



## 90 Seconds with the Principal

Bonus this week - three videos shared on our school Facebook site!

[Video 1](#) - A review of the school report which all parents will receive next Friday and a discussion of the role of the Celebration of Learning which is being held next Wednesday 26th June 4.30pm to 6pm. During Week 10 all parents have been invited to book in a formal parent-teacher-student interview and the role of this interview is outlined in the video.

[Video 2](#) - Highlights from the MTP school choir eisteddfod performance at the Parramatta Diocesan Arts Factor 2019 held this week at Blacktown. Our school did an amazing job at the eisteddfod and were awarded a 'Highly Commended' certificate.

[Video 3](#) - Some members of our FIAT (Faith in Action Team) and Mini-Vinnies club have combined to produce a short video in relation to our current drive for resources for the Jesuit Refugee Service. This was a completely student created promotional video and a wonderful recognition of the role we play in educating hearts as well as minds!

## Half- Yearly Reports

Parents will receive a copy of their child's Half-Yearly Report next Friday. As you know, these reports are a formal record of your child's progress for Semester One of 2019. All students will receive comments from their teacher regarding their Learner Qualities, including your child's strengths and areas of challenge. In addition to comments on the qualities your child displays as a learner, there is a formal report on the grades achieved in the Key Learning Areas. On the back of the report your child has commented on their own areas of strength and challenge and you are invited to make a comment also, on your child as a learner. Your child's teacher looks forward to discussing with you the report at the formal parent-student-teacher interviews in Week 10. If at any time you would like to discuss your child's progress with the Learning Studio teacher you are always welcome to contact the school to make a time to meet and this can occur throughout the year.

## Congratulations David!

On Friday, 15th June, David in Year 5 was selected to represent the Parramatta Diocese in the NSW Cross-Country competition for all Catholic Schools. It is an honour to be selected out of the many schools and hundreds of children in our own Diocese to be a part of this Cross-Country Team. David was a great competitor and we are very proud of his great sportsmanship and participation at this elite level.



**21st June 2019**



*"The poor do not need our  
condescending attitude or our  
pity. They only need our love  
and tenderness."*

**St Mother Teresa of Kolkata**

## Important Dates:

- **Wednesday, 26th June**  
 Celebration of Learning  
 4:30pm—6:00pm  
 Parent University  
 Literacy  
 6:00pm—7:00pm
- **Monday, 1st July—Friday, 5th July**  
 Teacher/Parent/Student - 3  
 Way Conferences
- **Friday, 5th July**  
 Last day Term 2
- **Monday, 22nd July**  
 First day Term 3



## **Welcomeasy**

"In purchasing your child's tuckshop order online through Welcomeasy, you are contracting directly with the supplier. You are responsible for checking that the ingredients of what you order are not incompatible with your child's sensitivities or health issues. Please ensure you check the disclaimers in the supplier's website. If in doubt you should contact the supplier."



## Congratulations MTP Choir - Pitch Perfect!

On Wednesday I had the privilege of travelling to Nagle College at Blacktown with the children from the Mother Teresa school choir. This is another extra-curricular opportunity led by Mrs Maria Boyd and Mrs Aimee Antoun. The children have worked hard in the choir sessions all year and this was an opportunity to showcase their talent at the Diocesan Primary Music Eisteddfod. I am very happy to tell you that Mother Teresa Primary Choir were awarded 'Highly Commended' and I was very proud of the students, both during their performance but also the way our students were polite, encouraging and respectful of all the other schools performing. Check out the video this week on our school Facebook page!

The performers were:

Giselle H, Saidie A, Jane J, Ashley N, Marcus S, Anabella B, Jasmine K, Celina K, Camila C, Sienna J, Teresa-Maria S, Mirabelle Y, Carmen N, Celine E, Victoria A, Johann J, Thalia S, Charlize S, Emily D, Jahzara M, Celina C, Aayushi G, Evie H, Anyka C, Thalia C, Sarah D, Audrey H, Scarlet S, Arabelle S, Fabiola P and Annalise A



## Parent University - Term 2 - Wednesday 26th June 6pm to 7pm

As you know, last term we had the evening with Dr Justin Coulson as an alternative to our Parent University. This term we are holding a **Parent University with a literacy focus** - specifically 'how can I help my child as a developing reader and writer?' The workshop will cover aspects of literacy development from Kindergarten to Year 6 and all parents and carers are very warmly invited to come along and share the learning. The workshop will be held in the Year 6 Learning Studios beginning at 6pm and concluding by 7pm.

