Dear Friends and Families

Welcome to a new school year. We are blessed to be joined by some amazing new community members including Marie, Lillian, Claire P, Lily, Daina, Alicia, Samuel, Oskars, Nicholas, Andrew, William, Isabel, Ava, Angelina, Claire S, Hannah, Lucas, Jensen, Lucas, Adam, Georgin, Crosby, Eva and Georgia. We will welcome them with a special blessing at Whole School Prayer on Monday morning at 9am.

Staffing News

I would like to congratulate Jacky Swanson on her permanent appointment to Assistant Principal Religious Identity and Mission (APRIM). Jacky will also be teaching a Year 1 & 2 class in Room 3 on Monday and Tuesdays.

Mrs Julie Hardiman (Senora) will co-teach in Room 3 on Wednesday, Thursday and Fridays.

Senora Lucia Mitchell will teach Italian on Thursdays.

If you are unsure of who these teachers and other members of staff are, please have a look at the photos in the front office window.

Beginning of the Year Cluster Professional Learning – Numeracy Project

The staff of the three cluster schools of St Thomas, Goodwood, St Joseph’s, Kingswood and St Therese met last week to begin a Numeracy project which we will engage in for the next 2 – 3 years. We will be working as Professional Learning Communities which involves, “a systematic process in which we work together interdependently to analyse and impact professional practice in order to improve our individual and collective results.” Dufour, Dufour and Eaker, 2002.

You will hear more about it as we progress our professional learning in this area.

Parish Contact Details:
Parish Priest
8271 2109
Fr Michael Brennan
Parish Office
7070 0022
Pauline Wilson (Thurs,Fri)
Mass Times:
Saturday: 6.00pm
Sunday: 8.30am

School contact details: Phone: 8276 5528 www.sts.catholic.edu.au Email: info@sts.catholic.edu.au
Lisieux House/Out of School Hours Care
For those of you who are unfamiliar with Lisieux House, it is the house behind the playground which is used by Camp Australia to run the Out of School Hours Care program. It is named after our patron saint, St Therese of Lisieux. We work closely with the parish and have a mutual agreement that the school maintains the property and in return the students have been able to use the land that belongs to Lisieux House. The house is old and reached a stage where major maintenance is required and the school is not in a position to be able to cover the cost. During the holidays a subcommittee of parents volunteered their time individually, as well as at two working bees, and have worked tirelessly to carry out the maintenance and gained donations in order to improve our Out of School Care facility.

Important Information
This year we are aiming to create an email data base in order to send all whole school notes (Inter Nos, Meal Deal Information, etc.) home via email as well as notifications via the Skoolbag app. Individual class information will be sent in hard copy as per usual. The school calendar and important generic school information will be distributed at the Parent Information Night next Tuesday.

**Parent Information Night - Next Tuesday 9th February**

**Primary Information session 6 – 6:30 pm** (Year 3 – 7) in the Dominican building

**Junior Primary Information session 6:30 – 7:00 pm** (R – 2) starting in the Dominican building

Please join us in the yard for a pancake for Shrove Tuesday from 5:45 pm.
No crèche will be provided so parents are asked to keep their children with them please.

The St Therese School Board Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on Tuesday 28th February at 6 pm – 7 pm. Every parent and caregiver is invited. Nomination forms for joining (or continuing) on St T’s and the School Board will be circulated at the Parent Information Night and in next fortnight’s Inter Nos.

I look forward to an amazing term ahead and invite you to make yourself known to your child/ren’s teacher/s next Tuesday evening. Please join us for a pancake in the courtyard at 5:45 pm.

Kindest regards
Angela

A warm welcome to all the new families and students and also those returning to St Therese for the 2016 school year. If the staff professional development days last week and the first couple of days of term are an indication of the year ahead, then we are in for an amazing year.
As a staff, we have been thinking about the connectedness of God’s creation and how everything we do impacts upon our world and each other. Our school community is also made up of many connected parts; children, teachers, school personnel, parents and caregivers, church and parish. Each coming from diverse backgrounds, cultures and traditions but all having a role to play in the education of our students. Not one of us can do it alone and each part impacts on another. We need everyone in our community working together no matter how small their role, so that we can become a dynamic, functioning, loving community. At times this will be difficult and it is in these moments that we need to turn to our ultimate connector; Jesus.

“For this is how God loved the world: he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life” (John 3:16).

**Staff commissioning Mass**
The staff of St Therese will be welcomed into the parish and the new school year in a commissioning mass this Saturday the 6th February at 6pm in St Therese Church. We would like as many families and children as possible to share in this special moment. Please join us if you can.

**Blessing of New Students**
On Monday the 8th of February at 9am, during Whole School Prayer we will have a blessing ceremony for all the new students to St Therese. Everyone is welcome.

**Ash Wednesday Mass**
There will be a whole school mass on Ash Wednesday, 10th February at 9.30 am in St Therese Church. Please add this important mass to your diary and join us.

I am really excited about the year ahead and looking forward to working with you all.

May you feel the love of God always.

**Jacky**

Jacky Swanson
APRIM

**Help! Help! Help! Help!**

We still need more volunteers to help in the canteen and to bake cakes.

If you can volunteer, please let the front office staff know.
Join School Banking on an outback adventure!

Every year the School Banking program launches a new savings theme and 8 new exclusive School Banking reward items.

This year’s program is themed the **Outback Savers** and School Banking is taking students on a wild adventure through the Canyon of Savings, where they’ll learn to master smart savings habits.

There are **8 new reward items for 2016** from the Outback Savers range:

- Flying Snake Tail
- Wildlife Writer Set
- Mud Splat Handball
- Outback Pat Bag Tag
- Backtrack Eraser Pen
- Jump and Skip Rope
- Bush Fly Fan
- Wriggley Glow Worm

**Win a wildlife family adventure holiday to Australia Zoo!**

This year School Banking is giving students the chance to win a family trip for up to two adults and three children to explore Australia Zoo and meet Bindi and Robert Irwin.

Students who make 15 or more School Banking deposits by the end of Term 3, 2016 will be automatically entered into the draw. This is another great way to motivate students to save regularly and reach their savings goals.

If you would like to know more about School Banking, please ask for a 2016 School Banking program information pack from the school office.
The Southern Cross

Starting school a familiar affair

Archbishop's Awards
Mental health chaplain
Back to school feature

Link for Southern Cross: http://www.thesoutherncross.org.au/?iid=136100#folio=1
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