



**St Thomas More
School**

Newsletter

18 September 2020: Term 3, wk 9

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Elizabeth Park, South Australia,
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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

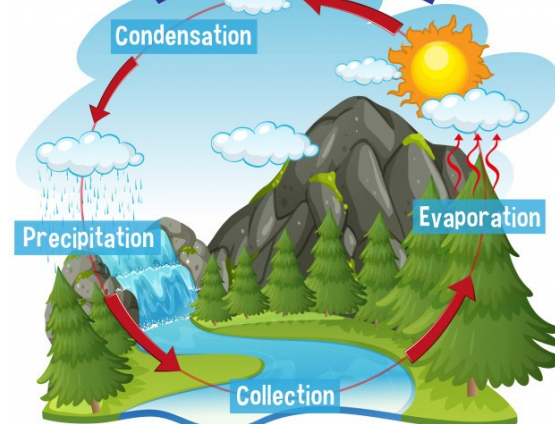
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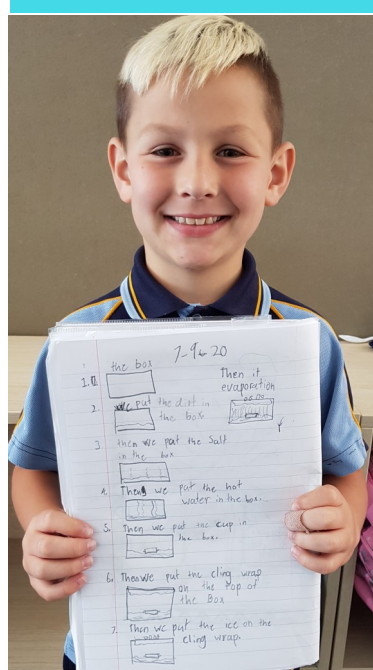


2/3 G

The WATER CYCLE



Experiment

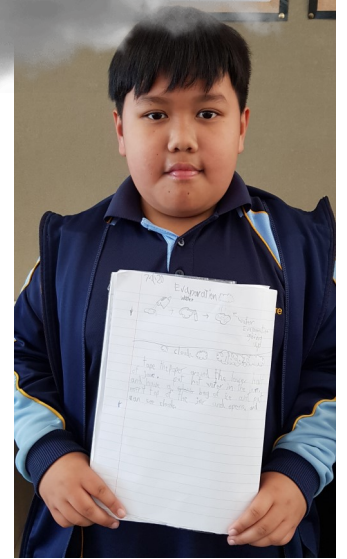
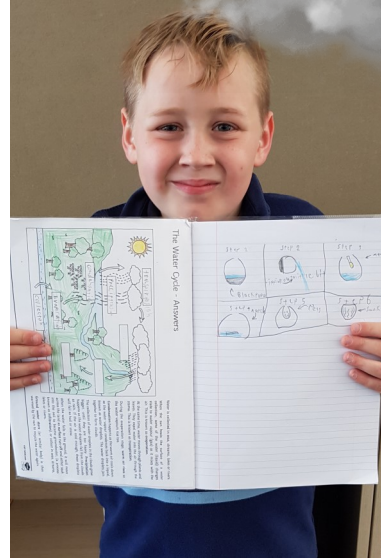
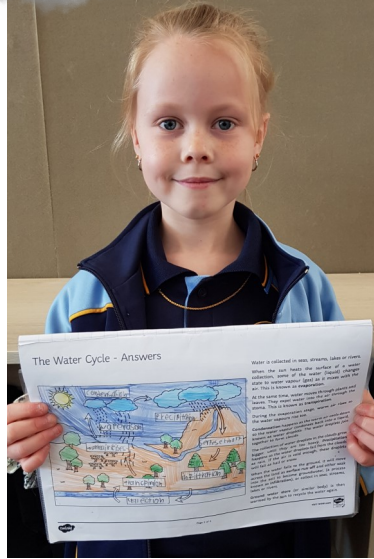
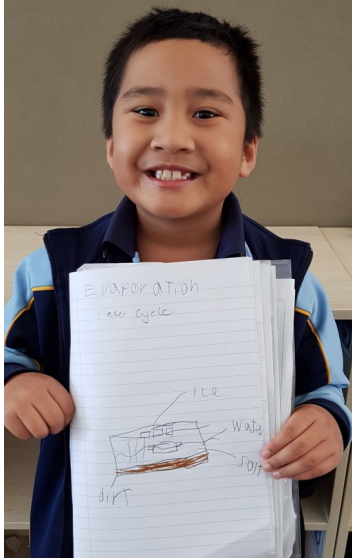


