

19th March 2020

Issue 7

St Thomas More Catholic Primary School



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Absentee Number: 9758 8042

The Vine



Principal's Report

Prayer for Fourth Sunday of Lent

*Father of mercy and kindness,
your loving Son, Jesus, responded with his heart
to an individual outside of the mainstream.*

*He led the blind man into the community,
giving to both him and the community
new eyes, new vision, new hope.*

*We praise and thank you for this marvellous lesson
and ask your help as we try to follow in Jesus' footsteps.*

*Help us to discover our own blindness
and to rejoice in the new vision we receive
when we act to overcome that blindness.*

*We ask this through Christ our Lord
and in the Holy Spirit.*

Dear Parents and Carers,

Coronavirus Update

We are closely monitoring this constantly changing situation to ensure our students and families remain safe. A pandemic plan is in place for all WA schools and is continually being updated by senior staff at the Catholic Education office in consultation with the Department of Education, Association of Independent Schools and the WA Health Department.

As the Prime Minister has introduced laws placed on international arrivals into Australia, there is a mandatory 14-day self-isolation requirement in place. Ideally, students or staff members in the same house as a person self-isolating should make alternative residential arrangements to reduce any possible spread of the virus. If this is not possible, staff and students residing in the same residence as a self-isolating person MUST ensure they do not have any contact with the individual.

The Chief Health Officer for Western Australia has clarified that the basis on which he would direct closure of a school would be a positive COVID-19 test result in a school. The education sector is working collaboratively to respond to advice provided by the WA Department of Health. There is agreement at both national and state level that there is no need to close schools as a pre-emptive measure at this point.

The current focus is on minimising and preventing transmission and making sure that our school system is prepared for a possible case. Whilst we will not be immune – we aim to be well prepared. To date, there are no confirmed cases of COVID -19 in WA schools. If there is a confirmed case, the Chief Health Officer will provide advice on temporary school closure while an assessment

and tracing of exposure is conducted. A thorough clean would be carried out to make the school safe for the return of students and staff.

As you would be aware, the Australian Government has announced that all organised, non-essential gatherings attended by more than 500 people must be cancelled, along with gatherings of 100 in a closed space. As a result, our students will not participate in Liturgical Singing and Church gatherings for the remainder of the term.

We will continue to hold assemblies in our undercover area, dependent on weather and at this stage our Athletics carnival will go ahead, although in a reduced format.

We have had a number of families make the difficult decision to begin self-isolation. We will endeavour to be as supportive of families as possible, particularly in the provision of an ongoing education. Families need to let us know if they chose to begin self-isolation, so we can work together to continue to provide the best education in these circumstances.

Faction Athletics Carnival

Our Faction Athletics carnival, planned for next Friday 27 March, at this stage will still go ahead, dependant on further advice or restrictions. Instead of the usual two carnivals (one for jumps and throws, and one for the running/team events), we will just have the one, with the jumps and throws in the morning and the running events after recess. Parents are requested to remain away from the children and will be asked to not enter the Faction bays and to spread apart along the terraced area as much as possible. Children will not be permitted to visit parents. The P&F will be providing a Sausage Sizzle for those wishing to order one. These order forms were sent home yesterday and will need to be returned by Monday with the correct money. The Interschool Athletics Carnival has been cancelled.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

We look forward to celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation for 7 of our students next Tuesday 24 March. This very special time is particularly important for these children, as it begins a time where they can turn back to God and say sorry for the times they have forgotten to act the way Jesus taught. Everyone is most welcome to attend this liturgy commencing at 5:30pm in Church. There will be an opportunity for adults to go to Confession as well as the children. Please keep these children in your prayers as they strengthen their relationship with God. Special thanks to Mrs Ryan and Mrs Tippett for their fantastic preparation of the children.



P&F Footy Tipping

Don't forget to get involved in our school Footy Tipping this year being run by the P&F. With the first game scheduled for tonight, there is still time to join. \$50 entry with lots of great prizes to be won!

Visit https://www.footytips.com.au/comps/St_Thomas_More_Footy_Tipping

Should families wish to discuss their child's education during this complex time, please contact your child's teacher. Alternatively, both Mrs Achmad and I will continue to make ourselves available for parents.

I wish all families a safe week ahead. Please continue to look after yourselves and one another.
Peace and best wishes,

Russell Wylie
Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL NEWS

Fourth Week of Lent 2020 (Sunday 22 March)

Pray for strangers: people in line at the supermarket, ambulance passengers, as well as people in the news. Open our eyes Lord to “see” them as sons and daughters of God!

Project Compassion – Sakun from India

Thirty-two-year-old Sakun lives in a village in central-east India. She developed polio as a child and has difficulty walking. Until now Sakun, an indigenous Gond woman, has been isolated in her community, unable to earn a livelihood and without knowledge of government schemes that could help her.



Sakun lives with her sister in a rural area of Chhattisgarh, India's poorest state. Home to 26 million people, with 10 million living in poverty. Life is hard in this region, and even harder for the state's indigenous people. Sakun belongs to the Gond tribal community which is amongst India's officially designated Scheduled Castes and Tribes. Historically disadvantaged, they suffer higher poverty rates than other parts of India.

