



**St Thomas More
School**

Newsletter

24 July 2020: Term 3, week 1

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

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



5/6 SAMARZIA - CHEVALIER

Recently we received a Sporting Schools Plus grant of \$7,500. Sporting Schools Plus aims to influence the whole-school environment with students encountering impactful physical activity experiences throughout the school day. The grant was to be used to activate components of Physical Literacy (Culture, Organisation and Environment, Curriculum Teaching and Learning and Partnerships). After reviewing our Physical Literacy program, we used the grant to create a 'Fitness Trail' that encourages physical activity before, during and after school. The new fitness trail provides an extra opportunity for students to be physically active at school with the trail available for use at recess and lunchtime in a non-competitive environment.



**"It's awesome because
the monkey bars are so
high and it's less crowded."**

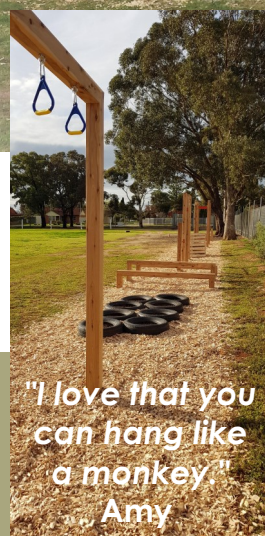
Lilly



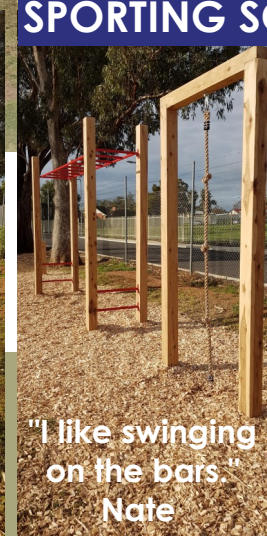
SPORTING SCHOOLS PLUS



**"I like the chin
up poles. I
enjoy climbing
up them."**
Jordan



**"I love that you
can hang like
a monkey."**
Amy



**"I like swinging
on the bars."**
Nate



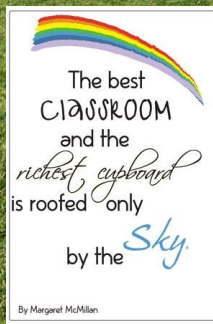
"We love it!"

5/6SC have been enjoying outdoor play as much as possible to promote physical and social development. Students have enjoyed the fresh air, exploring their surroundings, being curious about what's around them and finding joy in seeing new things outside. In particular, 5/6SC have enjoyed trying out the new fitness equipment.

"The new fitness equipment is enjoyable. I like that we can hang and swing." Marisa

5/6 SAMARZIA - CHEVALIER

5/6SC also enjoyed some outdoor play with their buddies, 2/3G. Students had the opportunity to have a go at a variety of sports with their buddies. It was wonderful to hear the laughter and encouragement amongst students in the courtyard.



2-7-2020

MENTOR PROGRAM CHESS TOURNAMENT

Children used their skills to battle it out and be crowned the term 2 chess champions! Chess encourages social interactions while developing on their patience, critical thinking and problem solving skills. Well done to everyone involved!



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

Welcome to Term 3!

I hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday. The students appear relaxed and excited to be back at school and it was great to hear some of their holiday stories. Holidays are always a great opportunity for everyone to recharge their batteries and Term 3 looks like being a very exciting and busy term!

Over the holiday break, builders have been busy constructing our new obstacle course located on the eastern side of the large oval. Children have already had time to play, explore and attempt the obstacles. The smile on their faces is an indication that the obstacle course will be frequently visited.

The many changes around our school have certainly started conversation and we have had positive feedback from staff, students and parents.

FIRST SEMESTER REPORTS

Teachers have been busy writing reports that are evidence based and capture the entire learning achieved by your child/ren during their first semester of school this year. Myself and Leah Williams have had the pleasure of reading each child's report and gaining a greater understanding of their growth and development.

