To All In Our Learning Community,

Welcome back to our 2017 school year. Congratulations to our Foundation children and families who settled in so well on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Thank you to our Year 1 to Year 6 children who began well revisiting learning routines and some of our agreed ways of living and learning at Mother Teresa PS. The Year 5/6 children took possession of their new learning space and posed wonderings about their new flexible learning space. They also had the opportunity to engage with Kath Murdoch on Thursday exploring iTiMe.

Each year our learning community had a focus for exploring 21st century learning, within a faith based context. Each foci builds on the previous adding to our growing understandings about lifelong learning and the dispositions and assets required to be a lifelong learner. In 2017 we will explore: Learning through Dialogue. As a Community of Inquiry and a Culture of Thinking our learning is enhanced through our dialogue with others. Dialogue enables us to deepen understanding about ourselves and others. Throughout 2017 there will be many learning opportunities provided for learners to consider their wonderings and discoveries, to form and voice their opinions, to be challenged to justify and support their views and to be affirmed in their attempts and successes in gaining new understandings.

The success of our endeavours however has as its core the partnership between children, parents and school staff. Together we can make a difference to the learning of all in our community. I invite parents to take up the opportunities that are available to you so that you can be as much a part of our learning community as you can.

To ensure you are kept up to date with school happenings our newsletter is distributed each Monday via email, Skoolbag App. and also on our school webpage. You are strongly encouraged to read it each week so that you are continually informed about school events. Today’s newsletter contains lots of important information including coming school events and important aspects of school organisation.

I look forward to seeing you all at our Family BBQ and sports night to celebrate Proud Race day and the beginning of our school year this coming Friday between 5.00 – 8pm.

Kind regards

Chris

This Week’s Happenings

Monday 6th February
Specialist lessons begin

Tuesday 7th February
Professional Learning ~ Diabetes Management

Wednesday 8th February
Professional Learning ~ Flexible Learning Spaces
Foundation children ~ Rest Day

Thursday 9th February

Friday 10th February
Family BBQ and Sports Night 5.00pm – 8pm
Thank you ~ to all staff
Thank you to all staff for their preparations for the beginning of the school year. A number of weeks prior to our start many staff returned to prepare for the beginning of our school year. Mr Trethowan’s presence at the school over the holidays is evident by the maintenance of the grounds alongside all the building works that occurred over the summer break.

Family BBQ and Sports Night - Friday 10th February 2017
To celebrate the beginning of our 2017 school year and an acknowledgement of the original custodians on Proud Race day we are holding a Family BBQ and Sports Night this Friday 10th February 2017 from 5pm – 8pm. This is a wonderful opportunity for families to meet each other and for the children to engage in a fun sports evening. Please return the reply slip attached to the note forwarded last Friday with the number of people from your family who will be attending, if you have not already done so. Choc Top Ice Creams in Vanilla and Chocolate for $2.50 each as well as Super Doopers for $1.00 each will be available on the night.

Parent Child Teacher Chats 2017
All children Foundation to Year 6 will be dismissed at 1.00pm next Monday 13th February 2017 when the Foundation – Year 6 Parent Child Teachers chats will take place. The online system is now open for bookings. Please refer to the online booking sheet forwarded to you today.

Student Levy & Family Fee

Student Levy Payments 2017
The Student Levy of $275 will now be invoiced to families for Term 1 2017 and payable by Friday 10th February 2017. This levy is per student.

School Fee 2017
Our family school fee in 2017 is $1,260. This fee is broken into three accounts: Term One $420, Term Two $420 and Term 3 $420.

<table>
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<th>Term</th>
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<td>$420</td>
<td></td>
<td>3rd March 2017</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Payable by</td>
<td>17th March 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term Two</td>
<td>$420</td>
<td>Accounts forwarded</td>
<td>12th May 2017</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Payable by</td>
<td>26th May 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term Three</td>
<td>$420</td>
<td>Accounts forwarded</td>
<td>11th August 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Payable by</td>
<td>25th August 2017</td>
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</tbody>
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Payment Arrangements
If you wish be pay via instalments and/or direct debit please see Mrs Nehme to arrange this.

