



# MOTHER TERESA CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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## **NEWSLETTER**

15<sup>th</sup> June 2020

*"Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us  
on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"*

### **T**o All In Our Learning Community,

*As a Catholic learning community we have been exploring a number of post-resurrection stories. During remote learning families were provided with the opportunity to explore the story of Emmaus presented in the gospel of Luke. This Lucan gospel tells the story of two of Jesus' disciples who were travelling on the road to Emmaus after Jesus' death. They talked of their confusion about the events of Jesus' death and shared their uncertainties and confusions with a fellow traveller who joined them on the road. They are unaware that this 'visitor' to Jerusalem is Jesus. Their eyes are closed. When they invite the traveller to join them for a meal at the end of the day they discover through the breaking of bread that this traveller is in fact the risen Jesus. Upon reflection of their experience their eyes are opened and they think about the conversation on the road and how they recognised it was Jesus, although only realised this when he broke bread with them.*

*Scripture scholar Brendan Byrne explores this passage from Luke and highlights that the recognition of Jesus occurs in light a bigger picture- a picture that is seen in the context of the wider story told in the scriptures. There is also recognition through the wider community and in the sharing of a meal. It is also through the hospitality offered to the 'visitor' that new insights are gained.*

*In light of our whole school focus, 'Hospitality and Dialogue' what insights about offering hospitality and engaging with others are we gaining? In what ways might the presence of God be recognised in 'others' whom we engage with?*

Kind regards

**Chris**

## ***This Week's Happenings***

### **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June**

Welcome Kath Murdoch Educational Consultant

### **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June**

Year 3 /4 Child/Parent/ Teacher phone conversations  
Welcome Murrundindi

### **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June**

Year 3 /4 Child/Parent/ Teacher phone conversations  
Welcome Murrundindi

### **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June**

Year 5/6 Child/Parent /Teacher phone conversation

### **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June**

Year 5/6 Child/Parent /Teacher phone conversation  
Welcome Colleen Monaghan Mathematics Consultant

### ***End of school dismissal. Note the adjustments.***

From an organisational perspective we are preparing children to be ready at the gates so that this is a smooth departure each day. This mean children are moving earlier. The times below are however the departure times.

- Families whose last name is between A – K are required to collect their children between 3.15pm and 3.30pm.
- Families whose last name is between L – Z are required to collect their children between 3.30pm and 3.45pm.

Please ensure your child/ren knows what gate you will expect them to leave from as they will be directed to that gate every day for school dismissal.

### ***Social Distancing ~ Adults***

Social distancing of adults around our school is a priority as is the safe departure of children in a timely manner. Please do not gather around the gates.

### ***Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD)***

Mother Teresa PS is currently preparing data related to students who receive additional adjustments to assist in their learning.

What is the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data? Schools must now complete the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD) every year. It counts the number of students who receive additional adjustments to their learning at school. The NCCD helps governments plan for the needs of students with disability. Please refer to the attachment to the newsletter that outlines further information about Nationally Consistent Collection of Data. In order for all members of our learning community to access this information it is provided as an attachment in both English and Arabic.

### ***Indigenous Educational Opportunities***

Our learning communities is privileged to have had a long standing partnership with Murrundindi, Wurundjeri elder and cultural educator. Murrundindi will be with us this week to explore story and symbol with a number of our children. His presence and partnership with our learning community enables us to gain greater understanding of Aboriginal peoples. It is particularly significant in light of the recent calls for greater understanding and recognition of Indigenous Australians.

### ***Sport Uniform this week***

The Sports uniform can be worn on the following days:

Tuesday – Year 3/ 4 – 3 Mr Richardson, Year 3/4 - 2 Ms Pereira, Year 3/ 4- 4 Miss Marsico

Wednesday – Year 3/ 4 -1Miss La Porta, Year 3/ 4 – 5 Mrs McNeil/Mrs Smith

Thursday – Year 5/6 – 5 Miss Fisher, Year 5/6 – 4 Miss Angerosa

Friday – Year 5/6 – 1 Miss Paolino,

### ***Student Absence***

If your child is ill and/or absent from school please notify the school via Skoolbag App or call the school 7303 1200. When calling the school for an absence you will be promoted to leave a message. When leaving message please ensure you clearly name your child and their learning space or teacher. Children who are unwell are to remain home.

### ***Child /Parent/ Teacher Phone Conversations***

Our Year 3 – 6 children will engage in Child/Parent/Teacher conversation via a phone call this week. Note regarding these were forwarded to Year 3/ 4 families on Friday and Year 5/6 children today.

### ***Hygiene practices***

All children and staff are reminded of health practices to ensure the safety of all.

The sanitising of hands upon entry and exit continues.

Hands are washed with soap and water prior to eating.

Time is allocated for the supervision of handwashing and eating.

## ***Drink Bottles***

All children are required to have their drink bottle at school each day. It is not possible for children to access drinking taps at this time.

## ***Entry to school grounds***

Visitors to our school grounds will be limited to essential school services e.g. school psychologist, educational consultants and maintenance workers.  
Parent helpers are currently not permitted onsite.

The gates to our school will be locked at 8.50am and reopened at 3pm. Our main entry is a point of access please ring the school (7303 1200) if you require assistance.

## ***Foundation Enrolments 2021 ~ Now Open***

Families with a Foundation child to begin in 2021 are asked to complete the enrolment form and return it with the accompanying documentation. This can be emailed through to [info@motherteresa.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@motherteresa.catholic.edu.au)  
Please inform families you know wanting to make Foundation enrolment for 2021 of this process.

