



MOTHER TERESA CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER

15th May 2023

Look at the cross and you will know what one soul means to Jesus. Mother Teresa

To All In Our Learning Community,

Within our Catholic learning community we are all invited to dialogue about our faith understandings. These understandings can be affirmed or confronted by the dialogue with the Catholic tradition as a key dialogue partner. In our learning community this dialogue occurs in a safe and welcoming space- one where meaning making can take place. It is called a hermeneutical space. This space is created physically in a learning space through gathering together to dialogue about faith. It is also within each of us as we enter dialogue with others and seek personal understandings about faith and life.



In the past weeks we have been considering a number of symbols from the Easter Season. As I have reflected on these I am drawn to the cross. The Easter cross is draped in yellow, a sign of joy and hope in the knowledge that Jesus overcame death and rose to new life. St Paul in his writing reminds Christians that without the death and resurrection of Jesus the hope of resurrection is in vain. It is in and through the death of Jesus that Christians are promised the gift of eternal life.

The cross or crucifix is a sign of Christian belief. Christians often have a cross or crucifix in their home, some wear jewellery items of crosses or crucifixes. In recent times some even tattoo the cross on their body proclaiming their Christian belief.

Artists also express their belief in the Risen Jesus through artistic works. Singer and songwriter Marty Haugen, in his song, *Tree of Life*, reminds listeners that through death on this cross—the tree of life — new life is given

*“Tree of Life and awesome mystery,
In your death we are reborn,
Though you die in all of history,
Still you rise with every morn
Still you rise with every morn.”*

Marty Haugen, © 1984 GIA Publications Inc.

Placed within our school grounds is another interpretation of the risen Jesus and the tree of life. Artist Christine Sage beautifully interprets the Emmaus story. In her image we see the joyful exhilaration of the disciples at the discovery of the risen Jesus. Christine describes these disciples as sprouting upwards from life-giving tree trunks. As they throw their arms into the air we can almost hear them cry, “He walks amongst us! The mystery of God is placed before us.

What does the cross mean to you if you are Christian? If you are not a Christian what is your interpretation and understanding? How might our dialogue about the cross provide new insights and interpretations to this central Christian symbol?

Blessings in this Easter Season

Chris

This Week's Happenings

Monday 15th May

School tour 2024 enrolments

Year 3/4 Excursion to the National Gallery of Victoria

Tuesday 16th May

Year 3/4 Excursion to the National Gallery of Victoria

Professional learning – 1st Aid Training

Wednesday 17th May

Professional Learning – Planning & Reporting

First Eucharist Workshop 7pm

Thursday 18th May

Friday 19th May

Mother's Day - Open morning and morning tea ~ Thank you

Thanks to all those who attended our Mother's Day open morning and morning tea. It was wonderful to see so many mothers, grandmothers, aunts and significant adult figures last Friday.

Special thanks to our Parents and Friends group and to the dads Pradeep, Peter, James and Gianni who ensured the cakes and tea, and coffee were replenished and ready for our mums.

We hope all mums had a happy Mother's Day.

First Eucharist Preparation and Celebration

The Eucharist Parent & Child workshop at Mother Teresa PS will take place on **Wednesday 17th May, 7pm**. All children receiving the sacrament of Eucharist are required to attend the workshop with a parent.

The Eucharist Sign Up and Presentation Weekend is the **Weekend of 20th and 21st May 2023**. All children receiving the sacrament of Eucharist are required to attend the workshop with a parent.

The 1st Eucharist Celebration for children from Mother Teresa PS is to take place at Our Lady's Parish Church – **Sunday 18th June, 3pm**

School Uniform~ Winter Uniform

All children are required to wear the full winter uniform from Monday 22nd May.

The girl's winter uniform is grey tights. For clarification of the uniform please refer to

<https://www.motherteresa.catholic.edu.au/enrolment-information/uniform/>

Uniform is purchased through APLUS Schoolwear previously Northern Regional Uniforms

Shade Sail Replacement

Last week the sails over our adventure playground were replaced. In the coming weeks the shade sails over the sandpit will also be replaced. These replacements are due to wear and tear.

School Fees term 2

School fees form a key part of the school budget for recurrent costs. Please note the key dates for Term 2

Term Two \$552	Accounts forwarded	22 nd May 2023
	Payable by	9 th June 2023

Term 2 - Curriculum Day

Staff will be engaged in Mathematics professional learning and planning on Monday 29th May. There will be ***no school for children on Monday 29th May***.

