



MOTHER TERESA CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER

23rd 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,

The current conflict in Gaza has been a catalyst to unrest across the globe. A deep seated dispute and hostility has again erupted. Sadly for many in our learning community the horrors of war are not unfamiliar.

Last week we considered the Catholic Dialogue School and the role and place of dialogue. The work of moral theologian Roger Burggraeve was considered. Burggraeve tells us dialogue requires a way of thinking or being. It recognises that as human persons we are connected to each other. Entering into dialogue is not possible without the other- face to face. Burggraeve proposes, 'You have never a face just on your own, by your own. You only have a face when you are in relationship with the other.' Dialogue requires a respect and acknowledgement of the other as made in the image and likeness of God. What might this mean for our own views of this current conflict? How is this discussed or made sense of in your life? How are children shielded yet made aware of these hostilities? The current conflict has been the source of discussion in my own family. How do we make sense of this? How is it possible that such evils can occur? How do we navigate or make sense of this as Christians?

I share with you, with her permission, one of my daughter's reflections, struggles and prayer as a believer, a woman and mother...

Away with War. Away with Politics. Away with anyone who thinks it's OK to kill another human. Away with the heartless. Away with hate crime. Away with world leader's agendas and their conspirators.

I pray for all the new heavenly babies. I pray that their souls rest in eternal peace and love, and that their eternal lives with God are blessed with all the beauty the world could not afford them on Earth, that they live on eternally seeing no evil and only the grace and love of God.

I pray for all the mother and fathers, who have lost their children and their families, and bared witness to the cruel acts of evil and war. May they find peace and may God grant them comfort and abundant healing.

I pray for young people who held aspirations and future dreams, for those who worked hard to build a better tomorrow.

I pray for the young children whose childhood was robbed and whose innocent eye witnessed things no child should ever hear about. I pray that their trauma be healed and that the living can find peace in their life in spite of the terror they have faced.

I pray for those of us on Earth with open hearts who are holding space for the cruelty unfairly thrown at our brothers and sisters on Earth. May we hold on to our faith despite the evil that exists in the world. May we remember that humanity is stronger than evil.

The Catholic Dialogue School must continue to promote and embrace the richness of diversity, the human struggle for meaning and the Catholic belief that all people are created by God. This is not easy in the face of evil and those who choose to inflict pain on others. Our focus on learning hermeneutically supported by hermeneutical prompts continue to enable reflection and sense making as we 'continuously search, question, inquire, imagine and re-imagine', having an 'openness to and learning from other religions, cultures and ways of life', enabling learners to consider multiple views. What are your reflections, struggles and prayers?

Kind regards,

Chris

This Week's Happenings

Monday 23rd October

Year 5 /6 group at Parliament

Welcome Colleen Monaghan Mathematics Consultant –

Year 3/4 team

Tuesday 24th October

Foundation – Year 2 Zoo excursion (Learning spaces 1 & 2)

Professional learning – NCCD Module

Wednesday 25th October

Foundation – Year 2 Zoo excursion (Learning spaces 5, 6, 7 & 9)

Professional Learning – Faith & Life Inquiry

Thursday 26th October

Foundation – Year 2 Zoo excursion (Learning spaces 4 & 8)

LaTrobe Wildlife Sanctuary excursion Year 3/4

Friday 27th October

Crazy Sock Day

Zooper Dooper Friday

Crazy Sock Day ~ Friday 27th October

The Mini Vinnies group will once again be hosting Socktober on Friday 27th October. Crazy Sock day celebrates the work of Catholic missions and its outreach and care of the poor. Our Mini Vinnies group have provided further information below.

AFL Inflatables ~Rescheduled

Our AFL Inflatables day has been rescheduled to Wednesday November 1st. The children will be encouraged to wear something blue on this day for a \$1 donation which will be forwarded to MND foundation for research into this disease.

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 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 will be forwarded to families next week.

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 will also be distributed next week.

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

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!

Catholic Mission Week – Crazy Sock Day Friday 27th October

This week is Catholic Mission Week as part of Catholic Mission's Australia Socktober. The Mini Vinnies team invite you to participate in Socktober on Friday the 27th October. We are inviting you to participate by wearing crazy socks. During lunch time we will also be running a penalty shoot out and play sockball on the soccer pitch.

The sockball is a symbol of Socktober - made from recycled materials, socks, t-shirts and plastic bags, which children in developing countries play with. Pope Francis himself, as child growing up in poverty in Buenos Aires, played his beloved soccer with sockballs as real soccer balls were too expensive.

Through the universal game of soccer, the sockball is a symbol of poverty of children. It is a reminder for us of what many children in the world don't have.



