

St Thomas More Catholic Primary School

Principal's Report

Second Sunday of Advent



Merciful God, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the people for the coming of your Son, Jesus. Help us to get ready as well. Lead us to make positive changes in our lives and the lives of others around the world.

Amen.



Dear Parents and Caregivers



Concerts Concerts Concerts

It seems this is the week for concerts! Our amazing Year 4, 5 and 6 students performed in their bands in our Music Concert on Monday evening at the HEART and WOW! What an amazing event. I was blown away by how professional and slick these students were up on stage! All three year levels did an amazing job in presenting the songs they had been learning over the course of the year and it was really wonderful to have so many parents and family members come along to witness this spectacle.

Well done to Mr Goodwin for all his work behind the scenes in ensuring the students all had a part to play, knew what they were doing and setting up so it all ran so smoothly. Great effort!



Our Kindy and Pre-Primary classes performed their concert yesterday morning to a sold-out audience. It was wonderful to watch these students perform some songs and the story of Wombat Divine. Well done to Mrs Wolf, Mrs Morrison, Mrs Hassall, Mrs Cummins and Mrs Guise for all your hard work in preparing the students and organising costumes and props! Thank you also to all the parents who came along for this and joined us for morning tea. Terrific job Kindy's and Pre-Primary's!

Continued over



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The Vine



Principal's Reportcontinued from Page 1



Debating Competition

This morning I was privileged to adjudicate a Debating competition between some of our Year 5 and 6 students and students from St Brigid's Primary School in Bridgetown. With 3 teams representing St Thomas More, our students performed admirably, being given a topic and having a short time to prepare their arguments, before having to debate. Congratulations to these students on an excellent effort!

Season of Advent

Many Christian churches in Australia, particularly Catholic churches, celebrated the start of the Advent season last Sunday. Advent is the period of four Sundays and weeks leading up to Christmas – the birth of Jesus, so its length varies from 22 to 28 days. Advent is a time to reflect and prepare for Christmas in the same way that Lent is in preparation for Easter. The term 'Advent' refers to the period immediately before Christmas, during which time one might prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus. Contrary to popular culture and advertising, Jesus is the meaning of Christmas and God's gift of love to us. Had that tiny baby not been born in the stable, in poverty and helplessness as God made man, we would not be celebrating Christmas 2000 years later. As we begin this Advent season and prepare for our Christmas celebrations, let us not lose sight of the real reason we have this preparation time and celebration.

Volunteer Morning Tea

We invite all parents and community members who have so willingly given of their time in some capacity over the course of the year to a Thank You morning tea, held in the Library tomorrow morning following the Year 6 assembly. We truly appreciate all the time, dedication and effort our community contributes to making our school such a great one. We hope to see you there!



Semester Two Reports

Next Wednesday, 8 December, the Semester Two reports for all children from Pre-Primary to Year Six will be online on the Seqta Parent Connect portal for all parents to access. Reports provide information to parents about the progress and the achievements that children have made for the year. Parents are encouraged to share the report with their child. Schools follow the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (SCSA) Pre-primary to Year 10: Teaching, Assessing and Reporting Policy which communicate the mandatory requirements for reporting. This sets out that we must report using A-E grades, with a 'C' grade meeting the Achievement Standard for their year level. If your child has a 'C' grade on their report, please remember that this means they have met the standard for that year and achieved what they should have.

Year 6 Graduation and Awards Evening

We will be farewelling our Year 6 students at our Graduation and Awards evening held next Thursday 9 December in the Church. All students should attend this celebration, with awards being presented to students from Years 1-5 and the presentation of our Year 6 2022 Leadership badges to those Year 5 students. The Year 6 award winners will also be presented with their awards. This combined evening will commence at 5:30pm and we look forward to seeing all school families come along.

Thanksgiving Mass

All parents are welcome to join the staff and students to our final Praise and Thanksgiving Mass next Thursday 9 December in the Church at 9:00am. We look forward to seeing you there.

End of Year Excursion – Friday 10 December

To finish the year, our Pre-Primary to Year 5 students will be attending an End of Year excursion to the HEART to watch a movie – Tom & Jerry: The Movie. Our Year 6 students will be attending a canoeing excursion together, celebrating their last day as a group. The P&F will also kindly put on a Sausage Sizzle lunch for these students – so they will not need to bring lunch on this day. Any children who have dietary requirements are asked to bring their own rolls or vegan sausages (if required). The sausages provided will be gluten free.

I wish all families a wonderful week ahead.

Peace and best wishes,

RUSSELL WYLIE
PRINCIPAL

Assistant Principal News

Dear Parents and Caregivers,



This Sunday is the **Second Sunday in Advent**. Advent is a period of waiting for Christmas.

This week, we light the second candle, which again is violet. The second candle represents **Peace**. The peace of God allows us to look at others through heaven's eyes and help guide the world to see God's here and not-yet here kingdom. Peace from God allows us to trust in God's promises (Proverbs 3:5), through restful, tranquil faith, despite the dark, scary world around us.

MUSIC CONCERT

Wow! Wow! Wow! What incredible musical talent we have here at St Thomas More Catholic Primary School. Firstly, a big thank you to Mr Goodwin our Music teacher for performing extraordinary feats in getting all students in Years 4, 5 and 6 to play an instrument on stage, plus dance and sing! Well done to our students, you were all amazing! Thank you to our parents for supporting our students.