One of the areas I take particular note of is a child's **efforts**. Children receive a grade for achievement and for **'application to learning' (effort)**. This grade is provided for each subject area and compliments the 'Achievement' grade, informing you about how your child has applied themselves and given effort in their learning. One of our School Norms is; 'Strive for Excellence' which highlights the importance of trying your best, regardless of your knowledge or interest level in a particular subject area. I'd like to thank our teachers for their efforts with writing these reports and encourage you to celebrate your child's/children's achievements and talk to them about the importance of setting personal learning goals for the remainder of the year.

On 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. 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.

PLEASE ENSURE YOU HAVE MADE A TIME TO MEET WITH YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER.



STAFFING NEWS

We farewell Mrs. Sonia Kilmister. Sonia has won a position at The Pines School, Parafield Gardens and concludes her time of wonderful service to the St Thomas More School community. Sonia has been a valued and important part of the school in a variety of roles and someone who has always been friendly, caring and welcoming to staff, students, parents and visitors. On behalf of our school community I'd like to thank Sonia for her work and commitment to St Thomas More School and wish her every success and blessing as she embarks on this new chapter of her professional career. At this point, Robyn Mercer will continue in the role as Assistant Principal Religious Identity and Mission (APRIM).

As mentioned last term, Mrs Marilyn Kennedy has won a position at St Augustine's Parish School, Salisbury and concludes her time with us after years of wonderful service to the St Thomas More School community. Mrs Sandy Ahearn has won the position as Junior School Counsellor at St Columba College, Andrews Farm for Terms 3 and 4. Sandy will take up this position at the beginning of Term 3 and return to St Thomas More at the beginning of the 2021 School Year. We wish Marilyn and Sandy a successful experiences at their new schools.

Mr Paul Cliff be will be on Long Service Leave for Term 3, beginning Monday 20 July. Paul's replacement is Mr Andrew Scott. We wish Paul a safe and enjoyable break with family and friends.

STUDENT PUNCTUALITY AND ATTENDANCE

When children begin school they develop learning habits. These learning habits continue to develop throughout each learning year and these habits can affect learning achievements. Two important habits and life skills are attendance and punctuality. Very few people can argue with the correlation between attendance and school achievement. There is empirical evidence at a state, national and international level to prove that this relationship is true but, closer to home, our own achievement data and student report information clearly demonstrate that, as a general rule, the more time students spend at school, the better they will do.

We need to maximise every day to get full value – this means turning up to school every day and on time. When students arrive late and take time to settle, valuable learning time is lost. When students are absent from school they miss work (which they seldom makeup) and also miss important interactions with their peers.

It is now commonplace for children to stay away from school for reasons that would have been unheard of 20 years ago.

These include:

- Their own or a sibling's birthday
- Stayed up too late watching TV
- Going shopping for clothes
- An extended long weekend
- Not wishing to participate in a sports day, special school event or excursion

This sends a strong message to children that their parents neither value learning nor the school experiences. It is difficult to resist the persistent pressure that children can exert on parents, but parents need to be strong and send their children to school every day, on time and ready to make the most of school experiences.

In conclusion, it is reassuring to know that parents increase their children's chances of future success just by making sure they turn up to school every day. This important habit and regular school attendance also prepares young people for the workforce where it is expected that they turn up each day ready for work!

Absentee notification - please ring front office by 9.00 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.

Please remember before the morning bell, students are only allowed to play on the nature play, courtyard and large oval due to supervision.

The carpark is for STAFF only, please utilize parking outside the school gates.

Working in Partnership,
Chris Platten

**RAISING
HEARTS
AND
MINDS**





As a Catholic Community, at St Thomas More School we believe that humans are made in the image of God and so every person is deserving of the utmost dignity and honour. We uphold the belief that human sexuality is integral to the human persona and is a gift from God, through which we can live out our call to love.

