

17th November 2022

Issue 36

# St Thomas More Catholic Primary School



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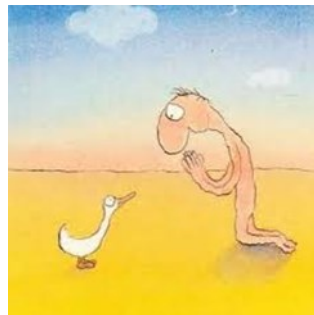
Absentee Number: 9758 8042

The Vine



## Principal's Report

### A Common Prayer by Michael Leunig



*Dear God,*

*We pray for another way of being, another way of knowing.  
Across the difficult terrain of our existence  
we have attempted to build a highway and in so doing have lost our footpath.*

*God lead us to our footpath.*

*Lead us there where in simplicity we may move at the speed of natural creatures  
and feel the earth's love beneath our feet.*

*Lead us there where step-by-step we may feel the movement of creation in our hearts.  
And lead us there where side-by-side we may feel the embrace of the common soul.*

*Nothing can be loved at speed.*

*God lead us to the slow path; to the joyous insights of the pilgrim;  
another way of knowing; another way of being. Amen*



Dear Parents and Caregivers

A huge thank you to everyone who came along to our ACM last night. Your attendance and support is greatly appreciated! It was a pleasure to share with you all the great things that have happened over the year and how we plan to continue to make our school the best for our students. I would like to thank our School Advisory Council for their ongoing commitment and support in ensuring decisions are always made in the best interests of the children in our school. Also thanks to Fiona Guise for her catering efforts and Nicolle Achmad for all her work in setting up and organising this meeting.

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Principal's Report .....continued from Page 1

I will include a reduced version of my Principal's report that was presented last night:

*The year began positively with our new Nature playground being unveiled. We welcomed 15 new families at the start of the year into our Tommy More community, with another 14 joining us over the course of the year.*

*Through the everyday teaching across the school, the staff try to implement our school vision - to inspire life-long learners who live their faith and contribute positively to our world. This fits with our Strategic Plan and School Improvement Plan and in 2022, many of the goals in these plans came to fruition. Staff were provided with opportunities to develop their faith and knowledge. A prayer garden was further developed to provide a sacred space for children to reflect along with an Aboriginal Sensory Garden. Aboriginal perspectives were more fully embedded into the everyday teaching across the classes and staff were assisted in developing a deeper understanding and appreciation of this. Our Early Childhood team continued to assess themselves against the National Quality Standards and make improvements to ensure the children in this area continue to be enriched through their learning experiences. A Sustainability committee was established and were successful in getting a grant through the Waste Sorted Schools initiative, which has allowed further resources and sustainability practices to be embedded into our school culture.*

*Continued focus on continuing to develop our Catholic Identity has seen students support a number of charities over the year. The relationship with the Parish has continued to grow, with Fr Mat an important part of our community and he has helped establish a real sense of school and parish working together for the benefit of all. A total of 43 of our students received a Sacrament over the course of the year.*

*The students at St Thomas More have been continued to be offered a wide range of opportunities to develop not only academically, but also spiritually, emotionally and physically. A priority in focusing on wellbeing with the support of our wonderful School Chaplain has assisted our students and families develop a range of skills to cope with the many challenges that are faced on a daily basis.*

*We were able to offer our Year 3-6 students the opportunity to participate in our Clubs program again this term and our support programs provide a Gifted and Talented program alongside a remedial program for students requiring support. We also offered a Peer Support program and camps for both our Year 5 and 6 students.*

*Our students were given the opportunity to represent their school at a number of functions, including our Year 6 leaders at the Grift Leadership day in Bunbury and both ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day ceremonies. They also competed against other schools in a variety of Interschool competitions, including AFL Football, Netball, Cross Country and Tennis.*

*Landscaping out the front of the school has enhanced the street appeal and helped our school become more visible to the community. Andy, our Groundsman, has worked tirelessly to ensure our grounds are well maintained and he continues to further develop and improve our grounds, including work in the Market Garden, Nature Playground and play areas.*

*I would like to genuinely thank our amazing P&F for all their hard work and achievements this year, particularly in the installation of the Nature Play area, which has been a massive hit with the children. Through their support, the P&F were able to provide many resources and opportunities for our school and I thank this parent body for the tireless work they do, with a lot of the work often relying on the same group of people. I truly appreciate your determination to persevere for the betterment of our school and to support our children with the best resources available. A special thanks to Kathryn Locke, Liz Dawson and Bethwyn Lewis who are all stepping down from the Executive after this year.*