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) Application
Parent CSEF applications close on 30th June 2017. To be eligible you must:
  a) Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be the holder of a Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder, OR
  b) Be a temporary foster parent, and
  c) Submit an application to the school by the due date.
Application forms are available at the school office.

Our School Day
Please take note of our daily school routine and ensure your children are on time for school each day.
School begins at 8.50am.
8.30 am School supervision begins and children are able to enter their Learning Spaces. Contact teachers will be in the Learning Spaces at 8.30am.
If parents wish to speak to a staff member about specific issues related to their child please make a time to do this. It is not appropriate to do this at the 8.30am time as other children and parents will be around the Learning Spaces.

8.50am  Learning begins. Whole school prayer occurs in Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings in the Multipurpose learning space. –All Welcome
10.00am  Brain food
11.00am - 11.05am  Supervised eating time
11.05am – 11.25am  Recess
1.30pm - 1.40pm  Supervised eating time
1.40pm - 2.25pm  Lunch
3.30pm  Dismissal

**School Starting Time and Supervision ~ Be On Time**
School begins each day at 8.50am. Children and families are able to enter the learning spaces at 8.30am **NOT before 8.30am**. While staff are at school prior to this time they are engaged in preparation for the day and are not able to supervise children prior to this time. Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated and required.

**Safety and Emergency Management ~ practise drills**
The safety of our child and staff in our learning community is our top priority. During the week your child will engage in a number of emergency drills to ensure our processes and procedures are understood and easily implemented by all in our community. These drills will provide opportunities to practice evacuation and lock down.
Should our school be locked down or evacuated you will be notified via Skoolbag App as soon as this is possible, and kept updated should this be necessary.

**External School Gates ~ locked**
The external school gates in Troward Harvey Way, Olrig Grove and the two in Windrock Avenue are open in the morning and afternoon for parents and children to access the school. At 9.15am all gates except for the main gate in Windrock Avenue are locked. All parents and visitors are required to enter the school via the main gate and report to reception during school hours. The gates will be opened at the end of the day for afterschool pick up. Gates are locked for the safety of our children and staff.

**Ash Wednesday Mass ~ Wednesday 1st March 9.15am**
On Wednesday 1st March we will participate in Ash Wednesday Mass. Mass will take place in the central Year F – 2 learning space. All welcome.

**Parent Helpers**
If you are able to assist in any learning within our learning community please let us know. We are currently looking for parent helpers to assist in the following areas:
- Foundation – Year 2 literacy or numeracy see Mrs Amy Leahy.
- Yr. 3 – 6 see Mrs Watson
- Sustainability learning see Mrs Samantha Wickramasinghe
- Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden – Wednesday and/or Thursday see Ms Gasbarro or Mrs Sabato.
All parent helpers require a Working with Children Check. Unfortunately toddlers cannot be accommodated.

**Label, Label, Label**
Parents are asked to ensure all of your child’s belongings are labelled including lunch boxes, drink bottles and clothing. Labelling items means that they can be returned to their rightful owner.
**Anaphylaxis**
A number of children in our Learning community suffer from food allergies. A small number are anaphylactic. Ingesting foods such as nuts, eggs and milk can cause a life threatening reaction. We ask that sandwich spreads such as Peanut Butter and Nutella are **not sent in lunches**, as these can be very sticky and remain on furniture and door handles. Your support of this request is appreciated and shows our care and support of all children and families in our community.

**Medical Conditions**
It is important that we are aware of children who have particular medical conditions. If your child does have a medical condition please notify the school immediately if you have not already done so. Medical Action Plans are required to ensure the correct care can be administered in the case of a reaction or emergency. This includes Anaphylaxis, Asthma and Diabetic Action Plans.

