

St Thomas More Catholic Primary School

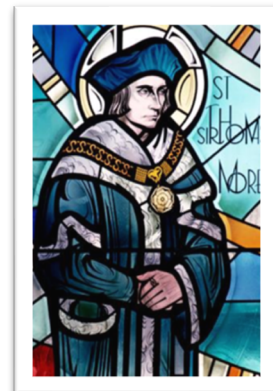
With God First, We will Live, Learn & Thrive

NEWSLETTER

DATE: 11/06/2025
TERM: 2
WEEK: 8

Dear Families,

As a school we celebrate the Feast Day of our school's patron saint, St Thomas More, on **Friday 20th 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 **Friday 20th June** we will be celebrating the Feast Day with a whole school Mass led by Father Ed at 9.15am. There will also be a student "St Thomas More's Got Talent Show" at 12.30pm. Parents are most welcome to attend either or both events.



YEAR 5/6 CAMP

Over the past two days our senior students have been enjoying their overnight stay at Lake Dewar Discovery Camp. The students have been involved in an exciting variety of outdoor education activities. A "huge thank you" to all the staff from St Thomas More and Lake Dewar for coordinating and running this excellent camp.

YEARS 5/6 CAMP AT LAKE DEWAR, MYRNING



FULLNESS OF LIFE FOR ALL

The area of *Relationships and Sexuality Education* will be covered at school early next term. The Diocese of Ballarat Catholic Education Limited (DOBCCEL) has developed a curriculum scope and sequence that sets out what is to be taught in primary schools from Foundation to Year 6. The document, titled **"Fullness of Life for All"**, will be used by our staff, to develop learning for our students in covering the **My Body** and **Life Cycles** themes. To honour the partnership of families and the school working together in this important area, there is a parent information session organised for **Monday 30th June** at 2.30pm – 3.15pm. To register your intention to attend this session please use the following link: <https://forms.gle/B5YtKsUsgHi8Umbs5>

DIOCESE
OF
BALLARAT
CATHOLIC
EDUCATION
LIMITED



St Thomas More Catholic Primary School ~ Cnr Cuthberts Rd & Elaine Ave, Alfredton 3350.

P: 03 5334 2244 E: admin@stmalfredton.catholic.edu.au I: www.stmalfredton.catholic.edu.au ABN: 77 131 997 830

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

The preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation will commence next term. The sacrament of Confirmation is open to children who have been baptised in the Catholic faith and are in Year 3 and above. Parents who would like their child to undertake this sacrament are asked to attend one of the parent information sessions being held on **Tuesday 22nd July at 9am** at St Thomas More Catholic Primary School or on **Thursday 24th July at 5.30pm** at the Glowrey Room at the St Patrick's Cathedral.

Parents also need to complete the attached form <https://forms.gle/McZGsFzcQjtmLcTA>



INFORM AND EMPOWER

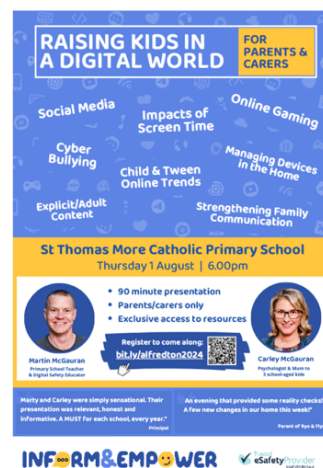
We are thrilled to announce that next term we will be running a parent information session about "Raising Kids in a Digital World" on **Wednesday 2nd July at 6:30pm till 8:00pm**. We are very fortunate to secure the founders of the *Inform and Empower* company to facilitate this session. This is a unique session in which you will hear from both the expertise of an experienced primary school cyber safety educator (Marty) combined with the insights of a psychologist and mum (Carley). We strongly encourage at least one member of each family to attend. If required, staff will provide supervision for children so that parents can attend.

To register your attendance please click the

<https://bit.ly/StThomasMoreAlfredton>

Below is a short video summary of what the session will be about.