This Socktober, instead of asking for donations, we are asking you to stand in solidarity with the children of Timor-Leste. The Catholic Social Teaching of *Solidarity* recognises that all people are created by God. As such we are all connected, no matter where we live. We will have time and opportunity to tune in and find out about *Solidarity* through our Faith and Life inquiry.

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

"Learning is meaningful when we understand the way it can make a difference to our lives or the lives of others. Journeys of inquiry can be made more meaningful when they are situated in real contexts, issues and problems, where actions can be taken as a result of the insights gained through exploration."
(Kath Murdoch, 2023)

As part of **Faith and Life inquiry**, some of us have had **time and opportunity** to pause and reflect on the understandings, *'Living things have a variety of external features and live in different places where their basic needs are met,'* and *'The features of a place can help determine what lives there.'* As **researchers** and **thinkers** we **reflected** on our **shared experience** of the **Great Aussie Bird Count** using the thinking routine Connect-Extend-Challenge to **identify** and **extend** our thinking, as well as raising any **new wonderings** we have. We will view the **results** of the bird count and discover that our **observations** helped to count **3 677 997** birds around Australia. Some of our thinking and **theories** we have developed from our observations of birds are;

The birds we saw liked the trees and grass because they could get nectar and bugs to eat. (Alex)
I think the birds were there because their habitats were there. Habitats are a home for birds. (Saanvi)
Red wattle birds like the hot weather. We saw more when it was hot than when it was windy (Jacob)
The honey-eater liked the trees that could hide them. It made them hard to see. (Olivia F)
They hide from predators such as cats. (Charbel and Eva)

Through the **lens of a scientist**, this week we are preparing to use the skills of **researchers** as we engage in the **shared experience** of observing animals at Melbourne Zoo. We will have time and opportunity to find out and sort out our thinking about our compelling question, **'What lives here?'** through the workshop *Wild Lab* or *Wild Explorer*.

As **mathematical thinkers** some of us are **tuning in** to the concept of **location** and to our excursion to the zoo. We will **look closely** and **observe the map** of Melbourne Zoo. We will **identify the map's features** and **interpret the symbols** and **label** them. As **thinkers** we will **identify** which animals we think we should visit at the zoo. As **mathematicians** will look at the times of the zoo **keeper talks** to make a timetable of our day. We will need to think about the **time** we get to the zoo and the **time** we leave to make our timetable. We will **justify** our choices of what **animal trails** to see by **building explanations** about which trail will help us find out about our compelling question, **'What lives here?'**

As part of Faith and Life inquiry, we are **tuning in** and **finding out** about **Catholic Missions Australia** and the Catholic social teaching of **Solidarity**. We will use the thinking routine **Connect-Extend-Challenge** to **make connections** to what we might already 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 360 video of her classroom. 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 on Friday 27th October and **make connections** with what we **find out** about **Solidarity**.

Bridging Centre

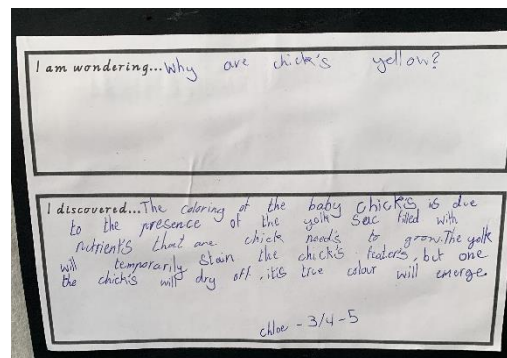
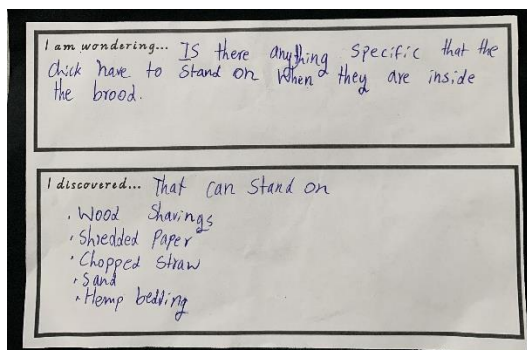
Year 3– 4 Learning Spaces

“Curiosity is the grease that helps turn the wheel of learning.” (Kath Murdoch, 2015)



As **curious inquirers**, we continue to **enjoy**, **engage** with, and **observe** our **baby chicks** delivered to us a week ago. Since they arrived two more chicks have hatched, and we are in the **process** of **gathering information from close observations** as we watch more eggs begin to hatch. **“Our curiosity is not simply sparked by what we see and hear but what we feel, smell and taste.”** (Kath Murdoch, 2015) Throughout the day, we have had **time** and **opportunity** to sit in the **space** and **observe** the **chicks** in the **brooder box** and **notice closely** what is **happening** in the **incubator**. As **thinkers** and **researchers**, we are **developing** and

refining questions to help us **seek** and **gather information** and **being flexible** and **considering** how our **thinking** is **changing**. Through **personal inquiries**, we are **investigating** our own **wonderings** based on our **observations**.



