



NEWSLETTER

Dear Families,

I take this opportunity to thank you and your children for your recent flexibility, patience and understanding as we navigated through the most recent period of remote learning. Well done to the students, families and staff who were able to transition both in and out of remote learning over the last fortnight. As a school community, we continue to pray for all those who are directly and indirectly effected during this challenging time.

As a school we celebrate the Feast Day of our school's patron saint, St Thomas More, on **Tuesday 22nd June**. Our patron saint's actions remind us that we must stand up to others when faced with injustice, discrimination and inequity, even if it may cause us to be challenged or questioned. Each day, as a school community, we are called to live out our school motto; *"With God First, We Will Live, Learn and Thrive"*. On Tuesday 22nd June we will be celebrating the Feast Day with a whole school Mass led by Father Justin, with a student talent show and other fun activities for the students to follow later in the day.



CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK ARTWORK



This fantastic art piece was created collaboratively by the Year 5/6 students from St Thomas More, St Patrick's and Siena Catholic Primary Schools during Catholic Education Week. It is currently displayed in our front office.

On the day, when the senior school students from each of the three parish schools gathered at St Thomas More Catholic Primary School, the students created three sets of these canvases so that each of the three parish schools could have a set representing the theme *Faith in the Future*; the theme chosen to celebrate 200 years of Catholic Education in Australia. Our grateful thanks to Ms Sue Larkin for organising and coordinating this combined art project.

SEMESTER 1 REPORTS

Teachers are currently in the process of writing student reports for this Semester. It is important that you are aware that these documents will be different to the usual school reports. The direction from the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority (VRQA) and Catholic Education Commission of Victoria (CECV) has been that schools report on Religious Education, Mathematics, English and Personal and Social Capabilities. Further information will be provided over the coming weeks. Student reports will be released on **Wednesday 23rd June** and parents will be able to access these through the Parent Access Module (PAM).

NATIONALLY CONSISTENT COLLECTION OF DATA INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Information regarding the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data which supports students with additional learning needs is attached at the end of the school newsletter. Our Learning Diversity Leaders are responsible for coordinating the planning and collection of evidence relating to the adjustments provided for students who require modified programs. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact myself or one of our Learning Diversity Leaders; Mrs Jayne Mohr or Mrs Dymna Turner.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION FUNDRAISING

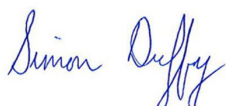
The St Thomas More Parents and Friends association currently have a fundraising event selling Billy G's Cookie and Biscuit Dough, which concludes tomorrow, **Thursday 10th June**. If you would like to be involved by purchasing cookie dough, please see details at the end of the letter.



OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

Work place safety is everybody's responsibility. St Thomas More Catholic Primary School has an Occupational Health and Safety team that meet regularly. If you have any school safety concerns that you would like to raise with the committee, please contact Mrs Fran Dunn, our school's Compliance Officer or myself.

May God Bless you and keep you safe,



Mr. Simon Duffy,
Principal

COMMUNITY NOTICES

AFTERSCHOOL HOURS CARE AT ALFREDTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

St Thomas More Catholic Primary School staff will now be walking all students attending the YMCA afterschool care program over to Alfredton Primary School. The program runs each night afterschool from 3.30pm – 6.00pm and during the school holidays from 7am – 6pm. If you are interested in finding out more information about the YMCA afterschool program at Alfredton Primary School click [here](#) or call 0492 847 596 or email alfredton.asc@ymca.org.au

KELLY SPORTS SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Available from Monday 28th June to Friday 9th July 2021.

Fully supervised, Covid-safe, fun-filled days of sports & activities that kids love!

Eastwood Leisure Centre, Ballarat - 8am to 5pm each day.

Catering for children from Kinder to Year 6, boys & girls - \$50 per day (or \$45 per day for 5+ days)

Enrol online www.kellysports.com.au/greater-ballarat or contact Dom on 0417967 621

Term 2 Calendar, 2021

| Week | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|------------|---|--|---|--|---|
| 8 June | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 Whole School Prayer led by 1/2 Nykoluk/Turkenburg | 11 |
| 9 June | 14 Queen's Birthday Public Holiday | 15 | 16 | 17 Whole School Prayer led by 1/2 Munro | 18 |
| 10 June | 21 | 22 St Thomas More Feast Day - Feast Day Mass at 9.15am, followed by a Student Talent Show & activities. | 23 Student Academic Reports available Assembly presented by Foundation Gannon | 24 | 25 Last day of Term Students finish at 2.30pm |

Staff Term 3 Calendar, 2021

| Week | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|-----------|---|--|--|---|---|
| 1 July | 12 Term 3 commences. Staff & students resume. | 13 Parent Information Meeting 5pm Focusing on RE/Sexuality Program | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 2 July | 19 | 20 | 21 Assembly | 22 Whole School Prayer | 23 |
| 3 July | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 Whole School Prayer | 30 |
| 4 Aug | 2 Foundation 2022 Interviews | 3 Foundation 2022 interviews | 4 Foundation 2022 interviews Assembly | 5 Michael Mangan RE Concert Foundation 2022 interviews Whole School Prayer | 6 School closure day RE Professional development Student-free day |



TEN DELICIOUS COOKIE DOUGH FLAVOURS



St Thomas More Catholic Primary School

With God First, We will Live, Learn & Thrive

Dear Parents/Guardian,

The St Thomas More Catholic Primary School Parent and Friends Association have organised a new fundraiser for the school. The fundraising is cookie dough. Please see the details below if you are interested in purchasing.

