



St Thomas More School Newsletter

12 June 2020: Term 2, week 7

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Principal
Mr Chris Platten

Acting APRIM
Mrs Robyn Mercer

**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



YEAR 5/6B

As part of the 5/6 Religion curriculum, students are provided with the opportunity to be involved in organising outreach in our school, to serve both the school and wider community. This provides students with experience in actively living out the Mercy Values the school is founded on. The students identify community needs and plan how they can support their chosen cause. This term the students have raised over \$300 to support the World Wildlife Foundation in restoring koala habitat destroyed in the recent bushfires, as well as, rehabilitation for injured koalas. Students have also organised three Community Clean Up events, collecting litter strewn through the local areas surrounding our school. We even saw a koala while we were cleaning up Fremont Park.



**The students in both these
outreach groups should be
incredibly proud of their efforts!**





Animal Dress Up Day

On the 29th of May we held an Animal Dress Up day raising money to help the injured koalas that were badly hurt from the bushfires that happened in Australia. It's Important because so many koala's were injured and also koala's are one of our native animals here in Australia. The money will go towards helping the koalas. The money that we raised can help replant trees, re-stock bandages and medical supplies and get koalas ready to go back to the wild.

Thank you on behalf of the Bushfire Impact Outreach Group!

Naimah, Avah, Cooper, Hamish, Jaiden and Max





On Thursday 28th of May all the 5/6 students went out of the school and hosted a huge clean up. We will be doing 2 more this term, the first place we went to was Fremont Park, and we are going to go to the Wetlands, and Olive Grove soon. We found these areas on google by searching places nearby, since we had to find places that were a close distance from our school.

“Doing this was important to me, because every day I always see rubbish everywhere and it makes me realise how cruel we are to the earth. So I want to make an impact where we don’t pollute our community” – Aleisha Le

We decided to do this so we can live out our catholic mercy values, such as Compassion, Service, respect and justice. We cleaned up a maximum of 10 bags (5 recycling bags and 5 rubbish bags.) We did this to help the environment, to help the animals that live around the area and to help with pollution, so we can have an amazing future. We care about our community and the environment we live in. Please care for our earth like we did, just a little piece of rubbish you pick up is a great thing. It’s important to clean-up our area so we and the animals don’t live in danger. By doing community clean up, we are saving them from eating things they’re not supposed to.

“It’s important for us to clean up our community to live in a clean and safe environment. It’s not just for us but for our whole community.” – Lidah Jaffari

The Community Clean Up Outreach Committee

Ellaouise, Kuol, Charli-Anne, Aleisha, Alexa and Lidah



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

The colder mornings are certainly upon us and it really is that much harder to get out of a warm bed. With this in mind, I remind parents that regular attendance at school is very important. Going to school every day and getting there on time reinforces for children, that school is a significant experience. I cannot stress enough the value of arriving to school on time. Most classroom teachers set out the day's routine, lunch orders, prayer, news, notes for the office, learning intentions and work expectations for the day. Missing out on these routines sometimes means that when a child arrives late, they are playing catch up for the remainder of the morning and are unsettled and unsure. If this happens regularly children can become anxious or even casual in their approach.

It is also important for children to attend school regularly. Allowing children to stay home without a good reason sends a message that learning can be interrupted and isn't important. When children attend regularly, the teacher is able to build a sequence of learning for each child and children develop a sense of increasing success. Attending school regularly also supports a child's sense of belonging to the class, the school and helps them maintain friendships. I know that the cold mornings make for a slower start to the day; however I ask that families make the extra effort to be on time.

MID YEAR REPORTS & PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Monday 27 July (Term 3 Week 2) you will receive your child/ren's Mid-Year Report. These will be given to your child in a sealed envelope. We do this to protect your child's privacy and so that you (the parent/s) will be the first to read the report and discuss it with your child. These reports are a descriptive summary of your child's progress for this year and should also point out to you and your child, the specific areas needed for ongoing learning improvement. It is essential to your child's ongoing learning that both you and your child know of the achievements that they have made and what they need to do to continue this progress.

If there is anything in the report that comes as a surprise to you or your child, or you do not understand some of the comments made, then please make an appointment to see your child's teacher.

With this in mind we offer Parent – Teacher interviews on Tuesday 28 and Wednesday 29 July (Term 3 Week 2) to inform you of your child's progress, their successes and the challenges that lay ahead for the coming academic year. I strongly urge you to take this opportunity to meet with your child's teacher and the Specialist Teachers (if necessary) to discuss personally how your child is going, where they are at and how they can be supported to achieve successful outcomes.

Information regarding booking appointments will be sent home in the coming weeks.

STAFFING NEWS

I am pleased to share that we have appointed Ms Gorgi Zolotovs as our Term 3 & 4 Reception teacher. Gorgi is very much looking forward to working with our new children and will be here for the 3 Reception transition visits. I'm sure you will join me congratulating Gorgi and wishing her every success as she joins our school community.

