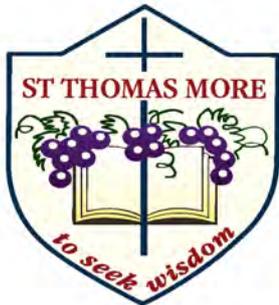


8th August 2019

Issue 23

# St Thomas More Catholic Primary School



## Principal's Report



*O God, source of all goodness,  
who have shown us in Saint Mary  
a woman of faith living by the power of the Cross,  
teach us, we pray, by her example  
to live the Gospel in changing times  
and to respect and defend  
the human dignity of all in our land.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen*

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www.stmcpws.com

Absentee Number: 9758 8042

# The Vine



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

### Leaders' Forum

Last Monday, Mrs Achmad and I attended the Leaders' Forum day held at the Perth Exhibition and Convention Centre. Gathered at this day were all leaders from Catholic schools from the Perth, Geraldton, Broome and Bunbury dioceses. We were further informed about the Plenary Council 2020, which will be the first Plenary Council the Catholic Church has held in Australia for more than 80 years. This Plenary Council will listen to opinions about the future of the Catholic Church in Australia and gives us the opportunity to dialogue, discern with one another and, guided by the Holy Spirit, think about the future, the role and relevance of the Catholic Church in Australia. The question, "What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?" has been posed and we were all asked to respond. We were given some of the feedback to this question and provided the opportunity to discuss these responses. Later in the day, we were presented with the CECWA Strategic Directions 2019-2021. This gave leaders an opportunity to comment on the future direction of Catholic Education in Western Australia and how best we can work to continue to meet the needs of our students and families.

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

### School Climate Survey

This year, we are participating in a system-wide school climate survey. The information provided through the results of this survey will assist us to ensure we are meeting the needs of the community we serve. The students, school staff and parents will all be given the opportunity to complete a short survey to find out more about how things are going for them at St Thomas More. I invite all parents and caregivers to complete this short online survey to give us your thoughts. The survey is completely anonymous. We strongly value the feedback received and will use it towards our future planning. The survey can be accessed through the website: [www.NSIPartnerships.com.au](http://www.NSIPartnerships.com.au) and use the code **STM19P**. Go to the Login tab and click on START QUESTIONNAIRE. I thank you in advance for taking the time to complete this.

### The Bishops' Religious Literacy Assessment

Students in Year 3 and Year 5 will be taking part in The Bishops' Religious Literacy Assessment (BRLA) this week. The purpose of the BRLA is to measure student learning of the content in the Religious Education curriculum. The assessment will be accessible to students online with Year 5 completing the assessment today and Year 3 tomorrow.

### Family Holidays

It has been brought to my attention that our overall school attendance level is below 90%, which unfortunately is not ideal. Through further investigation, it appears this is due to many families taking extended holidays during school terms. I understand that cheaper airfares or accommodation is available during school time, but I would ask that parents consider using school holiday time for family vacations.



### St Thomas More Spring Fair

Our Spring Fair is rapidly approaching and the Fair Committee is working hard to make sure everything runs smoothly on the day. They are still requiring donations for the Chocolate Raffle from local businesses and other prizes, such as Surprise Jars. They would also like some donations of plants. Parents are asked to volunteer on the rosters to help out on the day. Please see your Class Representative or teacher to see how you can help. The fair will be held on Saturday 26 October from 10.00am – 2.00pm.

### Absentees

A reminder to parents that there is a simple way to let us know your child is sick, 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 **Wisdom19**) or visit our website <https://stmcps.wa.edu.au/> and go to the Communication tab to select Online Absentee.



### Pink Up Our School

Tomorrow, we are 'Pinking Up Our School' to join in with our community in raising money and awareness for breast cancer and the McGrath Foundation. We encourage students to wear pink and bring in a gold coin donation. Pink Up Your Region concludes on 11 August.

I wish everyone a wonderful week ahead.

Peace and best wishes,

**RUSSELL WYLIE**  
PRINCIPAL

### **Friday 9th August**

8.45am Merit Assembly

### **Thursday 15th August**

9.00am Assumption of Mary  
Whole School Mass led by Year 3

*Important Dates*

## Assistant Principal News

The Year 4 class led us in a beautiful celebration this morning for the feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop was born Mary MacKillop in Melbourne in 1842 and died in Sydney on 8 August 1909. Together with Fr Tenison Woods, she founded the Sisters of St Joseph to provide education throughout Australia and New Zealand. She was canonised as the first Australian saint by the Catholic Church on 17 October 2010.

