

St Thomas More Catholic Primary School

With God First, We will Live, Learn & Thrive

NEWSLETTER

DATE: 3/03/2021
TERM: 1
EDITION: 3

Dear Families,

During this Lenten season St. Thomas More Catholic Primary School is participating in Project Compassion. This is Caritas Australia's annual fundraising and awareness raising appeal, bringing thousands of Australians in solidarity with the world's poor to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. It runs throughout the six weeks of Lent each year. Project Compassion is an extraordinary, ongoing demonstration of the faith, love and generosity of caring supporters, all in the name of justice and peace. Project Compassion 2021 focuses on how we can "Be More".



Project Compassion 2021 Prayer

*God of all peoples and nations, as you accompany us on our Lenten journey,
may our fasting strengthen our commitment to live in solidarity,
our almsgiving be an act of justice,
and our prayer anchor us in love and compassion.
Awaken our hearts and minds that we may be one human family
as we all go further together. We ask this in Jesus' name, Amen.*

To assist with our school fundraising effort for *Project Compassion* we are hosting a "Crazy Socks Day" on **Friday 5th March** (this coming Friday). Students are encouraged to wear some crazy socks for the day and bring along a gold coin donation.



SCHOOL CAMP

Our Years 5/6 student are currently having at excellent time on their three-day camp to PGL Campaspe Downs campsite near Kyneton.



SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY

The school will be closed on **Tuesday 9th March**, (following the Labour Day Public Holiday on Monday 8th March) for the staff to undertake professional development for our upcoming External School Review.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Our annual school photos are scheduled for next **Wednesday 10th March**. Students are required to wear their full summer uniform.



CONGRATULATIONS

Our congratulations to Miss Jenna Mitchell, year 3/4 teacher, on her recent marriage to Trav. The STMCPs community extend their best wishes and blessings to Mr & Mrs Hoyle for a lifetime of love, joy and happiness.

EASTER RAFFLE

Our first fundraiser for the year is our **Easter Raffle** with all proceeds going towards an additional Years 3-6 playground. We are currently seeking donations in the form of chocolate eggs, bunnies, Easter stickers/ stationery/ craft /baskets and soft toys. Please drop these donations to the front office. Online tickets for the raffle are now on sale and can be purchased at www.rafflelink.com.au/stmeasterraffle21



CANDLES WANTED

We are wanting to create a new school candle to enhance our masses and whole school prayer gatherings. To do this, we would love donations of old blue or white candles. Our idea is to melt these into one large candle, so all our families will be (symbolically) present in our prayer spaces! There is no need to go and buy candles, just have a dig in the birthday tin and see what you can find! (We only need one per family if possible!) There will be a box at the front office for you to place your candle donations.



SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

The St. Thomas More **School Advisory Council** (SAC) meets throughout school year. *"The SAC is the leading advisory group for the Principal, as an active forum for parent and community participation, providing support and advice in strategic planning, school improvement, educational outcomes and stewardship of resources.* (Diocese of Ballarat Catholic Education Limited - DOBCEL). The 2021 SAC is made up of the following members: Parish Priest—Fr. Justin Driscoll, Principal: *Simon Duffy*, Deputy Principal: Trish Caldwell, Religious Education Leader: Jayne Mohr and parent representatives: Melissa Brown, Kerry Armstrong, Carolyn Gately, Karen Ashby, Wayne Braybrook, Mark Cowell, Anna Sheehan and Anna Williamson. I would like to thank the SAC for the fantastic work that they do in guiding and assisting our St. Thomas More school community.

FOUNDATION (PREP) 2022

The Ballarat Catholic schools have begun the 2022 Foundation (Prep) enrolment process. Please see details attached below on pages 6 and 7. Please note that **current families** now need to complete this new enrolment process, even if they have siblings currently attending at the school.

FOUNDATION – YEAR 2 CLASSROOM HELPERS

At this stage, we are hoping to welcome classroom helper's back to our F-2 classrooms, commencing in Term 2. All classroom helpers are required to complete a short course over 2 sessions. If you have already attended this course prior to 2020 and would like to assist please email Jean Crafter with your details and availability.