**Items to bring from home**
Please note that all children are requested to bring the following items from home.

- 2 boxes of Tissues
- Art Smock
- Book Bag
- Earbud Headphones

It is particularly important that all children F – Year 6 bring an art smock as paint, clay and ink are often used in Visual Arts and Japanese Calligraphy learning.

**Staff Acknowledgement Mass ~ Sunday 19th March at 11.00am**
The staff of Mother Teresa Catholic Primary School will be commissioned at 11.00am Mass at Our Lady’s church on Sunday March 19th at 11.00am. We would be delighted to see the whole school community join with us on this day as the staff are acknowledged for their role in the mission of the church and commissioned to continue the work of Catholic Education. All Parish Primary Schools in our parish will be commissioned at this Mass.

If your family does not regularly attend Mass this might be an occasion to join the Mother Teresa School staff and provide an opportunity for your child/ren to experience this celebration of the Catholic faith.

**Foundation Children Rest Days**
The Foundation children have the following as rest days

Wednesday 8th February 2017
Wednesday 15th February 2017

Please note with your child’s contact teacher when your child is required to come for Learning Assessment if you have misplaced your letter with the time allocated. This assessment is a general assessment to assist in determining starting points for literacy and numeracy for each child.

**School Uniform**
All children, Foundation – Year 6 are required to be in full school uniform each day. The uniform is purchased through Northern Regional Uniforms the sole supplier of Mother Teresa PS School uniform. An annual commission is paid to the school by Northern Regional Uniforms. This commission is placed in the Parents and Friends fundraising account. While other suppliers may offer similar items they are not our uniform supplier. Our Parents and Friends Association has worked very hard to ensure the very best supplier and quality uniform.

Please note the summer uniform below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boys Summer Uniform</th>
<th>Girls Summer Uniform</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Short Sleeve Polo</strong></td>
<td><strong>Dress</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White with logo</td>
<td>School Design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shorts</strong></td>
<td><strong>Socks</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grey zip &amp; fly</td>
<td>White (No tights – socks only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Socks</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grey</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Boys and Girls Summer Sports Uniform

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport shorts</th>
<th>Polo top</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School design coolfit</td>
<td>School design coolfit with logo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Shoes:** Children are required to wear black school styled shoes at school and while travelling to and from school. **Runners are only permitted to be worn during Physical Education learning.**

**Hair ties/ head bands:** These are either white or navy blue.
Nail polish is not to be worn to school.

**School Hat**
Children are required to have a Mother Teresa Catholic PS hat from September to the end of April and whenever UV levels reach 3 or above. You are able to purchase school hats through Northern Regional Uniforms.

**Sunscreen**
Families are encouraged to apply sunscreen on children prior to coming to school. Children are able to reapply this when required.

**Brain food and Water**
All children are required to bring brain food and a water bottle (not glass) each day. The children are able to drink water throughout the day from their water bottle. Fruit juice and soft drinks are not permitted at school. Brain food breaks occur at 10.00am during learning time. Foods appropriate for brain food are fresh fruit and/or vegetables that can be eaten while engaged in learning tasks, such as apples, bananas, cucumber and carrots. **Canned or small packaged fruits are not a practical brain food.** Please pack your child’s brain food in a small plastic container.

**Packaging**
Over the past eight years the children have been engaged in a number of inquiries that have investigated the many types of packaging that are used for food. These inquiries initially included weighing the amount of packaging children brought to school over a period of time and reducing this. We are now a package free school. As a “Package free school” we ask that you do not send food in packaging.
There are many plastic containers available for food storage. This can assist in reducing packaging and keeping food fresh. Please label your plastic containers!

**Book Boxes ~ Take home books**
If your child requires a replacement Book Box these are available for purchase at the school office for $5 each.

