



**St Thomas More
School**

Newsletter

3 April 2020: Term 1, week 10

50 Yorktown Road,
PO Box 2002

Elizabeth Park, South Australia,
5113

(08) 8255 1699

info@sttmore.catholic.edu.au

www.sttmore.catholic.edu.au

Principal

Mr Chris Platten

APRIM

Mrs Sonia Kilmister

Leader of Teaching,
Learning & Wellbeing

Ms Leah Williams

**Out of School Hours Care
Daily**

6:30am to 8:45am

and 3:00pm to 6:00pm

Wednesday 2:30 to 6:00pm

(08) 8255 1626

0409 551 699

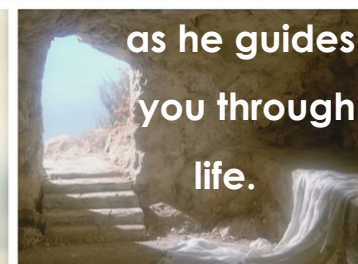
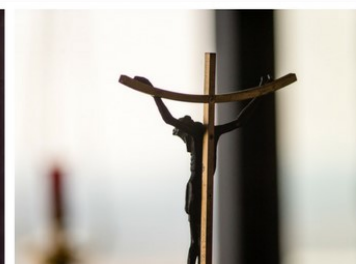
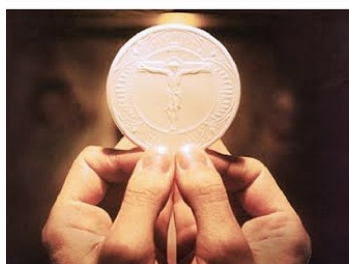
Holy Week will begin on
Sunday, 5 April

and ends on

Saturday, 11 April

Holy Week

May the Lord Jesus Christ bless you and protect you,



Have a very
Happy Easter! with your family

and have a safe relaxing break over the

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Dear Parents, Caregivers, Students and friends of St Thomas More,

PUPIL FREE DAYS (6-9 APRIL)

The Government has announced that the final week of this school term **(Monday 6 April - Thursday 9 April) will be a pupil free week across all South Australian schools.** This means that the last day of Term for students will be Friday 3 April. This time will enable teachers and school staff to prepare for the remote delivery of lessons.

COMMITMENT TO YOUR CHILD

Please be assured, your child matters to us. Your family matters to us. Our absolute commitment is that we will support your child in their learning and wellbeing at this difficult time whether they are physically at school or at home. Regular updates are being provided on the Catholic Education SA website - www.cesa.catholic.edu.au/alerts
Updates relating to St Thomas More School are being provided on our Facebook page and See Saw.

STAFFING NEWS

I write to inform you that Mrs Sonia Kilmister will be on Long Service Leave (LSL) during Term 2, beginning Monday 27 April, 2020. Sonia will be returning to St Thomas More School at the beginning of Term 3, Monday 20 July, 2020. Mrs Robyn Mercer will be replacing Sonia while she is on LSL. We wish Sonia a relaxing and enjoyable break and look forward to her safe return to St Thomas More School in Term 3.

HOW TO SUPPORT LEARNING FROM HOME

As children's first and most important teachers, families have a major role to play in motivating children to succeed in their learning. Try to focus on these methods of helping your kids succeed at school.

1. Quality over quantity

The hours you spend helping your kids are not a reflection of how much you're helping them. In fact, some of the world's best performers in educational standards have the lowest levels of parental help. Finnish parents, for example, help their kids with school work for 3.1 hours a week - one of the lowest figures in the study and education experts think Australia's relatively low level of parental intervention is a good thing!

Professor Debra Hayes says that the results of the survey *'reflect well on Australian parents and reflect well on teachers that they're setting the kind of homework that doesn't require the whole family to be involved'*. So don't work on increasing the hours you put in, work on getting the most out of them!

And you can do that by helping through...

2. Assistance over answers

In a post from our archives, we suggested why parents shouldn't be helping kids with their homework. If you help your kids to find answers to questions or to complete their tasks, you're stopping them from improving their own problem solving and research skills.

