

5th June 2020



Heartlinks Highlights Video

[Watch Video](#)

We are currently experiencing difficulty uploading the video to Facebook, so the Heartlinks Highlights Video will be shared via Skoolbag

MTP Heartlinks Highlights Video

In the video this week we discuss our Half-Yearly report format for 2020 given the necessary changes following the period of online learning and the changes to outcomes taught announced by NESA (NSW Education Standards Authority) earlier this term.

Half-yearly reports

The Federal and State Governments recently announced changes to the half-yearly reports for Primary Schools in NSW. Your child will receive a half-yearly report which will again indicate areas of growth in terms of your child's Learner Qualities, as has always been the practice at Mother Teresa Primary. These Learner Qualities include your child's demonstration of Passion, Compassion, Collaboration, Reflection or Creativity. Normally our reports include a 5 point scale for Key Learning Areas, or subjects like English, Mathematics and Religious Education. As a result of disruption to the regular teaching and learning program and the limited opportunities to collect valid and reliable formative and summative assessment data in recent weeks, each child will receive comments on achievements and next steps for Religious Education, English (including reading and writing) and Mathematics (including whole numbers and working mathematically strands). In our Heartlinks Highlights video in Week 2, Mr Wallis explained the procedures we are using to collect student data in Mathematics. In the video shared via Skoolbag in Week 4 Heartlinks Highlights, we explained how we teach reading for all students Kindergarten to Year 6 and how we assess reading growth. These comments on the half-yearly report will take the place of the normal 5 point scales in subject areas. Today's Heartlinks Highlights video will explain the format of the Half-yearly reports.

3 Way Conferences - Alternatives

Whilst school returns to normal for the children from Week 6, we are still following guidelines for practices like social distancing for adults this term. As a result, we will be providing alternatives to our usual practice of families being invited in for the 3 way, parent-student-teacher face to face conferences which usually take place at the end of the term. We plan for these meetings to be conducted via either phone calls or zoom meetings in the last week of this term. We will inform the parent community of the process of booking in these 3 way conferences shortly.

PBS4L Token Launch & our PBS4L matrix

As you know, our school has been preparing to implement the PBS4L framework (Positive Behaviour Support for Learning) for over a year. You may have noticed new signage around the school which highlights the 3 school rules and the expected behaviours in different zones within the school, e.g. the toilets, the Learning Studio, the Playground. On Monday we launched the PBS4L token system at MTP with our mascots, Harmony Heart and Buddy Bear handing out wristbands with our 3 school rules to every child. As students receive the tokens to acknowledge ways they have used their gentle hearts in following the school rules, the tokens are collected either in the Learning Studio or in the Playground for group rewards. The video shared via Skoolbag on Monday explained how we will use tokens at our school. We have attached to today's newsletter the matrix for MTP which outlines our 3 school rules and the expectations. I would like to thank Mrs Melissa Vella for her support as part of the MTP leadership team in guiding the implementation of this framework at our school.



"Sometimes it is harder for us to smile at those who live with us, the immediate members of our families, than it is to smile at those who are not so close to us"

Let us never forget: love begins at home."

St Teresa of Kolkata

Important Dates:

- Friday, 3rd July
Last day Term 2

DON'T FORGET!



SCHOLASTIC
Book Club
orders are due:

19th June



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."

Changed Procedures and Protocols due to COVID19 Guidelines

Thank you to all in our community for the smooth transition back into full face to face teaching from last week for all students. We will continue with the changed practices and procedures until we have been given advice from the NSW Health Department and our own School System Leadership (CEDP) that these practices are no longer required. I appreciate that with many parents of High School students now picking up and dropping off their High School students, that there has been an increase in the volume of traffic. Whilst this is problematic, I know you will appreciate that until we return to pre-COVID19 restrictions, being patient and respectful to other members of the community is essential.

