



MOTHER TERESA CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER

30th October 2023,

"You can love all men (and women) perfectly if you love the one God in them all." - Mother Teresa

To All In Our Learning Community,

Yesterday's gospel reading within the Roman Catholic tradition was taken from Matthew's gospel chapter 22 where we hear a Pharisee asking Jesus, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the law?' 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.' The Pharisees we know continually questioned the teachings of Jesus, which they considered not in line Torah law and traditions reflected in the Old Testament. In this piece from Matthew the Pharisees question Jesus about the greatest commandment. Biblical scholar Sr. Mary Coloe suggests Jesus draws on the teachings in the book of Deuteronomy (6:1-4) and the book of Leviticus (19:18). It is through this that love of God and neighbour are seen as the greatest laws.

The notion of neighbour is one we have explored many times as a learning community. Our wire statues, so visible on our property, are one representation of our understanding of neighbour - care for our common home, care for the vulnerable and in the centre love for all. Our neighbour is one we are encouraged to see face to face, acknowledging the loving of my neighbour as myself.



Wire sculptures at Mother Teresa PS, Mt Ridley

As the current conflict in Gaza escalates with numerous negotiators at hand may peace and love of neighbour be the outcome for all. Our whole school prayer continues to focus on peace in our world. Today we prayed:

God of Peace,

We pray for peace in our world, particularly in places in the world experiencing violence and injustice. May we grow in our understanding of all people being made in God's image and be open to standing in solidarity with those who experience injustice.

God of peace hear us.

Kind regards,

Chris

This Week's Happenings

Monday 30th October

LaTrobe Wildlife Sanctuary excursion Year 3/4

Tuesday 31st October

Professional learning – Emergency management

Wednesday 1st November

All Saints Day

AFL inflatables

Professional Learning – Faith & Life Inquiry

Thursday 2nd November

All Souls Day

Friday 3rd November

Welcome Kath Murdoch Inquiry Planning

Zooper Dooper Friday

AFL Inflatables ~ this come Wednesday 1st November

Our AFL Inflatables day will take place this Wednesday November 1st. The children will be encouraged to wear something blue on this day for a \$1 donation which will be forwarded to the Motor neurone disease (MND) foundation for research into this disease. Sports uniform can be worn with an additional touch of blue!

Label Uniform

Please ensure all school clothing items especially hats, sports jackets and jumpers are labelled so that misplaced items can be returned to their owners.

No school hat No play

All children are required to wear a school hat while outside. Remember UV levels in Victoria are 3 or higher from mid-August all the way through to the end of April, not just terms 1 and 4.

November ~ remembering those who have died

During November the Roman Catholic traditions remembers all those who have died. This remembering begins with the celebration of All Saints or All Hallows on November 1st continuing with the celebration of All Souls on November 2nd. Last week each family received a remembrance sheet to record family or friends who have died. If you would like to remember special people please complete the sheet which will be placed in our remembrance book in our prayer space.

School Absence – Approved – Unapproved

All school requires families to notify the school of all school absences. Families can use the audiri/Skoobag App to register absence. If the school is not notified of absences an SMS is sent seeking clarification of the absence. Approved absence examples include illness, infectious or contagious disease, medical treatment that cannot be attended to outside of school hours. Unapproved absence examples include shopping, visiting friends, convenient early pickups.

Absences from school effect social and academic growth. Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic School's (MACS) of which Mother Teresa PS is a part requires that schools closely monitor unexplained or unapproved absence.

School Closure Day ~ Monday 6th November

Staff will be involved in report writing on Monday 6th November. There will be no school for children on this day

Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday ~ Tuesday 7th November

There will be no school for children on Tuesday 7th November. Melbourne Cup day is a public holiday.

School Closure ~ Friday 8th December

Staff will be involved in planning for 2024 with Kath Murdoch on Friday 8th December. There will be no school for children on this day.

School Fees & Levies 2024

The budget and organisation for 2024 is well underway. The family school fee in 2024 is \$1,722 (concession applies to eligible families). The levy per student will remain at \$ 312

A detailed outline of the fee and levy structure was forwarded to families today.

Please note the student levy is payable by Friday 9th February, 2024. Prepayments of this levy can be made prior to this date.

Year 5/ 6 Camp 2024

The Year 5/ 6 camp will take place at Lady Northcote Camp Bacchus Marsh in Term 2 Wednesday 15th May – Friday 17th May. The cost of the camp is \$454.

