Feast of St Mary MacKillop: Thursday 8th August

Learning & Teaching @ St Theresa’s
Parent / Teacher Interviews

Parent / Teacher interviews are an important example of our need to work in partnership with each other to achieve the best results for your children. Recently you had the opportunity to attend an interview with your child’s teacher at school.

There are many ways of looking at these interview opportunities and many ways we could organize them. Our School Board is investigating possible changes or opportunities for improvement in this area at the moment.

We would love a few more ideas so that we can better understand your needs in this area. After your recent experience you might like to give us some feedback or thoughts on how things might work a little better. Please feel free to email Rob or write your thoughts and drop them into the office. We would really appreciate hearing from you.

“Fan into a flame the gift God gave you….you have been trusted to look after something precious; guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.”
2 Timothy: 6-8, 14

This week we are celebrating the Feast of Mary MacKillop. Mary MacKillop loved children and became a school teacher. In South Australia she met a priest named Father Julian Tenison Woods who also wanted to help poor children attend school.

Father Tenison Woods and Mary started the religious order of Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart (the Josephites) and in 1867 Mary MacKillop became a nun – Sister Mary of the Cross. Mary and the Josephite nuns set up schools in Australia and New Zealand. And we are very fortunate that the Josephites set up St. Theresa’s. We pray that we keep her legacy alive at St. Theresa’s.

We will be celebrating St. Mary of the Cross’ feast day as a school on Thursday …more details to follow.

On Thursday we will have a free Sausage sizzle for the children. A note will come home tomorrow regarding this.

George Otero is returning to St. Theresa’s

George is returning to St Theresa’s on Tuesday 20th August at 7.00pm. George is visiting from Santa Fe in New Mexico and facilitated some fantastic sessions with our families last year. At our meeting George will help us explore how we can work together to improve learning at home. This was the most important area identified by parents at our recent sessions at school. Please consider joining us as you will find George excellent to listen to and work with.

“Ramadan Mubarak” to our Muslim families who will celebrate the end of Ramadan this week.
With stage 1 of our playground landscaping almost complete, the committee met on Wednesday night and began working on stage 2. This stage, entitled the “Bunjil Reflection Garden” will be situated in the area between the library and the 2/3 learning area. The idea is to provide a gathering place for our community and a quiet reflective area for our students around a beautiful “Bunjil Nest” sculpture, which all our families will help to construct. A concept design (above) was drawn up and we want to present it to our community for feedback. If you have a suggestion to make about this design then please see Marie or leave a note at the office.

If you would like to join the Playground Landscaping Committee then just come with your ideas to our next meeting on Wednesday 4th September at 7pm in the staffroom. We’d love to see you there!

Approximately 45 families joined us on Thursday for a night full of maths hints and games and lots of great ideas about how to help your children with maths at home. It was so good to see the staff and families working together to help children with their learning.

Just a reminder that we do have a games library at school and you are encouraged to borrow a game to play at home. The games library operates on a Tuesday from the Library. It is available to the 2/3s this term. If you can help out on a Tuesday to check the games could you let Michele know. Thank you.
IMPORTANT INFORMATION

We had some talented 2/3s from Mary & Sharon’s grade perform at assembly last Friday. The students are investigating the water cycle for their inquiries so what better song to present than ‘It’s Raining Men!’

Fundraising Group News

The next Fundraising Committee meeting will be on the 14th August at 7pm (Please note the change of date).

Father’s Day stall is in need of some donations like socks, mugs, chocolates etc. If you’ve got something to donate then leave it with Venetia at the office.

Father’s Night is on the 30th August. This year will be a little different to previous Dad’s nights and we know you’ll love it.

There will be lots of prizes and give aways as usual. So keep the night free.

Lastly, the BRICK PAVERS. If you want to leave your mark permanently at St Theresa’s then why not buy a paver to decorate and put into our new path? Flyers with all the details have already gone home but if you need another one just see Venetia in the office.

I.T. NEWS

App of the week

ADDITION WIZ

Another free one to download from the app store.

The I.T. handy hint of the week is..

Have your computer in a common area of your house, NOT in your child’s bedroom.

Applications for EMA cards

This Friday 9th August is the cut off day to submit any NEW applications. Please see Venetia in the office if you have any queries.

A Eucharist meeting for all our families with children making their First Holy Communion will be held on Wednesday 15th August at 7pm.

NEWS FROM ST THERESA’S SCHOOL BOARD

It was decided at our last meeting to publicise our meetings for the newsletter and to advertise agendas for future meetings, so that our families can contribute if they want something presented to the Board.

At every meeting there is a parish, principal, fundraising and landscape report that outlines recent activities in those areas. At our last meeting we also discussed the current format of our Parent/Teacher Interviews and asked for input from the group on possible improvements. Other items that were discussed included future plans for our tuckshop, the new SunSmart policy, the new messaging system, taking Family/School Partnerships into 2014 and reviewing the Personal Development Policy. Board members will have more information if you’re interested.

Book Week is just around the corner and as part of our celebrations we will be holding our annual Book Fair on Tuesday 20th August from 8.45am until 4pm. There are always great books to buy so start saving your pocket money kids.

More information will be sent home in a flyer this week.
Caitlyn Barnes: Sharing some fantastic ideas with others during writing time.
Denna Dinh: For always being helpful and caring towards others.
Layne Bartram-Hatzi: For his fantastic work and the beautiful way he cares about others.
Matthew Boudoloh: For working so hard on learning his words and a big improvement in his reading.
Jordan Merlina: For writing a beautiful prayer.
Ivy Zhang: For a great improvement with her attitude and making good decisions about her learning.

Victoria Montalto: For writing a wonderful prayer of thanks.
Kianah Beck: For applying herself when completing all classroom tasks.
Billy Benson: contributes ideas to classroom discussions.

Mason Dixon: An excellent effort with his handwriting.
Jorros Marayag: Making such a wonderful effort in all areas of his work.
Tina Nguyen: Being a beautiful, friendly and helpful class member.
Lucas Lukic: Trying really hard with his reading & doing a great job.
Greta and Evie Linehan: Making a great start at St Theresa’s and settling in beautifully. Their picture is on the previous page!
Peter McMahon: Always doing his best and finding the confidence to speak in front of class.

Trishika Kansal: Having a great attitude and responding to feedback so well.
Andy Chen: For the amazing way he presents his work in all subjects.
Sandra Lau: Being a positive and helpful class member.