## **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 to Year 2***

As **researchers**, we are going further with our wonderings about our compelling question, "Why is it made like that?" We are being resourceful by identifying different ways to make new discoveries. We will engage in experiments, read books, engage in dialogue with experts and watch video clips as a way of finding out.

As **mathematicians**, we are engaging in the mathematical concept of Place Value. Some of us are finding out about different ways to represent numbers using materials such as bundling sticks and MAB Blocks. We are learning to represent and order numbers on a number line. We will make our thinking visible by engaging in focus groups. As a part of Home Learning students have been provided with a focus for their daily counting. We will continue to consolidate this focus at school.

As **thinkers**, we are tuning in to our compelling question, "How can the arts help us to tell stories?" As **researchers**, we will engage in a **shared learning experience** with Murrundindi. With Murrundindi we will interpret different artworks created by an Indigenous Artist, William Barak and engage in four dances that are significant to the Wurundjeri people.

### ***Bridging Centre***

#### ***Year 3 – 4 Learning Spaces***

As **thinkers**, we have begun **reflecting** on ourselves as learners and considering what we would like to focus on, improve or achieve next term. As **self-managers**, we have identified **learning goals** to help us grow as learners, and connected these to some of the skills and dispositions, such as being **persistent, open-minded** and **courageous thinkers** and **communicators**. As **communicators**, we will have **time** and **opportunity** to share these goals with our parents during our Parent/Teacher/Student conversations in the coming days and engage in dialogue about how we might achieve them,

As **readers**, we are continuing to focus on the skill of **locating directly stated information** within a text. To develop this skill, we will read and view a range of **fiction** texts, such as narratives, novels, picture books and fairy tales, and use the visual organiser **Double Entry Journal** to identify and document the facts, key events and characters in the text, and our opinions, thoughts, feelings and wonderings. Some of us will focus on the strategy

of **inferring**, where we will use our prior knowledge and experiences, and clues within the text, to **make connections, build explanations, and make meaning**.

As **mathematicians** we are consolidating our number skills. As **thinkers**, we will continue to engage in number of the day tasks to solve quick mental math, where we will **make connections** to place value as we show our thinking strategies, and we are engaging in various math games to practise our counting and multiplication strategies. As **self-managers**, we will be **open-minded** and **persistent**, and **take risks** when we are challenged. As **researchers**, some of us will have **time** and **opportunity** to engage with our mathematics consultant Colleen later this week to explore number lines, money strategies, fractions and solving multi-digit addition and subtraction problems.

As **people of a faith based community**, we are **tuning in** to the whole school scripture, **'The Road to Emmaus'**, from **Luke 24:13-35**. As **thinkers** and **researchers**, we will have **time** and **opportunity** to engage in the thinking routine **Word-Phrase-Sentence** to **activate our prior knowledge** and **generate ideas, first thinking** and **wonderings** about the scripture. Through dialogue with others, we will identify a word, phrase and sentence that speaks to us to **make connections** and **see new layers of meaning**. We will **justify our thinking** using the thinking routine **'What makes you say that?'**

### ***Sustainability***

Welcome back to all our **Sustainable learners**. During the past few weeks our learners have been engaged in remote learning at home. As a **learning community** we have engaged in identifying strategies to engage in learning independently. During this time, we **discovered** that we have a number of amazing chefs and gardeners amongst us. I would like to thank all our learners and parents who **engaged** in preparing amazing dinners, cakes and desserts. We have an extensive collection of recipes that we can add to the **Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden**. During remote learning time some children and their families established vegetable gardens. It was great to see how our gardeners were able to plant and maintain their vegetables.

As **Sustainable learners** we are all very excited to be back at school as we continue with busy and productive terms with lots of **learning opportunities** for our learners to be engaged in. This week our learners will revisit and discuss various aspects of their learning that have occurred throughout the term. They will be engaged in **documenting** and illustrating their **reflections**.

As the term continues we will be focusing on:

#### **Vegetable Garden:**

This includes establishing our vegetable garden. Looking at seasonal vegetables that can be planted. If parents/careers have any vegetable seedlings that can be donated to our school garden this would be most appreciated.

#### **Worm farms.**

This includes cleaning and setting up our worm farms. Purchasing materials that are needed for our worm farms.

#### **Packaging:**

Revisit packaging and continue focusing on a package free lunchbox.

Once again thank you to all our families who took the time and opportunity to engage in cooking and gardening with their children.

### ***Digital Technology***

As **thinkers** students in Foundation to Year 2 **Digital Technologies** are reflecting on their different **Digital Technologies experiences** throughout the first half of the year. We have **explored** how they used **technology** to access their **email safely** at home **online**. They are also **sharing** their **wonderings** about how different **technologies** work.

Year 3/4 students are **reflecting** on the **process** of sending an **email safely** each morning to their teacher while they were home **online**. They are **documenting** different things they **understand** more about **technology** after the first half of the year. We've discussed times that we have needed to be **persistent** while using technology.

As **thinkers** year 5/6 students have been using different **reflection stems** to document their experiences in Digital Technologies this year. They're using **Microsoft Word** and making use of **headers and footers** to create their document. They **document** times where they have been **persistent** with **technology** and **insert** a **picture** of their **learning**. This could be anything from **code** from a **Scratch game** they've made to a **photo** they've **photographed** that uses **elements** that they've **researched**.

## **Term Two**

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June                      Feast of the Sacred Heart  
Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June                      Term 2 concludes

## **Term Three**

*Further term days will be added as restrictions to event are known*

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July                      Term 3 begins  
Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September              Mother Teresa Feast Day  
Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November                School Photo Day 2020  
Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September              Term 3 concludes