



# Mother Teresa

## Catholic Primary School

Newsletter | Week 9



Melbourne Archdiocese  
Catholic Schools

**“Not all of us can do great things,  
but we can do small things with great love.”**

*Mother Teresa*

5 Windrock Ave, Mt Ridley

03 7303 1200

[info@motherteresa.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@motherteresa.catholic.edu.au)

[www.motherteresa.catholic.edu.au](http://www.motherteresa.catholic.edu.au)

@motherteresaps

Our Lady's Parish Craigieburn & Roxburgh Park

Parish Priest Fr. Varghese (George) Kurisingal

9308 4500 | [info@ourladys.org.au](mailto:info@ourladys.org.au)

[www.our-ladys.org](http://www.our-ladys.org)

P.O. Box 64, Craigieburn, 3064

### Message From the Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Last Friday, I had the pleasure of attending the St Patrick's Day Mass for all MACS schools to celebrate Catholic Education Week. As pictured, some of our students had the honor of presenting the offertory to Archbishop Comensoli.

This year's schools' Mass had an element of surprise: the unveiling of the new icon of St Patrick, written by Australian iconographer Sue Orchison.

As Archbishop Comensoli noted, it is the first image of St Patrick in the Cathedral stating, "You would think in our marvelous, beautiful Cathedral we would have an image of St Patrick, but we actually don't, well, we do now!" After a wonderful Mass, we headed to the nearby Treasury Gardens for a concert with music played by MACS' secondary schools and different games for the students to play. I was so proud of our students who had a wonderful day and represented our school so beautifully. I wonder if you can find our school banner amongst all the other MACS' school banners?



### Upcoming Events

#### WEEK 10

##### Tuesday 1st April

- Summer Sports Gala
- Staff Meeting 3:45pm - 4:45pm

##### Wednesday 2nd April

- Staff Meeting 3:45pm - 4:45pm

##### Friday 4th April

- **Last Day of Term 1 - 3.30pm finish**
- Morning Prayer
- Easter Raffle at 3.00 pm



#### WEEK 1

##### Monday 21st April

- **SCHOOL CLOSURE** - Easter Monday holiday

##### Tuesday 22nd April

- **SCHOOL CLOSURE** - Professional Learning day for staff

##### Wednesday 23rd April

- **First Day of Term 2**
- No Morning Prayer

##### Thursday 4th April

- Easter Liturgy 8.50 am

##### Friday 25th April

- **SCHOOL CLOSURE** - ANZAC Day holiday

## Foundation Classes in 2026

I am pleased to share that after consulting with our School Advisory Council (SAC) as well as our staff, we will be moving to straight Foundation classes now at Mother Teresa. This is a big change for Mother Teresa, however all SAC members voted that this change is necessary for student learning. In the staff survey, 99% of staff who voted also voted for Foundation students to be in a class by themselves. The decision is still yet to be made around multi-aged classes for the Grade One and Two students in 2026. Once this decision has been made it will be communicated to you. You may have also seen the new rugs which have been purchased for the Junior learning space? If not, please come and check them out!

## Parents and Friends (P&F) Fundraising

I am pleased to share that the P&F raised \$1,200 at the Welcome picnic! They have also raised a little over \$500 from the second hand uniform sales this week. We are very close to our \$2,000 target for Term One fundraising! Please try to get behind the Easter raffle tickets as all of the funds will go towards the refurbishment of the soccer pitch, something I would love to be able to accomplish this year.

## Reconciliation

We had a wonderful evening on Thursday for our Reconciliation candidates. My sincere thanks to Miss Sophie MacKinnon for her preparation of the Liturgy, as well as the parent child workshop that she ran earlier this term. Thank you also to Fr George and Fr Godfrey and of course my thanks must also go to our parents for preparing and supporting their children during this very important sacrament.

