



St Thomas More School NEWSLETTER

Term 3 Week 5 Thursday 22 August Website: www.sttmore.catholic.edu.au Email: info@sttmore.catholic.edu.au

Upcoming Events

Week 6

Year 4 ReLAT tests

Every Tuesday

Parent Coffee/Tea chat
8:30am Jubilee Hall

Friday 30 August

Whole School Assembly
Lead by R/1S 9:00am

Special Friends Day
9:00am to 11:30am

Sunday 1 September
Fathers Day

Monday 2 September
Pupil Free Day

Tuesday 3 September
Principal Tour 10:00am

Thursday 5 September
Catholic Schools
Touch Carnival
Greenhill Road

St Thomas More School

Principal

Mr Chris Platten

Acting Deputy Principal

Mrs Sonia Kilmister

Acting APRIM

Ms Leah Williams

Telephone: 8255 1699

OSHC: 0409551699

St Thomas More School recognises and acknowledges that we are living on traditional Aboriginal lands and we offer our respect and appreciation to all Aboriginal people.

R/1 Carter

Here is a snapshot of R/1 Carter's learning.

During Maths we have been measuring,
ordering and comparing objects.



So far, we have discussed length and what that means, then sorted, measured, ordered and compared objects by their length.



Our next task will be to explore the weight and volume of different objects.

We have been learning about what is important to the Indigenous People of Australia, especially the Kurna People. We have made and learnt some facts about the Aboriginal flag.



The Aboriginal flag

It's black, yellow and red.

The black is for the people, yellow is for the sun and red is for the land and Earth.

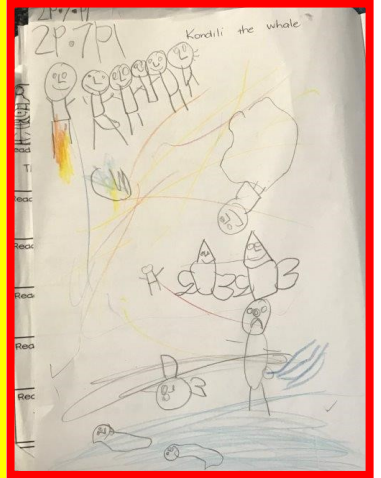
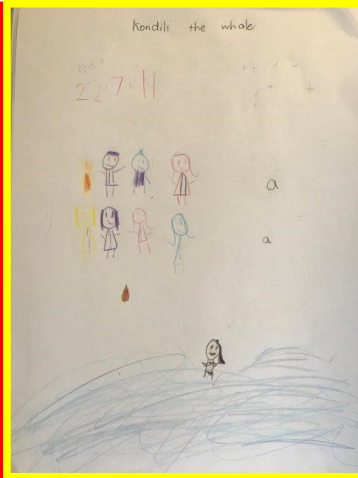
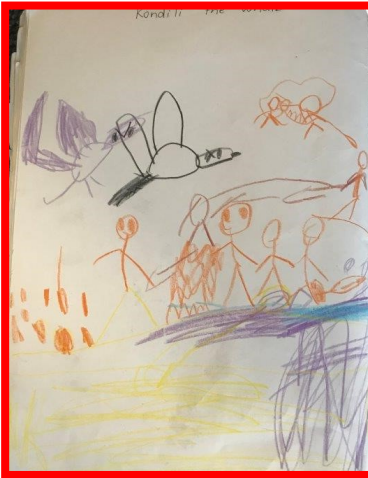
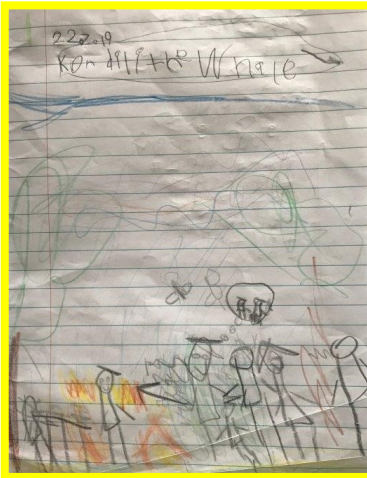
It represents all the Aboriginal People.

Who designed the flag? Harold Thomas

What year was that in? 1971

Written by Isla Doolan

We have also been listening to some Indigenous stories. One of these was Kondili the Whale, a Kurna creation story. Mrs Carter read the story of Kondili the Whale to us and we drew pictures. This is called visualisation.



Kondili the Whale

In the Dreaming there was a man called Kondili. He is a big man. He had friends called Watteparu, Nakkudla, Mandiltu.

There was a man called Tjintrin and Tjiritpa. They wanted to have some fire without asking, so they hid in the bush. Then they threw spears at Kondili. One hit Kondili. Kondili was hurt so bad he jumped into the sea and turned into a whale. Kondili was much better.

His friends were getting worried so they jumped into the sea. Nakkudla turned into a shark. Watteparu turned into a stingray. Mandiltu turned into a seal.

