



MOTHER TERESA CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER

November 22nd 2021

"It is easy to love the people far away. It is not always easy to love those close to us.

It is easier to give a cup of rice to relieve hunger than to relieve the loneliness and pain of someone unloved in our own home.

Bring love into your home for this is where our love for each other must start." -

Mother Teresa

To All In Our Learning Community,

This week we have much to look forward to as we welcome our Foundation 2022 children who will engage with some of our Foundation to Year 2 staff this coming Wednesday. The children will be no doubt be excited to see their school and to meet some of the staff. For parents it is an exciting time often mixed with a bit of apprehension as they watch their child begin a new part of their learning journey. During their time with us on Wednesday the children will engage in a number of activities utilising a number of our outdoor learning spaces.

Thanks once again for your support as we manage a number of COVID cases. Our best wishes are extended to children and families in our school community who are unwell at this time.

While it has been a challenging time it is great to hear that changes to restrictions have eased the need to be in isolation for a long period of time. As I outlined in previous correspondence we remain committed to our COVIDSafe practices at Mother Teresa PS. Our staff remain vigilant in reminding, encouraging and promoting handwashing, sanitising and mask wearing. Despite the colder days we have to keep areas ventilated and accessed outdoor learning spaces.

Families are asked to monitor their children for possible COVID-19 symptoms. These include a runny nose, which may or may not be a symptom of hay fever, as well as a sore throat. I will continue to keep families updated regarding the changing COVID -19 restrictions. Please refer to further points related to COVIDSafe practices in the body of the newsletter.

Kind Regards,

Chris

This Week's Happenings

Monday 22nd November

Tuesday 23rd November

5/6 Adam Wallace online workshop

Professional Learning – Faith and Life Inquiry

Wednesday 24th November

Orientation –Foundation 2022

5/6 Adam Wallace online workshop

Professional Learning – School Organisation

Thursday 25th November

Friday 26th November

Mathematics Professional Learning Colleen

Monaghan

COVIDSafe Steps

Minimising the transition of COVID-19 means we are committed to the 'Three Vs of, Vaccination, Ventilation and Vital COVIDSafe Steps, these include:

- ensuring any workers and visitors on site meet the current vaccination requirements
- taking all steps possible to maximise external air flow and good ventilation
- wearing and encouraging the wearing of face masks
- reduce congestion at the beginning and end of the school day
- maintaining physical distancing between staff and where possible, students
- maintaining strong hygiene practice (Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools Ltd)

Parents are asked not to enter the school grounds unless they require to go to reception. Access to reception is via our Windrock Ave school entry gate. You are required to use the QR code prior to entry.

Sick children

Children who are unwell are NOT to be sent to school. Please seek medical attention or access COVID testing if you or your child are unwell or have COVID symptoms (e.g. runny nose).

We ask that all families are aware of the requirement to remain in isolation as per health directives if they are COVID positive or in contact with a tier one exposure. If it is a school contact you are required to provide a negative PCR test to the school before returning children to school.

Your ongoing support of our learning community for the health and welling of all in our community is appreciated.

2022 Book Packs

Book packs are ordered through WINC online service and if ordered and paid for by 1st December 2021 delivery fee will be avoided. The order form for book packs were forwarded with your child today. For your reference the site is wincschools.com.au and the Mother Teresa Primary School access key is 5TY6X. A softy copy is attached to today's newsletter also.

School Photo Day ~ Wednesday 1st December

Our school photos including sibling photos will be taken at Mother Teresa Catholic Primary School by Arthur Reed Photos on Wednesday December 1st 2021.

There is no need to return any forms or money to school.

Unique image codes will be issued to all students on/after photo day so families can register online to view images when they become available in the webshop.

Registration is simple, just follow the 3 simple steps on your child's personalised flyer once you receive it and remember to add the codes for all your children attending this school.

Even if you registered last year, it's important that you do again this year using your child's 2021 image code to link their images for the current year with your contact details.

When images are ready to view and in the webshop, all parents who have registered will be notified by SMS and email.

Once registered, please wait for notification that 2021 images are online to view before making your purchase.

Children are required to be in full summer uniform. Please note the uniform below. Summer uniform for girls is short white socks NOT white or grey tights.

Boys Summer Uniform		Girls Summer Uniform	
Short Sleeve Polo	White with logo	Dress	School Design
Shorts	Grey zip & fly	Socks	White (No tights – socks only)

Sacraments 2021 ~ Updates

All Adults attending the sacramental celebrations are required to be fully vaccinated and will be required to provide proof of vaccination through the Service Victoria App or a hardcopy of their vaccination certificate.

