St Theresa’s

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Morning Tea with the Principal

Last week we held a ‘Welcome Back To School ‘ morning tea for all our families. Lots of Mums and Dads were there and it was a lovely way to get to know some of our new families. Thank you to all those who could make it. I’m sure you all enjoyed watching Rob, our Principal, read a story to some prep children. He was able to model some useful ideas for reading to little ones. Also every family was lucky enough to receive a free picture storybook courtesy of our Family-School Partnership Program. It was such a great success that we intend to regularly hold these ‘Morning Teas with the Principal’

LENT REFLECTION

During Lent we are challenged to change. We are challenged to think differently and prepare ourselves to celebrate Easter by being the best person we can.

Sometimes challenging ourselves means stepping outside what is comfortable for us and daring to think a little differently. Maybe this year we might "take a risk" and make a real decision to change something in our life....Maybe spend more time with God or simply more time reflecting in prayer.

Don’t forget that next Monday 11th March is a PUBLIC HOLIDAY and school will be closed. Also starting this week Preps attend school for the WHOLE week.

Assembly this week is being run by 2/3 MS on Friday 8th March in the Multi-Purpose room at 2.30pm.
Catholic Education Week

Catholic school communities in the Archdiocese of Melbourne participate in the colour and vibrancy of Catholic Education Week from 10-17 March. This year’s theme is ‘Entrusted with Something Precious’

which comes from a passage in St Paul’s second letter to the young disciple, Timothy.

Now in its 16th year, Catholic Education Week gives Catholic school communities the opportunity to celebrate together their great Catholic faith and tradition. All Catholic Schools come together on Thursday 14th March at St Patrick’s Cathedral to celebrate Mass. St Theresa’s will be sending a group of Grade 6 students who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

We will also offering other opportunities for our community to join in and celebrate learning with us. Hopefully you will be able to join in one, some or all of our special events.

We are making **Friday 15th March** an **Open School Day** and inviting families into the classrooms all day. As well there will be a **Family Reading ½ Hour** at the beginning of the day from 9.00-9.30am and also a **Family Games ½ Hour** at the end of the day from 2.30 – 3.00pm. Both these events will be in the multi-purpose room and involve the whole school. (Grade 5/6s will be in their classrooms). Families are invited to be with their children for that ½ hour to read or play games together.

We are also having a **Shared Lunch** in the playground from 1.30-2.00. Families are again invited to come and join us. And finally we will be sending home a **Piece of Artwork** for you to decorate as a family with the finished product to be combined together to make a school banner.

So as you can see, there is plenty on with lots of opportunities for you to join in your child’s learning for the day. Hope to see you on the 15th.

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**Community Market...It’s just around the corner and there’s lots of news!**

Please pay at the office if you have already booked a stall, as money is now due. There are a few stalls still available so if you have anything to sell it’s the perfect chance to make a few dollars and get rid of your trash or treasure.

A note will be coming home soon letting you know the stalls being run by the grades. If you can help out at all with donations or assistance on the night it would be great.

We will be having a cake stall on the night and so next week a paper plate and instructions will be sent home to each grade with a special request of maybe muffins or slices or cakes. It would be lovely if everyone could bake something for us to sell, as all the money we raise will be going towards our landscaping project.

Finally, we’re still collecting donations for our Easter raffle and thank you to those people who have already donated. Tickets for the raffle will be coming home this week. We will need some helpers to help wrap the raffle prizes, so if you could spare an hour or two on Monday 25th or Tuesday 26th from 1.30 onwards, we would really appreciate it.
Gr. 2/3 VISIT SOVEREIGN HILL and bring their learning back to show us.

In their Inquiry unit the Grade 2/3 children are investigating 'Change In Our Community'. At Sovereign Hill they were able to see and experience how life today is different from life in the past...a fantastic learning opportunity! The children were then asked to present their learning any way they wanted to.

**Gold panning is when you get a plate and put it in the water. If you are VERY LUCKY you find Gold!** (Basil)

**I learnt how to wash clothes in the olden days and in the olden days people had no cars so they had coach rides.** (Mason)

**THE PLAYGROUND LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE** met last Wednesday night and made plans for Stage 1 of our playground refurbishment, the Adelaide St entrance and pathway. Costing is being done and equipment organized as we speak and soon we will be asking for some help to do the manual labour. If you are skilled in any area that might be of assistance to the school could you let Marie know please? Who knows what talent we have in our community that might make the job easier? Some trees have to be chopped down for safety and other reasons but don’t worry, we are planting many more in their place.

**MONET COMES TO ST THERESA’S**

We were very lucky to have 2 art teachers from the National Gallery of Victoria come to St Theresa’s to teach some of grades how to paint ‘Monet Style’. Judging by the finished art pieces we have a few up and coming French Impressionists. The Monet collection is coming to the Gallery in May...might be a nice weekend family outing.
PHYS ED NEWS…from Laurie

SOCCER PROGRAM FOR GRADES 3 – 6

We had another successful morning of clinics last Thursday. It was a much colder morning than last week, but the Sport Education Development Australia (SEDA) students did a great job keeping the participants warm and engaged. Parents may see the SEDA students setting up and wonder how they fit into our Phys Ed program. These students are completing their secondary education or undertaking a TAFE certificate by studying all aspects of the sport industry. They major in a particular sport and our children gain the benefit of small group instruction from experts in that sport. Their teacher and myself supervise the SEDA students.

A parent walking through the yard as they were setting up on Thursday commented to the SEDA students, “I don’t know exactly what you do, but last week when I was dropping my daughters off they saw you and your sports gear and they said ‘no, not soccer!’...and at the end of the day they couldn’t stop talking about how much fun they had. Whatever you do, you’re doing a great job!”

The next SEDA program will be four weeks of netball clinics in May and will involve all children from Prep to Grade 6.

DISTRICT SWIMMING SPORTS

The district swimming sports are on March 12. If any children turning 9 or older this year swim competitively in a squad they are invited to nominate for the swimming carnival. Parents will need to provide Laurie with a time their child has achieved for an event, verified by an Austswim accredited coach.

TWILIGHT SPORTS

The Twilight Sports are on Wednesday, March 27, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., followed by a family BBQ. Any parents who can run 75 metres are invited to join the parent relay team to compete against the best of the students. See Laurie if you are interested. Prep children were given their colour last week, so they will be able to come dressed on the day.

CROSS COUNTRY

The Cross Country squad has been training at lunchtimes. Those who have completed a 2 km run will go to the school trials at More Park on March 21. The District Cross Country is on Friday, April 26. It is not too late to join the squad if your child is interested.

Reminders

- Community Market Committee Meeting : Wed 6th March
- School Board Meeting : Wed 13th March
- Landscape Committee : Wed 20th March
- Community Market Day : Friday 22nd March 5pm – 8pm
- Twilight Sports & BBQ : Wednesday 27th March from 3pm onwards.
- PLEASE RETURN THE ENROLMENT UPDATE FORMS IMMEDIATELY IF YOU HAVEN’T ALREADY.

SCHOOL PHOTOS are being taken this Wednesday. Children in full summer school uniform please.