"We had a big container and put dirt in the bottom of it and added some salt. Once the dirt was spread out we poured hot water over it, then we placed a bowl in the middle of the wet dirt. We sealed the container with cling wrap and put the ice on the top of it over the bowl inside. The ice "in the sky" melted and caused the evaporated water to condense when it rose up. After several minutes we saw clouds under the cling wrap". - class.

MaD Scientists!



2/3 G



We have been reading the BOOK WEEK books throughout the term in the library.

"My favourite book is We're Stuck by Sue DeGennaro. It's all about animals getting stuck in an elevator". - Acacia

READING
is for
AWESOME
people



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

KEYS TO STRENGTHENING SELF-ACCEPTANCE

It is important for children and young people to recognise that they are not their behaviour and, similarly, to distinguish between being 'a failure' and struggling with a task. Children and young people should ideally be aware of and value their positive characteristics, skills and character strengths in all areas of life including work and family relationships. If children and young people are able to value these strengths, then, when faced with difficulty or negativity, they are better able to remind themselves why they're proud of who they are. Children and young people can generate and practise using self-accepting self-talk when confronted with criticism, imperfect performance, negative self-perceptions of body image, or other events they experience as troubling.

Examples of self-accepting self-talk include:

- "I accept myself no matter what"
- "I prefer people to like me, but I can live without their approval"
- "Mistakes and setbacks are inevitable. I will accept myself while disliking my mistakes and setbacks."
- "My performance – perfect or otherwise – doesn't determine my worth as a person."
"I accept who I am, even though I may not like some of my traits and behaviours."

To learn more about how you can help build resilience in your children visit Be You (formerly Beyond Blue) <https://beyou.edu.au/fact-sheets>

STAFFING NEWS

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank and farewell Robyn Mercer. Robyn has been the Acting Assistant Principal (APRIM) for the last two terms and will conclude her time with us at the end of Term 3. Robyn has demonstrated a lot of time, care and compassion in supporting children with their social, religious and academic needs during this time and driven powerful Catholic Identity initiatives throughout the school, such as displays, both inside and outside, and Feast Days. Robyn has supported staff with their religious education learning experiences and been a valuable member of the school leadership team, recently facilitating the new Crossways curriculum. We wish Robyn every success and blessing with her future and look forward to our paths meeting once again.

We farewell Mr Paul Cliff. Paul concludes his time of wonderful service to the St Thomas More School community. Paul has been a valued and important part of the school, seeing many changes 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 Paul for his work and commitment to St Thomas More School and wish him every success and blessing as he embarks on this new chapter of life. At this point, Mr Andrew Scott will continue in the role as Grounds Person.

2021 CLASS PLACEMENTS

Staff have begun to plan for next year and will soon begin to consider class allocation for students. Often at this time of the year parents become anxious about their child's placement for the ensuing year. Often this is because parents have varied perceptions, some positive, some not so, about particular teachers. We all need to remember that, because God has made every one of us individual, unique and special, during the course of each child's life at school there will be some teachers they gel brilliantly with and other teachers with whom they feel less at ease. Our experience suggests that children do adjust to their new teacher and

settle into a productive year in that class. Our views on class placement are relatively simple and are premised on the following principles:

The child's needs come first.

