Congratulations to Laura Flanagan, Kadee Axiak, Nicholas Dolbel, William Flanagan, Jorros Marayag, Tyla Nguyen, Jet Loi Quach, Luca Mezzavilla, Evie Linehan, Alex Di Quattro and Majier Adut who made their First Holy Communion yesterday.

St Theresa’s
Principal: Rob Costin
Email: principal@stalbion.catholic.edu.au
Web: www.stalbion.catholic.edu.au
Phone: 9311 9070

Do Small Things Well
Term 3 Week 6

An evening and meal with George Otero
This Tuesday 20th August at 6.30pm
George is returning to St Theresa’s for a shared community meal with everyone followed by a learning conversation. Please join us.

Last time George was with us you came up with a number of issues that were of interest and we will be discussing these on Tuesday night.

You identified “Sharing Data” as an important aspect of our partnership and specifically asked questions such as ‘What data do teachers gather?’ ‘How can this data help with learning at home?’ Another idea we will talk about is how to sustain what we have learnt working together as a community. George will be leading the conversation around these questions. This should be an interesting night, come and join in the discussion or just listen. There will be interpreters and child minding.

Prayer for the children who made their First Holy Communion
Dear Jesus, the children from St. Theresa’s have received you in Holy Communion. Help them to be loving and kind, help them to receive you and believe in you and love you with all their hearts. Help them to be more like you in everything they do. Amen.

A big thank you to Alana Raniolo and Matthew Javelona for altar serving at today’s Mass and also to Kahlan Axiak who did an awesome job with the music.
Catholic Education Leadership Conference

Last week Rob, Dot and I joined over 400 leaders in Catholic Education to attend the Catholic Education Leadership Conference in Sydney. There were leaders from all over Australia as well as many leaders from overseas. Although the Sydney weather was beautiful, we were unfortunately stuck indoors for most of the day!

We listened to many great international and local speakers, and were both invigorated and challenged with deep questions and new ideas. We were also reassured of the many great things we already have in place here at St. Theresa’s.

We explored many ideas around Catholic Identity and the reasons why parents might choose Catholic Schools for their children. We explored what gives a school its ‘Catholic feel,’ which led me to wonder why you as parents chose a Catholic school for your child? And what gives St Theresa’s its Catholic feel? It would be great to hear your thoughts and ideas on these questions. Please send me your thoughts via email: kpulis@stalbion.catholic.edu.au

Eucharist Preparation with Maria Forde

Last Thursday night the first communicants and their families spent an enjoyable and enlightening night with Maria Forde. We spoke about the place that Jesus has in our lives and where we see Him. We spoke also of the meaning of the Eucharist Sacrament. We were lucky enough to share a Passover meal as a way for the children to gain a deeper understanding of what it was like at the Last Supper. Of course, this was all accompanied by Maria’s beautiful music.

I.T. News

App of the week...LETTERS LITE
Another free one to download from the app store.

The I.T. handy hint for the week is.....
Do not let you child power up their mobile phone in their bedroom. This should be done in a common area so that you can monitor the use of mobile devices.

First Aid

We are now using a new way of recording any First Aid treatment that we need to apply at school. If your child is treated at the sick bay we will give them a slip to take home to inform you of what happened. We will continue to ring as usual if necessary.

KINDA KINDER for pre-schoolers. Every Tuesday from 9am to 10am.
This week Greg and Aaron are going to talk about fun maths learning and maths activities you can do with pre-schoolers.
IT’S BOOK WEEK

Do you love to read? We do! Each day we’re grateful for the gift of reading. We read to learn, to explore new worlds and to enjoy ourselves. When we imagine a life without reading, all the colour seems to drain out of the day.

Children’s Book Week is a special time we have to celebrate books and the gift of reading with kids.

As part of the celebration for Book Week we are holding a Book Fair on Tuesday. A wonderful selection of books will be available to buy for your children at reasonable prices. The books will be on sale from the Multipurpose Room.

We will also be reading the short listed books to the children and doing great activities around the Book Week theme “Read Across The Universe”. Here are a couple of activities that you could try at home.

Revisit a selection of books you and your kids have enjoyed. Sometimes kids just need to re-find old favourites to fall in love with a book all over again.

Make your own picture book with your child for someone close to him or her. Draw the pictures and write the story that is in your heart, and that you think someone else might enjoy. Then you can either give it to them to keep, or read it to them?

Visit the local library and enquire about book week special events.

The Concert is coming!

I don’t know whether you’ve noticed but there has been an air of excitement and some extra singing and dancing around the place lately. Everyone is very excited about our concert coming up on Thursday 10th October (first week in term 4) at Caroline Chisholm College so put this date in your diary. More details later.

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FUNDRAISING GROUP NEWS

Brick Pavers

If you’re wanting your own brick to be laid in the school pathway you will need to have your orders in by THIS FRIDAY 23rd August. Order forms are still available at the office.

DON’T MISS OUT!

Father’s Day Stall

Thanks to all those Mums who gave some time to wrap the gifts for Father’s Day. We do still need donations though. These can be left at the office.

Father’s Day Stall is on Thursday 29th August

Father’s Night : Friday 30th August

This great night for the dads and their kids is fast approaching. Information went home about it last week. Cost is $5 per person, so 1 dad + 1 child = $10 and you will be provided with dinner and lots of great fun. Forms need to be returned to school this week please.
Late last year we applied to the Catholic Education Office for a small grant to run a Community Arts Project this year at St. Theresa’s. The purpose of the grant is to involve the school community in an art based project. This year has also seen the beginning of our garden development. It was therefore logical to combine the two.

With the support of the ‘Playground Landscape Group’ and a couple of staff members, we have come up with a project that can involve the whole community. We have decided to make a ‘Bunjil’s Nest’ that will become part of our Reflective Garden outside the library and grade 2/3 rooms, (Stage 2 of the Playground Landscape).

“A Bunjil’s Nest celebrates Bunjil, the wedge-tail eagle who is regarded as the spirit creator of the Kulin nation, which includes the Wurundjeri people. They believe Bunjil keeps a watchful eye over people and offers guidance to those who choose to listen.” (The Age, 27.2.13)

Given that our school is built on Wurundjeri land, it is appropriate that we acknowledge the original owners of the land.

As part of the project we had to get permission to build the nest from an Aboriginal elder. On the 18th June, Uncle Bill from the Wurundjeri Council came out to speak to the children and do a ‘Smoking’ ceremony with the children and gave us permission to go ahead with the Bunjil’s Nest.

A Bunjil Nest is made up of many twigs/sticks. On the stick each family will write their ‘Family Motto’. (Many of the families have done this already for Family Week.) In Art Judy will be teaching the children some Aboriginal art and history.

All of this will come together later in the year at our Art Show. We have planned to do a workshop to build the nest, have some dinner together and then open up the Art Show. The task is VERY easy, everyone can do it. We would like all families to contribute to the nest as it will become a permanent fixture in our school yard and it needs to represent our community in 2013.

We will keep you informed of where we are in the project and look forward to having a great evening together to construct our masterpiece!

From the Student Social Justice Group:

Our Social Justice Group is making a song on social justice and we need your help! To help and to be part of our wonderful song, you can write down some words or phrases that relate to social justice that we could possibly use in our song.

Any ideas can be given to Kathryn by Friday 23rd August. The Social Justice Group will be meeting with Matthew from Mother of God on Monday 26th as he has offered to help put our song together! We look forward to hearing your great ideas.

Gabby on behalf of the Social Justice Group.