*I would also like to also thank the Catholic School Advisory Council for their continued focus on doing what is in the best interests of St Thomas More. I would especially like to thank our Catholic School Advisory Council Chair – Joel Lawrance, for his time, energy and constant vigilance in ensuring the Advisory Council is doing everything in its power to provide the best school possible. A huge thank you to Kim Maguire and Gail Warren for their work on this council, as they will both be retiring from their positions at the end of the year.*

*An official farewell to Michael O'Brien who will be leaving us at the end of the year. Michael has been at St Thomas More for over 25 years creating a legacy that will live on for many years to come. He is well loved by the community and will be sadly missed. He has been a leader in this school community and can be relied upon to always help out where needed. I will certainly miss Michael as he always embodies the saying of St Mary MacKillop – never see a need without doing something about it. Which is fitting, as this is where he will be off to next year, teaching High School students in the Catholic faith. Thank you Mike and we wish you all the best in your future.*

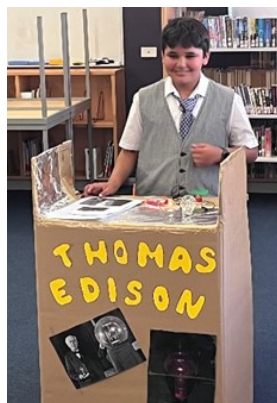
*Along with Nicolle and our amazing team of dedicated staff we thank you for this year and look forward to what is to come.*

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Principal's Report .....continued from Page 2

**Staffing 2023**

Principal	Russell Wylie
Acting Assistant Principal	Cameron McRae (Sem 1)
Acting Assistant Principal	Courtney Pisano (Sem 1)
Pre Kindy	Brittany Becker & Taryn Bradford
Kindy	Jennifer Morrison, Rachel Hassall & Renae Cummins
Pre Primary	Merridith Newman (M-W) & Danielle Noble (Th-F)
Year 1	Jessica Farano & Fiona Guise
Year 2	Jane Wolf (M-W) & Jemma Shoppee (Th-F)
Year 3	Marian Rowe & Melissa Browner
Year 4	Kristie Chapman (M-W) & Eliza Keet (Th-F)
Year 5	Thomas McDonald
Year 6	Courtney Pisano (M, W, F) & Sue Arthur (T, Th)
Support TA	Bianca Harding
School Chaplain	Laurissa Knowles
Students with a Disability Coordinator	Cameron McRae
Music	Michael Goodwin (M & W)
Physical Education	Cameron McRae (M & T)
Visual Art	Renee Pates (W-F)
Indonesian	Myfanwy Walley (T & W)
Library Aide	Rachel Hassall
Admin/Finance Officer	Karien Rollinger (T-Th) & Catherine Chilton (W, F)
Admin Assistant	Rita Willmott (M & Th)
Groundsman	Chris Luscombe (M-Th)

**Night of the Notables**

I was privileged to listen to some of our Gifted and Talented students present information about a notable person they had researched about. This person had inspired each of these students in some way and they found out many facts about their lives and how they made a difference to the lives of other. Well done to these students!

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Principal's Report .....continued from Page 3

### End of Year Events

There are a number of events coming up as we move towards the end of the year that I would like to make parents aware of:



**Volunteer Thankyou Morning Tea:** We invite all parents who have volunteered their time in some capacity over the course of the year to come along to a Thankyou Morning Tea at **9:30am 2<sup>nd</sup> December** in the library.

**Music Concert:** The Year 4 to 6 students will be performing a range of songs on **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November** commencing at **5:30pm** at the Margaret River HEART. All parents and family members are invited to come along and watch our amazing students showcase some of what they have learnt this year in Music.

**Whole School Thanksgiving Mass:** We will conclude our year with a Praise and Thanksgiving Mass on **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December** at **9:00am** in the church. We invite all families to come along and celebrate the end of the year with us at this Mass.

**Year 6 Graduation and Awards celebration:** We will farewell our Year 6 students and present the Year 1 to 5 Class Awards and the Year 6 awards on **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December** at 5:30pm. The Year 6 leaders for 2023 will also be recognised and presented with their badges. All families are invited to attend this Graduation and Awards evening.

