Dear Parents,

Fathers’ Day

Next Sunday is an important day when we celebrate the father figures in our lives. Fathers are very important people in all our lives. From the cherished memories of a Granddad or Dad long gone, through to the amazement and awe on the face of a ‘new’ dad, we take this special opportunity next weekend to say a very big thank you.

To all those wonderful men who are fathers or father-figures, I hope you have a very special day on Sunday and celebrate the important role you play in very many lives.

Our Fathers’ Day Liturgy, to celebrate all father figures in our lives, will take place tomorrow, Thursday evening, 1st September at 6:30pm in the multi-purpose room. This will give us the opportunity to acknowledge and thank all these people. Please come along and celebrate with us.

Following the liturgy, a Pie Night will be held to provide another opportunity for the children to have some fun with their fathers. There will be a collection box at the door to support Blue September, an organisation that focuses on research into cancer in men. Please bring along your gold coins.

Bella

Please continue to pray for Bella and her family as sadly, Bella’s leukaemia has returned. Our school community will continue to support the family as they request assistance.

If you wish to make a financial donation to the family, please visit the gofundme website below.

http://www.gofundme.com/7c3zqqf4

Writers, one and all!

Congratulations to our 50 students who submitted entries in the Children’s Book Week Farrell’s Story Writing Competition.

A special mention to Jiah Patane on receiving an Honourable Mention for his age group, and to Mia Davies for winning her age group. An outstanding effort and such interesting stories.

Staff Retreat

Every second year, all staff spend two days together in staff spirituality sessions. The retreat this year will focus on inter-faith understandings and dialogue. We will deepen our faith and understandings of our own Catholic identity, as well as promoting knowledge in, and relationships between different faiths, teachings, customs and practices.

The staff retreat will be held on Thursday 20th and Friday 21st October. The school will be closed for students on those two days.

School Hats

The time has come when we think about wearing our hats again. In our SunSmart policy hats will be worn from September 1st when the UV Alert is 3 or higher. In fourth term hats are compulsory. Sunscreen is also available in the classrooms to be used before going outside. Please ensure your child has his/her hat at school for the rest of this term.

Have a happy week ahead.

Mrs. Pat McConvill
Principal

2017 Enrolments

Enrolments offers have been made to the 2017 Prep students in recent days. We are now considering offering positions to families interested in enrolling in Grades 1-6. Any families who know they will not be returning to STM in 2017 should notify the school office by Friday 16th September.

Calendar

September
1st—Fathers’ Day Liturgy and Pie Night
2nd—Year 4 Morning Tea for Parish
2nd—Prep assembly at 12.30pm.
4th—Fathers’ Day
6th—PA Extraordinary Meeting
7th—Indigenous Literacy Book Swap
10th—Working Bee
Deputy Principal

Working Bee - Saturday 10th September starting at 9am
All is in readiness for our Term 3 working bee. We have a few mini projects and some maintenance jobs around the school.

Some jobs include:
- Relocating the goal posts at the school end of the oval.
- Re-fixing the posts at the bay end.
- There are a few holes on the oval which need topping up.
- Create a cover for the long jump pit

School Crossing
Donald, our wonderful crossing supervisor, has advised that there are a few issues with traffic management on Canadian Bay Rd. The main issue is that cars are queuing up on the road instead of turning into the school driveway. This obstructs Donald's view up the road and makes it difficult to do his job. We encourage drivers to keep the road open.

We would like to remind families that the students can be supervised in the office until 4:00 pm. If you arrive for pick up between 3:40 and 3:50 you will easily find a carpark.

LITERACY NEWS
Congratulations to Mia Davies and Jiah Patane. Mia was announced the winner of Farrell’s Story Writing Competition for Grade 3-6 and Jiah received an honourable mention for the lower primary division. Congratulations and keep writing. Please enjoy Mia’s story.

I’m stuck in a see-through plastic package. It feels tight, crowded and I can’t move.

I can feel something really sticky underneath me and a sharp object at my side.

After long silence, I hear loud chatter and heavy footsteps. It is becoming louder and louder as something gets closer.

Zzzzzzip - the package is opening. A giant shadow glooms over me. I am scared of what is going to happen. The claw like shadow picks up something rubbery that was sitting on top of me. It then searches for something else........ ME!! Finally, I feel free, thank you, thank you!

