

St Thomas More Catholic Primary School

Principal's Report



Second Week of Advent



*God of patience,
show us your wisdom in time,
that we may grow to expect your action on your time.
Teach us to be gentle and patient with ourselves.
Make us receptive to your timing in others.
Help us to see the long view when we are caught in the frustration of waiting.
Amen*



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As we conclude our school year, I feel blessed that we have managed to achieve so much and developed as a school community. So much learning, growth and development has taken place, creating students who I believe, will be valuable assets to our world. Even in this past week, our students have had many opportunities and experiences that assist in their development:

Faction Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to **Sorohan** faction for winning the Swimming Carnival last Friday. I was impressed with the way the students competed, showed determination and sportsmanship and supported each other during the carnival. Well done also to **Richardson** for winning the Meritorious shield. They showed great skill in cheering on their faction members, encouraging one another and demonstrating persistence. A huge thank you to Mr Cameron McRae for all his work in ensuring the carnival ran smoothly and was the well-oiled machine we have come to expect. Thank you to the teaching staff for all their work in helping out on the day and I would also like to acknowledge and thank all the parents who provided assistance on the day, either through helping out with the running of the carnival or by coming along and supporting the students.



The Vine



Continued over

Principal's Reportcontinued from Page 1

Music Concert

Wow! On Tuesday night I was blown away with the talent of our Year 4 to 6 students as they performed a number of songs in their class bands. A special thanks to Mr Mike Goodwin for organising and coordinating this concert and ensuring all students not only were given the opportunity to sing or play a musical instrument, but also do this together as one class and make them sound so good! For our students to be able to perform at such a venue, I believe, is a fantastic opportunity and one I am sure they will always remember. Thank you to the P&F for sponsoring the venue, allowing our students such a great opportunity. Well done to all our Year 4-6 students!



Praise and Thanksgiving Mass

This morning, our school community gathered together to celebrate the end of our school year together. During this Mass, we were reminded of the importance of friendship and giving thanks. We also gave our Graduating Year 6 students a lovely blessing to take with them as they leave our school. Thank you to those families who came along to celebrate with us and to Mrs Achmad for organising such a beautiful final school Mass for us to celebrate.

Graduation



Tonight, we will be farewelling our Year 6 students at our Graduation and Awards Ceremony. Commencing at 6:00pm in the Church, it will be an opportunity for our school community to offer our Year 6 students our best wishes as they move to High School next year. Our Year 6 leaders for 2020 will be announced and we will also present the Year 1-5 class awards – one for Christian Living and one for Consistent Effort; the Year 6 awards and our Whole School awards – the Anne Power award and the Daniel Botha award. We look forward to celebrating this night with our school and wider community members.

Staff Farewells

I would like to take this opportunity to thank and farewell Mr Thomas McDonald. Tom stepped into our Year 6 class with very short notice and hit the ground running. It has been wonderful to see Tom develop in confidence and prepare our Year 6 students for High School. We wish Tom all the very best for the future and I am sure we will see him around our school again next year.

As many of you are aware, Mrs Brittany Becker had a baby boy, Billy, in September this year. As a result, Brittany will not be returning next year as she spends time with her family. Brittany joined us halfway through last year and stepped in when a teacher was required in Year 4. This year, working with our Year 1 students, she has shown dedication, commitment and a strong passion for teaching. We have been blessed to have her as part of our school and the impact she has had upon the students during her time has been memorable. We wish Brittany all the best next year.

Farewell to Year 6 students

We wish our graduating Year 6 students a very happy holiday and a great start to their secondary schooling next year. We have no doubt that they have been very well prepared for high school. Our school community and ourselves are the richer for them having been part of our lives over the years. God bless them and their families and a special farewell to those families who are leaving us because their last child has graduated – we thank you for all you have contributed to making our school so wonderful over the years.

Continued over

Principal's Reportcontinued from Page 2

Term Dates for 2020

Please find below the listed Term Dates for St Thomas More Catholic Primary School for 2020. Included with these are the scheduled Pupil Free Days for the year.

