



# MOTHER TERESA CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

5-15 Windrock Ave Mt Ridley PO Box 433 Craigieburn VIC 3064

Phone: 7303 1200

Email: [principal@motherteresa.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@motherteresa.catholic.edu.au)

[www.motherteresa.catholic.edu.au](http://www.motherteresa.catholic.edu.au)

## NEWSLETTER

22<sup>nd</sup> June 2020

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

**To** All In Our Learning Community,

*This week we move in to the final week of term 2. It would be an understatement to say it has been like no other term 2. We ended term 1 with a sense of uncertainty and began term 2 engaging in remote learning and conclude it onsite – what a roller coaster it has been!*

*It has been wonderful to see our children return to onsite learning over the past weeks. The children at Mother Teresa PS have so seamlessly moved in to a 'changed' school routine involving additional handwashing and sanitising, different recess and lunchtimes, allocated play areas, and changed departure times to name a few of the changes. They are to be congratulated on displaying resilience, flexibility and open mindedness. In particular our Foundation children are to be commended on their capacity to be so resilient in their first year of school. Thank you to the Foundation parents on the positive way they have farewelled children at the gate – you should be so proud of their transition and know they can do it!*

*Thank you to the staff of Mother Teresa PS for their move to remote learning within a short period of time and for their commitment to contacting families via phone and email. Thank you for your courageous and risk taking video production and learning related to various online platforms. A particular 'shout out' to our cultural aids, Ms Akoo, Mrs Markes and Mr Safaa for their ongoing contact with our new arrivals families and those needing additional support in Arabic and Chaldean.*

*Thank you also to our parent community for your support during this time. It is great when families and staff work in partnership for the benefit of our children. We are most appreciative of the positive correspondence we have received and for the parents who have also displayed flexibility and adaptiveness during this time. I know many of you were pleased to see children return to school and to see children engage once again in a school routine and with their friends.*

*However, we need to be aware that the Pandemic is not over. Over the weekend you will be aware that planned easing of restrictions for gatherings will not occur until 12<sup>th</sup> July and that we have been advised to return to gatherings of no more than five visitors in our homes. See statement <https://www.premier.vic.gov.au/statement-from-the-premier-45/>*

*Note that as residents in the Hume area we have been strongly advised to limit our movements as we have been identified as one of the hotspots in Melbourne.*

*Our school continues to maintain health and safety measures. I ask that you do not enter our school grounds. You are asked to avoid collecting children during the day. I also ask that you maintain social distancing when collecting your children at the end of the day. Please keep back from gates.*

*Stay safe*

*Kind regards*

**Chris**

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

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Professional Learning – Emerging Leaders

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June**

Professional Learning – Faith & Life Inquiry

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June**

Professional Learning – Faith & Life Inquiry

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June**

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June**

End of term - 3.15pm A- K 3.30pm L – Z

### ***End of school dismissal ~ Please maintain social distance 1. 5m***

From an organisational perspective we are preparing children to be ready at the gates so that this is a smooth departure each day. 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.

### ***Collecting children early***

Parents are asked not to collect children early from school and are not permitted on the school property. It appears some families are collecting children early, particularly on a Friday! School hours are from 8.50 until 3.15pm A – K & 3.30pm L- Z.

### ***Social Distancing ~ Adults 1.5m***

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.

### ***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 prompted 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.***

### ***Written Reports***

This week your child will receive their semester one written report. This semester report for 2020 provides information regarding your child's achievements in Term 1 and Term 2. This report focuses on areas of the Victorian Curriculum that were covered and assessed during Term 1 and Term 2. It acknowledges the adjustments that occurred with remote learning due to COVID-19. The general comment recognises the skills and dispositions displayed through reflections on learning remotely and onsite.

In a number of key areas you will see the five point scale indicating achievement to date. The report is to be read alongside the Portfolio showing Growth Over Time and the Faith and Life Inquiry Portfolio.

### ***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 ~ Gates locked***

Parents are unable to enter the school grounds.

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.

### ***School Fees ~ Term 2***

Term Two school fee account of \$485 was forwarded to families and are due for payment by Wednesday 24th June 2020. Please check your child's bag for the school fees statement.

School fee payments can be made via credit card, eftpos and directly into the school account. A direct debit arrangement can also be made. The school account payment details are: BSB 083 347 Account

82676 1906; Mother Teresa Catholic Primary School, NAB. Please ensure you place your Family name and account number as reference on the transaction so we can match your payment!

**Our school does rely on school fees for many recurrent costs so prompt payment is appreciated.**

### ***Sacramental Celebrations***

The following dates have been tentatively set for sacramental celebrations. Please note that recent and future restrictions may impact on this dates and number of family members who can attend.

#### ***Reconciliation celebrations***

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> August 6.30pm @ Mother Teresa PS

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> August 7.30pm @ Mother Teresa PS

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August 7.30pm @ Mother Teresa PS

At this point in time we are unable to confirm the number of people able to attend. Currently only the child receiving the sacrament and their parents can attend

#### ***First Eucharist celebrations***

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> August 12pm

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2.30pm

The First Eucharist celebrations will take place at Our Lady's Parish Church. At this point in time we are unable to confirm the number of people able to attend. In preparing for this day please be aware that it is more than likely we will only be able to accommodate the child receiving the sacrament and their parents.

#### ***Confirmation***

We are awaiting further information from the Archdiocese of Melbourne regarding a Confirmation date for 2020.