In Term 3 our Parent University will focus on Mathematics and our school goal of mathematical reasoning. In Term 4 our Parent University will focus on our Religious Education experiential inquiry approach. All parents are always welcome to attend these evening workshops. We had a great response to our Religious Education, literacy and numeracy Parent University workshops last year and find these a great way to share with all parents our school learning goals.

## Parent Helpers Invited - Bingo Disco planning meeting - Thursday 4th July 2pm

At the start of the year all families received a form inviting them to help out at school in different ways. We have parents who help out with our reading program weekly, our sports and special events activities, our stalls for Mother's Day and Father's Day etc. Some parents nominated to help with the running of the Bingo-Disco night which will be held on August 16th from 6pm to 8pm. This is a great fund raiser but also a great opportunity for our parents and families to socialise at a fun night out. All parents who nominated to help out with the running of this event (and any other interested parents) are invited to a planning meeting in the Staffroom on Thursday 4th July at 2pm. The meeting will be finished in time for you to collect your child at 2.45pm.



## Acting REC (Religious Education Coordinator) - Term 3

### Congratulations Mrs Gaye Dennis

During Term 3, Mrs Maria Boyd will be taking a period of Long Service Leave. The parents of SLS4 students have received a letter today outlining the leave and the teacher who will be taking SLS4 from Mondays to Thursdays in Term 3. As you know, Mrs Maria Boyd is also our REC (Religious Education Coordinator). I am very pleased to announce that during the period Mrs Boyd is away, Mrs Gaye Dennis has been appointed as acting REC. I would like to thank Mrs Dennis for undertaking this important role at Mother Teresa Primary throughout Term 3.

## Online Safety Parent Workshop - Wednesday 31st July 7pm

As you will remember, last term we had an evening with Dr Justin Coulson who delivered a workshop on parenting ideas to help create Happy Families. On this evening we also invited families from our sister school, Sacred Heart Primary, Westmead. Next month, Mrs Natalie Mifsud, acting Principal at Sacred Heart Primary has organised a parent workshop on online safety and cyberbullying. Mrs Mifsud has kindly opened the event to parents and carers from Mother Teresa Primary. If you are interested in attending more information can be found at [www.internetsafeeducation.com](http://www.internetsafeeducation.com) A flyer is attached to this newsletter. The venue this term is Sacred Heart Primary School on Wednesday 31st July at 7pm.

## **TTFM Tell Them From Me - Feedback from parents, staff and students**

Recently all students in Years 4, 5 and 6, the MTP parent community and the teaching staff of MTP were invited to complete the 'Tell Them From Me' survey. Thank you to all the students, parents and staff who completed this survey which provides us with affirmations, commendations and feedback about growth moving forward as a school community.

### **Student Findings:**

The general findings in the student survey indicated they felt a strong sense of spirituality as a Catholic School and felt that the school provided time for learning, reflection and prayer as they grow in relationship with Jesus. The students felt a strong sense of belonging and overwhelmingly indicated they had an advocate at school with whom they could discuss issues or turn to when required. The students indicated strongly that they had positive relationships at school and that they value learning; they were interested and motivated to learn. The students at MTP responded that they felt strongly that classroom instruction was well organised, with a clear purpose and they were given immediate verbal feedback that helped them to learn. Students indicated there were many opportunities to participate in sport at school. An aspect that we can work on as a school was relevancy, as students felt that some learning wasn't relevant to their everyday lives.

### **Parent Findings:**

Of the parents who completed the report questions, we had very positive trends in relation to parents feeling welcome in the school, the school being an inclusive school, the school supporting learning and positive behaviours and felt very strongly that their child felt safe and supported at school. In the open ended responses, again there was a vast majority of overwhelmingly supportive comments - thank you! We work really hard and are passionate about learning. We know we are in the business of educating hearts and minds so your many, many individual comments of support are truly appreciated. Other individual responses included some specific requests, for example the introduction of awards and competitions, however, as has been the philosophy of the school from its inauguration, these practices are not congruent with the charism of Mother Teresa and the development of the whole child and future learners who are collaborative and creative problem solvers. Other requests centred around more information about student progress - as you know, you are more than welcome to make an appointment at any time throughout the year with your child's teacher to discuss their progress, in addition to the 'meet and greet' meetings at the beginning of the year and the formal three way interviews in the middle of the year. Some parents wanted more information about how to help their child at home with their learning, so we hope to see you at our Parent University next week. A finding I am most proud of from the parent survey was that out of all the comparison schools our school scored highest in regard to parents feeling that their child was included, cared for, accepted and treated fairly.