'Made in the Image of God' (MITIOG) is the official program for human sexuality education in South Australian Catholic Schools. Later this term classes will engage with the Being Sexual strand of the MITIOG program. All families will receive further information about the MITIOG program in a brochure that was included with your child's report. If you do not receive this info please contact the Front Office or your child's teacher.

Our new Reception students in Rec Z will not participate in the MITIOG program until later in 2021.

Class teachers will keep parents informed about specific class lessons and content later in the term.

If you have any questions or concerns about MITIOG please contact your child's teacher or Robyn Mercer (Acting APRIM).





to St Thomas More School



We welcome to our school community:

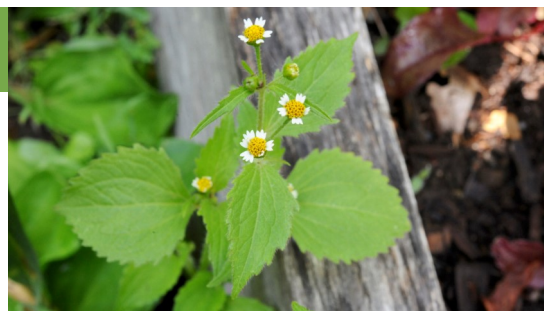
Kaylee Carrick, Aleaha Caruso, Ilija Conidi-Williams, Ava-Marie Corey, William Disher, Elyssa Dracup, Vincent Durward, Tyler Gruber, Ella Konecny, Layla Modra, Madison Odole, Ezra Pearce, Sienna Pellicone, Ayvah-Rose Squire, Charlotte Sterry, Isaac Walker, Maddison Turner, Logan Squire and Liam McGuire.



WEED WaRRiORS

In our beautiful Nature Play Area 2/3MD will be keeping an eye out for the pesky weeds that seem to multiply overnight - especially at this time of the year.

Great Community Service for the environment 2/3MD!



CHemiCAL SCiENCE

Ice Melting Investigation

Through the topic of Matter (Solids, Liquids and Gases) 2/3MD observed ice melting in the classroom. Different sized coloured ice was keenly observed by all students. Predictions and recordings were made and here are some of our recordings.

Constant Variable - something in the investigation that remains the same.

Independent Variable - something that is changed in the investigation.



CAN YOU SOLVE THESE REBUS PUZZLES?

Gleeson College



Gleeson College is a Catholic Secondary Co-Educational College (Years 7-12) serving students and families in the North-Eastern suburbs of Adelaide. Set within the beautiful surroundings of Golden Grove and offering outstanding facilities and specialist programs, Gleeson College has a focus on providing personal development, pastoral care, multiple learning pathways and quality academic outcomes for all students.



PRINCIPAL'S TOURS + INFO SESSIONS TERM 3 2020

Tuesday 11 August, 9.15 - 10.15am > Principal's Tour
Tuesday 11 August, 7 - 8pm > Principal's Information Session *No tour
Wednesday 19 August, 4 - 5pm > Principal's Tour
BOOK ONLINE TODAY!! > <https://www.gleeson.sa.edu.au/principal-s-tours.html>

COME + SEE OUR STATE-OF-THE ART MICAH CENTRE

EIGHT INNOVATIVE CLASSROOMS
STUDENT SERVICES
SENIOR STUDENT HUB + KITCHEN
INDIVIDUAL + COLLABORATIVE
LEARNING SPACES OVERLOOKING
THE BEAUTIFUL HILLS + VALLEYS!



Gleeson College

40 - 60 Surrey Farm Drive GOLDEN GROVE SA 5125
P: 08 8282 6600 E: info@gleeson.catholic.edu.au
www.gleeson.sa.edu.au

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View our home from yours Another level of education, Year 7-12

Principal's Virtual Tour Thursday June 11, 4pm



Experience our new Faulkner Centre

Book online tmc.catholic.edu.au | Limited places 2021 | Finalising applications 2022

OLSH

OUR LADY OF THE
SACRED HEART
COLLEGE



College
Tours

28 July & 25 August, 9:30am and 5:30pm
Visit olsh.catholic.edu.au or phone 8269 8800
to book or request a tour

OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART COLLEGE | A Girls Secondary Catholic College from Year 7 - 12
496 Regency Road Enfield SA Australia 5085 | T: 8269 8800 | E: olsh@olsh.catholic.edu.au | W: www.olsh.catholic.edu.au

Have you thought about high school options? Is your child enrolled?