## Project Compassion - Crazy Hair Day

At our Ash Wednesday Mass, we launched our 2025 Project Compassion appeal. This year's Project Compassion has a theme of "Unite Against Poverty". This theme resonates deeply with the teachings of Jesus, who showed great care for the poor and marginalised. Jesus did **more** for people every time he saw a need, often surprising those around him by some of the amazing things that he did. **This Lent we are encouraged to try to be MORE, by being more kind, being more friendly and being more careful of looking after our world.** To end our fundraising campaign for project Compassion we will be having a crazy hair day next Friday (last day of the Term). Children are encouraged to bring in a donation to place into the Project Compassion boxes in each learning space.



## Compass

Just a reminder that if you have not yet created a Compass profile for your child, please do so. Moving into next Term, Compass will be used for giving consent for your child to attend excursions, incursions and the like. It is essential therefore that all families create a compass profile. Feedback from the parents that are using it, is how simple it is and how user friendly. If you need support to set up a profile, please either pop into the office, email [info@motherteresa.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@motherteresa.catholic.edu.au) or give the office a call on 7303 1200.

## Term 2 Calendar

The dates for Term 2 will be included with next week's newsletter. Just a reminder that next week is the last week of school before the Easter Holidays. **Students will return for Term Two on Wednesday 23rd of April.** It is a bit of an unusual first week with Monday being Easter Monday, Tuesday a school closure day, and Friday being Anzac day. Therefore it is only a 2 day week for our students.

God Bless,

*Mrs Jess Davis*

*Principal*

# Message from the Acting Deputy Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

## ANZAC DAY

This year, Mother Teresa Primary School has been invited to participate in the ANZAC Day Service at Craigieburn ANZAC Park. There are two services:

- 5.45 am for a 6.00 am start (Dawn Service)
- 9.45 am for a 10.00 am start (Morning Service - Wreath laying for schools at this time)

Some staff will be attending the 10am service, and students and their families are warmly invited to also attend. Two students have been selected to lay down a wreath on behalf of Mother Teresa Primary School at the 10 am service. If you are able to attend either service, here are the following key details:

**Venue:** Craigieburn ANZAC Park, corner of Windrock Avenue and Marathon Boulevard, Craigieburn

**Time:** April 25, commencing at **6am sharp** and **10am sharp** respectively.

For the 10am service, some Mother Teresa staff will be in attendance with 2 students who will lay down a wreath on behalf of our school community.

**Uniform:** Wearing of the school uniform is encouraged to the 10am service.

**Seating and shelter:** **Some** seating and shelter will be available in the event of inclement weather, although this may be limited, as large numbers attend.

Towards the end of the newsletter, we have included the official flyer for ANZAC day services in Craigieburn.

*Conchita Thomas*

*Acting Deputy Principal & Mathematics Leader*

## Learning and Teaching News

### Helping Children Learn: Understanding Cognitive Load Theory

This week in our staff meetings, the staff have been learning more about Sweller's Cognitive Load Theory. This theory helps us understand how children learn best. It explains that our brain has a limited capacity for processing new information, and how we present learning can make a big difference.

#### Two Types of Learning Load

##### MANAGE



Intrinsic Load

##### MINIMISE



Extraneous Load

**Intrinsic Load:** This is the natural difficulty of a subject. Some topics, like solving math problems or learning a new language are more complex. Teachers can help by breaking learning into smaller steps and providing support. We want to **manage** this load.

**Extraneous Load:** This is extra, unnecessary difficulty caused by unclear instructions or too much information at once. Reducing distractions, using clear visuals, and giving step-by-step guidance

can make learning easier for children. We want to **minimise** this load.

**Supporting Learners:** Children learn in different ways depending on their experience:

- **Novice Learners (Beginners):** These children need more structure, clear explanations, and examples to follow.
- **Expert Learners (Advanced):** These children already know the basics and benefit from exploring topics in greater depth and solving problems independently.

Sometimes we are a novice learner and sometimes we are an expert learner depending on what is being taught.

**How This Helps Your Child:** By understanding cognitive load, we can create learning experiences that support your child's needs. Whether they are just starting out or already confident in a subject, ensuring they are not overwhelmed helps them stay engaged and succeed.

Together, we can make learning a positive and rewarding experience for every child!

