



MOTHER TERESA CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER

27th November 2023,

*"In loving one another through our works,
we bring an increase of grace and a growth in divine love." - Mother Teresa*

To All In Our Learning Community,

Last Tuesday I was privileged to accompany a number of our year 5/6 children to the University of Melbourne where five of our Year 5/6 children presented at the Kids Conference. This conference is facilitated in various parts of the world and hosted in Melbourne by the Melbourne Graduate School of Education at the University of Melbourne. The presentation by the Mother Teresa Primary School children drew interest from a number of schools present who sought further information and requests to visit our school.

As educational leader I was particularly proud of the way in which these children prepared for the presentation and more specifically the reflective nature with which they identified the learning assets and disposition that were needed to engage in this learning process. They were very clear about the process required to get to the presentation stage and how they had grown as learners as a result. Through engaging with them a number of times over the past weeks I could see the growth and development of these learners. At our recent celebration of learning I know parents will have witnessed the way in which our children can confidently articulate and engage in various processes of learning.

Thursday and Friday of last week I participated in a consortium of educators throughout the country related to Catholic school identity. As a participant I was required to reflect on my own work and to share this with others collaboratively through a given process. I was asked to consider how my involvement in the consortium changed my thinking and my actions for this ongoing work. Through my reflections I was drawn to thinking about the Year 5/6 learners and learners at Mother Teresa PS. Learners within our learning community are part of a unique learning environment. With the child at the centre they are empowered to share their thinking and reflect upon what it means to be a learner. Children are of course born inquirers curious about the world around them. As educators we hope to nurture this within our learning community and empower learners to continue to inquire through various forms of scaffolding. In the coming weeks children will continue to inquire and reflect on their learning documenting their achievements and considering future goals. These reflections will form part of the learner- self assessment and Faith and Life Inquiry journals which will come home at the end of the year. Please take time to celebrate these wonderful learning achievements.

Kind regards,

Chris

This Week's Happenings

Monday 27th November

Tuesday 28th November

Foundation – Year 2 CERES Excursion Learning
Spaces 1, 2, 4, & 5
Professional Learning – School Organisation

Wednesday 29th November

Foundation – Year 2 CERES Excursion Learning
Spaces 6, 8 & 9
Professional Learning – School Organisation

Thursday 30th November

Welcome visitors from Catholic Education Sandhurst
Diocese

Friday 1st December

Welcome Colleen Monaghan
Zooper Dooper Friday

Year 6 Farewell Mass & Presentations

Our Year 6 farewell Mass will take place on Wednesday 6th December 7pm at Our Lady's Parish Church. Year 6 children and their families are asked to note this date.

End of Year Whole School Mass

Our end of year whole school Mass will take place on **Wednesday 13th December at 12.30pm** at Mother Teresa Primary School. All welcome.

At our End of Year Whole School Mass we will take the opportunity to Farewell Mr Reed. Light refreshments will follow the Mass. For catering purpose please indicate if you are attending via the Audri App – “RSVP for light refreshments”.

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.**

2024 Books Packs, Fees and Levies

Book Packs

A flier regarding Book Packs for 2024 has been distributed. Please refer to our webpage if you have misplaced yours. <https://www.motherteresa.catholic.edu.au/enrolment-information/fees-levies/> The take-home book boxes are no longer available through the Bookpack and will need to be purchased through the school. They are \$10.

School Fees & Levies 2024

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

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.

Mini Vinnies News

As a Catholic Dialogue School Mini Vinnies is taking action and offering hospitality to the other by supporting the Craigieburn St. Vincent de Paul Chapter's Christmas Appeal. We are inviting our learning community to donate non-perishable items including; tins of tuna, tins of tomato, long life milk, pasta and rice. We are also looking for Christmas items such as; mince pies, biscuits, soft drinks and lollies, as well as toiletries including toilet paper, soap, moisturizer and deodorant. You are welcome to choose an item from our Christmas tree to take home with an item on it and leave donations under the tree. We will be collecting items until **December 11th 2023**.