And as Professor Hayes said - teachers are assigning students work that they know and expect they can complete on their own. If you do part or all of the work for them, you're sending the message that you don't think they're up for the challenge. This can lower their confidence in their abilities and decrease their motivational levels, because they know they can rely on you to help them get the work done.

Instead of giving answers, ask questions. Guide them in the right direction, but don't show them the way. They'll learn more, and feel a greater sense of accomplishment, if they figure things out for themselves. Speaking of which, remember to focus on...

3. Learning over results

Remember, and remind your kids, of the real reason they go to school. It's not to get good grades, or to top the class, or to win awards - it's to learn. Help your kids to value the privilege of learning. Encourage them to pursue their passions, whether they're naturally good at them or not. Talk to them about subjects they may not be naturally interested in, and make them relevant, so they know that they are valuable and worth learning. And take the pressure off the end game, and put value back into the process so that they can enjoy and relish in the process of learning - and excel at it!

4. Balance over excess

Out of school time shouldn't be dominated by homework and study. Kids need time to unwind, to play, to relax and to engage in activities that interest them outside of their school curriculum.

For young children, play time is an incredibly important part of learning. And for older kids, a balanced lifestyle - including socialising, personal leisure time and physical activity - is key to good mental health. Plus, if children can compartmentalise their homework, getting it done efficiently and then moving on to other tasks, they'll be much less likely to want to avoid it, and won't feel bogged down by it. Making study a consistent part of a routine is a great way to develop healthy homework habits. Offering a break, snack and some fresh air after school, but before dinner, allows kids to enjoy family time, and unwind and switch off before bed.

5. Long-term engagement over last-minute cramming

The key to effective learning is not mind maps, memorising and note-taking. It's engagement with the materials. **So help your children to be interested in the topics they're learning.** Find ways to make them relevant or exciting. Ask them questions about what they're learning, and help them to think critically about the task at hand. For young kids, for example, find ways to use maths and science in every day situations.

For older kids, discuss current events and relate them to their studies.

If students can look past the words on the page (or computer) and see how the information relates to their daily lives...

They'll be much more able to interpret and retain what they learn.

Australian parents shouldn't be worried about how many hours they clock helping their children with study. Nor should they take full responsibility for their children's homework. However, parents DO play a huge role in their children's learning. And with a little focus, and a lot of talking, you can help your kids with school without even trying.

(Taken from: <https://www.melbournechildpsychology.com.au/blog/5-productive-ways-for-parents-to-help-with-school-work/>)

ADVICE FOR PARENTS ABOUT SOCIAL MEDIA

"Technology will only ever be used as well and as honourably as the motives of those pressing the buttons. Everyone needs to acknowledge its extraordinary power. The technology is out of the bag and we should respect it, but not fear it. Any threat from social networks comes not from the technology, but from those who use it." (NZ Listener editorial August 27)

The best advice is to look at the way your child manages normal everyday interactions with family and friends. If this involves constant outbursts of emotions, hostilities, accusations and tears, then their online relationships are likely to be similar. A child who has happy, respectful relationships will usually enjoy using social media and have few if any problems.

END OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS/BEGINNING OF TERM 2 ARRANGEMENTS

End of Term arrangements are:

- Term 1 finishes on Friday 3 April at 3.00 pm

Beginning of Term 2 arrangements are:

- Term 2 commences on Monday 27 April at 8.50 am

2020 TERM 3 RECEPTION ENROLMENTS

Places are available. If you have or if you know of anyone who has a child **turning 5 before October 31, 2020**, please complete and lodge an enrolment form at the Front Office.

2021 RECEPTION ENROLMENTS

Places are available. If you have or if you know of anyone who has a child **turning 5 before May 1, 2021**, please complete and lodge an enrolment form at the Front Office.

2021 TERM 3 RECEPTION ENROLMENTS

Places are available. If you have or if you know of anyone who has a child **turning 5 before October 31, 2021**, please complete and lodge an enrolment form at the Front Office.

