 are:

Friday 15th March - 4pm
Saturday 25th May - 9am
Saturday 17th August - 9am
Saturday 9th November - 9am

Chris



OUTREACH

We have a family going through a challenging time at the moment and to lend a helping hand we are restarting the STM Outreach program. We are seeking a team to make meals coordinated by myself and Belinda Patane.

At St. Thomas More we pride ourselves on being a community and helping others in need. Operation Outreach has been operating for a few years now and provides a family or families within our school community with meals either during a time of crisis, during illness of a family member or in some cases on a regular basis.

As families during this time often need privacy this operates anonymously and behind the scenes however as time goes on and members of our school community leave and new ones arrive we need to restock our volunteers.

What we are looking to do is set up a list of volunteers that we can email or call at short notice to help keep the meals coming on a regular basis or as needed depending on the situation of the family. At various times families in our community need our support so if you are able to assist with this worthwhile cause please email the office or myself: ctodd@stmmtlza.catholic.edu.au

Thank you yet again for your generosity and commitment to building a school community that we are all proud of.

MUSIC NEWS

CHOIR & ENSEMBLE GROUPS ... Year 5/6's have been given the opportunity to be part of two extra musical groups for the duration of Semester 1. **Tune In** is our singing/choir group and each Tuesday from 2pm – 2:45pm the group participates in exploring and strengthening vocal techniques and singing songs with a variety of music structures and styles. The members of **Tune In** are Massimo, Olive, William, Georgia, Breeanna, Sienna, Mitchell, Zara, Liva, Sienna, Claudia, Thomas, Se, Louis, Bridgette, Alexis, Amelia, Jack and Sophia.

STM Combo is our percussion instrumental ensemble group. The ensemble sessions take place at lunch time on Tuesdays between 1pm and 1:40pm. The group spends time exploring a variety of percussion instruments and learning to work together to play as a musical team. The members of **STM Combo** are Massimo, Olive, Georgia, Sienna, Mitchell, Molly, Luis, Thomas, Marcus and Jayde.

It's great to see students taking on the opportunity to explore some extra musical learning.

MUSICAL PRODUCTION NEWS

It is exciting to announce that the Year 6 musical production for this year is **Pirates of the Curry Bean**.

The Performing Arts unit of work for Year 6's takes place in Term 3 and culminates with two night time performances at the Peninsula Community Theatre on September 17th and 18th.

Anchors away and get ready to set sail for a swashbuckling adventure on the high seas!

Parent's Association

The PA meets every month; everyone is welcome. The next PA meeting will be on Wednesday 3rd April in the parents room (in the Office building), please contact Julia via juliamccarthy@hotmail.com or 0451514554 for more information.

STM PA AGM

Thanks to everyone who came along to the AGM, and to our speaker Craig Stephens from Impact Volunteering, who gave a really fascinating talk on what motivates volunteers; watch out for his ideas being implemented!

Your Committee for 2019

Julia McCarthy – President

Marcus Benbow – Vice President

Brett Paton – Treasurer

Christine Ward – Secretary

Sarah Fish – Assistant Treasurer

Marcia Torcasio – Assistant Secretary

Des McLoughin – PEB rep

Laura Snow – PEB rep

Ben Davies—PEB rep

Katie Moon - Class rep coordinator

General Committee (counters)

- Jackie Arter
- Rachel Millerd
- Emma Svalbe
- Emily Husband

Simon McGloin - Mornington Market Car Park Coordinator

Edward Svalbe - Working Bee Coordinator

Meaghan Leamon & Kelly Davies – Uniform Shop Coordinator

Sonya Muser – Canteen Coordinator

Teresa Martino – Working Bee Catering Coordinator

Teresa Martino – Crockery Hire Coordinator

Fiona Parkyn - Mothers/Fathers Day stall Coordinator

Leonie Zammit – Grandparents Day Coordinator

Welcome to all the new and returning members, special thanks to families new to the school putting their hands up to help.

Lastly, we want to express our appreciation to our outgoing members, Malwina Asuncion, Kim Beer, Arthur House and Tom Danaher who have given so much of their expertise and time to make your kids school a better place. Your contribution is greatly valued - thank you.

STM COMMUNITY PATHWAY

Just a quick advert to remind you that you can own a bit of STM's future by investing in a brick or 2 for the new pathway. Your kids will probably bring their kids to see them in years to come, so it's like buying into a really cool time capsule! For more information please contact Marcus: marcusbenbow@gmail.com
Visit our trybooking page to make your purchase www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=474883&

EASTER RAFFLE

It's time for our Annual Easter Raffle! Tickets have gone out with your kids and need to be returned by Thursday 28th March; Prizes will be drawn on final assembly term 1 on the 5th April. Please help with the raffle prizes; we would appreciate donations of Easter eggs, Easter related toys, books, decorations and baskets to hold prizes in. Please drop off your raffle tickets and donations to the office by 3rd of April.

GRANDPARENTS AND SPECIAL FRIENDS' DAY FRIDAY 15TH MARCH

This is one of the loveliest Fridays of the year! Grandparents and Special People who love our kids as much as we do get to share in the excitement of seeing our kids thriving in their classroom environments!

The day starts with Mass in the gym at 9.15am, followed by activities in the classrooms and Morning Tea at approx 11.30am in the gym.

To get a good mix of everything could the following grades kindly bring a plate of the following that we can serve at morning tea; savoury food is very popular. The gym will be open from 8.30am for Morning Tea to be dropped off.