Density limits no longer apply for religious celebrations, which means an invitation can be extended to family members who are fully vaccinated.

Confirmation Celebration ~ Friday 10th December 7pm

Our Year 6 children will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Friday December 10th 7pm at Our Lady's Church in Craigieburn. Fr Varghese will be the principal celebrant and confer the sacrament.

First Eucharist ~ Saturday December 4th 11.30am & 1.30pm

We have over 75 First Eucharist candidates and look forward to celebrating this occasion with you and your family. Unfortunately we cannot adjust times a part from siblings who have been allocated a time together.

Our Year 4 children will celebrate the Sacrament of First Eucharist on Saturday December 4th at 11.30am

Our Year 5 children will celebrate the Sacrament of First Eucharist on Saturday December 4th at 1.30pm

Year 6 Farewell and Mass ~ Tuesday 7th December

Our Year 6 children will have the opportunity to celebrate their years of primary school at a Mass and Farewell to be held on Tuesday 7th December 7pm at Our Lady's Church. This celebration can include parents and sibling.

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 **inquirers**, we will continue to engage in dialogue with others to consider how our thinking about the question, 'What are the different ways that we can tell stories?' has changed over time. As **thinkers**, we have had time and opportunity to explore different artforms. We will use the thinking moves reflecting and **connection making** to consider all of the different art forms that we have discovered. We will make our **thinking visible** using a visual organiser called a Mind Map to help us organise our connections between ideas.

As **hermeneutical learners**, we are considering how we are *open to and learning from other religions, cultures and ways of life & how we respectfully engage with the Catholic tradition in dialogue with other traditions*. As **thinkers** we will consider the questions:

- What does it mean to be open to other faiths?
- How have you been open to the Indigenous faith?
- Are there other art forms in our school that share the story of the Catholic faith tradition?

Openness to and
learning from other
religions, cultures
and ways of life

Respectfully
engaging with the
Catholic tradition, in
dialogue with other
traditions

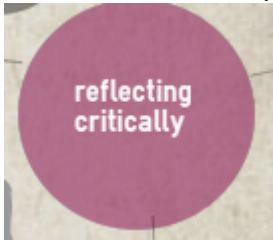
As **thinkers**, we will make connections to the shared experience of listening to stories and learning traditional dances from Indigenous elder Murrindindi.

As **readers** and **writers**, we are **making connections** to our compelling question ‘**How can the arts help us tell stories?**’ During writing this will include engaging in Writer’s Notebook. As **thinkers**, we will use the thinking routine **think, pair, share** to **reflect** on the art forms we have engaged with so far such as paintings, dance, music, mural, mime and opera. We will consider the questions: ‘What is the story being told?’ and ‘How is the story being told to us?’ We will use a **mind map** as part of Writer’s notebook to help us shape our thinking into writing.

As **mathematicians**, we will continue to **find out** about the concept of **multiplication** and **division**. As **thinkers**, we will be observing our surroundings closely to identify groups of objects and objects arranged in arrays. Some of us will be using the strategy of skip counting, repeated addition and writing number sentences to represent multiplication problems.

Year 3 – 4 Learning Spaces

“In your school you take part in various activities; be open to others, especially the poorest and neediest, to work to improve the world in which we live. Be men and women with others and for others. Dear children, dear youths love Jesus Christ ever more!” Pope Francis



As **hermeneutical learners** we had the **time and opportunity** to consolidate our understanding around the **Catholic Social Principle, Subsidiarity and Participation**. Using the **thinking routine generate and connect**, we **reflected critically** on the above quote from **Pope Francis**. First we considered all of the initial thoughts, feelings and ideas that arose when reading, then made **connections** between them, justifying the connections with **reasoning**.

As part of our **inquiry** into the ‘**Role of the Arts in Communities**’ we have an opportunity to **interview** installation artist **Katie Lee**. To **tune in to** this experience we found out about some art pieces Katie had created, and considered a range of **open-ended questions** to ask her during the interview. As **collaborators** and **communicators** some learners interviewed artist Simon Perry. They will engage in **dialogue** with each other to **summarise** their findings to others, to help each other sort out their thinking about the purpose of community art.