In 2018, Sakun joined a Caritas Australia-funded program which is implemented by Caritas India and its local partner, Samarthan. Through their strategic guidance and support, Sakun learned new skills and gained important mobility.



Sakun now earns her own income and makes a small profit which goes towards her family's basic needs. She is more resilient, more confident and more independent.

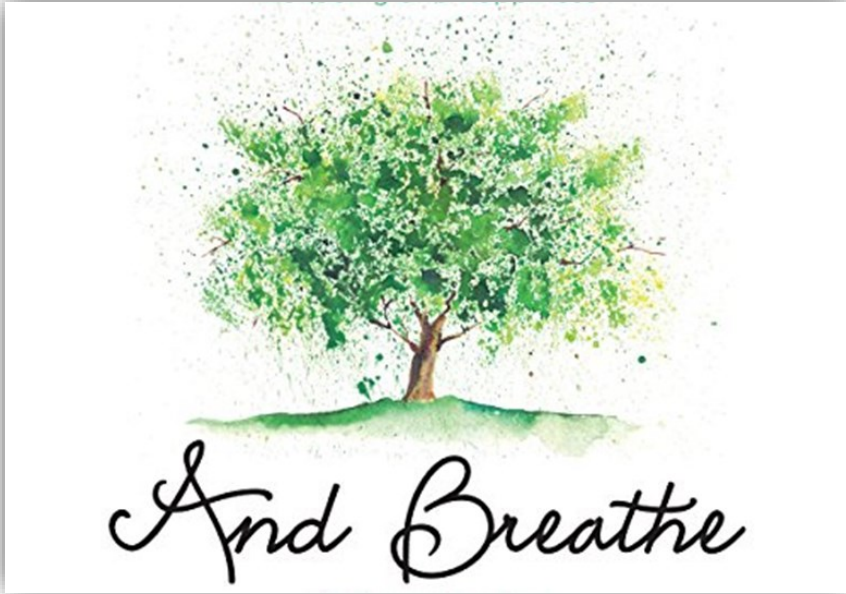
With your help, Caritas Australia can help uplift vulnerable communities and support the right of indigenous peoples around the world. A brighter future for women, men and their families can start today. Let's Go Further, Together.

Sacrament of Penance (Reconciliation)

Dominic Brawls, Tom Miller, Elaiza Montalban, Alex Nganga, West O'Brien, Leo Hurlle and Matthew Craggs from our school, Matilda Kiernan, as well as some children from the parish will be receiving the Sacrament of Penance (Reconciliation) on Tuesday 24 March at 5.30pm in the church. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers during this time. Have a wonderful week ahead. Keep well and safe.

God bless,
NICOLLE ACHMAD

Thought of the Week



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

- Friday 20th March**
8.45am Year 4 Assembly
- Tuesday 24th March**
5.30pm Sacrament of Reconciliation
- Friday 27th March**
Faction Carnival

Important Dates

Congratulations!

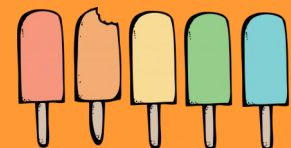
School Merit Award Winners

Week 6

Pre-Primary	Jack Moke
Year 1	Mara Laught
Year 3	Alex Nganga
Year 4	Alexis Kikeros
Year 5	Lenox Hayward
Year 6	Bella Fairbrass



The School Canteen is open on
Fridays at Lunchtimes selling Icy Poles.
All items are \$1.00



Parish News**Masses****St Thomas More Catholic Church - Margaret River**

- Saturday - 6.00pm
- Sunday - 10.00am

Lumen Christi Catholic Church - Augusta

- Sunday - 8.00am



**Pilgrimage of St Therese of Lisieux and her parents Ss Louis and Zelie Martin
Bunbury Diocese Thursday 30 April – Monday 4 May 2020**

Our Lady's Assumption Church, Mandurah
St Patrick's Cathedral, Bunbury
Carmelite Monastery, Gelorup

St Patrick's Cathedral, Bunbury
Our Lady of the Bay Church, Busselton

Midday 30 April to 9.30am 1 May
Midday to 4.30pm 1 May
5.30 – 8pm 1 May
8.00am to 11.00am 2 May
Midday 2 May to 3.00pm 3 May
5.30pm 3 May to 1.30pm 4 May

During the time in each Parish there will be a celebration of the Eucharist, opportunities for individual Penance/Reconciliation, various devotions, veneration of the relics, liturgy of the hours, all night vigils, meditation, information about the Saints and their spirituality, rosary. Families, groups, students and individuals are invited to participate.

Please contact Deborah for assistance with accommodation and any further information.

Check Catholic Mission website to follow the journey and find educational materials
<https://www.catholicmission.org.au/relics-of-saint-th%C3%A9r%C3%A8se-of-lisieux>

Deborah Robertson
Diocesan Director - Bunbury
Mobile: 0474 928 765

Email: bunbury.director@catholicmission.org.au

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 **Wisdom6285**) or visit our website <https://stmcps.wa.edu.au/> and go to the Communication tab to select Online Absentee.

