Do Small Things Well

St Theresa’s

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Lent

As we continue Lent...a special time of prayer, penance, sacrifice and good works in preparation of the celebration of Easter.. it’s also a time to reflect on all the wonderful things we should be thankful for....

Life is not measured by the breaths we take but by the moments that take our breath away...

Don’t forget to give to Project Compassion during Lent. Boxes are available from the office and are in every classroom.

There will be a whole school Lenten prayer service in the multi purpose room next Tuesday at 3pm. Please join us.

Sadly we have to say farewell to Michele & Marg

It is with sadness that we announce that two of our wonderful staff members, Michele Hayes and Marg Fordham will be leaving St Theresa’s this term, Michele to begin a new teaching job at St John’s in Footscray and Marg is retiring. We can’t imagine the school without them. Michele has been with us for many, many years and is like family to the St Theresa’s community. She has worked in a variety of roles including classroom teacher, Student Wellbeing Leader, Student Special Needs Leader and Literacy Leader. She has made many wonderful friends and expertly taught loads of St. Theresa’s children....too many to think about! Her expertise in Literacy is second to none and she has successfully passed on that knowledge to staff and students alike. We will miss her greatly and can’t thank her enough for all she has done for St Theresa’s. We wish her well in her new position as a Grade 5/6 teacher. Michele’s last day at St Theresa’s will be Friday 11th March and we will be holding a farewell assembly for her at 2.30pm where you are invited to join us when we say goodbye and thank her for her outstanding service to the community.

Marg has spent the last 10 years working closely with those students who needed a little bit of extra help and guidance. She has been incredibly generous to St Theresa’s and we all loved working with her. Her willingness to help and her caring nature made an impact on everyone she worked with. We will miss her but hope that she enjoys her well-earned retirement.

Gr 1/2K will run assembly this Friday 26th Feb. at 2.30...please come and join us.

Don’t forget that our Preps are at school FULL TIME beginning next week...no more Wednesdays off.
Students of the Week

Prep /1 MS: Jarvis Beck for being a wonderful role model for the preps and also being an expert hand writer. Scarlett Englehart for settling wonderfully into school. Jack Carroll for being a great friend to a prep in need. Prep /1 CI: Aidan Monaghan for being a great role model and showing the preps how to move safely at school. Prabal Bhumbla for settling into class and making a big effort to be independent. Prep / 1 L: Ananya Siripuram for helping her friend. Ishan Patel for listening well. Thomas O’Neill for working hard on his reading.

1/2K: Stephanie Montalto for being such a caring and helpful friend. Tony Chen for being a helpful computer wizz

2/3P: Lucas O’Neill for starting the year so well and being extremely focused. Mathi Jayaramanrani for being a great role model and always trying her best.

3/4B: Layne Bartram-Hatzi for being helpful and considering the feelings of others. Khanh Huynh-Vu for being a kind and thoughtful member of the class.

3/4D: Victoria Montalto for having such a positive attitude to her work. Lucas Lukic for having a great start to 2016. Gabrielle Di Quattro for completing classroom tasks with a positive attitude.

STM: Nahum Gebremedhin for encouraging his peers and sharing his passion for learning. Dragon Fan for taking the time to revise his maths work. Well done!

6F: The whole grade 6 class for the fantastic start to the year and the positive attitude and maturity you bring to this new year. Majier Adut for his efforts and amazing progress in meeting the expectations of Year 6 and the senior school.

Woolworths Earn & Learn…..Last year our fantastic families collected lots of stickers from Woolworths which enabled us to choose these new and exciting teaching resources for our students. A big thankyou for your support.

Don’t forget that we need a family photo from every student (except the preps). Email them to your child’s teacher please.
IMPORTANT EVENT : CYBER SAFETY NIGHT : Next Wednesday 2\textsuperscript{nd} March

St Theresa’s is very pleased to be able to offer our parents, grandparents and carers, an information night about cyber safety and how to stay safe on-line and protect your children from on-line dangers. We believe cyber safety to be one of the most important issues facing our families and we all need to be as informed as we can about it. Please try to attend this meeting….it’s important.

