

24th October 2019

Issue 32

St Thomas More Catholic Primary School



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The Vine



Principal's Report

World Teacher's Day Prayer

*Giver of all wisdom and greatest of all teachers,
Look upon our teachers with love
Grant them the resolve to nurture our eager minds
and to never give up on us who fall behind.
Bless their hearts for they rejoice
when we succeed and encourage us when we fail
And bless them with gentle patience
for the path of learning is never easy
Kindle a spirit and passion in them
it is the flame that ignites the love of learning in us
Help them see the potential in each student
Their belief in us means much more than the grade we make
Instill in them a commitment to keep on learning
It shows us to not fear new knowledge and experiences
Inspire them to touch the future
They influence how big a dream we dream for ourselves
Bless our teachers who have come before
For their work endures to this day
Let the light of your example shine upon all teachers
To build up with their words
To love with their mind
To share with their heart. Amen*



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Spring Fair

Hopefully you have all blocked your diaries out for Saturday between 10:00am and 2:00pm? We look forward to seeing many of our families, parishioners and community members coming along to support our Spring Fair. The Fair committee and P&F have been working tirelessly to ensure our fair is successful in not only raising some money for our school but in promoting a sense of community within the Margaret River area, all the while showcasing our school. A special thanks to Mrs Catherine Chilton and the Fair committee for all their hard work. Remember to tell your friends or people you bump into on the street to come along. We look forward to a fantastic event this Saturday!

Continued over

.....Principal's Report continued

Indonesian Cultural Incursion

Yesterday the children were fortunate enough to be part of an Indonesian Cultural performance by Suara Indonesia Dance Group, organised by Ibu Walley. The children learnt some new phrases and words in Indonesian and participated in singing some songs and playing of musical instruments. This very engaging performance really enhanced our Indonesian program, and the children thoroughly enjoyed the performance.



Constable Care Incursion

In order to further develop the student's understanding of Protective Behaviour and staying safe – online and outdoors, we were lucky to have a Constable Care theatre in-education performance visit our school today. This free incursion assists children in thinking about how to stay safe, what is 'fun-scary' and 'bad-scary', and being aware when online.

We Have Chickens!

Thanks to some hard work from some very dedicated parents and our own Mrs Wolf, we now have 6 chickens in our Chicken Coop. The students are very excited to start caring for our chickens, with our food scraps being used to feed them and some volunteer Year 5 and 6 students assisting in ensuring their coop remains clean. A huge thank you to Mrs Wolf and the wonderful parent helpers who helped make this possible. I look forward to tasting one of their eggs!



Technology Tips for Parents

As parents we're often concerned about the connections children and young people are making and the subsequent impact on their wellbeing. The time they spend online, scrolling, searching and swiping which could be spent doing outdoor activities is also concerning. As we implement a BYOD 1:1 iPad program from Year 3 next year, it's imperative to look at how children can remain in control of their screen use, and ensure the time they're investing online is adding something helpful, positive and meaningful to our lives.

Parents should:

1. **Encourage creation not just consumption** - Check to see if they spend time online time in creative mode such as making things, creating own videos, editing photos, writing posts, coding a video game or composing a song. Encourage them to be creative rather than mere consumers of digital content.
2. **Digitally de-clutter regularly** - Many kids collect apps on their devices. Encourage them to delete the apps they no longer use or apps that offer no benefits to their lives. Could there be better games to play? Are there better videos for them to watch than the ones that the YouTube algorithm believes they want to see?

Continued over

.....Principal's Report continued

3. Show kids good practises

Most kids learn much more from what they see and experience, rather than from what they are told. As a parent be intentional with your screen time. Do you:

- Follow people that support you, challenge you in helpful ways or inspire and lift you up?
- Interact in positive ways?
- Give people your attention rather than scroll whilst others are talking to you?
- Put your digital devices away in order to fit all the other important things into your day?

Setting your kids up with healthy digital habits will help make these practises the norm. If you don't want your children falling prey to the harmful and unhelpful experiences online, you need to be sure that they are focusing on positive and helpful screen time pursuits.

From: Creating healthy digital habits in your child by Marine Oglethorpe

A reminder to Year 2 and 3 families, that the students will need to bring their own device to school next year, so you may want to start thinking about this now.

Kindy Enrolments

We are currently accepting applications for Kindy next year. If you, or someone you know has a child who should be enrolling in Kindy for 2020, please download an application form from our website; www.stmcps.wa.edu.au or contact the office on 9757 3544.

I wish everyone a wonderful week ahead.

