

25th May 2018



90 Seconds with the Principal

[Watch Video](#)

Sharing our gifts with others

In this week's 90 seconds with the Principal we look at the work of one of our student groups in the school, Mini Vinnies. Inspired by the work of the St Vincent de Paul Society, Mini Vinnies provides an opportunity for our students to put into practice our school motto of creative minds and gentle hearts. Meet some of the students who are part of this initiative at Mother Teresa Primary and hear about the reasons they chose to join Mini Vinnies and about the great work they do for our community.

What will my child learn at school?

Over the past week we have had the privilege of interviewing many, many new families at Mother Teresa Primary. One of the questions sometimes asked concerns our syllabus. Please find attached to this newsletter the parents guide to the NSW syllabus, issued by the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA). These broad discipline areas guide our decision making when planning and delivering our teaching and learning programs at Mother Teresa Primary.

Celebrating our learning at Mother Teresa Primary

As you know, our school goal for literacy in 2018 is a focus on the quality of writing for all of our students, Kindergarten to Year 6. This week we have the pleasure of sharing some of the texts created by our Year 4 students - these texts are amazing quality and a reflection of our very talented teachers and students at Mother Teresa Primary. These stories are printed for you later in today's newsletter. The stories shared today are inspired by our Mums.

Parent University

Last term, we held a Parent University on our 2018 school Religious Education goal of interpreting and applying Sacred Scripture to our lives. As you know, our 2018 school literacy goal focuses upon developing the quality of our student's writing. Later this term our staff will be involved in a day of professional learning, developing our knowledge and understanding of the teaching of writing. Mrs Voda and myself will also be leading our next Parent University, to be held later this term, on how we teach writing and ways you can assist your child at home with their developing writing skills.



Let the Spirit awaken our hearts!

This week we recall the miracle of Pentecost—that moment when the followers of Jesus, previously timid and afraid, were emboldened and enabled to live out their mission of taking the Good News to the world. The Spirit was not making its first appearance on the day of Pentecost, the Spirit had been active in

the world since the beginning of time. Jesus had breathed his spirit into the hearts of his apostles (John 20:19-23), but, like so many gifts we receive from God, we are not always ready to ACTIVATE them. God was in the quiet breeze, but on Pentecost, the Holy Spirit would not be contained. The Spirit came in a mighty wind that shook the disciples into action and gave them the will and the faith to change the world. May the Spirit be alive in our hearts and may we listen for God's voice in all things. "Come holy Spirit, renew the face of the earth and kindle in us the fire of your love".

Maria Boyd REC



"Love is a fruit always in season, and no limit is set. Everyone can reach this love."

St Teresa of Kolkata

Important Dates:

- **Tuesday, 29th May**
[Stage 3 Girls Soccer Gala Day](#)
Jamison Park, Penrith
- **Tuesday, 5th June**
[Stage 3 Boys Soccer Gala Day](#)
Jamison Park, Penrith
- **Thursday, 7th June**
[Police Liason visit](#)—Cyber Safety talks—1:35pm
Years 5 & 6—parents welcome
- **Friday, 8th June**
[Staff Development Day](#)
(no students on this day)
- **Thursday, 14th June**
[Police Liason visit](#)—Cyber Safety talks—1:35pm
Years 3 & 4—parents welcome
- **Wednesday, 27th June**
[Celebration of Learning](#)
4:30pm—6:00pm
[Parent University](#)
6:00pm - School writing goal and helping my child at home with writing
- **Monday, 2nd - Friday, 6th July**
[Three way conferences](#)
teacher, parent, student

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."

Parent Contacts at MTP

As indicated in the last newsletter, if you are interested in meeting up with other parents for a social chat and support network at MTP Jasmine Issa (Kindergarten parent - 0405 399537) and Kirsty Mendis (Year 4 and Kindergarten parent - 0431 160 954) would be very happy to talk to you.

Parent Helpers - Library Borrowing Kindergarten, Year 1 & 2

Earlier this week a note was sent out regarding parent support with our library book borrowing and returning in Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2. If you were able to volunteer your support on a regular and ongoing basis we would love to hear from you. Please contact Mrs Violet Rawlings via the school office.

Second Hand Uniforms

Thank you again to Jodie Skinner for her coordination of the second hand uniform Facebook group. This is a closed group and parents will need to request access to become a member.

Search facebook [MTP - Second Hand Uniforms](#).