CYBER SAFETY PRESENTATION

Date : Next Wednesday 2\textsuperscript{nd} March  
Time 6.30 – 7.30pm  
Venue : Multi Purpose Room

The presentation is for adults only, however the school will provide childcare.

BUDDIES / CUDDLE UP & READ …Everybody’s reading!

It was lovely to going to the Prep/One area last Friday to see so many happy faces, reading together and getting to know each other. Anekah said that Patsy “plays basketball with me at lunchtime.” Isabelle loves Patsy because ‘she looks after me and we play hide and seek.” Xavier likes Andy “He’s my friend and we play basketball.” At the same time we had lots of mum & dads reading with the grade 1 children at ‘Cuddle Up & Read’. This will be on again on Friday 4\textsuperscript{th} March so if you can spare the time, the students love reading with you.

Aboriginal for a Day

Next Monday the Preps to Grade 4 children will be participating in an incursion called ‘Aboriginal for a Day’. The day will assist the children with developing understandings of indigenous culture. Children will experience storytelling, face painting, arts, dance and a didgeridoo music showcase. We will come together at 2.15pm (30 minutes) for a closing celebration and dance performance. We invite and welcome parents to attend this performance to conclude our special day.

Welcome to St. Theresa’s

Welcome to Parth in 3/4D and his mum & dad, Jimmy and Bindu and little sister Niythya. Parth has already settled in well and already joining in with all the activities on offer and making new friends.

Congratulations to Erin, Jim and big brother Michael on the arrival of their daughter and little sister Amelia. She was born on the 12\textsuperscript{th} February and is very gorgeous! Everyone is thrilled to bits with her!
**Year 6 Excursion**

Last Thursday the Year 6 children spent a day on Port Phillip Bay on the 65ft long Pelican 1. The day was a huge success with many new learnings and experiences for the children. The yacht left Williamstown’s Gem Pier and sailed for over an hour and then anchored in a Marine Sanctuary off Point Cook Homestead near Werribee. On the outward journey the children had a lesson on ocean literacy, learnt about sea pollution and the importance of marine parks and sanctuaries. We were amazed by the insightful questions the children had about the ocean for example ‘Where does the word ocean come from?’, “How many species of fish live in the ocean?”, ‘What do fish do at night?”, “How deep is the ocean?” and ‘What fish species has the longest life span?’ The crew on board the pelican were able to answer all these question and more about sea life.

At the marine sanctuary two experienced divers on board went snorkelling and returned with some sea creatures and plants. Children handled sea creatures (both alive and dead!), learning more interesting facts about ocean life.

On the journey home some children took the opportunity to steer the boat, while others enjoyed exploring all areas on board including the galley and looking into the small rooms reserved for crew.

The day wouldn’t have been possible without the numerous people on board with us to assist with educating the children on the day. The people included...Harry and Jane Breidhal (Marine Educators), Sandy Webb (Marine Scientist) David Speller (Resource Smart Victoria) and Jessica Strang (Parks Vic Marine Ranger)

!Thanks to the CEMs Science and Innovation Unit and Student Wellbeing Partnerships Units for funding the day. Special thanks also to Greg (Family Partnerships) and Frank, for their effort in making the day such a happy and successful one for the students.

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**Before & After School Care (OSH Club)**

Our before and afterschool program (OSH Club) is running really well and the numbers of children using it are growing every week. It is available from 7am in the morning to 6pm at night Monday to Friday and Lauren and Bal run interesting activities that the children are really engaged in and enjoy.

We are noticing that a small group of children are still being dropped off at school before our official supervision time of 8.30am and they wait outside the school for a teacher to look after them until 8.30am.

**THIS SHOULD NOT BE HAPPENING AS IT IS NOT SAFE TO DROP CHILDREN OFF AT SCHOOL EARLY AND LEAVE THEM UNSUPERVISED.**

Please if you are dropping your child at school before 8.30am we ask that you enroll them in Before School Care even if it’s just for 15 minutes. OSH Club can also take unenrolled students if something unforeseen happens. Thank you for your support in this matter.

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**EASTER RAFFLE**

I know it seems like we’ve just finished Christmas but Easter is only 4 weeks away and with your help we always have a great Easter Raffle. It’s never too early to donate an egg or a bunny. I know we can count on your generosity once again.