St Thomas More School NEWSLETTER

Term 1 Week 3 Thursday 14 February **Website:** www.sttmore.catholic.edu.au **Email:** info@sttmore.catholic.edu.au

Upcoming Events

Friday 15 February
Assembly Hosted by 5/6 JB

Monday 18 February
Parent Teacher Meet & Greet

Tuesday 19 February
Parent Coffee Catch up 8.30am at the canteen

Kids Connect Playgroup 9-11am Room 18

Parent Teacher Meet & Greet

Wednesday 20 February
Whole School Beginning of year Mass 10.15am Jubilee Hall (5/6JB) All Welcome!
Parent Teacher Meet & Greet

Wedensday 27 February
Class Mass 5/6CB 10.15am Jubilee Hall

St Thomas More School

Principal
Mr Chris Platten

Acting Deputy Principal
Mrs Sonia Kilmister

Acting APRIM
Ms Leah Williams

Telephone: 8255 1699
Fax: 8287 0241
OSHC: 8255 1626

St Thomas More School recognises and acknowledges that we are living on traditional Aboriginal lands and we offer our respect and appreciation to all Aboriginal people.

Principal's Report

Parent Meet and Greet

There will be a Parent 'Meet & Greet' on Monday 18, Tuesday 19 and Wednesday 20 February (please see previous note sent home). This involves a one-one 10 minute Parent/Teacher Meet and Greet. This Meet and Greet will be an opportunity for families to get to know the teacher/s, for teachers to learn more about your child/ren, hear about class routines and ways they can support their child and families to ask general questions about the year ahead.
This Meet and Greet is not a formal Parent/Teacher Interview. Parent\Teacher interviews will also take place early Term 2.
More information will be forwarded to you closer to the time of each event.

Annual General Meeting—AGM Wednesday 20 March in Jubilee Hall at 6.00pm.

Each year we have an Annual General Meeting where the School Board, Parents & Friends and School reports on the progress and achievements of the previous year are presented, discussed and celebrated. I extend an invitation to families of the St Thomas More School community to attend.

School Board Nominations

We are currently calling for nominations for St Thomas More School Board for 2019. Here is an outline of the Board's responsibility.

The responsibility of the School Board is:

- To work in a spirit of partnership for the development of policies that nurture the Religious and Community dimensions of the school
- Further develop the relationship between the school and the local Church
- Financial stewardship
- Support the administration of the school
- Pastoral care of the school community
- Promote community development and involvement within the School

The School Board meets on a Wednesday evening, 2 meetings per school term.

Parent and Friends (P&F)

We are also calling for nominations for St Thomas More's Parents & Friends Committee for 2019. **ALL** parents and friends are warmly invited to become an **active** member of this important group. The role of this committee in our school is to provide opportunities for our community to meet, socialize, provide hospitality, support and raise funds for our school.

It is now widely recognised through research done on schools where students are happy and doing well, that the partnership that exists between teachers and families is crucial in bringing about the 'excellence in schooling' that is our goal. Please continue to be involved in your child's schooling and let your child's teacher know about the positive ways that your child is learning and also if there are any concerns. We want your child to be happy coming to school so that they can learn to the best of their ability. Please keep in mind that we are **partners – we can do this better by working together!**

PLEASE CONSIDER BEING AN 'ACTIVE' MEMBER OF THE ST THOMAS MORE SCHOOL COMMUNITY BY NOMINATING TO BE ON THE SCHOOL BOARD, PARENTS & FRIENDS, CANTEEN OR VOLUNTEERING TO ASSIST IN ANYWAY.

Please return to the Office

I wish to nominate_____ to serve on the St. Thomas More School Board

Nominee's Signature _____

I wish to nominate myself _____ to serve on the St. Thomas More School Board in 2019

Signature _____

I wish to nominate myself_____ to serve on the St. Thomas More School Parents & Friends Association as a:

Signature: _____

Deputy Report

Dear Families

Working in Partnership

With the school term now in full swing, it is a good time to think about how we can work together in partnership to support your child/children. One of the ways this can happen is through our Meet and Greet times which are now in the process of being finalised for Week 4. During this time, teachers set aside 10 minutes of their time to get to know you as the primary educators of your child/children. This is a valuable way to build relationships with the teacher and to communicate information that will assist in the overall well-being and development of your child/children whilst at school.