Our school was founded by the Sisters of St Joseph in 1950 and we believe that the 'charism' – a word meaning 'gifts of the Holy Spirit' - of the Josephites being, 'To never see a need without doing something about it', propel us in our mission to carry out Jesus' mission at our school. This term, our value focus of RESPECT – respect for ourselves, respect for others and respect for property ties in well to our charism. We are focusing on respecting each and every person, to care for people who are in any kind of need, to get in and do all we can to help others and to let God's love for every person be our guide in every challenge.

Tomorrow we will be dressing in pink for 'Pink up our Region' and raising money for the McGrath Foundation. We feel this is important to support a charity close to the hearts of our community members and one that raises much needed money for cancer. We thank parents and caregivers for encouraging their children to come to school dressed in pink to support this fundraiser.

### Whole School Mass

We will be having a whole school Mass in the church for the Assumption of Mary, followed by an installation of the statue of Mary in the Grotto next Thursday 15 August at 9.00am. This Mass will be led by our Year 3 students. All parents and families are invited and welcome to attend.

Have a wonderful week ahead.

Best wishes,

**NICOLLE AHMAD**

**ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL**



The School Canteen is open on Fridays  
at Lunchtimes selling Icy Poles.  
All items are \$1.00

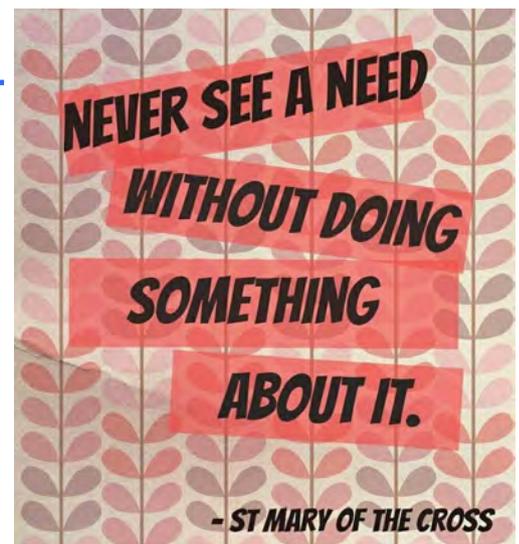
### Hot Chocolates and Choc Chip Cookies

Hot Chocolates are available each Tuesday Recess

\$3.00 which includes a Choc Chip Cookie.

Children are reminded to provide their own Keep Cup with their name and year written on it.

### Thought of the Week



## Congratulations!

### School Merit Award Winners Term 3 - Week 2

Pre-Primary	Estela Robins
Year 1	Zaneveer Singh Arora
Year 2	West O'Brien
Year 3	Morgan Bell
Year 4	Paris Lowe
Year 5	Neve Lentjes
Year 6	Remy Hick



**Parish News****Masses****St Thomas More Catholic Church, Margaret River**

- Saturday 6.00pm
- Sunday 10.00am

**Lumen Christi Catholic Church, Augusta**

- Sunday 8.00am

**RCIA**

The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) is a faith journey for people wishing to become Catholic. Their journey is supported by the Parish RCIA Team whose faith too is deepened by sharing in how Gospel lessons pertain to today. There are set Catechumenal questions to ponder, discussions to have and reflections for ongoing consideration. The program also includes the history of the Catholic church as well as the history and laity service in our own parish.

If you know someone who wishes to become Catholic,  
or someone who is interested in the Catholic Church,  
please chat to Father Mat

or contact the RCIA Co-ordinator, Pam Tuffin by email: [pamtuffin@yahoo.com](mailto:pamtuffin@yahoo.com)

Organise  
a Team  
6-8 per table

3<sup>rd</sup> 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](http://www.trybooking.com/508534)




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@jsp.net.au](mailto:jmurphy@jsp.net.au)





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.



Department of  
Education

## VACSWIM OCTOBER 2019

Enrol your children in  
swimming lessons during the  
October school holidays.

Choose from two programs:

### 9 Days

1 – 11 October

40 minute lessons

Prices:

\$30 per child / \$20 concession  
\$81 for a family of three or more /  
\$54 concession  
(plus pool entry).

**Enrolments close 25 August.**

### 5 Days

7 – 11 October

35 minute lessons

Prices:

\$16 per child / \$10.50 concession  
\$41 for a family of three or more /  
\$27.50 concession  
(plus pool entry).

**Enrolments close 1 September.**

**Enrol now**

Visit [education.wa.edu.au/swimming](http://education.wa.edu.au/swimming) or call 9402 6412.