Thank you so much for supporting our school, especially through fundraising. This term 2, we are running a **Billy G's Gourmet Cookie Dough** Fundraiser to raise money for our **STMCPS!!**

Billy G's is an Australian family owned and operated business. There are ten (10) dough-licious flavours including their popular Choc Chunk and NESTLE® SMARTIES® cookie dough. There is even a cheese flavoured Doggie Dough for your special furry family members! The cookie dough is only available through fundraising and is not sold in stores, so stock up!

Orders will open from Tuesday 1st June, 2021.

Visit www.cookie dough.com.au and register to create your child's cybersafe fundraising profile.

Instructions are in your child's order form. You have until **Thursday 10th June, 2021** to order so make sure you get the dough-rolling and create your online fundraising page today!

Please note Billy G's is a completely cashless fundraiser. All orders must be placed online and paid by credit card/Paypal.

How do we create a Fundraising Page? Creating a fundraising page is easy!

1. Go to www.cookie dough.com.au to create your Fundraising Page by clicking the "Register Now" button and fill in your information as a parent/guardian.
2. Choose your goals and create a unique avatar!
3. Place your order using the "Order Now" button and share your fundraising page with your family and friends via the "Share" section so they can start buying some yummy cookie dough. How Easy!



TEN DELICIOUS COOKIE DOUGH FLAVOURS

How do prizes work? Help your child fundraise more by setting a prize goal! Students who sell 1 tub or more are entitled to an incentive prize for their efforts. But why not aim higher? Family and friends are your greatest supporters, so ask them first for support. You will reach your fundraising goal in no time by sharing your fundraising page! There are 12 prizes up for grabs and prizes will be automatically ordered at the end of our fundraiser based on the number of tubs sold.

Apple Prize Pack Leaderboard Challenge! If your child becomes the highest tub seller in our **STMCPs** leaderboard they will automatically go in the draw for the chance to win an Apple Prize Pack valued at \$3,300. How exciting! Let's get fundraising!

Happy fundraising!

Eliza, Sarah & Carolyn
STMCPs P&F Committee

Billy G's Gourmet Cookie & Biscuit Dough

CAN YOU SUPPORT US?

**ORDER YOURS AT
COOKIEDOUGH.COM.AU**

Simply scoop, bake and serve.

Australian Fundraising specialists

AUSTRALIANFUNDRAISING.COM.AU

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) On School Students with Disability

What is the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data?

Schools must now complete the *Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD)* every year. It counts the number of students who receive additional adjustments or “help” at school because of a disability. The NCCD helps governments plan for the needs of students with disability.

Who is counted in the data collection?

To count a student in the NCCD, schools must think through some key questions:

1. Is the student getting help at school so that they can take part in education on the same basis as other students?
2. Is the help given because of a disability? The word ‘disability’ comes from the [Disability Discrimination Act 1992](#) (DDA) and it can include many students.
3. Has the school talked to you or your child about the help that they provide?
4. Has the school kept records about the help they provide, the student needs and the reasons that the student needs this help? The school will need to keep copies of tests, student work, assessments, records of meetings, medical reports or other paperwork and information about how the student’s learning is moving along over time.

Once the school decides that the student should be counted in the NCCD, they then choose a disability group and one of four levels of help that has been given to the student.

What does the word ‘disability’ mean in the NCCD?

In the NCCD the word ‘disability’ comes from the [Disability Discrimination Act 1992](#) (DDA). There are four types of disability that the school can choose from: sensory, cognitive, social-emotional and physical.

Many students that need help at school can be counted in the NCCD. For example, students with learning problems, e.g. specific learning disability or reading difficulty (sometimes called dyslexia), health problems (e.g. epilepsy or diabetes), physical disability (e.g. cerebral palsy), vision/hearing loss and social-emotional problems (e.g. selective mutism, Autism Spectrum Disorder, anxiety).

Letters from doctors or specialists can be very helpful for schools as they plan how to support students with their learning. Schools do not need to have these letters before they can count a

student in NCCD. Teachers can use all that they know about the student's learning and the records that they have collected over time to decide if a student can be counted in the NCCD.

What sort of help does the school give students?

Students need different types of help at school. Some students need a little help sometimes while other students need a lot of help nearly all the time. The type of help given depends on the needs of the student. The help can include changes to the school buildings or grounds (e.g. ramps or things like special desks or chairs), extra teacher help in classes, special learning programs, changes to the work they give the student or extra adult help.

How will the NCCD be different this year?

All schools have been counting students in the NCCD since 2015. The government will use the NCCD data as part of the funding to schools.

What will the school need to know about my child for the NCCD?

Schools work together with families to understand the needs of each child. It is helpful if families give their child's teacher a copy of any letters or reports they have. The letters or reports will help the school understand the child and the help that they might need. Letters from doctors, psychologists, speech pathologists, doctor, and occupational therapists etc. can be very helpful for schools. These reports along with information that the teacher has (i.e. school based tests, your child's work and learning plans) helps the school to understand and meet your child's needs.

What happens to the NCCD data? Who will have the NCCD information?

Each school principal must check the NCCD data in August of each year. The school will give the information to the Catholic Education Office. The school will work with the Catholic Education Office to make sure that the NCCD data is OK before they give the data to the government. The government will not be given the names of any students or any letters or records. Please ask your school for their privacy policy if you need to know more.

Does the school need me to agree with them about counting my child in the NCCD?

Amendments were made to the [Australian Education Act 2013](#) and [Australian Education Regulation 2013](#). Schools do not need you to agree to let them count a child in the NCCD. You cannot ask the school not to count your child.

Where can I find out more?

Please contact your child's school if you have further questions about the NCCD and/or refer to the national [NCCD Portal](#).