



# NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

Congratulations to the students, and their families, who recently celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation. May they receive the gifts of Knowledge, Understanding, Wisdom, Right Judgement, Courage, Reverence and Wonder and Awe. We pray that the Holy Spirit guides:



- |                  |                  |                   |                   |
|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Hamish Bayles    | Joshua Biddle    | Harry Bourke      | Maddison Brown    |
| Jack Browning    | Murphy Cavanagh  | Jaxson Davies     | Annabel Emerson   |
| Elly Oliver      | Henry Glover     | Eli Grime         | Ella Hay          |
| Noah Hevey       | Harry Holtham    | Matilda Hooper    | Henley Johnson    |
| Nathan Joseph    | Freddie Kavanagh | Annabelle Kent    | Charlotte Larkin  |
| Abby Lee         | Charlotte Lees   | Lila Grayling     | Reeve McCarty     |
| Zoe McFadden     | Harry Miller     | Sebastian Mulcair | Matilda Murphy    |
| Clyde Nairn      | Mackenzie Nolan  | Peyton O'Donnell  | Oliver Piatkov    |
| Ava Riordan      | Evie Ross        | Louis Ryan        | Archie Ryan       |
| Grace Sheppard   | Madeleine Smith  | Lyla Smith        | Lincoln Stainer   |
| Xavier Steenhuis | Hugo Steggall    | Noah Thomas       | Olivia Turkenburg |
| Amelia Turner    | Jackson Whelan   | Torben Willey     | Ari Yates         |



## PARENTS AND FRIENDS

A big thank you to our fantastic Parent and Friends Association who, over the last fortnight, have arranged several wonderful events for the school community. The Father's Day Stall provided over 500 lovely gifts, and our Father's Day Breakfast catered for over 500 people. These events and the volunteers that ran them are a big part of what makes our school community so special.



## HOMEWORK SURVEY - link

Next week concludes the third and final (three-week) homework trial here at St Thomas More that has involved the Year 1-6 students. Parents of students in Years 1-6 are invited to complete the survey below to assist us in informing our school approach to homework going forward. The survey will remain open until **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September**. Click here to access the survey: <https://forms.gle/rSWqA7SZsXrg2LDt8>

## DEPARTING STAFF

On Friday we farewell **Ms Tayla Hobbs** (Room 1, Foundation teacher) and **Mrs Natash Munro** (Room 4, Year 1/ 2 teacher) who will both be commencing maternity leave. We wish Tayla and Natasha all the best in the coming weeks, and we will continue to keep them in our prayers.



## BOOK WEEK PARADE

A reminder that next week we celebrate Book Week. This year the theme is "Reading is Magic". Students are encouraged to use their imagination to dress up for our Book Week parade to be held on **Friday, 13th September**. Parents are welcome to come along to the book week parade at 9.05am on the day.

## FOOTY COLOURS DAY

**Friday 20th September** (last day of Term 3) is our Footy Colours Day. On this day students may wear their favourite sports team colours. If your child does not have a favourite AFL football team, they may wear their favourite colour. There is no donation required.



## IMPORTANT DATES

As we move to the latter weeks of Term 3 and enter the season of Spring, I would like to confirm some important dates relating to Term 4 and the start of the school year in 2025 so that you can plan as needed. Please see the calendar that is attached to this newsletter for additional important dates for the remainder of Term 3 and Term 4.

Important dates	Event
Monday 4th November 2024	<i>School closure day: Assessment and Reporting</i>
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	<i>Melbourne Cup Public Holiday</i>
Wednesday 18th December 2024	<i>Last day of school for students</i>
Wednesday 29th January 2025	<i>First day for students (Including Foundations)</i>

## School TV: Update Week 8, 2024

### [R U OK Day 12th September 2024: A Special Report](#)

#### Overview of this edition:

'The rise of mental health concerns among young people, including anxiety, depression, and self-harm, is a pressing issue amplified by factors such as academic stress, social media, family dynamics and societal expectations. It is therefore crucial to prioritise early intervention, de-stigmatise mental health discussions, and provide accessible and effective support to address these concerns and promote the wellbeing of young people.

This year R U OK? Day falls on **Thursday 12 September**, an annual National Day of Action and a reminder that every day is the day to check in with your friends, family and colleagues.' (School TV, 2024)



## UPCOMING LEAVE

Towards the end of next week, I will be on leave from St Thomas More Catholic Primary School as I join with some of my diocesan principal colleagues on a Spiritual Heritage Pilgrimage to Ireland. The pilgrimage will be led by Fr Justin Driscoll and will focus on the heritage of the Ballarat Diocese. At the conclusion of the Pilgrimage, I will be taking a further week of long service leave. During this time of my absence from work (15th September - 15th October) Mrs Trish Calow will be undertaking the role of Acting Principal.



