

3rd February 2022

Issue 1

St Thomas More Catholic Primary School



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Absentee Number: 9758 8042

The Vine



Principal's Report

Lord Jesus,

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

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 school year brings.

Open our hearts and minds to new friends and new teachers.

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

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

Jesus, inspire us to do our best this year!

Amen



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to the new school year! It has been so lovely to see the many smiling faces of the children as they walk into the school grounds each morning this week. I hope our families had a wonderful break over the Christmas period, where you were able to spend some quality time with loved ones. We welcome some new families to our schools: The Holland, De Marchi, Sewell, Bautista, Clarke, Staveley, Johnston, Dazley, Green, Williams, Harding, Evans, Keen, McDonald and Franca families.

I am sure they will all be made to feel welcome as part of our Tommy More community. We also welcome Ms Taryn Bradford in our 3 Year Old program, Danielle Noble, who is replacing Miss Flic for Art this term and welcome back Mrs Meg Ryan. Mr Michael Goodwin is also taking some time off, as he prepares for his upcoming wedding, so we are fortunate to have Mrs Jemma Shoppee filling in for him during this time.

Already the students have been getting straight down to the business of learning with many great opportunities being presented to support development. I hope all the students have a wonderful year ahead, being able to develop their knowledge, confidence and resilience. It is very evident to me that the teaching staff have spent a great deal of time carefully planning and organising engaging and educational learning opportunities for our students. The students have settled well and I would like to thank parents for assisting with this, by ensuring that the children have everything they need and encouraging such a positive attitude to school.

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It was fantastic to see so many families come along to our Welcome Morning Tea this morning. It was a great opportunity to connect with old friend and make some new ones. A huge thank you to the P&F for organising and catering for this.



Nature Playground

At this morning's Welcome Morning Tea, we also opened the Nature Playground, so generously donated by our amazing P&F. The students are super excited to get playing in this new area and I personally think it looks amazing. A big thank you to all the parents who contributed through fundraising for this space, I truly think it really enhances our school. Also thank you to Andy, our terrific Groundsman, for all his work in ensuring this is such a safe space to play. The children will be able to start playing in this area from Monday.

Parent Information Evening

Our Parent-Teacher Information evening will be held on **Monday 7th February** for our Pre-Primary to Year 6 classes, commencing at **5:30pm** for the first session. There will be a second session offered from **6:20pm** for those families with more than one child, or who cannot get to school at the earlier time. I encourage all parents to make the effort to attend these sessions to find out information regarding their child's class and hear about how you can further support their learning. A crèche will be available for parents needing this service.

COVID Procedures

A reminder to parents that when entering classrooms, a mask must be worn. We also ask, if you are entering the school grounds, to please check in by either scanning the QR code with the ServiceWA app on your smartphone, or by manually checking in via the office. As more families begin to quarantine due to returning family members from overseas/interstate or just the uncertainty surrounding the Omicron variant in our community, I encourage parents to contact your child's classroom teacher to find out how they can continue learning from home. Teachers are preparing for this and are devising easy activities that can be completed at home. Families should be provided with access to the SeeSaw app, which will assist in facilitating this.

School Calendar Dates

For information on our term, pupil free and Sacramental dates, please refer regularly to the calendar on the school website. This calendar is regularly updated and contains the most up to date information.

Official School Times

Classroom doors open at 8:30am
 School commences: 8:40am
 Recess: 10:40am – 11:00am
 Lunch time: 12:40pm – 1:20pm
 School concludes: 3:00pm

Please note: Staff meetings are held every Wednesday afternoon after school in Term 1 and the office will be closed.

Student Sign in and Out Procedures

As a school, it is our duty to ensure that all students who attend St Thomas More are provided with the maximum duty of care. It is necessary to be informed of the whereabouts of all students within the school, during school hours. To enable this to happen, any students who leave the school grounds during school time must be 'signed out' and 'signed in' on their return. On 'signing out' a student at the office, parents will be given a slip to take to the class teacher when they pick up their child. To ensure that teachers, including specialist subject teachers, are carrying out their duty of care, we ask parents who need to take children out of school prior to home time to please adhere to this request and if you are planning to take your child to appointment/s during school time, please email the teacher in advance, so that they can have the student ready for you to collect.

Continued over

Principal's Reportcontinued from Page 2

School Code of Conduct

The school has a Code of Conduct that all members of the St Thomas More School community need to adhere to. The purpose of the Code of Conduct is to describe minimum standards of conduct in all behaviour and decision making to ensure the safety and well-being of students. A Parent Charter is also available which provides statements to assist parents in being aware of their obligations as a member of the St Thomas More Catholic Primary School community. The complete Code of Conduct and Parent Charter are published on our school website.

School Canteen

The Margaret River Recreation Centre will continue to offer a canteen service on Mondays and Fridays. Orders can be placed online through QuickCliq. The available menu is also available through this site.

Communication

I continue to encourage parents to contact their child's classroom teacher should you have any concerns regarding any operational or educational matters. As always, both my and Mrs Achmad's doors are always open to parents and we welcome any questions or feedback. I look forward to having a wonderful year with you all and will endeavour to make myself as available as possible to parents, so please feel free to leave a message or send an email. I am also happy for a chat before school when I will be on duty.

Peace and best wishes,

RUSSELL WYLIE
PRINCIPAL

Thought of the Week

“

A new school year means new beginnings, new adventures, new friendships, and new challenges. The slate is clean and anything can happen.”

