Dear Parents,

**Reconciliation**
As we approach the final presentation of children for the sacrament of Reconciliation, we congratulate the children and their families in their preparation and participation; it has at all times been respectful and reverent.

This year, STM introduced a different process for preparing the children and the school would appreciate some feedback.

The specific areas you may wish to comment on are:
1) Information meeting
2) Workshop lessons - parent and child
3) Home lessons
4) Reconciliation liturgy with Father Laurie.

Please reply in writing either on paper or via the school email: stmtlza@stmmtlza.catholic.edu.au

Thank you in anticipation.

**School Values**
Below are the four values named as key values for STM:
- Respect
- Collaboration
- Innovation
- Integrity

**Innovation**: Holding this value as important ensures that we continue to challenge in maintaining contemporary learning opportunities for all members of the community - staff, students and parents. We currently do this by professional development for staff, contemporary activities for students and information parent meetings.

Innovation is also about being a risk taker and being able to think creatively - a contemporary focus on learning.

Another aspect of innovation is showing initiative. This is encouraged in the children by supporting them to own their own learning. Learning today has moved away from completing sheets; it is about being engaged to go further, to take responsibility for the learning.

Again, innovation works very closely with each of the other values.

**Working Bee**
Thank you to the families who again supported the working bee on Saturday. Special thanks to Peter Whyte and Andrew Taylor for their organisation.

**Parish Education Board**
Last week the PEB met and discussed various issues:
- Plans for the Admin Building and the ELC are continuing - the school is waiting to hear on the outcome of successful grant applications for each before further progress can be undertaken.
- Approval was given for the introduction of a new rain jacket with the school logo on it; the current one will be phased out as stocks are purchased.
- The PEB will continue to promote close links between the school and the parish as we are a parish school.

Have a happy week ahead.

Mrs Pat McConville
Principal

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**Calendar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 20&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>School Mass, led by 3/4N&amp;S at 12.15pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 20&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Year 5/6 Interschool Sport</td>
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<td>Fri 20&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>3/4s Afternoon in Tune, at 2:10pm</td>
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<td>Sat 21&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Reconciliation, Group 12 at 5:00pm</td>
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<td>Mon 23&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Year 5/6 Silent Morning Tea</td>
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<td>Tue 24&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>District Cross Country</td>
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<td>Wed 25&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Prep Excursion to Cranbourne Gardens</td>
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<td>Wed 25&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Choral Festival, Toorak College at 7:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 27&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>School Mass, led by 1/2G at 12:15pm</td>
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Financial Assistance – Information for Parents in 2016, Term 2

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) – for concession card holders.

The CSEF is a Victorian Government initiative which will assist eligible families with the costs associated with school camps, sports and excursions.

Eligibility: To be eligible for receipt of the CSEF you must:

• be a Victorian primary or secondary school student up to the age of eighteen; and
• hold a means tested concession card, and/or
• be a temporary foster parent,
• eligibility will be subject to the parent/legal guardian’s concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink on the first day of Term 2, 11th April 2016.

Annual Amount: $125 per year will be paid for eligible primary school students. Payments will go directly to the school and be tied to the student expenses relating to camps, sport and excursions.

How to Apply: Application forms are available from the school office. The valid Concession Card will be photocopied to accompany your application.


For further information visit: http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/Pages/csefschools.aspx#link22

Conveyance Allowance Program (CAP)

The conveyance allowance assists families with the cost of transporting their children to and from school when they meet the eligibility. The conveyance allowance is also available to eligible students whose nearest school is not serviced by a free school bus.

How to Apply: Application forms are available from the school office or school website (refer the instructions at the top of the page). Please use ‘Bing Maps’ to estimate your distance from school: http://www.bing.com/maps

Applications Close:

Term 2: Friday 27th May
Term 3: Friday 19th August
Term 4: Friday 18th November

Please submit NEW applications to the school office by the due date/s.

The applications of existing CAP recipients will be rolled over provided the eligibility criteria are still met.

For further information visit: http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/finance/Pages/conveyancefaq.aspx#link70

St. Thomas More’s
Primary School
Open Day
Wednesday 1st June

Tours by appointment
9:15am, 10:00am or 12:00pm

Please contact the school office to book a tour
Applications invited during the month of June

Fee Reminder:
The second quarterly instalment is due by Friday 20th May. Fee Statements have been posted to all families. Thank you to all the families who have already paid their fees or who have made a commitment to pay fees by instalment.

Please contact Jo Muller if you wish to discuss your payment options.

MUSIC NEWS

AFTERNOON IN TUNE ...

This Friday, 20th May, the Year 3/4 Aussie Afternoon in Tune will be held in the school gym, beginning at 2:10pm and finishing at approximately 3:00pm. Families and friends are very welcome.

HARMONIES UNITE CHORAL FESTIVAL ...

