



Dear Families,

As Father's Day approaches, I find myself reflecting with gratitude on the wonderful fathers, grandfathers, uncles and special men who play such an important role in the lives of our children. I also think of my own father and the significant role that he has played in the lives of my brothers and his seven grandchildren. He continues to be a wonderful role model through his patience, love, care and genuine enthusiasm for the people he meets and interacts with. I feel very fortunate to have had him as a role model throughout my life, and particularly in my own role as a father.

As a school community, we give thanks for all fathers and father figures and the love, guidance and encouragement they provide. We ask God's blessing upon them and pray that they continue to be a source of strength and inspiration for our young people.

As part of our celebrations, our Father's Day Stall will be held on **Thursday, 3rd September**, with students being able to bring \$5 to purchase a special gift. Later that afternoon, our Father's Day Whole School Prayer will commence at 2:50pm, to which families are warmly invited to attend. On Friday, **4th September**, we will conclude our Father's Day celebrations with our Father's Day Breakfast from **7:00am to 8:30am**. We look forward to seeing many dads, families and children joining us for these special celebrations.



SENIOR BASKETBALL COMPETITION

On Friday 14th August the school entered four senior teams in the Interschool Basketball Competition: two boys' teams and two girls' teams. All teams showed great sportsmanship on the day. We thank our St Thomas More staff and parents, Tim Piatkov and Andrea Nolan, for coaching the teams during this tournament.



STUDENT INVOLVED LEARNING CONVERSATIONS (SILCs)

Student Involved Learning Conversations (SILCs) will be held next week on **Monday 31st August** and **Wednesday 2nd September**. These conversations provide your child with an opportunity to take an active role in sharing their learning with you. During the 12-minute conversation, your child will: share some of their learning goals, talk about their progress and achievements, show you examples of their work and invite feedback from you. The conversation will involve you, your child and your child's teacher.

Bookings are now open via the Parent Access Module (PAM). We encourage all families to book a preferred time to attend.

SCHOOL CLOSURE – STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY

Next **Tuesday, 1st September**, St Thomas More will be hosting 186 staff from catholic primary schools from across the Diocese for a professional development day focused on the next instalment of the FLARE Literacy model. We continue to build our knowledge and expertise in FLARE and strengthen our practice in supporting student learning. As previously communicated to families, Tuesday is a school closure day. There will be no school for students and students are not required to attend on this day.

STAFFING CHANGES

At the end of this term, we farewell **Mrs Libby Jerram**, our Performing Arts teacher, as she prepares for the arrival of her second child. We wish Libby and her family all the very best during this exciting time and will keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

For Term 4, the Performing Arts role will be filled by **Mrs Jess Sartori**, our current STEM teacher. We are grateful to Jess for taking on this role and continuing to provide our students with engaging and enriching Performing Arts experiences. To support our STEM program in Term 4, we are delighted to welcome back **Ms Brooke Keighrey** and **Mrs Jenna Hoyle** from maternity leave. Both Brooke and Jenna are well known and valued members of our school community and we look forward to having them return in Term 4.

SWIMMING PROGRAM



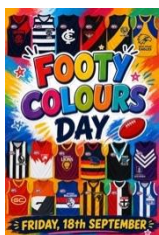
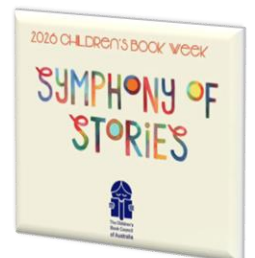
Our intensive swimming program concludes this week. The student's increased confidence, skill development and knowledge of water safety have been fantastic to see. We thank the swim teachers from the Swim and Survival Academy who teach our students these vital skills.

ENROLMENTS 2027

With planning for the 2027 school year about to commence, I would ask families who are aware that they will not be returning to St Thomas More Catholic Primary School next year, to promptly inform the school as we continue to receive frequent enquiries from families seeking enrolment positions for 2027.

BOOK WEEK PARADE

Book Week will be celebrated across the school from **Monday 7th – Friday 11th September (Week 9)** of this term. This year the theme is **"Symphony of Stories"**. Students are encouraged to use their imagination to dress up for our Book Week parade due to be held at 9:00am on **Friday, 11th September**.



FOOTY COLOURS DAY

Friday 18th September (last day of Term 3) is our annual Footy Colours Day. On this day students may wear their favourite sports team colours. If your child does not have a favourite AFL football team, they may wear their favourite colour. There is no cost involved with this event.

SchoolTV - [Celebrating Father's Day](#)

This Father's Day, we celebrate the important role Dads play in their children's lives. Today, many fathers are more involved in teaching, playing, encouraging and supporting their children. Through shared activities, Dads help children develop confidence, self-control, emotional regulation and resilience. It is also important for fathers to look after their own wellbeing and mental health. Taking care of yourself helps you be more present and responsive to your children. Click [here](#) to read more about this.



SPECIAL REPORT
Celebrating Father's Day
schooltv

SchoolTV is also offering families a free online webinar. This webinar is suitable for parents, carers, grandparents, school leaders and staff, offering practical insights and guidance to help support the wellbeing of both primary and secondary school students.

WEBINAR: Understanding Anxiety and Depression to Foster Resilience (Part III)

DATE: **Wednesday, 2 September 2026**

TIME: **7:30 pm**

This presentation forms part of a broader webinar series designed to strengthen mental health literacy across school communities.

