

**NEWSLETTER**

Dear Families,

As a school we celebrate the Feast Day of our school's patron saint, St Thomas More, on **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June**. Our patron saint's actions remind us that we must stand up to others when faced with injustice, discrimination and inequity, even if it may cause us to be challenged or questioned. Each day, as a school community, we are called to live out our school motto; *"With God First, We Will Live, Learn and Thrive"*. On **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June** we will be celebrating the Feast Day with a whole school Mass led by Father Ed at 9.15am. There will also be a student "St Thomas More's Got Talent Show" at 12.30pm. Parents are most welcome to attend either or both events.

**FULLNESS OF LIFE FOR ALL**

The area of Relationships and Sexuality Education will be covered at school early next term. The Diocese of Ballarat, Catholic Education Limited (DOBCEL), has developed a curriculum scope and sequence that sets out what is to be taught in primary schools from Foundation to Year 6. The document, titled *"Fullness of Life for All"* will be used by our staff, to develop learning for our students in covering the *My Body* and *Life Cycles* themes.

To honour the partnership of families and our school working together in this important area, there are two parent information sessions organised (same meeting repeated). These will be taking place on **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June** at 9am-9.45am and again at 2.30pm – 3.15pm. To register your intention to attend either of these sessions please use the following link: <https://forms.gle/7cUdWX3Y9RLdqRYz6>

**SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION**

The preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation will commence next term. The sacrament of Confirmation is open to children who have been baptised in the Catholic faith and are in Year 3 and above. Parents who would like their child to undertake this sacrament are asked to complete the attached form <https://forms.gle/orJncGLY9YBQsEvd8> and attend the parent information session either on **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July at 9am** at St Thomas More or on **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July at 5.30pm** at the Glowrey Room at the St Patrick's Cathedral.

**SEMESTER 1 STUDENT REPORTS**

Teachers are currently in the process of writing student reports for this Semester. Your child's school report will be available on the Parent Access Module (PAM) on **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June** from 2pm. If you need any assistance accessing this, please contact the front office. I encourage you to take the time to discuss your child's report and Seesaw posts with them, as it is most beneficial for students to reflect on their work and identify areas for future focus. If you have any questions about the report, please contact your child's classroom teacher.

**END OF TERM 2 – START OF TERM 3**

Our last day of school for this term is next **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June** and classes cease at **1.45pm** at which time students will be dismissed. School will reopen for students for Term 3 on **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July at 8.30 am**.

## INFORM AND EMPOWER

We are thrilled to announce that next term we will be running a parent information session about "Raising Kids in a Digital World" on **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August at 6pm till 7.30pm**. We are very fortunate to secure the founders of the **Inform and Empower** company to facilitate this session. This is a unique session in which you will hear from both the expertise of an experienced primary school cyber safety educator (Marty) combined with the insights of a psychologist and mum (Carley). We strongly encourage at least one member of each family to attend this important and informative session. Our staff will provide supervision for children so that parents can attend.

To register your attendance please click this link: [bit.ly/alfredton2024](https://bit.ly/alfredton2024)

Below is a short video summary of what the session will be about.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3tvICmDINfg&t=13s>

**RAISING KIDS IN A DIGITAL WORLD** FOR PARENTS & CARERS

Social Media Cyber Bullying Explicit/Adult Content

Impacts of Screen Time Child & Tween Online Trends

Online Gaming Managing Devices in the Home Strengthening Family Communication

St Thomas More Catholic Primary School  
Thursday 1 August | 6:00pm

90 minute presentation  
Parents/Carers only  
Exclusive access to resources

Register to come along  
[bit.ly/alfredton2024](https://bit.ly/alfredton2024)

Marty McKeown  
Primary School Teacher  
& Digital Learning Specialist

Carley McKeown  
Psychologist & Mum

INFORM&EMPOWER

## INTER-SCHOOL WINTER SPORTS COMPETITION – NETBALL



Congratulations to all the senior students who represented the school so well in the netball championships last Friday. Our teams positively encouraged each other and showed excellent sporting spirit throughout the whole day. Well done to all three teams! Thanks to Mrs Fiona Dodd, Mrs Lisa Baker and Ms Elle Hammill for assisting with organising and coaching each of the teams and ensuring they participated with skill, enthusiasm and fairness during their games.

### School TV Update:

#### [Physical Activity and Exercise](#)

'Physical activity and exercise are not only vital to a child's overall development but have so many other benefits. With children spending more time on computers and being sedentary, it is even more important to get kids moving more. As well as maintaining a healthy weight, it also improves concentration by helping to establish connections between different parts of the brain. It helps kids develop fundamental movement skills impacting positively on their confidence, self-esteem and ability to develop social skills. On an emotional level, it reduces stress and anxiety while improving posture and sleep. Physical activity and exercise are good for your child's health, now and in the future. Parents should encourage their kids to move or play sport at every opportunity – in and out of school.' (SchoolTV, 2024).