When my head is put to a white, soft, flat sheet, I feel air against me. I was never used again. Rumour has it, I was replaced by a blue pen.

Whilst within the grip of this claw, I am starting to sweat. I hear unfamiliar words being called out and I’m moving so fast, like I’m racing. It feels exhilarating and I think I’m doing something very important.

After what seemed like several hours, the tight, sweaty grip gave way.

I suddenly hear a familiar name being called out, "Congratulations Mia Davies."

Then all of a sudden, the thing that was holding me stood up and walked out of my eye’s reach. Now all I feel is abandoned.

Soon after, when the chatter stops, I get shoved back into the plastic package.

I was never used again. Rumour has it, I was replaced by a blue pen.

Signed
HB Faber-Castell
Grey Lead Pencil

LITERACY AND NUMERACY WEEK
This week we nationally celebrate Literacy and Numeracy Week. At St. Thomas More we celebrate Literacy and Numeracy EVERY DAY!

These are some of the ways we are celebrating this event.

Our Curriculum Leaders will engage in activities across the classrooms.

The Dorothea MacKellar poetry award winners are announced. Our Year 5/6 children have submitted many fine pieces of poetry to this competition.

We will celebrate THE GREAT BOOK SWAP on Indigenous Literacy Day on Wednesday 7th September. Please see the attachment for details. Many of our children will work with Sofie Laguna on Friday 9th September.

Thank you for your continued support.
Jill Chaplin and Cathy McKenzie

An Afternoon with Sophie Laguna
When Cathy McKenzie asked if I would write something about our afternoon with Sophie, I was daunted at where to begin. As I started to recall our hour together the simplicity and power of her words and advice unfolded…… “Where do you begin?” We asked…… "Just simply start to write”…she said, “It may start off dumb but you can always come back and edit later and the words will begin to flow!”

The beginning soon lead to talk of the detail and digging deeper and deeper with your questioning of the topic or character, who knew the colour yellow could invoke such creative writing? Why did you choose yellow? What do you think yellow would feel like if you could touch it? If you could give yellow a name what would it be?

Allowing time to question and develop and write and then question and develop and write, we were on a roll. In between were stories of motherhood and juggling our most important people while remaining true to our inner creativity, we understood. Annoyingly, the bell went, but Sophie left us with ‘Everyone is creative and has a creative voice’ as these words settled over the room there were sideward glances and the fires of inspiration had been lit, we were buzzing with talk of forming book clubs and small groups clustered to join writers workshops, thank you Cathy for giving the parents the opportunity to listen and talk with Sophie, it may very well have started or renewed a love of words amongst our parent group.

Who knows maybe ‘I’m a poet and I didn’t even know it!’………………

Gemma Lambe
2016 MAJOR FUNDRAISER - 80'S MAYHEM AND MADNESS

THANK YOU!

What a great night. We raised approx $15,000. Congratulations.

Thank you Christina Day for working along side me to coordinate this event. Thank you for your hard work, dedication and the wonderful job you did coordinating the decorations, it looked amazing. Could not have done it without you.

Thank you to our 80’s Fundraising team - Chantal Jenkins, Ange Aldag, Sarah O’Halloran, Eliza Spring, Jo Marshall, Helen MacFarlaine, Stuart Gibson, Caroline Leaver and Josie Palancian for all your hard work helping arrange the night.

We had so many wonderful helpers to arrange this event, a big thank you goes to all of you, and thank you for giving up your precious time......Thank you all so much.

A huge thank you to our GOLD SPONSOR - PALAMARA VILLAGE FRUITS and our SILVER SPONSOR PILOT REAL ESTATE.

Our Auction items were a huge success. Without the very kind families and businesses who donate items for our Auctions, this night would not be the fundraising success that it is. We encourage you to support and thank the businesses who contributed this year. Please see our sponsor list attached.

