21st November 2019

Issue 36

# **St Thomas More Catholic Primary School**

# **Principal's Report**

# Prayer for Universal Children's Day (20 November)

Loving God,

You have called us to work for true justice in our communities and to be messengers of freedom for all who are not treated as your children. Give us grace to put our faith into action to end the violence and cruelty that overshadows many children's lives. Jesus taught us to welcome children and learn from them. May we use our imagination to put ourselves in children's shoes and learn to teach and guide them with wisdom, gentleness and understanding.

Let us treat each child as we would treat the Christ child Amen





PO Box 524 **Margaret River WA 6285** Phone: 9757 3544 Fax: 9757 3557 admin@stmcps.wa.edu.au www.stmcps.com

Absentee Number: 9758 8042

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

#### **Year Six Camp**

The Year Six students had a wonderful time learning about the history of Western Australia and dome of the features found on Rottnest Island on their recent camp. They were given the opportunity to develop independence and leadership skills and take themselves out of their comfort zones to undertake new experiences, such as climbing the Wadjemup Lighthouse in the middle of the island, snorkelling the reef to encounter the treasures found under the sea, cooking dinner for themselves and cleaning up afterwards and jumping off a jetty into the water. It was wonderful to see new friendships form and existing friendship develop even further. I was impressed with the way the students represented themselves and their school and am sure this experience will be a lasting memory. A special thank you to Mr Tom McDonald in organising this camp and to our wonderful parent helpers - Mrs Sharyn Bucat, Mrs Nathalie Maron, Mr Cliff Royle and Mrs Helen Lee – who also kindly donated the bus and drove us up to Perth and back! We truly appreciate all your time, assistance and care for our students.



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#### **Annual Community Meeting**

A reminder to parents that our Annual Community Meeting will be held next Wednesday 27 November. This will begin with a Sundowner at 5.30pm in the undercover area, followed by the meeting at 6:00pm in the Library. The Board and P&F will present their reports and nominations for both these parent bodies for 2020 will be accepted. If you feel you would like to actively contribute to the progress of our school, please complete a nomination form and hand it into the office. I look forward to seeing many parents there!

#### **Family Details**

A reminder to families that if your contact details have changed, including email address, contact phone numbers and home address to please let us know. Your assistance with this is greatly appreciated.

#### **End of Year Events**

There are a number of events coming up as we move towards the end of the year that I would like to make parents aware of:

**Faction Swimming Carnival**: To be held on **Friday 6**<sup>th</sup> **December**. Kindy to Year 3 will be held in the morning and Years 4 - 6 held following the Junior grades in the afternoon. More details will come home about this at a later date.

**Music Concert**: The Year 4 - 6 students will be performing a range of songs on **Tuesday 10 December** commencing at **5:30pm** at the Margaret River HEART. All parents and family members are invited to come along and watch our amazing students showcase some of what they have learnt this year in Music.

Whole School Thanksgiving Mass: We will conclude our year with a Praise and Thanksgiving Mass on Thursday 12 December at 9:30am in the church. We invite all families to come along and celebrate the end of the year with us at this Mass.

**Year 6 Graduation and Awards Celebration**: We will farewell our Year 6 students and present the Year 1 to 5 class awards and the Year 6 awards on **Thursday 12 December** at 6:00pm. The Year 6 leaders for 2020 will also be recognised and presented with their badges. All families are invited to attend this Graduation and Awards evening.

**End of Year Excursion**: The P&F have kindly agreed to support an end of year excursion for the children for the last day of school. We will come together as a school community and celebrate the end of the year with a lunch and excursion to Amaze'n in Margaret River. Parents are kindly invited to come along, if they wish, to join us for lunch. More details will come home soon about this.

#### **Kindy Enrolments**

Please continue to encourage families who may have a child who will be Kindy age next year to either pop in and see Karien in the office for an Enrolment form or head to our website and download one. Fees are **less than \$20 a week** for three full days Kindy, which compared to daycare is relatively inexpensive. The program we offer here is exceptional, delivering quality teaching within a play-based learning environment.

#### **Student End of Semester Reports**

Are you report ready? Parents are asked to sign up to SEQTA to receive their students report online, which can be downloaded and saved for future reference. Whilst reports will still be sent home in paper form this semester, we will be moving to an online system in 2020. Please visit <a href="https://stmcps.coneqt-p.cathednet.wa.edu.au">https://stmcps.coneqt-p.cathednet.wa.edu.au</a> and sign up to access these reports.

I wish all families a wonderful week ahead.

Peace and best wishes.

RUSSELL WYLIE PRINCIPAL

#### **Absentees**



A reminder to parents that there is a simple way to let us know your child is absent from school, while providing a note at the same time. Jump on our app or website!

There is an easy online form that can be completed and it is directly emailed to the school. Too easy! Either download our school app – *Connected* (password is **Wisdom19**) or visit our website <a href="https://stmcps.wa.edu.au/">https://stmcps.wa.edu.au/</a> and go to the Communication tab to select Online Absentee.

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### School Merit Award Winners Term 4 - Week 5

Pre-Primary Rosie Drysdale

Year 2 Sam O'Beirne

Year 4 Isaac Willcox

Year 5 Isaak Miller

Friday 22nd November

8.456am Merit Assembly

**Monday 25th November** 

Tour de Cure visit

7.00pm School Board Meeting

Wednesday 27th November

5.30pm STMCPS Annual Community Meeting

Friday 29th November

8.45am Year 6 Assembly



# **Parish News** <u>Masses</u>

St Thomas More Catholic Church - Margaret River

- Saturday 6.00pm
- Sunday 10.00am

Lumen Christi Catholic Church - Augusta

Sunday - 8.00am





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

#### **VacSwim**

Enrol now for VacSwim summer holiday swimming lessons!

With swimming pools and beaches a big part of the Western Australian lifestyle, it's essential that your children learn how to swim and stay safe in the water.

VacSwim is for all children - from beginners to more advanced swimmers. Your children can start as young as five years old.

There are over 180 VacSwim locations around Western Australia, so wherever your family is spending these summer holidays, there will be lessons near you.

Enrol your children in VacSwim now at education.wa.edu.au/swimming.



# Kids Cushion Concert

**Join Pianists** Elodie Short & Anna Bogachova presenting



Experience the joy of live music and the magic of a Christmas story. Explore the Piano and enjoy some Arts & Craft activities afterwards in **Busselton and Margaret River!** 

December 7th, at 10.00 am, Uniting church, 47 Kent St, Busselton December 14th, at 10.00 am, Uniting church, 60 Tingle Ave, Margaret River December 15th, at 10.00 am, Caves House Hotel, Yallingup BYO comfy cushion!

Suggested ages: 3-10 year olds but all welcome

Tickets: \$10, free under 3 year olds



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# Mulicultural

Christmas Gathering

Sunday 1st December 2019 @ 5.00pm St. Thomas More Parish

Please join us as we celebrate cultural diversity in our Parish Community!

Bring a plate to share and let's explore and learn about each others culture. This event will also be our way of showing gratitude to our brothers (Tongan and East Timorese) who have generously contributed to our Parish through Sunday Mass singing and busy bee.

Please contact Lucy Russell & Margaret Blackmore for more details.

Please wear any Christmas colours (red,green,gold) and bring simple gifts to share for our Chrissie Kringle.