Join international experts Dr Emma Woodward and Dr Joe Stammeijer as they share valuable insights into recognising early signs of concern and practical approaches to supporting the wellbeing of young people.

Topics in this session will include:

- Building Resilience Foundations
- Everyday Habits for Wellbeing
- Strength-Based Resilience for Neurodivergent Children



A FREE WEBINAR

Understanding Anxiety and Depression to Foster Resilience

PART 3

Supporting Primary & Secondary students

Join us for an exclusive webinar featuring international experts Dr Emma Woodward and Dr Joe Stammeijer, as they share valuable insights into recognising early signs of concern and practical approaches to supporting the wellbeing of young people.

This webinar is **Part III** of a series.

In this session, topics include:

- Building Resilience Foundations
- Everyday Habits for Wellbeing
- Strength-Based Resilience for Neurodivergent Children

Suitable for: Parents, grandparents, carers, educators, school leaders.

Duration: 45 minutes



Online, Wednesday
2 September, 2026
7.30 pm



Dr Emma Woodward

Emma is recognised for her work as a child psychologist and IEB speaker, keynote presenter, trainer and facilitator. She is also a regular SchoolTV presenter.



Dr Joe Stammeijer

A specialist in forensic psychiatry and a lecturer in medical education focusing on innovative practice and professional leadership. Joe is also a contributor to SchoolTV.

Don't miss out. FREE event.
Scan or click the button to register.



[Register here](#)

Participants can register by scanning the QR code that is featured in the event poster shown above.

May God bless you all and keep you safe,

Mr Simon Duffy
Principal

Term 3 Calendar, 2026

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7 Sept	24	25	26	27 <i>Assembly @ 2:55pm presented by Foundation Gannon</i>	28
<i>Swimming Program: 11:30-12:15pm 3/4 Calleija and 5/6 Baker 12:15-1:00pm 3/4 Woodhart and 5/6 Larkin 1:00-1:45pm 3/4 Gittings/Willey and 5/6 Davis</i>					
8 Sept	31 <i>Student Involved Learning Conferences 3.30 – 7:00pm</i>	1 <i>School Closure Day- Staff Professional Development in Literacy</i>	2 <i>Student Involved Learning Conferences 3.30 – 7:00pm</i>	3 <i>Father's Day Stall Whole School Prayer @ 2:45pm led by 3/4 classes</i>	4 <i>Father's Day breakfast 7am – 8.30am Yr 5/6 interschool sport- STMCPs hosting St Alipius</i>
9 Sept	7	8	9 <i>Eureka Athletics for qualifying students</i> <i>Student Involved Learning Conferences for 3/4 Gittings/Willey 3.30 – 7:00pm</i>	10 <i>Assembly @ 2:55pm presented by 1/2 Edmends</i> <i>Student Involved Learning Conferences for 3/4 Gittings/Willey 3.30 – 7:00pm</i>	11 <i>Book Week Parade 9am</i>
10 September	14	15	16	17 <i>Whole School Prayer @ 2:55pm led by Foundation Edwards</i>	18 <i>Last day of Term 3 -1.45pm dismissal</i>

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

Term 4 Calendar, 2026

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 Oct	5 Term 4 commences	6	7	8	9
2 Oct	12	13	14 Japan Day	15 Whole School Prayer @ 2:55pm led by 3/4 Calleija	16 Yr 5/6 Interschool sport STMCPs & St Columba's
3 Oct	19	20	21	22 Assembly @ 2:55pm presented by 3/4 Woodhart	23 Mission Day
4 Oct	26 Year 3/4 Camp to Cave Hill Creek	27 Year 3/4 Camp to Cave Hill Creek	28	29 World Teacher's Day Whole School Prayer @ 2:55pm led by 1/2 Hammill	30 Foundation Excursion to MOPA
5 Nov	2 School closure day Assessment and reporting	3 Melbourne Cup Day Holiday	4	5 Assembly @ 2:55pm presented by Foundation Cudia	6 Yr 5/6 Interschool Cricket
6 Nov	9 SAC Meeting 5pm	10	11 Remembrance Day Foundation 2027 Transition Session #1 9.15 – 11am	12 Whole School Prayer @ 2:55pm led by 5/6 Larkin	13 Year 3/4 Mass 9.15am
7 Nov	16	17	18 Foundation 2027 Transition Session #2 9.15 – 11am	19 Assembly @ 2:55pm presented by 3/4 Martin	20
8 Nov	23	24	25 Foundation 2027 Transition Session #3 9.15 – 1pm	26 Whole School Prayer @ 2:55pm led by 1/2 Turkenburg/Bourke	27
9 Nov/ Dec	30	1 Catholic Secondary Schools Transition Day - Yr 6 to Yr 7 Going up day	2 Yr. 6 Adventure Park	3 Whole School Prayer @ 2:55pm led by 3/4 Hawkes/De Bono Christmas Carols 5pm – 7pm	4
10 Dec	7	8	9	10 Whole School Prayer @ 2:55pm led by 1/2 Allan	11 End of Year Mass and Yr 6 Graduation 9.15am
11 Dec	14	15 Nativity Whole School Prayer 2.30pm	16 Yr 6 Graduation dinner at Golf club 6pm	17 Last day of Term 4 Final Fun Day & Picnic at Vic Park Dismissal 1.45pm	18 Staff Day.