These needs include:

- Social - maximising each child's potential to be happy and have positive self-esteem is essential. Consequently there may be reasons for ensuring that certain children are, or are not, placed in the same class.
- Educational - different children and teachers have different learning and teaching styles.
- Other considerations might include whether children have previously had certain teachers, the mix of learning needs in a class, etc. The ultimate responsibility for assigning class placement rests with the school.

The staff spends much time considering the social, peer group and learning needs of the children and, within the practical constraints of numbers of children, numbers of teachers, etc. allocate children to classes.

Parents are welcome to write to me regarding particular learning needs or particular social and peer group needs they may have. I am not prepared to consider requests for or against individual teachers. All correspondence regarding information for 2021 class placements should be addressed to me and be received by **Friday 25 September, 2020**.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

St Thomas More School uniform items can be purchased from the Front Office in person on Mondays and Fridays 8:30am to 9:30am. However, we encourage all families to order and pay for uniform items using the St Thomas More School QKR app. Orders will be delivered to your child's classroom.

With only 1 week remaining until the end of Term 3 and the winter uniform, please make arrangements to ensure your child is prepared to wear correct summer uniform in Term 4, 2020.

SCHOOL HATS

From Term 4 (October 12) hats will again become compulsory for all playtimes and learning activities outdoors. It is compulsory for all children and staff to wear hats when outdoors.

No Hat - No Play will apply to all children not wearing a hat for playtimes and they will also have to "sit out" outside activity lessons.

END OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS

Term 3 finishes on Friday 25 September at 3:00pm (after Sports Day).

Term 4 commences on Monday 12 October at 8:50am.

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.

On behalf of the Staff, we hope you all have a peaceful and safe holiday with family and friends.

Working in Partnership,
Chris Platten

Season of Prayer and Action for Creation

As part of their learning in Religious Education students have been reflecting on the call to all of us to play our part in caring for creation. Classes have been reflecting on how we can take actions every day to care for ourselves, each other and the environment. A chalk mural is being created on the brick wall opposite the library to remind us of our responsibilities to care for all of creation. Hopefully, sometime in the future it will become a permanent piece of art in our school.



Creator God, today help me to see you in the world around me.
In the beauty of nature, in the sunshine and the rain,
in the beauty of the people around me.
And most of all in the beauty of myself.
Today we promise to take care of your great
masterpieces, all of creation and the people around us.
We make this prayer through Jesus, who shows us how much
you really love all of your creation.

Amen



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2020

Due to the pandemic, the Archbishop has granted special permission for Parish Priests to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation. An extraordinary

Sacramental Program, with limited capacity, will be offered in term 4. The formal celebrations, with Fr Pat officiating, will take place in late November or early December.



The Parents/Caregivers of children currently in year 6 onwards are welcome to contact the Parish Office on 8255 1191, Monday to Friday between 9am and 2pm to obtain more information and register their interest. Registration closes Friday 2 October 2020 without exception.

We are looking forward to our Sacramental Program returning in it's full capacity in 2021.