### **Teacher Findings:**

Our teacher survey was very positive and as you can tell our teachers work really hard at helping your child achieve their full potential. Teachers indicated very strongly that they are supported and work well with leadership and parents. The teachers feel there is a strong learning culture established in the school and are aware that our core business is teaching and learning. Teachers felt there was a strong culture of collaboration, that they use data to inform their practice and they provide quality verbal feedback to students often, on progress in relation to learning intentions and success criteria. Our teachers indicated that they feel they are very committed to education in faith and that they are provided with opportunities to develop their own faith and that of others.

## **Good luck students and teachers - Vinnies Winter Sleepout tonight!**

Tonight our Year 6 students and teachers will be participating in the Vinnies winter sleepout which means they will be staying back at school tonight to learn about the plight of homeless people and put their faith in action through education, advocacy and prayer. The students and teachers have been working hard at fundraising for this event and sleeping out all night at school is a testament to that faith in action. Thank you very much for your support today for the fundraiser through the pyjama mufti day.

Help fund our Winter Warriors <https://vinniesnsw.gofundraise.com.au/page/WinterWarriors>

## **Invitation to Prayer**

NAIDOC week will be celebrated at MTP during Week 10, beginning Monday 1st July. Parents are invited to join us in prayer at this assembly beginning at **8.35am—Monday, 1st July**.

## **School Fees**

If families are experiencing financial hardship, especially in relation to the payment of school fees, you are invited to make an appointment to discuss the situation with myself, as no child will be excluded from a Catholic Education due to financial hardship. I include the following excerpt from the CEDP school fee policy:

*"Although Catholic schools must charge fees to fund the education provided, it is important that families who want to access Catholic education for their children are not excluded because they do not have the means to pay fees. If a family experiences personal financial hardship in meeting school fees, they are invited to discuss total or partial exemption from school fees with the Principal who will treat the matter with understanding, care and sensitivity."*





As a parent, I often felt inadequate. That sense of falling short of the needs of my children. I had four unique souls in my care and try as I might, I could not be all things to all people. We are so blessed in our faith, that we have a God who is all things to all people. Throughout the world, where church bells ring three times a day they invite Christians to pray to God the Father, the Provider; God the Son, the Saviour; and God the Holy Spirit the Sanctifier.

As the Father, God has brought forth the created universe and even our very selves. As God's Son and our Brother, Jesus, He has made known a God Who hears our cries, Who cares, Who counts the hairs on our head and Who loves us so passionately that He became one of us, to suffer for our sins, to die that we may live. As

Spirit, God remains with and within us as Paraclete: Guide, Advocate and Consoler. ([www.vaticannews](http://www.vaticannews).)

Turn to God with your troubles or pain, rejoice with God, feel the love of god surrounding you. Take heart, dear friends, remember that you are made in the image and likeness of God and we are never alone in our quest for holiness and fullness of life.

Maria Boyd REC



**Friday, 21st June** : Gold and Fold Pyjama Day – for The Vinnies Winter Appeal & Winter Sleep Out – Please consider supporting the teacher's on [Go Fund Raise](#).

Blankets, warm clothes, non- perishable food items, 25cm knitted squares all welcome.

Congratulations to the following students making their First Eucharist.

|               |              |             |              |            |             |
|---------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|------------|-------------|
| ◆ Camila C    | ◆ Charlize S | ◆ Jonah M   | ◆ Marx A     | ◆ Jordyn N | ◆ Oliver M  |
| ◆ Natalie J   | ◆ Callum B   | ◆ Caitlin R | ◆ Lani M     | ◆ Joseph A | ◆ Giselle H |
| ◆ Gabrielle F | ◆ Alessia G  | ◆ Emily G   | ◆ Lilliana N | ◆ Thomas E |             |

## Athletics Track Events

On the 28th May students from the ages 8-12 came together to participate in the MTP track events held at the Marist bottom oval. Students competed in both the 800m and the 100m track events. Well done to all students who tried their best and made some personal growth in their events. Students have also completed shot put, discus and long jump during PE lessons throughout the term. Results regarding students who will be representing MTP at the Zone Carnival are as follows: *Nicholas E, Sammi- Lee N, Tyrence, Daniella N, Christian M, Lara P, Arav G, Anyka C, Akira J, Lilliana N, David M, Elias S, John W, Isabelle D, Christopher R, Joseph A, Aayushi G, Emily D, Cooper S, Christopher N, Alessia M, Annabella B, Jacob B, Arnav P, Jean D, Giovanni B, Johnathon N.* Well done to those who have been selected. As always, thank you Mrs Mardini for her time and assistance on the day to help make it a success.