## ENROLMENTS 2025

With planning for the 2025 school year about to commence, I would ask families who are aware that they will not be returning to St. Thomas More Catholic Primary School next year, to promptly inform the school as we continue to receive frequent enquiries from families seeking enrolment positions for 2025.

May God bless you all and keep you safe,



Mr. Simon Duffy,  
Principal

## FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST 2024



## Term 3 Calendar, 2024

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8 Aug/Sept	2 Parent/ Teacher/ Student Learning Conferences 3.30 – 7:15pm	3 Parent/ Teacher/ Student Learning Conferences 3.30 – 7:15pm	4 Specialists' Show & Share session 2:30-3:15pm All welcome	5 Assembly @ 2:55pm presented by 1/2Woodhart	6 Yeas. 5/6 Interschool sport day with Siena Primary School 12:00-1:30pm
9 Sept	9	10	11	12 Eureka Division Athletics for students who qualified.  Whole School Prayer @ 2:55pm led by 1/2Stacey	13 Book Week Dress-up & Parade @ 9:15am
10 Sept	16 Yeas 5/6 Excursion to Imax & Melbourne Museum	17	18	19 Assembly @ 2:30pm Performing Arts	20 Footy Colours Day  Last Day of Term 3 1.45pm finish

# Term 4 Calendar, 2024

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 Oct	7	8	9	10 <i>Whole School Prayer led by 3/4 Calleija @ 2.55pm</i>	11 Athletics – Greater Western Region
2 Oct	14	15	16	17 <i>Assembly presented by Foundation Keighrey @2.55pm</i>	18
3 Oct	21	22	23	24 <i>Whole School Prayer led by Foundation Cudia @ 2.55pm</i>	25 World Teacher's Day Mission Day 1- 3pm
4 Oct	28 Year 3/4 Camp	29 Year 3/4 Camp	30 Senior Cricket Competition – Eureka Division	31 <i>Whole School Prayer led by 5/6 Davis @ 2.55pm</i>	1
5 Nov	4 School closure day- Assessment and Reporting	5 Melbourne Cup Day - Public Holiday	6	7 <i>Assembly presented by 1/2 Smith @2.55pm</i>	8 P and F Colour Run
6 Nov	11 <i>Remembrance Day</i> <i>Whole School Prayer led by 5/6 Dodd @ 2.55pm</i> School Advisory Council Meeting 5pm	12	13 Foundation 2025 Transition 9.15 – 11am	14	15 Year 5/6 Interschool Sports Day
7 Nov	18	19	20 Foundation 2025 Transition 9.15 – 11am	21 <i>Assembly presented by 1/2 Turkenburg/Hoffmann @2.55pm</i>	22
8 Nov	25	26	27 Foundation 2025 Transition 9.15 – 1pm.	28 <i>Assembly presented by 5/6 Gittings/Hoyle @2.55pm</i>	29
9 Nov/ Dec	2	3	4 Yr. 6 Adventure Park excursion	5 <i>Assembly presented by 3/4 Hawkes / Blachon@2.55pm</i>	6
10 Dec	9 Parent classroom helpers thank you afternoon tea	10	11 <i>Nativity play Whole school Prayer led by Foundation students @ 2.30pm</i>	12 P and F Christmas Carols 5pm	13
11 Dec	16 Going up day REPORTS GO HOME 9.15am <i>Thanksgiving Mass @ 9:15am</i> <i>Yr. 6 Graduation dinner 6:00 – 9:30pm</i>	17	18 Final fun day activity at Vic Park Finish 1.45pm Student's last day	19 School holidays	20 School holidays





# I AM LORETO

## OPEN MORNING

THURSDAY 24 OCTOBER | 9AM - 12PM

## INFORMATION EVENING

YEAR 7 2026

TUESDAY 29 OCTOBER | 6.30PM

[loreto.vic.edu.au](http://loreto.vic.edu.au)



QUERIES: CALL DOM 0417 967 621

# KELLY SPORTS



# SPORTS HOLIDAY PROGRAM!

**Mon 23rd SEP - Fri 4th OCT**

**NEW** \*No session FRI 27th of Sep (GF Public Holiday)

**NERF WARS!**  
THUR WK1  
& FRI WK2

Kids need to bring along a big packed lunch & large refillable drink bottle.  
Dress in comfortable sports clothing!



**COME ALONG!**  
to our fun-filled holiday program!  
Eastwood Leisure Centre - Ballarat  
8am - 5pm Weekdays  
Kinder - Grade 6  
\$60 per child per day

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