<https://vimeo.com/1034366431?share=copy#t=0>



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 2nd July** 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 learning and identify areas for future focus. If you have any questions about your child's report, please contact your child's classroom teacher.

STAFFING UPDATE

In Semester Two, **Mrs Sue Larkin** will be taking well deserved Long Service Leave for the remainder of the school year. I'm pleased to announce that the **Mrs Elizabeth Jerram** will be joining our staff. Elizabeth is an experienced Performing Arts teacher with many years of experience working across catholic primary schools. Elizabeth will work on Tuesday and Wednesday teaching Performing Arts. **Ms Tayla Hobbs** will be returning from maternity leave and will be teaching Performing Arts on Thursday and will be the classroom teacher in Room 18 on Fridays.

SECONDMENT

As previously shared with the school community I will soon be undertaking an 8-week secondment role at the Catholic Education Office in Ballarat as a Principal Consultant. During this time Mrs. Trish Caldwell will be the *Acting Principal*. I will be returning to St Thomas More at the beginning of Week 5 (Monday 18th August) in Term 3. I would like to thank Trish for taking on this role in my absence.

END OF TERM 2 – START OF TERM 3

Our last day of school for this term is this **Friday 4th July** and classes cease at **1.45pm** at which time students will be dismissed. School will reopen for students for Term 3 on **Monday 21st July at 8.30 am**.

INTER-SCHOOL WINTER SPORTS COMPETITIONS – SOCCER and NETBALL

Congratulations to all the senior students who recently represented the school so well in both soccer and netball. Our teams positively encouraged each other and showed excellent sporting spirit throughout both days. The boy's netball team won the championship and will now progress to participate in the Greater Western Region Netball Competition on **Friday 20th June**.



School TV: Update Week 8, 2025: RESILIENCE

Here is the link to the Resilience: [Resilience](#)

Resilience is one of those skills that all kids need and should have. It refers to their ability to cope and adapt in situations when confronted with challenges such as adversity, trauma, tragedy or even stress. It is essential to their mental health and wellbeing as part of their journey to adulthood. It is a skill that can be learned from an early age through the support of an adult role model.

However, being resilient does not mean your child won't experience any difficulties, but it will better equip them to manage those situations. Overprotective parenting can be viewed as being unhelpful towards the building of resilience. Although this may be a natural instinct, potentially experiencing failure is all part of the process. Encouraging children to take healthy risks will help them trust their capacity to deal with uncomfortable situations and increase their capacity for courage.

In this edition of SchoolTV, parents will gain an understanding of how to support their child's brave behaviour to help them adapt and build resilience.

We hope you take time to reflect on the information offered in this edition of SchoolTV and we always welcome your feedback. If you have any concerns about your child, please contact the school counsellor for further information or seek medical or professional help.' (School TV, 2025)



How can I help my child improve their resilience?

Resilience



May God bless you all and keep you safe,

Mr Simon Duffy
Principal

Term 2 Calendar

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8 June	9 King's Birthday Public Holiday	10 Year 5/6 Camp	11 Year 5/6 Camp	12 Assembly @ 2:55pm presented by Foundation Cudia	13 Yr 5/6 Interschool Sport against Emmaus PS
9 June	16	17	18 Greater Western Region Soccer Competition	19	20 Mass celebrating St Thomas More Feast Day @ 9.15am and Talent Show @ 12.30pm Greater Western Region Netball Competition
10 June	23	24	25 Greater Western Region Football Competition	26 Assembly @ 2:55pm presented by 1/2 Harris	27
11 June/July	30 Fullness of Life Parent Information session @ 2:30pm	1	2 Semester One Student Reports available. Inform and Empower Parent Session @ 7:00pm	3 Whole School Prayer @ 2:55pm led by Foundation Gannon	4 Casual Clothes Day -no donation required Last Day of Term 2 1.45pm finish

Please see the following page for a brief outline of the major activities planned for Term 3.