As part of their PE program students in stage 3 have been completing a sporting clinic run by The NRL development program officers from the Parramatta Eels during PE lessons. Students are being taught skill development, movement skills and rules of the game. This program will continue until the first week of term 3. Great effort Stage 3.

Also, years 4 & 2 are completing a sporting clinic through Netball NSW to promote game play awareness, fair play and ball handling skills. This program will continue for the remainder of the term.



## 2019 School Sport Track & Field Championships

### NSWPSSA Athletics Selection Trials

Thursday 8 August 2019.

**Nomination applications for this event close 5pm Wednesday, 26 June 2019.**



In 2019 the School Sport Australia Track and Field Championships will be held in the Northern Territory.

Due to extreme heat conditions in Darwin during November/December when the National Track and Field Championships are traditionally held, this year's SSA event will be held from the 18th-23rd September 2019.

In order to select a NSW representative track & field team for this event, the NSWPSSA will be holding a special selection trial.

Participation at these trials will be via a formal application to NSWPSSA and athletes MUST compete at this event to achieve selection in the 2019 NSW representative team.

**How to enter:** To apply for the NSWPSSA Athletics Selection Trials you must complete the nomination form and scan and email the form to the Executive Officer - [jason.wilesmith@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:jason.wilesmith@det.nsw.edu.au) by the closing date .

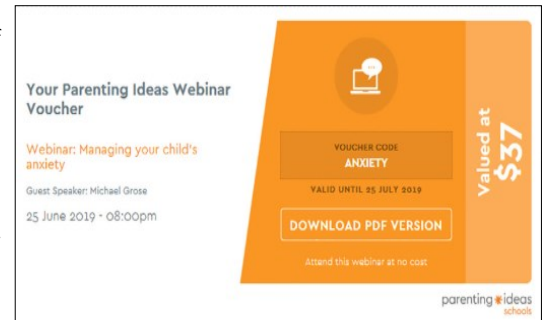
Further information is available at the NSW Schools Sport website <https://app.education.nsw.gov.au/sport/>

Mother Teresa Primary has a school subscription to 'Parenting Ideas'. This is a resource which offers help, support and ideas with parenting. If you are interested in participating in a webinar on the 25th June at 8:00pm about managing your child's anxiety, you can register using the following link <https://www.parentingideas.com.au/parent-resources/parent-webinars/webinar-managing-your-childs-anxiety> and follow the instructions below.

#### How to redeem the voucher

Click this link: <https://www.parentingideas.com.au/parent-resources/parent-webinars/webinar-managing-your-childs-anxiety>

- ⇒ Click 'Add to cart'
- ⇒ Click 'View cart'
- ⇒ Enter the voucher code **ANXIETY** and click 'Apply Coupon'. Your discount of \$37 will be applied to the order. This voucher is valid until 25 July 2019.
- ⇒ Click 'Proceed to checkout'
- ⇒ Fill in your account details. These are the details you will use to login to your account and access your parenting material
- ⇒ Click 'Place Order'
- ⇒ an email will be sent to you with instructions on how to join in the webinar



## Online Safety & Cyberbullying



**THIS IS AN EVENT NOT TO BE MISSED  
AND WILL CHANGE YOUR THINKING**

Delivered by a professional speaker on the topic of digital compliance and internet safety. You will be presented with engaging and powerful information in a way that will bring to life possible online dangers and responsibilities which are a part of your child's digital world. Strategies of protection and prevention will empower you to reduce online risks within your home. You will be amazed how simple this can be.

Delivered by a former  
Undercover Internet Detective

Simple measures to create a  
fun, educational and positive  
online experience

Witness the real life dangers  
and responsibilities

Discover how essential and  
important your role is

Social Networking

The Law Online

Identity Protection

Cyberbullying

**WHERE:** Sacred Heart Primary School

**WHEN:** Wednesday 31 July

**TIME:** 7.00pm - 8.30pm



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