- This is to assist parents in buying/swapping/selling second hand uniforms only. **No school discussions** and will be a trial only at this stage.
- Uniforms must be clean, no stains, holes or fraying and in good condition. No socks, shoes, hats or hair items.
- MTP or Admin of this page are in no way responsible for purchases
- No money is to be transacted via children.
- Please arrange collection/payment from Parent to Parent. Suggest direct deposit.
- Please add a photo of uniform (no photos of children wearing), with size of item.
- Please keep prices realistic. No "make an offer" listings.
- Please comment sold if you would like to purchase. Please comment sold pending if you would like to ask a question.

Feast of the Sacred Heart

On Friday 8th June at 9am Mass will be celebrated by Fr Walter. As this is the Feast Day of our Westmead Parish, families are invited to this celebration of the Eucharist. This coincides with our school pupil free day.

Congratulations to our Mother Teresa Primary students

In our previous edition of Heartlinks I was able to share with you some of the great feedback we received from the public about our Mother Teresa students on our Stage 3 excursion. In more great news, following our recent Kindergarten 2019 enrolment interviews, I received many compliments regarding our students from new families on the confident, respectful and welcoming reception they received by our Year 6 student leaders during their school tours. Below is an extract from an email I received:

"I just wanted to give some feedback about our experience at Mother Teresa this morning. My husband and I with our son attended an interview for 2019 kindergarten enrolment and just wanted to let you know how impressed we were with the two year 6 boys that gave us a tour afterwards. We were very impressed at how mature they both were and how well they interacted with our son and included him in on the conversation around the facilities. Let me say that you and their parents should be very proud as they are an excellent representation of the school."

Police Liaison Visit - Cyber Safety Talks

Constable Chris, our Police Liaison Officer for Mother Teresa Primary will be visiting our school to speak to the Primary Students about cyber safety. Parents are warmly invited to attend these workshops.

Stage 3 (Years 5 & 6) - Thursday 7th June, 1.35pm

Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4) - Thursday 14th June, 1.35pm

WORK, HEALTH & SAFETY - Mother Teresa Primary

Road Safety

Please keep all members of our school community safe by driving within the speed limits and parking within the designated parking areas. Please do not stop across the pedestrian crossing while waiting at the kiss and drop zone. Thank you.

No smoking

Several parents have registered their complaints at other parents smoking on school grounds while waiting to pick up their children in the afternoon. Please remember that school grounds are smoke free zones for the comfort and safety of all members of our community.

Sports News

Two Mother Teresa students have excelled themselves, making it into the Mackillop Rugby League representative team at a recent trial held in Canberra. Kynan (Yr 6) will play in the Opens team and Samuel (Yr 6) in the under 11's team. Both students will now train with their squads in preparation for their matches held later in the year. Well done boys and keep up the good work!

Another congratulations to Leo (Yr 6) who has recently been chosen to play representative Rugby Union for the Parramatta State Championship team.

We wish our stage three girls and boys soccer teams well in their upcoming Soccer Gala Day to be held in the next few weeks at Jamison Park Soccer fields.

Rachael Thompson
PE teacher/ Sport Co-ordinator.

Mother Teresa Primary has a school subscription to "Parenting Ideas". This is a resource which offers help, support and ideas with parenting. The upcoming webinar is:

Understanding Anxiety: How it impacts kids and the important role of parents

When a child experiences anxiety it can be really hard for parents to understand what's happening and how best to respond. In this webinar, Dr Jodi Richardson helps parents to recognise and understand anxiety, how it affects learning and happiness, and the practical steps to lessen its impact on your child and your family's quality of life.

- the origins of anxiety
- signs and symptoms of anxiety
- practical strategies to help anxious kids
- the importance of validation
- when and where to seek help

If you are interested in participating in this webinar on Tuesday, 5th June from 7:30pm-8:30pm about understanding anxiety, you can register using the following link www.parentingideas.com.au/product/understanding-anxiety-webinar/ and follow the Instructions below.

- * add to cart
- * click on view cart
- * enter coupon code - wellbeing
- * apply coupon (this will reduce the full cost)
- * click on proceed to checkout to finalise
- * in order to proceed and watch the webinar, you must complete all sections using your details
- * place order
- * an email will be sent to you with instructions on how to join in the webinar.



Bus Changes

Nearly every public bus trip will change which will likely impact many of our students.

All students travelling via public transport are encouraged to visit the **TfNSW Trip Planner** to confirm your new trip times Monday 4 June 2018.

Celebrating our Year 4 Writing!

Let Me Call You Sweetheart

by Sofia Canalicchio

My Mum calls me nicknames because it's easier and faster to say than my actual name. If a mother calls their child a nickname long enough, it'll stay with them and they'll never go back to their child's original birth name again.