Peace and best wishes,

RUSSELL WYLIE
PRINCIPAL



School Merit Award Winners Term 4 - Week 1

| | |
|-------------|---------------|
| Pre-Primary | Ted Chilton |
| Year 4 | Cooper Kenyon |
| Year 6 | Aria Seisun |

Friday 25th October

World Teacher's Day

8.45am Year 4 Assembly



Saturday 26th October

10.00am - 2.00pm Spring Fete

Monday 28th October

Swimming Lessons commence

7.00pm P&F Meeting

Important Dates

Assistant Principal News

Swimming Program

Children in Pre-Primary to Year 6 will be involved in a swimming program over the next two weeks, commencing on **Monday 28 October** and concluding on **Friday 8 November**. The children are to wear their bathers underneath their school uniform. Proper school shoes must be worn. Thongs must not be worn to school. They will walk across the road to the Recreation Centre and can bring a t-shirt, sundress or dressing gown and thongs to wear as they cross the road. Children need to bring goggles, a towel and underwear in a separate bag each day. They can choose to bring a swimming cap and earplugs if they like. After their lessons, they will briefly shower in the outdoor shower to wash off the chlorine and then get changed back at school. Please fill in the form that was sent home last week with your child's swimming level on it and return it to school as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

| Start Time | Finish Time | Year Level |
|------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 9.00am | 9.40am | Pre-Primary |
| 9.50am | 10.30am | Year 1 & Year 2 |
| 10.50am | 11.30am | Year 3 |
| 11.40am | 12.20pm | Year 4 |
| 1.00pm | 1.40pm | Year 5 |
| 1.50pm | 2.30pm | Year 6 |

World Teacher's Day

World Teacher's Day is celebrated in Australia on **Friday 25 October**. It is an opportunity for everyone to recognise and appreciate teachers and other staff members at our school and the important role they play in shaping your child. We are so grateful to Mrs Jen Murphy for coordinating a delicious lunch for our teachers and staff tomorrow. Thank you so much parents for volunteering to cook lunch for us. We look forward to celebrating the role teachers and staff play within our school.

Margaret River Agriculture Show

Congratulations to Ms Flic Pascoe on the outstanding display of artwork at the Margaret River Agriculture Show on the weekend. The student's work was first-class and displayed a high level of skill and technique. I have no doubt the students enjoyed seeing their hard-work on display and parents, family and friends enjoyed celebrating this hard-work with their child. Congratulations to all involved.

Have a wonderful week ahead.

Best wishes,

NICOLLE ACHMAD
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

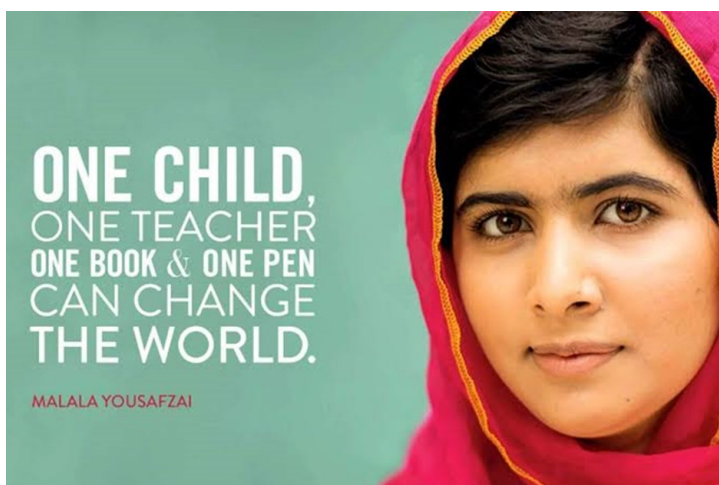
Absentees



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 **Wisdom19**) or visit our website <https://stmcps.wa.edu.au/> and go to the Communication tab to select Online Absentee.

Thought of the Week





Enrol now for **VacSwim** summer holiday swimming lessons!

With swimming pools and beaches a big part of the Western Australian lifestyle, it's essential that your children learn how to swim and stay safe in the water.

VacSwim is for all children - from beginners to more advanced swimmers. Your children can start as young as five years old.

There are over 180 VacSwim locations around Western Australia, so wherever your family is spending these summer holidays, there will be lessons near you.

Enrol your children in VacSwim now at education.wa.edu.au/swimming.

Book Chat Club



Calling all book lovers ages 10 and over!

The Margaret River Bookshop and Shire of Augusta Margaret River Library Service are partnering to start a Book Chat Club.



What is a Book Chat?

A group for people aged 10 –14 who are enthusiastic about books. Each month we will chat about what we have read and give reviews and recommendations for other members of the club.

There will be prizes for best review of the month and even free snacks provided for the session.

The session will be facilitated by either a bookshop staff member or Librarian to assist in great book discussions.

Dates, time and location

4.30pm–5.30pm
Margaret River Library
Last Monday of the month

28 October
25 November



Spikezone Clinics are run by fully accredited Volleyball WA coaches.

The aim of Spikezone clinics are to help kids become more active and get involved in a fun team sport.

DATE: MONDAY October 28 - 4 weeks - \$50.00

TIME: 4.00 - 5.00pm

LOCATION: St Thomas More Catholic Primary School, Wallcliffe Road in the Undercover area and oval.

WHO: Year groups 3 - 6

For more information, please contact the Regional Development Coordinator on peelsouthwest@volleyballwa.com.au or 0409 770 667



Does your child LOVE music?

Every child is musical. Start their journey today.

Kindermusik Classes

10 months to 5 years

Piano Lessons 5 years +

GROW Music Studio BOOK AN INTRODUCTORY CLASS

Susan: 0408 949 616
growmusicstudio.com.au/margaretriver