**Skoolbag App ~ download it!**
You can keep up to date with school happenings, access the newsletter, update contact details and notify us of absences through the Skoolbag App.
You are encouraged to download this to your mobile phone or iPad. Details for download can be found at [http://www.motherteresa.catholic.edu.au/news-events/354/article/100/skoolbag-app](http://www.motherteresa.catholic.edu.au/news-events/354/article/100/skoolbag-app)

**Sacramental Preparation and Celebrations**
Families of children in Year 3 – 6 who are to receive sacraments this year are asked to note the dates below:

**First Reconciliation**
Saturday 25th February / Sunday 26th February – Reconciliation Sign Up Weekend. Attendance at one of the parish Masses is required.
Monday 27th February - Workshop for children and parents at Mother Teresa PS (due to numbers your time will be forwarded in the coming week)
Wednesday 22nd March - Reconciliation Celebration 6pm and 7.30pm at Mother Teresa PS (you will be allocated your celebration time)
First Eucharist
Tuesday 2nd June – Workshop for children and parents 7pm at Mother Teresa PS
Saturday 6th May / Sunday 7th May – First Eucharist Sign Up Weekend. Attendance at one of the parish Masses is required.
Saturday 3rd June / Sunday 4th June - First Eucharist Presentation Weekend. Attendance at one of the parish Masses is required.
Sunday 18th June – First Eucharist Celebration for Mother Teresa PS children 2.00pm at Our Lady’s Parish Church

Confirmation
Tuesday 18th July – Confirmation Workshop for children and parents 7pm at Mother Teresa PS
Saturday 29th July/ Sunday 30th July – Confirmation Sign Up Weekend. Attendance at one of the parish Masses is required.
Saturday 12th / Sunday 13th August – Confirmation Presentation Weekend. Attendance at one of the parish Masses is required.
Sunday 27th August – Confirmation Celebration 12pm at Kolbe Catholic College

Staff Professional Learning Opportunities
“Schools must be cultures of thinking for teachers. Professional learning communities – in which rich discussions of teaching, learning and thinking become a fundamental part of teachers’ experiences – provide the foundation for nurturing thinking and learning in the classroom. Administrators need to value, create and preserve time for teachers to discuss teaching and learning, grounded in observation of student work’ (Making thinking visible, Ritchhart & Perkins 2008)
Each week the newsletter will keep you informed as to the professional learning that staff at Mother Teresa Primary School will be participating in. Staff gather for formal professional learning related to curriculum development each Tuesday and Wednesday from 3.45 – 5.00pm. Our school also employs the services of a Mathematics consultant, Colleen Monaghan and an Educational consultant, Kath Murdoch. Both of these consultants will engage with children and staff throughout the year to enhance and build best practice. This year we are fortunate to have Ron Ritchhart facilitate learning with us on a number of occasions. Ron is a senior research associate at Project Zero, Harvard Graduate School of Education. Other opportunities for Professional Learning outside the school will also take place throughout the year. As professionals this is a key and essential part of our learning.

Staff 2017
The following staff will make up the Professional Learning Community (PLC) of Mother Teresa Catholic PS in 2017.

Rev. Fr. Varghese (George) Kurisingal Parish Priest
Mr Christopher Reed Principal
Mrs Manuela Watson Deputy Principal/Learning & Teaching Leader

Foundation / One/ Two
Mrs Emma Scott Contact Teacher
Mrs Amy Leahy Contact Teacher
Mrs Jenna Broadhurst Contact Teacher
Miss Erin Smith Contact Teacher
Miss Elizabeth Charry Contact Teacher
Mrs Nicole Smith Contact Teacher
Miss Joanna Pereira Contact Teacher
Miss Shelby Weston Contact Teacher
Miss Alycia Marsico Contact Teacher
Mrs Laura Bell Contact Teacher

Year 3/ 4
Miss Jessica Vinci Contact Teacher
Miss Julia Dale Contact Teacher
Mrs Stefanie Mc Neil Contact Teacher
We welcome the following staff who are new to our learning community Elizabeth Charry, Alycia Marsico, Laura Bell, Vania Sparano, Andrea Molloy and Alex Johnson. I am sure that you will make these new staff welcome.