Book Packs

A flier regarding Book Packs for 2024 was distributed today.

The take-home book boxes are no longer available through the Bookpack and will need to be purchased through the school. They are \$10.

Package Free

This week our sustainability leaders will be engaging in an audit of our package free lunch boxes. We continue to be committed to reducing our packaging. Examples of items in a package free lunch include to following.

- Sandwich in a snug-fitting reusable container. Snacks in a reusable container. Drink in a reusable and resealable bottle.
- Yoghurt in a small reusable container, filled at home from a bulk container
- 'Trail mix' in a reusable container
- Whole fruits without packaging or fruit pieces in reusable containers
- Raw/salad vegetables (eg. carrots, celery, cucumber) with small container of dip
- Muffin, fruit bread or biscuits in a reusable container
- Sliced cheese and crackers in a reusable container
- Durable cutlery that is designed to be washed and reused (the school is not able to provide cutlery)
- Washable cloth napkin

(Source: Schools recycle right, Planet Ark. Coles)

At Mother Teresa Primary School we compost all scraps through our worm farms, lug and mega bins.

Mini Vinnies News

Indigenous Literacy Foundation

Thank you to all those who donated to our action of supporting the Indigenous Literacy Foundation. Through the selling of books and busking we were able to raise over \$200.00! The experience that some of us had busking took courage and we were encouraged by the positive feedback. It has also led to reforming a Mother Teresa Choir supported by Miss Mac. We will be beginning to practise songs for our end of year mass fortnightly on Wednesdays during lunch beginning this week. If you would like to join please come along!

Parents & Friends News

The Parents and Friends group supports the building of our learning community through numerous social and fundraising events.

Term 4 Zooper Dooper Fridays

Each Friday in Term 4 our Parents & Friends will be selling Zooper Doopers for \$1 at lunch time. Sales take place between 1:40pm – 2:10pm. If you are able to assist with sales please register 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

“Children are the first great researchers. If we are capable of listening to them, children can give us back our pleasure in wonder, in marvelling, in doubt.” Carla Rinaldi

As part of **finding out** and **sorting out** about our Faith and Life Inquiry “What lives here?” our students engaged in **formulating wonderings** about some of the animals, we **predicted** we would see at the Melbourne Zoo. Some students’ wonderings to one of our understandings - *Living things have a variety of external features and live in different places where their basic needs are met*, were as follows:

I wonder how seals can stay under water for a long time if they have lungs. (Adam)

I wonder why the Snow Leopard doesn’t live in the snow or in a cooler habitat. (John Paul)

I wonder how Corroboree Frogs absorb water in through their skin. (Arbella)

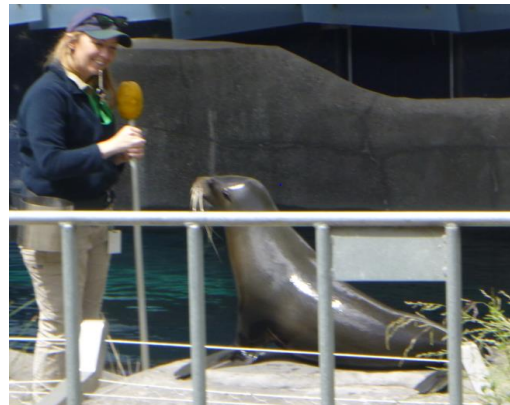
I wonder how various living things can camouflage into their habitats without having to change after they are born. (Oliver)

I wonder how long seals can stay on land without going into water. (Will)



As part of **finding out**, as **scientists** and **researchers**, we had the opportunity to attend Melbourne Zoo and engage with their **Wild Explorer program**. We used **magnifying glasses, binoculars** and our **senses** to **look closely** and **observe** the features of different animals. As **thinkers** we explored how the various features of the animals and of their habitats, help them to survive.

We will use a graphic organiser; **T-chart**, to help us **sort out** our discoveries and how we found out about them. (The **skills** we used as a researcher such as listening to an expert, asking questions, observing using our senses...)



As part of **Faith and Life inquiry**, we are **tuning in** and **finding out** about Catholic Missions Australia. We will use the thinking routine **Connect-Extend-Challenge** to make connections to what we know about reaching out to others in the world, even though we might never meet them. We will [read about Elena from Timor-Leste](#) and find out about what it is like for her to go to school by viewing a [video](#). We will **extend our thinking** by adding any **new ideas** to our thinking. We will then identify any **new challenges** we might have. Some of us are **curious** about sockballs and will be **finding out** about how to make one. We will also reflect critically as **hermeneutical learners** about why we might wear crazy socks in connection with what we find out about **Solidarity**.

