25th July 2019

Issue 21

ST THOMAS MORE

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The Vine



St Thomas More Catholic Primary School

Principal's Report

Lord Jesus.

We ask for Your help as we begin this new school term.

Allow us to experience Your presence in the many blessings You put before us.

Open our eyes to the new challenges and exciting opportunities that this new term brings.

Open our heart and mind to new friends and new teachers.

Give us a generous spirit to be enthusiastic with our studies and courage to accept new opportunities.

Help us to be attentive to our teachers and let us experience Your presence in our friends.

Jesus, inspire us to do our best! Amen



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome Back!

A very warm welcome back to all our children, parents and carers for third term. I hope you all managed to enjoy some of the sunshine and spend some time relaxing with friends and family. It is always great to see so many happy, smiling faces on the first day of term and the children also looked very happy to be back as well.

There is a lot happening this term and as always, I'm sure it will just fly by for those who engage in all that is being offered. As we begin a new semester, I encourage all students to continue to work hard over the term, consistently applying themselves to their studies and taking pride in 'their school' and their endeavours. I believe that education is a partnership and effective communication is important. Research shows, that when schools and parents work closely together, children are more likely to be successful. It is important that teachers and parents continue to work together to ensure the best outcomes for the students at our school. I wish all of our children a very happy, busy, creative, industrious, imaginative and engaging term.

St Thomas More Feast Day

On the last day of the term, the children came together to celebrate our school through St Thomas More Feast Day. Through a number of activities, the children were engaged in learning more about our school and the talents and gifts of one another. All the children had a wonderful day, marking a fantastic way to finish off the term. A special thank you to our wonderful P&F for providing the students (and staff) with a Sausage Sizzle lunch.





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Principal's Reportcontinued from Page 1

National School Improvement Surveys

This term, St Thomas More Catholic Primary School will be conducting its annual School Improvement surveys. The process will be carried out through National School Improvement Partnerships. An online survey will involve all parents, staff and our students in Years 1 – 6. Parents will be sent out more information regarding when and how to complete the surveys in the week commencing Monday, 5 August. Completion of the survey is voluntary. I encourage you to complete the survey, as it is an opportunity for parents to tell the school staff how things are going for you and your children. The school values your feedback and will try to respond to the information that you provide. All answers on the survey are confidential and will go directly to the National School Improvement Partnerships, where the results will be analysed for our school. Answers from individual surveys will not be reported back to the school. National School Improvement Partnerships will report the results to the school in an aggregated format in graphs so that individuals cannot be identified. Your participation in this feedback process would be much appreciated.



Congratulations

A special congratulations to Ruby Berry, who became the Under-14 Grommet Girls State Champion in the WA Junior Surfing Titles recently. We are all super proud of you!

Leadership Development

Next week, Mrs Achmad and I will be attending the CEWA Leaders Forum, held at the Perth Convention Centre on Monday, which will involve all Catholic Education leaders from both the office and Catholic schools from across the state. I'm sure this day will be both informative and engaging.

Following this day, we will then attend the first day of the Catholic Primary Principal's Conference, led by Tracey Tokuhama-Espinosa. Tracey's areas of interest include the following: improved indicators to measure educational quality; the expansion of the Mind, Brain and Education field; learning in the digital age; paradigm shifts using technologies; multilingualism and general improvement of teacher education practices. I'm sure she will provide many valuable insights as to how we can further improve the already exceptional teaching that is taking place here. During our absence on Monday and Tuesday, Mrs Kristie Chapman will be in charge.

I will continue at the conference for the remainder of the week, returning to school on Friday.

P&F Quiz Night

Don't forget to get your tickets for the P&F Quiz Night. It is shaping to be a great night out, with lots of fun, prizes and a special performance by the Mike Goodwin Band. The teachers have already secured their table – who wants to try and claim victory over them?? Tickets are \$30 each with tables of 8. With a totally awesome 80s theme, the night will kick off from 6:00pm in the Margaret River Footy Club on Saturday 24 August. See you there!

I wish all families a wonderful week ahead.

Peace and best wishes,

RUSSELL WYLIE PRINCIPAL

The **Uniform Shop**is open on **Tuesday** afternoons <u>only</u>
between <u>1.30pm and 3.00pm</u>.



Page 2 The Vine

Assistant Principal News

Welcome back to Term 3!

Class Reconciliation

On Tuesday 6 August, our Year 6 students will be receiving Reconciliation at 11.15am in the church. Parents and families are invited to join them.

Whole School Mass

The Feast of St Mary of the Cross is on Thursday 8 August. We will be having a whole school mass in the church, led by our Year 4 students, beginning at 9.00am. All parents and families are invited to attend.

