



# NEWSLETTER

DATE: 14/10/2020  
TERM: 4  
EDITION: 1

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has truly been a blessing to have the students all return to school this term. There has been lots of smiles, laughter and excitement around the school. Mr. Tom Sexton, the Director of Catholic Education Ballarat, reminds us "that for our precious students to flourish: safety, love, hope and mental wellbeing are foundational to any academic growth".

With the ongoing health and safety of our school community as our highest priority, there may be procedures and decisions made over the coming weeks that will impact on our community in ways that may not be our normal way of being. I ask that you show understanding and co-operation in all that we endeavour to do as we navigate our way together through schooling in Term 4.

I'm pleased that this term we will be able to offer a number of experiences that resemble 'normality' for our students. Book week activities, Footy Colours Day, Mission Day activities, Remembrance Day and camps for our Years 3, 4, and 6 students will all occur. We are also in the process of organising an excursion for the Foundation to Year 2 students. Currently, our Year 6 students are enjoying their three-day outdoor education camp at the Cave Hill Creek campsite.




### New App

We are pleased to launch our school's new App this week. This new **St Thomas More Catholic Primary School App** will replace the **Skoolbag App** as of this week, therefore we ask that you please download the new app so that you will receive all the latest information in the timeliest manner. When you download the App please allow notifications so that you can receive messages and updates from the school.


## St. Thomas More Catholic Primary School

- Push Notifications
- Event Calendar
- Newsletter
- Parent Access Module
- One Touch Contact
- Absentee Reporting
- Canteen Menu
- and much more ...

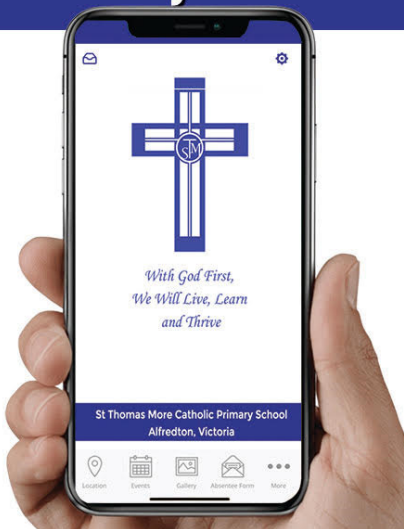
\* Be sure to enable Push Notifications to receive Instant Messaging from the school



Available on the App Store



Available on the Google Play



## Now Available on Apple App Store and Google Play

### Book Week

Next week will be celebrating Book Week and it will be loads of fun. We will be holding a 'socially distant' Book Week Parade on **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October**. This year's theme is 'Curious Creatures, Wild Minds'. Students and staff are invited to dress up according to this theme or as their favourite book character for the day.

On Tuesday afternoon we will have a 'Big Read' where all students in the school will read books together on the oval and in other outdoor spaces. Students are asked to bring along one of their favourite picture story books to read with their buddy.

### Footy Colours Day

Next Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October, is our **Footy Colours Day**. Students may wear their favourite sports team colours. If your child does not have a favourite team they may wear their favourite colours. Please ensure that clothes are sun-safe; no singlets or short shorts please. There is no cost for students to dress in footy/sports colours. A reminder that **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October** has been declared a public holiday in Victoria, therefore the school will be closed on this day.

### School Fees

As we enter Term 4, please keep in mind that school fees must be finalised by the 30th November, 2020. If you are having difficulty meeting your fee commitments please call the school as soon as possible.

### Class Lists for 2021

Our classroom teachers have started looking at possible groupings for classes for next year. If you have any concerns that are of a serious nature please forward these requests to me, by email ([principal@stmalfredton.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@stmalfredton.catholic.edu.au)), no later than Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October. Please understand that this is the only process to go through if specific consideration is required.

With planning for the 2021 school year now gathering momentum, I would ask families if they are aware that they will not be returning to St Thomas More Catholic Primary School next year, to promptly inform the school.



## Secondary School Transition

Under current COVID restrictions, transition days for Year 6 students commencing Year 7 at secondary school in 2021 are not able to take place. This may change over the course of the next few weeks and we will ensure that we keep you up to date with any developments. Please be assured that we are working with the secondary schools to ensure we are able to provide alternative opportunities and experiences to facilitate transitions in the best possible way.

## Sacraments and Mass

At this stage we have no further information for you about when the children will be able to receive the Sacraments of Eucharist or Confirmation. Additionally, many people are missing the opportunity to attend Sunday Mass during this time. If you wanted to gather and participate in Mass online, try one of the following websites:

[St Patrick's Cathedral Facebook page](#)

[Ballarat Melbourne Catholic's Live Mass Streaming Sites](#)

## Sick Bay Notifications

We have recently changed the way in which we notify parents of any injuries/sickness/accidents that students may incur during school hours. Previously we would send a paper copy home with the student outlining the incident and treatment. We have now moved to an electronic system of recording all the information and this service allows a notification to be emailed to parents at 4pm. We will continue to contact parents immediately by phone in the event of any serious incident.

## School Closed - Important Dates to Note:

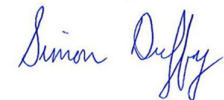
The school will be closed on the following dates; therefore, students are not to attend school on:

Week 3 - **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October** – AFL Grand Final Public Holiday

Week 5 – **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November** – Melbourne Cup Public Holiday (in lieu of Ballarat Show Day Holiday)

Week 7 – **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November** – Report Writing Day for Teachers

God bless you all and keep you safe,



Mr Simon Duffy  
Principal

## Term 4 Calendar, 2020

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 Oct	12 Year 6 camp	13 Year 6 Camp	14 Year 6 Camp	15 Whole School Prayer -led by ½ Hobbs	16
3 Oct	19	20 Book Week - Book Day and Parade	21 Assembly -presented by F/1 Gannon	22 Footy Colours Day Whole School Prayer -led by 5/6 Bird	23 NO STUDENTS. AFL Grand Final - Public holiday
4 Oct	26	27 Foundation – Yr 2 Excursion	28 Assembly -presented by 3/4 Brady	29	30 Whole School Prayer -led by 2 Woodhart Mission Day activities
5 Nov	2	3 NO STUDENTS. Melbourne Cup - Public Holiday	4 Assembly -presented by F/1 Brightly SAC meeting	5 Whole School Prayer -led by 3/4 Hawkes/Larkin	6
6 Nov	9	10	11 Remembrance Day Assembly -presented by F/1 Keighrey	12 Whole School Prayer -led by 5/6 Larkin	13
7 Nov	16 NO STUDENTS. Report Writing Day for Teachers	17	18	19 Whole School Prayer -led by 4/5 Hoffmann	20