

2nd May 2019

Issue 11

# St Thomas More Catholic Primary School



## Principal's Report



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# The Vine



*Lord,*

*As we begin a new term, we thank You for the gift of being able to rise each day with the assurance that You walk with us.*

*Thank You for the gifts of creativity and uniqueness, and the energy to put them to good use.*

*May all that we are today and all our encounters, reflections, even the frustrations and failings be placed in your hands.*

*May the work we do and the way we do it, bring new hope, new life, and courage to all we meet.*

*We make this prayer through Christ Our Lord.*

*Amen.*

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

I welcome you all back and hope you had an enjoyable and relaxing holiday and a blessed and holy Easter. It is always so uplifting to see the childrens' happy, smiling faces on that first morning, as they catch up with friends and share many stories about what they got up to during the holidays. They are always so full of energy and enthusiasm after the break and eager to learn and discover more about themselves and their world. Let the learning, discovering, creating, solving and having fun commence!

During the holiday period we reflected during Holy Week, as Jesus spent time with his Apostles, gave us the first Eucharist, died and then rose again on Easter Sunday. It was wonderful to see so many of our families come together during this Easter period and celebrate together as one community.

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Principal's Report continued .....

We were also privileged to take part in the annual ANZAC Day march to Memorial park. I was extremely proud of the number of students who came along to represent our school and the way they represented us. We by far outnumbered any other school and it was very noticeable to those attending just how great the St Thomas More community is. A special thank you to our Head boy Mateo MacKenzie and Head girl Charlie Enright for the wonderful way they represented our school in their official capacity in laying a wreath on behalf of us all.

As I have visited classes this week, it has been wonderful to see the way the students have so quickly engaged with their learning. The Year 6 class is very excited about beginning their Business project and the Year 5 students are preparing for their camp later this term.



The Year 3 class led us beautifully through an ANZAC Day service on Tuesday and I would like to thank them and Mrs Ryan and Mrs Tippett for their hard work in preparing the students. It was a lovely reflection that really helped us think about the importance of this day.

### Winter Uniforms

A reminder to families that we have moved to wearing the Winter uniform this term. It has been fantastic to see so many students, presented over the past couple of days, in the correct uniform. By the start of Week 3, it is expected that all children will be wearing the correct Winter uniform.

### NAPLAN Testing

As many parents and carers may be aware from recent media attention about NAPLAN Testing, that time of the year is rapidly approaching again for our Year 3 and 5 students. NAPLAN Testing will take place in Week 3, over the period from Tuesday 14 May till Friday 17 May. I would like to stress to our parents that NAPLAN is not and should not be the most important thing in your child's school year. It is just another test or assessment. Yes, it does provide us with some useful student data, however, our teachers are collecting data about your children's learning and progress on an on-going basis throughout the course of the year. NAPLAN is just one more piece of data, one more source of information.

I strongly encourage parents to encourage their children not to become stressed or anxious about these tests. They do not measure how kind the children are to others, how well they can sing or dance, how creative or artistic they are. Our focus is to concentrate on having excellent teaching and learning pedagogy in place in our classes every day, every week, every year. By focusing our energies on implementing best practice pedagogy and processes in our teaching, the results will take care of themselves. I would therefore encourage all our parents and carers to quite simply encourage their children to "try their best" in the upcoming NAPLAN tests, exactly the same as you would with any other test, assessment or piece of work throughout the rest of the year. Let's work together to avoid creating unnecessary stress and anxiety for our children.

### Congratulations

Our very own Ruby Berry recently competed in the Billabong Oz Grom Cup, held in Queensland winning the Under 12 Girls division and then returned to WA to compete in the Woolworths WA Junior Surfing Title Round 2 final to also win. We are very proud of Ruby and her achievements. Well done Ruby!