Parents & Friends News

Parents and Friends Wine and Cheese ~ Welcome evening
Our Parents and Friends will be hosting a welcome evening for parents new to our school on Wednesday 22nd February from 7.30pm – 9pm. This welcome wine and cheese evening is for parents only and a great opportunity to meet new families and to catch up with old acquaintances.

Parents and Friends Meeting
Our first Parents and Friends Meeting is to take place on Wednesday 8th March 2017 at 7.30pm at the school. On this night we will look at our fundraising and social events for the year. All welcome.

Zooper Doopers Fridays
Zooper Doopers are sold each Friday in terms one and four. They are $1 each with funds raised going towards the school. If anyone is free to help on Fridays this term to sell the Zooper Doopers at lunch time please leave your name at reception.

What’s Happening in the Learning Spaces

“Parents should be educated in the language of schooling, so that the home and school can share the expectations, and the child does not have to live in two worlds – with little understanding between the home and the school”. John Hattie, 2009
**Foundation – Year 2 Learning Spaces**

As we begin our new school year we are Tuning In to the Agreed Ways of Living and Learning in our learning community. Through dialogue and the use of different Thinking Routines such as ‘Think-Pair-Share’ and ‘See-Think-Wonder’ we will observe, dialogue and generate ideas in relation to the Agreed Ways of Living and Learning at Mother Teresa Primary School.

As Writers we will begin to use the Comprehension Cues of the Colourful Semantics Program to help us generate ideas and thinking prior to writing recount texts. We will document in pictures or words; who is in the story, where it took place, when it happened and what we were doing.

As Mathematicians we will begin to Tune In to our previous knowledge about numbers by going on a number walk around our school. We will observe different numbers and their purpose in our learning community. We will document these discoveries in pictures and words in our mathematical thinking journals.

As Readers we are beginning to identify texts that are just right for us to read for our home learning by looking at the cover, words inside and thinking to ourselves ‘does this interest me?’. This week we will continue to practise our morning routine of changing our book independently and waiting for our teacher to sign our home reader.

Thank you so much for labelling your child’s clothing and ALL their lunch box containers.

**Year 3 – 4 Learning Spaces**

As members of the Mother Teresa Learning Community, we have spent some time tuning in and finding out about the Agreed Ways of Living and Learning in our outdoor spaces. As researchers, we carefully observed our play spaces to get new information. Before we engaged in the thinking routine ‘See Think Wonder’ we went on a school tour and dialogued about the appropriate use of outdoor spaces.

As inquirers, we have begun tuning in to our compelling question ‘Are we more the same or more different? How do we get along?’ We applied our knowledge of the learning asset ‘thinker’ when supporting our first thinking with reasons and evidence. Over the coming weeks we will be continuing to explore this question through a historical lens and making connections to Murrundindi and Proud Race Day.

**Year 5/6 Learning Spaces**

Inquiry learning is all about giving students the skills, the dispositions and the opportunities to investigate – to find out information, make meaning and take action based on what is discovered. It follows, then, that just about anything can, in theory, be ‘inquired into’. Kath Murdoch

As inquirers, we engaged in a workshop with our educational consultant, Kath Murdoch, to help us find out about iT ime. As learners we found out that it involves lots of research, goal setting, proposals and negotiated set times. We discovered we have an opportunity to investigate something we are passionate about and interested in exploring further. As part of tuning in we will use the key thinking moves activating prior knowledge and raising questions as we document our thinking related to our iT ime proposal. We will reflect on ourselves as learners and identify a learning goal by selecting a learning asset and a particular skill for further improvement and growth. As learners we will identify specific actions that we will need to take towards achieving our goal.

As part of our Faith and Life inquiry we are exploring text from the gospel of Luke 17:11-19. As thinkers we will engage in the thinking moves activating our prior knowledge, connection making and wondering as we explore this text. We will use the thinking routine Think Puzzle Explore as a tool to support our understanding. First we will activate our prior knowledge and make connections. Next we will raise questions and identify things that are puzzling us that we personally want to
investigate further. As communicators we will engage in the thinking routines Think Pair Share and What makes you say that? to articulate our ideas, justify our current thinking, and identify ways we could explore our wonderings.

