



# NEWSLETTER

DATE: 9/12/2020  
TERM: 4  
EDITION: Five

Dear Parents and Carers,

I feel an incredible sense of gratitude and appreciation as I reflect on my first year as principal at St Thomas More Catholic Primary School. The school community has done a fantastic job overcoming all of the challenges that were placed in front of us this year. For me, the celebrations and highlights have been many and varied and I feel so privileged that I have been given the opportunity to lead this fantastic school community.

I have been truly grateful for the dedication and commitment of the parents at St Thomas More School this year. Both during remote learning and at school, the partnership between families and the school has made this year work. Your efforts have had a major impact on your child's learning and successes.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to Fr. Justin and our School Advisory Council who are committed to the pursuit of excellence at St Thomas More Catholic Primary School and work to continue to build a strong, faith filled, catholic community. The support, advocacy and wisdom of our School Advisory Council members has been a real asset and support to our school and has made my job as Principal a pleasure.

I acknowledge and thank the fabulous school staff who continually strive to provide challenging and stimulating learning opportunities for our students in partnership with families. Each staff member has gone above and beyond this year in so many ways. I have been truly blessed to work alongside such enthusiastic, passionate and professional colleagues.

I take this opportunity to thank our Year Six students for their many contributions to our school community throughout their time at the school. I wish them all the best as they move to secondary school and hope that their memories of their time at St Thomas More will be fond and valued for years to come. The End of Year Mass and Year 6 Graduation held today was a fantastic celebration of their primary school education and I was pleased that families could join us for this celebration, even though it was virtually rather than physically. (More photos page 4.)



Finally, I would like to say how proud I am of all of our students and all that they have achieved this year. It has been a privilege to be entrusted with their care and education and to watch each one grow, not only academically but also in faith, love and resilience.

As this is the final newsletter for 2020, God bless you all and keep you safe this Christmas season. We look forward to working alongside you all next year.



## Donations

The school has been overwhelmed with the generosity shown by families for the Christmas food appeal for St Vincent de Paul this year. All donations will be accepted until the end of this week, Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December.



## Numeracy and Literacy Assessments

Numeracy and Literacy Assessment appointment times have been emailed to all families. Your child will participate in a 30-minute Numeracy or Literacy interview on either Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> or Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December this year as well as a 30-minute Numeracy or Literacy assessment on either Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January or Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January in 2021. It is important that all students attend their allocated sessions so that the testing is able to be carried out. Please note, Foundation 2021 students will also need to attend these appointments. If you have any questions please contact the school office.

## Student School Reports and Learning Journals

Your child's school report is now available through the Parent Access Module (PAM). If you need any assistance accessing this, please contact the front office. Students will also be bringing home their Learning Journals this week. I encourage you to take the time to discuss your child's report and Learning Journal with them, as it is most beneficial for students to reflect on their work and identify areas for future focus. Your child's report also contains the name/s of your child's teacher for 2021.

## Farewells

This year we farewell two staff members; Mrs. Judy Taylor and Mrs. Amber Henderson. Judy is stepping into a well-deserved retirement after many decades of imparting her love of music and choir with our students. We wish her all the best in her retirement and trust that she will relish spending extra time with her grandchildren. Amber concludes her contract as our school's compliance officer. We thank her for the work she has done over the last two years and wish her all the best with her future endeavours.

## Year 3/4 Camp

The Year 3/4 students thoroughly enjoyed their overnight camp to Cave Hill Creek last week. I would like to thank the staff for all their efforts in making this camp possible and for providing such wonderful experience for the students.



## Finishing Fun Day

This year the final day for students will be Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December. On this day at school we have a very exciting day planned for the students including jumping castles, water play, team games and much, much more. Students are encouraged to wear casual clothes on this day. The day will conclude at 3.25pm.

## 2021 Fee Payment Agreements

A reminder please that families should have returned their 2021 Fee Payment Agreement. If you are yet to do so, please return the form ASAP. If you have any questions or queries please contact the office.