Parents & Friends News

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

Christmas Raffle

Our Parents and Friends are organising a Christmas Raffle. Tickets are \$1 each and will be forwarded to families this week. Prizes are now on display and include:

- A Pro Scooter & Helmet
- Instant photo kit
- Derwent pencil set
- Lego classic pack
- Vivofit Jr. 3 Kids fitness tracker

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

As part of Faith and Life inquiry this week, we will be visiting CERES, an environmental education centre. To prepare for the excursion, we will **activate our prior knowledge** around how our actions impact the survival of living things. We will read the text *‘A Story of a Wetlands Food Web’*. We will look at the visual glossary before reading to find out about what some of the key words might mean. We will **locate information** directly in the text identify how each living thing is connected to another. As **readers** and to sort out our thinking, some of us will consider what the author was trying to tell us about how **living things** can be **connected**.

As **researchers**, we will **tune in** by watching a video about CERES. We will **predict** what we might see and do while we are there. As part of **sorting out**, after the excursion, we will take the time to **reflect** on our shared experience and consider what we discovered in connection to the understanding; *We share places with living things – our actions can impact their survival (positively or negatively)*. We will use **Kath Murdoch’s reflection tool 4 Steps** to identify what we did, what we learned, why we did it and consider what we might do next. We will also reflect on and think about how we displayed the disposition of **curious** while we were there.

As **thinkers**, we will **activate our prior knowledge** around the word **Advent** as tuning in to the season which is part of the **Catholic tradition**. We will use the sentence starter, *‘Advent is..’* to come up with a statement that explains what we think Advent is about. As **thinkers**, we will engage in the thinking routine **Think Pair Share** and share our ideas with a partner.

We will engage in the thinking routine **See Think Wonder** to look closely at images and symbols connected to Advent. *This routine encourages students to make careful observations and thoughtful interpretations. It helps stimulate curiosity and sets the stage for inquiry.* We will identify **what we see, what it gets us thinking about** and identify any **wonderings** we might have.

As a **Catholic dialogue school**, we will have **time and opportunity** to **look closely** at a **text ‘I Like, I Don’t Like’**. As **hermeneutical learners**, we will **interpret** the **text** after **listening** to it and **consider** what this has got us **thinking** now. **Allowing** our **thinking** to **change** and being **open to interpretation**, we will **reflect** on the **text** and **consider** in **light of the season of Advent** what our new thinking is. As we **open up our hermeneutical space**, we will **reflect critically** on the prompt *‘expressing meaning in more than one way’*. As **communicators** and **contributors**, we will **respectfully share** our **interpretations** with each other and **consider** our **actions** as **families** and as a

community. We will **respectfully engage** with the **Catholic tradition** and **consider** how our **thinking is changing** and our **reinterpretations** of this **liturgical** season of **Advent** is shifting. As we **reflect** on our **thinking** we will use the reflection stem *Advent is.. yet Advent is also...*

To further our thinking, we will **look closely** at the provocation of the **Christmas tree** in the open learning space. We will consider an action this provocation is inviting us to engage in and think of how **we can show hospitality** to others. Our Mini Vinnies group are inviting donations of non- perishable food items including tinned food, biscuits, pasta and long life drinks. All donations will be given to the Craigieburn Chapter of St. Vincent de Paul.