My nicknames are Sopia and Bella. In Italian, 'bella' means beautiful girl, and since I'm Italian, it's very fitting. My other nickname; Sopia, is a more unique version of the common nickname for Sofia: Soph or Sophie, but since my name is unique (because it's spelt with an 'f' not a 'ph') my mum went for something a bit more special; Sopia.

My mother got 'bella' from my nonna (grandma in Italian) who calls my sister and my cousin 'bella' and my other cousin, who's a boy 'bello'. That's the masculine version. She got Sopia from Sofia, but a more unique version.

The nicknames she gives me make me feel loved and unique. Most of all, I think that if your parents give you a nickname, it means they love you. So, I really like my nicknames, and even if they're a bit quirky and unusual, I like them and I'm proud of them.

Mums Magical day

by Julia Bartulovic

I have been patiently preparing for this blissful occasion all year. Today is mothers day! I have thought of a wonderful way to celebrate mother's day and I am positive my mum will adore it greatly. It's a sunny morning, not a cloud in sight, and will be absolutely perfect for the incredibly merry activities that are planned for today's cheerful celebration.

At 09:30, me and my fabulous mum get in our glossy, white car and we head off brightly to the sensational and picturesque pearl beach. When we reach this admirable destination, we head straight onto the delicate, soft sand. We place down our thick beach towels and jog down to the crystal clear salt water. My mum is as aquatic as a mermaid! We could've swam all day.

After some delightful tanning on the cushiony sand, drying us from our terrific swim, we walked slowly to the incredibly cute cafe, just across the road. The kind waitress took our scrumptious orders for chocolate cookies and creamy coffee for my perfect mum. We gobbled down our delicious food quickly and went to a different part of the stunning beach that was less windy.

The perfect day was sadly ending, but wasn't over yet. We sat down on the pretty beach and saw some adorable bush turkeys. They were gleefully playing with a ripped, rubbish bag while me and my mum dreamily watched the bright orange sun set on the horizon.

The beach has always been a special place for us. We try and go there a couple of times every year. The people in the community are friendly and we have made lots of friends. It's truly magical to us.

Sparkle and Shine

by Celine Nicholas

My mum wears a beautiful necklace most of the day. Such a loving mum deserves a splendiferous piece of jewelry to wear, and that necklace is the *perfect accessory! It's beauty is admirable, and whoever made it must be very patient and creative. The piece of jewelry suits her very nicely and it's incredibly precious.*

The gorgeous necklace is made of silver. The sun's rays create a shimmering effect on it. At the very bottom of the piece of jewelry, there is a dainty heart charm, with a mother and a daughter holding hands. Above the mum and little girl, a small gleaming diamond sits. Rays of the sun create an even more bright and powerful sparkle on the tiny jewel.


The exquisite heart charm on the bottom of the necklace represents our love for each other. The heart is small, but our love for each other is more than 1000 times bigger. The mother and daughter holding hands represents how she cares for me and always helps me. That small pink diamond on the charm represents our happiness around each other. A million more of those tiny diamonds are worth as much as our love for each other and our happiness around one another. The necklace is the most perfect representation of us!


I don't know how, or when my mum did this, but she gave the same necklace to me! So, my mum has one, and I have one! (Except mine is a tiny bit smaller.) That is more evidence that my mum is the most polite and caring mum EVER! My mum was gifted her necklace from a friend of my grandma's, who lives in one of the retirement homes in the Polish church, at Marayong. That lady is really sweet and she's always giving me pretty things like petite handkerchiefs, that are as pastel as chalk.

— THE —
HEALTHY DIGITAL DIET
HURRY! LIMITED SEATS!

HOW TO TACKLE EXCESSIVE GAMING, SOCIAL MEDIA USE & INTERNET ADDICTION IN YOUR CHILD
...and get back a more balanced family life!

PRESENTED BY:
Dr Philip Tam

 **Dr Philip Tam**
■ Child Psychiatrist
■ NIRA President – Network for Internet Investigation & Research in Australia
■ Media Commentator
■ Father of 2 children




Thursday May 31st **Parramatta Marist High**
5:45 for a 6:00pm start 2 Darcy Road, Westmead. Entry via Gate 3

RSVP Via Google Form by 28/5/18
BOOK YOUR SEAT NOW!
<https://tinyurl.com/yatblpqt>

Parents Representative Council **PRC**
SUPPORT | CELEBRATE | EDUCATE Diocese of Parramatta
Partners in Learning

Early Career Planning & Transition to Work



The WHY to, the HOW to and the WHAT to do when transitioning out of school and into your future. How to choose the correct electives and all the other questions you have in between.

OPEN TO STUDENTS IN YEARS 8-12!