The Bishops' Religious Literacy Assessment (BRLA)

Our Year 3 and Year 5 students will be involved in *The Bishops' Religious Literacy Assessment (BRLA)* on Thursday 8 August and Friday 9 August. This standardised assessment consists of a series of Religious Education (RE) tests developed by the Office of Catholic Education Western Australia (CEWA) that students in Years 3, 5 and 9 participate in from Catholic schools across Western Australia. The purpose of the BRLA is to measure student learning of the content in the RE curriculum. The BRLA provides a 'point in time' snapshot of student performance in RE across three-year levels. Students' knowledge and understanding of the content of the RE curriculum is assess using a combination of multiple choice, short and extended test items. Students' faith is not assessed. The use of the BRLA complements the school-based assessment programs in RE.

Catholic Identity

Each term we aim to raise awareness and funds for different Catholic organisations that support the needs of others in our community or our world. This term we will be focusing on the value of **RESPECT** and fundraising for Catholic Missions. To raise money for this charity, we will be holding a school-based 'Colour Run' on our school oval on Friday 30 August from 2.00pm. This will coincide with our celebration with Father's Day. The P&F have decided to change Father's Day breakfast to inviting our dads to join us in the Colour Run with a sausage-sizzle sundowner to follow. More details to come.

Have a wonderful week ahead.

Warmest regards,

NICOLLE ACHMAD ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL



We would like to acknowledge and thank Choices Flooring for their generous donation of carpet mats for our students to use. They supplied 60 mats, that can be used for students to work on outside, to sit on during assemblies or for lunch eating time. Please see further in the newsletter for a special offer for our families from Choices Flooring.

Thought of the Week



Friday 26th July

8.45am Welcome Back/NAIDOC Assembly

Friday 2nd August

8.45am Merit Assembly

Monday 5th August Book Club Orders Due

7.00pm Board Meeting



Parish News

Masses

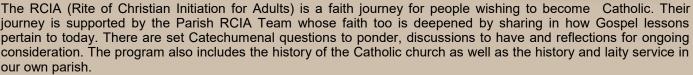
St Thomas More Catholic Church, Margaret River

- Saturday 6.00pm
- Sunday 10.00am

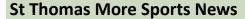
Lumen Christi Catholic Church, Augusta

Sunday 8.00am

RCIA



If you know someone who wishes to become Catholic, or someone who is interested in the Catholic Church, please chat to Father Mat or contact the RCIA Co-ordinator, Pam Tuffin by email: pamtuffin@yahoo.com



Hello from the world of St Thomas More Sport.

We have the following events coming up.....

Swimming Carnival

Previously our Swimming Carnival has been held in Term 3. This year it will be held in Term 4 on Friday the 6th of December, following our swimming lessons which will take place from 28th of October to 8th of November.

Cross – Country Carnival

Next term we will be holding a cross-country running event for students in Years 3 to 6. We will be holding our own school event on Friday the 13th of September. This will be followed by an interschool event on Friday the 20th of September. The distances for each age group are as follows:

Year 3 - 1000m

Year 4 - 1500m

Year 5 - 2000m

Year 6 - 2500m



In preparation for our Cross Country event, we will be holding a "Running Club" on Mondays and Thursdays prior to school from 8.00am. This will be for students from Years 3 to 6. Students that are not normally in sports uniform on these days will need to wear clothes to run in that they can then change from into their school uniform. This will be held weather permitting. If cancelled, I will put a message on our P&F Facebook page.

Interschool Winter Sports

Year 5 and 6 students will have the opportunity to be involved in Netball or Football games against Cowaramup Primary School later on in the term. This year it will be our turn to host, so Football will take place on the Nippers Oval and Netball will be held at the Recreation Centre (pending availability).

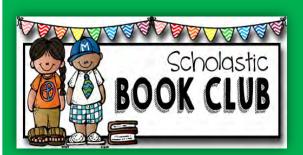
The school has a dedicated line for absence notification.

This number is 9758 8042.

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



Page 4 The Vine



Issue 5 of Book Club was sent home this week! Your orders and payments need to be returned to the school no later than **Monday 5th August**.

Orders received after this date will **NOT** be processed. If you are paying by cheque please make all cheques payable to <u>Scholastic Australia</u>.

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

The School Canteen is open on Fridays at Lunchtimes selling lcy Poles.

All items are \$1.00





The floor you've been searching for

Kim Nisbet Choices Flooring is proudly celebrating 21 years in business servicing and supporting the South West Community.

In celebration of this wonderful milestone we are having a sale finishing on 12 July offering many wonderful discounts and special offers.

We would like to offer the families within your school community a 10% discount on any full priced products not already included in the sale.

Please contact the store on 9758 8348 or visit us at 30 Station Road.



Page 5 The Vine