From The Leadership Team

Dear Parents and Caregivers and Community members,

I would like to start with a warm welcome to the Thornton Family who have joined St Therese School from NSW. Charlene, Edward (in Year 4 Briony Fitzgerald) and Samuel (in Year 2 Julie Hardiman and Amanda Murfitt). We wish you every blessing as you commence your new journey as a family with us.

This week the three way learning conversations have commenced. This year we trialled using an online booking system and we would appreciate your feedback on how you found the process. I do hope that these moments were a great opportunity to share your hopes for your child with their class teacher and establish this crucial connection in our partnership with you as parents. The teachers have really appreciated this opportunity to meet with each of you. I also extend an invitation to meet with myself or Jacky Swanson, should you wish to discuss any elements of your child, their learning or wellbeing.

The Emmaus Parish Knitting group are seeking donations of wool for their work assisting those in need if you can help out please drop of balls of wool at the front office-all donations gratefully received.

AGM

Some advance notice the Annual General Meeting for St Therese School will be held in the Dominican Building on Tuesday 21 March at 6:00pm. I will send out further information next week around the nomination process for positions on our School Board. I encourage you all to consider this important role within our community.

The fabulous St T’s committee held their first meeting last week and welcomed five new members to the group. Next Tuesday, as one of their community building activities, they will be making pancakes for the whole school to celebrate Shrove Tuesday. I am sure they would appreciate any extra support so please speak to either myself, Jacky Swanson or one of the St T’s members if you can help.

Shrove Tuesday reminds us that the following day is the beginning of the Church season of Lent, a time of fasting, almsgiving and prayer. This is one of the most sacred times in our Church year. Please join us in our Whole School Mass on Wednesday 1 March at 11:30 am. During Lent, the forty days from Ash Wednesday until Palm Sunday, we will again be supporting the Catholic organisation of Caritas through their Project Compassion appeal. Each class will have a project compassion box and we ask that you please give generously to help support and empower the world’s poorest people.
Sacramental Programme
An introduction session to the Sacramental programme will be held on Monday 6 March at St Joseph’s, Kingswood at 7:00pm. The Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Communion are offered to baptised Catholic children from 7 years of age. It is not too late to join the programme; so if your child has turned 7 and you are considering whether or not you want them to be involved come along to the Introduction session. For all those that have already committed to the programme we will see you there.

Each Inter Nos edition we have asked each Director of Learning to share some information with you:

From the Early Years Director of Learning – Siobhan Paley
Since 2014, St Therese has implemented a whole school approach to the teaching and learning of reading, spelling and writing using a synthetic phonics approach. This approach as recommended by the 2005 ‘National Inquiry into the teaching of Literacy’ as well as various Dyslexia trainers, educators and advocates focuses on children 'synthesising', or blending together the sounds in words in order to read them. It is a process of linking individual speech sounds (phonemes) to written symbols (graphemes). They also learn to separate (segment) words into their constituent sounds and link these sounds to letters in order to spell them.

All staff have been trained in the basics of such and have all completed the online Catholic Education training for Understanding Dyslexia and Significant Difficulties in Reading as well as other specific training including phonological awareness, oral language, learning difficulties etc. Over the past three years, we have seen a significant change in our teaching and learning of reading and spelling. As a result of such changes, our results in the Early Years Assessment performed in Year 1 are consistently improving and are all above the regional groups averages.

We will be hosting a Phonics Workshop for all new Reception parents to explain the basics of synthetic phonics, what it looks like in the classroom and what parents can do to help. The workshop will be held on Wednesday March 8 at 6.30pm in the Dominican Building. All welcome.

A REMINDER:
STAFF FORMATION NUMERACY DAY (PUPIL FREE) 20 MARCH – PLEASE ENSURE YOU HAVE BOOKED INTO OSHC SHOULD YOU REQUIRE CARE FOR THE DAY. THANK YOU 😊

Every blessing,

Amanda Humeniuk and Jacky Swanson
ahumeniuk@sts.catholic.edu.au
jswanson@sts.catholic.edu.au

Hazard Alert – school hats
There has been an incident recently at a Department for Education and Child Development (DECD) School where a student’s hat, whilst being worn, became entrapped in play equipment. This resulted in a rope burn and laceration to the child’s throat. We ask that you inspect you child’s hat and remove the cords if they are present.

Volunteer Induction
Two volunteer induction session will be available in Week 5, on Thursday 2 and Friday 3 March both at 8:45am. Sessions will be about 45 minute duration. Please see me or the office staff should you require further information.

Lesley, WHS
Dear Parents/ Caregivers

**SACPSSA Swimming Carnival**
We have just completed our 2nd trials session at Unley Swimming Centre in preparation for the carnival in Week 7. I will be announcing the squad at the end of this week. Well done to everyone who has dedicated their time to the trials.

**After School Sport**
We have a wonderful number of students involved in after school sporting competitions this term.
4 x Netball teams, 2 x Volleyball teams and 1 x Kanga Cricket team.
Just fantastic for a small school like St Therese!
We attempted to nominate a Basketball team but unfortunately we were low in numbers. If any student from Years 4-7 would like to reconsider being involved please let me know as soon as possible.

**Volleyball Skills Lessons and Carnival**
Students in Years 4-7 have shown wonderful volleyball skill development during PE lessons.

Rooms 7 and 8 are eagerly awaiting the opportunity to put these skills into action at the Glenelg Beach Volleyball Carnival in Week 6. Information/Permission notes were sent home this week. Please remember to reply using the Qkr! App.

