

4th July 2019

Issue 20

St Thomas More Catholic Primary School



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The Vine



Principal's Report

A Winter Blessing

Blessed are you, winter, dark season of waiting, you affirm the dark seasons of our lives, forecasting the weather of waiting in hope.

Blessed are you, winter, you faithfully guard a life unseen, calling those who listen deeply to discover winter rest.

Blessed are you, winter, frozen and cold on the outside, within your silent, nurturing womb you warmly welcome all that longs for renewal.

Blessed are you, winter, your bleak, barren trees preach wordless sermons about emptiness and solitude.

Blessed are you, winter, you teach us valuable lessons about waiting in darkness with hope and trust.

Blessed are you, winter, season of blood red sunsets and star-filled, long, dark nights, faithfully you pour out your beauty.

Blessed are you, winter, when your tiny snowflakes flurry through the air, You awaken our sleeping souls.

Blessed are you, winter, with your wild and varied moods, So intent on being yourself, you refuse to be a people-pleaser.

Blessed are you, winter, when storms crush our hearts and homes, You call forth the good in us as we rush to help one another.

Blessed are you, winter, your inconsistent moods often challenge Spring's arrival, yet how gracefully you step aside when her time has come.

Author: Joyce Rupp from The Circle of Life



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

It is difficult to comprehend that we are now halfway through the year and our children have already received another semester of quality education. When I reflect on all that we have achieved over the last six months, it inspires me to know that there are so many fantastic learning opportunities being provided for our students. Sporting, musical, gardening, technology and leadership opportunities are just a few of the different programs our students have access to, helping to create life-long learners who live their faith and contribute positively to our world. I look forward to seeing just what can be achieved in the second half of the year!

Mid-Year Academic Reports

To really see just how your children are progressing, yesterday the mid-year academic reports were sent home. I would encourage all our parents and carers to make time over the next two weeks to not only read your child's report, but equally important to sit down with them and have a conversation about their report. This presents a valuable opportunity to discuss with them how they felt they went, what they did well in, where they improved and most importantly what areas are they aiming to improve in next semester?

As your children grow, mature and get older, it is important they develop the habit of reflecting upon their own performance and then looking forward, setting themselves goals for the following term, semester or year. Goal setting is an important skill and habit we must encourage our children to develop. When we have a goal to aim for then we can more readily focus our energy and time to achieving it.

Should you have any queries relating to your child's report, please feel free to make an appointment with your child's teacher.

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Year 6 Market Stalls

The Year 6 students were busily serving the students their wares today at recess time, trying to implement their in-class Business ideas and make some money. The students were excited to taste all varieties of food and drinks, including milkshakes, rocky-road, meringues, brownies, popcorn, fairy floss and cupcakes. This valuable learning experience for our Year 6 students really showed them the realities of running a business and all that is involved in setting it up and making it viable. Thanks to all the families who supported this.

**St Thomas More Feast Day**

Tomorrow, we will be celebrating the Feast Day of St Thomas More. Traditionally celebrated on 22nd June, we decided to hold off until the last day of the term. The day will begin with a Whole School Mass and then the children will be placed into groups to complete a number of fun activities over the course of the day. Our amazing P&F are kindly providing a Sausage Sizzle lunch for the children. We will also allow the children to dress in casual clothing for the day.

Connected App

A reminder to families to download our school app, Connected. The password is Wisdom 6285. On this app, parents can easily complete an online absentee form, meaning you don't have to call the school and we don't have to chase parents up for a note. It's really that simple! On this app, parents can also access other important information including our school newsletter, school dates, canteen menus and class information.

School Holidays

Australian families are increasingly time-strapped. The busyness of life can make it difficult for adults and children to participate in enjoyable activities or just to 'hang out' as a family. Do you engage regularly in activities that involve play and laughter or are all your interactions with children of a managerial nature? School holidays offer families a chance to unwind away from the normal routines. They also provide the window of opportunity for parents to spend some enjoyable time with children. There are many theories about promoting healthy parent-child relationships and strengthening families; however, it's easy to overlook a simple, cheap way of forming family relationships – spending enjoyable time together. Family researcher, John DeFrain, has found that the happiest childhood memories that adults hold have two common threads. First, childhood happiness always centres on activities experienced together as a family. Second, the most pleasurable childhood times almost always centre on simple, inexpensive activities. During the holidays do something fun and enjoyable with your children. It doesn't have to be expensive, but it should be something different, something fun and something that involves laughter and play. Money can't buy happiness, but loving family relationships can create it.