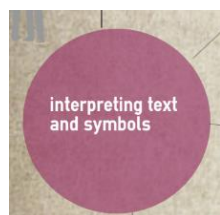
Bridging Centre

Year 3– 4 Learning Spaces

“The season of Advent... restores this horizon of hope, a hope which does not disappoint for its founded-on God’s Word.” (Pope Francis)



As a **Catholic dialogue school**, we will have **time** and **opportunity** to **discover** our **hermeneutical space** through **interpreting text and symbols** and **seeing new layers of meaning**. While using the **key thinking moves** - **looking closely**, **describing**, and **observing details** we will **consider** what we see, **think** and **wonder** while **looking** at an **artwork**. Through **dialogue with others** and while being **inclusive** of all **voices** and **thinking**, we will **share** our **interpretations** about what the **image** has us **thinking** about. As a way to **go further**, we will **revisit** the **scripture** about the **Annunciation in Luke’s Gospel 1 26:38** and consider our **connections** between the text and the image.



As part of **finding out about human decisions** that **impact living things both negatively** and **positively**, we will have **time** and **opportunity** to **engage** in a **jigsaw opportunity**. This **learning** requires us to **engage** with different peers and move around to different spaces within the Bridging Centre to find out about how humans can make a positive difference to the lives of living organisms. As **thinkers**, we will **make our thinking visible** on a **data chart** to **show** our **thinking** and **discoveries** about how **particular habitats** were **interrupted**, what impact humans made and how we demonstrated the **disposition** of **resourcefulness**. As **contributors**, we will come back together within our own learning spaces and share our thinking with others.

Alongside this mini-inquiry into human impacts on the environment, we are beginning to consider our **reflections** around this **Faith and Life Inquiry ‘How do living things grow and change?’** Through **writing opportunities** and **conferencing**, we have practiced **documenting factual texts** about a living thing. While looking at **different exemplars** and **focusing** on how to **structure** our writing, we also continue to **find ways** to **show** others our **understanding** of different living things through mind maps and through the use of digital technology.

As **mathematicians**, we are continuing to **engage** in **problems** involving **money** and **financial purchases**. For some, we are learning how to use an **open number line** and the **applying the counting up strategy** to solve the **change** given from an **amount**.

For example:

If I buy milk for \$3.50 – how much change will I receive from \$5.00?

$\$3.50 + 50c = \4.00

$\$4.00 + \$1.00 = \$5.00$.

As **thinkers**, we are also beginning to **engage** in **mathematical problems** involving **chance** and **probability**. We are **conducting chance experiments, identifying, and describing possible outcomes** and or **everyday events** and order of **chances of occurring**.

Leadership Centre

Year 5– 6 Learning Spaces

Inquiry is a life-long preparedness to change our minds, to listen to those whose ways of seeing, thinking and feeling are very different to our own and to remain curious, open-minded and open-hearted as we encounter even the most challenging perspectives. Kath Murdoch

As **part of our Faith and Life inquiry, as critical thinkers**, we are **exploring** an **artwork**, as part of **tuning in** to the season of **Advent**. We will engage in the thinking moves **describing, interpreting and perspective taking** to **document** our current **interpretation** and **understanding** through the thinking routine **Zoom In**. This will enable us to **observe closely and identify**, as we **zoom in on a part of the artwork**, what we **see or notice** and **what this makes us think** about. As more of the **artwork is revealed** we will document **what we now see and notice** and **how our thinking has changed from our initial interpretation**. As the **final part of the artwork is revealed** we will have **time and opportunity** to consider what we think the person in the image might be **feeling, thinking or concerned with** and **why they might feel that way**, and we will be invited to **make connections** between what we are seeing or noticing and the season of **Advent**. As **reflective thinkers** we will consider **what this text means for us today** and **engage** in the thinking moves **making connections and uncovering personal reactions**. We will **document our thinking** using the sentence starter - *This text speaks to me of a world in which ...*. As we will be **reflecting critically, engaging in the mystery of God** and a **continuous process of dialoguing with others** we are learning in a **hermeneutical way**. As **collaborators and communicators** we will **listen respectfully and actively to others** and engage in the thinking routine **What makes me say that?**, as this supports us to **share our current interpretations** and encourages us to **understand multiple perspectives**.