**End of Year Excursion:** Our Pre-Primary to Year 5 students will come together and celebrate the end of the year with an excursion to the HEART to watch a movie, while our Year 6 students will head to the Rivermouth and go canoeing up the Margaret River. This will all take place on the last day of school 9<sup>th</sup> December.

I invite all families to come along to our Year 1 assembly tomorrow morning, commencing at 8:45am. Have a wonderful week ahead.

Peace and best wishes,

**RUSSELL WYLIE**  
**PRINCIPAL**

### St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal



There are many families in our community who are struggling to survive the increasing cost-of-living pressures this Christmas.

We are asking all students to bring in an item that can be placed into a hamper that will be presented to a family in our community by representatives of St Vincent de Paul at Christmas. We are encouraging all families to donate items to this worthy cause.

The pick-up day for the Christmas hamper will be on **Friday 2 December**, so please ensure all donations are brought into the classroom prior to this date.

Below is a hamper suggestion list that may be of help when organising donations.

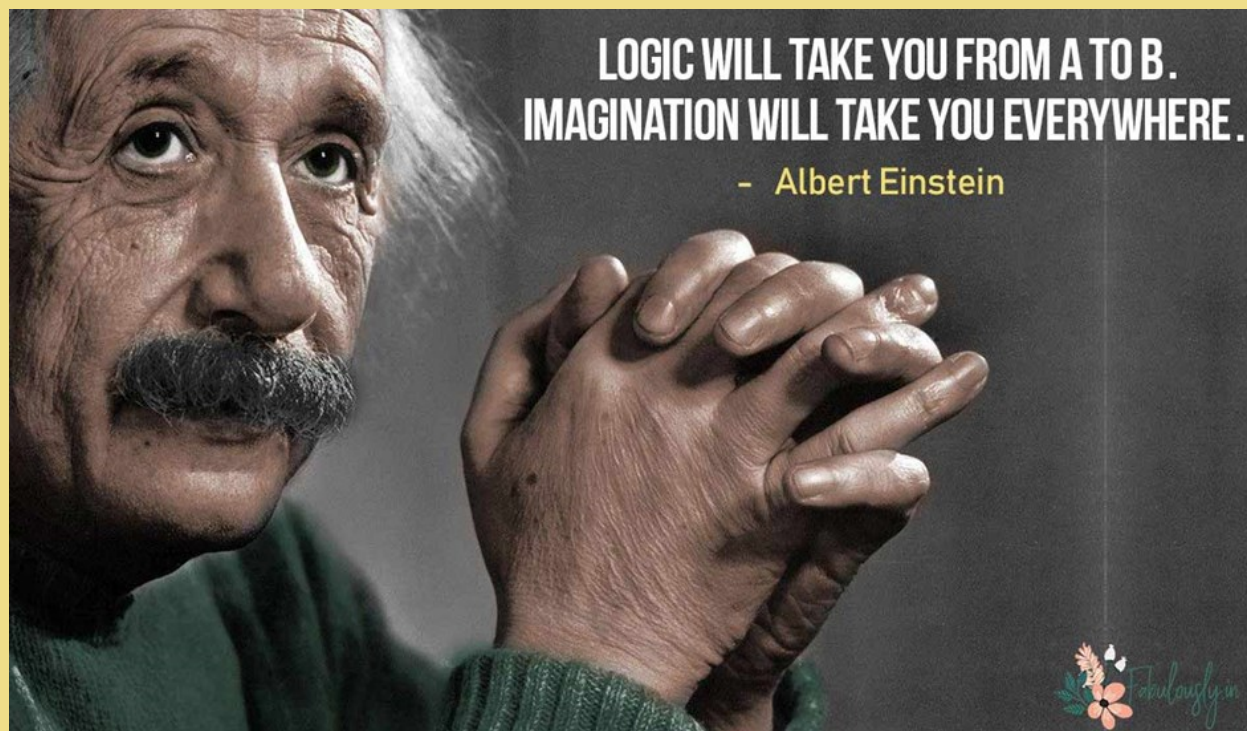
Christmas Pudding	Custard	Tinned Fruit
Bon Bons	Tea	Coffee
Milo	Long Life milk	Cereal
Dried fruit	Fruit Mince Pies	Sweet biscuits
Savoury biscuits	Candy Canes	Jelly
Jams	Long life juice	Christmas Cake
Christmas napkins	Christmas tablecloth	Pancake mix
Tinned vegetables	Confectionery	Muesli bars
Pasta	Pasta sauce	Vegemite
Soft drink	Cordial	

**Please ensure all items are in date and in good condition.**

**Please do not include any items which require refrigeration or may melt.**

Thank you for your kindness and support.