Parents & Friends News

Thank you to all those who supported our mother's morning tea and Mother's day stall.

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

We tuned in to **Reconciliation Week** through a **shared experience** with our expert **Murrindindi**. As members of a **faith learning community**, we engaged in **learning hermeneutically** when we interacted with Aboriginal Elder, Murrindindi. We engaged in valuing **multiplicity of voices and practices** when finding out about Reconciliation week. Students reflected on this opportunity and their findings about the purpose of symbols within our learning community, how we **recontextualise** these in our faith

community and also what these symbols mean for the Indigenous communities. As readers we **tuned in** by **listening to and dialoguing about** the story 'Respect' by Aunty Fay Muir & Sue Lawson. As **hermeneutical learners** we are **finding out** more about the **symbols** of fire, water and the cross in the Christian tradition and similarities of symbols in other faiths. We **read information** about Christian symbols from the text, 'Signs and Symbols'. Using the thinking routine **Word-Phrase-Sentence** we will **identify new ideas** that **extend our thinking**.

As **researchers** in our Faith and Life inquiry, we used the **split screen** routine to document our initial thinking and will use the **graphic organiser**, a **data chart** to **sort our discoveries** around different materials. As **communicators** and **collaborators**, we will gather in small groups to **dialogue** and **share** our thinking. We will consider, **what material it is, where it came from, what we can do with it, what might be some things that are made out of it and where it might go once we are finished with it**. We will be **classifying** and **sorting** our **thinking**. We will focus on the **thinking moves, making connections** and **building explanations**.



As **communicators**, we are sharing our learning with our families at home. We will take home a **data chart** to record the things we **identify** in and around our house that are made from these materials.

As **mathematicians** and as part of **Tuning in to Statistics & Probability** we will **activate our prior knowledge** on questioning; we will compile a list of yes/no questions to collect and create displays of data for **analysis** using **lists, pictures, tables, charts** and different types of **graphs** and **interpret** them. We will explore and **classify** objects in a variety of ways including by shape, size and/or colour. We will use a box of smarties to **predict** how many of each colour is in a box, then document our findings using the best type of graph to **represent our data**. Through dialogue and documentation, we will make discoveries using the following questioning: Which colour shows the **least/most** amount? How many **more/less** a certain colour appeared than another? If we were to compare each box in the same packet together, would this alter the result based on **comparing** more than just one little box? Justify your thinking.

Together we will also identify practical and familiar activities and everyday events that we can **describe outcomes** for as **certain, likely, unlikely, impossible**.

On Friday we celebrated our Mums, Grandmothers, Aunties in our lives by sharing a variety of our learning opportunities within our learning spaces. We engaged in Lego, mathematical thinking games, chess, reading or drawing a portrait of ourselves with mum or grandma, before they were all invited to attend morning tea in our open prayer space.



Bridging Centre

Year 3 – 4 Learning Spaces

“The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existing.” Albert Einstein

As researchers, the Year 3 /4 children will have the opportunity to explore the National Gallery of Victoria (NGV) to help them find out about design and how that might impact art. The excursion will help us delve deeper into the design process and make connections to other objects around us, not just everyday objects or machines. In preparation for the excursion, we will take the time to observe closely the 'I can' statement- I can communicate my ideas verbally and through diagrams. We will activate our prior knowledge and identify what that means for us as learners and what that might look and feel like on our excursion. We will make connections to what we already know about design, the design process, forces and simple machines to help us explore the excursion further.



As mathematicians, we are continuing to explore the concepts of statistics and data collection. We have activated our prior knowledge on ways to collect data such as lists and tallies, as well as ways to present it such as picture graphs, bar graphs and pie graphs. We will start to use technology to help us show these ideas as well as increasing our data samples and using more complex questions.

As writers, we have been engaging in writer’s conferences to help us ensure our writing has a purpose and that our message is clear. We will have the opportunity to publish a text for our writer’s gift in the coming weeks.

This is a great opportunity to remind children and families to bring in 'seeds' to help spark the writer's imagination and curiosity when writing. A ‘seed’ can be something small like a special rock or something big like a picture.