Holiday ideas to do with children and young people:

1. Ask children about their favourite activity and take your cues from them.
2. Take older children on a date – one-on-one.
3. Plan an outing in advance.
4. Start and finish reading a novel to older children in the holidays.
5. Have a screen-free day.
6. Join the kids in playing board games, listen to or play music, share a book or swap stories. Make the alternative activities so good that the kids look forward to the games.

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End of Term Two

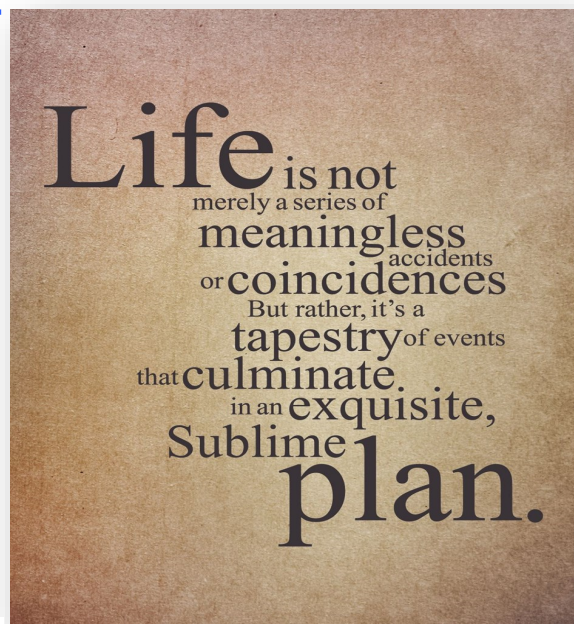
From all of the staff of St Thomas More, we wish you and your family a safe and enjoyable two-week holiday. Enjoy the additional time with your children, travel safely and we look forward to your return in Term 3. Monday, 22 July is a pupil free day as the St Thomas More staff will be attending a professional development day led by Fr Tony Chiera. This day will enable staff to develop their faith and their understanding of the values of Catholicism and 'Faith', so that we are better equipped to pass on the teachings of the Church to our students.

Students will return to school on **Tuesday 23rd July**.

Peace and best wishes,

RUSSELL WYLIE
PRINCIPAL

Thought of the Week



School Merit Award Winners Term 2 - Week 9

Pre-Primary:	Logan Morrison
Year 1:	Maurice Samantila
Year 2:	Neve Fox
Year 3:	Isabella Malsonado Quintero
Year 4:	Lenox Hayward
Year 6:	Madison Russell
Music:	Paige Wibberley

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



Congratulations!



Friday 5th July

St Thomas More Feast Day - Fun Day - Free Dress Day
9.00am Whole School Mass

LAST DAY OF TERM

Tuesday 23rd July

TERM 3 COMMENCES

Important Dates

Parish News

Masses

St Thomas More Catholic Church, Margaret River

- Saturday 6.00pm
- Sunday 10.00am

Lumen Christi Catholic Church, Augusta

- Sunday 8.00am



Organise
a Team
6-8 per table



ST THOMAS MORE

Join in the fun & games at the
2019 Trivia Night... and after
the quiz, hit the dance floor
with the Mike Goodwin Band!



Need more info?
Jen - 0406 931 044 jmurphy@isp.net.au

3rd Annual Tommy More

TOTALLY AWESOME 80s TRIVIA NIGHT

Saturday 24 August 2019
6pm arrival – Quiz begins at 7pm sharp!
Margaret River Footy Club
BYO Dinner - bar available @ cheap club prices

\$30 per head - Organise a team - 8 per table
Tickets on-line: www.trybooking.com/508534



Choices Flooring

The floor you've been searching for

Kim Nisbet Choices Flooring is proudly celebrating 21 years in business servicing and supporting the South West Community.

In celebration of this wonderful milestone we are having a sale finishing on 12 July offering many wonderful discounts and special offers.

We would like to offer the families within your school community a 10% discount on any full priced products not already included in the sale.

Please contact the store on 9758 8348 or visit us at 30 Station Road.

The school has a dedicated line for absence notification.

This number is 9758 8042.

The line will not be answered, please leave a message of the child's name and class.



entertainment

School Holidays? Sorted!

Keep the kids happy with these offers

Help support
St Thomas More Catholic Primary School
and save a bundle in the process

Enjoy thousands of offers for everything you love to do

2-for-1 offers, special rates and up to 50% off on activities, dining, shopping, travel and leisure.



Clancy's Fish and

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red rooster.
It's gotta be red



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