

#### Important Dates

World Environment Day - This Sunday! Sunday 5 June Transition Morning for T3 Reception Students Wednesday 8 June

Transition Morning for T3 Reception Students Wednesday 15 June Transition Morning for T3 Reception Students Wednesday 22 June Pupil Free Day - No School Friday 10 June

School Photo Day Thursday 30 June

Term 2 2022 School Ends Friday 8 July Public Holiday June Long Weekend -No School Monday 13 June

School Photo Catch Up Day Tuesday 5 July

Term 3 2022 School Begins Monday 25 July

#### From the Leadership Team

Dear Families,

Over the past five Newsletters I have been writing briefly about each of our School Values: Compassion, Courage, Justice, Respect and Service, provided to us by Catherine McAuley and the Sisters of Mercy. Today is the final one: Hospitality. This is where we open our home and heart to those who need a place to belong. It is all about being welcoming to those we meet, in our homes, in our schools or even out in the street. I am sure whenever you have someone arrive as a guest to your house you invite them in for a coffee or cup of tea or offer them something to eat. Being kind, generous and welcoming to our friends, family and those we know is easy. It takes courage to welcome the stranger.

I invite you to think of a time when you were a visitor in someone else's home or when you were a new person in a sporting team or club. How were you welcomed? What did people do to make you feel 'at home' and a part of the group? Think about a time when you had the opportunity to extend hospitality to someone new, what did you do and how did you feel? I think there is a sense of joy in doing things for others.

Hospitality in our world is greatly needed and I think it is one of the most important of the Mercy Values. Catherine McAuley herself said "You must waste time with visitors". This indicates that it was a priority for her. Jesus too saw hospitality as being very important, so much so that he washed the feet of the disciples and invited them to do the same for others.

I invite you to be hospitable to those you meet. This includes family and friends but also asylum seekers, refugees, our Indigenous, the homeless and anyone living on the 'edge' of society!

Since my arrival, I have been quite concerned with the amount of time that some students miss from school each term. We all know that there are times when we are genuinely ill or injured and there has been the ongoing battle with Covid-19 in the community. Even allowing for these things, we still see many children having a large number of days away from school. I have developed the following table to show how being regularly late or absent from school soon adds up.

Minutes late each	Days missed per	Days missed per	Total days missed from school
day	term	year	R-12
10	1.5	6	78 (1.5 terms)
20	3	12	156 (3 terms)
30	4.5	18	234 (1.2 years)
60	9	36	468 (2.3 years)
90	13.5	54	702 (3.5 years)

As you can see, if a student is 10 minutes late every day they will miss 6 days per year and 78 days total in their twelve years of schooling. That is a whole term and a half! Add in another day or two per term and suddenly that child has missed half or even a whole year of schooling. If a child has 13 days off per term they will miss more than 3 years of schooling in their life time.

We all understand the value of education. It is a way to help our children to be successful and achieve and hopefully do better than us as parents. We have an obligation and a responsibility to our children to give them the best opportunities in life and education is one way to do that. It is important that your child is at school every day unless they are genuinely sick or have Covid-19 symptoms. How on earth can we expect our children to be their best or even compete with students from other schools and other areas if they miss a term or a year or more of schooling?

Remember that it is a legal requirement that children aged 6 to 17 must attend school. From this year the government requires all schools to report any students who have had more than 10 days absent in a term. With this in mind, I thought I would look at the attendance data for our school, and I must say that I was quite concerned to say the least. I understand that things have been tough for everyone with Covid, the economy, unemployment, the cost of living, etc. However, this is all the more reason why our children should be at school every day! Last week I sent a letter to every family where a child has been absent for 10 days or more in Term 1. In that letter I have outlined the number of days missed for each term, from 2020 up to and including this term, as a reminder for parents to ensure that their children are at school every day.

From this week adults are no longer required to wear masks but they are encouraged to do so whenever indoors or where they cannot physically space themselves.

Please remember that next Friday 10 June is a Pupil Free Day (the long weekend).

This week we welcomed Ms Kylie West to our school community. Kylie will be doing some Human Resources (HR) work across both St Mary Magdalene's and St Thomas More, as well as doing some work for Catholic Education SA. We hope your time with us is full of learning, friendships and fun Kylie!

Next week we welcome our intake of Term 3 Receptions as a part of their transition program. If you know of any family with a five year old who is looking for a school, please let them know about St Mary Magdalene's. We do have places available in our Term 3 intake.