KINDY AND PRE-PRIMARY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

It was wonderful to celebrate with our beautiful Kindy and Pre-Primary students at their annual Christmas Concert yesterday. I especially loved the retelling of Wombat Divine (my favourite Christmas picture book) and the singing of modern Christmas carols, such as Baby Santa. It was a joyful celebration. Thank you and well done to Mrs Wolf, Mrs Morrison, Mrs Cummins, Mrs Hassall and Mrs Guise for all your hard work in preparing the students.

DEBATING COMPETITION

Today some of our amazing Year 5 and Year 6 LEAP students participated in a Debating Competition with St Brigid's Catholic Primary School, Bridgetown at our school. The debating skills exhibited by all students was extraordinary. Well done to our students Carla Fox, Ava Yee Wilson, Harry Scott, Hayden Wynd, Jacob Galamgam, Rod Railey Montalban, Annaliese Wylie, Millie Fairbrass, Digby Bucat and Hugo Enright for your excellent effort in LEAP and dedication to the Debating program this term.

VOLUNTEER MORNING TEA

This Friday, we celebrate and thank all the many parents who have volunteered their precious time and resources to help at school this year with a morning tea in the library at 9.30am.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL



Thank you from the bottom of our hearts to the many families who have generously donated non-perishable food items for the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal. The Hampers that we have created will be shared with the families and individuals in our community who turn to St Vincent de Paul for assistance at Christmas.

Wishing you all a wonderful week ahead.

Peace and best wishes,

Mrs Nicolle Achmad
Assistant Principal

Thought of the Week

Don't let anyone rob you of your imagination, your creativity, or your curiosity. It's your place in the world; it's your life. Go on and do all you can with it, and make it the life you want to live.

Mae Jemison

quotefancy

Congratulations!



School Merit Award Winners

Term 4

Week 7



- Year 4 Rhianna Montalban
Phoebe Hickamn
- Year 5 Mason Samantila
Benji Tognela
- Year 6 Madeleine Parker-Perrin

Friday 3rd December

8.45am Year 6 Assembly
9.30am Volunteer Morning Tea

Thursday 9th December

9.00am Praise and Thanksgiving Mass
5.30pm Year 6 Graduation and Awards Night

Friday 10th December

8.45am Merit Assembly
Student's Last Day

Important Dates

Parish Masses

St Thomas More Catholic Church - Margaret River

- Saturday - 6.00pm
- Sunday - 10.00am

Lumen Christi Catholic Church - Augusta

- Sunday - 8.00am



UNIFORM SHOP OPEN HOURS - MONDAYS FROM 1.30 - 3.00PM



Please email your Order Forms through to
rita.willmott@cewa.edu.au

with details of your order and credit card.

Forms can be downloaded off the school's website.

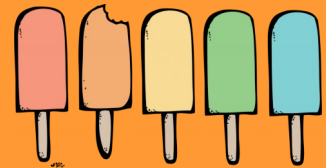
Uniforms will go home with your children on **Mondays**.

Thank you!

Rita Willmott

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

All items are \$1.00



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://stmcp.s.wa.edu.au/> and go to the Communication tab to select Online Absentee.



VacSwim

Enrolments are now open for VacSwim swimming lessons

during the summer school holidays.

VacSwim offers fun lessons at beach or pool locations.

They are a great school holiday activity and they teach valuable safety skills to help keep your child safe in the water.

Enrol at

education.wa.edu.au/vacswim

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS CINEMA

All movie tickets \$9!



Ron's Gone Wrong

Tuesday 11 January | 2pm
Wednesday 19 January | 2pm



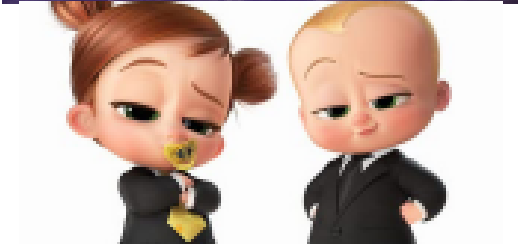
Encanto

Wednesday 12 January | 2pm
Friday 21 January | 2pm



Sing 2

Thursday 20 January | 2pm
Monday 24 January | 2pm



The Boss Baby: Family Business

Friday 14 January | 2pm
Thursday 27 January | 2pm



Clifford the Big Red Dog

Friday 28 January | 2pm



KIDS WORKSHOPS

Limited tickets available!



We Can Sing Harmony! with Andrea Frances Manners (7-16 years)

Tuesday 11 January | 10:30am - 11:40am
Tuesday 18 January | 10:30am - 11:40am



Hand Building Clay Spheres with Hive Artist Natalia Ford (8-12 years)

Thursday 13 January | 10:30am - 12:30pm

MARGARET RIVER

HEART

47 Wallcliffe Road Margaret River WA 6285
t 08 9780 5294 e contact@margaretriverheart.com.au
margaretriverheart.com.au | [@margaretriverheart](https://www.instagram.com/margaretriverheart)



Alexandra Bridge Christmas Tree

Where: Alexandra Bridge Hall, 1252 Brockman
Hwy, Courtney

When: Friday the 17th December

4.30pm Free Craft tables for kids

5pm Firey's BBQ!!! Hamburgers \$10, hotdogs \$4,
soft drink \$2

5pm Special visit from the man in red with lolly
bags

5.30pm Free Bouncy castle and bucking bull ride
(prize for longest rider!!!)

6pm Free Live music from Faz and Mickey
Raffle with amazing prizes donated from our
beautiful community

Free Christmas movie on the bean bags
Only cash!!!

Present drop off at Nillup Store, Brockman Hwy or
Karridale Agencies, Bussel Hwy by
Thursday the 16th December

Please put your child's full name and age on
presents

RSVP Caroline Noakes 0433 578 193

Gemma O'Dea 0419 001 870