RECEPTION INDUCTION

Last Tuesday, we held our first transition morning for our new Reception students to begin their school journey at St Thomas More School, in Term 3, 2020. We had excited and eager students who seemed to be delighted by their morning. They met their new teacher and participated in activities whilst at school. The children were still beaming with excitement when their parents picked them up. While the children were busy getting to know one another, parents also gathered during this time to meet one another and begin (for some) their involvement in the St Thomas More School's community.

Parents have commented on how welcoming the other students have been towards the new students. This is one of the special qualities of St Thomas More School. Staff have also been delighted by the new students' enthusiasm and how quickly they settled into their new environment. Further Reception transition dates are Tuesday 16 and Tuesday 23 June.

CYBER SAFETY

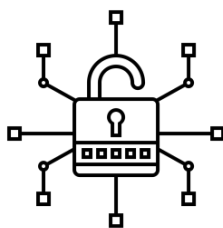
As mentioned in our last newsletter, it is important that we ensure that our children are physically and emotionally supported through the use of the internet.

As suggested on the esafety website, these are some strategies to ensure our children are safe while using their computer, tablets or phones.

- Children are to be in a shared space so they can be supervised e.g. kitchen, lounge room
- Viewing what's on their screen
- Monitoring their internet use
- Using parental controls
- Checking on them regularly
- Setting rules and guidelines on access and usage time
- Ensure communication lines are open to discuss any concerns that may arise

Even with these strategies in place, sometimes cyberbullying can occur through the internet. See attached a flow chart on how to report cyberbullying. See our next newsletter for further information about cyberbullying.

www.esafety.gov.au



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.

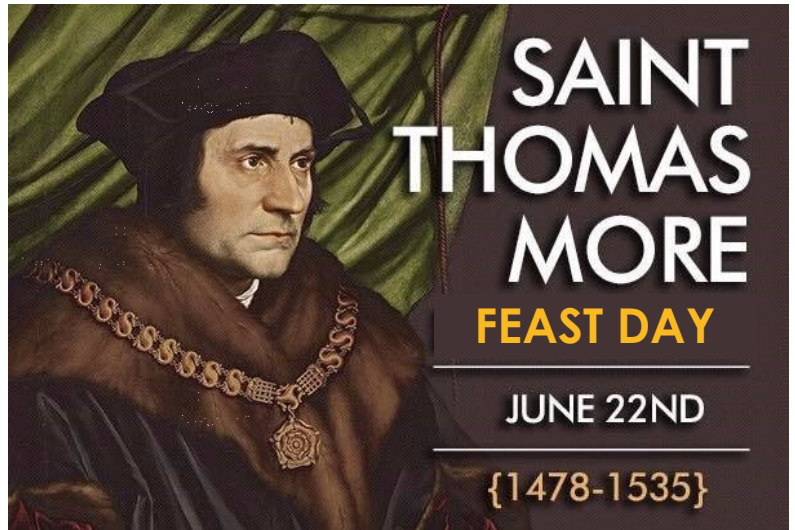
2021 RECEPTION ENROLMENTS

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,
Leadership Team



Owing to the need for ongoing precautions regarding gatherings of large groups in schools, this year's feast day celebrations will be different from previous years. Unfortunately families will be unable to attend. All teachers will ensure parents receive a pictorial record of the day via seesaw.

Thanks to all families for your support in these challenging times.

We remember St Thomas More, a 16th century English saint, after whom our school is named. We reflect on what we can learn from him as someone who God's light was shining through in his time and his place. All classes will participate in a Liturgy of the Word in their classrooms, led by their class teacher.



Students will participate in learning experiences about the life of Thomas More and what we can learn from him.

Students will have the opportunity to create some canvas art that reflects their learning. Hopefully, some of these will be showcased in a display around the school.

We will be collecting items for Vinnies to help keep people warm – beanies, scarves, socks and gloves. For health reasons, socks and gloves need to be new, not second-hand. Items can be left in baskets in classrooms or at the Front Office anytime from next Monday until Mon June 22nd.





GOOD NEWS!