As **writers and readers** as part of our **Faith and Life inquiry** understanding, **How can design help living things adapt?**, as **curious researchers** we will be **gathering relevant information** and **ideas** about a **wondering** we are interested in **inquiring** into and **exploring** as part of our **sorting out** phase of inquiry. During our **mini personal inquiry**, as **researchers** we will have an opportunity to **use visual text (photos, diagrams, videos)** to **gather information**. Some of us may **read information texts, view digital texts on Behind the News, and/or some of us may view short educational film clips**. As **thinkers** we will be **interpreting and analysing the information** we gather and documenting our **new ideas** and the **changes in our thinking** on a **Lotus Diagram**.

As **mathematical thinkers** we are taking the **time and opportunity** to **consolidate our understanding** about various mathematical topics we have engaged in throughout this semester. We will engage in the thinking moves **activating prior knowledge, making connections and wondering** as we **explore word problems** from our mathematical resource - **Think Tanks**. Some of us are engaging in word problems related to **Number and Algebra** and some of us are engaging in word problems related to **Measurement and Geometry**. As **inquirers**, as part of **finding out and sorting out** our thinking we will **engage** in the thinking routine **Claim Support Question**. This routine helps us to **develop thoughtful interpretations** by **encouraging us to reason with evidence and explore strategies to justify our responses**.

Term Four Dates 2023

Sunday 3rd December
Wednesday 6th December
Friday 8th December

Sunday 10th December
Wednesday 13th December
Thursday 14th December
Friday 15th December
Sunday 17th December

1st Sunday of Advent
Year 6 Farewell Mass 7pm – Our Lady’s Church
School Closure Day - planning 2024

No school for children this day

2nd Sunday of Advent
Whole school end of year Mass 12.30pm – Mother Teresa School
Year 5/6 Bowling Excursion
Term 4 ends for children at 1.30pm
3rd Sunday of Advent

Monday 18th December
 Tuesday 19th December
 Wednesday 20 December
 Sunday 24th December
 Monday 25th December

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.






CARDIO TENNIS

ADULT TENNIS AND FITNESS PROGRAM

ABOUT:
 The **NEW** Cardio Tennis Adult Program is here and it is **EXCITING**. Hume Tennis will have two streams of Cardio Tennis for people to enjoy.

Cardio Lite is ideal for those learning to play tennis and looking to get fit.
Cardio Play is for intermediate players who love to play points.

Program includes:

- ☐ 50% off all programs for 2023
- ☐ Just \$10 per class
- ☐ Unlimited classes per week
- ☐ Movement Challenges
- ☐ For beginner to advanced players
- ☐ Social and friendly











Blue Stage

Red Stage

Orange Stage

Green Stage

Junior Tennis Membership

LEARN AND PLAY:
 We have an amazing 4 stage tennis program for children to get into tennis. For just \$22.00 p/week a junior membership includes:

- ☐ A Hot Shots tennis lesson
- ☐ Access to play and practice on the 16 courts anytime
- ☐ A friend/parent can play with child for **FREE**.
- ☐ Complimentary entry to selected tennis events & holiday programs

AWARD WINNING VENUE:

- ♦ The 2014 Tennis Australia Newcombe Medal for Hot Shots
- ♦ "2023 Club of the Year" Tennis Victoria

ENQUIRIES:
 1300 HUMETC [486 382]






Blue Stage
AGE 6-8

Red Stage
AGE 8-10

Orange Stage
AGE 10-12

Green Stage
AGE 12+



"My 3 children (ages 11, 8 and 6) started tennis last year - they love their lessons and we are always going to the courts to practice as a family"
 - Liz (mother of Louis, Freddie and Jack)

225 MARATHON BOULEVARD, CRAIGIEBURN • PH 1300 HUMETC [1300 486 382] • humetennis.com.au

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.thefatherhood.com/CLWQDP

[REGISTER HERE](#)

RSVP by Wednesday 29th November



For more information contact:

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