As **mathematicians** we will begin tuning into **multiplication and division**. We will look at **arrays** around us to help discover **strategies** of counting all in an efficient way. We will **make connections** with **multiplication** and **repeated addition**, **skip counting**, **arrays** and number sentences – **how many groups of...**

Bridging Centre

Year 3– 4 Learning Spaces

As researchers, the Year 3/ 4 students have had the opportunity to engage in an excursion to the LaTrobe Wildlife Sanctuary, to help them find out about how living things grow and change. Through exploring a walk around the sanctuary, a session on food webs and food chains, dip netting and looking through microscopes to observe macroinvertebrate, the children made new discoveries about different habitats, how living things get their needs met, food chains and food webs and different sorts of living things that we might not be able to see. The children will have the opportunity to reflect on the excursion in different ways such as reflection stems and documenting their new thinking to help them see how their thinking has grown over time.

As we said farewell to the chickens on Thursday, it was a great opportunity to reflect on how the chicks had grown and changed over the course of the fortnight we had them. Even though only 3 hatched (2 were given already hatched), it was a great opportunity to practise our scientific skills of observing closely and make observations about what we could see.



Factual texts are providing us with a great context for our reading and writing tasks. Through observing and unpacking different texts, writing our own texts and engaging in writer's conferences to get feedback on our writing, children are finding out even more about how living things grow and change. When reading factual texts, our focus is on identifying key words and using a dictionary to clarify unknown words, helping us to explore different habitats, types of animals and living things.

When engaging in prayer, we have been focusing on the Hail Mary prayer and deepening our understanding of who Mary was and the times that she lived in. We have been making connections to what we already knew about Mary from other scripture stories and how she came to have Jesus. We will be recontextualising the prayer and scripture stories about Mary, to help us find out how this can make sense in today's context.

In connection to Socktober and Crazy sock day, the children have had and will continue to find out the Catholic Social Teaching of Solidarity. Through viewing videos from Socktober and the Catholic Social Teachings, the children have had an opportunity to start to find out what it means to show solidarity to others. We will continue to find out more in the coming weeks.

Term Four Dates 2023

Monday 6th November

School Closure Day - report Writing

Tuesday 7th November

No school for children this day

Melbourne Cup - Public holiday

Wednesday 15th November

No school for children this day

Sunday 19th November

Foundation 2024 Orientation session 1

Wednesday 22nd November

World Day of the Poor

Tuesday 28th November

Foundation 2024 Orientation session 2

Wednesday 29th November

Foundation – Year 2 excursion to CERES

Foundation – Year 2 excursion to CERES

Thursday 30th November
Sunday 3rd December
Friday 8th December

Sunday 10th December
Thursday 14th December
Friday 15th December
Sunday 17th December
Monday 18th December
Tuesday 19th December
Wednesday 20 December
Sunday 24th December
Monday 25th December

Kolbe Orientation Day Year 7 2024
1st Sunday of Advent
School Closure Day - planning 2024
No school for children this day
2nd Sunday of Advent
Year 5/6 Bowling Excursion
Term 4 ends for children at 1.30pm
3rd Sunday of Advent
Staff professional learning / planning
Staff professional learning/ planning
Staff end of year
4th Sunday of Advent
Christmas Day

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

DPV Health Presents

The Best Time in History to be a Dad Webinar

By **Jeremy Macvean** from **The Father Hood**

Dads today can be more actively and emotionally involved in their kids' lives than ever before. This has multiple upsides for men, for their children & for their relationships. Are you making the most of the opportunity?

The webinar will explore the benefits and challenges of being a dad in 2023, how to navigate modern fatherhood, & provide inspiration for what these changes can deliver for you & your family.



WEDNESDAY
6 DECEMBER
7PM- 8PM
2023
ONLINE



www.trybooking.com/CLWQP

REGISTER HERE

RSVP by Wednesday 29th November



For more information contact:

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KOLBE CATHOLIC COLLEGE
GREENVALE



COLLEGE TOUR

Thursday **9 November** at **5:30pm**

We are delighted to invite you into our College
to meet the Principal and tour our facilities.

Register online now



scan me

www.kolbecc.catholic.edu.au