**Sporting Schools**
Sporting Schools After School Sport will begin in Week 7. On offer is cricket for Rec-Year 2 on Tuesdays and Volleyball for Years 3-7 on Thursdays. Information/Permission notes will go home next week. Please remember to return your permission forms as soon as possible as we can only have 25 students per group so first in first served.

Have a great fortnight,

Yours in sport,
Barbara Mee

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**Choir News**
The St Therese Choir is in full swing for this year's Catholic Schools' Music Festival. We have an amazing group of children, with 13 from Year 5 and 15 from Year 6/7, which is a brilliant effort. This year’s Festival will be at the Entertainment Centre due to the refurbishment of the Festival Theatre, which will be an exciting adventure for all of us.
Stay tuned for more details through the year.

*Nicole Moxham (Music Teacher)*
Phonics Workshop

Please join us for a Phonics Workshop for parents of Reception children on how phonics is used to teach children how to read and strategies to support your child’s reading at home.

We will cover:
- How phonics is taught and used in the classroom.
- The importance of blending sounds to make words.
- How Tricky Words fit.
- How to help children with reading at home.

To be held on Wednesday 8th March 2017 at 6.30pm in the Dominican Building.

Keep your kids smiling

Have you received a letter from Medicare about the Child Dental Benefits Schedule? The School Dental Service is a Child Dental Benefits Schedule provider.

Dental care is FREE for ALL babies, preschool and most children under 18 years at School Dental Service clinics.

Call now for an appointment. Your clinic is: Clapham School Dental Clinic Phone: 8374 2053

FREE SESSIONS FOR ALL PRIMARY SCHOOL CLASSES IN AUSTRALIA

Kids Helpline & School (KAS) Digital aims to build children’s resilience, coping strategies and digital knowledge at an early age, by talking with primary school classes about topics such as respectful relationships online, cyberbulling and the positive use of technology.

Learning Trees Playgroup

St Therese School
Colonel Light Gardens
Lisieux House

Friday mornings 9.00am – 10.30am
Starting Friday 3rd February 2017

Ages: 0 - 5yrs

Cost
$4 per family

Fun Activities
Education Based

A great place to meet other parents

Enquiries
82765528
info@sts.catholic.edu.au
**Friday Family Time**

EMMAUS Parish (Goodwood, Colonel Light Gardens, Kingswood) invites all its primary school mums, dads and young children to family nights on Friday March 24th, June 23rd, September 15th.

6.00pm-7.30pm at Kingswood 35 Cambridge Tce, KINGSWOOD.

Start your weekend with your family and other families in your community relaxing over a few drinks and pizzas. Provided: Nibbles, Pizzas, Ice-cream, cordial. Bring your own alcoholic drinks. Cost: $6.00 per adult and $3.00 per child.

For further information contact:  
RSVP Jacinta Astachnowicz  
Mobile 0434978908  
jacnstan@sa.chariot.net.au

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**Emmaus Youth Mass**

On Saturday March 4th at 6.00pm
St Therese Church 3 Oxford Circus
Colonel Light Gardens

After Mass a free BBQ tea will be provided by the Knights of the Southern Cross in the Community Garden where together we will create an outdoor concert i.e. with ‘open microphone type opportunity’

All young people welcome to come and make music for the mass and an outdoor concert after mass. There will be a run through practice which starts at 4.00pm.

(no previous experience needed)

For further information contact:  
Michael Madigan 0405715971

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**SUNDAY MARCH 26TH AT 2.00 P.M.**

St. Joseph’s Old Scholars Annual Mass at Kensington Convent Chapel. Priest is Father Kevin Taylor. Devonshire Afternoon Tea will follow ($5). Invitation for ALL former teachers/students (male and female) from ANY Josephite School/College here or interstate to attend.

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**STREET BBQ DAY**

Celebrating Neighbour Day  
MARCH 2017

How would a BBQ help people in your street get to know each other? Tells us in 100 words or less.

For details and entry, go online at www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au to go into the running to win one of several BBQ packs consisting of meet, salads, bread, desserts and our help to host.

One special street will also win a BBQ to keep!  
#whoarethepeopleinyourneighbourhood

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THE AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM An overview for parents

The Australian Curriculum is designed to teach students what it takes to be confident and creative individuals and become active and informed citizens. It sets the goal for what all students should learn as they progress through their school life – wherever they live in Australia and whatever school they attend.

What are the learning areas of the Australian Curriculum?
From the first year of schooling to Year 10, students develop knowledge and skills in eight learning areas:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Health and Physical Education (HPE)
- Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)
- The Arts
- Technologies
- Languages

In our Catholic schools, all curriculum areas have a religious dimension and Religious Education is taught as a core curriculum area.

To find specific information about the Australian Curriculum for your child's year level click on the information sheets below.

Information for parents Foundation year
Information for parents years 1–2
Information for parents years 3–4
Information for parents years 5–6
Information for parents years 7–8
Information for parents years 9–10
Contact your local Franchisee, Sean Kirchner, for the best;
*Home Loans  *Financial planning
*Personal loans *Business Finance
*Car loans *Insurance
With a choice of 28 Lenders (including all the major banks) we are best placed to find the right solution for your needs. Our service is FREE to you, with no favouritism as our “pay the same” commission structure ensures complete independence.

Sean Kirchner:
PH: 08 7200 3526
MB: 0414 988 235
Email: sean.kirchner@mortgagechoice.com.au

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Contact Garry or Sonia Sandercock
Ph (08) 8443 3522