

24th May 2019

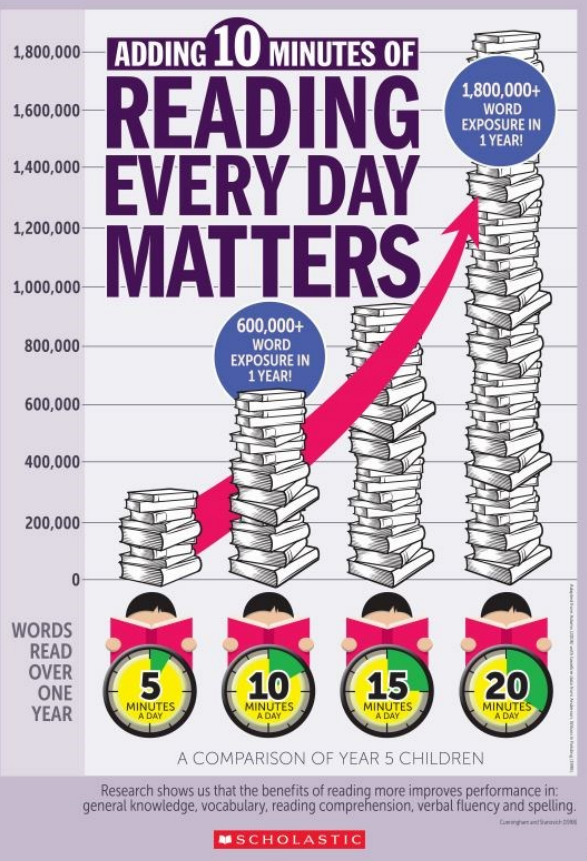


## 90 Seconds with the Principal

[Watch Video](#)

### 90 Seconds with the Principal - Something a bit different on reading!

In the 90 seconds with the Principal video this week the staff of Mother Teresa Primary demonstrate how much we value reading by turning into alpacas! We know that sharing a love of reading with our students is vital and reading every night at home also assists students. This week was National Simultaneous Storytime and our teachers performed this year's text "Alpacas with Maracas" for all of our students - you can check out the great acting on the 90 seconds with the Principal this week. Happy reading!



*"Joy is love—a joyful heart is the normal result of a heart burning with love, for she gives most who gives with joy."*

St Mother Teresa of Kolkata

### Important Dates:

- Friday, 31st May  
Stage 3 Canberra Excursion
- Friday, 7th June  
Staff Development Day  
No students
- Wednesday, 26th June  
Celebration of Learning  
4:30pm—6:00pm
- Friday, 5th July  
Last day Term 2

### Month of Mary Liturgy and Family Day Picnic

We were blessed last week to have Fr Walter lead our school in a liturgy celebrating the Month of Mary. The liturgy was beautifully prepared by Mrs Maria Boyd and the school choir. Our MTP school choir work hard every week practising for upcoming liturgies and events and I thank them for their dedication. The liturgy was followed by a school picnic and the weather was amazing - a great time for families to stop and celebrate together. Thank you to all of those in the community who were able to join us on the day.



**we 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."

## Staff Development Day - Pupil Free Day - Friday 7th June, 2019

As you know from previous school newsletters and the school's google calendar, Friday the 7th of June is a Staff Development Day which means it is a pupil free day. On this day the staff of Mother Teresa school will be working hard on our school literacy goal of improving writing through the use of mentor texts. This week COSHC provided all families with information regarding care available on this day, [that flyer is available here](#). As a school we chose this date to suit families who may be travelling away for the long weekend.

## New Canteen Supplier

Last week all families received information about the new canteen supplier for Mother Teresa Primary 'Welcomeasy'. The service will be very similar to the online canteen service provided by our previous supplier and adheres to the healthy canteen foods guidelines. The flyers are attached to the newsletter this week. The new service has begun.

## Data Validation Survey

At the end of 2018, families were invited to complete a data validation survey sent from the CEDP (Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta). Next week you may receive communication directly from CEDP inviting families who have not yet done so, to complete the survey. Our school requires accurate and up-to-date student information as part of our duty of care and to support the needs of all learners. To ensure the information we currently have is correct, all families will be asked to validate key information such as contact details and emergency contacts.

## Communicating with the Executive Director of CEDP - Mr Greg Whitby - Thursday 13th June 2019 - Chatterbox Live Q and A event

*Join Greg Whitby, Executive Director of Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta, for a transparent and engaging Q&A session with parents and guardians from learning communities throughout the diocese. Held at St Andrews College in Marayong, the event will begin at 7pm with light refreshments, followed by a Q&A session with Executive Director Greg Whitby where parents will have the chance to raise their questions around education and school in today's world. Can't make it in person? This event will also be live-streamed via the CEDP Facebook page. Be sure to click on 'Interested' or 'Going' to be reminded before the discussion goes live! You can do this via the event page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1988053254654264/> Free ticket registration for this event will be available from Monday, May 20th at 9am by visiting [chatterbox.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://chatterbox.parra.catholic.edu.au).*

*If you have any questions or would like further information in regards to this event, please contact Lachlan Andrews from Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta via [landrews8@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:landrews8@parra.catholic.edu.au) or on 9840 5790.*

[Invitation from Mr Greg Whitby](#) on the following pages.

## PRC - Parent Representative Council

### Invitation to Dr Michael Carr-Gregg workshop - Raising Happy and Resilient Children

The Parramatta Diocese PRC (Parent Representative Council) have Dr Michael Carr-Gregg running a workshop on Monday, 3rd June at 6.30pm at St John XXIII, Stanhope Gardens. Dr Michael Carr-Gregg is an adolescent and child psychologist. The theme of the evening will be on raising happy and resilient children. The event is free however registrations are required. Some members of the Mother Teresa PRC reps on the Parramatta council will be attending. For any further information please don't hesitate to contact me. [Please see the flyer attached](#).