Hopefully you have seen an improvement in the state of the oval. We have done quite a bit of work in nurturing it back to full health and it seems to be working. We are also about to undertake a bit of painting around the school. All the green is about to be transformed into the Woodland Grey which you can see on the poles of the Yarning Place verandah. We will also be upgrading the path that runs through the school during the next school holidays. We have had some Yakka trees and a gum tree removed and still have a couple more to go on Fairfield Road. We have considered replacing these with some fruit trees so that our children can learn about growing our own fruit – but we are still discerning at this stage! We want our school to look good and be a warm and welcoming place of 'hospitality' for our children and families.

"Be hospitable to one another without complaining." - Peter (1Pet 4:9)

## **Recent News**

### From the APRIM

The Liturgical Year of the Church and Special Celebrations

This week in our Church's Liturgical Year we celebrate the Feast of the Ascension. This event occurs forty days after Easter Sunday and commemorates the ascension of Christ into heaven. Next week we celebrate the feast of Pentecost. On the day of Pentecost, we

celebrate the birthday of the Church and hear how Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to the disciples, just as he had promised to do.

We celebrate World Environment Day on June 5. This is the day for encouraging worldwide awareness and action to protect our environment. Classes will spend time during morning prayer reflecting on their role in protecting our environment.

This week we focus on and celebrate National Reconciliation Week. This is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

Students and staff will 'Be Brave' and continue to work to 'Make Change' this week as we learn more about the importance of Reconciliation.

Reconciliation must live in the hearts, minds, and actions of all Australians as we move forward, creating a nation strengthened by respectful relationships between the wider Australian community, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

#### Class Prayer and Liturgy

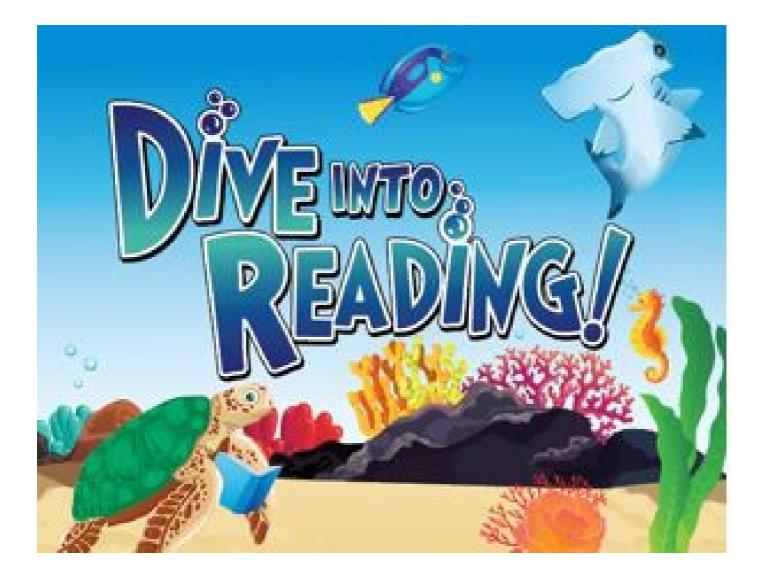
We are now once again preparing and leading class liturgies. Children across the school will be involved in this throughout the remainder of the term. Fr. Pat will resume Mass in our school as of Term 3.

#### Sacrament Program 2022

We are now able to start our 2022 Sacrament Program. If you have already enquired about the program, you would have been emailed the dates below. If you would like your child to join this program, you are welcome to come along to the first session, on Saturday June 7 at 9am at St. Thomas More Church. Please see outline below.

#### Book Fair 2022

### We Raised \$510 to Spend on Library Books. Thank You!





# **LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS**

AND WOULD LOVE FOR YOU TO JOIN OUR TEAM!!