Our guest speaker for the evening is:

Dianne Mills
Partnership Manager/Career Coach.
Building Industry, Community, Education partnerships to assist in career transitions

Register FREE now: www.prc.catholic.edu.au

Monday, 4th June 2018
Doors open: 6:30pm for 7:00pm start (approx. 2 hours)
Term 2 – PRC General Meeting will be held prior to our speaker session
Tea, Coffee and light snacks will be provided and a lucky door prize will be up for grabs!
Diocesan Assembly Centre (DAC), Cnr Flushcombe Rd and Marion St, Blacktown NSW
www.prc.catholic.edu.au @prcparra @prcparra

THANK YOU TO OUR 2018 SPONSOR
Floral Expressions
For details on the School fundraising program
Call Charles Lukasiak on 02 9683 1116


Educating young women for the future

**Catherine McAuley Westmead
School Open Morning**

9.15 – 11am
Tuesday 29th May 2018

Enrolments for Year 7 2020

Catherine McAuley is now accepting enrolments for Year 7 2020. Each year the demand for places at Catherine McAuley exceeds what is available. Join us on our upcoming school tour especially for Year 7 2020 applicants but open to any year group. School tours later in the year get very crowded so beat the rush!

Our Open Morning is a great opportunity to tour around our school grounds, view our fantastic facilities and meet our students and teachers. You will have the opportunity to go into classrooms and see them in action. Both children and adults are most welcome.

Please contact School Reception on 9849 9100 if you would like to attend. Our school tours will leave at 9.15am and car parking will be available in the visitor's car parking area via Gate 3 from 9am onwards. Ask for details when making your booking.

 **Parents Representative Council**
SUPPORT | CELEBRATE | EDUCATE **PRC**
Diocese of Parramatta
Partners in Learning
Partners in Faith

2018 Calendar of Events

ALL PARENTS AND FRIENDS ARE WELCOME!

Term	Meeting Date & Time	Venue	Presentation Topic	Presenters
1	Mon 5 th March 2018 7:00pm Annual General Meeting	Patrician Brothers College Flushcombe Road Blacktown	#Parents Matter	Danielle Cronin Chief Governance & Strategy, CEDP
2	Mon 4 th June 2018 7:00pm	Diocesan Assembly Centre, Cnr Marian Street & Flushcombe Road Blacktown	Preparing Your Child for Future Pathways i.e Vocational Education & Training, Trades and/or University High School Students Welcome to attend with parents/carers	Di Mills Expert in VET, & Educational Pathways
3	Mon 27 th Aug 2018, 7:00pm	Corpus Christi Primary School, 90 Andromeda Drive Cranebrook	Raising Resilient Children 8 Steps to Resilience	Dr Justin Coulson Family Psychologist & Parenting Expert Keynote Speaker Event
4	Mon 19 Nov 2018 7:00pm	St Luke's Catholic College Lot 1104, Frontier Avenue & Northbourne Drive Marsden Park	Education for the 21 st Century	Mr Greg Miller College Principal St Luke's Marsden Park

The PRC General Meetings are conducted prior to the keynote presentations. Doors Open at 6.30pm for 7:00pm start.

PARENTS GUIDE



TO THE NEW NSW K–10 SYLLABUSES

WHAT IS THE AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM?

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA), in collaboration with states and territories, has developed agreed Australian curriculum for English, Mathematics, Science, History and Geography. Each of these learning areas includes content statements that represent essential learning for all Australian students.

HOW IS AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM BEING IMPLEMENTED IN NSW?

In NSW, BOSTES has worked closely with teachers and key education stakeholders to develop syllabuses that include Australian curriculum content and further detail that clarifies learning. As a result of this work, Kindergarten to Year 10 syllabuses provide direction to ensure greater consistency between NSW schools.

WHEN WILL THE NEW SYLLABUSES INCORPORATING AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM BE TAUGHT IN NSW?

Year	K–6	Years 7–10
2014	Start teaching English	For Years 7 and 9 – Start teaching English, Mathematics, Science and History
2015	Start teaching Mathematics and Science and Technology	For Years 8 and 10 – Start teaching English, Mathematics, Science and History
2016	Start teaching History Optional to teach Geography	Familiarisation and planning – Geography
2017	Start teaching Geography	For Years 7 and 9 – Start teaching Geography
2018		For Years 8 and 10 – Start teaching Geography

WHAT WILL MY CHILD LEARN AT SCHOOL?

The new syllabuses build on the strength of the existing NSW curriculum. Many features of the new K–10 English, Mathematics, Science (incorporating Science and Technology K–6), History and Geography syllabuses are retained.

Literacy and numeracy remain important areas of focus in K–6, where essential foundation skills are developed.

