

5th March 2021



Heartlinks Highlights Video

[Watch Video](#)

MTP Heartlinks Highlights Video - Reflections from our MTP students

Next week marks Catholic Schools Week and we have used this opportunity to hear some reflections from our students on life at Mother Teresa Primary - our focus and our strengths, what we love about our school and the things we are still working on!

Celebrating
200
years
 1820-2020

OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN THE DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA

Catholic Schools Week 2021 and 200 Years of Catholic Education (source: CEDP)

'2021 Catholic Schools Week celebrations will take place from 7-13 March. The theme for 2021 is 'Celebrating 200 years of Catholic education'. From the first school in 1820, the contribution of the earliest Catholic schools transformed access to education for disadvantaged Australians. Today, Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta builds on this legacy through leadership both on equity and the transformation of learning and teaching through innovation.

Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta will celebrate the bicentenary of Australia's first Catholic school through a continued commitment to growing opportunities of Catholic education for all. This milestone will provide the opportunity to learn from one another, inviting the voices, curiosity, and creativity of our students, teachers and parents to celebrate the gifts of faith and learning.

We acknowledge the history, stories, and Dreaming of the Darug people. We learn from the wrongs of the past, and these challenges guide us to a future that is accepting, welcoming and proudly diverse. The history of Catholic education in Australia is far from staid, beginning with Irish insurgency in the early colony. We continue to grow from our beginnings in 1820, acknowledging the spirit, determination, and initiative shown by our earliest lay teachers.

Ours is a story of courage and determination with heroes like St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, a woman whose extraordinary faith effectively extended the opportunities of education to ordinary Australian children. We continue to grow from the foundations laid by the religious orders and the legacy of the clergy who dedicated their lives to building Catholic schools and their communities.

The contribution of the earliest Catholic schools transformed access to education for disadvantaged Australians. Today, Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta builds on this legacy through leading, transforming learning and teaching and through outreach. Above all, we celebrate all that unites us, and we commit to a hope that defines us, in living out God's love for one another.'



"Thoughtfulness is the beginning of great sanctity"

St Teresa of Kolkata

Important Dates:

- **Monday, 15th March**
Online Parent University - Reading - Monday, 15th March—6:00pm
- **Monday, 15th March**
School Cross Country - Students in Years 3 to 6 (8 - 12 year olds) - Primary students to wear sports uniforms on this Monday.
- **Monday, 26th March**
School Photo Day
- **Thursday, 1st April**
Last day of Term 1 (Holy Thursday)



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."

School Tours for prospective families

Next Monday and Thursday members of our school leadership team in conjunction with some of our Year 6 student leaders, will be conducting COVID safe school tours (i.e. not in Learning Studios) and in groups of only two families at a time. Many of the booked tour times have already been filled, so if you have family and friends who may be interested in a school tour please let them know they can book a time by contacting the school office on **8841 2600**.

Current MTP families who are wishing to enrol a younger sibling for Kindergarten 2022, please complete the enrolment form as soon as possible - if you would like to have an enrolment form sent home with an older sibling, please just let the school office know. We are asking **all enrolment forms to please be submitted by the 26th March**. We will be shortlisting for interviews shortly after this date. Please note that additional paperwork and supporting evidence can be submitted at a later date however it is essential we receive the enrolment application form by the 26th March.

Cuppa with the Principal - thank you

Thank you so much to the parents who were able to join us online this morning for our Term One 'Cuppa with the Principal'. This was a great opportunity to share our 2021 School goals for Formation/Religious Education and Learning. We also got an opportunity to discuss our resourcing and professional learning priorities this year. Parents were appreciative of the smooth start to the year, especially with our Kindergarten students and the clear communication. Parents were appreciative of the clear school rules and the use of tokens to acknowledge great student behaviour and work towards group rewards. Parents were appreciative of the opening of a second 'Kiss and Drop' zone in the morning, which is a great option for our older students. We had great questions about Investigative Play and what play and inquiry looks like for students moving into the Primary years. We had great discussion about the COVID rules and keeping abreast of the changing nature of these rules - fortunately, it looks like we are heading in the right direction and look forward to having parents gather together on site soon. Suggestions came up about encouraging High School families to utilise the second 'Kiss and Drop' zone and about musical instrument possibilities. A further discussion about the changes to the Westmead Catholic Community and the need for clear communication about building and development timelines was also discussed.