## Thought of the Week



# Congratulations!

## School Merit Award Winners

Term 4

Week 5

Pre-Primary	Willow Harding Scarlett O'Shaughnessy
Year 2	Indianna Keogh Jack Moke
Year 3	Alby Cooke Isla Roesner
Year 4	Leo Metcalfe
Year 5	Will Ryan
Year 6	Annaliese Wylie

**Friday November 18th**

8.45am Year 1 Assembly

**Tuesday November 22nd**

Year 4 Reconciliation

**Thursday November 24th**

Year 6 MacKillop College Orientation Day

**Friday November 25th**

8.45am Year 2 Assembly

**Monday 28th November**

5.30pm Music Concert at the HEART

## Important Dates

**St Thomas More Church****Lost Property****"Cup Cake Stands"**

There are three Cup Cake Stands that have been left in in the Church.  
If any of these belong to you, please call Father Mathew on 9757 9500.

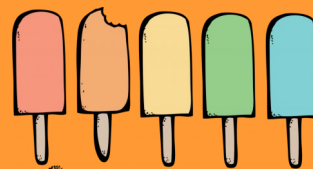
**UNIFORM SHOP OPEN HOURS - MONDAYS FROM 1.30 - 3.00PM**

Please email your Order Forms through to  
[rita.willmott@cewa.edu.au](mailto: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 website!

There is an easy online form that can be completed and it is directly emailed to the school. Too easy!

Visit our website <https://stmcp.s.wa.edu.au/> and go to the Communication tab to select Online Absentee.

**From the Music Room**

Hi everyone,

Just a reminder that our Music Concert is on **Monday 28th of November** at the HEART starting at 5:30pm sharp. The bands are sounding great and the children are very excited to show you what they have been working on.

I have also been thinking about next year and would very much like to incorporate more piano and keyboard lessons into our daily music activities. With this in mind I will be looking to increase the number of keyboards that we have in the Music Room.

If anyone has a portable keyboard going unused in the family or extended family, we'd love it to be donated to (invested in) our young musicians at Tommy More. Bear in mind that almost all our kids have some experience with piano and may make use of a keyboard at home. So perhaps looking further afield to friends or family is best.

If you think you may be able to help please contact me through the school.

See you at the concert.

Mr Goodwin



***Give what you can, receive what you need.***

The Margaret River Community Pantry Inc is a not-for-profit committed to improving food security and reducing food waste in our local community.

We accept **donations** of fresh and dry goods **every THURSDAY 3.00 to 5.00pm.**

We **re-distribute** all food received to those who need it every **FRIDAY at our Pantry Day 10.00am to 1.00pm.**

Many people experience food insecurity throughout different times in their life.

***If you need a little help putting food on the table, please visit us on Friday Pantry Day 10.00am to 1.00pm. Everyone is welcome.***

A suggested donation of \$10.00 gives you a bag full of food – typically containing carrots, onions, potatoes, rice or pasta, fruit, veg, beans, bread, and an assortment of other food donated to us by supermarkets and small businesses. We also regularly receive eggs, meat, and fresh seasonal fruit and veg.



41 Clark Road  
Margaret River



5PM - 6.30PM  
November 17, 2022  
Margaret River  
Primary School

# Parents Workshop

Facilitated by Happiness Co & Core of Wellbeing

Struggling with parent guilt?

Feeling overwhelmed with life?

Worried about your child transitioning to high school?

Not sure how to best support your children?

*If you answered yes, this workshop is for you.*



Register Here

With 3 expert speakers, this workshop is designed to help you increase your self-awareness, manage stress, and improve your parenting skills.

We will provide you with practical tools and strategies to help you;

- Connect and build stronger relationships with your children
- Support your children through the transition to high school
- Manage parent guilt and self-expectations

Help your children build self-esteem , confidence and more



Happiness Co

happiness.org | @happiness\_\_co  
coreofwellbeing.com.au | @coreofwellbeing



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