### Diocese of Bunbury Synod

The Australian Catholic Church is conducting a Plenary Council 2020 which will look at the future of the Catholic Church in Australia, what we are called to do, who we are called to be and how we need to change. The Diocese of Bunbury is holding a Diocesan Synod – an opportunity for parishes in the Diocese of Bunbury to share their views in regard to the Catholic Church and what we can do to support our parishes, our priests to help them engage with young people effectively.

I strongly encourage parents to go to the Diocese of Bunbury website and share their thoughts – it is one easy way to start to make a change with our Catholic faith. <https://bunburycatholic.org.au/diocesan-synod/>

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Principal's Report continued .....

### Young Readers and Writers Festival

Some students from Pre-Primary, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 5 had the opportunity to decorate some of the wooden letters used to promote the Young Readers and Writers Festival at Voyager Estate from Friday 3 May. There are a number of great opportunities for the children to engage in this event.

Look further in our newsletter for more details and keep an eye out for our fantastically decorated letters – a big thanks to Miss Flic for her hard work in coordinating this. <https://mrrwfestival.com/>

### P&F Entertainment Books

**Support and help raise funds for St Thomas More Catholic Primary School and purchase your Digital Membership or book for access now!**

Purchase your 2019 | 2020 Entertainment Book Membership now and you will receive hundreds of valuable offers than can be used straight away and you will also be supporting our school fundraising.

I wish all our families a wonderful week ahead!

Peace and best wishes

**RUSSELL WYLIE**

**PRINCIPAL**

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## ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL NEWS

Welcome Back to Term 2! I hope you had a restful, relaxing and happy break.

**Third Week of Easter – Reflection** (Sunday May 5 2019)

**Gospel: John 21:1-19**

This Sunday's Gospel describes what we can easily imagine as a picnic on the beach. Just as Jesus' miracle at the wedding feast at Cana blesses the love between man and woman celebrated in the sacrament of marriage, Jesus' attentiveness to food and mealtimes raises the possibility that our meal gatherings can be sacred times. In families, our meals together are everyday opportunities to gather and recall Jesus' presence with us. As in the Eucharist, we bring the gifts that God has given us, which have been prepared especially for our Mass, and at our family meals we share gifts that God has given to us and that we have worked together to prepare. This includes the food on the table and the people who gather around the table. We ask God to bless these gifts and to be present among us in all our interactions.

Consider a recent family meal: What food was served? Where did the food come from? Who prepared the food? Who served the food? Was mealtime a happy time? Why or why not? Observe that Sunday's Gospel tells about a meal that Jesus shared with his disciples after his Resurrection. Reflect on the Gospel reading using the questions above. Talk about ways in which this meal that Jesus shared with his disciples might remind us of the meal we share at the Eucharist. You might choose to plan a special meal together as a family, encouraging each person to participate in the meal preparation. Pray together that Jesus will make his loving presence known in your family life. Pray together the Lord's Prayer.

### **Mother's Day**

We are celebrating Mother's Day next Friday 10 May with an assembly led by our Year 6 students followed by Morning Tea hosted by our fabulous P&F. Please join us in for assembly at 8.45am and stay for Morning Tea at 9.15am.

**NICOLLE ACHMAD**

**ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL**



**The school has a dedicated line for absence notification.**

**This number is 9758 8042.**

**The line will not be answered, please leave a message of the child's name and class.**

**Friday 3rd May**

8.45am Welcome Back Assembly

**Monday 6th May**

3.30pm Fete Meeting in the School Library  
7.00pm Board Meeting

**Friday 10th May**

8.45am Mother's Day Assembly followed by Morning Tea

**Sunday 12th May**

Mother's Day

*Important Dates*

**Thought of the Week**



**Scholastic Book Club - Issue 3**

Book Club was sent home today Your orders and payments need to be returned to the school no later than **Friday 10th May.**

Orders received after this date will **NOT** be processed. If you are paying by cheque please make all cheques payable to [Scholastic Australia](http://Scholastic Australia).