Tjintrin turned into a willy wagtail. Tjiritpa turned into a lark.

Written by Grace Morphet

Dear Parents, Caregivers, Students and friends of St Thomas More,

St Thomas More School, Elizabeth Park Snapshot

St Thomas More School, Elizabeth Park is an active community where children are given a variety of experiences. Below is a 'snapshot' of the opportunities offered at St Thomas More School. Throughout the year, we will give a 'snap shot' of classes and specialist classes at St Thomas More.

Expressive Arts and Italian

The 3-6 classes have started their semester of Italian learning words to describe various aspects of themselves: like/dislikes/hobbies/age etc. We are going to be using some of these words to construct very simple sentences in Italian.

For the rest of the year, our Creative Arts lessons will be focussed on this year's school concert. Here's a sneak peek of what's in store for our audiences this year:

It's all fun and games aboard the *SS Fishy Business* when Shazza wins an all-expenses paid holiday at the local travel expo. Little do Shazza, Dazza, Kyles and Brax realise that their dream holiday to beautiful Italy would turn out to be anything but!

Will Dazza make it back alive?

Will little Braxie discover pirates on Pirate Island?

Will Kyles ever get to go swimming?

Will the Pirates ever fix their ship, the *Greedy Squid*, so they can re-commence pillaging and plundering on the high seas?

And most importantly, will Shazza ever find the sunscreen????

Starring:

Declan Jones as **Dazza**

Shyla Kelly as **Shazza**

Bailey Thompson as **Captain Stinky Breath McGreedy**

Tahnee Porter as **Kyles**

Jaiden Boddey as **Brax**

and Charli Moran as **Domencia**



Pupil Free Day—Monday 2 September (Week 7, Term 3)

Monday 2 September is a Pupil Free Day, as staff undertake professional learning. We will be joining Catherine McAuley and St Mary Magdalene's Schools. The focus of the day is on ACER's Progressive Achievement approach is used in thousands of schools in Australia and around the world. The approach focuses on assessing and monitoring student growth over time and is underpinned by an understanding that students of the same age and in the same year of school can be at very different points in their learning and development. The Progressive Achievement Testing (PAT) can be effectively used to inform the next steps in every child's learning. Please be aware that OSHC is available for students on this day and bookings can be made through Kate in OSHC on 0409551699.

Special Friends Day—Save the date

Please be aware that this year's Special Friends Day will be held on Friday 30 August (Week 6). Save the date in your diaries and please for those Special Friends in your children's lives to join us that morning. The morning will start with a school assembly at 9:00am, and conclude at 11.30am. Further details and times will be sent home.

Dairy Dates

MONDAY 2 SEPTEMBER PUPIL FREE DAY

2019 TERM 3 RECEPTION ENROLMENTS

Places are available. If you have or if you know of anyone who has a child **turning 5 before October 31, 2019**, please complete and lodge an enrolment form at the Front Office.

2020 RECEPTION ENROLMENTS

Places are available. If you have or if you know of anyone who has a child **turning 5 before May 1, 2020**, please complete and lodge an enrolment form at the Front Office.

2020 TERM 3 RECEPTION ENROLMENTS

Places are available. If you have or if you know of anyone who has a child **turning 5 before October 31, 2020**, please complete and lodge an enrolment form at the Front Office.

Working in Partnership,

Chris Platten

Principal

Deputy's Report

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Special Friends' Day at St Thomas More

Save the date! Friday 30 August, (also Mr Platten's birthday) beginning with a special Assembly for the whole school at 9:00am, followed by visits to classrooms. Look forward to seeing you on the day!

The Great Outdoors!

When I'm on yard duty, it's so good watching our students using their imagination, whilst playing in the garden and around the trees on the oval. They have dug up and replanted potatoes (which we have made into hot chips a few times), they have moved dirt from one side of the garden to the other with the wheelbarrow and they have picked flowers, (mainly sour sobs and the odd daisy) to give to their teachers. They have also made mud pies and other creations.

The other day, several students presented Mrs Kennedy with a well-crafted muffin made out of mud. It looked so good; you could have mistaken it for the real thing. They asked Mrs Kennedy to put it in the freezer to see what would happen to it. I had a look at it and when I picked it up, I was surprised at how heavy it was, but what struck me was the thought, imagination and work the children had put into it to create it during their break time. When I was a child my mum tells me that I actually ate some mud one time, which I don't recall, but I do remember spending a lot of time outdoors and loving it. I think it is a very healthy thing to get in touch with nature and play outside whenever possible. There is also evidence (2014, Hillman) that children who play actively outside for approximately 70 minutes per day, show better cognitive skills (brain function) than those who don't.



Below is an extract from <https://www.learningpotential.gov.au/the-great-outdoors-really-is-great> encouraging children to be active in outside activities.

Your child spends a lot of time in the classroom, and much of our daily lives are spent indoors. Encouraging your child to spend time playing outdoors can help their motor, sensory, social and cognitive development – and is great for their general health and wellbeing.