EASTER BLESSINGS

Easter is the most significant time of the Church year. It is a time when the Christian story provides us with the opportunity to reflect on hope for a positive future and a new beginning in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. During Easter we are called to share the message of Jesus through our words and actions. The St Thomas More School staff would like to wish you all a safe, happy and meaningful Easter break and look forward to the children returning after Easter, where we continue to live out the Easter messages of faith, hope and love!

Working in Partnership
Chris Platten



Dear families,

In these uncertain times, there is help available. If you require FINANCIAL AID or help with food, vouchers, utility bills, etc., we have comprised a list of services and/or agencies that may be of assistance:

If you or someone you know is experiencing financial stress, you may be able to access:

- Food vouchers
- Chemist vouchers
- Transport vouchers
- Help with rent or accommodation costs
- Help towards the cost of bills
- Material help, such as, food hampers or clothing



The following organisations may be able to help you in an emergency:

- Aboriginal community care: 1300 222 273
- Aboriginal family support services: 134 Waymouth St Adelaide 8205 1500
- Anglicare: 'The Mission' 91 Elizabeth Way, Elizabeth 8209 5400 or 8256 3050 or Davoren Park 8254 1937
- Baptist care SA (food donations) 8217 7106
- Centacare catholic family services - Salisbury: 8250 3694
- CENTRELINK financial hardship scheme (one-off crisis payment) visit: servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/Centrelink/crisis-payment
Centrelink can also provide food vouchers. A current ID, health card or concession card with current address is required. Fuel vouchers may also be available.
- Lutheran community care - 22 Heytesbury Road Davoren Park 7070 6711
- Uniting communities (north) Help with utilities bills: 1800 615 677
- Crisis help and support - Relationships Australia SA: 1300 364 277
- St. Vincent de Paul - Elizabeth 8112 8700 or Salisbury 8283 1054
- Playford community fund incorporated- Elizabeth 8255 1599
- St Vincent De Paul - 1300 729 202 for food assistance and drop in at 1:00pm on Monday, Thursday and Saturday for pick up of food.

PIC•COLLAGE

CAN YOU SOLVE THESE REBUS PUZZLES? 

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BALL

Week 9 Newsletter answers:

How many squares are there? 40.

1. Elbow

2. Fortune














3. Makeup

ST THOMAS MORE SCHOOL OSHC - VACATION CARE

Week 1: Monday 13th April – Friday 17th April 2020Week 2: Monday 20th April – Friday 24th April 2020

Phone: (08) 8255 1626 Mobile: 0409 551 699



Monday 13 th	Tuesday 14 th	Wednesday 15 th	Thursday 16 th	Friday 17 th
PUBLIC HOLIDAY EASTER MONDAY SERVICE CLOSED 	High Tea Day Wear your fanciest clothes and join us for a high tea celebration! Bake up a storm and participate in a range of creative crafts. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Unicorn popcorn -Rainbow cookies -Flower pretzels -Cupcakes & more 	Creative Construction Let's get your hands dirty! Today is all about building, making and sculpting. We also have a special Minecraft themed incursion!  	Mad Scientists Put on your lab coats and safety goggles for some crazy fun experiments! Have an experiment you would like to try? Today is the day.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Fizzing sherbet -DIY crystals -Erupting volcanoes & more 	Mega Courts Visiting Mega Courts is all about BIG TIME FUN! Have a go at laser tag, soccer, cricket, netball, dodgeball and inflatable activities.  
Monday 20 th	Tuesday 21 st	Wednesday 22 nd	Thursday 23 rd	Friday 24 th
Create, Discover and Play Today is all about exploring and discovering new things through your play. Materials will be supplied for you to create and play however you like! 	Cultural Day We wish to celebrate your family culture by visiting their home countries. Please share with us any photos, traditions, recipes or objects you may have that represent you and your family. 	Shedley Theatre We are walking to the Shedley Theatre to watch the Amazing Drumming Monkeys perform! Once the show has finished we will have lunch together at Fasta Pasta Elizabeth.  	Games 2 U Back again by popular demand! Games 2 U are bringing their games truck, hamster balls and laser tag for you to challenge your friends and have fun!  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Bring your own electronic devices -Party games & prizes! 	Anzac Day Chefs Edition! Anzac day is an important occasion for Australia and today we pay our respects by participating in a range of cooking and craft activities. 