Helping in a junior classroom is such a fantastic and rewarding opportunity to see how your child learns and then know how you can support them at home. We welcome grandparents or special friends to become helpers as well.

The course for new helpers will run on the following dates:

- | | | | |
|-----------|-------------|-------|--------------|
| Session 1 | Monday 15th | March | 9:00-10:30am |
| Session 2 | Monday 22nd | March | 9:00-10:30am |

If you would like to participate, please email your details to Jean Crafter by **Tuesday 9th March**.

Those parents who did the first session of the course last year will only need to attend the second session on March 22nd.

You will also need a current 'Working With Children Check (WWCC) which you apply for online.

The school also requires you to complete an induction process, part of which includes reading our Child Safe Policy and signing our school's Code of Conduct. See more on our school website by clicking on the School Community tab and then choosing Volunteering.

Please email Jean Crafter, our Junior Literacy Leader if you have any questions regarding this.

Thank you,

Jean Crafter (Junior Literacy Leader) - jcrafter@stmalfredton.catholic.edu.au


FAMILY ASSISTANCE SCHEME & CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSION FUND (CSEF) REBATES

For those families who are current holders of Health Care Cards there are two rebates available to assist families with school fees. The Family Fee Assistance Scheme is offered by the Diocese of Ballarat and the Camps, Sports and Excursion Funds (CSEF) rebate is offered by the State Government. Families who are eligible are asked to complete the forms, accompanied by a copy of their current Health Care card, and return them to the school office before the end of Term 1. The application forms are available from the office, and at the end of today's newsletter for your convenience.

WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY

Work place safety is everybody responsibility. We have a Work Health and Safety team that meet regularly, if you have any school concerns that you would like to rise with the committee please let Fran Dunn, our school's Work Health Safety Co-Ordinator or myself.

God bless you all and keep you safe,



Mr. Simon Duffy,
Principal

SPORTS REPORT

Eureka and Sovereign Divisional Championships



Congratulations to the St Thomas More Catholic Primary School swim team that participated in the recent divisional championships at The Eureka Aquatic Centre. I am pleased to announce the following results:

- Girls 9/10yr Backstroke: Edie Goodwin 11th, Charlotte Lemmon 12th Girls
- 11yr Breaststroke: Pearl Goodwin 4th
- Girls 12/13yr Freestyle: Emma McConchie 6th, Lila Kosloff 12th Amali Torney 15th
- Boys 11yr Butterfly: Will Richardson 1st
- Boys 9/10yr Freestyle: Max McConchie 3rd, Oscar Kosloff 16th
- Girls 9/10yr Freestyle: Charlotte Lemmon 23rd
- Boys 11yr Freestyle: Will Richardson 1st, Nathan Perera 20th
- Boys 12/13yr Freestyle: Lachie Petrie 11th
- Girls 12/13yr Freestyle: Eliza Ashby 4th, Macy Irvin 13th, Emma McConchie 15th, Lila Kosloff 19th
- Boys 9/10yr Backstroke: Max McConchie 2nd
- Girls 9/10yr Backstroke: Edie Goodwin 7th
- Girls 12/13yr Backstroke: Eliza Ashby 2nd
- Boys 9/13yr Open Medley Relay: 5th Boys 11yr Freestyle Relay: 6th
- Girls 9/13 Open Medley Relay 5th Girls 12/13 Freestyle Relay 3rd

Swimmers who placed 1st - 4th in all individual events have qualified for the Region Swimming Championships to be held in Horsham on the 19th March. We congratulate those swimmers and wish them the best of luck with their upcoming races.

Due to recent Covid 19 restrictions, the event became spectator free less than 24hrs before the first race was scheduled. Therefore, we extend a very special thank you to Mrs Karen Ashby for making herself available to supervise the students on the day, especially at such short notice.

David Richardson- Sports Coordinator

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Notice from Loreto College re: Year 7 2022

Applications for Year 7 2022 have now closed. An email to confirm application and details was sent to all applicants on Monday 15th February, 2021. Due to COVID restrictions Loreto College have had to change some traditional College procedures. As such, selection for Year 7, 2022 will NOT include personal interviews as advertised.