*Naomi Martret and Conchita Thomas*

*Literacy Leader*

*Acting Deputy Principal & Maths Leader*

## *School Finance*

### ***School Fee Concession***

Any families that haven't applied for the CSEF and are holders of a healthcare card you may be eligible for a school fee concession and need to apply as applications are now open. If you need any assistance please contact the office.

### ***School Fees - Term One is now Due***

The Term One fee of \$630 is now overdue. If you have not finalised your account please do so by Friday 4th April. If you still have not paid the Student Levy of \$342 this is now overdue and needs to be paid asap.

## *Parents and Friends News*

# Easter Raffle

Thank you to all the families who contributed to the Easter Raffle. This will be drawn next Friday afternoon at 3.00pm on the Footy Oval. All families are welcome to join us. Please ensure that your raffle tickets are back at school by Thursday afternoon.





## SCHOLASTIC Book Fairs

We are super excited to be hosting our first Scholastic Book Fair in Term2, Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May. Our Scholastic Book Fair is a reading event that brings to school the books kids want to read. It's a wonderful selection of engaging and affordable books for every reading level. Please make plans to visit our Book Fair and be involved in shaping your child's reading habits. If you would like to help leading up to this event please reach out to Mrs Marta Kugler, F-2 Library Teacher.

**NATIONAL FAMILY READING MONTH CHALLENGE** is coming in May. The challenge encourages families to read together for 10 minutes per day on a regular basis to create strong reading habits. Most of us know how important reading together is and its long-term value to our children's success in school and in life. However, we also know it is not always that easy to put into practice with our busy schedules and increasing competition with screen time.

That is why we ask you to take the 31 Day-Challenge with fun activities supported by the school to inspire you to make reading together for at least 10 minutes every day a focus, to create positive, long lasting reading habits and lifelong readers!

Register now at [www.scholastic.com.au/nfrm](http://www.scholastic.com.au/nfrm)



## Sunday Gospel



# Sunday Gospel

**Luke 15:1-3 11-32**

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke*

***Your brother here was dead and has come to life***

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man,' they said, 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them:

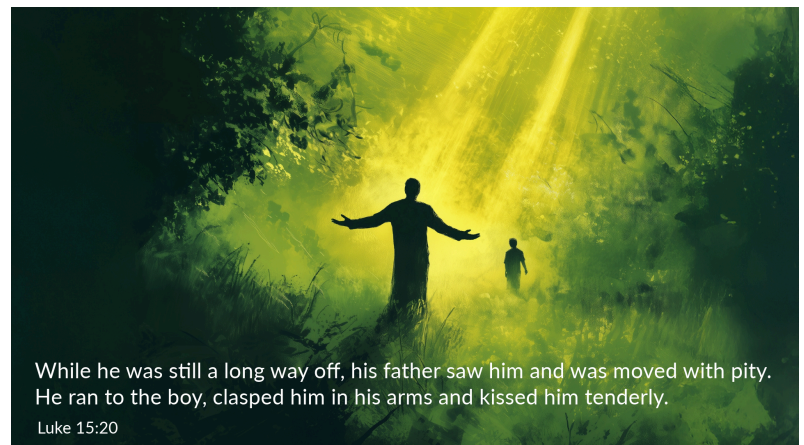
'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father.



While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate.

Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening."



The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found." '

## Easter Family Night

Bunnings Craigieburn



**Thursday 10th April**  
**6:00pm – 8:00pm**

Activities and fun for the whole family

Kids Easter DIY crafts, entertainment, and farmyard animal experience.

Plus, games, face painting and free sausage sizzle!



Don't miss out, register now!



