



MOTHER TERESA CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER

8th 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,

Today families has the opportunity to engage in a celebration of learning through visiting learning spaces and dialoguing with children about their current Faith & Life Inquiry learning. This celebration of learning is an important part of an inquiry school providing opportunities for others to give feedback, to affirm learning and to ask questions for clarification that may extend and challenge the learning. Kath Murdoch in her new book 'From Agency to Zest...a journey through the landscape of inquiry' talks about the cycle of inquiry and states,

Thinking about inquiry as a cycle helps us avoid rigidity- we don't learn in a straight line. Our theories are constantly tested by new experiences, promoting us to revise, re-think and re-route our investigations. We question, find out and make meaning only to have new questions arise that required further exploration.

Understanding inquiry as a cyclical, iterative process means we design more connected, emergent experiences for learners rather than disconnected, stand-alone 'activities'. The flowing, spiralling nature of a cycle is a powerful image to hold in our minds as we teach. Circling back to new understanding helps learners understand deep connections of all things.

The Cycle of inquiry is not a recipe, nor is it a fixed set of 'steps'. The elements can merge into each other, moving in and out of wondering, investigating, meaning-making and taking action' (Murdoch, p. 15).

The inquiry process is one that requires teachers to have an inquiry mindset, teachers who are skilled facilitators of learning. It requires of the teacher a knowledge of curriculum, an understandings of how children learning and the capacity to design learning opportunities that nurture curiosity. An inquiry-school is one that embeds inquiry through all it does.

Thank you to all staff for their commitment to our inquiry-school and the organisation required to facilitate our celebration of learning today.

Kind regards,

Chris

This Week's Happenings

Monday 30th October

Report writing day – No school for children

Tuesday 7th October

Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday – No school for children

Wednesday 8th November

Celebration of Learning

Professional Learning – Class formulations

Thursday 9th November

Friday 10th November

Remembrance Day prayer ceremony 10.40am

Zooper Zooper Friday

Remembrance Day Ceremony ~ Friday 10.40am

Remembrance Day recalls those who have died or suffered through war but it also reminds us war is not a way to attain peace. Please join us at 10.40 am this Friday 10th for our school's Remembrance ceremony.

This gathering will replace our Friday morning prayer.

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 9.15am at Mother Teresa Primary School. All welcome.

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.

Labelled 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.

School Absence – Approved – Unapproved

All school requires families to notify the school of all school absences. Families can use the audiri/Skooldog 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 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.

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

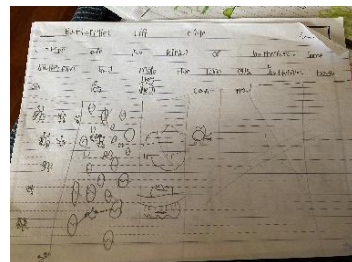
Foundation – Year 2 Learning Spaces

"Observe and listen to children because when they ask "why?" they are not simply asking for the answer from you. They are requesting the courage to find a collection of possible answers." Carla Rinaldi

As **scientists** and **researchers**, we continue to **observe** the features of animals and habitats. As **thinkers** we practice **research skills** to help us find answers to our questions and wonderings.

Researchers:

- **Ask questions** - what do I want to find out?
- **Observe** - using all senses to notice details?
- **Collect data**- gather information from different sources.
- **Record data** - record observations by drawing, note taking, tallying, charts, and writing statements.
- **Organise data** - sorting information arranging in different ways. (diagrams, posters, reports)
- **Present research findings** - share your learning with others.





As **hermeneutical learners** we are listening closely to Luke 1:26-37. As we **listen** we will use the thinking routine **Word-Phrase-Sentence** to listen closely to the verse, ‘**For nothing is impossible for God.**’ We will wonder what the author Luke might have meant by these words in connection to the scripture. We will **interpret** what the symbolism of the Archangel Gabriel might be. As **hermeneutical learners** we will recontextualise the scripture by thinking about what meaning it might have for ourselves or the world today. We will make our thinking visible using the reflections, ‘This text talks to me of a world in which...’ or ‘The author Luke is telling me...’

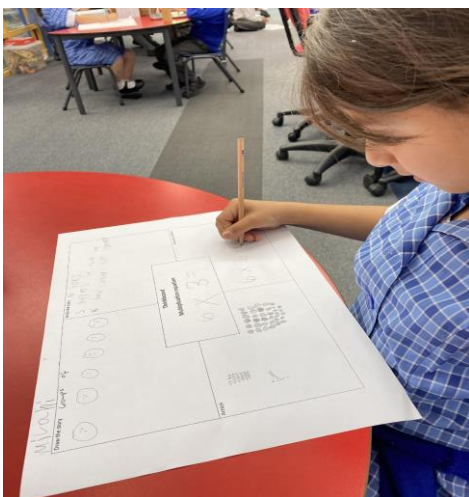
“God will always look after us. He died for us because he wanted us to know how much he loves us. He will do anything for us.” Olivia

“Even when we have problems Jesus is always by our side.” Geta

“God Can make anything happen. That’s why it says in the scripture He will rule the kingdom.” Eleanor

“Jesus does things for us, and we do things for him. We share kindness with other people because that’s what Jesus wants us to do.” Losyan

As **mathematical thinkers** we explore multiplication and division. We use think boards to help us understand that multiplication can be represented in different ways. (arrays, groups, repeated addition, skip counting) We also use concrete materials to help us understand that division is a mathematical operation which involves the sharing of an amount into equal-sized groups.