- Preps - sweet (biscuits, cakes and slices etc)
- 1/2's - savoury (cheese and biscuits, savoury scrolls, sandwiches etc)
- 3/4's - sweet
- 5/6's - savoury

Please note: We require "sugar free and gluten free" options for them (please label).

We will need as many volunteers as possible to assist in the setup of morning tea as well as assistance serving tea and coffee and cleaning up. Please feel free to pop in and lend a hand! Let's continue it's success and make our grandparents proud. Assistance needed after Mass finishes at approx 10am, and then more help for serving morning tea - 11.30am - 12.30pm.

Please note this is an extremely busy morning, so the oval will be open for parking. Entry via the driveway that passes between the undercroft and the office building. Children will need to be extra careful with the increased traffic. There will also be staff on duty. We encourage school families to park on the oval to leave the school carparks for Grandparents. Grandparents can also be dropped off in the drop off zone near the gym doors.

Parents attending Mass please ensure all Grandparents and Special Friends have seats in the gym before you take a seat.

Leonie Royall is kindly organising this again this year; if you can help please let her know leonieroyall@yahoo.com.au

BAREFOOT BOWLS FAMILY NIGHT

As we head towards the end of Term 1 and the warmer weather, we thought it would be nice to have a social get together. Please join us Friday 22nd March 5-7.30pm at Yamala Park Bowls Club (Dunstan Street, Frankston South) for barefoot bowls. \$10 per player, kids free and the bowls club will be running a sausage sizzle - easy Friday night dinner!

Please register via trybooking (it will not charge you – payment is in cash to the club on the night, sausages an extra couple of dollars) so we can confirm numbers. <https://www.trybooking.com/BBLAT>

2019 STM WELCOME PICNIC

The PA would like to say a HUGE thank you to all those families that came to the Welcome Picnic on Sunday 3rd March – it was so hot! We feel that it is fair to say that fun was had by all, with the water games proving to be popular. CONGRATULATIONS to Lisa Janssen and Lee Rosenquist for winning the Annual Parents 100m Sprint Race. We would like to thank everyone who helped organise and run the day, including the Grade 6 kids who assisted Fleur run the games.

Sincerely,

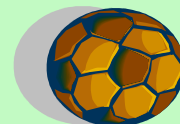
Julia McCarthy

President

Parents Association (juliamccarthy@hotmail.com)

Indoor soccer for Parents AND Children!

For all new parents or those who don't know, we play futsal every Thursday evening, 7:45pm start in the school gym. Children of Parents are NOW also invited to play provided they are accompanied by their parent or guardian. Social games only and all abilities welcome. Children must be 10 years or older. Please text me if interested or for more info.



Regards Daniel Ferlin 0410 184 494

MORNINGTON RACECOURSE MARKET CAR PARK DUTY

As you all know, STM is very lucky to have the monopoly on the carparking job for Mornington Market, as it raises approx. \$16,000 each year for the school!

But did you know that your volunteer hours are good for you? According to the OECD Better Life Index, volunteers tend to be more satisfied with their lives because they're interacting with other people, setting and achieving goals, and learning new things.

I've done car park duty twice during my 2 years at STM and really enjoyed both times – sure, it's tiring and our weekend activities are impacted, but I made some new connections with parents I didn't know and bumped into loads of friends visiting the market. And along with a fab free barista coffee, and as much cold water as I needed, my step count each time was enormous! All families are only rostered once every 14 months (approx.).

This year we have a NEW parent to the school generously giving up his time to be our carpark coordinator, Simon McGloin. Simon and Sally have Angus in grade 5 and two children in high school. Please let's make them feel welcome by letting Simon know that you are available for your roster when you see your name in the newsletter.

Thanks,

Julia McCarthy

Market volunteer guidelines

- When you see your name on the roster please text Simon your availability, please include your name and the date of the market you're assigned to
- If you are unavailable for your rostered month, please organise another family to take your place at least 3 weeks in advance of the market, and advise Simon of the change asap.
- Arrive at 7.45 am (all weather event) / Twilight market 1.45pm
- Enter via the main gates of Racecourse on Racecourse Road, Mornington & park in the designated area (Market Staff will be at the gate to assist you)
- Sign in with the Team Leader (for record keeping and Work Cover). **Team Leaders must collect a Green folder from the school office the Friday prior to attending the market, and return it the following Monday.**
- Receive your safety vest & place your coffee order!
- Market Staff will take you to your location in the car park where you will direct cars
- The Market Leader will advise when you are finished, typically around 12.30pm (6.30pm Twilight) but can alter depending on how busy the market is. On slower days Market Staff will advise if you can leave earlier.

Car Parking Co-Ordinator - Simon McGloin 0417 339 114 / Simon_mcgloin@hotmail.com

SUNDAY 14th April

Cooke (Team Leader)

Angelico

Cevizovic

Black R & F

Cummins

Dwyer

Frankcombe

Gibson

Meaney

Nero

Sparrow

Taranto G & P

SUNDAY 12th May

Benbow (Team Leader)

Cater

Davies

Delord

Hallal

House A & C

McLoughlin

Millerd

Muser

Ryan A & F

Torcaso M & J

Zammit

SUNDAY 9th June

Natoli (Team Leader)

Austin

Belsdon

Fay

Harper-Treloar

Higgins

King, D

Mauro

Michie

Sharpe

Smith, N & C

Trimble

SUNDAY 14th July

Galvin (Team Leader)

Power-Reeves

Grima

Boatwright

Jenkins

McKenzie

Reid

Orisajinmi

Manning

Steel

Cooper

Cenacchi