Special thanks to:
Legends Trivia — Kevin MacFarlaine
Jamie Grima Design for the artwork

Styled Sealed Delivered — Kris Dwyer for the decorations

Wine Drive
We are fortunate that Massoni Wines have generously offered to share their wines with us at a heavily discounted price. Don’t miss these great wines at great prices

-Please return Massoni Wine orders by THIS Friday 2nd September

FATHER’S DAY STALL - FRIDAY 2nd September

If your child would like to buy a gift from the Father’s Day stall, can you please send $5 to school with each child on Friday 2nd September. The Father’s Day stall is very busy and gets very hard to keep track of payments. If your child does not have $5 at school, they can purchase a gift after school from the gym. The stall will be open from 3.15 - 4pm. Extra gifts can also be purchased after school.

FATHER’S DAY LITURGY AND PIE NIGHT

There will be a box at the door to collect money for Blue September. Proceeds go to raising awareness of cancer in men and the purchasing of life saving equipment. So bring along your gold coin donations

Extraordinary Meeting

An Extraordinary Meeting of the Parents Association will be held on Tuesday 6th September at 7.30pm in the staffroom to vote on changes made to PARENTS ASSOCIATION – CONSTITUTION. All welcome. Please contact myself for a copy of the amended Constitution.

STM DATES FOR THE DIARY

2nd September - Wine Order Forms to be returned to the office
2nd September - Father’s Day Stall $5 gifts
6th September - Extraordinary Meeting 7.30pm in Staffroom followed by PA meeting.
10th September - Working Bee - 1/2 to supply morning tea.

Sincerely
Leonie Zammit
President
Parents Association
leonieroyall@yahoo.com.au

BOOK WEEK 2016

Thank you

Thank you to all the Mums, Dads, Grandparents, babysitters and special friends that helped to make Book Week such a success for your children.

I was overjoyed to see the classrooms filled with you all enjoying sharing a story with your child or small groups of children. Many of the children shared with me how much enjoyment they felt sharing this special time with you.

I am already looking forward to Book Week next year!

Katie Rodgers

Italian Day is approaching!

Wednesday October 12 is Italian Day!

Italian Day is our day of fun filled activities designed to take in many aspects of the Italian culture.

The aim of the day is to continue to develop an awareness and appreciation of the customs and influences introduced to our community by Italians and to continue to immerse the children in Italian language.

The children will be involved in various activities throughout the day, including dance, tombola, calcio, bocce e pasta making and an Italian/English language production.

In the first week of term 4 we will send out order forms for our pizza lunch and gelato.

Non vedo l’ora! I can’t wait!

Signor Peter Brady

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Parent’s Association

The PA meets on the first Tuesday of every month, the next meeting will be on Tuesday 6th September 2016. Everyone is welcome. Meetings begin at 7.30pm in the staffroom. Contact leonieroyall@yahoo.com.au for more information.

BOOK WEEK 2016

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Signor Peter Brady
Looking for activities for your children during the school holidays or term periods. Please feel free to check out our community notice board on the admin deck outside the school office as we advertise for various groups in regards to activities for the kids.

MORNINGTON RACECOURSE MARKET
CAR PARK DUTY

Please advise Daniel Ferlin on 0410 184 494 with your confirmed attendance via text (incl your name) ASAP.

Please find the car parking rosters for the coming markets here. Together, this small contribution of our time is raising approximately $14,000 annually for the continual improvement of our school and the programs provided to our children. All families will be rostered on an approximate 16 month cycle. If you are unavailable for your rostered month, please organise another family to take your place at least a week in advance of the market, and advise Daniel of the change asap.

All Markets:
- Arrive at 7:45am (all weather event); exception for Twilight market 1:45pm
- You will be told by the Market Leader when you can leave. This is typically around 12:30pm (6:30pm Twilight) but can alter depending on how busy the market is.
- Enter via the main gates of Racecourse on Racecourse Road, Mornington.
- Park in the designated area (Market Staff will be at the gate to assist you)
- Sign in with the Team Leader (for record keeping and Work Cover). Team Leaders must collect a black folder from the school office the Friday prior to attending the market, and return it the following Monday.
- Receive your safety vest.
- Market Staff will take you to your location in the car park where you will direct cars accordingly and finish at approximately noon. (On slower days Market Staff will advise if you can leave earlier).

Daniel Ferlin
0410 184 494
daniel_ferlin@hotmail.com
** Please Confirm Attendance ASAP
^^ Re-rostered due to prior non-attendance

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<th>SUNDAY 9th October</th>
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<td>Zammit (Team Leader)</td>
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<td>Dixon (Team Leader)</td>
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