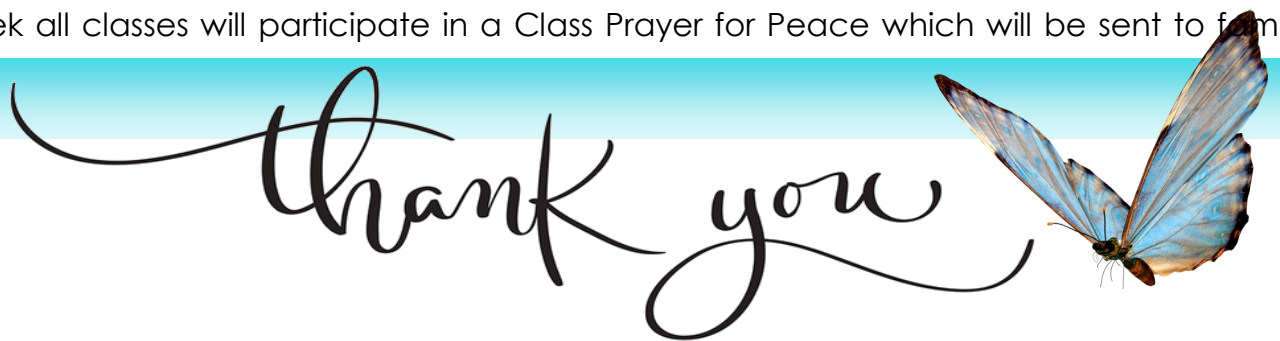
INTERNATIONAL
PEACE DAY



Next Monday Sept 21st the world celebrates International Day of Peace. The International Day of Peace ("Peace Day") is observed around the world each year on 21 September. Established in 1981 by unanimous United Nations resolution, Peace Day provides a globally shared date for all humanity to commit to Peace above all differences and to contribute to building a Culture of Peace.

Peace is such an important word in our Catholic tradition and offers us a great reminder of our most important calling as human beings. We all have the opportunity to be peaceful - to ourselves, to each other and to creation.

Next week all classes will participate in a Class Prayer for Peace which will be sent to families



As I am concluding my time here as Acting APRIM at St Thomas More at the end of next week. I would like to thank everyone in the community for welcoming me so warmly and for allowing me to share in the life of this wonderful school community for the two terms I have been here. I have been moved by the genuine warmth, hospitality and support I have received from staff, families and children. It has been a blessing for me to witness the wonderful joy and enthusiasm, especially in the children, to learn about the Christian faith, be open to the message of Jesus and to engage in conversations and learnings around faith and religious ideas.

I wish all members of the St Thomas More School community many blessings as you continue your journey together.

Thanks for having me and hopefully our paths may cross again some other time!

Robyn Mercer

Catholic Schools



Carnival

Last Thursday St Thomas More participated in the Catholic Schools Touch Carnival. We entered 4 teams involving 34 students from years 3-6. The carnival gave students a great opportunity to showcase their skills and knowledge taught in Physical Education lessons.

Most students have had very little experience in Touch Football, but the day is about experiencing a team environment and trying out a new sport. As the day went on all teams developed strategies to out-think the opposition achieving many successful results. Students played a total of six games throughout the day and it would be fair to say they were exhausted by the end. All students displayed great sportsmanship and professionalism representing our school proudly.

Thank you to Miss Boraso, Ms Swann, Mrs Cooper and Mrs Kanelopoulos for their help and support throughout the day.

Top Effort Everyone!

PE Co-ordinator

Fabian Chevalier



SCHOOL COMMUNITY



On Tuesday 15 September, 49 reception students were given a brand new racquet thanks to ANZ and Tennis Australia's initiative to get kids moving.

As part of the ANZ Tennis Hot Shots Racquet Roadshow initiative, tennis legend Todd Woodbridge made a special virtual appearance through a video call to encourage students to pick up a racquet.

This initiative to introduce more kids to tennis comes as reports continued to be released about declining levels of activity in children. These racquets will help get kids moving at school, home and in the community.

Following the presentation coaches from the Playford Tennis Centre delivered a clinic. Playford Tennis Centre has a Hot Shots League perfectly suited for any level! Currently the centre is offering a **FREE** trial.

Please visit: <https://playfordtennis.com.au/juniors/> for more information.

Working in Partnership,
Fabian Chevalier



CAN YOU SOLVE THESE REBUS PUZZLES?



DEFARMERLL

boy BLUE

KCART

wheel
wheel drive
wheel
wheel

Week 7 Newsletter answers: Teepee, Many times, Bishop, Parakeets, Standing in the corner, Water over the dam, Siesta, Falling star.



Show your support for
**KIDS
WITH
CANCER**

MONDAY September 21



What is Footy Colours Day?

Fight Cancer Foundation's Footy Colours Day is a national fundraising campaign which helps kids with cancer.

Where does the money go?

Every dollar raised helps kids with cancer to continue learning during treatment and recovery through Fight Cancer Foundation's education support programs. Last year \$735,000 was raised.