As thinkers and inquirers, each Wednesday, Danny, a Chess tutor, will engage us in learning opportunities related to finding out how to think strategically when playing Chess. This workshop will provide us with an opportunity to begin to see the importance of thinking ahead, trying to figure out what our opponent might do next and what our alternatives are too. As reflective thinkers and communicators we will use reflection stems to record the changes in our thinking. Some of the reflection stems will include: Something I can now do is…, Now I understand more about…, I am proud of the way I…, When I think about what I have learned I feel…, and I have changed my thinking about ….

As readers and inquirers we will be exploring a variety of texts as part of finding out and identifying how ideas in literary texts can be conveyed from different viewpoints, which can lead to different kinds of interpretations and responses. We will engage in the thinking routine Step Inside to help us explore different perspectives and viewpoints.

**Performing Arts Learning**

In Term 1 the Foundation - 2 students will be learning how to collaborate creatively through role-play, movement and voice. Students will learn to use their imagination to create original and unique characters for dramatic play, discover new ideas and creatively problem solve throughout the drama process. The Foundation-2 students will be learning to communicate their creative ideas and develop some dialogue for role-play scenarios, discovering how to 'think on their feet' when creating dramatic play.

As Performing Artists, the 3-6 students will be utilising a multi-sensory approach of stepping inside a story to discover meaning in role-play for performance. This involves students collaborating creatively using story narrative, pictures, drawings, role-play, props, and sound effects as stimulus to develop dramatic play. We will discover how to develop our creative ideas into characters and narrative for dramatic role-play.

**Japanese Learning**

As self-managers Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 students will discuss and role play learning routines which reflect the agreed ways of learning at Mother Teresa Primary School and which support their learning in the Japanese space. As communicators they will then learn a song about Japanese words for greetings entitled “Ohayo.” They will use appropriate gestures to support their understanding of the song. After singing the song students will discuss the questions “I wonder what this word means?” and “I wonder what we are doing with our bodies?”

As self-managers Year 3 and Year 4 students will discuss and role play learning routines which reflect the agreed ways of learning at Mother Teresa Primary School and which support their learning in the Japanese space. They will then listen to a story about life in Japan entitled “Tokyo Friends.” They will activate prior learning about their understanding of life in Japan and make discoveries about different ways of living in other cultures. As thinkers they will use their prior learning and new discoveries as ideas for creating a front cover for their Japanese learning journal.

As thinkers Year 5 and Year 6 students will explore learning routines for starting the lesson and taking the roll in Japanese. They will then consider the Big Questions “Why do we learn other languages?” and “Why do we learn Japanese?” They will refer to wall documentation and activate prior learning as they consider these questions. They will then engage in a Think Pair Share routine before sharing their thinking with the whole group. As thinkers they will use these ideas as a springboard for creating a front cover for their Japanese learning journal.
**Physical Education Learning**
The Foundation to Year two students this week will be exploring our wonderful Physical Education learning spaces, including the Hall, Basketball/Tennis Courts, Soccer Pitch, Footy Oval and the Adventure Playground. Whilst we are exploring our unique learning area, the students will be familiarising themselves with the agreed ways as well as practicing personal and social skills to interact with others. Through cooperative play, students will work towards becoming great communicators, collaborators and self-managers. In the coming weeks we will begin to explore the fundamental movement skills of Throwing and Catching.

As communicators, year Three to Six students will be engaging in dialogue to unpack their Physical Education experiences from the year previous. This process will allow students to identify their favourite sports/activities as well as certain skills that they wish to develop further. The year Three to Six students will also be familiarising themselves with the agreed ways as well as practicing personal and social skills to interact with others. Over the coming weeks we will be exploring the sport of T-Ball, a simplified version of Baseball/Softball which is a great introduction for primary school aged children to develop their striking and fielding skills as well as having fun.