Hopefully, our next parent forum 'Cuppa with the Principal' may be able to happen 'face to face' next term as it is a great opportunity to get to know other Mother Teresa Primary parents. We will let you know the date for our Term 2 forum early next term.

New "Kiss and Drop" zone - open in the morning

As you know from the many communications in the past week, the second 'Kiss and Drop' zone is now open for use in the mornings. I appreciate that if you have young children, you would still prefer to use the old 'Kiss and Drop' zone but it would be great if you have older children, you may consider using the new zone - the children have a fenced off footpath they can use to walk around to school. I have requested through the High Schools, that their families also utilise the new 'Kiss and Drop' zone in the morning. Please find attached [HERE](#) a short video from the Westmead Catholic Community Coordinator on the use of the new 'Kiss and Drop' zone.

PRC - CEDP Parent Representative Council - MTP School Reps requested!

The PRC is a volunteer parent organisation that has proudly served the Diocese of Parramatta continuously for more than 30 years. The PRC work closely in collaboration with Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv, CEDP Executive Director Greg Whitby and the CEDP Executive Team, Parish Priests, Principals and schools in providing additional support to families throughout their child's learning journey within the Catholic education system. Our schools' involvement in the PRC is important to its continued success and our Parent Representatives contribute in an authentic and meaningful way to the Diocesan PRC's work.

Some of our previous MTP PRC representatives are no longer available to be our school reps as their children have now moved onto High School. We would warmly welcome any parents who are prepared to represent Mother Teresa Primary on this parent council to nominate as our 2021 school reps. If you have previously held this position you are still very welcome to nominate yourselves again! The commitment is in attending meetings once a term, in the evening and there are usually presentations or workshops of interest to parents by experts in varying fields. Nominations for parent reps close on the 24th March. A more detailed role description is attached to this newsletter. If you are interested in nominating please contact me (Mrs Devlin) via the school office.



MTP Parent University Online - Term 1 - Helping my child with reading - Monday, 15th March 6:00pm

Each term at Mother Teresa Primary we run parent information evenings focussing on one aspect of our school Formation or Learning goals. A link for the Parent University will be shared with all families shortly. This Parent University will focus on the teaching of reading and strategies to help your child with reading at home. All parents are very welcome to join us online for this information session.

† Spotlight on Stage Three RE: †

Students in Stage Three wonder how the Church began, the role of Sacred Scripture and the first Judeo Christian leaders.

Transformative learning articulates ongoing Tradition and how the Early Church, through Ecumenical Councils, relates to today.

Enduring understanding awakens students to the importance of Tradition for understanding *being Church*.

Overarching Questions:

Why is it important to learn from history?

The Statement of Inquiry:

The significance of the Early Church for Intentional Faith Communities

The students have the opportunity to add to their understandings throughout the term and here are some examples of Student Voice:

Johan: flourishing means to grow spiritually, change your mindset and evolve

Evie : keeping that positive mindset and strengthening your relationship with God

Orla: flourish is changing yourself and learning new things

There are many variants that were established before Christianity - **John**

The apostles were some of the first leaders of the Early Church because they were always with Jesus - **Jaycob**

We will continue our commitment to supporting families in need through the local refugee service, with our **"Be more"** campaign. *We will aspire not to have more but to be more. This is where we ask you to add ONE extra grocery item every week to your shopping to help desperate families - This week's items are Cooking Oil and/or Tinned Tomatoes. **Project Compassion** will provide another opportunity for generosity of heart and spirit.*

God Bless.

Gaye Dennis Acting REC



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- **School Photo Day** - Friday, 26th March
- Last day of Term 1 (Holy Thursday) 1st April

WHS - Site safety

- *Thank you for driving safely and respectfully using the Westmead Catholic Community staff car park in the afternoon - this use is a privilege afforded to MTP parents during this time of the early pick up option during COVID restrictions. Please do not double park and block the exit of High School staff. Please do not park in the designated disabled parking spot unless you have the correct permissions to do so.*
- Please DO NOT ask children or staff to step onto the road between cars to access the boot to pack or retrieve bags. This is VERY dangerous and could result in tragedy - we all need to take responsibility for the safety of others on our site.



2021 NSW PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

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 2021 Challenge kicked off **Monday, 1st March** and closes **Friday, 20th 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.

Parent's Representative Council School Representative

Role of the PRC School Rep and Alternate Rep

The Parents Representative Council (PRC) is the peak parent body that represents and supports parents, families and caregivers of students enrolled in all Primary and Secondary Catholic Schools within our Diocese.