Free workshop for Parents of Children on the Autism Spectrum

Early Days is a series of free workshops for parents, grandparents, and families of young children (0-6 years) who have an Autism Spectrum Disorder or who are going through the assessment and diagnostic process. This initiative is funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services through the Helping Children with Autism package.

'Helping my child cope with change'

When: Friday, 22nd March 2019 at 9.30 – 12.30pm

Where: Woodville Gardens Children's Centre: 18 Ridley Grove, Woodville, 5012

Topics include:

- Understanding why change is hard and how it impacts young children on the autism spectrum
- Strategies for preparing for change in everyday situations

To register for this workshop, please go to the website: **www.autismsa.org.au/early-days** Or email: ebennett@autismsa.org.au

Parent Workshop on Literacy in the Early Years

We recently received an invitation to all parents from our school to attend a free Jolly Phonics workshop. This workshop is run by Dyslexia SA. There are two sessions to be held at Trinity Pavilion and bookings are essential. The dates are:

- *Wednesday 27 February 2019 - 6.45 to 8.45pm (Part 1)*
- *Wednesday 6 March 2019 - 6.45 to 8.45pm (Part 2)*

Regards

Sonia Kilmister

Acting Deputy Principal

APRIM Report

Dear Families

On Sunday we heard the Gospel according to Luke 5:1-11, *They left behind everything and followed him.*

Have you ever thought about how many fish the disciples left behind? We could be talking about thousands and thousands of fish and only a short time prior to the catch, they had been wondering where their next meal would come from but they left it all behind. Why?

Let's think about the story in today's world……you have your lottery ticket with you while watching the results on television. All your numbers appear, you have won 12 million dollars!! Just then there is a knock at the door. It is Jesus. He asks you to come with him but you must leave your lottery ticket behind.

The disciples trusted Jesus that they were leaving an abundance of wealth in the fish they caught as they were going to something better.

How hard would it be for you to put down your lottery ticket and follow Jesus as the disciples did? What would you choose?

The only way that the disciples could walk away is if they knew and believed something better was ahead of them. The catch of fish was nothing compared to what Jesus offered.

Just something to think about.

Sacramental Program 2019

The Sacramental Program is for children aged 7 years or older who have been baptised in a Catholic Church. Our Sacramental Program is the preparation of our children into the Catholic tradition, following their Baptism. The Sacraments include Reconciliation, Confirmation and Holy Communion.

The Elizabeth Catholic Parish in collaboration with the schools in the District are having the first parent meeting this Friday 15th February at the St Thomas More Church at 5.30pm. This will go for an hour and will discuss the organisation for the program and the special dates of the Sacraments. If you are interested in attending this program, please ring St Thomas More Church on 8255 1191 or if you have any questions call Father Pat Woods, Parish Priest on 0418 831 594.

If your child is interested in preparing for their Sacraments but you are unable to attend the first meeting, contact me via email lwilliams@sttmore.catholic.edu.au or 8255 1699.