**Physical Education Timetable**

**Mondays the following learning groups will participate in Physical Education:**
Year 5/6 Miss Follacchio, Miss James and our Learning group to be appointed
Year 3/4 Miss Dale & Miss Vinci’s learning groups

**Tuesdays the following learning groups will participate in Physical Education:**
Year F–2 Miss Erin, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Broadhurst and Mrs. Scott’s learning groups

**Wednesdays the following learning groups will participate in Physical Education:**
Year 3/4 Miss Sparano & Mrs. McNeil’s learning groups
Year 5/6 Mrs. Molloy’s learning group

**Thursdays the following learning groups will participate in Physical Education:**
Year F–2 Miss Marsico & Mrs. Leahy’s learning group

**Friday’s the following learning groups will participate in Physical Education:**
Year F–2 Miss Charry, Miss Pereira, Mrs. Bell and Miss Weston’s learning group

**Sustainability Learning**

*In Laudato si’, Pope Francis highlights the important role that education plays.*

There is a nobility in the duty to care for creation through little daily actions, and it is wonderful how education can bring about real changes in lifestyle. Education in environmental responsibility can encourage ways of acting which directly and significantly affect the world around us, such as avoiding the use of plastic and paper, reducing water consumption, separating refuse, cooking only what can reasonably be consumed, showing care for other living beings, using public transport or car-pooling, planting trees, turning off unnecessary lights, or any number of other practices. (211)

Welcome back to a new sustainable school year! As Inquirers we will be asking questions and thinking all about our new exciting solar system on the school roof. Students will be using the See, Think, Wonder routine to learn and research how we will save energy around the school. As scientists we will predict and hypothesise how these panels work and why it is beneficial to the school and the environment. Students will also have the opportunity to explore and discover the growth and change of many of the plants in the vegetable garden. Learners will be able to discover through active investigation why things have grown so well and the key nutrients needed for growth. The children of all ages will have the opportunity to harvest produce as well as seeds for future plantings.

**After School Care at Mother Teresa Primary School**

*Watch this space throughout the term for regular updates from our Extend team!*

Welcome back after the school holidays!!!
We hope you had a great time and enjoyed the break.
We have had lots of fun this past week at after school care, socialising and getting to know all of our friends again.
Please see important information below to ensure you are ready and organised to
use Extends service this year.

**New Families – Enrol Today**

Enrolling is simple and can be done online via our Parent Portal. The annual enrolment fee will not be charged until you use the service, so its a great way to ensure you can have emergency access if the need arises. See information on operating hours, fees and how to enrol and book at extend.com.au.

**Have you secured your 2017 bookings?**

If you have used our services before, we look forward to seeing you again throughout Term 1. Please ensure you have made your 2017 bookings on the Parent Portal in advance.

**Questions?**

Check out the FAQs on our website which contains useful information for new parents.

Parent Portal: extend.com.au

At after school care we use many recycled materials such as boxes, bottle caps, plastic bottles and anything else that can be reused for art/craft.

If you have any recycled materials that we could use please drop them in to after school care, Next week we also have many fun activities for everyone to participate in, and we hope to see you all there!

**Note to Parents:** We have access to the gate on Olrig Grove, next to the basketball courts. Please use this street to pick up your child/children from the service as it provides a safe and easy avenue for both parents and children.

Vanessa.

**This week’s activities:**

Monday 6th February - About Me Posters, Free Play Outside
Tuesday 7th February - Science – Making Elephant Toothpaste, Cricket, Skipping, Basketball
Wednesday 8th February - Making Moon Sand, Free Play Outside
Thursday 9th February - Homemade Lava Lamps, Hide & Seek, Tiggy, Basketball
Friday 10th February - Making Milo Balls, Free Play Outside

Please don't forget your hats to wear at after school care!!!! No Hat No Play!!!

