

Mother's Love



Her love is like an island in life's ocean, vast and wide.
A peaceful, quiet shelter from the wind, the rain, the tide.
'Tis bound on the north by Hope, By Patience on the West,
By tender Counsel on the South, And on the East by Rest.
Above it like a beacon light Shine Faith, and Truth, and
Prayer;
And thro' the changing scenes of life, I find a haven there.

Author Unknown

Important Dates 2018:

Wednesday 9 May – Year 3's attending Parish Mass

Friday 11 May – Mother's Day Liturgy

Monday 14 May – P&F Meeting – Library 9.00am

From the Principals Desk

*Dear Parents and Members of our
School Community*

Welcome back to school for the beginning of Term Two. It was wonderful to see so many fresh and happy children back at school who were so willing to share their holiday stories. I hope that everyone had an enjoyable holiday and that family members had the opportunity to spend quality time together.

I certainly enjoyed my Professional Renewal Leave (PRL) educational experience in Canada and the learning I gained was significant, challenging and affirming. The group I undertook the tour with consisted of 31 Catholic Education of Western Australia (CEWA) principals' and/or CEWA office leaders. It was phenomenal to sit in a room and engage with world renowned educational academics who have guided and molded my thinking over the years. To ask questions of Michael Fullan and Ken Leithwood was an absolute highlight. We also did get to see some amazing tourist attractions on our off days. These included: Niagara Falls, Whistler and taking a gondola ride up Sulphur Mountain in Banff. The highlight for me was seeing and 'playing' in snow for the first time.

The Canadian system is certainly world class but I have

to say what we are doing in Western Australia is, in my opinion, of an even higher calibre.

There are a significant number of events planned for Term Two: Edu-dance; 1st Holy Communion, St. Thomas' and Interschool Cross Country Carnivals, Feast of St Thomas' and Semester One Reports to name but a few. Please note that this constitutes just a mere snapshot of some of the happenings ahead. Updated information will be posted on our website and in the school newsletter. The term planner has also been updated and can be found on the school website. Please check this on a regular basis as things can change and amendments are made to this online version.

Mothers' Day: I would like to extend an invitation to all mothers and grandmothers to our Mothers' Day Prayer Service, which will be held in St Thomas' Church at 8.45am Friday 11 May. Thanks to the Year One class for preparing this service. A scrumptious morning tea will be held after the event. If you are unable to attend due to work or other commitments, be assured that the prayers offered on the day will include a blessing for you. On behalf of the entire school community I wish all of our mothers a wonderful day on Sunday week and I hope you all receive a plethora of well-deserved spoiling!

P&F MEETING: Our next P&F meeting is scheduled for **Monday 14 May at 9.00am** in the school library.

KINDY 2019: We are currently taking applications for enrolments for four-year-old Kindergarten for **2019 and 2020**. Your child must be 4 years of age before June 30 2019 to be eligible for 2019 intake and 4 years of age before June 30 2020 for the 2020 grouping.

Please download forms from our school website for applications. Interviews will be taking place in Terms Two and Three. If you know of any families who may wish to send their child/children to St Thomas' please ensure you pass on this information.

NAPLAN: In two weeks, our Year Three and Five students will be sitting the NAPLAN testing. In 2018, St. Thomas' will be administering NAPLAN online for the first time. NAPLAN Online will be held from the 15th to the 25th May 2018.

NAPLAN tests are one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process and supplement the ongoing assessments made by teachers about each students' performance throughout the year.

We believe that the most effective way to prepare for NAPLAN is to ensure that literacy and numeracy skills, embedded in the normal curriculum, are taught throughout the year and at all year levels in ways that are engaging and meaningful for students. The West Australian Curriculum supports this work.

We wish all children completing these tests well. If your child is undertaking these tests please ensure that they are well rested, have had a good breakfast, are at school on time and that their routines are kept as normal as possible.

ANZAC DAY CEREMONY: I wish to thank Paddy McAuliffe, Maya Ness and Mr. von Bergheim for attending the Anzac Day service at the Claremont War Memorial on Anzac Day.

SCHOOL/PARISH MASS: The next Parish/School Mass will take place on Saturday, 19 May, at 5.30pm. The Year Four class and Mrs. Sullivan are organising the Mass and sausage sizzle. Even though it is the Year Four Class organising this event, it would be wonderful to see the Church full with St Thomas' families.

SCHOOL UNIFORM: A big thank you to the students who consistently wear their school uniform so proudly and their parents who ensure they are dressed appropriately. There are a few areas that need to be addressed in regards to uniforms. The main areas of concern are listed below with the correct uniform requirements explained, as outlined in the 2018 Parent Handbook.