The syllabuses identify the knowledge, understanding, skills, values and attitudes that students are expected to develop in each learning area. They are designed to provide flexibility for teachers to develop their teaching and learning programs to meet the needs of their students.

K–6

English

- Students develop their language skills through activities involving speaking and listening, reading and writing, and viewing and representing.
- They learn about language and literature through working with a wide range of print, spoken, visual, media, multimedia and digital texts.
- They interpret and express their views on what they hear, see and read.
- They create written and digital texts, and deliver formal and informal presentations.
- For the first time, there will be a requirement that students experience a range of texts including Australian works, multiculturalism, Aboriginality and Australian identity, and Asian perspectives.
- There is an increased emphasis on grammar and the teaching of quality literature.

Mathematics

- Students develop their mathematical knowledge, skills and understanding through a range of learning experiences across:
 - number and algebra, eg whole numbers and fractions and decimals
 - measurement and geometry, eg length, area and time
 - statistics and probability, eg data and chance.
- They develop their problem-solving skills, and mathematical reasoning and communication.
- Students in Stage 3 develop a deeper understanding in statistics and probability.

Science and Technology

- Students develop their skills in using processes of Working Scientifically and Working Technologically to answer interesting questions and develop creative solutions to important 21st century problems.
- They develop their curiosity and understanding about the Natural Environment and the Made Environment through learning about the Physical World, Earth and Space, the Living World, the Material World, Built Environments, Information and Products.
- Students learn about the influence and relevance of science and technology in their lives now and in the future.

History

- Students investigate their personal, family and community history.
- They develop understanding of Australia's Indigenous and colonial history and how Australia became a nation.
- Students learn about:
 - historical concepts such as viewing an historical event from a different point of view
 - historical skills, such as using historical sources for an investigation.

Geography

- Students investigate people, places and environments.
- They explore geographical concepts, such as place and sustainability, through real world examples and issues.
- Students learn how to acquire, process and communicate geographical information using geographical tools and inquiry.

YEARS 7–10

English

- Students build on and refine their language skills through activities involving speaking and listening, reading and viewing, and writing and representing.
- They learn about language and literature through working with a wide range of print, spoken, visual, media, multimedia and digital texts.
- They interpret and express their views on what they hear, see and read.
- They create written and digital texts, and deliver formal and informal presentations.
- Students study a wider range of texts that give them experience of quality literature, Australian works, multiculturalism, Aboriginality and Australian identity, and Asian perspectives.

Mathematics

- Students develop their mathematical knowledge, skills and understanding through a range of learning experiences across:
 - number and algebra, eg financial mathematics, ratios and rates, and equations
 - measurement and geometry, eg angle relationships, trigonometry and Pythagoras' theorem
 - statistics and probability, eg data collection and representation.
- They develop their problem-solving skills, and mathematical reasoning and communication.
- Students develop a deeper understanding of statistics and probability.

Science

- Students develop their skills in science inquiry through hands-on practical experiences, including student research projects.
- They further develop their understanding about how evidence-based scientific knowledge explains the Physical World, Earth and Space, the Living World and the Chemical World.
- Students learn more about the importance of the contribution and influence of science in their own lives and in finding solutions to personal, social and global issues.

History

- Students gain a broad understanding of world and Australian history from ancient to modern times through the teaching of historical overviews.
- They gain a deeper knowledge of history through the study of depth studies such as Ancient India, the Ottoman Empire and Japan under the Shoguns.
- Students learn about 20th century Australian history through the Australians at War and Rights and Freedoms depth studies.
- They experience an inquiry-based approach to learning, developing key historical skills in research, source analysis and communication.

Geography

- Students investigate interactions between people, places and environments from local to global scales.
- They explore geographical concepts, such as interconnection, sustainability and change, through contemporary real world examples and issues.
- Students learn how to acquire, process and communicate geographical information using geographical tools and inquiry.

In addition to subject-based content, all syllabuses address important contemporary themes and general capabilities as students prepare to live and work successfully in the 21st century. These include Australian curriculum cross-curriculum priorities and general capabilities and other learning across the curriculum areas identified by BOSTES.

Cross-curriculum priorities	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures Asia and Australia's engagement with Asia Sustainability
General capabilities	Critical and creative thinking Ethical understanding Information and communication technology capability Intercultural understanding Literacy Numeracy Personal and social capability
Other learning across the curriculum areas	Civics and citizenship Difference and diversity Work and enterprise

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

Parents page on the BOSTES website: <http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/parents>

BOSTES NSW syllabuses website: <http://syllabus.bos.nsw.edu.au>