On Monday September 21 (WK 10) all students are invited to wear their favourite footy colours with a gold coin donation. We are extending it to your favourite sports team colours, netball, rugby, soccer, cricket or your own sports club wear.



We're wearing our
FOOTY COLOURS
on: Monday 21 September

footycoloursday.com.au #footycoloursday

GOLD COIN DONATION



Friday 25 September

As you would be aware from previous correspondence, we have made the difficult decision to proceed with Sports Day without the cheers and encouragement of parents, families and caregivers. We know many of you will be disappointed with this decision, however we have made it in the best interests of the children and staff at St Thomas More Primary School.

On Sports Day the students are required to wear their correct Sports shorts and hat. Students are **encouraged to wear a T-shirt that reflects their team colour**. Students may also wear hair ribbons, socks and hairspray (to be put on at home and not brought to school).

Normal sunscreen is to be used – **NOT** coloured zinc cream. Class teachers will also have sun cream available for students to use. Students are **NOT** to paint their body with coloured zinc cream. Please remember to send your student to school with a labelled drink bottle.

REMINDER

The canteen will be open as normal for students to purchase food at recess and lunchtime and to submit a lunch order. Students will receive an ice block at lunchtime for their participation on sports day.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we kindly request a spectator free sports day.

Good Luck to all teams and supporters!

Fabian Chevalier

P.E. Co-ordinator

McAuley

MacKillop

Barry










Coolock

ST THOMAS MORE SCHOOL OSHC - VACATION CARE



Week 1: Monday 28th September - Friday 2nd October 2020 **Week 2: Monday 5th October - Friday 9th October 2020**

50 Yorktown Road, Elizabeth Park SA 5113 Phone: (08) 8255 1626 Mobile: 0409 551 699

Monday 28 th	Tuesday 29 th	Wednesday 30 th	Thursday 1 st	Friday 2 nd
Mini-Olympics Get ready to compete in our very own OSHC style Olympics. Participate in different games and sports with your team throughout the day to win gold. 	Kids take over! Funtopia! Today is all about having FUN! Participate in a range of activities, crafts and games specially selected by you. 	Games 2 U! Back by popular demand! Games 2 U will be visiting us today with their games truck, hamster balls and laser tag. Make sure you are ready to play! 	Music Fun It's international music day. Come dressed as your favourite musician and we will create our own instruments, participate in musical games and perform dances. 	Cute & Cuddly Petting zoo Farmer Darcy's travelling farm of rescued animals are coming to see us. Cuddle, feed or play with guinea pigs, rabbits, goats, ducks and more. 
Monday 5th SERVICE CLOSED	Tuesday 6th Exploring Space It's world space week this week so let's go to the moon and explore all there is to see in SPACE! 	Wednesday 7th Guess who? Dress up as your favourite character, celebrity or star and let us try and guess who you are. Walk the red carpet in the OSHC fashion parade and show us what you've got! 	Thursday 8th Rev It Up Racing Compete and race against your friends in a racing car simulator. Can your team make the best time and win the competition? 	Friday 9th Pizza Party Did you know that in America they celebrate pizza for a whole month? Why not join in and have a pizza party to end the school holidays? 

Advance Notice

Every Tuesday

Parent Coffee/Tea chat 8:30am Jubilee Hall - **Postponed**
ECC Playgroup 9:30am -11:30am

Principal's Tour

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

Every Wednesday

School Banking

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

Month of September

The Season of Creation



20 September

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

21 September

Feast of St Matthew

International Day of Peace

World Gratitude Day



22 September

2/3G Class Liturgy

27 September

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Feast of St Vincent de Paul

Migrant and Refugee Sunday



29 September

Birth of Catherine McAuley

Founder of the Sisters of Mercy

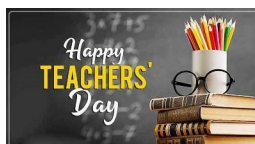


1-7 October

Be Kind to Animals Week

5 October

WORLD TEACHERS DAY!



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.



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.

Inquiring minds
want to know:
Why?

RAISING HEARTS AND MINDS