You can also ring the school on the Absentee line on 9758 8042 and leave a message of the child's name, class and reason for absence and then send a note in with your child when they return to school.

From the School Nurse - School Sores

Impetigo is an infection of the skin caused by bacteria. It will usually start with a blister or a group of blisters. The blisters will often pop, weep and form a crust. Small spots may spread outwards from the first spot. The spots are usually itchy.

If your child has impetigo they should be checked by a doctor. The doctor may prescribe antibiotics. You should cover the sores with watertight dressing and cut the child's nails to prevent them from scratching. Impetigo is spread very easily, so keep the child home until 24 hours after treatment has begun. Wash hands regularly to prevent spread to others.

Margaret River Junior Hockey 2020 Season Starts Soon!

Year 3 - 5 mixed boys and girls team
Year 6 - 8 girls team, Year 6 - 8 boys team
Year 9 - 12 girls team, Year 9 - 12 boys team

Want more info?

juniordoordinator@margaretriverhockey.org.au

admin@margaretriverhockey.org.au



St Thomas More Sports Carnival 2020

Faction Carnival Parent Help Request

Friday 27th March

Parent help is always greatly appreciated and is essential in enabling us to run our carnivals. If you are able to assist on the carnival day which is Friday March 27th (Week 8) it would be greatly appreciated!

This year we will be incorporating jumps, throws and all running and ball game events on one day.

If you are able to assist on the day,
please fill out the form below, and return it to the office.
Alternatively contact myself Cameron.mcrae@cewa.edu.au
or by text on 0419 029 646.

Many Thanks!

Mr Cam McRae
(PE Teacher)

St Thomas More Sports Carnival 2020

Faction Carnival Parent Help Request

Friday 27th March



I _____ am able to assist:

- With Jumps and Throws from 8.30 – 10.40am
- With ball games and running events from 11.00am – 2.30pm

Signed _____



IGNITE A PASSION FOR THE GAME!

Margaret River Junior Football

Nippers Oval Margaret River

Saturday 2nd May 2020

Joel Lawrence 0409 104 771
clectablind@westnet.com.au

play.afl/auskick



2020 AFL Season Club Registrations

NOW OPEN

Margaret River Junior Football Club

Fees for the 2020 season are \$100 per player

REGISTER ONLINE AT: <http://bit.ly/MRJFC2020>

Registrations close Tuesday 24th March, so get in quick!

This link is for Under 9s, 11s and Under 13s

****Do not use this link for any Auskick Players****



KidSport enables eligible Western Australian children aged 5-18 years to participate in community sport and recreation by offering them financial assistance towards club fees

KidSport is NOW ONLINE! Are you eligible? Visit the website below to apply
<https://kidsport.dlgsc.wa.gov.au/kidsport/apply-for-kidsport-2019-1/>

You must complete this process to get your voucher number before registering online with MRJFC for the 2020 season, otherwise the system will not register your child .

First Grading Session Wednesday 25th March 3:45pm – 5:00pm

Meet our coaches for the 2020 Season! Bring your mouthguards, water bottle and dust off the footy boots! Get ready to run, have fun and brush up on the footy skills....

Under 9s (Years 3/4) will train together on Gloucester Oval (Skate Park end)

Under 11s (Years 5/6) together on Gloucester Oval (Footy Shed end) and **Under 13s** (Years 7/8) together on Nippers.

Margaret River Junior Football Club

Needs new parent volunteers to join our Committee, please let us know if you can help in some way or call our MRJFC President Steve Utting on 0499 199 365 for more information, no football knowledge is needed. We have a role to suit you, Registrar, Umpire Coordinator, Treasurer, Canteen Coordinator, Events and more.

For any questions or enquires please contact Club Secretary – Kimmag1@bigpond.com



MARGARET RIVER

HEART



margaretriverheart

SAVE THE DATE ! SAVE THE DATE ! SAVE THE DATE ! SAVE THE DATE !

HEART Community Open Day

Come along to this **FREE family fun day** and experience your new Margaret River HEART centre.

Date: Saturday 4 April 2020

Times: 4pm – 7pm

Place: Wallcliffe Road, Margaret River (next to the Shire Offices)

Live local music, dance act, circus, silks, acrobatics, magic acts, photo booth fun, face painting, art workshops, exhibitions, food vans, digital projections, and so much more!

Tour the building, sit in the plush new cinema seats, hear the beautiful new acoustics, and experience the venue as a whole.

There's also opportunity to find out how to get involved, become a volunteer, and learn about the best ways to keep up-to-date with all the arts, culture and entertainment offerings.

This an exciting celebration of local creative talent. It's an all weather event.

HUB OF ENTERTAINMENT, ARTS AND REGIONAL TOURISM

47 Wallcliffe Road Margaret River WA 6285 | t 08 9780 5294

e contact@margaretriverheart.com.au | margaretriverheart.com.au