

St Thomas More School

## Newsletter

13 March 2020: Term 1, week 7

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**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



During term 1, we are working with our buddy class R/1 Carter. Our main focus this term is reading. We read our readers together and have been exploring different texts and activities. This week we read The Second Sky by Patrick Guest (The Book of the Year: Early Childhood 2018 Notable Award). It is a wonderful story about Gilbert the penguin and his quest to find his place in the world and finding out great things happen when you reach for the sky. Together we made Gilbert and have displayed them in front of Mrs Carter's classroom.







Gilbert

Our class has also been working together, learning all about World Explorers, challenging ourselves on Numerical Acumen everyday and learning how Lent it is observed and celebrated.









We are capable of AMAZING things!

#### **LEADERSHIP TEAM**

Dear Parents, Caregivers, Students and friends of St Thomas More's community,

As we welcome autumn and come to the end of the seventh week of term, classes are in full swing with our students seeking to build on the success of the beginning of the School Year. From the beginning of the term we have continued to develop our emphasis on a strong learning culture where everyone strives to achieve their personal best.

While our teachers do a remarkable job in staying abreast of latest educational trends and implementing them into their daily practice, your assistance is also vital. You can never underestimate the impact of parents in developing a learning culture.

The following pointers from www.education.com provide some useful tips for parents to assist in their child's educational potential:

How Should I Help My Child with Homework?

- Show that you think education and homework are important. If your child knows that you care about what is happening at school, he or she will have a good reason to complete work on time.
- Set a regular time for homework. The best schedule for homework is what works best for your child and your family. Your child's outside activities, such as sports or music lessons may mean that you need a flexible homework schedule.
- Provide an area for your child to do homework. Make sure the area is well-lit and has minimal distractions.
- Ensure that there are no distractions. Discourage your child from making and receiving social telephone calls during homework time.
- Turn off the television if it is keeping your child from doing his or her homework.
- Provide supplies and identify resources. Have pencils, pens, erasers, writing paper, a dictionary, or other supplies that may be helpful available.
- Help your child use everyday routines to support the skills he or she is learning. Teach your child to play word and math games.
- Help your child look up information about something in which he or she is interested.
- Look over completed work before it is handed in. Discuss with your child the learning that they
  experienced in completing the work.
- Talk about school and learning activities in family conversations. Ask your child what was discussed
  in class that day.
- Show your child that the skills he or she is learning are an important part of the things adults do.
- Let your child see you reading, writing, or using math.
- Talk to your child about what you do at work.
- Attend school activities. If you can, volunteer to help in your child's classroom or at special events.

#### **UNIFORM**

The uniform policy of St Thomas More School addresses the total appearance of the student while at school. The uniform is seen as an internal and external statement of the quality education offered at St Thomas More School. In effect, it presents to the public an image which is in line with the school ethos. In addition, the uniform is a means of helping to develop unity and pride within our community.

The uniform policy is developed by the school community and approved by the School Board. It is an expectation that all students will comply with the policy in all its requirements. Indeed, enrolment at the school is dependent upon parents accepting and supporting the school's uniform policy and rules.

As we approach the end of the first term it is time for new uniform reminders. Generally the students are wearing correct uniform and look very smart. Winter uniform is worn in Term 2 and Term 3. Please remember that that black leather school shoes are to be worn at all times other than when sports uniform is worn. Please enquire at the front office if you are unsure about any aspects of the winter uniform.

The uniform is available for purchase at the school uniform shop.

#### **LEADERSHIP TEAM & EVENTS**

#### **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.

Working in Partnership,

Chris Platten

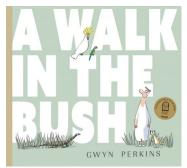


Next Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> March, Australian religious songwriter and singer, Andrew Chinn, will be visiting our school to share his songs with our children. Andrew's songs, such as "These Hands", "Rainbow", "An African Blessing" and "Rise Up!" are used in classrooms and liturgies around Australia, New Zealand, USA and Canada. Please remember to return the permission note and \$6 via the Qkr app or the office. Parents/parishioners are warmly invited to be a part of the celebration of faith and fun. There is no charge for adults. The concert will take place in Jubilee Hall, at 1.40 pm to 2.45 pm. We look forward to seeing you there.



