

St Thomas More Catholic Primary School



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Absentee Number: 9758 8042

The Vine



Principal's Report

Peace Prayer of St Francis of Assisi

*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.*

*O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.
Amen.*



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Covid and Mask Wearing Update

Thank you to those parents who have been abiding by the protocols for schools around parents being on site, wearing masks and not being able to come into the classrooms. I understand that this can be difficult, particularly when dealing with pastoral issues relating to your child, so I appreciate your support with this. Unfortunately, as case loads increase, it will become more than likely that students from Year 3 and above will be mandated to wear a mask inside the classrooms, the same as high school students currently do. This is purely to reduce the possibility of children having to quarantine as a close contact should someone in the class test positive. The definition of a close contact is:

- Face-to-face contact for 15 minutes or longer with an infectious person where a mask was not worn;
- Interaction for more than two hours in a classroom environment where masks have not been worn or have been removed.

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So, by wearing a mask, this eliminates the possibility of being a close contact. I would encourage parents and children to have a conversation around wearing a mask at school, so they are prepared when it will become compulsory. Teachers will also be discussing this with classes in Years 3 and above and looking at perhaps having a trial day/sessions. Obviously, at this point, masks are not compulsory, and we certainly wouldn't be forcing any child to wear one, but it might be a good opportunity for a practice.



Wastewise School

Yesterday, Mrs Wolf, Mrs Cummins and some dedicated students conducted a 'bin audit'. We are trying to improve our sustainability practices throughout the school, and this bin audit allowed us to see just how much waste we are sending to landfill and if we can change our practices to become more sustainable. All classes now have a recycling bin in their classrooms, and we are looking to become more sustainable with our waste. The Year 6 Environmental Committee is also assisting with this.

Ash Wednesday

Next Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent with the celebration of Ash Wednesday. Unfortunately, due to restrictions placed upon school gatherings, we will be unable to celebrate this important occasion with a Whole School Mass and receive the ashes, however, classes will individually celebrate this in their rooms and Fr Mat will visit to talk about the importance of Lent and distribute Ashes to those wishing to receive them. I encourage families to discuss what Lent means at home and why it is so important in helping us to remember to try and be better and do better, particularly caring about others around us.

I wish all families a wonderful week ahead.

Peace and best wishes,

RUSSELL WYLIE
PRINCIPAL

UNIFORM SHOP OPEN HOURS - MONDAYS FROM 1.30 - 3.00PM

Due to Covid restrictions please email your Order Forms through to me at rita.willmott@cewa.edu.au or alternatively complete an Order Form and send it in with your child 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



Assistant Principal News

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The Catholic Church marks the beginning of Lent next Wednesday 2 March on Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday begins our forty-day season of Lent that leads to Easter. Like the people of the Old Testament, when the people strayed from God's Law, people called prophets called them to repent, to turn away from their sin, and to have a change of heart.

Jesus also teaches us about the importance of **prayer**. Jesus prays many times in the Gospels; he prays during critical events in his life, and he prays before ministering to people in need.

During Lent, we are also encouraged to **fast** or give up something during this time. By fasting we make a sacrifice: the thing we choose to give up might be something we really like, like chocolate or looking at social media too much. This can also remind us of Jesus' sacrifice when he died on the cross for us.

Lent calls us to follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Due to the changing protocols surrounding gatherings and meetings, in consultation with Fr Mat, it has been decided that the Sacrament of Reconciliation is postponed. We feel this is in the best interests of all involved. Therefore the Parent Information Workshop, the Commitment Mass and the Sacrament of Reconciliation will not go ahead this term. More details concerning the celebration of this Sacrament will be forwarded in due course. We apologise for any inconvenience this causes and thank you for your understanding.

Project Compassion



Next week as the season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, it also marks the beginning of the annual Caritas Australia Project Compassion Appeal. Donations to Project Compassion allows Caritas Australia, the Catholic Agency for International Aid and Development, to work with local communities around the world to end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity.

The theme of Project Compassion 2022 is 'For All Future Generations' and reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come. It invites us to make the world a better place by working together now and finding long-term solutions to global issues. We encourage you to put your compassion into action this Lent through your prayer, fasting and almsgiving by supporting Project Compassion. Each family will receive a Project Compassion box and/or a set of envelopes for their donations or you can donate online via the Caritas Australia website at: lent.caritas.org.au

Peace and best wishes,

Mrs Nicolle Achmad
Assistant Principal

School Fees



If you wish to have a Direct Debit on your School Fee Account please send in the Payment Option form as soon as possible, as deductions will start on March 1, 2022.

Thought of the Week

May the sun bring you
new energy by day,
May the moon softly restore
you by night,
May the rain wash away
your worries,
May the breeze blow new
strength into your being,
May you walk gently through
the world and know it's
beauty all the days
of your life.

~Apache Blessing



Parish Masses

St Thomas More Catholic Church - Margaret River

- Saturday - 6.00pm
- Sunday - 10.00am

Lumen Christi Catholic Church - Augusta

- Sunday - 8.00am



Congratulations!

School Merit Award Winners

Term 1 - Week 4

Pre-Primary	George Walsh
Year 2	Emmy Holland
Year 3	Will Stewart
Year 4	Toby Bautista
Year 5	Sam O'Beirne Max Cooke
Year 6	Max Wolf



Friday 25th February

Merit Assembly over the PA System

Wednesday 2nd March

Ash Wednesday - Class Liturgies

Monday 7th March

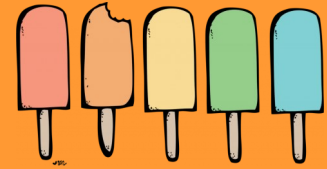
Labour Day Public Holiday

Tuesday 8th March

Pupil Free Day - Staff PD

Important Dates

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.

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

REGISTER NOW!

Registrations open from
 23rd February to
 31st March 2022

NETBALL SEASON 2022

Divisions
 U/9
 U/11
 U/13
 U/16
 U/20

Visit thr MRNA Facebook page for registration links
<https://www.facebook.com/MargaretRiverNetballAssociation>

Email: margaretrivernetball@gmail.com

GIRLS ONLY CRICKET BLAST BUSSELTON

PERTH SCORCHERS

Are you the next Perth Scorcher to win the WBBL Trophy?
 Sign up for our Term 1 **GIRLS ONLY** Cricket Blast Program

This GIRLS ONLY Cricket Blast program is the perfect opportunity to discover cricket with your friends, in a safe and fun environment, while developing your cricket skills.

- Ages: 5-12 years old
- When: Thursday 17, 24 Feb & 3, 10 March
- Time: 4.30 – 6 pm
- Where: Vasse Playing Fields
- Cost: \$40 (Inc insurance & program wind up)
- No experience necessary
- All equipment provided

FREE Come and Try on the 17 Feb

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
Kristy Lind
 kristy.lind@wacricicket.com.au
 or Phone 0439 725 914

Register at:
www.play.cricket.com.au

Search for – WA Cricket Blast Center – Busselton & Margaret River

*Registrations open Thursday 10 Feb

*With COVID 19 recommendations changing regularly, registrations will open closer to the start date, to allow for any changes which may affect this program



MBA
SPORTS COACHING

**PRIZES
& AWARDS
TO BE
WON!**

**FUN
HEALTHY &
INCLUSIVE**

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

ALL BOOKINGS TO BE MADE THROUGH: www.mbasportscoaching.com

**AFTER SCHOOL
MULTI SPORTS
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
each term.**



www.mbasportscoaching.com

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