### Learning for Life

"How do you want to be remembered?" "What is a good life?" What am I called to do, to work for unity?"

Religious Education in Parramatta Diocese is undergoing a revolution. Our school is part of the first phase of the new curriculum. Stage 3 students at Mother Teresa are inquiring into some big concepts. Asking questions about their lives and their futures. The two Big Ideas we are investigating are – 'Ecumenism' & 'Worthiness'. Our students are using research, analysis, questioning and their reasoning ability to look at these issues in the light of the Gospel. How are we called to unity? What is my worth? These are very exciting times to be living and teaching.

Our young people have a hunger for the truth, and the most enduring truth is found through inquiry. Mother Teresa has always believed in this approach to learning, how wonderful it is that our students from Kindergarten to Year 6, will be following this process in order to learn about and learn to live their lives to the fullest in the knowledge and understanding of God's limitless love.

## WHS - Parking and Safety

### Traffic safety

Thank you to the parents and carers who drop off and pick up students for following directions and allowing your child to enter and exit your vehicle from the curbside. It would be greatly appreciated in the morning drop off zone if vehicles, where possible, move up to the staff member present at the top of the drop off zone. Thank you for coming over to the pick up zone in the afternoon to walk your child back across to your car parked in the visitor car park and not calling your child over to cross by themselves.

### Hot Drinks on Thursday mornings

Thanks so much to all families supervising their children before they enter the school grounds on a Thursday morning if they have purchased Hot Chocolate from the Marist Coffee van. You are very welcome to continue supporting the coffee van on Thursday mornings if you so wish but we would ask that Mother Teresa students **don't enter our school grounds holding the hot drink**. I thank you for your understanding about this safety matter.

### Important Dates:

- SDD Staff Development Days 2019 - these are pupil free days:
  - ⇒ Term 2 - Friday, 7th June
  - ⇒ No SDD in Term 3
  - ⇒ Term 4 - Friday, 1st November
- Term 4 - Last day of school for students Wednesday, 18th December



### NSW Premiers' Reading Challenge 2019

The Challenge aims to encourage a love of reading for leisure and pleasure in students, and to enable them to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely.

The Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) is available for all NSW students in Kindergarten to Year 9, in government, independent, Catholic and home schools.

The 2019 Challenge kicked off **Monday, 4th March** and closes **Friday, 30th August** (midnight) for MTP students.

**How can my child get involved?** Just click on the link at [NSW PRC](#) and log on to begin (Kindergarten and new families) should have recently received their log in details. There is also a new student portal which allows students to look for books that are on the challenge list and add them directly to their reading log once read.

Mrs Rawlings will be on the playground at lunchtime most Wednesdays during the challenge, to help any students.

If you have any questions, please see either Mrs Rawlings or Mrs Halligan.



### Woolworths Earn & Learn

We are really excited to be participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program again this year. This program enables our school to earn educational resources when anyone from the school community shops at Woolworths. The program started Wednesday, 1st May when you can start collecting stickers for every \$10.00 you spend. Once you have completed a sticker card, you can place them in the collection box at school in the student foyer.





**Invitation to Chatterbox Live Q&A Event**

27 April 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

CEDP has always valued parent feedback and with the use of new technologies, we now have the opportunity to become more connected with families in real-time. As part of our commitment to promoting student and parent voice in our schools, we have launched a new initiative called *Chatterbox Live*.

We have had success using social media platforms to host Chatterbox Live in a number of primary and secondary schools already. I was impressed with the range of questions students asked me on issues related to schooling in today's world.

I am extending the invitation to our parent community to join us for the first Chatterbox Live event for parents and carers. This will be held on Thursday, 13 June at St Andrews College Marayong from 7.00pm. I'm looking forward to hearing your views and responding to your questions related to Catholic schooling in the Parramatta Diocese.

Registrations to attend the event in person will open on May 20 at 9am. If you would like to attend in person, please register your interest as soon as possible by visiting [chatterbox.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://chatterbox.parra.catholic.edu.au).

If you're unable to attend in person, you are welcome to tune in live by 'liking' the CEDP Facebook page to be reminded when the event begins. You can do this at [www.facebook.com/CatholicEdParra/](http://www.facebook.com/CatholicEdParra/).

If you have any questions or would like further information in regard to this event, please contact Lachlan Andrews via [landrews8@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:landrews8@parra.catholic.edu.au) or on 9840 5790.

I look forward to strengthening our engagement with parents.

Regards

**Gregory B Whitby AM KSG**  
Executive Director



Parents Representative Council

SUPPORT | CELEBRATE | EDUCATE



## HOW TO RAISE HAPPY AND RESILIENT CHILDREN

Join the PRC to hear one of Australia's leading Psychologists about the journey from childhood through to young adulthood, as it seems to have become so much harder to navigate.



Hear about the latest news from the science of positive psychology applied to bringing up children and teenagers.

Our guest speaker for the evening is:

# Dr Michael Carr-Gregg

Adolescent and Child Psychologists

Register FREE now: [www.prc.catholic.edu.au](http://www.prc.catholic.edu.au)



**Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019**

**Doors open: 6:15 pm for 7:00pm (2 hours)**

(PRC General Meeting - will be held prior to guest speaker)

**John XXIII Catholic College**

**160 Perfection Ave, Stanhope Gardens, NSW, 2768**

Light supper and refreshments will be provided, and a lucky door prize will be up for grabs!

[www.prc.catholic.edu.au](http://www.prc.catholic.edu.au)



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