**Community News**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 13th February</td>
<td>Child Parent Teacher Chats Year Foundation – Year 6 1.30pm – 7.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 20th February</td>
<td>Murrundindi at Mother Teresa PS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 27th February</td>
<td>Reconciliation child/parent workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 25th /</td>
<td>Reconciliation Sign Up weekend</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 26th February</td>
<td>Ash Wednesday Mass 9.15am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 17th March</td>
<td>Schools Clean Up day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 5th March</td>
<td>1st Sunday of Lent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 8th March</td>
<td>Parents and Friends Meeting 7.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 12th March</td>
<td>2nd Sunday of Lent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 13th March</td>
<td>Labour Day Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 16th March</td>
<td>Murrundindi at Mother Teresa PS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 17th March</td>
<td>St Patrick’s Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 19th March</td>
<td>3rd Sunday of Lent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 20th March</td>
<td>Murrundindi at Mother Teresa PS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 22nd March</td>
<td>Reconciliation Celebration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 23rd March</td>
<td>Murrundindi at Mother Teresa PS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 24th March</td>
<td>Murrundindi at Mother Teresa PS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 26th March</td>
<td>3rd Sunday of Lent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 27th March</td>
<td>Murrundindi at Mother Teresa PS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 31st March</td>
<td>School concludes for Term One @ 3.30pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Term One Dates**

**Term One** – Closure day for Professional learning day to be advised

**Term Dates 2016**

Term One: Wednesday 1st February – 31st March 2017
Term Two: Tuesday 18th April – Friday 30th June 2017
Term Three: Monday 17th July 2017 – Friday 22nd September 2017
Term Four: Monday 9th October – Thursday 21st December 2017

The following dates are correct at the time of printing. Please read the newsletter each week and note the weekly happenings.
Dear Parents

Child, Parent & Teacher Chats will take place for Foundation – Yr 6 on Monday, February 13th from **1.30pm – 7.00pm**
For your convenience Teachers names are below.

You can now book interviews at times that suit **YOUR FAMILY BEST**.
Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow these simple instructions.

BOOKINGS OPEN TODAY - Monday 13th January 2017

**Go to**
www.schoolinterviews.com.au
Enter THIS school event code. Then follow the 3 simple steps.

When you click **finish**, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically - **check your junk mail folder** if you do not receive your email immediately.

You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews - until bookings close.

BOOKINGS OPEN TODAY SO THAT ALL FAMILIES MAY BOOK AT THE SAME TIME

Parents that don’t have access to the internet at home, at work or on their phones, please contact the office and we will schedule an appointment for you.

Interviews are strictly 10mins and spaces are limited. If you require more time, please contact your teacher directly to make alternative arrangements.

Parents can change their interview bookings by re-visitng the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website, and using the event code. If on the day for some reason you cannot attend the interview as a courtesy please phone the school office on 9333 0814.

**Mr Christopher Reed**
Principal
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Teachers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foundation / One/Two</td>
<td>Mrs Emma Scott Contact Teacher</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mrs Amy Leahy Contact Teacher</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mrs Jenna Broadhurst Contact Teacher</td>
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<td>Miss Erin Smith Contact Teacher</td>
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<td>Miss Elizabeth Charry Contact Teacher</td>
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<td>Mrs Nicole Smith Contact Teacher</td>
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<td>Miss Joanna Pereira Contact Teacher</td>
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<td>Miss Shelby Weston Contact Teacher</td>
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<td>Miss Alycia Marsico Contact Teacher</td>
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<td>Mrs Laura Bell Contact Teacher</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 3/4</td>
<td>Miss Jessica Vinci Contact Teacher</td>
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<td>Miss Julia Dale Contact Teacher</td>
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<td>Mrs Stefanie Mc Neil Contact Teacher</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Miss Vania Sparano Contact Teacher</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 5/6</td>
<td>Miss Michelle Follacchio Contact Teacher</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Miss Sophie James Contact Teacher</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mrs Andrea Molloy Contact Teacher</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To be appointed Contact Teacher</td>
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</tbody>
</table>