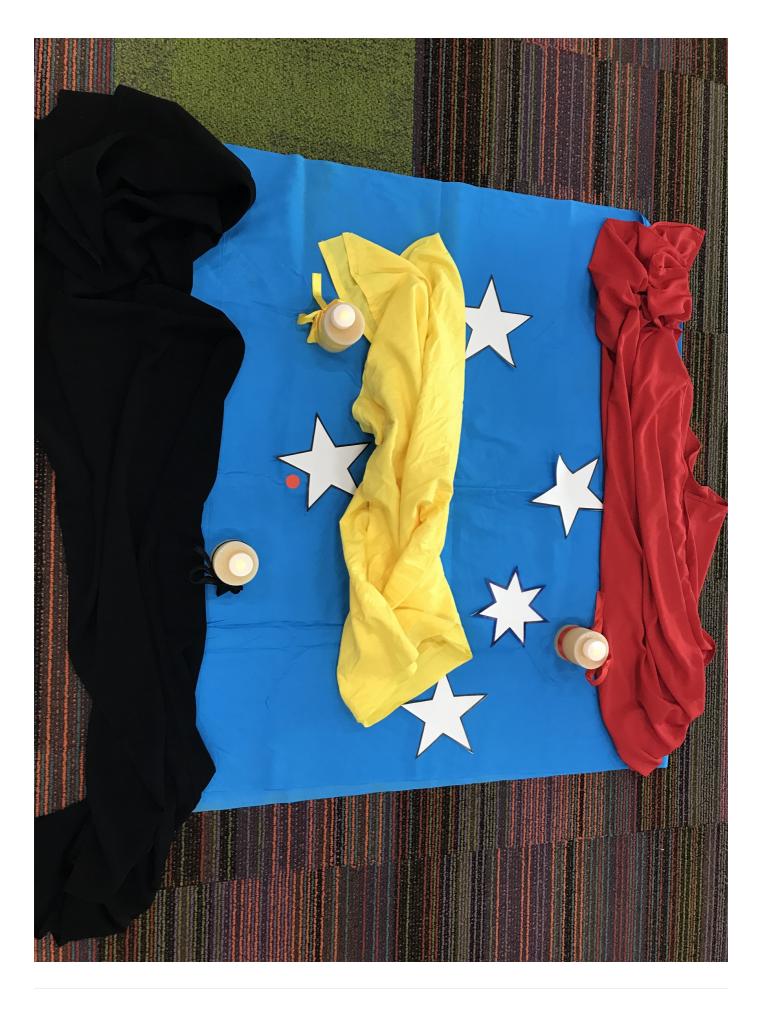


Do you enjoy working with children? Do you enjoy helping or teaching others? Do you have a special skill that you would like to share with our community.

If you are retired, looking for work experience or just love helping others, We have a place for you in the Community Hub.

Police clearance and additional training provided as required

Please call Kerryn on 0437 609 976 or Email: kchambers@smm.catholic.edu.au





### Healthy Conversations @ Playgroup Program



## Conversations about children's eating, active play, screen time, sleep

What's on offer for 2022: a new program at your playgroup,

where parents with young children support each other around:

- "Fussy" eating
  - Screen-time Sleep
- Movement and active play

#### Register your interest here:

https://redcap.ihbi.qut.edu.au/surveys/?s=E7R8MPT7DL









Sacramental

5 9.00 Frid; 5.00 7 510 7 11.0 9 9.0 8 atu 9 5 atu 5 atu	irday Jam – 11.00am ay June 17 Jpm – 6.00pm irday June 18 Joam – 12.00pm irday July 2 Jam – 11.00pm irday August 27	St. Thomas More Church St. Thomas More Church St. Thomas More Church St. Thomas More Church St. Thomas More Church
7 5.00 Satu 7 11.0 Satu 9.00 Satu Satu	Opm – 6.00pm urday June 18 X0am – 12.00pm urday July 2 Xam – 11.00pm	St. Thomas More Church St. Thomas More Church
7 11.0 Satu 9 9.00 Satu	X0am – 12.00pm Irday July 2 Xam – 11.00pm	St. Thomas More Church
9 9.00 Satu	am – 11.00pm	
	irday August 27	the state of the second state of the second
	irday August 27	the wine second if the second have a second
9.00	am – 11.00am	St. Inomas More Church
	ırday September 3 Xlam – 11.00am	St. Ann's Church
		St. Ann's Church
		St. Thomas More Church
		St. Thomas More Church
	7 7.00 Satu 7 6.00 Sun	7 7.00pm – 8.00pm Saturday September 10 6.00pm – 7.00pm Sunday September 11

St. Thomas More Church 19 LANESTECK Rd, Elizabeth North, 5113 St. Ann's Church 30 Midway Rd, Elizabeth East, 5112

#

Edna Qumbrell	Elizabeth Catholic Parish	faitheducation創elizabethcatholicparish.com.au
Sacramental Program Coordinator	Ph. 82551191	
Fr. Pat Woods Elizabeth Catholic Parish Priest	Elizabeth Catholic Parish Ph. 82551191	
Eugenia Storwa Director of Spirituality	St. Columba College Ph. 82540600	eugenia.stopyra@stcolumba.sa.edu.au
Linda Caldinez APRIM	Catherine McAuley School Ph. 82841666	icaldinez@cms.catholic.edu.au
Melissa Musolino APRIM	St. Mary Magdalene's School Ph. 82556144	mmusolino@smm.catholic.edu.au mmusolino@sttmore.catholic.edu.au
	St. Thomas More School Ph. 72851500	

All Content Copyright 2022 ©