Term 3 Calendar, 2025

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 July	21	22 Parent Confirmation info sessions: 9am at STMCPs 5:30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral	23	24 Whole School Prayer @ 2:55pm	25
2 July	28	29	30	31 Assembly @ 2:55pm	
3 July	4	5	6	7 Whole School Prayer@ 2:55pm	8 Foundation 100 days
4 Aug	11	12 LSO Appreciation Day	13	14 Assembly @ 2:55pm	15 Catholic School Athletics
5 Aug	18	19	20	21 Whole School Prayer@ 2:55pm	22 Yr 5/6 Interschool Basketball
Swimming Program 3/4Hawkes/Larkin, 1/2Hammill, Foundation Edwards, 1/2Stacey, Foundation Cudia, 1/2Turkenburg/Blachon					
6 Aug	25	26	27	28 Assembly @ 2:55pm	29 Yr 5/6 interschool sport Year 1/2 Mass 9.15am
Swimming Program Foundation Gannon, 1/2Harris, 1/2Calleija, 5/6Dodd, 3/4Hare, 5/6Smith					
7 Sept	1	2	3	4 Father's Day stall Whole School Prayer@ 2:55pm	5 Father's Day breakfast -
Swimming Program 3/4Calleija, 5/6Davis, 3/4Woodhart, 5/6DeBono/Edmends, 3/4Gittings/Hobbs, 5/6Baker					
8 Sept	8 Parent/ Teacher student learning conferences 3.00 – 6.45pm	9 Parent/ Teacher student learning conferences 3.00 – 6.45pm	10	11 District Athletics Day Assembly @ 2:55pm	12 Book Week Parade
9 Sept	15	16	17	18 Whole School Prayer@ 2:55pm Last Day of Term 3 1.45pm finish	19 School professional Development Day

FACT SHEET FOR PARENTS, GUARDIANS AND CARERS

WHAT IS THE NCCD?

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD) takes place every year.

The NCCD is a collection that counts:

- the number of school students receiving an adjustment or 'help' due to disability
- the level of adjustment they are receiving to access education on the same basis as other students.

Students are counted in the NCCD if they receive ongoing adjustments at school due to disability. This 'help' allows them to access education on the same basis as a child without disability. The NCCD uses the definition of disability in the [Disability Discrimination Act 1992](#).

Schools provide this information to education authorities.

Go to *What is a reasonable adjustment?* below to learn about adjustments.

WHY IS THIS DATA BEING COLLECTED?

All schools in Australia must collect information about students with disability.

The NCCD:

- ensures that the information collected is transparent, consistent and reliable
- provides better information that improves understanding of students with disability
- allows parents, guardians, carers, teachers, principals, education authorities and government to better support students with disability.

Student with disability loading

Funding from the Australian Government for students with disability is based on the NCCD through the student with disability loading.

Students with disability who are counted in the top three levels of the NCCD (extensive, substantial and supplementary) attract the loading. Funding is based on a per-student amount at each of the three levels of additional support. The amount of the loading reflects the level of support students with disability need to participate fully in school, with higher funding for those who need higher levels of support.

Australian Government recurrent school funding is provided as a lump sum to school authorities including state and territory governments, which can then distribute the funding to their member schools according to their own needs-based arrangements.

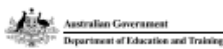
The Government expects schools and school systems to consider their funding from all sources (ie Australian Government, state and territory and private) and prioritise their spending to meet the educational needs of all of their students, including students with disability.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THE NCCD FOR STUDENTS?

The information collected by the NCCD helps teachers, principals, education authorities and governments to better support students with disability at school.

The NCCD encourages schools to review their learning and support systems and processes. This helps schools to continually improve education outcomes for all students.

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WHAT MUST SCHOOLS DO FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY?

All students have the right to a quality learning experience at school.

Students with disability must be able to take part in education without discrimination and on the same basis as other students. To ensure this, schools must make reasonable adjustments if needed for students with disability. Educators, students, parents, guardians, carers and others (eg health professionals) must work together to ensure that students with disability can take part in education.

