

NEWSLETTER

Dear Families,

We congratulate our students who received the sacrament of First Eucharist at the Cathedral over recent weekends. We keep them all in our thoughts and prayers as they continue their faith journey.



NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK

Last week at school we had many different activities linked to National Reconciliation Week. The students learnt that it is a time for all Australians to share histories, cultures and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation. We celebrated the arrival of one of the Message Sticks that has been travelling across our Diocese in honour of 150 years. The Message Sticks has been carried from school to school and remind us of the inter-connectedness across our Diocese. We received the Message Stick from St Patrick's Primary School and have now passed it onto Loreto College



SCHOOL DISCO

The student school disco will be held tomorrow night, **Thursday 6th June**, in the multipurpose room. The cost of the event is \$5 per child which will cover entry, food and a drink. This event is run by our teachers.



Foundation, Yr.1 and Yr. 2 students	4:15pm – 5:15pm
Yr. 3 & Yr. 4 students	5:30pm – 6:30pm
Yr. 5 & Yr. 6 students	6:45pm – 7:45pm

SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY

A reminder that we have a **school closure day** (Student Free Day) on **Friday 7th June** for staff to undertake professional development and report writing.



INTER-SCHOOL WINTER SPORTS COMPETITIONS – SOCCER

Congratulations to all the senior students who recently represented the school so well in soccer. Our teams positively encouraged each other and showed excellent sporting spirit throughout the whole day. Well done to all three teams!



GREATER WESTERN CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS



Well done to the eight students who represented St Thomas More Catholic Primary School at the Regional Cross-Country Championships that were held in Warrnambool last week. They all performed extremely well in their respective 2km and 3km events. Special mention goes to Olivia McConchie who finished an impressive third, which has now qualified her to compete at Victorian state level in Melbourne, in early Term 3.



JAPANESE LANGUAGE ASSISTANCE SEEKING A HOMESTAY

During the month of August, our school will have a Japanese language assistant. She will be working alongside our Japanese teacher, Mrs Buttler. She will arrive on Saturday 3rd August and depart on Saturday 31st August. We are currently looking for two families who would like to host the Japanese language assistant for two weeks each. The assistant is aged in her early 20's and has English language skills. The first homestay is Saturday 3rd August to Saturday 17th August. The second homestay is Saturday 17th to Saturday 31st August. A payment of \$330/week would be made to host families to contribute to hosting costs, including provision of 3 meals daily, plus transport to/from school each day. If you are interested in hosting, can you please contact the office by **Monday 17th June**.



SEMESTER 1 STUDENT REPORTS

Our teachers are currently in the process of writing student reports for Semester One. Your child's school report will be available on the Parent Access Module (PAM) on **Wednesday 26th June** from 2:00pm. If you need any assistance accessing this, please contact the front office. I encourage you to take the time to discuss the academic report and Seesaw posts with your child/ren, as it is most beneficial for students to reflect on their work and identify areas for future focus. If you have any questions about your child's report, please contact your child's classroom teacher.

CASUAL CLOTHES DAY

We will be having a casual clothes day for staff and students on **Friday 14th June**. The students are asked to bring along a gold coin donation. The funds raised will go towards purchasing items for the student's lunchtime 'Quiet Play' area.



END OF TERM 2 – START OF TERM 3

Our last day of school for this term will be **Friday 28th June** and classes cease at **1.45pm** at which time students will be dismissed. School will reopen for students for Term 3 on **Monday 15th July** at **8.30 am**. See you then!

NATIONAL CONSISTENT COLLECTION OF DATA (NCCD)

Early next term, St Thomas More Catholic Primary School (and all schools across Australia) will be completing the National Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) about students with a disability. The NCCD collects data about school students with disability who are receiving adjustments across Australia in a consistent, reliable and systematic way. The data counts the number of students at St Thomas More who receive additional adjustments or "help" at school due of their individual learning needs. The NCCD survey enables schools, education authorities and governments to better understand the needs of students with disability and how they can be best supported at school. The NCCD data also helps the government plan for the needs of students with disabilities. More information about NCCD can be found at the end of this newsletter on pages 6 & 7.

School TV Update:

[Cyber Bullying](#)



'Cyberbullying is a form of bullying using technology such as the Internet or mobile phone. It can be shared widely and quickly with a lot of people, making this form of bullying extremely dangerous and harmful. It has become increasingly common, especially among teenagers. Cyberbullying can be identified as being *repeated behaviour by an aggressor with an intent to harm or embarrass someone*. This type of behaviour can include posting rumours about a person, posting direct threats or sexual remarks, even disclosing a victim's personal information. Internet trolling is another common form of cyberbullying, often found in online gaming or social media circles. Internet trolls often do this to elicit a reaction or disruption from their victim purely for their own personal amusement.' (SchoolTV, 2024)

School Closure days in 2024 (Student free)

Date	Purpose
Friday 7 th June	Curriculum planning and reporting
Wednesday 7 th August	Religious Education Professional Development
Monday 18 th November	Curriculum planning and reporting