The PRC works in collaboration with the Bishop, the Executive Director of schools, Parish Priests and Catholic School Principals and School Parent Bodies in providing additional support to families throughout their child's learning journey within the Catholic Education System.

Every Primary and Secondary Catholic School in the Diocese of Parramatta can have one PRC Parent Rep and an Alternate Parent represented. These Representatives speak on behalf of their School's Parent Body and community representing their Parents within the PRC. This provides the important two-way communication between local school parent communities, their local school and the greater Diocesan Parent body of the PRC.

The appointment of School Reps and Alt Reps is the responsibility of the school principal or their delegate. The appointment of roles should be made with consultation of the school parent body.

The School Reps and Alt Reps primary role is one of communication and building close partnerships with School leadership team and school parent body and PRC cluster leaders and executive.

The PRC School Representative are encouraged to:

- When available attend the PRC General Meetings held once a Term. PRC meetings are held in each Term on Monday Week 6 of the School Term. These meetings consist of Executive Committee Members reports by the President, Treasurer, Secretary and the Council of Catholic School Parents Representative. Guest speakers with relevant up to date educational issues are provided. These speakers will range from a keynote presentation of a Professional Academic, Wellbeing Subject Expert, Educational Leader, Psychologist and/or an Educational Leader within the Catholic Education Office Parramatta.
- Liaise with their school community about the work of the PRC – report back to their parent bodies on the term meetings, content, speakers and issues that were raised.
- Liaise with their Cluster leader and attend Cluster Meetings if necessary. Cluster meetings/gatherings are held prior to the PRC Term Meeting or via zoom. These meetings are led by a Parent Cluster Leader. School Reps have the opportunity to network with other parent reps within the geographical area of their own school. Hear about the work of other parent bodies and parents in your area.
- Disseminate information to their school about upcoming meetings, speakers etc. and encourage other parents to attend with them. Information should be disseminated through their school's parent meetings, newsletter, website and social media site etc.
- Provide feedback to the PRC on type of presenters, topics and relevant educational and parenting issues that they or their school may want to hear about.
- Nominate to become further involved in parent leadership and collaboration by becoming a member of the Executive Committee of the PRC.

Mother Teresa Primary School

School Photography Date: 26/03/2021

Dear Parents,

School photography day is coming up soon. Group and portrait photographs can be purchased by following the link below or by returning the order envelope with your payment to our photographer on school photo day.

NEW

advancedlife now offers Latitude Pay! To take advantage of LatitudePay and split the cost of your order into 10 small easy payments, simply order your school photos online as usual, set up a Latitude Pay account in just a few clicks and pay no interest or fees when you pay according to your payment schedule; it's that easy.

3 easy ways to purchase:

1. LatitudePay – Click on the link below, set up an account during the online order process and split your payments across 10 weeks with no interest or fees, if you pay on time
2. Visa, MasterCard or PayPal
3. Cash – complete the envelope supplied and return it to our photographer on photo day

Order school photos here

Or visit: www.advancedlife.com.au
And enter online order code: **XLN XJ6 XX2**

School photography information:

- **Online orders** - *do not* require an envelope returned to your school
- **Sibling Photos** - Don't forget to pre-order your sibling photos online up to 24 hours before photo day. We provide your school with a list of sibling orders right up to the day of photography, so no one misses out. If you miss the online order deadline, you can submit a completed sibling order envelope first thing in the morning of the day of photography, so your school is aware you want the photo taken and can bring your children together in time for it. Sibling photographs only apply to children enrolled at your school. Please note not all schools offer sibling photos
- **Late fees** - a late fee will be applied to each package purchased after photo day due to the additional cost of producing these packages separately
- **Package delivery** - photographic packages will be returned to your school for distribution approximately six weeks after photos are taken
- **Previous Years' photos** - Past years' photographs including sports, co-curricular and representative groups are also available to order under the 'previous years or group photo' tabs at your school's **advancedorder** site when you click on the 'Order School Photos Here' button above. You can also order past packages, portrait images and gifts from your child's unique, individual and secure **advancedyou** image archive site using the unique 9 digit image code found on packages you have ordered in the past.

Please remember we offer a 100% money back guarantee on our products to ensure your peace of mind. We would also love to receive your feedback or resolve any issues you may experience as fast as possible, to ensure your satisfaction. If you have any questions, comments or feedback relating to your **advancedlife** experience please contact us at: www.advancedlife.com.au/contact

Sibling Photo forms can be collected from the school office.