Parent Drop off and pick up

- Morning - Parents can continue to drop off children in the Kiss and Drop zone in the morning as per usual. If you want to walk your child to the school gate, please park your car in the visitor parking and walk your child to the gate. Please do not enter the school. *Please do not line up across the red zone leading up to the pedestrian crossing and we appreciate you moving to the top of the Kiss and Drop zone when dropping off your child in the morning.*
- Afternoon - We are trying to dismiss as many students as possible from the site before the afternoon rush. The school gate will be opened from 2.30pm for you to come and pick up your child. Children going to COSHC (Catholic Out of School Hours Care) will be taken to the COSHC rooms at 2.45pm. Any remaining students will be taken to the normal afternoon Kiss and Drop zone from 2.45pm.
- Parents are asked to please NOT congregate together at the school gate or in the car park.

Health & Safety

- The students will continue to wash their hands carefully with soap throughout the day. We have some hand sanitizers at school, however parents may wish the children to bring their own small bottle of hand sanitiser and keep it in their bags.
- The NSW Government guidelines remain that social distancing is still required and as you know we encourage social distancing as much as possible in the learning studios. On the playground we are currently restricting games where students come into very close contact with each other. Students are asked to wash their hands after playing.
- We would encourage all students to bring their own pencil case with any required equipment, e.g. coloured pencils, a small glue stick, to limit the amount of equipment students share. Please send a water bottle labelled with your child's name.
- Students are encouraged to avoid touching their faces.
- Students who are sick **MUST NOT** be sent to school. This includes students who have a fever or who have recently had a fever. If your child has a sore throat, runny nose or cough do not send them to school. If your child becomes sick at school, they will be sent to the sick bay and you will be contacted to collect your child.
- CEDP schools were provided with no touch thermometers and the guidelines are that these will be used if students become sick during the day and are sent to the sick bay.
- If parents wish to contact teachers, you are very welcome to do so by our usual channels of emailing the school at motherteresa@parra.catholic.edu.au or by phoning the school office on 8841 2600 to make an appointment. Your child's teacher may return contact with you via phone or email.
- Please do not enter the Learning Studios without a prior appointment - we appreciate your cooperation in keeping all members of our community safe.

Cleaning

- The school has engaged some cleaning in addition to our regular cleaning contract. Door handles and student desks will be cleaned daily.

School uniform & canteen

- As we return to our normal school activity, we now ask that students begin to wear their winter uniform on Mondays and Fridays and their sports uniform on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. This will begin from Monday 25th May.
- The online canteen service, Welcomeasy, have informed us they will recommence their service from Monday 1st June.

Occupational Therapy Consultant at MTP

As some of you may know, we have engaged a consultant Occupational Therapist, Mrs Sharon Duff, who works with our staff and students periodically to observe and advise on student learning needs. Sharon has previously run parent information workshops on ideas for parents to assist with everything from pencil grip, to manipulating small objects to organising ideas and thinking ready for writing. Recently, whilst restrictions due to COVID19 meant we couldn't work face to face with Sharon, she compiled some short videos which have been shared with the children via their Seesaw account. Once the restrictions for visitors to the school are lifted, Sharon will be working with us again but in the meantime it is worth looking at the videos on Seesaw for ideas on ways to assist your child. As explained previously, Sharon does not work with private clients whilst at school but rather provides advice and tips for teachers who are working closely with the students daily.

Year 6 News

As Year 6 families would be aware, we had scheduled an overnight Year 6 leadership camp to Wedderburn Christian Camp for earlier this term but for obvious reasons we couldn't go ahead with the camp this term. We have postponed the camp to early in Term 4 and are hopeful by this time restrictions on overnight excursions will have been eased.

As many families would be aware, our Mini-Vinnies group usually invite Year 6 students to the Vinnies Winter Sleepout at school overnight on a Friday night in Term 2. Given the current restrictions we will not be holding the Winter Sleepout overnight this year. Year 6 students will be invited to lead other Social Justice initiatives to raise awareness of homelessness for the rest of the school.

New Date for School Photos

We had originally booked a day for school photos earlier this term, but have rescheduled our 2020 school photo day to Monday 24th August, which is in Term 3.

