Last week we welcomed two new students to St Theresa’s. Hashil (Grade 6) and Astha (Grade 3) have recently settled in Australia from India. We hope that their time with us is very happy and that our wonderful community welcomes them and their family into ‘our village’.

May is Reading Month at
St Theresa’s

EVERYBODY’S READING...

Don’t forget to come along and join us for our reading time from 9-9.15 everyday. One of the most powerful influences in getting children to love reading is good role modeling. If people who are important to them read, then they will as well…it’s easy!

Our Lady Help Of Christians

The feast day of Mary Help Of Christians is celebrated on May 24th each year. Catholics have always had a strong devotion to Mary. It is recorded that there were no priests in colonial Australia, Catholics prayed to Mary to nurture their faith. One of the first priests, Father Therry, dedicated the Australian Church to Mary under the title of “Help Of Christians”. Australia was the first nation to have Mary, Help Of Christians as its patroness and to observe the feast on a national scale.

Almighty God, deepen in our hearts our love of Mary Help Of Christians. Through her prayers and under her protection, may the light of Christ shine over our land. May Australia be granted harmony, justice and peace. Grant wisdom to our leaders and integrity to our people. Bless especially the men and women of the Australian Defence Force and their families.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen
Some great learning experiences for our students this week

**P/1s learn about fire safety**

The Fire Brigade came to speak to our P/1s about what to do if they were ever caught in a fire. This is what the kids wrote.

“Yesterday I squirte water with the fireman. I was talking to my friends in the fire truck” Matthew P/1A.

“Yesterday I saw a big fire truck and some firemen. I sprayed water.” Kaleb P/1A.

**Grade 5/6s work with Ann James**

The Literacy focus for our senior students this term is writing and illustrating their own picture storybooks. To assist them with their illustrations we invited the famous illustrator Ann James to come and give some handy hints on the best way to illustrate their stories. Anne has illustrated many books including ‘Baby’, ‘Lucy Goosey’ and ‘Little Humpty’.

**Grade 2s go to NGV**

Last Tuesday our Grade 2s were lucky enough to visit the NGV to actually learn about Claude Monet and then see his famous paintings. They also got a chance to meet another artist, Robin Rhode, and actually participate in his exhibition by decorating a huge wall by colouring in diamonds on the walls with pastels. There were some media people there so I think we might be famous!

**Grade 4s visit the Ian Potter Children’s Garden**

“We went to the Ian Potter Children’s Garden on Tuesday the 14th May. We have been learning about healthy eating in Inquiry this term. Firstly, we were all allowed to touch and smell the flowers and plants. Some of them were herbs and some were vegies. Then we went to the kitchen vegie patch and did four activities there. The first one was planting little plants into the soil, the next activity was spreading out mulch around the lettuces. Then we did composting and finally raking. Lastly we got our own little pots and planted our plants. We also learnt about what worms do and we were all given a little box with worms in it. The worms felt funny. I had a wonderful time with my friends.”

Caitlyn Barnes Gr 4
Religious Education In Action

Jesus taught us to love one another and we are called to help the less fortunate in our community. In response to Jesus' new commandment, we contribute to social justice actions.

“On Wednesday 8th May 2013, four senior students, Alexis, Aidan, Rohan & myself went to St George Preca School to discuss social justice issues with representatives from other local schools. We were also accompanied by two very special guests, Gary & Aisa. Gary & Aisa were living in poverty in the Philippines and would have failed school if a broom wasn't handed in for school fees, until a group called Bahay Tuluayan changed their lives. It was amazing to listen to stories about young children the age of our grade preps slaving away in third world countries.

The whole experience was great and it was inspiring watching the play prepared by Gary & Aisa about their lives and how hard it was to live in garbage dumps and on the street.

I hope the future becomes more socially just globally.”

Report written by Gabby 5/6 E

Please keep an eye out in upcoming newsletters for more information on the small things we can all do to create a more just world.

Kathryn & Dot (RE Leaders) & our new social justice group, Alexis, Aidan, Rohan & Gabby

NETBALL CLINICS WITH SEDA STUDENTS

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 P.E. 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 netball!’...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!”

Could this be the future St Theresa’s netball team??
I.T. NEWS!

This is a new column in our newsletter which will appear regularly and will include all our I.T. news plus an “App of the Week” for you to download and use at home. This week it’s Maths Bingo and it’s free to download from the app store.

The I.T. handy hint of the week is DON’T SHARE YOUR PASSWORD WITH ANYONE.

I.T. Reminder For Parents:

On our school website there is a quiz for you to do about cyber safety that will give you a good insight on the things you should know if your children are using computers at home.

Could our playground look like this?

Of course it could if our playground committee’s plans get underway. Just a reminder that our next meeting is THIS WEDNESDAY at 7pm and we will be putting the final touches to the Stage 1 plans for the entrance to our yard. We will be organizing a working bee in the very near future. Watch this space!

A Message From Our Fundraising Committee

CHILDREN’S DISCO

A flyer will be coming home today about the school disco that is will be held on Friday 14th June. It will be from 6-8pm so children get those dancing shoes ready!

You will have to pre pay in order to come to the disco so you must make sure that you bring the slip back to school with your $5 and your details.

For $5 you will receive a hotdog and juice drink as well as the fun of the disco. There will be snacks, lollies and items available to buy on the night. It is only available to students who come to our school. It will be great fun so hopefully you'll all come along.

The next fundraising meeting is on Wednesday 5th June in the staffroom at 7pm everyone is welcome.

Enrolments for 2014

Enrolments for next year are now open. Parents considering enrolling their children at St Therese’s Primary School for Prep 2014 or grades one to six should contact the school now on 93119070 or visit our website www.stalbion.catholic.edu.au for further information and an enrolment form.

IMPORTANT!

Please do your best to keep up to date with school fees. All school levies ($205 @ student) were due by the end of February. If you have not already paid this account could you attend to it as soon as possible please?

BLANKET COLLECTION

As a response to their religion inquiry for this term about being spirit-filled people, the grade 2/3s are collecting blankets for those less fortunate than themselves. Any donations of spare blankets can be handed into the grade 2/3 teachers. Thank you.

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Don’t forget to collect your Woolworths Earn & Learn stickers. You can hand them into the office. Thanks.