### School Closure days in 2024 (Student free)

Date	Purpose
Wednesday 7th August	Religious Education Professional Development
<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Curriculum Planning and Reporting (revised date)</b>

May God bless you all and keep you safe,

Mr. Simon Duffy,  
Principal

# Term 2 Calendar, 2024

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10 June	17	18	19	20 <i>Assembly at 2:55pm presented by Foundation Cudia</i>	21 <i>St Thomas More Feast Day Mass 9.15am &amp; Talent Show 12.30pm</i>
11 June	24	25	26 <i>Semester 1 School Reports available through PAM from 2pm</i>	27 <i>Whole School Prayer @ 2:55pm led by 3/4Gannon</i>	28 <i>Last Day of Term 2 1.45pm finish</i>

# Term 3

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 July	15	16 <i>Parent info session about Confirmation 9am at STMCPs</i>	17	18 <i>Whole School Prayer @ 2:55pm led by 1/2Munro Parent info session about Confirmation 5.30pm at parish</i>	19
2 July	22	23	24	25 <i>Assembly @ 2:55pm Presented by 3/4 Edwards</i>	26 <i>Students wear pyjamas to school day</i>
3 July/Aug	29	30	31	1 <i>Assembly @ 2:55pm Presented by 5/6Calleija Inform and Empower Parent info night 6 – 7.30pm</i>	2 <i>Foundation 100 days celebrations</i>
4 Aug	5	6 <i>Learning Support Officer Appreciation Day</i>	7 <i>School closure day Staff professional development day</i>	8 <i>Whole School Prayer @ 2:55pm led by 3/4Hare Mary MacKillip WSP.</i>	9 <i>Principal Appreciation Day</i>
5 Aug	12 <i>School Advisory Council meeting 5pm</i>	13	14	15 <i>Whole School Prayer @ 2:55pm led by 5/6Baker/Larkin</i>	16
<i>Swimming program 3/4 Gannon, 3/4 Hawkes/Blachon, 3/4 Hare, 5/6 Baker/Larkin, 5/6 Calleija, 5/6 Dodd</i>					
6 Aug	19	20	21	22 <i>Assembly @ 2:55pm presented by 3/4Gannon</i>	23 <i>Year 5/6 Interschool Basketball</i>
<i>Swimming program Foundation Keighrey, Foundation Hobbs, 1/2 Turkenburg/Hoffmann, 1/2 Woodhart, 1/2 Munro, 1/2 Stacey</i>					
7 Aug	26	27	28	29 <i>Father's Day stall Whole School Prayer @ 2:45pm led by Foundation Hobbs</i>	30 <i>Father's Day breakfast 7-8.30am</i>
<i>Swimming program Foundation Cudia, 1/2 Smith, 3/4 Edwards, 3/4 Calleija, 5/6 Davis, 5/6 Gittings/ Hoyle</i>					
8 Aug/Sept	2	3	4	5 <i>Assembly @ 2:55pm presented by 1/2Woodhart</i>	6 <i>Year. 5/6 Interschool sport day</i>
9 Sept	9 <i>Parent/ Teacher student learning conference 3.00 – 6.45pm</i>	10 <i>Interschool Athletics Parent/ Teacher student learning conference 3.00 – 6.45pm</i>	11	12 <i>Whole School Prayer @ 2:55pm led by 1/2Stacey</i>	13 <i>Book Week Parade</i>
10 Sept	16	17	18	19 <i>Assembly @ 2:55pm Performing Arts Foundation/1/2 student Late Stay Back</i>	20 <i>Last Day of term 1.45pm finish</i>






# FREE FEMALE COME AND PLAY PROGRAM

**MONDAY 24TH JUNE  
4:30PM - NORTH NO. 2 OVAL**

Primary Aged girls - Auskick/Superkick session.  
Secondary Aged girls - Football Training session  
with AFL Vic Coaches.

**REGISTER NOW** 

Queries: 0417 967 621



## HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Mon 1st July - Fri 12th July 2024



**What To Bring:**  
Swimable clothing  
A refillable drink bottle  
Big packed lunch!

**JOIN US!**  
For a fun-filled Holiday Program!  
EASTWOOD LEISURE CENTRE BALLARAT  
8am-5pm Weekdays  
Kinder to Grade 6  
\$60 per child per day

**CELEBRATING 30 YEARS**

BOOK ONLINE NOW AT  
**KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU**  
www.kellysports.com.au/greater-ballarat

23RD ANNUAL BALLARAT



# PRIMARY SCHOOLS INDOOR SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIPS

**MAJOR LEAGUE INDOOR SPORTS**  
502 HOWITT STREET, BALLARAT

**CHOOSE YOUR DAY & WEEK TO PLAY**

<b>GRADES 3 &amp; 4</b> BOYS & GIRLS CHAMPIONSHIP <b>TUES 13TH AUG 2024</b> OR TUES 20TH AUG 2024	<b>GRADES 5 &amp; 6</b> BOYS & GIRLS CHAMPIONSHIP <b>THURS 15TH AUG 2024</b> OR THURS 22ND AUG 2024
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**\$10 PER CHILD**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION  
& TO NOMINATE**

Primary School Championships Co-Ordinators  
 **RAY JANES**  **TREV**  
**0431 485 665** **0416 134 901**

NOMINATIONS CLOSE 5TH AUG 2024

