



# St Thomas More School Newsletter


Term 1 Week 3 ~ Thursday 14 February, 2008

web: [www.sttmore.adl.catholic.edu.au](http://www.sttmore.adl.catholic.edu.au)




## Up and Coming Events

**Tuesday 19th February**

 School Banking

**Tuesday March 4th**

 School Board AGM

## ASHTON SCHOLASTIC

Closing date  
Monday 18th  
February



## School Website

On the school website there are a number of forms that can be downloaded.

We suggest that you check them out.



e.g. Emergency  
Fees  
Uniform  
Tuckshop  
Newsletter

**St Thomas More School**  
50 Yorktown Road  
Elizabeth Park SA 5113

**PO Box 2002**  
Elizabeth Park SA 5113

Telephone: 8255 1699  
Fax: 8287 0241  
OSHC: 8255 1626  
0409551699

### Principal

Mr Peter Mercer

### Deputy Principal

Mr Joe Blefari

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

On Monday night we held our Parent Information Night to provide an opportunity for families to meet their child's teacher and to find out about what to expect for the 2008 school year. I would like to thank all of those who were able to attend and I hope that you found it useful. I would especially like to thank our teachers who gave their time to present and share with you all the exciting things that lie ahead this year.

Yesterday we held a special liturgy to commission our staff for the work that they do in educating the children in our school. We are blessed to have such a professional, approachable and fun staff. Thank you to all of them for the work that they do.

Yesterday was also a very special day in the history of Australia with Mr Rudd making an apology to the indigenous people. In this time of Lent it is important that we say sorry and forgive each other. This was a very brave move by Mr Rudd and in my opinion a very welcome and overdue one. May it help us all to see past the colour of our skin and be open to all people, whatever their differences might be.

The School Board AGM will be held on Tuesday March 4th. This is where the Board presents reports from the previous year and we elect new members to the Board. I encourage parents to consider being nominated for a position on the School Board, as there are a number of positions available. Nomination forms are included in this newsletter.

Today I have sent home our community calendar for you to place on your fridge. As we give you more dates in the newsletter I invite you to add them in order to keep you informed as to the various school events throughout the year. I hope you find it useful.

Congratulations to the Boyle family on the birth of Brock, a brother for Kiralie and Laurissa. May God's blessing be upon you at this very special time.

I have had a number of parents ask me recently about my health as I have lost a bit of weight over the past 18 months or so. Over the past couple of weeks I have been undergoing tests and they have detected a large malignant growth in my lower bowel. While this is serious and will require aggressive treatment the good news is that my CT scans show that everything else is clear. This is a primary cancer that hopefully can be cured.

My treatment will begin shortly and will consist of daily radiotherapy for 5 weeks along with two rounds of chemotherapy. I then wait another 6 to 9 weeks for an operation to remove the tumour and then I'm likely to be given four more rounds of chemotherapy. Hopefully then I'll be cured and be well on the way to a full recovery. However the next 6 to 12 months are going to be pretty ordinary for me. I intend to continue working to keep things as normal as possible during my treatment and anticipate little disruption to the school. Obviously though, I will require some time away from school when I have my operation but the Catholic Education Office will provide appropriate support at this time. All in all I intend to remain very positive and have lots of confidence in my specialist (Dr Luck – hopefully a good omen!). I ask that you keep me in your prayers in the months ahead and help me to remain strong and positive.

Cheers  
Peter Mercer  
Principal

## Commissioning Liturgy

Yesterday the Staff of St Thomas More were commissioned during our Beginning of Year Liturgy. During this ceremony the

Staff asked the Holy Spirit for courage, right judgement, wisdom and guidance as they teach and support the students at St Thomas More.

## Sacramental Program (Family Faith Formation)

The next workshop for the children and their families who will celebrate their Confirmation/Eucharist this year is on Saturday February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 12-2.30pm at St Thomas More Church, Laverstock Rd. Please contact Eileen Paterson at the Parish on ph: 8255 1191 if you have any queries, or contact me at school.

# R.E.



## Apology to the Stolen Generations

February 12, 2008

**Below is the wording of federal Parliament's full apology to the Stolen Generations:**

"Today we honour the Indigenous peoples of this land, the oldest continuing cultures in human history.