Justin Coulson's happy families

Mother Teresa Primary School has teamed up with Happy Families to help support our ongoing commitment to wellbeing.

Your **FREE HAPPY FAMILIES PREMIUM MEMBERSHIP** will help you tackle all of your common parenting predicaments including:

- ▶ Sibling Rivalry
- ▶ Managing Screens
- ▶ Building Resilience
- ▶ Dealing with Anxiety... and more!



CREATE YOUR FREE ACCOUNT

members.happyfamilies.com.au/mother-teresa



usually
\$170/family
**YOURS
FREE**

FEATURES

lighten the load

video library

live webinars

book club

Q&A sessions

... and more!





2-DAY SUPER CAMP

April

WHERE EVERY CAMPER'S TREATED LIKE A ROCK STAR

Duration: 2-days Age: Kindy - Yr 6 Time: 8.30am - 3.30pm daily

EXPERIENCE: 12 HYBRID SPORTS | 6 SUPER SESSIONS | AMAZING COACHING

AT A LOCATION NEAR YOU #noonedoesitlikemotiv8sports

GET MOTIV8TED DURING THE APRIL SCHOOL HOLIDAYS AT THE ONE AND ONLY MOTIV8SPORTS SUPER CAMP.

Held only once each year Super Camp is a sports festival designed just for kids. Super Camp is an energetic mix of sport, music, street culture, art and dance mashed up to create the ultimate atmosphere for kids who love having fun. With a live DJ pumping the beats and multiple prize giveaways, this is an event not to be missed. All camps are 8:30am - 3:30pm daily non-sleep over events.

CAMP 1: 6TH & 7TH-MARIST BROS-WESTMEAD
CAMP 2: 8TH & 9TH-MUIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL
CAMP 3: 15TH & 16TH-ASQUITH BOYS HIGH

FREE TICKET WHEN USING YOUR CREATIVE KIDS VOUCHER*
*BOOKING FEE APPLIES

DON'T MISS OUT, BOOK TODAY!
BOOK ONLINE AT MOTIV8SPORTS.COM.AU/LOCATIONS/PARRAMATTA/
0438 691 279


 motiv8sports





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Held only once each year Super Camp is a sports festival designed just for kids. Way more than a sports dreamland Super Camp is an energetic mix of sport, music, street culture, art and dance mashed up to create the ultimate atmosphere for kids who love having fun. Campers will be treated to an incredible array of our trademark team sports in an environment full of energy, motiv8tion and unbelievable guidance from our professional team of coaches.

With a live DJ pumping the beats and multiple prize giveaways, this is an event not to be missed. Our 4 teams THE ROCKERS, PUNKS, HOPPERS & ELECTRO's will do battle to be crowned the Champions of Super Camp.

At all Motiv8sports events we use sport as a tool to motiv8, inspire, entertain and promote a healthy lifestyle. All camps are 8:30am - 3:30pm daily non-sleep over events.

Motiv8sports camps are designed for all abilities and focus on the energy and effort rather than a child's sporting ability. Children attending Motiv8sports Super Camp learn about sport, teamwork & sportsmanship in an environment fueled by incredible leadership and constant motivation. Operating for over 17-years Motiv8sports campers keep coming back because no one knows how to entertain like Motiv8sports. Campers are treated like superstars and our safety and supervision is second to none. We take sport, modify to ensure maximum participation then turn up the fun to new levels to create our innovative array of trademark sports.


 motiv8sports

MOTIV8SPORTS.COM.AU

IT'S OUR FAVORITE CAMP OF THE YEAR. DON'T MISS OUT, BOOK TODAY!



Catherine McAuley Westmead

Enrolling Now for Year 7 2022



Enrolment applications for Year 7 2022 (First Round Offers) are due by Friday, 19th March 2021. Enrolment packs are available at your primary school office or by visiting the Catherine McAuley Westmead website.

The School Open Afternoon scheduled for Wednesday, 10th March 2021 has been cancelled. Instead the school is offering small group school tours over a number of days in early March. Book a place on a school tour by visiting the school website under Enrolment/Visit Our School.

Catherine McAuley, 2 Darcy Road, Westmead | www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au | Telephone: 9849 9100

ACTIVE KIDS
NSW

INTERESTED?
1300 00 7874

**SCHOOL HOLIDAY
FUN CAMP**

APRIL 7TH/8TH & 14TH/15TH 2021

AGES K - YR 7