



MOTHER TERESA CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER

Friday February 21st 2025

“Not all of us can do great things, but we can do small things with great love.”

Mother Teresa

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It has been lovely this week getting to meet more of our community via the Parent Helper workshops, Parent/Child/ Teacher interviews and the Meet the Principal Cuppachat this afternoon. I am pleased to share that we have had nearly 30 parents attend the parent helper workshops. My sincere thanks to these parents for giving their time to undergo the training.

Jubilee - Pilgrims of Hope

The Pope has stated that this year will be a Jubilee Year which is a time to restore our relationship with God, each other, and all of creation. The tradition

of the Jubilee Year originates from Jewish practice, as described in Leviticus 25. Every fiftieth year, the Jubilee was proclaimed—a time for liberation, debt forgiveness, and the restoration of communities

and lands. This cycle served as a reminder to the Israelites that everything in this world is temporary and that their focus should always be on God.



The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within both
humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen.



In our Catholic tradition, the Church observes the Jubilee Year every 25 years. In his Papal Bull *Spes Non Confundit* (Hope Does Not Disappoint), Pope Francis embraces the theme ‘Pilgrims of Hope,’ inspired by St. Paul’s letter to the Romans (Rom. 5:5).

Hope, as a virtue, is not just a fleeting wish or desire; it is a deep and unshakeable trust in God’s promises. It is the conviction that His love and mercy are constant and ever-present.

As members of this Catholic school community, we are reminded that our ultimate hope is grounded in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. This hope assures us that, no matter the challenges we face, we can rely on God’s presence to guide us and give us the strength to overcome. You may like to pray the Jubilee Pilgrims of Hope Prayer with your family

As we step into this Holy Jubilee Year, we are filled with hope for the opportunities ahead to celebrate. MACS has asked for all schools to appoint a school Jubilee staff and student ambassador.

I am excited to share that Miss Sophie Mackinnon is our staff ambassador and Daniella I (5/6A) the student ambassador. I thank both Sophie and Daniella for answering this call and look forward to sharing with you all, more opportunities that this Jubilee year provides for our ambassadors and our Mother Teresa community

School Improvement Network - MACS Vision of Instruction

Next week myself, Conchita (Acting Deputy Principal & Maths leader), Naomi (Literacy Leader) and Stef (3/4 Team leader) will be attending the MACS northern region School Improvement Network. These days are wonderful days of learning where our region is supported by Dr Simon Breakspear to unpack the MACS Vision for Instruction, a document that has been crafted to communicate MACS' preferred system-wide approach to achieving teaching and learning excellence. The Vision for Instruction is firmly grounded in the evidence and science of how students learn most effectively and efficiently. Over the next few weeks in the newsletter, I will be unpacking parts of the MACS Vision for Instruction with you, so that you can understand a little more about where we are heading in the space of learning and teaching. Further on in this newsletter, Naomi has shared a little about how this is being explored in our Foundation to Grade 2 learning spaces.

Beginning Year & Ash Wednesday Mass

Our Beginning Year & Ash Wednesday Mass will be celebrated by Fr George on Wednesday 5th of March at 9.00. We would love for as many of our parent community to attend the Mass.



God Bless,

Mrs Jess Davis

Principal

Next Week's Happenings

Week	Day/Date	Weekly Happenings
5	Monday 24th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Trust F-2 Incursion
	Tuesday 25th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff Meeting 3:45pm - 4:45pm Melbourne Museum Excursion - Year 3/4 A and B Peer Mediation Training 5/6 - all day
	Wednesday 26th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff Meeting 3:45pm - 4:45pm Melbourne Museum Excursion - Year 3/4 C and D MACS School Improvement Network - Jess, Conchita, Naomi and Stef attending Prep testing day (please see your appointment time)
	Thursday 27th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Trust Incursion F-2
	Friday 28th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DP Network - Conchita

Child / Parent/ Teacher Chats

This week's child-parent-teacher chats were a wonderful opportunity to build strong connections and work together to support our students. It was great to see so many families around the school, engaged in meaningful conversations about their child's specific needs and strengths, how their child has settled into the new school year, and their goals moving forward. The focus on students setting goals provided a clear direction, empowering them to take ownership of their learning while strengthening the partnership between home and school.

The positive atmosphere and genuine collaboration reinforces the importance of these chats in fostering student growth. It was encouraging to witness the support and commitment from families, and I look forward to seeing how these develop across the coming months.

NAPLAN



The NAPLAN testing period is almost upon us. In next week's newsletter, I will provide you with more information about what this means for our Grade 3 & 5 students. If you have any questions relating to NAPLAN, please feel free to email me at: conchita.thomas@motherteresa.catholic.edu.au

Ms Conchita Thomas

Acting Deputy Principal & Mathematics Leader

Literacy News at Mother Teresa

Exciting developments are underway in the area of Literacy as staff begin exploring the MACS Vision for Instruction and what it means for the teaching and learning of reading within our unique context.



Starting next week, the students in the F-2 learning space will engage in targeted focus groups designed to meet their individual needs. In alignment with the latest evidence-based approaches to reading, our F-2 students will participate in explicit, structured lessons focusing on phonemic awareness, phonics, spelling, fluency and handwriting—building strong foundational skills that support their literacy development. Through these research-backed methods, we are committed to ensuring every child develops the skills and confidence they need to become successful readers.

I look forward to sharing more about the latest evidence-based approaches to teaching reading with you in future newsletters. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at: naomi.martret@motherteresa.catholic.edu.au

Ms Naomi Martret

Literacy Leader

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) Application

Application forms for CSEF have sent to parents via your child please complete these and return to the school office for processing. If you are a holder of a Health Care Card and have not received an application form these are available at the school office.

Parent CSEF applications close on 4th July 2025.

To be eligible you must:

- a) Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be the holder of a Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder, OR
- b) Be a temporary foster parent, and
- c) Submit an application to the school by the due date.

Community News



Free workshop

2 Day Autism Workshop for Parents and Carers Epping, VIC



Scan the QR code or [click here](#) to register



This workshop is for parents, full time carers and grandparents.



Tuesday & Wednesday
4 & 5 March, 2025
9:30am - 2:30pm



Mantra Melbourne Epping
250 Cooper Street
EPPING VIC 3076

Morning tea and a light lunch will be provided



Interpreters available upon request

During the workshop you will learn about:

- The diversity of autism
- Sensory processing
- Understanding behaviour
- Working together with your child's school.

Learn more about autism and ways to strengthen the partnership between home and school.

For more information or to register visit:

<https://www.positivepartnerships.com.au/PC>

smidwood@positivepartnerships.com.au



0461 324 758



MERCY COLLEGE ABSTRACT EXPLOSION ART PROGRAM FOR GIRLS IN YEARS 4 TO 6

An exciting four week art program where students will be creating an abstract painting as a way of understanding various painting techniques.

WHEN

WEDNESDAY 5, 12, 19, 26 MARCH 2025, 4.00PM - 5.00PM

WHERE

MERCY COLLEGE
760 SYDNEY ROAD COBURG 3058 (ENTRY VIA GATE 1)

COST

\$20.00

BOOK NOW

<https://events.humanitix.com/AE2025>