We reflect on their past mistreatment.

We reflect in particular on the mistreatment of those who were Stolen Generations – this blemished chapter in our nation's history.

The time has now come for the nation to turn a new page in Australia's history by righting the wrongs of the past and so moving forward with confidence to the future.

We apologise for the laws and policies of successive Parliaments and governments that have inflicted profound grief, suffering and loss on these our fellow Australians.

We apologise especially for the removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families, their communities and their country.

For the pain, suffering and hurt of these Stolen Generations, their descendants and for their families left behind, we say sorry.

To the mothers and the fathers, the brothers and the sisters, for the breaking up of families and communities, we say sorry.

And for the indignity and degradation thus inflicted on a proud people and a proud culture, we say sorry.

We the Parliament of Australia respectfully request that this apology be received in the spirit in which it is offered as part of the healing of the nation.

For the future we take heart; resolving that this new page in the history of our great continent can now be written.

We today take this first step by acknowledging the past and laying claim to a future that embraces all Australians.

A future where this Parliament resolves that the injustices of the past must never, never happen again.

A future where we harness the determination of all Australians, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, to close the gap that lies between us in life expectancy, educational achievement and economic opportunity.

A future where we embrace the possibility of new solutions to enduring problems where old approaches have failed.

A future based on mutual respect, mutual resolve and mutual responsibility.

A future where all Australians, whatever their origins, are truly equal partners, with equal opportunities and with an equal stake in shaping the next chapter in the history of this great country, Australia."



# TUCKSHOP

We are desperate for helpers. Please consider even one day in the term. On the job training and lunch is provided. Please speak with Chris in the Tuckshop or Kathy in the Front Office if you can help.

**TOMORROW: Annette and Sarah**

MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI
Natasha	Jane	Vanessa	Telethia	Annette
Yvonne	Lara	Andrea	Shannon	Sarah
			Sandra	

## Term 1 School Fees

Last week you should have received your family statement. I would like to remind families that if you choose to pay each term then 1/3 of the years fees are due by week 6, Friday 7 March 2008. This amount is listed on the fee structure which is listed below and is also available on St Thomas More's web site.

However, if you have a regular payment set up either through a direct debt or Centrelink payment then this amount is spread over the year. If you would like to start a direct debt or Centrelink payment, please come into the office and complete the forms asap. If you have any question please make an appointment to see me.

Megan Denholm

### St Thomas More School

The 2008 Fee Structure below includes the following

- \* Tuition Fees are charged for 1-3 students only
- \* Building Levy paid per family
- \* Composite Fees and I.T Fee is charged per child



#### 2008 FEES

No of students	Full Year (includes Fees and Levies)	Term 3 payments (includes Fees and Levies)	Monthly 8 payments (includes Fees and Levies)	Fortnightly 15 payments (includes Fees and Levies)	Weekly 30 payment (includes Fees and Levies)
1 Student	\$1,401	\$467	\$176	\$94	\$47
2 Students	\$2,242	\$748	\$281	\$150	\$75
3 Students	\$2,942	\$981	\$368	\$197	\$99
4 Students	\$3,137	\$1,046	\$392	\$210	\$105
5 Students	\$3,332	\$1,111	\$417	\$223	\$112
6 Students	\$3,527	\$1,176	\$441	\$236	\$118

#### 2008 REDUCED FEES

No of Students	Full Year (includes Fees and Levies)	Term 3 payments (includes Fees and Levies)	Monthly 8 payments (includes Fees and Levies)	Fortnightly 15 payments (includes Fees and Levies)	Weekly 30 payment (includes Fees and Levies)
1 Student	\$1,121	\$374	\$141	\$75	\$38
2 Students	\$1,793	\$598	\$225	\$120	\$60
3 Students	\$2,354	\$785	\$295	\$157	\$79
4 Students	\$2,549	\$850	\$319	\$170	\$85
5 Students	\$2,744	\$915	\$343	\$183	\$92
6 Students	\$2,939	\$970	\$368	\$196	\$98