If you have applied for a place at Loreto College for your daughter for Year 7, 2022 and did not receive this email or have any concerns please contact the College. registrar@loreto.vic.edu.au

GET ACTIVE KIDS VICTORIA

The Get Active Kids Voucher Program helps eligible families get their kids involved in organised sport and recreation activities by reimbursing the cost of membership and registration fees, uniforms and equipment. Eligible children may be able to receive up to \$200 each. For further details visit:

<https://www.getactive.vic.gov.au/vouchers/>

Term 1 Calendar, 2021

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 Jan	25 Christmas holidays	26 Australia Day Holiday	27 Staff professional Development	28 Student academic testing	29 Student academic testing
2 Feb	1 Student resume school P and F Morning tea	2	3	4 Foundation Parent reading information session 6-7 pm	5
3 Feb	8 Parent/Teacher meeting 2.30 – 5pm	9 Parent/Teacher meeting 2.30 – 5pm	10	11 Foundation Parent reading information session 9-10.30am	12 School Opening year mass (students only)
4 Feb	15 School closed due to government requirements linked to COVID 19	16 Shrove Tuesday School closed due to government requirements linked to COVID 19 Remote Learning	17 Ash Wednesday School closed due to government requirements linked to COVID 19 Remote Learning	18 School Assembly	19
5 Feb	22 School Advisory Meeting SAC 5:00pm	23	24	25 Parents and Friends meeting 8.45am Whole School Prayer led by 5/6 Larkin	26
6 March	1 Year 5/6 Camp	2 Year 5/6 Camp	3 Year 5/6 Camp Assembly (students only) presented by 3/4 Bird	4 Whole school Prayer (student only) led by 3/4 Hawkes/Bourke	5 Crazy Sock Day- Fundraiser for Project Compassion. Gold coin donation
7 March	8 Public Holiday Labour Day	9 School Closure day for School Review No Students at school.	10 School Photos – wear full Summer Uniform	11 Whole school Prayer (student only) led by 5/6 Richardson	12
8 March	15 Classroom helper training session 9-11am (Part 1)	16	17 Assembly (students only) presented by 5/6 Davis	18 Whole school Prayer (student only) led by 3/4 Hobbs	19 Foundation 2022 Information session 9-11am
9 March	22 Classroom helper training session 9-11am (Part 2)	23	24	25 Whole school Prayer (student only) led by 5/6 Baker/Larkin	26
10 March	29 Foundation 2022 Information session 9-11am	30	31 Easter Raffle Draw- Stations of the Cross Liturgy-2:45pm	1 School Sports day	2 Good Friday



Foundation (Prep) 2022 Enrolments

Catholic Schools in the City of Ballarat

Enrolment Information for Prospective 2022 Foundation (Prep) Students at Catholic Primary Schools in the City of Ballarat

A single enrolment application process is in place for ALL families seeking Foundation (Prep) enrolment for the 2022 school year at a Catholic primary school within the City of Ballarat (see school list overleaf), including families with children already in one of the eleven schools. Note that information collected through the enrolment process is collated on a common database shared by the eleven schools.

Families seeking enrolment should follow the steps below to apply by **Monday 10 May, 2021**.

Application Process

1. Contact the school/s you are interested in enrolling your child in – see school list overleaf.
2. Ask the school about their enrolment process. Do they provide information sessions or school tours?
3. Complete the online Expression of Interest for Enrolment form by visiting www.ceob.edu.au. Click on the Schools tab, select Enrolments, then complete the *City of Ballarat Expression of Interest for Enrolment* form by **Monday 10 May, 2021**.

Important:

- If you are applying for more than one Catholic primary school, please make clear which school is your first preference.
- If you are unable to access the online form, contact Kim Butler at kbutler@ceob.edu.au for assistance.

Key Dates

Foundation (Prep) enrolment applications open	Monday 8 February, 2021
First deadline for enrolments	Monday 10 May, 2021
School principals meet to determine allocation of placements	Monday 17 May, 2021
First round placement offers sent	Tuesday 25 May, 2021
Written acceptance of enrolment required from parents	Wednesday 16 June, 2021

Important:

- Each Catholic Primary School will make offers of enrolment in line with the Diocese of Ballarat Enrolment Policy which takes into consideration a variety of factors.
- Completing this application process does not guarantee an offer of enrolment in a City of Ballarat Catholic primary school.