masterpass

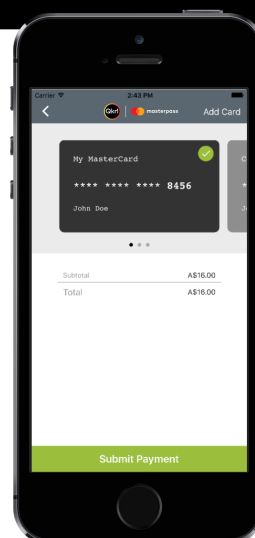
TIP OF THE WEEK

Q. Can I add multiple payment cards?

A. Qkr! will accept payment using any scheme credit/debit card accepted by the school, and you can add up to five different cards to your Qkr! account.

On checking out you can select from any of your registered cards.

Qkr! is provided by Mastercard so you know your payments are secure. No information will be stored on your phone. Registration details and card information are saved securely on the Mastercard network.



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TIP OF THE WEEK

Q. How do I add or delete payment cards?

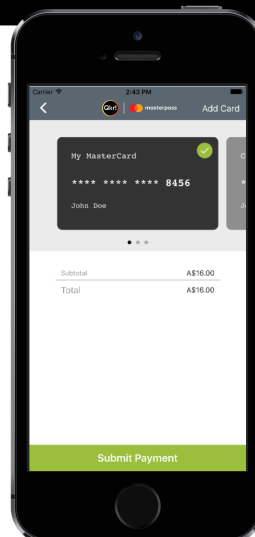
A. To delete or edit your payment cards from the 'Settings':

1. Tap on the three horizontal lines icon at the top left of the screen.
2. Tap 'Manage Payment Cards' and tap on the relevant card.
3. Tap 'Edit Card', make the required changes and tap 'Update'; or Tap 'Delete Card', and tap Delete to confirm the deletion.

To add a new card from the Settings: Tap 'Add a new card', enter the card details and tap 'Add Card' to save.

To add a new card from the Submit Payment screen:

1. Tap 'Add Card' at the top right of the screen.
2. Enter the card details and tap 'Add Card' to save.

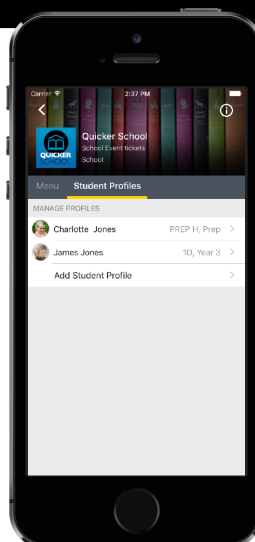


masterpass

TIP OF THE WEEK

Q. Can two parents set up an account for the same student?

A. Qkr! offers the ability for two parents to set up accounts for the same student if needed. However, please note that the two accounts are independent and no details are shared between them.



Advance Notice

Every Tuesday

Parent Coffee/Tea chat 8:30am Jubilee Hall
ECC Playgroup 9:00am-11:00am
Principal's Tour (first Tuesday of the month) 10am

Every Wednesday

School Banking
Early Learning Years (ELY) 9:30am-11:30am

3 April

Last Day of Term 1 - School ends @ 3pm

5 April

Holy Week

9 April

Holy Thursday

10 April

Good Friday

12 April

Easter Sunday

27 April

Term 2 Commences

YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED . . . On our face book site the

special edition of "The Pope Video", the Holy Father asks us to pray for the sick and the suffering, while thanking you for your prayers. The Pope Video is a part of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network. It is a tradition of prayer for the sick and the suffering, or convictions, pray for those affected.



"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world".

- Anne Frank

School Access Term 2

8.30am to 8.50am

Access via main front courtyard gate at the school crossing.

8.50am to 2.45pm

Access via green front pool gate in front of administration building. You will need to lift the pool lock at the top of the gate to open and please ensure the gate is closed securely.

2.45pm to 3.15pm

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