Please Note: All Accounts whether paid each term, month, fortnight or week

MUST BE FINALISED BY THE END OF TERM THREE

Due Date for Term fee payments	Term 1 : Week 6 Term 2 : Week 5 Term 3 : Week 5
Due Date for Weekly/Fortnightly payments	Commence Week 1, Term 1 and continue each week/fortnight of each school Term 1 - 3
Due Date for Monthly payments	Monthly : 8 payments February to September Due by 15 <sup>th</sup> of each month
Direct Debit or Centrepay	Fees can be paid monthly, fortnightly, weekly - (See schedule above). If you have any questions please ask at the School Front Office

# UNIFORM SHOP

**NEXT OPEN : 8.30am to 9.30am  
Friday 15th February**



The uniform shop will be open tomorrow for general uniform sales.

**MONDAY 18th February - 8.30am - 10.00am**  
**New Tracksuit, Rugby Top and Socks**

We are inviting all **families who have already ordered** the new sports uniform last year to come in on Monday to make arrangements regard sizing and payments.

## LOST

1 small ring - pink in middle with 2 silvers on either side.  
Please return to Abby in Year 2/3CE



TWO WELLS HOCKEY CLUB



Volume 1, Issue 1  
February, 2008

## TWO WELLS BACK WITH VENGEANCE IN 2008!!

### REGISTRATION DAY

Sunday, March 2nd  
Clarlea Park  
Murray Road, Willaston  
Meet at the BBQ area

12 noon for a sausage sizzle and registration

Come along and meet the committee and fellow players

If you are unable to attend please ring the following

Junior Delegate—Margaret Thom (08) 82849332

Senior Men—Adam Sebastian (08) 82809502

Senior Women—Yvonne Wright (08) 85226661

We look forward to a successful and unified 2008!

Players and prospective Coaches are invited to attend for

U9, U11, U13, U15, U17/18

Senior Men & Senior Women

Training will be at

Princes Park

Nixon Terrace, Gawler

(soccer oval- next to the skate park)

Start dates will be confirmed at registration day



## 'Opportunity Knocks'

Fun and affordable music lessons available for beginner to advanced students. Lessons available at school, during school hours (after hours & lunch lessons may be available).

Students learn to play or sing their favourite rock and pop songs!

*Choose an instrument from the many that we offer.*

For more information contact Vanessa at **Learning Music Australia** on ph 88395 4993, mobile 0419 669 489, or email rockandpop@bigpond.com

Website [www.learningmusicaustralia.com.au](http://www.learningmusicaustralia.com.au)



## CHILD PROTECTION AWARENESS SEMINARS FOR VOLUNTEERS

### *The Facts about Mandatory Notification for Volunteers*

*This is a free workshop for volunteers in schools. "All volunteers must undergo a suitable induction process including training in OHS&W duty of care obligations, relevant school policies, first aid (where applicable), mandatory notification and child protection"*

**Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> March 2008**  
**9.00am-11.00am**  
*(Morning tea included)*  
**St. Mary Magdalene's School**  
**82 Fairfield Rd Elizabeth Grove**

**For further information please contact:**

**Terri Judd,**  
Project Officer,  
Federation of Catholic School Parent Communities. **Phone: 8301 6686**

..... **TEAR OFF BOOKING SLIP**

**Please re turn to the school office by Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> February 2008**

Yes, I will be attending the parent workshop 'Child Protection Awareness Seminars for Volunteers' on: **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March at 9.00am**

**Name:.....Ph.....**

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**The Annual General Meeting of the School Board will be held on Tuesday 4th March at 7.00pm.**

Parents are invited to nominate for a position on the School Board.



### **ST THOMAS MORE SCHOOL BOARD NOMINATION 2007/2008** **Nominations close Friday 29th February**

1 \_\_\_\_\_ would like to nominate \_\_\_\_\_  
(your name) (Nominee's Name)

Who has agreed to stand for election for St Thomas More School Board.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Your signature) (Nominee's Signature)

If you have time for a meeting a month Tues 7pm you might care to nominate as a Board member. Nominations may come from one-self or you may nominate another (the person nominated must agree) Extra forms available from the school. If more than 4 nominations are received there will be an Election.



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