As **Mathematicians** we began to tune into the concept of **volume**. Using a **mind map** to organize our initial thinking, we documented all the **connections** we could make from our current understanding. Over the coming weeks will have the **opportunity** to add to our mind maps as we develop a deeper **understanding** around measuring volume. Students are reminded to continue practicing their multiplication and division goodies and baddies each night to ensure **fluency** with their timetables facts.

To continue to build upon our skills as **writers** we engaged in writing conference workshops. In these workshops we **critically reflect** on the **purpose** and **message** of our writing, using our arrow prompts to allow us to ask important questions and edit our writing. We have also been using our **exemplar** texts to **facilitate** an understanding about the features of different text genres, building our schema and allow us to **incorporate new ideas** into our future writing pieces.

Year 5 – 6 Learning Spaces



Inquiry is a mindset. The inquiry learner brings a disposition of curiosity and intrigue to their learning. Inquiry teaches us how to look beyond the surface. (Kath Murdoch, 2015)

As curious researchers, as part of **finding out** about our **Faith and Life Inquiry** compelling question, **How do the arts change lives?** We will reflect on the online Artist talks we have engaged with including, **Simon Perry** awarded and publicly

recognised sculptural artist and academic. He is known from his work located around Melbourne City including, *Public Address* (2005), Federation Square, *The John Mockridge Fountain*, Melbourne City Square Melbourne (2000), *Threaded Field*, Marvel Stadium Melbourne (2000) and *Public Purse* (1994) Bourke Street Mall Melbourne. Lecturer, installation and sculptural artist **Katie Lee**, who explores a range of materials in her artwork including **wood, rubber, steel, interrupted space, light, video, performative gesture, repetition, resistance, elasticity, fixed form**. And lastly, Aria nominated singer and songwriter **Gretta Ray**, who wrote, sung and produced the song 'Better'. We will be engaging in the *sorting out* phase of our inquiry by **reflecting** on our findings and **interpreting** how these forms of arts change lives.



As part of our **Faith and Life inquiry** we are engaging in the thinking moves **activating prior knowledge, generating ideas and wondering** as we explore the nativity narratives, *Luke 2:1-14* and *Matthew 2:1-12*. As reflective and critical inquirers we will explore the gospels. We will be **seeing new layers of meaning** by interpreting commentaries in relation to the scripture stories. We will be **interpreting text and symbols** as we engage in dialogue and **connection making** with the commentaries and scripture.

As **collaborators**, some of us will be engaging in **Adam Wallace** writing workshops. We will engage in **finding out** different writing **techniques and strategies** to help make our writing more interesting and entertaining for the reader. We will also engage in **illustrating** a small cartoon, using **tips and tricks** during our workshop.



As **mathematicians and inquirers** we are engaging in a variety of learning opportunities related to **Geometric Reasoning, Number and Algebra**. Some of us will be **constructing our own protractor** and using these to help us with **estimating, measuring and comparing angles** using **degrees**, some of us are constructing angles using a protractor and some of us are investigating **with and without digital technologies**, the size of a **right angle** and **defining acute, obtuse, straight and reflex angles**. As mathematicians we also have a particular focus on developing our fluency in relation to our **times tables** and our **reasoning and understanding** in relation to solving mathematical problems efficiently. Some of us are also revising **multiplication** of larger numbers by using strategies such as the **box method** and **lattice method**.

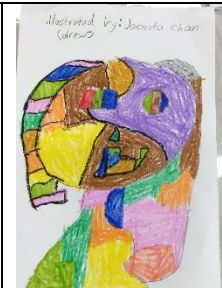
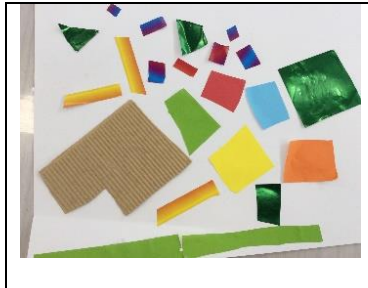
Visual Arts

"I paint objects as I think them not as I see them." Pablo Picasso

Understand Art Worlds- Learning about artists and the art community past and present

As artists the students viewed artworks by the artists Henri Matisse and Pablo Picasso. We observed the elements of abstract art; line, shape and colour in the artworks.