Catholic Primary Schools in the City of Ballarat

St Thomas More School

Phone: 5334 2244
Principal: Mr Simon Duffy
Location: 100 Cuthberts Road, Alfredton
Website: www.stmalfredton.catholic.edu.au

St Patrick's Parish Primary School

Phone: 5332 7680
Principal: Mr Mark Hogbin
Location: 119 Drummond Street South, Ballarat
Website: www.spballarat.catholic.edu.au

St Alipius Parish Primary School

Phone: 5331 1816
Principal: Ms Eileen Rice
Location: 106-108 Victoria Street, Ballarat East
Website: www.saballarat.catholic.edu.au

St Francis Xavier Primary School

Phone: 5331 6311
Principal: Mr Paul Bissinella
Location: 100 Fortune Street, Ballarat East
Website: www.sfxballarat.catholic.edu.au

St Columba's School

Phone: 5332 4894
Co-Principals: Ms Bambi Afford & Mr Shaun Mohr
Location: 306 Howard Street, Ballarat North
Website: www.scballarat.catholic.edu.au

Lumen Christi Primary School

Phone: 5336 2015
Principal: Mr Murray Macdonald
Location: 111 Whitelaw Avenue, Delacombe
Website: www.lcdelacombe.catholic.edu.au

Siena Catholic Primary School

Phone: 5334 3096
Principal: Mr Chris Kavanagh
Location: 150 Eleanor Drive, Lucas
Website: www.slucas.catholic.edu.au

Emmaus Catholic Primary School

Phone: 5330 2266
Principal: Ms Jo-Anne Bond
Location: 1503 Geelong Road, Mt Clear
Website: www.emtclear.catholic.edu.au

St Aloysius Primary School

Phone: 5335 8177
Principal: Mr Michael Kennedy
Location: 800 Ripon Street South, Redan
Website: www.saredan.catholic.edu.au

St James' Primary School

Phone: 5335 8750
Co-Principals: Mr Peter Fahey & Mr Garth Kydd
Location: 260 Albert Street, Sebastopol
Website: www.sjsebastopol.catholic.edu.au

Our Lady Help Of Christians School

Phone: 5339 4726
Principal: Ms Leigh Bradshaw
Location: 480A Gillies Street, Wendouree
Website: www.olhcwendouree.catholic.edu.au





CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) APPLICATION FORM

School Name

School REF ID

Parent/legal guardian details

Surname _____

First name _____

Address _____

Town/suburb _____ State _____ Postcode _____

Contact number _____

Centrelink pensioner concession **OR** Health care card number (CRN)

- - - **OR**

☐ Foster parent* **OR** ☐ Veterans affairs pensioner

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Student details

Child's surname	Child's first name	Student ID	Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	Year level

I authorise the Department of Education and Training (DET) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry of my Centrelink customer details and concession card status in order to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Australian Government Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide the results of that enquiry to DET.

I understand that:

- DHHS will use information I have provided to DET to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DET personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
 - this consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
 - I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DHS and provide it to DET so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
 - if I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DET.
 - information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services and /or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.
- You are able to request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child's school.

Signature of applicant _____ Date ____/____/____



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FAMILY FEE ASSISTANCE SCHEME

Family Name: _____ Phone: _____

Student Names: _____ Year: _____

I am eligible and have claimed the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund. I wish to apply for the Family Fee Assistance Scheme fee concession and make the commitment to pay \$520 for tuition and capital fees. I am aware that \$300 Class Fee per student, any Camp Fees and Chromebook Fess are not part of the Family Fee Assistance Scheme.

Please provide a copy of your valid Health Care Card.

I would like to pay our fees on the following basis: (please tick appropriate box)

Direct Debit	<input type="checkbox"/>	Amount	\$ _____
Fortnightly	<input type="checkbox"/>	Amount	\$ _____
Monthly	<input type="checkbox"/>	Amount	\$ _____
Termly	<input type="checkbox"/>	Amount	\$ _____
Annually	<input type="checkbox"/>	please specify month	_____

Signed: _____ Date: _____