Scan Me

**BUNNINGS warehouse**

## ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATIVE SERVICES 25TH APRIL 2025 CRAIGIEBURN DAWN & MORNING SERVICES



**LOCATION:** CRAIGIEBURN ANZAC PARK  
NORTH-EAST CORNER  
(OFF WINDROCK AVENUE)

**CONDUCTED BY:** CRAIGIEBURN WAR MEMORIAL AND REMEMBRANCE COMMITTEE  
MEMBERS – Officially a Friends of the RSL organisation

**SERVICE FORMAT:** RSL ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE

**SERVICES:** **DAWN SERVICE** – 5.45 AM FOR A 6 AM START  
**MORNING SERVICE** - 9.45 AM FOR A 10 AM START

**SERVICE DURATION:** 45 MINUTES

ANZAC Day Commemorative Services (Dawn and Morning) will be held at the Craigieburn War Memorial, located in the North-East Quadrant of ANZAC Park – near the corner of Windrock Avenue and Marathon Boulevard, Craigieburn (Melway: Map 386 Grid G6)

The services will provide the opportunity for the local community to remember those Australian men and women who served their country during times of conflict and to especially honour those who made the supreme sacrifice.

The ceremonies will be conducted by RSL Sub-Branch member(s) and will be hosted by the Craigieburn War Memorial and Remembrance Committee (CWMRC) – which holds official Friends of the RSL status. Attendees are encouraged to bring a small floral tribute (twig of wattle, rosemary or other flower) in memory of a relative, friend or other loved one, for placement at the memorial during the service.

**WEARING OF MEDALS:**

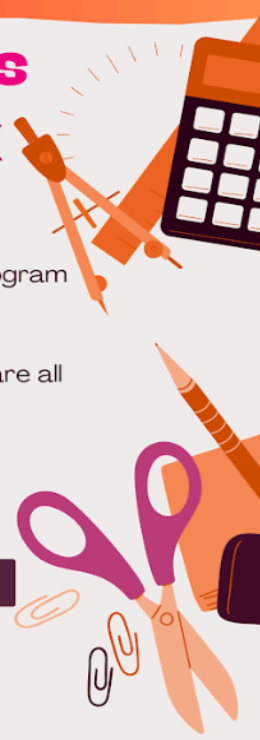
Recipients of medals and awards are encouraged to wear the full size versions in accordance with the protocols of the Australian Honours and Awards system. Family members are also encouraged to wear the medals of passed love ones – these are worn on the Right Hand side.

For further information phone Kevin O'Callaghan on 0400-511-188 or email: [contact@craigieburnwarmemorial.com](mailto:contact@craigieburnwarmemorial.com) or website: <https://craigieburnwarmemorial.com/>

## Healthy Minds Homework Club

Free Homework and Tutoring program  
During School Terms  
Includes a Healthy Snack  
Primary & Secondary Students are all welcome to attend.

**Thursday**  
**4pm – 6pm**  
**180-182 Widford St,**  
**Broadmeadows.**



**AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITIES FOUNDATION**

**cmy**  
Centre for Multicultural Youth

**DH** Dallas Neighbourhood House.

## KIDS 5 TO 13 YEARS GOLD COIN DONATION



### SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN APRIL 2025

<b>7 APRIL</b> 9.30am-12pm CRAFTY MINDS	<b>9 APRIL</b> 9.30am-12pm LEGO FUN	<b>10 APRIL</b> 9.30am-12pm JEWELLERY MAKING
<b>14 APRIL</b> 9.30am-12pm COOKING FUN	<b>16 APRIL</b> 9.30am-12pm MOVIE	<b>17 APRIL</b> 9.30am-12pm EASTER TREATS DECORATING

Each program includes a free breakfast, thanks to our partnership with Meadows Primary School. This ensures participants start their day with a healthy meal to energize them for the activities ahead. During the school holidays, this partnership helps create a supportive and positive environment for our children and families.

Please call Bianca on 9302 2131 to book in.  
Bookings will close 2 days before each activity.

**Meadows Primary School**

180-182 Widford Street, Dallas

**DH**





# FREE Family Dinner

🏠 DALLAS NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE!

📍 180-182 WIDFORD STREET, BROADMEADOWS

☎ (03) 9302 2131

🕒 COMMENCING : TUESDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2025

**BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS AND ENJOY A DELICIOUS MEAL ON US!**

**NO BOOKINGS ARE REQUIRED—JUST COME ALONG AND JOIN THE FUN!**

**WE'RE HERE TO CONNECT, SHARE, AND SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY. 💙**

👉 **SPREAD THE WORD AND SEE YOU THERE!**