As part of our Lenten focus, we are inviting students to bring in a non-perishable food item to donate to the Moore Street Mission on St Patrick's Day. Be seen wearing **GREEN!** Students can wear green casual clothes to celebrate the day (if you choose to wear hair colour, it must be applied at home).

#### **NOTICES**



## 2020 CBCA Book Week Theme Announced!

We are excited to announce the theme for CBCA Book Week 2020!

#### **CURIOUS CREATURES. WILD MINDS**

Gwyn Perkins, winner of the 2018 CBCA Picture Book of the Year for A Walk in the Bush is currently working on the 2020 theme artwork. You're going to love it!

The official dates for CBCA Book Week 2020 are 22-28 August.

A record number of entries has again confirmed the strength of children's books in Australia as the Children's Book Council of Australia (CBCA) announces its Book of the Year Awards Notables List.



CBCA National Chair Professor Margot Hillel OAM said the 2020 Notables List was drawn from 517 entries and is "arguably the most diverse award longlist in Australia".

"Our Notable books are set in small towns and big cities in Australia and overseas. They take us from the ocean to the bush, telling stories of Indigenous, immigrant, disabled, LGBTQI+ and elderly characters. Many were created by 'own voice' writers and illustrators."

"There are genre books that break the rules, such as fantasy crossed with science fiction, history and mystery. Romance that isn't just for girls. Sports

books that aren't really sports books."

The 2020 Notables include favourite children's authors Emily Rodda, Jackie French and Paul Jennings as well as Tim Flannery, the acclaimed scientific writer and conservationist making his first foray into writing for young people.

"We have experienced authors who continue to invent and evolve, such as Garth Nix, Sean Williams, Sally Morgan, Will Kostakis, Robert Newton and Vikki Wakefield. And there are strong debuts from new writers," Professor Hillel said.

"The Eve Pownall Award for non-fiction is particularly fascinating this year, with an amazing autobiography by the late Indigenous leader, Kunmanara Williams, written in both Pitjantjatjara and English."

Other Notable books in this year's Eve Pownall Award category explain the underpinning concepts in geology (Australian Backyard Earth Scientist), astrophysics (Under the Stars: Astrophysics for Bedtime) and ecology (Beauty) through plain English, ingenious illustrations and story-telling.

The 2019 CBCA Book of the Year Award received 488 individual book entries, a record surpassed by this year's 517. This growth in entries matches the continuing strength of Australia's children's book industry. While Australian book sales revenue fell 3.1 per cent in 2019, children's books grew by 3 per cent and topped the bestseller lists at Christmas\*.

The CBCA is a not-for-profit, volunteer-run organisation which aims to engage the community with literature for young Australians.

Regarded as Australia's most prestigious children's literature award, the CBCA Book of the Year was established in 1946 and is now presented in six categories: Older Readers, Younger Readers, Early Childhood, Picture Book, Eve Pownall Award and CBCA Award for New Illustrator.

## WHAT'S NEW @ ST THOMAS MORE SCHOOL





masterpass

For quicker, hassle-free school payments, try Qkr! today

Introducing Qkr (pronounced Quicker) by Mastercard, the secure and easy way to order and pay for school items from your phone at a time and place that suits you.

#### What can Qkr do:

- Pay for school carnivals
- Order and pay for canteen orders
- Pay for school excursions i.e.5/6 Camp
- Oder and pay for school uniforms
- Pay for OSHC services
- See receipts instantly on the app.