As people of a Faith based community and as many of our children start to prepare to receive the sacrament of Eucharist in the coming months, we have been taking time to activate our prior knowledge on what Eucharist means, what it looks like and what happens on the day. Children have been exploring the Sieger Koder images around Eucharist to help them make connections to the scripture stories as well as the Catholic Tradition. We will continue to take the learning further for the children engaging in the sacrament at the Eucharist workshop next Wednesday the 17th of May.

Leadership Centre

Year 5/6 Learning Spaces

A journey of inquiry always involves some form of research – and research is not limited to the books and the internet.

Kath Murdoch 2022



As part of our **Faith and Life inquiry**, as part of **finding out**, we will be **engaging in learning opportunities**, during our excursion, to **Josh's Rainbow Eggs**, related to our **compelling question: What makes a 'good' business?** The **learning we engage in during our time at Josh's Rainbow Eggs will help us to understand how his business targets identified needs and wants in producing eggs, the range of factors and types of resources that play a role in his ethical and sustainable decision making on the farm, in what ways scientific knowledge** has been used to make his business more sustainable and the **design processes** involved in his business.

As researchers, at our visit to Josh's Rainbow Eggs, we will have many **opportunities** to be **curious, open-minded, and resourceful** as we **observe closely, actively listen for relevant information, dialogue with Josh & Tamsyn, explore the Grading Room, view the 40,000egg/hr packing machine, visit the packing shed, note take, sketch and think critically** about the information we gather.

Prior to our excursion, as part of **tuning in**, as **curious and persistent researchers** we will engage in the thinking moves **observing closely, connection making and wondering** as we **view some short film clips about Josh's Rainbow Eggs and formulate some wonderings** that we want to **explore and find out** about during our time on the farm on Thursday.

Just a reminder that Year 5/6 children need to be at school by 8:15am this Thursday. The bus, to Josh's Rainbow Eggs, will be leaving Mother Teresa PS at **8:30am**.

Cyber Safety

Upcoming FREE eSafety Parent Webinars

Webinar	Date and Time	Registration Link
<p>eSafety 101: how eSafety can help you This 30-minute webinar is designed for parents and carers of young people in primary and secondary school. It will cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● who we are● what you can report to eSafety● helpful advice and resources for parents and carers.	<p>Wednesday 24th May 7:30 pm to 8:00 pm</p>	<p>https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/9079267171533697803</p>
<p>Setting your child up for success online This 30-minute webinar is designed for parents and carers of young people in primary school. It will cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● age-appropriate expectations and boundaries● online risks and strategies to keep your children safe● where to find support for you and your child when things go wrong.	<p>Wednesday 31st May 7:30 pm to 8:00 pm</p>	<p>https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/1671877126416238091</p>
<p>Getting started with social media: TikTok, YouTube, Instagram</p>	<p>Monday 22nd May 12:30 pm to 1:00</p>	<p>https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/28221246</p>

This 30-minute webinar is designed for parents and carers of young people in primary and secondary school. It includes practical tech tips, conversation starters and digital parenting advice.

It will cover:

- creating a positive digital identity
- privacy and sharing online
- managing what you see online
- good practices in group chats
- help-seeking.

pm

[18746015758](tel:18746015758)

**Wednesday 8th
June**
12:30 pm to 1:00
pm

Term Two Dates 2023

Saturday 20 th May & Sunday 21 st May	First Eucharist Sign Up Weekend
Tuesday 23 rd May	Reconciliation Week Celebration – welcome Murrindindi
Monday 29 th May	School Closure Day – Staff Mathematics Professional learning (No School for children)
Monday 5 th June	World Environment day
Wednesday 7 th June	School Photo Day
Monday 12 th June	King’s Birthday Public Holiday (No School)
Sunday 18 th June	First Eucharist Celebration 3pm
Wednesday 21 st June	Parent/ Child/ Teacher interviews (Children dismissed at 1.00pm)
Friday 23 rd June	Term 2 ends at 1.30pm

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

Secondary School News

Kolbe Catholic College Applications for Year 7 2025 and beyond are now open.

Timeline for enrolment offers for Year 7, 2025

18 August 2023: Applications for Year 7, 2025, close. Applications received after this date will automatically be waitlisted.

- 20 October 2023: Offers posted to prospective applicants.
- 10 November 2023: Final date for families to accept offers made by College. Following this date, waitlisted families may be contacted if places become available.