Hair

- Shoulder length hair must be tied back
- White or navy blue hair accessories to be worn (I am also happy to allow maroon)
- Radical hairstyles are not acceptable

Whilst it is not explicitly stated in the Uniform List, hair must be brushed and presented in a tidy fashion. Please ensure that your child's fringe is not too long and hanging in his/her face, affecting their ability to complete their classwork without interference.

Ties

School ties are to be worn with winter uniform.

Rain Jacket

The wet weather jacket is to be worn to and from school and not inside the classroom. School jumpers or sports jacket can be worn in the classroom.

PARENT CONTACT: In accordance with our Pastoral Care beliefs we understand that in this financial climate, it may become difficult to keep up with educational/financial demands. If you find yourself in this position, please do not hesitate to contact myself to make alternate arrangements e.g. incremental payments. All conversations and arrangements are kept strictly confidential.

SCHOOL FEES: A VERY BIG "Thank you" to those families who have paid their fees. A gentle "reminder" for those yet to pay their first instalment that they are now overdue. Please see Julie or Leanne in the Office for any further queries.

With regards and best wishes

Justin Tuohy

Principal

CECWA Strategic Directions

Dear Parents and Caregivers

The Catholic Education Commission of Western Australia (CECWA) has a strategic purpose to ensure that Catholic education is delivered and managed through the system of Catholic Education Western Australia (CEWA) in a responsible and effective manner, working within the Catholic Mission, appropriate standards and regulations. The CECWA has commenced the process of developing the strategic direction for Catholic education in Western Australia from 2019 to 2021. This fundamental work will enable the CECWA to consolidate and communicate our key objectives for coming years.

The first phase of this consultation involves gathering feedback from our Catholic education community that will inform the draft Strategic Directions 2019 - 2021.

We would like to invite you to complete a survey to provide your valued input. Visit <https://connect.cewa.edu.au> to complete the survey, open for participation until Friday, 11 May. There are hard copies available at reception should you wish to complete one.

The CECWA is eager to listen to our community through this important process and I thank you in anticipation for your participation in helping to shape the future direction of Catholic education throughout Western Australia.



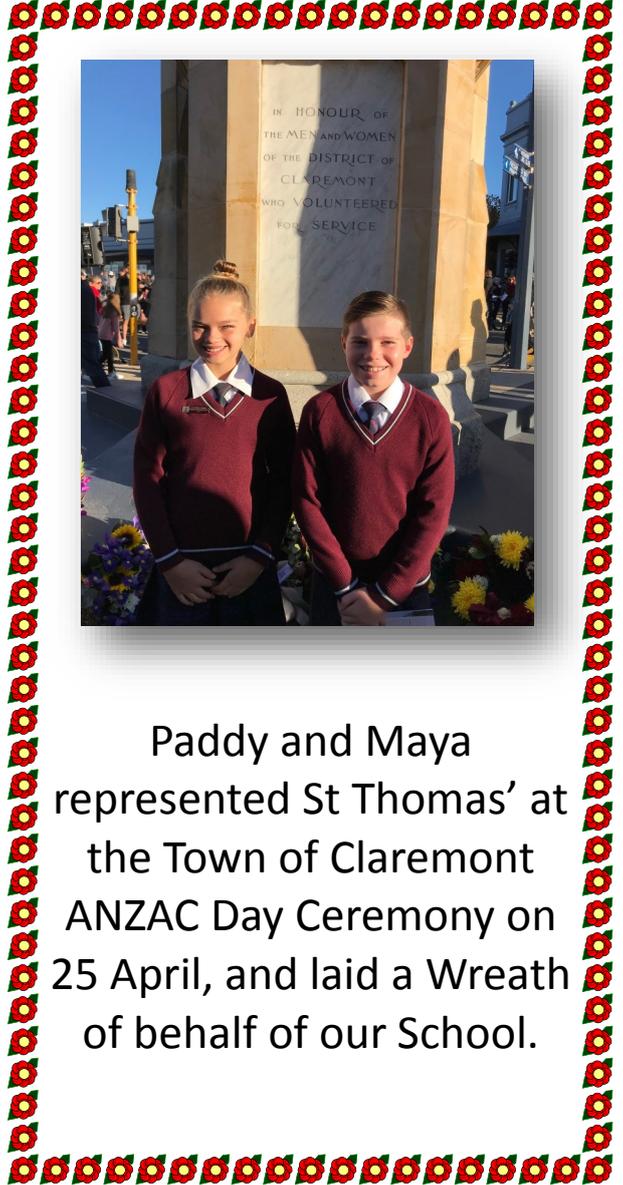
STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS 2019 - 2021

The Catholic Education Commission of Western Australia is seeking your feedback to help shape the future direction of Catholic education throughout Western Australia.

Visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/cecwa-strategic-directions> to complete the survey and have your say.