#### Getting started is easy - try it yourself today

#### Step 1 Download Qkr!

on your Android phone or iPhone. iPad users can download iPhone app





#### Step 2 Register

Select your Country of Residence as 'Australia' and follow the steps to register

#### Step 3 Find our school

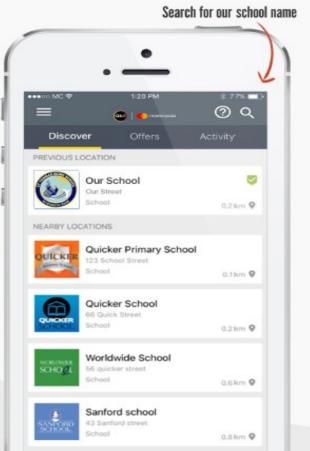
Our school will appear in 'Nearby Locations' if you're within 10kms of the school, or search for our school by name.

#### Step 4 Register your children

When first accessing our school you will be prompted to add a student profile for your child. This allows you to make orders and payments for them. If you have made a purchase you can select our school from 'Previous Location'



If you're within 10 kms of the school, you can select our school from 'Nearby Locations'





XAVIER

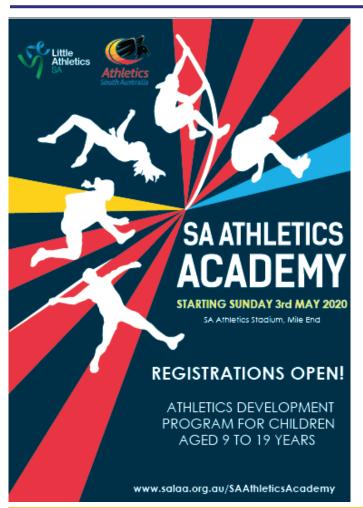
# **OPEN DAY**

1 Kentish Road Gawler Belt **xavier.catholic.edu.au** 

A CATHOLIC CO-EDUCATIONAL COLLEGE YEAR 7-12

Educating in the Salesian Tradition

Sunday 22 March 10am – 1pm, Tours 10am – 12pm











## ST THOMAS MORE SCHOOL OSHC-VACATION CARE

Week 1: Monday 13th April – Friday 17th April 2020

Week 2: Monday 20th April – Friday 24th April 2020



## Monday 13th **PUBLIC HOLIDAY**

## **EASTER MONDAY** SERVICE CLOSED



## High Tea Day

Tuesday 14th

Wear your fanciest clothes and join us for a high tea celebration! Bake up a storm and participate in a range of creative crafts.

> -Unicorn popcorn

-Rainbow cookies

-Flower pretzels -Cupcakes & more



#### Wednesday 15th 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

Thursday 16th

Put on your lab coats and safety goggles for some crazy fun experiments! Have an experiment you would

like to try? Today is the dav.



-Fizzing sherbet -DIY crystals -Erupting volcanoes & more

#### Friday 17<sup>1</sup> 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<sup>th</sup> Create, Discover

and Play

Today is all about exploring and

discovering new things through

vour play. Materials will be supplied for

you to create and play however

#### Tuesday 21st

#### 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

Wednesday 22nd

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.





#### Thursday 23rd 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!



-Bring your own electronic devices -Party games & prizes!

#### Anzac Day Chefs Edition!

Friday 24th

Anzac day is an important occasion for Australia and today we pay our respects by participating in a range of cooking and craft activities.







you like!





#### **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

#### 16 March

School Board Meeting School Board AGM 6:00pm

#### 17 March

St Patrick's Day

Andrew Chinn Workshop & Concert

#### 19 March

Year 3/4 Soccer carnival

#### 27 March

Whole School Assembly

#### 30 - 1 April

Year 5/6 School Camp - Woodhouse Activity Centre

#### 2 April

SAPSASA Year 5/6 Tennis Carnival

#### YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED . . .

The building works are progressing each day and the students are excited to be watching the Nature Play space evolve.





**School Access Term 1** 

#### 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

Access via main front courtyard gate at the school crossing.

Children dropped off before 8:30am and children not collected by 3.15pm will be sent to OSHC and parents will be invoiced for the service.



Creating is about sharing ideas, sharing aesthetics, sharing what you believe in with other people.



We are fortunate to have Aboriginal Cultural Residency - Chris Crebbin working with some of our students for 8 full day sessions this term. Together they are creating a fabulous mural along the front of the courtyard wall.