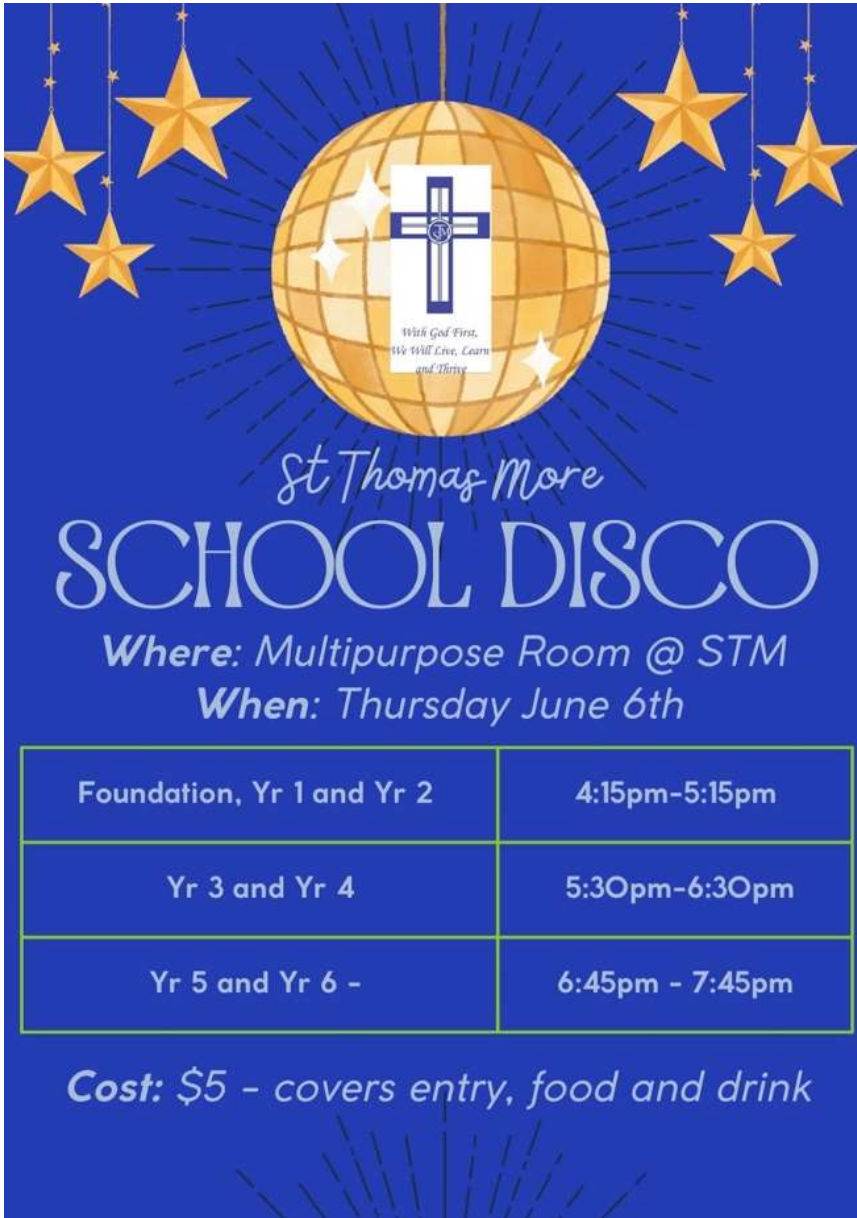
May God bless you all and keep you all safe,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Simon Duffy'.

Mr. Simon Duffy,
Principal

Term 2 Calendar, 2024

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8 June	3	4	5	6 <i>Assembly at 2:55pm presented by 1/2Smith</i> <i>School Disco</i> <i>Foundation- Yr 2: 4:15-5:15</i> <i>Years 3&4: 5:30-6:30pm</i> <i>Years 5&6: 6:45-7:45pm</i>	7 School Closure Day -Student-free day
9 June	10 <i>King's Birthday -Public Holiday</i>	11	12	13 <i>Whole School Prayer @ 2:55pm led by Foundation Keighrey</i>	14 Yr. 3/4 Football Coaching <i>Casual clothes day -gold coin donation</i>
10 June	17	18	19	20 <i>Assembly at 2:55pm presented by Foundation Cudia</i>	21 St Thomas More Feast Day <i>Mass 9.15am & Talent Show 12.30pm</i>
11 June	24	25	26 <i>Semester 1 School Reports available through PAM from 2pm</i>	27 <i>Whole School Prayer @ 2:55pm led by 3/4Gannon</i>	28 <i>Last Day of Term 2 1.45pm finish</i>



With God First,
We Will Live, Learn
and Thrive

St Thomas More
SCHOOL DISCO

Where: Multipurpose Room @ STM
When: Thursday June 6th

Foundation, Yr 1 and Yr 2	4:15pm-5:15pm
Yr 3 and Yr 4	5:30pm-6:30pm
Yr 5 and Yr 6 -	6:45pm - 7:45pm

Cost: \$5 - covers entry, food and drink



KELLY SPORTS



FOR THE REST OF TERM!

FREE TRIAL SPOTS AVAILABLE EACH WEEK FOR THE REMAINDER OF TERM 2

LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE EACH WEEK!

**ST THOMAS MORE PS
HIPHOP DANCE & CRAZY GAMES PROGRAM
MONDAYS 3:20PM TO 4:20PM**

DON'T MISS OUT!

**MULTI-SPORT PROGRAM
TUESDAYS 3:20PM TO 4:20PM**

QUERIES: CALL DOM 0417 967 621



KELLY SPORTS



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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](#).