May you always feel God's love and presence in your life,

Leah Williams
APRIM

Parent Coffee Chat

Join us for a cuppa - every Tuesday morning

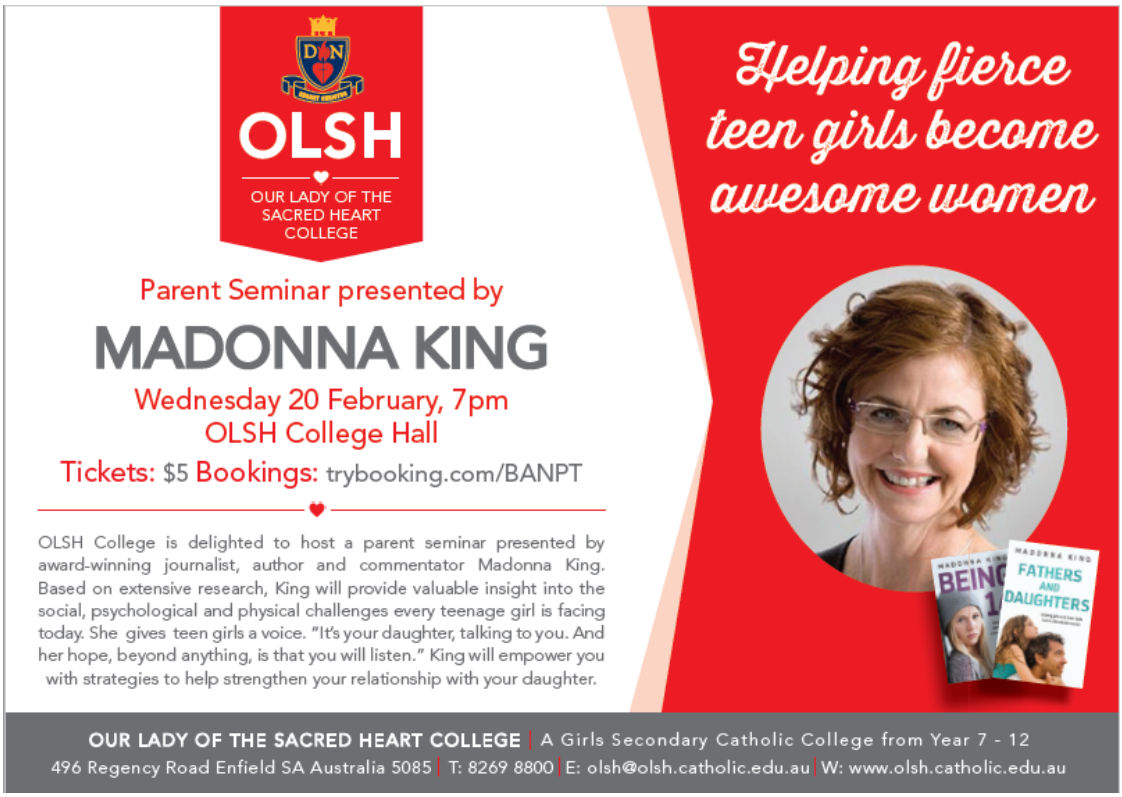
8.30am at the canteen - All welcome!

ST THOMAS MORE SCHOOL ELIZABETH PARK

ENROL NOW FOR 2020 LIMITED PLACES!

Enrolment interviews are currently being scheduled for 2020 student intake.

If you wish to secure your position, please enrol now or register for our Tour via our website.



INTRODUCTION TO WORKING WITH CHILDREN AND COMMUNITY

Do you have an interest in working with Children or within Community Services? Would you like to increase your knowledge and employability skills? Then come join our **FREE** 10 week training program.

TOPICS COVERED

- Child Development
- Developing Children's Literacy
- Communication Skills
- Benefits of Volunteering
- Overview of working in the Community
- The importance of children's play
- Guest speakers from local services and training providers.
- Create a Project
- Career Pathways
- Future Study Options

WHEN

- Commencing 28th February 2019

WHERE

- St Thomas More Primary School
- 50 Yorketown Road, Elizabeth Park

COST

- **FREE** (also **Free** Creche available)

REGISTER

- Contact: eccp.jo@gmail.com 0427 996 352

This Adult Community Education Course offers the following unit of competency from the Foundation Skills Training Package (FSK): FSKOCM03 Participate in simple spoken inter actions at work. Students will receive an Academic Transcript from TAFESA upon successful completion.

Supported by Government of South Australia

Work Ready

Nationally Recognised Training

tafeSA

The Sports Vouchers program is a Government of South Australia initiative administered by the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing.

The program provides an opportunity for primary school aged children from Reception to Year 7 to receive up to a $100 discount on sports or dance membership/registration fees.

The purpose is to increase the number of children playing organised sport or participating in dance by reducing cost as a barrier.

For more information head to www.sportsvouchers.sa.gov.au

$100 VOUCHER

ONE VOUCHER FOR EVERY
PRIMARY SCHOOL AGED CHILD
PER CALENDAR YEAR

SPORTS VOUCHERS
sportsvouchers.sa.gov.au

My child is attending or is eligible to attend primary school (Years R-7) in 2019: Y N

Child first name: _____ Family name: _____

Child date of birth: _____ Gender: M F

Medicare number: ☐☐☐☐ ☐☐☐☐☐ Ref. no. ☐ OR Australian visa number: _____

Suburb: _____ Postcode: ☐☐☐☐ Member of a sports club prior to using voucher: Y N

Parent/Guardian first name: _____ Family name: _____

Contact number: _____ I confirm my child has not already claimed a voucher in 2019: ☐

Parent/Guardian Email: _____

An email notification will be sent to the above email address (assuming it is correct) advising the authorisation of the voucher used for your child

Government of South Australia
Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing

To be presented at an approved Sports Voucher provider. To find your nearest provider or for more information please visit www.sportsvouchers.sa.gov.au. Not redeemable for cash, only a reduction to membership/registration fees. Redemption value not to exceed $100.00. In presenting this voucher I give permission to the Sports Voucher provider to share my information with the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing.