



Heartlinks Highlights Video

[Watch Video](#)

MTP - Heartlinks Highlights - My child as a reader

In the Heartlinks Highlights video this week we look at ways parents can support their child as a developing reader.

Dr Justin Coulson - MTP School and Family subscription

Mother Teresa Primary School has teamed up with Happy Families again to help support our ongoing commitment to wellbeing. Our entire school community now has access to resources which will help families, staff and students to flourish. We have over 50 families already signed up, which is great. Justin has many resources to help and support our students. His webinars are recorded so if you can't make the live webinar you can view later in the resource library. Some of the topics covered by Justin include:

- Sibling Rivalry
- Managing Screens
- Building Resilience
- Dealing with Anxiety in your Child

Use the link [here](#) to join our school partnership with Dr Justin Coulson's 'Happy Family'. The school's premium membership is free for Mother Teresa Primary families.

Kindergarten 2021 - Parent Information Night and Orientation Sessions for children

The Kindergarten 2021 Parent Information Night is being held online next Wednesday evening, 28th October at 6pm. The zoom link for the Parent Meeting is [here](#). All parents of Kindergarten 2021 would have already received an email and letter with this zoom link and their date and time to bring their child in for their Kindergarten Orientation session. To participate in the zoom session you will need access to a device with the 'zoom' application downloaded. If you have never used zoom before a guide to using zoom can be found [here](#).

Student Newspaper

A group of Year 6 students have approached me recently about publishing a MTP student newsletter/newspaper in each following edition of Heartlinks and we will also share with the MTP students via Seesaw. I would like to congratulate these students on their initiative and I am very excited to share our student thinking about Mother Teresa Primary.

Draft new RE curriculum

Last week a Skoolbag notification was shared with a letter from Ms Christine Howe, relieving Executive Director, Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta, regarding the draft new RE curriculum. An updated version of the Draft New Curriculum for Religious Education with references to the relevant sections of the Catechism of the Catholic Church is now available on the **Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta website** together with a **guide** to help community members learn more ([link here](#)).

As you also know, in the past two years, Mother Teresa Primary has been involved in trialing the new curriculum and we have run Parent University sessions on Religious Education. If you have any questions you would like to discuss with myself or our Religious Education Coordinator, Mrs Maria Boyd, please do not hesitate to contact the school to discuss.



"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 Teresa of Kolkata

Important Dates:

- Wednesday, 28th October
Kindergarten 2021
Zoom Parent Information Evening
- Tuesday, 3rd November
- Wednesday, 4th November
- Thursday, 5th November
- Friday, 6th November
- Wednesday, 11th November
- Friday, 13th November
Kindergarten 2021 Orientation Mornings
- Thursday, 12th November
Yr 7 Marist Orientation
- Friday, 13th November
Yr 7 McAuley Orientation



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."

Online Cuppa with the Principal Term 4 - Feedback

Last night we had an online 'Cuppa with the Principal' parent forum. It was great to speak with parents about our ongoing learning goals and other areas of interest about our school including how we can continue to stay connected with parents and families whilst restrictions are still in place. We are exploring the possibilities we have to share our usual end of year celebrations with families and will communicate the details of these with families closer to the event dates. Moving forward, the decision has been made that "Cuppa with the Principal" will alternate in session times. So, in terms 1 and 3 next year the session will be held during the morning and in terms 2 and 4 the session will be held in the evening. This is in the hope that we are able to provide opportunities for as many families as possible to attend and join the conversation.

Changed Procedures and Protocols due to COVID19 - continue in Term 4

We will continue to practice our COVID safe procedures and protocols until we receive notification from the NSW Government and the CEDP that restrictions have been eased. I will communicate information about any changes in procedures and protocols as soon as possible.

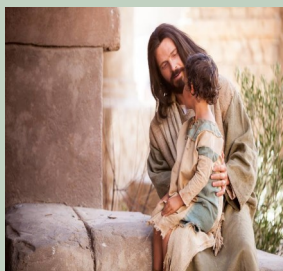
The following protocols will continue until further notice:

- The gates will open at 2.30pm each day for parents to collect their children - teachers will send down the students nominated by parents as requesting early collection to the area near the school office. Staff will supervise the dismissal of students to parents and carers. All remaining students will be collected via the normal 2.45pm Kiss and Drop arrangement.
- If you would like your child to continue to bring in their own pencil case they may do so however we will have school equipment available in each learning studio.
- We continue to encourage social distancing, particularly between adults, wherever possible - PLEASE remember to remain 1.5 metres apart from adults, including our staff, when dropping off and picking up your child.
- We will continue to strongly encourage all students to wash their hands with soap and water before eating and after playing.
- We encourage the children to cover their face with their elbow if they cough or sneeze and to avoid touching their faces.
- If your child is sick, particularly if they have a fever, sore throat or cough, **please do not send them to school**.
- We will continue to ask students to bring their own water bottle each day with their name clearly labelled. As the weather is getting warmer it would be great if your child could bring two water bottles.
- We will continue to engage in additional cleaning of student desks each day.
- It is the responsibility of all of us to strictly follow Government directives about who needs to be tested and who needs to self-isolate.
- **NSW Health have established a [website](#) to inform the community of actions they should take if they have been in a location where there has been confirmed cases of COVID-19 within NSW.** It is important that parents, staff and students comply with public health advice which includes the requirement to self-isolate for the required period if they have been at any of the locations published on this website on the specified dates and times.

Defibrillator available in the MTP School Office

This year, our staff received further 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.

Let the Children come to me -



Jesus was a prophet of and for His time.

Jesus spoke and taught in the context of the world in which He lived.

He listened to the questions of the disciples, Pharisees, Romans, and the poor;

He heard and responded to the needs of the people with which he lived, taught, and shared food.

What are the questions about God and Jesus and the Holy Spirit in the hearts of our children and ourselves today?

What is the context of the lives of the students we are leading to Christ?

What are the challenges they face in nurturing their faith in a world that

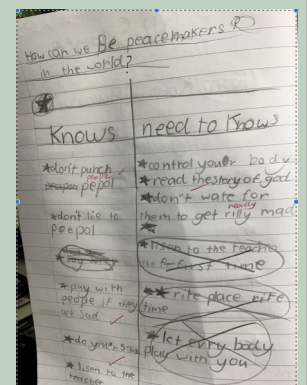
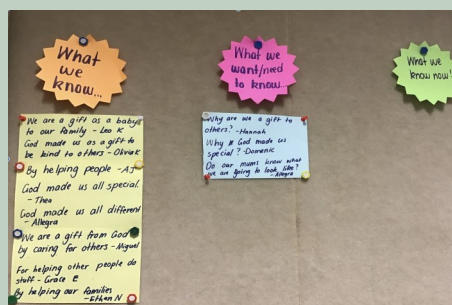
promotes self-interest and

denies the need for God?

Education in the Catholic

Diocese of Parramatta is a ministry of the Catholic Church, walking with humility in the way of Jesus, serving all of God's people.

Over the past two years, Mother Teresa Primary has been part of the development of the Revised Religious Education curriculum. Here are a few samples of thoughts and learning from our children in Kindy and Stage 1 from Term 3. Next Heartlinks we will share some work from Stages 2 & 3.



Important Dates:

- 2021 Kindergarten Parent Information night (zoom meeting) 28th October 6pm
- Friday 20th November - Year 6 Camp Replacement day 8.45am - 9pm
- Last day of Term 4 for students - Wednesday 16th December
- First day of school for students 2021 **Years 1-6**—Friday 29th January
- First day of school for Kindergarten 2021—Monday 1st February 2021

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 drive to the speed limit at all times, especially when on the school site to ensure the safety of all members of the Westmead Catholic Community
- 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.