Making



Reflect – Looking back and thinking about the learning you have done

“My portrait is inspired by Picasso. I used lots of colours and lines.” Jacinta

“It is raining and the clothes on the clothes line are getting wet. The building is bending over in the wind.” Willow

“It took me lots of time to create my collage. I had to cut lots of shapes and choose didn’t colours.” Arav

“Abstract art is when you create something that doesn’t look like what it actually is.” Wesley

“Abstract Art can look messy” Baraka

“Abstract Art can be confusing because it can look like lots of different things.” Krish

Physical Education

“Great things come from hard work and perseverance.” - Kobe Bryant.

Foundation - Year two students will continue to learn about the fundamental movement skill known as the ‘forehand strike’. Their focus in their learning this week is to make good contact with the ball and attempt to hit the ball in the air and over the net. Whilst learning about the forehand strike, students will learn to hit a drop serve and also learn to ‘track’ a moving ball onto their racquet.

Students in Year 3-4 will continue to focus on the fundamentals of Tennis - Serve, Return, Rally, Points. Students will play a small-sided game of Tennis called ‘beat the champ’ where they will apply all of the new skills they have learnt and practiced over the past 3 weeks of learning.

Students in Years 5-6 will also focus on the fundamentals of Tennis - Serve, Return, Rally, Points. This week students will combine all the different shots they have learnt in previous weeks (drop serve, forehand, backhand and volley) and the different strategies (using width and depth of the court and creating open space to hit the ball into) as they continue to have match play where students will think tactically about how they can win the point against their opponents.

Students are reminded to wear their sports jackets and hats out to Physical Education lessons, please ensure that all items of clothing have your child's name on it to avoid confusion.

Sustainability Learning

"...young people have a new ecological sensitivity and a generous spirit, and some of them are making admirable efforts to protect the environment..." (Pope Francis, Laudato Si #209)

Our multi – age structure enable lots of opportunities for younger and older children to learning together. This week our **Sustainability learners** will engage in setting up the remainder of our **worm farms**. In total we have 12 worm farms at Mother Teresa Catholic Primary school. By engaging in setting up our worm farms our learners will inquiry into the following:

What is needed to set up and maintain a worm farm? What food scraps can be collected and what happens to our food scraps? Why are certain food scraps not suited for the worm farms? How is worm tea produced and bottled.

This week our hands on sustainability learning will be complemented by our **Kids Teaching Kids program** our **Sustainability leaders** who will take the time and opportunity to engage in mini focus groups across our learning community, teaching students about **composting**. Our **compost leaders** have been busy **researching** and preparing various power point presentations focusing on how to set up a worm farm. Our **sustainability learners** will have the **opportunity** to view these power point presentations which will be used across our learning community to facilitate dialogue about worm farming.

These workshops will assist in gaining a better understanding of how to use our **organic waste, what organics can be fed to the worms and general up keep and maintenance of our worm farms**. Our learners will investigate and document facts about **composting**. **What is compost? The importance of composting? How does composting benefit our environment?**

Important fact: Did you know that composting is another way of recycling!!



Seedling donations

A very big thank you to all the families from our **learning community** for donating various vegetable seedlings or plants. As a school community we are happy to accept any seasonal vegetable seedling or plants that can be planted in our vegetable garden.

Mother Teresa PS promoted by Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation – take a look ...

<https://www.kitchengardenfoundation.org.au/content/students-get-hands-help-environment>

Japanese

Students in **Foundation - Year 2** will continue a focus on exploring **numbers** in Japanese. As **language learners** we will engage in a board game which consolidates sequential counting from one to ten in Japanese. As **thinkers** we will continue to focus on using memory hints to help us **build the skill of reading kanji numbers**, with a focus on the numbers one to five. We will extend beyond reading to writing familiar numbers using stroke order. Stroke order assists us in writing Japanese characters with correct shape.

Students in **Year 3-4** will **explore** numbers one to nineteen. As **thinkers** we will **identify the pattern** which helps us remember how to read these numbers greater than ten. As **inquirers** we will then begin to explore words for **months of the year** in Japanese. We will focus on reading these using kanji characters and will engage in being “**curious**” about how familiar numbers are used for words for months in Japanese.

Students in **Year 5-6** will begin to explore words for **months of the year** in Japanese. As **thinkers** we will **activate prior knowledge** about how numbers one to twelve are used for words for months in Japanese. We will focus on reading these using kanji characters. We will then **make our thinking visible** by creating a diagram of the seasons. We will label the months of the year for each season in kanji characters around the diagram.

Cyber Safety

“The five most efficient cyber defenders are: Anticipation, Education, Detection, Reaction and Resilience.”— Stephane Nappo

There are many good resources for parents about Cybersafety and being safe when online. Below are some from the Office of the eSafety Commissioner.

