Term 4 Week 10, Monday December 9th.

Do Small Things Well

2nd Week of Advent

This weekend was the 2nd Sunday of Advent. Could there be any better time than Advent to focus on and remember that God lives in our midst? It is particularly necessary to be aware of God’s nearness when we are zooming through December, busy about too many things. It is easy to get swallowed up by our anxiety or discouragement, knowing that we are unable to do all the planning and preparations we would like to do before Christmas comes.

Emmanuel, God-with-us.....

Welcome to the second last week of the year.

The next few weeks will continue to be really busy, we are working towards sending home reports for the children very soon and they should be really proud of the work they have done this year.

Staffing News

It is important that we keep you up to date with changes at our schools that you can know what to expect next year. We are at present organising classes for 2014 and we will be letting the children know early next week as to their new grades for 2014.

Farewell...

As you are well aware Rob will not be with us next year. Fr. Barry is currently working through a detailed process to appoint a new principal for St. Theresa’s. As soon as this process is completed we will let you know who will be in this position.

Erin has already begun her maternity leave as she waits for the birth of her baby in the coming weeks. We wish Erin every happiness in this new adventure in her life.

Aaron has been offered a position at another school in a specialist maths role and has decided to accept this position for 2014. We wish Aaron every success and congratulate him on his new position, he will be missed at St. Theresa’s.

Welcome......

For next year we have appointed two new teachers to our school and we are very pleased and excited to welcome them to our school.

We welcome Jessica Judd who comes to us from Christ the King in Braybrook and Frank Stosic who joins us from St Luke’s in Lalor. Both are very excited about joining St. Theresa’s and come to us very highly recommended. We look forward to making them welcome over the next few weeks.
Barry Wood Memorial Social Justice Grant

A few weeks ago St Theresa’s was awarded the Barry Wood Memorial Social Justice Grant at the Annual Conference of the Independent Education Union. This $3000 grant will assist in developing relationships between our school and some of the schools for Burmese refugees in Malaysia. Around 50,000 Burmese refugee children in Kuala Lumpur have no legal status so are unable to attend school. Hundreds of small schools have been set up to provide an education for these children while they wait for years in the hope of being resettled in a country that will accept them. This project will provide a practical opportunity for the children of St Theresa’s to communicate with, send educational resources to and raise money for these schools.

Our student social justice team recently participated in a social justice conference and came back inspired to create a song about social justice. Part of this project will involve workshops for our children to develop a school social justice song that expresses the relationship between the schools involved in the form of a song, which will then be shared with our future sister schools in Malaysia.

We will send a teacher (Laurie) to work in three main schools in Kuala Lumpur for a month during June and July, 2014, to teach each day, deliver resources and funds collected and to develop and extend links and communication between St Theresa’s PS and the Burmese students.

We also thank all who have donated books for our appeal for Laurie to deliver next year. We will keep you up to date on this one as it develops.

Congratulations The Social Justice Team presented the school with the award at assembly.

### Important dates

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<tr>
<td>Fri Dec 13th</td>
<td>Grade 6 excursion to Adventure Park</td>
<td>All day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues Dec 17th</td>
<td>School end of year mass and graduation</td>
<td>7.00pm</td>
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<td>Wednesday Dec 18th</td>
<td>School finishes for students for the year.</td>
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### Reminders.

**After School Sport** finishes this week for both Monday and Tuesday night.

### Fees and outstanding accounts.

We are now only 8 days form the end of the school year. We ask that all accounts are settled immediately so that we can close each family’s account for the year. A letter with your account details will come home this week. We thank all families who have settled all their accounts already.

### Fundraising

Our Christmas raffle is coming to an end. Please consider any donations that you might have for the raffle and drop them into the office. Please return your raffle tickets as soon as you can now. More tickets are available from the office if you need them.
Grade prep / 1 book launch

Last Friday the prep / 1 children launched their newly written and illustrated books which they have worked really hard on. We congratulate each of them on the great finished products. Thank you to all the parents who made the time to join us.

Farewell to Rob

Please join us for a great night and an opportunity to share some stories and celebrate 18 years of service to the community.

This Thursday evening 7.00pm.

Sunshine City Club... 24 Talmage St. Albion

This is a family event.

Nibbles provided. Drinks available at bar prices.
P/1A
Valentino Huynh – for the speedy way he works. He always completes a task well and includes beautiful illustrations. Fantastic!

Lucas Lukic – for his lovely story about a blue tongue lizard – fantastic Lucas!

Shion Iwasaki – for his beautiful handwriting – keep it up!

Juliette Pereira – for the great effort she took to write her plan, edit her story and publish a terrific Picture Story Book – well done!

P/1LJ
Lucas O’Neill – for writing a great story.

Eliza Reinberger – for the great effort she has put into her writing and editing.

P/1K
Joel Brekalo – for having a good understanding of working with money.

Jordan Molina – for working hard to stay focused on finishing his work.

Christian Catania – for doing a fabulous job at illustrating his story all by himself,

2/3D
Kianah Beck – for always being focused on the task she is completing. Well done!

Laura Flanagan – for always trying her very best in all she does. Well done!

John Nguyen – for working well and helping others. Well done!

2/3MS
Tyla Nguyen – for a fabulous job with addition of money in our class shopping task.

William Flanagan – having a fabulous work ethic and applying himself while using the class rubic in writing sessions

Nadia Muhammad – for always being a happy, cooperative and hard working student.

4A
Harvey Browne – for writing a very persuasive essay.

Caitlyn Barnes – for being a good leader and fantastic class role model.

5/6E
Kira Axiak – for writing a lovely response to a Christmas story.

Danyal Muhammed – for being a great role model and always doing the right thing.

5/6T
Tina Nguyen – for working hard to present a beautiful and reflective portfolio. Well done!

Son Pham – for being a helpful class member and supporting his classmates in their group. Keep up the hard work!