Let's go outside!

Try to get your child to spend some time playing outside every day. Outdoor play doesn't have to be a big deal, just encourage your child to go out and play in the backyard, or you can visit your local park, oval or playground together.

Physical play

Playing outside is fantastic for helping children practise their physical abilities. Exercises such as running, jumping, skipping and playing ball games not only strengthen little muscles, but they can also help with gross motor skills, hand-eye coordination and overall health and wellbeing.

Self-awareness

Experiencing outdoor play helps your child take risks and learn about their own abilities. For example, they can discover how high they can climb, how well they can balance, how fast they can run and what it is like to roll on grass.

Imaginative play

Playing outdoors is helpful for encouraging creative thinking through imagination. Outdoors, children can enjoy unstructured play, where they can make up activities and games on the spot with what is around them – a log can be a pirate ship sailing the seas, or a stick can be a magic wand – or anything they can imagine.

Playing games like 'Hide and Seek' are fun and important for your child's development as they assist with language skills and social and emotional learning.

The nature lesson

Being outdoors also helps your child connect with nature and the environment around them. You can use the opportunity of going outside together to talk to your child about the natural world. For example, you could discuss how plants grow, the changing of the seasons or how caterpillars turn into butterflies.

Outdoor play is great fun and promotes happy, healthy and strong children – so try to encourage your child to play outside every day!

Working in Partnership,

Sonia Kilmister
Acting Deputy Principal

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

As we move forward in a highly technical world, we see before our eyes the use of technology change and evolve. The online world can be empowering, fascinating but also challenging. As technology changes so should the ways we educate and support our children when using technologies and in particular social media and the internet.

How do we ensure our children have a safe and positive experience online? What about cyberbullying, access to sites that are not age appropriate, communicating through gaming and Apps?

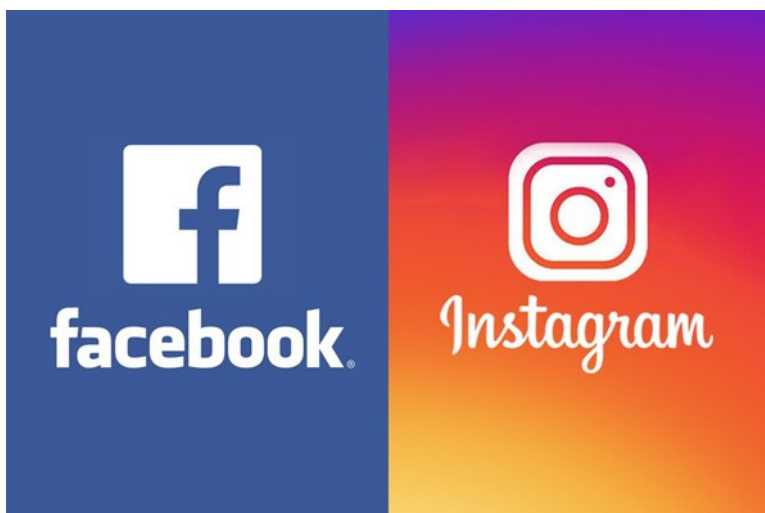
eSafety is an Australian Government Initiative that provides information on how to support your child with the issues that they have experienced and strategies and suggestions to support your children. They have developed a guide on their website and if you go to the eSafety website there is a handbook that provides understanding of today's technologies and how to deal with issues but also prevent them. The link is: [eSafety.gov.au/parents/online-safety-guide](https://esafety.gov.au/parents/online-safety-guide)

If you have any issues in downloading this document, please feel free to come and see me.

Ask yourself, am I 100% aware of what my child is playing, reading, viewing on the internet?

On a final note:

Instagram, Facebook and Snap Chat are for young people 13 years or older. The reason that they have indicated an age for the Apps is to ensure that children have the ability to cope with the content.



Working in Partnership,

Leah Williams
Acting APRIM/Chaplain

Catholic Schools Cross Country

Last Wednesday, 7 August, St Thomas More participated in the Catholic Schools Cross Country carnival at PAC oval in the city.

On a beautiful morning for running, although very cold but luckily the rain stayed away, we were able to complete the challenging 2km course successfully. All students were able to achieve some great results with each race containing approximately 200 competitors. The students showed great enthusiasm, competed to the best of their ability and set high standards for themselves.

We had many students finish in the top 10 with Simon Timmermans finishing 10th, Jordan VanDam 9th, Tilea Kelly 7th and Adinda Fremlin 8th. Also, congratulations to the year 5 girls on winning the year level pennant with three students (Adinda, Jayla and Marisa) finishing in the top 20. Congratulations to all competitors on successfully completing the 2km event and representing the school proudly.

Thank you to Lesley Swann, Jessica Cooper and Samantha Steer for their assistance and support on the day!

Well done everyone on a great performance!

Fabian Chevalier





Cross Country