Term 1: Monday 3 February – Thursday 9 April; Pupil Free Day Friday 28 February

Term 2: Wednesday 28 April – Friday 3 July; Pupil Free Day 28 April

Term 3: Tuesday 21 July – Friday 25 September; Pupil Free Day 20 July and 24 August

Term 4: Tuesday 13 October – Friday 11 December; Pupil Free Day 12 October

Christmas Wishes



As the school year concludes, and everyone prepares for some rest and family time, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support this year. I pray that God blesses you and your family this Christmas, and that it is a joyful time spent with your loved ones. May the love, joy and hope of our newborn Saviour, Jesus Christ, be yours over the course of this Advent and Christmas Season. I hope that 2020 be a year filled with much love, joy, happiness and success.

We will look forward to welcoming you all **back to the start of school on Monday 3 February 2020**, for another exciting, action-packed learning adventure! Have a safe and relaxing holiday.

Peace and best wishes,

RUSSELL WYLIE
PRINCIPAL

Thought of the Week



Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve

6.00pm Children's Mass

11.30pm Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

8.00am Lumen Christi Church, Augusta

10.00am St Thomas More Catholic Church, Margaret River

6.00pm St Thomas More Catholic Church, Margaret River



Assistant Principal News

Third Sunday of Advent

This Sunday is the third Sunday of Advent. The third Sunday of Advent is traditionally called *Gaudete Sunday*. *Gaudete* is the Latin word meaning "rejoice." Some people mark this Sunday on their Advent wreath with a pink candle instead of a purple candle. This Sunday is a joyful reminder that our salvation is near. But salvation is also to be fulfilled in the coming reign of God. Even as we observe our world today, we can find glimpses of God's work among us. Even more, we help to prepare the way for God's kingdom by our words and our actions. This message is indeed a cause for rejoicing.



Christmas Children's Mass - Tuesday 24th December at 6.00pm

St Thomas More Catholic Church Christmas Children's Mass will be celebrated on Christmas Eve, **Tuesday 24th December at 6.00pm**. Children from our school are invited to be involved in a Nativity play. If your child would like to participate, they are invited to come dressed as angels or shepherds to mass.

Sending best wishes your way during this special season of grace and blessings.

May these weeks of Advent lead us all into a happy & holy Christmas.

NICOLLE ACHMAD
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL



Congratulations

School Merit Award Winners Term 4 - Week 8

Pre-Primary	Johnny Jakimowicz Jimmy Campbell
Year 1	Diandrei Langridge
Year 3	Leo Hurle

Important Dates

Thursday 12th December
6.00pm Year 6 Graduation and Awards Celebration

Friday 13th December
Last Day of Term for Students

Tuesday 28th January
9.00am - 3.00pm Uniform Shop Open

Friday 31st January
12.00noon - 2.00pm Uniform Shop Open

Monday 3rd February
Term 1 commences for 2020



To all the families of St Thomas More thank you for a wonderful year of art with your children and wishing you a happy and prosperous Christmas, with love from Miss Flic.

Hi all! On behalf of myself and Kristie Chapman, I would like to express my gratitude of having the pleasure of teaching all the wonderful Year 4 students this year. They are a great bunch of students, who bring energy and enthusiasm each and every day to school. We have had great fun and learnt plenty. We wish you all a happy and relaxing Christmas break and look forward to catching up with you sometime in 2020. Mr Cam McRae



Thank you to all my wonderful music students for such a great year and wonderful performance on Tuesday night. Wishing you a very **Merry Christmas** and **Happy New Year**. From Mr Goodwin



To the Year Three families, Thank you so much for all your support and encouragement during my first year at Saint Thomas More! I have thoroughly enjoyed the year with your children and watching them grow over the year has been a privilege. I feel so blessed to be a part of this wonderful school and community, and am looking forward to continuing next year. Have a wonderful, safe holiday and Merry Christmas! Mrs Alice Tippet

Thankyou for a great year and for welcoming me into the Saint Thomas More community. I hope you all have a great Christmas and new year. Mr Tom McDonald

Dear Year 5 parents.....thank you for all of your support over the year. I have immensely enjoyed teaching your children over the year and look forward to seeing them all in the New Year. Have a safe holiday everyone! Mr O'Brien

EXTRA UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS BEFORE SCHOOL STARTS JANUARY 2020

Tuesday 28 January

9.00am – 3.00pm

Friday 31 January

12.00noon – 2.00pm

Please make use of these extra hours as we are not able to assist you with uniform supplies outside of this.

