

9th February 2018



90 Seconds with the Principal

Watch Video

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome

Welcome to a new and exciting school year. I have been moved by the warm welcome I have received as Principal to Mother Teresa Primary this year from all members of the community, students, parents, carers and the wonderful staff! It was great to meet the parents and carers of our new Kindergarten students last week, a few anxious moments for some parents but the Kindergarten students have taken to life in Primary school with flying colours! I would like to thank our teachers who have spent a great deal of time in the holidays planning and preparing the learning and the learning studios across the school, so there was a very smooth transition for all of our students.

Every child, every day, transforming lives

Last week we were able to share with all of the students our shared mission and vision at Mother Teresa Primary. This includes the continuation of what makes our school a very special place to learn. Most importantly living by our motto 'Creative minds, Gentle hearts' and assuring the students that all of our policies and procedures for being safe and happy learners at school will remain exactly as they were in previous years. Guided Christian meditation, the use of our 5 learner qualities and our inquiry approach to learning are consolidated and will be continuing practices and understandings.

This year we also continue to focus on great first wave teaching in Religious Education, literacy and numeracy. Every child, every day, transforming lives means that every day matters. You can help achieve this goal by ensuring your child never misses an opportunity to participate in the exciting learning at Mother Teresa Primary and this includes arriving at school on time, ready to learn.

Strengthening Home & School relationships - communication

Last week and this week I have had informal opportunities to meet and talk with new and existing families. I thank you all for the way you have shared your hopes and visions for our school into the future as we continue our business of teaching and learning in this Catholic community.

The teachers in our learning studios have been busy preparing a welcome video and a Learning Studio letter to outline important information about learning in every grade this year. These forms of communication provide a valuable way you can share in your child's learning journey this year. We, as a staff, are also looking forward to the 'Meet & Greet' interviews in the coming weeks.

Please click on the links below to see your child's learning studio video.

Kindergarten	Year 1	Year 2
Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Year 6		



"Do not allow yourself to be disheartened by any failure as long as you have done your best."

St Mother Teresa

Important Dates:

- **Monday, 12th February— Friday, 16th February**
Parent/Teacher Meet & Greet - by appointment
- **Tuesday, 13th February**
Zone Swimming Carnival
- **Wednesday, 14th February**
Ash Wednesday
- **Wednesday, 28th February**
Beginning Year Mass
10:00am—Morley Centre
- **Wednesday, 28th February**
Kindergarten & New Families
Welcome BBQ and Information
Session
5:00pm-6:30pm

Tuckshop-2-U

"In purchasing your child's tuckshop order online through Tuckshop2U, 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."

Communication between home and school

Reminder for our school community that if, at any time, you find that you have a concern with the school, you are encouraged to contact the school and speak with the teacher/s, assistant principal and/or principal, to identify your concern. It is our aim to work with all members of our school community to ensure that we do the very best to provide a productive, safe and enjoyable learning experience for our students and professionally fulfilling experience of our staff.

Catholic Schools Week - 4th - 11th March 2018

An upcoming date for your diary! Catholic schools week will be celebrated across the Diocese during the week March 4th to 11th, 2018. During this week we will have an information session and learning studio tour. If you are a family with children enrolled at the school and you have a child starting in 2019, you may be interested in attending this information session. The time and date for the information session and studio tour will be published on our school parent calendar and future editions of Heartlinks.

Safety for all at Mother Teresa Primary

As stated, our procedures for the safe arrival and dismissal of students to and from school remain unchanged in 2018. In the morning, students will be greeted by a staff member and directed into school where supervision commences at **8.05am**. In the afternoons, students are taken by their teachers to the kiss and drop zone. It is essential that students remain in their designated area until directed to our staff who will assist students into their car. You are kindly requested not to wait at the school gate and block the entrance of the gate for other students leaving. Please follow all safety signage in relation to movement through our school site and a reminder that the staff car park cannot be used for parents waiting to pick up or drop off students at school. Many thanks for your cooperation in keeping all of our students safe.



At the Heart we are Community

As we begin this new year of possibilities and challenge as God's people, let's remember to always aim high. We are about community and relationship. Are our dealings with each other grounded in love? Is our faith authentic? Do we hear the cry of the poor, the oppressed, the forgotten and the overlooked? St Paul calls us to, "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity" Colossians 3:13-14

Maria Boyd
REC

School Fees 2018

School Fee Statements will be posted to all families by the Catholic Education Diocese Parramatta (CEDP).

Parents should be reminded that Term 1 fees are due on **21st March 2018**. Options for a Flexible Payment Plan (FPP) will be enclosed with your account. If you are taking the FPP option, please ensure that these are returned to CEDP by the date requested, using the Reply Paid Envelope provided.

For more information regarding school fees please click [HERE](#) to download a schedule of fees from the Mother Teresa Primary website.

Please feel free to contact Judy Attard on 8841 2600 if you have any concerns regarding your school fees.

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

every learner every day 

ABSENCES ADD UP!



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MISSING MORE THAN

1

YEAR OF LEARNING IN

12

YEARS

DID YOU KNOW



1 IN 6

PRIMARY STUDENTS ARE NOT ATTENDING SCHOOL REGULARLY!

EACH DAY MISSED:

- ▶ Puts your child behind and makes it harder for them to catch up
- ▶ Can lead to lower achievement in reading, writing and numeracy
- ▶ Can lead to gaps in learning and social connections

WHAT PARENTS CAN DO



- BE FIRM.** Send your child to school every day unless they are sick
- Develop good sleep and morning routines
- Schedule appointments after school
- Avoid taking holidays during term time

GOOD HABITS BEGIN EARLY



Good attendance starts in Kindergarten and sets students up for success in their school life



SCHOOLS ARE THERE TO HELP

If you're having attendance issues with your child, speak to your school about ways to address it.