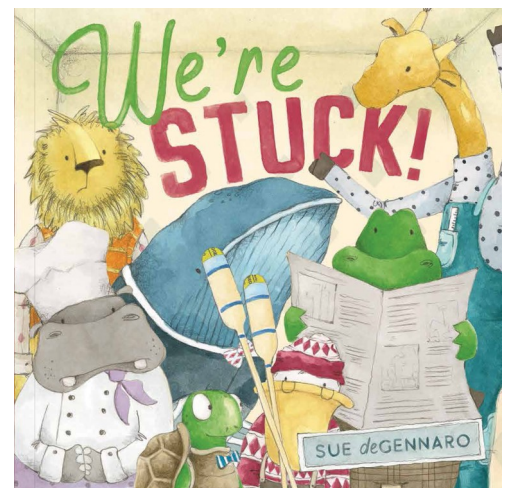
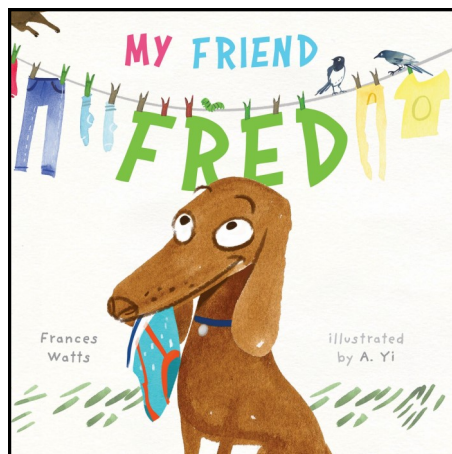
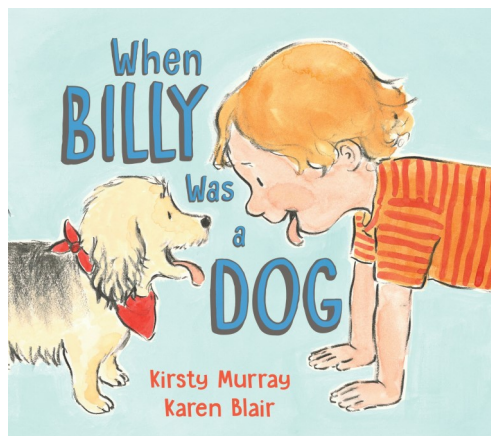
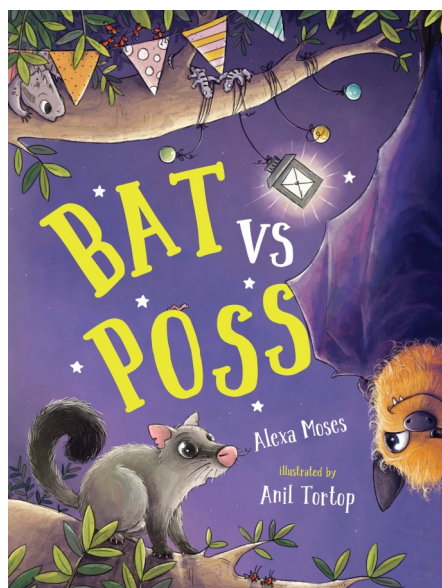
CBCA Book Week 2020 will now be held in October on the following dates: **OCTOBER 17-23 2020**

These later dates will apply in 2020 only, recognising the exceptional circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic.

ANNOUNCING THE 2020 SHORTLIST FOR:

PICTURE BOOK OF THE YEAR: EARLY CHILDHOOD

Entries in this category may be fiction, drama or poetry and should be appropriate in style and content for children who are at pre-reading or early stages of reading. Ages 0-6 years.



Aboriginal Cultural Residency -
Chris Crebbin completed the mural
along the front of the courtyard
with a group of
our year 3/4
students.



A fantastic piece of artwork!





To celebrate
World Environment Day,
R/1 J & 5/6 B
created wonderful
artwork made from
natural materials.

Awesome work!



CAN YOU SLOVE THESE REBUS PUZZLES? 

UTNS

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CAST

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Week 5 Newsletter answers: Age before beauty, Line up, No time left, Tulips, It's in the bag, Long overdue, Open all hours, Slow down.

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Wednesday Lunch Specials - Term 2, 2020

WEEK 2 / 6 May



Mild Butter
Chicken with
Rice

WEEK 3 / 13 May



Macaroni &
Cheese with
Bread roll

WEEK 4 / 20 May



Chilli Con
Carne with
rice

WEEK 5 / 27 May



Chicken
Schnitzel &
Chips

WEEK 6 / 3 June



Lasagne with
garlic bread

WEEK 8 / 17 June



Sausage and
Mash Potato
with gravy

WEEK 7 / 10 June



Chicken Yiros
with lettuce,
cheese,
tomato & sauce

WEEK 9 / 24 June



Tuna Mornay
with pasta

WEEK 10 / 1 July



Bacon & Egg
roll with
wedges

All Specials \$5

Please place order through the QKR app or the classroom lunch order box by 9am.
All other menu items are still available on Wednesday special day.

Canteen is closed on Mondays

Advance Notice

Every Tuesday

Parent Coffee/Tea chat 8:30am Jubilee Hall -

Postponed

ECC Playgroup 9:00am-11:00am -**Postponed**

Principal's Tour (first Tuesday of the month) 10am -

By appointment only

Every Wednesday

School Banking -**Postponed**

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

Postponed

14 -21 June

Migrant & refugee Week

<https://www.refugeeweek.org.au>

14 June

World Blood Donor Day

18 June

International Picnic Day



19 June

Feast of the Sacred Heart



20 June

World Refugee Day

22 June

Feast of St Thomas More



22 June

World Wellbeing Week

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.

Shillabeer road access for OSHC. Gate locked at 8;50am.

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.



Liturgical Events

Unfortunately, as the COVID restrictions are still in place for large worship gatherings, there will be no Masses celebrated at school until further notice. Classes will continue to have liturgies in class groups but parents are unable to attend. Teachers will include families by sending photos, iMovie's or copies of the class prayer service via seesaw.

Courage doesn't
mean you don't
get afraid.

Courage means
you don't let fear
stop you.