In the coming week, we will have **time** and **opportunity** as part of **exploring** our **compelling question** **‘How do living things grow and change?’** to **visit La Trobe Wildlife Sanctuary** in Bundoora. As part of **tuning in** to this **shared learning opportunity** and as part of **tuning in** to **location** as part of **mathematical thinking**; we will **look closely** at a **map**, **make notes** about the **features** of the **map** and **identify** the best way to **travel** there.



This week we had the opportunity to **engage** with **author** and **illustrator Adam Wallace**. He **shared** with us another **perspective** on **developing stories**, and we **enjoyed** using **rhyming** to help **draw step by step illustrations**. As a **gift** from him, we each **received** a **book** written by him. As **mathematicians**, we are **tuning in** to **location** by **creating** and **interpreting simple grid maps** and **showing positions** and **pathways**. As **thinkers**, we will **develop** the **skill** of using **simple scales**, **legends**, and **directions** to **interpret information** contained on **basic maps**.

Leadership Centre

Year 5–6 Learning Spaces

If we identify, communicate, and scaffold the thinking needed in every task to support students' development as effective thinkers, then student understanding will deepen, and students will focus primarily on the learning over the mere completion of work.

As part of **tuning in** to the Catholic Social Teaching principle - **Solidarity**, as **reflective thinkers**, we will **document our first thinking** about the word, 'solidarity.' As part of **finding out** we will **engage** in the thinking moves **connection making** and **identifying new ideas** as we **view images** and a **film clip** about Solidarity from Catholic Social Teaching. As part of **tuning in** to Catholic Mission Month, we will engage in the thinking moves, **making connections**, **identifying new ideas** and **wondering**, through the thinking routine **Connect-Extend-Challenge**, as we view the Global video – **We are Still Here** and the film clip, **Discover Timor-Leste and Make an Impact Today**. This coming Friday, as part of **taking action**, we are **invited** to engage in Crazy Sock Day, as one way of showing our 'solidarity.' We will be **learning hermeneutically** as we **engage** in this **continuous process of seeing new layers of meaning**, having an **openness to change and reinterpretation** and **dialoguing with each other**. We will have an opportunity to document the changes in our thinking through *This text talks to me of a world in which ...*

As **reflective and critical thinkers** we are using our **comprehension strategies** to assist us to **analyse and synthesize information** and **link ideas** from various print and digital sources about structural features, behavioural adaptations and enrichment of animals including our documentation in our journals from our excursions. As part of **sorting out** our thinking, as **writers**, we are using photos and labelled diagrams as 'seeds', as part of our Writer's Notebook. As **creative writers** we are **engaging** in the thinking moves **activating prior knowledge**, **making connections** and **identifying new ideas** as we craft information texts.

As **mathematical thinkers and inquirers**, as part of **sorting out** our thinking, we are utilising a variety of **digital programs** including Rainforest Maths and Toy Theatre as we engage in some **learning opportunities** related to **Measurement and Geometry**. In particular we are **engaging in tasks** to help us **explore** and **inquire** into **3D shapes**, their **nets**, **construction of prisms and pyramids** and the **transformations of 2D shapes**.

Term Four Dates 2023

Monday 23rd October

Tuesday 24th October

Wednesday 25th October

Thursday 26th October

Friday 27th October

Monday 30th October

Wednesday 1st November

Tuesday 2nd November

Monday 6th November

Tuesday 7th November

Wednesday 15th November

Sunday 19th November

Wednesday 22nd November

Tuesday 28th November

Wednesday 29th November

Thursday 30th November

Year 5/6 – 3 excursion to Parliament

Foundation - Year 2 excursion to Melbourne Zoo (LS 1 & 2)

Foundation - Year 2 excursion to Melbourne Zoo (LS 5, 6 & 8)

Foundation - Year 2 excursion to Melbourne Zoo (LS 4 & 8)

World Teacher's Day

Socktober – Crazy Sock Day

Year 3/4 excursion to Latrobe Wildlife Sanctuary

All Saints day

AFL Inflatables (rescheduled date)

All Souls Day

School Closure Day - report Writing

No school for children this day

Melbourne Cup - Public holiday

No school for children this day

Foundation 2024 Orientation session 1

World Day of the Poor

Foundation 2024 Orientation session 2

Foundation – Year 2 excursion to CERES

Foundation – Year 2 excursion to CERES

Kolbe Orientation Day Year 7 2024

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

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:

Lucy Forwood - Senior Coordinator Gender Equity
lucy.forwood@dpvhealth.org.au



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