Some schools have waiting lists, to avoid disappointment it is recommended to have your child enrolled at least 18mths prior to starting.

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
- ♦ Order 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.

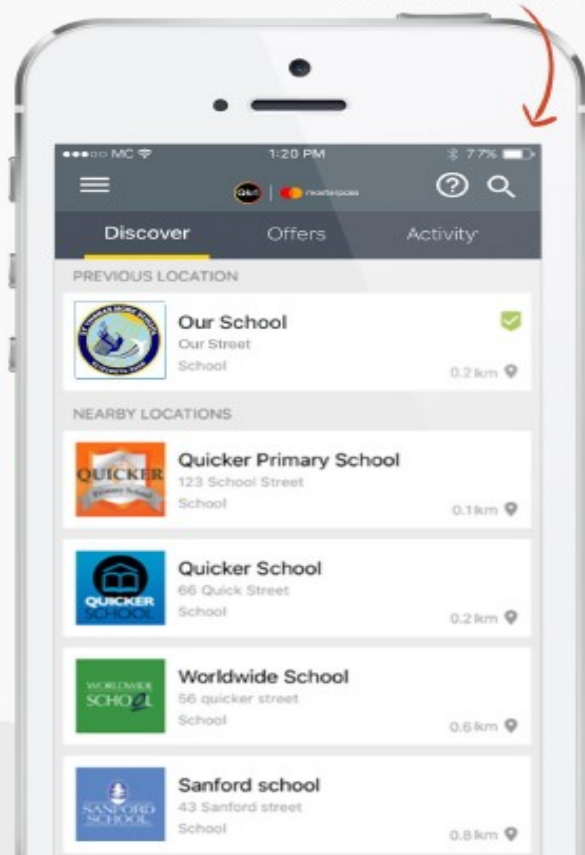
Step 4 Register your children

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'

Search for our school name



Wednesday Lunch Specials - Term 3

WEEK 1 / 22 July



**Mild Butter
Chicken &
Rice**

WEEK 2 / 29 July



**Ravioli &
garlic bread**

WEEK 3 / 5 August



Beef Burrito

WEEK 4 / 12 August



**Chicken
Tenders &
Chips**

WEEK 5 / 19 August



**Bacon & Egg
roll with
wedges**

WEEK 6 / 26 August



**Chicken Stir
Fry with
Hokkien**

WEEK 7 / 2 September



**Fried Rice &
Spring rolls**

WEEK 8 / 9 September



**Pasta
Carbonara &
a bread roll**

WEEK 9 / 16 September



**Cheeseburger
& chips**

WEEK 10 / 23 September



Chicken Yiros

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 9:15am -11:15am

Principal's Tour

(first Tuesday of the month) 10am - **By appointment only**

Every Wednesday

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

28 July

Rec Z Class Prayer Service

30 July

International Day of Friendship

3 August

Feast of St Dominic

4 August

Class Mass Yr 5/6CS
National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Children's Day

6 August

Feast of the
Transfiguration

8 August

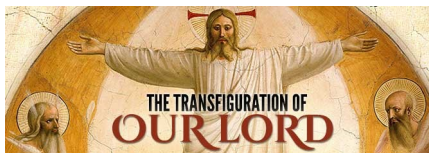
Feast of St Mary of the Cross
MacKillop

9 August

International Day of the World's
Indigenous People

12 August

International Youth Day



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.

Teachers encourage,
minds to think
hands to create
and hearts to
love

School Access Term 3

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.