The *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and the *Disability Standards for Education 2005* describe schools' responsibilities.

WHAT IS A REASONABLE ADJUSTMENT?

An adjustment is an action to help a student with disability take part in education on the same basis as other students.

Adjustments can be made across the whole school (eg ramps into school buildings). They can be in the classroom (eg adapting teaching methods). They can also be for individual student need (eg providing personal care support).

The school assesses the needs of each student with disability. The school provides adjustments in consultation with the student and/or their parents, guardians and carers.

Schools must make reasonable adjustments if needed. The *Disability Standards for Education 2005* define 'reasonable adjustment' as an adjustment that balances the interests of all parties affected.

WHO IS INCLUDED IN THE NCCD?

The definition of disability for the NCCD is based on the broad definition under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*.

The following students are examples of those who may be included in the NCCD if they need monitoring and adjustments:

- students with learning difficulties (such as dyslexia)
- students with chronic health conditions (such as epilepsy or diabetes).

WHO COLLECTS INFORMATION FOR THE NCCD?

Schools identify which students will be counted in the NCCD. They base their decisions on the following:

- adjustments provided for the student (after consultation with the student and/or their parents, guardians and carers)
- the school team's observations and professional judgements
- any medical or other professional diagnoses
- other relevant information.

School principals must ensure that information for the NCCD is accurate.

WHAT INFORMATION IS COLLECTED?

A student is counted in the NCCD if they receive reasonable adjustments at school due to disability.

Each year, schools collect the following information about the student, including:

- their year of schooling
- the level of adjustment received
- the broad type of disability.

For students who have more than one disability, the school uses professional judgement to choose one category of disability. They choose the category that most affects the student's access to education and for which adjustments are being provided.

A high level summary of the NCCD data is available to all Australian state and territory governments to improve policies and programs for students with disability.

HOW IS THIS DATA USED?

The NCCD data informs funding and work by schools and sectors. It ensures that support for students with disability becomes routine in the day-to-day practice of schools. The NCCD also supports students in the following ways.

- The NCCD helps schools better understand their legislative obligations and the Disability Standards for Education 2005.
- Schools focus on the individual adjustments that support students with disability. This encourages them to reflect on students' needs and to better support students.
- The NCCD facilitates a collaborative and coordinated approach to supporting students with disability. It also encourages improvements in school documentation.
- The NCCD improves communication about students' needs between schools, parents, guardians, carers and the community.

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) annually publishes high-level, non-identifying NCCD data.

WHEN DOES THE NCCD TAKE PLACE?

The NCCD takes place in August each year.

IS THE NCCD COMPULSORY?

Yes. All schools must collect and submit information each year for the NCCD. This is detailed in the *Australian Education Regulation 2013*. For more information, ask your school principal or the relevant education authority.

HOW IS STUDENTS' PRIVACY PROTECTED?

Protecting the privacy and confidentiality of all students is an essential part of the NCCD.

Data is collected within each school. Personal details, such as student names or student identifiers, are not provided to federal education authorities. Learn more about privacy in the [Public information notice](#).

FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact your school if you have questions about the NCCD. You can also visit the [NCCD Portal](#).

There is also a free [e-learning resource](#) about the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and *Disability Standards for Education 2005*.

This document must be attributed as *Fact sheet for parents, guardians and carers*.



Queries: Coach Sean
0411 602 204

July

HOLIDAY PROGRAM!

**7th - 18th
July**

**8am - 5pm
MON - FRI**

Kinder - Grade 6
All different sports
and games, join
the fun!

**\$65
per day**

**BOOK
NOW!**



NERF WARS!
Friday 11th July



The Kelly Sports Games
Friday 18th July



Kids need to bring along a big packed lunch & large refillable drink bottle. Dress in comfortable sports clothing!



Eastwood Leisure Centre - Ballarat
8am - 5pm Weekdays
Kinder - Grade 6
Enroll online

www.kellysports.com.au/greater-ballarat