- **Being Safe Online Booklet** - This is a short guide about how to stay safe online, it can be accessed at <https://www.esafety.gov.au/educators/classroom-resources/being-safe-online-easy-read>
- **Online Safety Book** - This book is able to be read online, downloaded to your device or, if you prefer, purchased as a hard copy through the website. This can be accessed in Chinese, Greek, Italian, Spanish and English at <https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/online-safety-book>
- **Online Safety for Under 5's** - This is a short booklet aimed at helping children under the age of 5. It can be accessed at <https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/children-under-5/online-safety-for-under-5s-booklet>
- **Parent Information Sheets** - Located at <https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/resources> there are many information sheets that can be downloaded on a range of topics such as conversation starters with young people and tips to keep your children safe as well as **Audio Clips, Videos, Activities for Children and booklets advising on issues such as online safety and COVID 19**

Parent Webinars

There is one remaining eSafety webinar for parents this term on the 24th November running from 7.30pm to 8.30 pm **eSafety's parent guide to online gaming**. To register for this go to <https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/224257905834791949>. There will be further opportunities in 2022 for more online webinars. Head to <https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/webinars> for more information.

Digital Technologies

"There are all sorts of things embodied in the Lego brick - geometry and mathematics and truth and proportion and shape and colour... It is a faintly spiritual activity that everybody connects with." ~ James May

Some students in Foundation – Year 2 will be beginning to explore Microsoft PowerPoint and learning about making a slideshow that can display different types of information. They will explore concepts such as adding slides and inserting pictures into their presentation.

As students in Years 3 – 6 continue rebuilding Lego sets for display, they are improving many different skills. Lego helps with the development of fine motor skills, the skill needed to complete more complex sets increasing. Students will also be practicing persistence as they search for specific pieces and carefully follow the instructions to complete the model.

Performing Arts

"We've already invented a time machine. It's called music." - Brian Norgard

As **collaborators** and **thinkers** the students in Foundation to Year 2 will continue to tune in to the varying lengths of different musical notes. Students will be using different musical instruments to explore and discover how they can play notes that have varying lengths.

As **thinkers** and **collaborators** the students in Year 3 /4 will continue exploring how to perform the hand signs for the musical notes E, G and A. Students will continue to explore the rhythmic concepts of quarter and eighth notes. Practicing to read and perform short rhythmic phrases using rhythm sticks.

As **thinkers** and **collaborators** the students in Year 5/ 6 will be exploring how to perform the hand signs for the musical notes E, G and A and how these notes can be combined in different combinations on instruments to improvise and make up short melodic phrases. Students will continue to explore the rhythmic concepts of quarter and eighth notes and start to explore sixteenth notes. Practicing to read and perform short rhythmic phrases using percussion instruments.

After School Care at Mother Teresa Primary School

Always Learning and Always Evolving



Term Four Dates

Wednesday 24 th November	Foundation Orientation Sessions
Wednesday 1 st December	School Photo Day
Saturday 4 th December	First Eucharist Celebrations
Tuesday 7 th December	Year 6 Farewell Mass 7pm
Thursday 9 th December	School Closure Day – Planning 2022
Friday 10 th December	Confirmation Celebration 7pm
Tuesday 14 th December	Term Four Concludes

The following dates are correct at the time of printing. Please read the newsletter each week and note the weekly happenings particularly in light of COVID-19 health advice.

EXTEND OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE.



BOOK 14 DAYS IN ADVANCE TO SAVE MONEY!

Did you know that if you book 14 days or more in advance, you can save money? With plenty of time still left this term, now is a great time for families to book early and secure the early bird rate.

ENROLMENT IS EASY AND FREE

We understand plans can change right at the last minute and that's okay. Whether you book in advance or at the last minute, Extend is here to help! We recommend that all families enrol. Enrolling is free, easy and ensures we have the right information to safely care for your child and... did we mention it's free?

For more information about Extend's programs visit our Before & After School Care page at [extend.com.au](https://www.extend.com.au).



Enquiries 1300 366 437 Book online today [extend.com.au](https://www.extend.com.au)



Hume Tennis have friendly and welcoming Tennis Australia coaches and to welcome the community back we are having **FREE TRIAL** lessons throughout November for juniors and adults. [#TennisParadise](https://www.tennisaustralia.com.au/paradise)