Car Numbers

By now every family should have received their new Yellow Car Number. Thank you to all those families who have changed over from the old green numbers to the new yellow numbers. We ask that these numbers are displayed on the front passenger sun visor and remain on display from the corner where our teacher calls the number on the microphone until your child(ren) is put into your car by a teacher on duty.

Defibrillator available in the MTP School Office

Last year, our staff received training in the use of a defibrillator. Our school has a defibrillator and in the event that one is required, it is kept in our school administration office. All CEDP (Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta) schools now have a defibrillator.



(Image by Alfonso Garcia)

Open your heart to the Spirit!

We are called to open the window of our lives and let the Spirit renew us. May we be listening for the truth and the cries of the earth and of those in need, as we pray:

Your Spirit Lord is truth: May it make us free.

Your Spirit Lord is fire: May it enkindle us with your love.

Your Spirit Lord is gentleness: may it bring us peace.

Your Spirit Lord renews the face of the earth:

may it renew the depths of our hearts.

Your Spirit Lord is prayer: May it open our hearts to give praise.

Your Spirit Lord fills the whole universe: May it live among us forever. Amen.

Maria Boyd REC



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 2020 Challenge kicked off **Monday, 2nd March** and closes **Friday, 28th 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. If you have any questions, please see either Mrs Rawlings or Mrs Halligan.

Message from NSW Gov. re: Westmead to The Bays and Sydney CBD - Sydney Metro Environmental Impact Statement

Now on exhibition: Sydney Metro West Environmental Impact Statement, Westmead to The Bays and Sydney CBD

The Westmead to The Bays and Sydney CBD Environmental Impact Statement is now on exhibition until 26 June 2020.

During this eight week period the community is invited to have their say on this once-in-a-lifetime infrastructure project

Sydney Metro is making the Environmental Impact Statement and supporting materials as accessible as possible. Visit the interactive portal at sydnymetro.info/metrowest to find out more about the project and how you can have your say.

Important Dates:

- Last day Term 2—Friday, 3rd July 2020.

WHS - Safety for all at Mother Teresa Primary

- Please maintain social distancing at all times and do not congregate around the school gate or in the parent foyer at school.
- **Please do** hold your child's hand when walking across the road and until they enter the vehicle when your car is parked safely in the visitor car park.
- Please do not stop on top of the pedestrian crossing and let your children out - please wait until you have moved to a bay in the Kiss and Drop zone.
- Please do not stop on the **red zone** as you approach Kiss and Drop area.



2020- MOTHER TERESA PRIMARY SCHOOL EXPECTATION MATRIX



Myself	Others	Environment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the right place at the right time Solve problems using calm words Take pride in my uniform Listen to peers and teachers Make safe choices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep my body to myself- safe hands and feet Work as a team Use kind words Use good manners Help others in need 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean and tidy after myself and others Tell a teacher if I see anything unsafe Look after school property and resources Take my rubbish home

At Mother Teresa Primary I care for...	Myself	Others	The Environment
Learning Studios	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take care of my belongings Participate in my learning Walk safely 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share and take turns Help others in learning Be friendly and kind 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put rubbish in the appropriate bin Use equipment properly
Playground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Move around the school quietly with a peer Walk in walking zones Respond appropriately to bells and music 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share and take turns Include others Help others in play Maintain personal space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take my rubbish home Pack up play equipment Take care of my belongings Use equipment properly
Church/ Prayer/ Meditation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be still and reverent Join in prayers and singing Pray and respond 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pray for others Listen to the priest and others Mindful of others during prayer and meditation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep still Respect sacred place
Toilets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We leave food and drink outside Flush the toilet Wash my hands Return to class promptly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Showing privacy for others Wait patiently until a cubicle is free Go with a peer and use quiet voices Ask teacher permission to go to the toilet during learning time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep the toilets clean Flush toilet paper only Turn taps off after use
Cyber Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use websites/ apps that are safe for my age Gain teacher permission to use technology Report any concerns to a teacher immediately Keep personal information private 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report any unkind behaviour to a teacher immediately Keep personal information of others private 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold devices safely Report any damages to school devices or equipment to a teacher