St Theresa’s

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*Don’t Forget : Art Show this Wednesday at 5.30*
Our Art Show is very different this year...we are beginning with a community art activity where we are all going to decorate a stick which will become our St Theresa’s Bunjil’s Nest. We are really hoping that EVERY FAMILY will be there with their stick ready to decorate it with a family motto. When completed, the nest will become part of our new Reflective Garden. There will also be a FREE BBQ DINNER (with vegetarian options) for our families to enjoy and then we end the evening off with the official opening of our 2013 Art Show where you can spend time with your children looking at the fabulous work they’ve done with Judy this year.

PS. You need to bring your own stick about 80cm long (See picture above)

Important : School Closure Days coming up.
Thursday November 28th and Friday November 29th.
The staff will be preparing for our whole school review in 2014. As part of the ongoing School Improvement Program in all schools, there is a formal process every four years that allows us to look carefully at how we have improved over that period and set new goals for the next four-year period. In 2014, the parent community and student body will also be asked to contribute to this process.
Day two will focus on the use of technology to support teaching & learning. Two representatives from the Catholic Education Office will work with us to introduce us to the new programs, which will become compulsory tools in all schools over the next year or so.

Dear God,
With all of creation, I am immersed in it. I allow myself to let go of the past and the future, To leave all my concerns in Your hands, And to simply be with you, Here and now.
Amen

TUESDAY 26th NOVEMBER
2.15pm
Don’t forget to join us for Anna Jacob’s Farewell Mass and later, afternoon tea to celebrate and say thanks for all she did for St Theresa’s. If you can’t make it to Mass you might like to join us for just afternoon tea. 3pm in the multipurpose room.

PS. You need to bring your own stick about 80cm long (See picture above)
**Prep / 1 K**
Massimo, for doing a fabulous job at writing his own story about Slither The Snake.
Nicholas, for being such a knowledgeable measurer.
Emanuel, for writing a great statement about our maths graph.

**Prep / 1 A**
Madeleine, for being helpful to the others in her group when scribing for them in maths.
Matthew, for designing a fantastic boat that floated beautifully.
Claudia, for a fabulous job at reading.

**Prep / 1 LJ**
Shalina, for her wonderful story about Sam And The Spider.
Kayla, for writing a great story about Rosy The Koala

**Grade 2/3 D**
Archna, for the way she shares her ideas with the whole class.
Milkias, for always trying to do his best.
Daniel, for fantastic work in all areas.
Cherrylou, for making great progress with her swimming.

**Grade 2/3 MS**
Basil, for his entertaining oral presentation on the book “Imaginitis”. He was very entertaining and well prepared.
Kimberley for her wonderful book presentation on “The Koala Bounces Back”. She was very organized and handwrote 23 worksheets for her classmates.

**Grade 4A**
Luke, for trying his best to write an explanation about how cars work.
Alannah, for experimenting with different types of explanations in writing.

**Grade 5/6**
Peter, for fantastic improvement in his writing and current affairs presentations.
Emily, for her sensational writing skills and her courage to take chances and take on challenges.
Hermella, for helping to keep our classroom beautiful and clean. Great Job!
Chloe, for being a great support and a good role model to the younger students in the playground.
LEARNING & TEACHING @ ST THERESA’S

INNOVATE  CREATE  RELATE

Last week a group of teachers from St Theresa’s attended the Wellbeing & Community Partnerships Conference. It was a chance for us to hear from international experts in the fields of educational innovation to engage parents and families, as well as experience the stories of local Melbourne primary and secondary schools sharing what they do to enhance wellbeing, learning outcomes and stronger community engagement. It gave us a chance to reflect on what wellbeing looks like at St Theresa’s, how we work together with parents to maximise the best possible learning outcomes for our students and what we could be doing better. We’ve returned to school very enthused by what we heard and energised to engage in community conversations and lay solid foundations for 2014.

WE HAD A GREAT TIME AT SWIMMING

Last Friday the children enjoyed a ‘fun day’ at the pool as a reward for all the hard work they had put in over the previous week and a bit. 2013 was a particularly successful swimming program with teachers commenting on how well organized the swimming centre was (with a little help from Laurie), the progress that they saw the children made with their swimming skills and the commitment given to the program by the children….not to mention the long overdue but very nice new change rooms! A special thanks to all those fantastic parents who were there to encourage their children but also were a tremendous help with changing the little ones. Well done everybody.

What’s happening in the classrooms...Gr 2/3s Book Presentations

As part of their Literacy program and in particular, the development of their oral language skills, the grade 2/3 students have been busy working on an oral presentation about a picture-story book. The criteria that was used was to try to present their book in such a way that others would want to read it. As you can see from these photos a great deal of effort was put into ‘bringing the book to life’ for their audience. The talk then had to be followed up by a class activity, also designed by the students for the whole class to participate in. It was an excellent effort by all the grade 2/3 students.
2014 PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT FEEDBACK

Last week we held an information night for parents of our new 2014 preps. We began the evening by sharing a meal together and then changed the meeting format so that there could be more community conversation. We also asked some 2013 prep parents along to help with any questions and to give advice.

Here are some of the thoughts of the parents:

- Moving from one information group to the next was the best thing.
- The introduction by Greg and Michele was very informative; I didn’t realize how important parents were.
- We liked the opportunity to ask questions of staff and parents.
- Talking in small groups makes it easier to talk and ask questions.
- Having dinner was fantastic, it made us feel special.
- Next time we need more time in the small groups so that all questions could be asked.

There will be a short assembly next Friday the 22nd at 2.45. We have new sports uniforms that we’d like you all to see.

I.T. NEWS

The handy hint for the week is.... Did you know that Facebook is for children 13 years and over? Be a vigilant parent and do not allow your child to have a Facebook account until they are mature enough to use this technology wisely.

App of the week... Drop 7 is a free app that helps with strategic thinking.

Some of the grade 4/5/6 students are lucky enough to be involved in a Kanga Cricket Day on Wednesday at More Park. Good luck and have fun.

SCHOOL ACCOUNTS

Please try to have all school accounts settled by Wednesday 27th November so that we can finalise our accounting schedules for 2013.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Don’t forget donations for our Christmas raffle. If you have something suitable to donate to our Christmas Stocking, then leave it with Venetia at the office. The raffle will be drawn at our last assembly. Raffle tickets are being sent home today.

More Classroom News....this time from Grade 4

Some Grade 4’s have been doing some excellent report writing, like .... What makes popcorn pop and how do volcanoes erupt?

How did the dinosaurs become extinct? Dinosaurs are prehistoric animals that looked like very large lizards. One of the reasons that the dinosaurs became extinct was because volcanoes exploded around them. Another reason that dinosaurs became extinct was because a large meteorite or asteroid hit planet earth somewhere off the Yucatan Peninsula in Mexico. The meteorite hit about 65.4 million years ago and virtually killed off all the dinosaurs. By Angus