### Staffing 2021

|                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Principal:</b>                        | Mr Simon Duffy                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Deputy Principal:</b>                 | Mrs Trish Caldwell                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Religious Education Leader:</b>       | Mrs Jayne Mohr                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Literacy leader:</b>                  | Mrs Jean Crafter                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Curriculum Leader:</b>                | Mrs Jo Wheelahan                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Learning Diversity leaders:</b>       | Mrs Dympna Turner and Mrs Jayne Mohr                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <br>                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Admin staff:</b>                      | Mrs Fran Dunn, Mrs Renee Whitefield, Mrs Donna Simpson                                                                                                                                                       |
| <br>                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Classroom teacher<br/>Foundation:</b> | Mrs Sarah Gannon, Mrs Nicole Brightly, Ms Brooke Keighrey                                                                                                                                                    |
| <br>                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Year 1/2:</b>                         | Mrs Natasha Munro, Mrs Nicole Cudia, Mr Mark Woodhart,<br>Mrs Tania Hoffmann, Mrs Jenny Nykoluk/Mrs Melinda Turkenburg,                                                                                      |
| <br>                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Year 3/4:</b>                         | Ms Jenna Mitchell, Ms Tayla Hobbs, Mrs Jenny Bird, Ms Brigid Brady,<br>Mrs Genevieve Hawkes/Mrs Abby Bourke                                                                                                  |
| <br>                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Year 5/6:</b>                         | Mrs Michelle Gittings, Mr David Richardson, Ms Sue Larkin, Mrs Kath Davis,<br>Mrs Lisa Baker/Mrs Lauren Larkin                                                                                               |
| <br>                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Specialist teachers</b>               |                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Physical Education:</b>               | Mrs Kelly McMahon                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Music:</b>                            | Mr Jeremy Beggs                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Visual Arts:</b>                      | Mrs Pauline Doran                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Languages (Japanese):</b>             | Denise Buttler                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <br>                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Learning support Officers:</b>        | Mrs Amanda Barham, Mrs Imma Edwards, Mrs Rebecca Findlay, Mr Craig<br>Buesnel, Mrs Donna Heys, Mrs Olivia Burge, Mrs Angela Pearson, Mrs Paula<br>Miles, Mr Shaun Hon, Mrs Tanya Archbold, Mr William Madden |
| <br>                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Pastoral Care worker:</b>             | Mrs Suzanne Beaver                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <br>                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Library management:</b>               | Mrs Tanya Archbold                                                                                                                                                                                           |

God bless you all and keep you safe,



Mr. Simon Duffy,  
Principal



# CELEBRATING OUR 2020 YEAR 6 STUDENTS



## Term 4 Calendar, 2020

| Week                    | Monday                                                                                   | Tuesday                              | Wednesday                                                                                                       | Thursday                 | Friday          |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>10</b><br><b>Dec</b> | 7                                                                                        | 8<br>Going up day<br>REPORTS GO HOME | 9<br>Year 6 Graduation<br>9.30am live<br>streamed to parents<br>Assembly presented by<br>¼ Turkenburg/Wheelahan | 10                       | 11              |
| <b>11</b><br><b>Dec</b> | 14<br>Student's last day<br><br>Nativity Whole<br>School Prayer<br><br>Finishing Fun Day | 15<br>Student Assessment<br>Day      | 16<br>Student Assessment<br>Day                                                                                 | 17<br>Staff planning Day | 18<br>Staff Day |

## Term 1 Calendar, 2021

| Week                        | Monday                               | Tuesday                                 | Wednesday                                                  | Thursday                        | Friday                          |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>1</b><br><b>January</b>  | 25<br>School holidays                | 26<br>Australia Day -<br>Public holiday | 27<br>Staff Professional<br>Development day<br>No students | 28<br>Student Assessment<br>Day | 29<br>Student Assessment<br>Day |
| <b>2</b><br><b>February</b> | 1<br>All students<br>commence school | 2                                       | 3<br>Foundation students<br>do not attend on<br>Wednesday  | 4                               | 5                               |

### COMMUNITY NOTICES

## 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