Your valued input will inform the Strategic Directions 2019 - 2021. The survey closes on 11 May.

For more information visit
connect.cewa.edu.au
Questions?
Contact cecwa@cewa.edu.au



Paddy and Maya represented St Thomas' at the Town of Claremont ANZAC Day Ceremony on 25 April, and laid a Wreath of behalf of our School.

PARISH COOKBOOK: The first run of the Parish Cookbook was SOLD OUT! Thank you to all who purchased copies. The second run of 100 books is now available. **GET YOURS NOW—ONLY \$10.00 A COPY.** Funds raised will go towards the replacement of the gutters, etc on the Church. Great Mother's Day gift. Or birthday gift. Great recipes for all the cooks in your family.

With Mothers Day just around the corner we would like to let you know that we will be having a Mothers Day stall again this year. The stall will be open from 8.15am - Wednesday 9th, Thursday 10th and Friday 11th of May (next week) just near the drive through area. A range of lovely gifts will be available to purchase for either \$5 or \$10. If your child would like to purchase a gift for their Mum, Nan or other important person then please ensure they have cash in an envelope as there will be no eftpos facility. Please note this a P&F fundraising initiative.

We are hoping there are some dads who will be able to help out at the stall. If you are available on any of these days for half an hour next week then please email melissatrend@hotmail.com.

Thank you



Welcome back to Term 2 Sports.

RUNNER'S CLUB TRAINING : Will be commencing Week 2. Two sessions will be on offer.

- ⇒ **Thursday mornings** meet at Rowe Park by 7:45am.
Parents are required to help supervise and walk students back to school.
- ⇒ **Friday lunchtimes**—first half of lunch.



A note will be sent out shortly regarding information for the Cross Country.

Sharon Seaman
Physical Education Teacher

Children and parents out and about after school on Wednesday.

Getting ready for the sporting season ahead.

Best of luck to all teams that St Thomas' children participate in.





PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL 2018

The Performing Arts Festival for Catholic Schools and Colleges provides an opportunity for students to perform in a public forum, developing the confidence, self-esteem and social skills of those who wish to participate. Participants are provided with positive and helpful guidance in the form of a written adjudication and an opportunity to share their gifts and talents with a wider audience.

The festival runs during term 3. I have a calendar of events if you would like to check specific dates.

Students from years 4/5/6 who play a musical instrument and are interested in performing this year, please complete the entry form below and return it to school as soon as possible.

**A COPY OF THE SHEET MUSIC MUST BE ATTACHED
TO THE ENTRY FORM.**

An application fee of \$17.00 for each solo entry or \$27.00 for duets, will be added to school fees.

Applications close May 6 Term 2, Week 1.

Musical Regards

Cathy Cotton

catherine.cotton@cewa.edu.au



Performing Arts Festival 2018

**A COPY OF THE SHEET MUSIC MUST BE ATTACHED
TO THE ENTRY FORM.**

St Thomas' School entry form

Student _____ YR _____

Instrument _____

Music tutor _____

Title of piece _____

Composer of piece _____

Extend After School Care at St Thomas' Primary School

Fortnightly Recap

Welcome back to school everyone! Two weeks term break have flown by and we are thrilled to get back into the fun of before & after school care. A big warm welcome to all the new families joining Extend this term, we are so happy that our number is growing. To kick off the new term we have been doing fun games and activities such as flower pom-pom painting, flower craft, drawing and colouring in. Nature's Day- making "Nature Faces" and "Paint with Nature" activity. We had this "Pizza Day", being the most popular activity of the week. In the morning this day, we made pretend pizza using the paper plates, red paint and cut-outs art materials for toppings. Then in the afternoon, we had the pizza cooking activity. Children had so much fun making their own pizza, choosing their favourite toppings to put- capriccum, onion, ham and cheese. Yum! We have also been busy making cubbies, cardboard playhouse, giant marble race track, playing lego and fun outdoor games including Football, Wooden Quoits and Bowling. Stay tuned for more info about our upcoming activities for Term 2!

If you have any queries about our school care service, you are welcome to pop in and say hello during one of our sessions. This is a great way to introduce your child to our educators and to what's available to play with!

We hope you have a great week!

Liezel, Service Coordinator and the Extend Team



Our Extend Superstars are:

Caitlin Maguire for being cheerful and friendly and for always using her beautiful manners

Amelie Goodall for being gentle, respectful and for always being a good listener to the educator

What's on next week?

Monday 07 May: Folding Craft Stick Mother's Day Card

Tuesday 08 May: Bracelet and Necklace Making for Mum

Wednesday 09 May: Tissue Paper Flower making

Thursday 10 May: Carrot Muffins cooking activity

Friday 11 May: DIY candle holder



PARENT PORTAL: www.lookedafter.com