DENISE WITMER

Parents

Parish Masses

St Thomas More Catholic Church Margaret River

- Saturday - 6.00pm
- Sunday - 10.00am

Lumen Christi Catholic Church Augusta

- Sunday - 8.00am



Monday 7th February

Parent/Teacher Information Evening
5.30pm - 6.15pm
6.20pm - 7.05pm

Friday 11th February

8.45am Merit Assembly

Monday 14th February

Swimming Lessons commence

Important Dates

Assistant Principal News

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

A warm welcome to Term One, 2022!



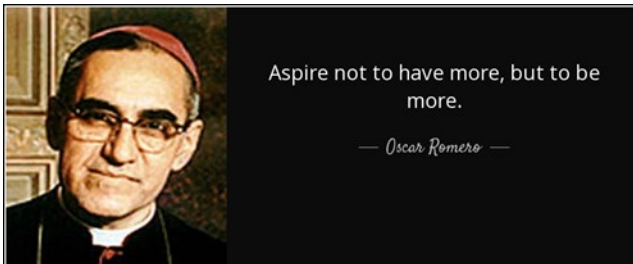
I thoroughly enjoyed meeting and chatting to our parents, grandparents, and friends at our Welcome Morning Tea and opening of our new nature playground this morning. I thank our amazing, hardworking Parents and Friends Association (P&F), our groundsman Andy and staff for working tirelessly to fundraise for this. It was due to their extraordinary effort that our students can now enjoy a new nature playground.



Beginning of a new school year (Whole School Mass)

Our first mass for this year, will be held on Wednesday 16 February at 9.00am in the St Thomas More Catholic Church led by our Year 4 students. All parents, families and friends are welcome to attend.

Compassion



Our whole school value that we will be focusing on this term is **COMPASSION**. As St Oscar Romero said, 'Aspire not to have more, but to be more.' This message invites us to feel with others, enter their circumstances, and be one with them. When you or someone you know is compassionate towards another person, extraordinary things can happen. Our challenge for us this term is to take the time to listen and to take in what other people are feeling, to be united as a community.

This term, our goal is to create a compassion tree (like the one pictured) in the front office with student's hands to encourage and acknowledge acts of compassion to others within our school.

Peace and best wishes,

Mrs Nicolle Achmad
Assistant Principal



Health Care Card Tuition Fee Discount Scheme - Time to renew your application

Parents/guardians who are responsible for the payment of school fees and hold a current means tested family Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card will be entitled to a discount on tuition fees only. The discounted tuition fee per student for 2021 will be as follows:

- \$300.00 per year for Primary students (Kindergarten - Year 6).

The discounted tuition fee does not cover additional charges such as camps, the compulsory building levy and subject levies. Eligible cards must fit the scheme's means testing requirements, e.g., PP (Parenting Payment (partnered)), FA (Family Allowance), LI (Low Income), NSA (New Start Allowance), PA (Partner Allowance), SA (Sickness Allowance), SL (Special Benefit), WA (Widow Allowance) and MAA (Mature Age Allowance).

Application forms are available at the office.

Forms must be completed by **Friday 18h February** to gain the Tuition Fee discount.

Forms received after this date may not qualify for discount.

No concession discounts will be applied without submitting your card to the office by Friday 18th February.



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.

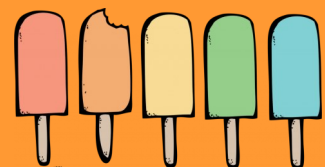
Forms can be downloaded off the school's website.

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

Thank you!

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

2022 In-Term Swimming Lessons

Dear Parents,

Our annual swimming lessons begin in Week 3 on Monday the 14th of February and will continue through to Friday 25th of February. A timetable of lessons and details of the procedures are included below. Can you please fill in the enrolment form below and return to school by Friday 4th February. No payment is needed with the form.

Points to remember:

- All items of clothing, including towel, need to have children's name clearly marked.
- Children are to bring a waterproof pair of shoes (eg: thongs) to school that can be worn over to the Recreational Centre so their uniform, sports shoes and socks remain dry at school.
- Children may choose to wear bathers under their uniform and bring a change of underwear in their plastic bag for after their lesson.
- If your child has long hair, it should be tied back.
- No jewellery is to worn on swimming lesson day.
- The use of swimming goggles is encouraged.
- All students are ambassadors of their school and families. While attending swimming lessons, the highest standard of behaviour and manners is expected.

If students arrive late, it is the parent's responsibility to escort them over to the pool.

SWIMMING TIMETABLE – Term 1, 2022

Every day in week 3 and 4		
	TIME	CLASS
SESSION 1	9:20	Pre-Primary/ Year2
SESSION 2	10.05	Year 1, 3 and 4
SESSION 3	10:50	Year 5/6



SOCCER SCHOOLS

TERM 1 REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN

\$79

AGE 5-9 WEDNESDAYS 3-4PM
ST THOMAS MORE OVAL/UNDERCOVER AREA

LUKE@LJSOCCER.COM.AU
0490447819





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MULTI SPORTS
BASKETBALL SKILLS
TUESDAYS
WEEK 2 -WEEK 9
YEARS: KINDY - Y6
3.00PM - 4.00PM**

**AFTER SCHOOL
MULTI SPORTS
BASKETBALL SKILLS
TUESDAYS
WEEK 2 -WEEK 9
YEARS: KINDY - Y6
4.15PM - 5.15PM**



**\$70
FOR THE TERM
OR \$240
FOR THE YEAR**



**All Kindy & Pre-Primary
children will be collected
from their classrooms**

**Sessions are action-packed
full of fun and games
every week,
covering many sports & skills
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