Next Wednesday, 25th May, the STM Senior Choir will be taking part in the Harmonies Unite Choral Festival at Toorak College Mt Eliza. There will be four primary school choirs (including STM) and two adult choirs performing on the evening of the 25th, beginning at 7:00pm and finishing at approximately 8:15pm. The STM choir has been putting a lot of great effort into their preparation for the festival and are excited to be a part of this event. Families and friends are very welcome.
PRODUCTION WRAP UP... *Marcella Malignaggi*

This week for production we had to bring glasses. I liked that Mrs Shaw changed her glasses throughout the session.

My favourites were the piano glasses. This week for focus time we pretended that we were news presenters interviewing our hero or idol. It was silent, but it was still a lot of fun. I really enjoyed hearing more about the actual production storyline. It gave me a better understanding of what Jurassic Lark is really about. I can't wait to listen to more of the story.

**WEEK THREE ... by Angie Bastone**

On Wednesday eleventh of May the Year 6’s had their third production session. It was great and everybody did a great job.

First we started off as usual. We lay down and did our relaxing bit where we listened to a bit of music. Then we did our little challenge, when we do things that use our imagination. We had to pretend a bunch of different things, like holding an imaginary brick and really showing all the weight of it. Then we did one where we had to get into a group of five and we had to pretend we were interviewing two people and they had done something horrible, amazing or good or other things basically like that. There were two being people interviewed, two interviewing and one photographer. We had to do it without props though, but it was fun. Then we tried our 'Rocking with the Raptor' dance, and the singing the song, and that was one of the best things. Then we were told a bit about the plot line but I can’t disclose too much. We all then had our question time at the end where someone was chosen to sit in the chair. The person who chooses who the ‘chair person’ is, is the one who was in the chair the previous week. We have to ask that person a bunch of questions about production and that’s another fun thing that we do. That was our Week Three production session.

The PA meets on the first Tuesday of every month. The next meeting will be on Tuesday 7th June 2016. Everyone is welcome. Meetings begin at 7:30pm in the staffroom. Contact leonieroyall@yahoo.com.au for more information.

**WORKING BEE:**

Thank you to all our helpers on Saturday.

**2016 MAJOR FUNDRAISER - 80’S MAYHEM & MADNESS featuring Sports and Music Trivia**

**Save the Date: Saturday 27th August 2016**

We are planning on holding live and silent auctions and are looking for donations of vouchers, goods or services. Maybe you own a business or work for somebody who would be willing to make a donation. Or you may just have unwanted prizes or gifts you would be willing to part with. All businesses who donate will be given recognition on our Facebook page and in the newsletter. We would be grateful if voucher donations could be dated from the 27th August 2016.

Donations can be left at the office or if you would like to discuss, please contact me leonieroyall@yahoo.com.au or Amanda Cooke: amandacooke3@bigpond.com

Donations over $500 will qualify as a major sponsor. We are also looking for sponsorship; if you are interested please contact Christina Day for more information via email: paulchristina1@bigpond.com

All money raised goes back into the school for our children’s education.

**PREP MORNING TEA:**

Tuesday 24th May 11:00am

Commonfolk 16 Progress Street, Mornington

**COMING SOON:**

Our annual Cadbury chocolate fundraising drive will kick off on Wednesday 15th June. A Cadbury box will be sent home with the oldest child. The chocolate drive is a successful and quick way to raise approx. $4,500 for the school. We look forward to your support with this fundraising drive.

**STM DATES FOR THE DIARY:**

- **Tue 24th May** - Prep Morning Tea, 11:00am
  Commonfolk 16 Progress Street, Mornington

- **Thu 2nd June** - Years 3/4/5/6 dinner, 7.30pm
  Assaddini Wine and Tapas Bar

- **Tue 7th June** - PA Meeting, 7.30pm
  in the staffroom

- **Fri 17th June** – Hip Hop Disco, 5:00pm
  (Prep to Year 6 students only)
Did you know last week was National Volunteers Week?

National Volunteer Week (NVW) is an annual celebration to acknowledge the generous contribution of our nation’s volunteers. With the theme *Give Happy, Live Happy* introduced in 2015. We continue in 2016 to celebrate and explore the research that shows volunteers live happier and healthier lives.

So thank you to all our generous volunteers on the Parents Association; without your help we would not have been able to contribute money towards our children’s learning at STM. Thank you also to all our other generous volunteers at the school who may not be on the PA but contribute to the school in a number of different ways like classroom help, fundraising, projects, meal provisions, car park duty and many other things. It all adds to the amazing community spirit we have here at St Thomas More.

Sincerely

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

**CANTEEN NEWS**

Due to the lower demand in fruit salad tubs we are not covering costs. Therefore, we have decided to finish providing these after next Monday 23rd May. We will reintroduce them again in Term 4.

**Rosters for 23rd May:**

**Canteen:**
- 9:00am - 1:30pm Michaela Webster,
- 9:00am - 1:00pm Donna Sayers,
- 11:30am - 1:00pm Nic Leonard

**Counting:**

Susie Power-Reeves

**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.

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/Car Parking Coordinator
0410 184 494
daniel_ferlin@hotmail.com

**Please Confirm Attendance ASAP**

**^** Re-rostered due to prior non-attendance