## **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, reading 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 counting. Some of us are finding out about counting forwards and backwards up to 120 and other learners will be counting by different numbers. We will be focusing on counting by 2's, 5's, 10's, 3's and 7's. As mathematicians, we will also be focusing on learning about the concept of Place Value. We will continue to find out and sort out our thinking about ways we can represent numbers in different ways. As a part of Home Learning children have been provided with a focus for their daily counting. We will continue to consolidate this focus at school.

As **readers**, we will continue to engage focus groups focusing on the reading behaviours that are required to read. Early readers will be focusing on pointing to the words, looking at the pictures and looking at the whole word to help us solve unknown words.

As **people of a faith based community**, we will be engaging in prayer with the F-2 learners in our Learning Street. Some of us will be courageous to share prayers with our peers whilst others will be respectful and responsive to the prayers being said.

As part of **tuning in** to our next Faith and Life inquiry related to 'The Arts' we will have the **time** and **opportunity** during the holidays to **start connecting with the compelling question: How can the arts**

**help us tell our stories?** We need to take a photo of something we consider to be ‘art’ and/or create something and take a photo/recording of it to share when we return to school next term.

**Thank-you for your continued support this term with your child/ren’s learning.  
We look forward to returning on the 13th of July. From the F-2 Team**

### ***Bridging Centre***

#### ***Year 3 – 4 Learning Spaces***

This week in the Bridging Centre, we will continue to explore the post- resurrection story of Emmaus presented in the gospel of Luke. As researchers, we will **find out** about the world behind the text by reading an introduction to Luke. We will use the thinking moves **I used to think, Now I know** as we dive deeper into the historical background of Luke.

We will demonstrate the disposition of **empathy** as we engage in the thinking routine **Step Inside** to consider the perspectives of the disciples and how it changes as they discover Jesus’ presence. As we dialogue, we will explore the word ‘presence’ to identify new layers of meaning to the word. We will dialogue about Jesus’ presence through the bread and wine and consider the presence of Jesus within our community. As readers, we will identify words within the scripture that tell us the main idea of the story and identify synonyms for those words.

As **mathematical thinkers**, we will be revisiting basic addition and subtraction strategies in preparation for our focuses next term. We will identify and **make connections** between the different ways to make ten, doubles and near doubles. We will learn some new math games to build our counting skills by watching videos and listening to others. This will present us with opportunities to make connections between addition and subtraction. We will also consider new mathematical focuses to practise at home during the school holidays.

As part of **tuning in** to our next Faith and Life inquiry related to ‘**The Arts**’ we will have the **time** and **opportunity** during the holidays to **start connecting with the compelling question: What is the role of arts in communities?** We need to take a photo of something we consider to be ‘art’ and/or create something and take a photo/recording of it to share when we return to school next term.

### ***Leadership Centre***

#### ***Year 5/6 Learning Spaces***

*When we consciously engage children in inquiring into how they learn, we are developing skills and dispositions that act as important assets to them as learners – across the curriculum, in school and beyond.  
Kath Murdoch 2015*

As **readers** and **critical thinkers**, we are exploring Luke 24:13-35 and **engaging** in the thinking routine **Word-Phrase-Sentence** as a **tool** to **document** our current **interpretation** and **understanding** about this text. We will **engage** in the **thinking move summarising** and elicit a **word, phrase** and a **sentence** that we find important in this text at this moment in time. As **collaborators** and **communicators** we will **dialogue** with each other and use the thinking routine **What makes you say that?** as this will **support** us to be **open-minded** as we **share** our **interpretations** with evidence and **encourage** us to understand **multiple perspectives**. As we will be **interpreting text and symbols, reflecting critically** and **engaging in a continuous process of dialoguing with others** we will be **learning in a hermeneutical way**.

As part of **tuning in** to our next Faith and Life inquiry related to ‘**The Arts**’ we will have the **time** and **opportunity** during the holidays to **start connecting with the compelling question: How do the arts change lives?** We need to take a photo of something we consider to be ‘art’ and/or create something and take a photo/recording of it to share when we return to school next term.

As part of our **agreed ways** it is expected that throughout the holidays your child continues to engage in Home Learning. **The following list includes a variety of learning opportunities your child can engage in during the holidays:**

**Practising multiplication and related division facts** as this will assist in the development of **fluency** in the **recall** of these **facts**. Engaging in **mathematical thinking problems** to explore using a variety of **efficient and effective strategies**.

The following website <https://safeyoutube.net/w/W7ZL> demonstrates how to play the Game 24. Children will bring home a variety of these cards which will **challenge them to think flexibly, be risk takers and open-minded** to the possibilities of a variety of responses.

As part of reading, your child can engage in viewing texts on the website <https://www.kidsnews.com.au/> Kids News uses current daily news stories and is a great resource for your child to continue to develop comprehension and critical thinking skills.

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/> **Behind the News** is a news program aimed to help your child understand issues and events outside their own lives. Your child has the opportunity to explore Behind the News and find out and explore some past and current events.

Another educational resource, purchased by the school, is a subscription to **Story Box Library**. As a **reader** and **inquirer** your child has an **opportunity to select, navigate, read and view texts of their choice and interest from the Storyteller, Short film or Beyond the Story** sections in Story Box Library.

### ***Physical Education***

In the past weeks children have had the time and opportunity to reflect on their Physical Education learning opportunities. These reflections will form part of the 'Portfolio Showing Growth Over Time', which will accompany your child's written report. Weather permitting the children will engage in Physical Education outside on the following days this week and will require the sport uniform to be worn:

Monday 22nd June – Year 5/6

Wednesday 24th June – Foundation to Year 2

Thursday 25th June – Year 3/4

### **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 18<sup>th</sup> September

Term 3 concludes

### **Term Four**

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November

School Photo Day 2020