In 2020 the Uniform Shop's opening hours will remain as **TUESDAY only** from 1.30 to 3.00pm.

School Dental Service Christmas Update

The Rapids Landing Therapy will be closed from Monday the 23rd December and will re-open Monday the 3rd of Feb 2020 at 8.00am .

EMERGENCY NUMBERS:

24th December 2019 – 24th January 2020

9313 0552

For after hours emergency advice only

1800 098 818

27th January – 31st January

9754 4460

or contact your own private dentist

The Dental Team would like to wish you a Happy Christmas and New Year!



Kids Cushion Concert

Join Pianists
Elodie Short & Anna Bogachova
presenting

The Nutcracker

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



Gala Night

to celebrate 100 years of
Catholic Education
at Our Lady of Lourdes School Dardanup
Friday 14th February 2020

7.00pm-11.00pm

at Bunbury Catholic College Hall

Dress: Cocktail

Champagne on arrival
'Stand up and Mingle' food,
(light bites and something a little bigger)

Licensed Bar - Tea and Coffee available
Tickets can be purchased
from the school office, \$75 per person
dardanup.admin@cewa.edu.au
RSVP: by 30th January 2020
dardanup.admin@cewa.edu.au



Summer School Holidays @ Your Shire Libraries

Lego Club!

Join our hour long Lego club session to take on new challenges with all the Lego provided. Best suited to children over 5 years and bookings are essential. Phone the library now to reserve your child's place.

Margaret River Library session 1 : Wednesday 8th January 2-3pm

Margaret River Library session 2 : Monday 13th January 2-3pm

Phone Margaret River Library 9780 5600 for bookings

Augusta Library : Wednesday 15th January 2-3pm

Please note Augusta session also includes additional craft activities

Phone Augusta Library 9780 5670 for bookings



Wild Woven Tales workshop with Cynamon Aeria

Come along to this workshop of stories and woven artwork by a local storyteller and artist. Children will listen to stories brought to life with woven characters. They will then be able to help create a woven sculpture for the library garden and make simple woven artwork for themselves.

This workshop is suited for participants aged 6 years and over. Adults accompanying children are very welcome to participate in the workshop.

Margaret River Library: Tuesday 14th January 2020 at 10.30am . Phone 9780 5600 for bookings



Teddy Bears picnic storytime and library sleepover for teddies

Bring in your Teddy bears for a special Teddy Bears picnic storytime, then the teddies can have a sleepover and we will take photos of their adventures overnight in the library. Storytime is aimed at children under 6 years old however any child can bring in their teddy for the sleepover.

Margaret River Library: Picnic on Tuesday 21st January 10.30am Phone 9780 5600 for bookings
Teddy pick ups on Wednesday 22nd January after 12 noon.

Summer Reading Rabbits

If you are in year one at school, the summer holidays is the perfect time to visit the library, choose some books and get some Reading Rabbit stamps on your card. Over the summer holidays, bonus prizes will be given for a book review, based on a book you have read recently.

Summer Book Bandicoots

For all those aged in year two at school and over, Book Bandicoots rewards kids for reading, especially over the summer holidays! As a summer holiday treat we are giving away bonus prizes for extra book reviews completed, just see library staff for more details.

Reading Rabbits and Book Bandicoots are an initiative of the Shire of Augusta Margaret River Libraries and kindly supported by Rotary Club of Margaret River and the Margaret River Bookshop

All school holiday activities are FREE at the Shire Libraries, however **bookings are essential** and children must be accompanied by an adult for each session.

Regular Baby Rhyme Time, Storytime and Toddler Tales sessions are **having a break** over the school holidays. Sessions are resuming for term 1, the week starting **Monday 3rd February 2020**