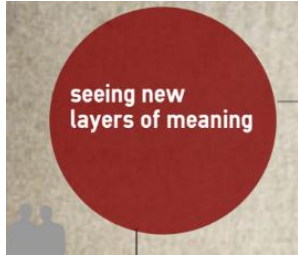
Bridging Centre

Year 3– 4 Learning Spaces

As **inquirers**, we are continuing to **investigate** our **compelling question** ‘**How do living things grow and change?**’ We are **demonstrating** the **dispositions** – **curiosity**, **resourcefulness**, and **flexibility** as we **sort out** some of our **thinking** related to **living things** and the **relationship** between them.

Today we had **time** and **opportunity** to **invite** our **parents** to **engage** in **dialogue** with us and **showcase** our **learning** around **Faith and Life Inquiry**. Our parents were **invited** to provide **feedback** around what they **noticed** with **students thinking** and **learning**. We look forward to sharing these with each other this week.

As **researchers** and as we continue to **observe living things**, we will have the **opportunity** look closely at a **Chrysalis** that will be delivered to us in the coming day. As **thinkers**, we have begun to **tune into** our **thinking** by **activating prior knowledge** of the life cycle of a butterfly and **observe** through **digital texts** how they **transform** through **metamorphosis**.



As part of **tuning in** to ‘**All Saints Day**’ and ‘**All Souls Day**’ - November 1st and 2nd, we will have **time** and **opportunity** to use the **key thinking moves** **activating, prior knowledge, identifying new ideas** and **wondering** while **engaging** in the **thinking routine Know-Wonder-Learnt**. As **communicators**, we are remaining **inclusive** of all when **sharing** our **thinking** **respectfully** and considering through **dialogue** how our **thinking** is **changing**.

As part of **finding out** and **extending our thinking**, we will read and **viewed** a clip about All Saints Day. We will document our second thinking and consider the **hermeneutical prompts** - *entering into critical dialogue with the Catholic tradition* and *seeing new layers of meaning*. We will spend time **reflecting upon** our thinking using these hermeneutical prompts.

Leadership Centre

Year 5– 6 Learning Spaces

Dispositions such as curiosity, open-mindedness, empathy, bravery, persistence and flexibility help make the process of inquiry far more effective and, it can be argued, the process of inquiry itself helps strengthen such dispositions. Our dispositions can determine how we approach or respond to challenges in learning and in life.

Kath Murdoch

As part of our Faith and Life inquiry, as **open-minded** and **reflective thinkers**, we will engage in the thinking moves **connection making, identifying new ideas** and **raising questions**, as we **explore a commentary** explaining the **Hail Mary** from the **perspective of Pope Francis**. We will be **learning hermeneutically** as we engage in the **continuous process of seeing new layers of meaning**, and having an **openness to change and reinterpretation** as we **develop a deeper understanding and insight** about this prayer. We will **consider what this text might tell us from a future orientated perspective**.

Today we had an opportunity to **celebrate our learning** through the ‘**Gift of time**.’ We thank you for **documenting your constructive feedback on our prototypes** and as **collaborators** we will **consider** how we can **improve, refine** and **modify our designs**. As part of **gathering authentic data** about our **learning dispositions**, Kath Murdoch, our inquiry consultant, **shared** with us a **visible way of collecting data** on our ‘**way of ‘being’**’ during your time with us today. We **appreciate the time and opportunity** you took to **indicate the learning dispositions** you **noticed and observed** during your interactions with us. As **curious researchers** and as part of **finding out**, we will **collate this data** we have collected and identify the dispositions that we demonstrated particular strengths in and those that need nurturing.

As part of **tuning in** to **constructive feedback**, as **curious inquirers**, we **viewed** the film clip, **Austin’s Butterfly**, curated by Ron Berger, to help us **investigate** and **find out** about the power of critiquing and multiple drafts. As part of **sorting out** our thinking we will consider how with time, clarity, respectful critique and support, what we can be capable of as learners. You are invited to view the film clip Austin’s Butterfly. <https://modelsofexcellence.education.org/resources/austins-butterfly>

As **mathematicians and inquirers**, as part of Measurement and Geometry, we will be engaging in a variety of **hands on learning opportunities** as we **investigate and identify** appropriate **units of measurement** for **volume, capacity** and **mass**. As part of **finding out** we will have **time and opportunity** to **explore efficient ways** of finding the volume and capacity of rectangular prisms and

cubes, **measure volume** and **capacity by counting the number of cubes (cubic centimetres)**, and **convert units** including **millilitres, litres, kilolitres** and **milligrams, grams, kilograms** and **tonnes**. As **mathematical thinkers** we will engage in the thinking moves **reasoning with evidence** and **identifying new ideas** as we **document our ideas** and **changes in thinking** through the thinking routine **Claim-Support-Question**.

Term Four Dates 2023

Wednesday 15th November
 Sunday 19th November
 Wednesday 22nd November
 Tuesday 28th November
 Wednesday 29th November
 Thursday 30th November
 Sunday 3rd December
 Wednesday 6th December
 Friday 8th December

Sunday 10th December
 Wednesday 13th 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

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
 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 9.15 – Mother Teresa School
 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.



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



\$10
per class

cardio
lite



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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]



"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 Jacob)

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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