Thanking you for your co-operation.  
Rita Willmott - Book Club Organiser

The St Thomas More Catholic Primary School P&F invites all of the ladies in our community to a.....

**Mother's Day Morning Tea**

*~Sweet Treats by Claudio Biscotti~*

Friday 10th May, immediately following Assembly.

*"The loveliest masterpiece of the heart of God is the love of a mother"*  
- St Therese of Lisieux



**Term 2 Basketball Program Bookings**

\*\*\*\*NOW OPEN\*\*\*\*

**Beginner Ballers – 5-9 year olds**  
**Monday's 5.15-5.45pm**

Perfect for first timers or those looking to improve their basic skills in a fun and encouraging environment!

Starts Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April

10 weeks → \$100 for the term → 30 spots only

Book online now <https://www.trybooking.com/494724>

**Skill Development Academy – 10-15 years**  
**Monday's 5.50-6.30pm**

Perfect for those already playing basketball who want to develop their individual skills, game play strategies and tactics and mental toughness

Starts Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April

10 weeks → \$100 for the term → 30 spots only

Book online now <https://www.trybooking.com/494749>

**MR Hawks Representative Academy -12+**  
**Sunday 11am – 12 noon**

5, 12 & 26 May

16 & 23 June

\$10 per session\* – 20 spots per session

\*If all 5 sessions are booked

Book online now <https://www.trybooking.com/494771>

Can't find a time or session that suits you? Small group and individual sessions available by appointment only



Follow us on Facebook for more details and events

[@margaretriverbasketballacademy](https://www.facebook.com/margaretriverbasketballacademy)

or shoot us an email [pro-fit@live.com.au](mailto:pro-fit@live.com.au)

# MR

MARGARET RIVER  
READERS &  
WRITERS  
FESTIVAL

## YOUNG READERS & WRITERS FESTIVAL

Participating authors are touring primary and secondary schools in the City of Busselton and the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River.



### FIONA BURROWS

Fiona Burrows is an emerging author-illustrator from Perth. She is passionate about children's literature and her first two picturebooks *Violet and Nothing* and *The Day We Built the Bridge* (with Samantha Tidy) were published in 2019. Her next book *12 Days of Kindness* (with Cori Brooke) will be published later this year. **Available: 06-10 May 2019.**



### LISA WALKER

Lisa is the author of five novels and an ABC radio play. Her most recent works are a YA coming-of-age story *Paris Syndrome* and a climate change comedy *Melt*. **Available: 06-17 May 2019.**

### KYLIE HOWARTH

Kylie Howarth is an award-winning, internationally published children's author-illustrator. Her picture book *Chip* won the 2018 WAYRBA Hoffman Award, was CBCA shortlisted, YABBA Awards shortlisted and won a KOALA Honour Award. Kylie has just released its sequel, *Chip The Lifeguard* as well as *Fish Kid* and *the Lizard Ninja*, the first book in her new chapter book series. **Available: 13-17 May 2019.**



### IAN MUTCH

Ian Mutch is an Australian contemporary artist and storyteller, exploring beauty through characters, nature and details. He has recently written and illustrated a children's book titled *More and More and More* - a timely addition to picture books in this modern era of consumerism and devices. **Limited availability: 8, 14 & 15 May 2019.**



### CRISTY BURNE

Cristy Burne is a children's author and science writer. Cristy's latest books are *To the Lighthouse* (set on Rottnest Island), *Off the Track* (set on the Bibbulmun Track) and her non-fiction debut, *Zeroes and Ones: The geeks, heroes and hackers who changed history*. Cristy is an enthusiastic, funny presenter who will keep your kids engaged, interested, laughing, learning and enthused. **Available: 13-17 May 2019.**

A \$5 charge per student per session applies to help cover costs. Authors are available to certain schools/regions on certain days.

With thanks to the Rotary Club of Margaret River, Margaret River & Busselton Lions Clubs, Shire of Augusta-Margaret River, City of Busselton and Cowaramup Lions Club.





