Dear Parents

I hope you all had an enjoyable long weekend and your family has been able to avoid the illnesses that are around at the moment. This week is week 7 and is a week when there is no homework for the children. We have this Sabbath week each term during week 7. We have no meetings at school and encourage all families to spend some quality time together.

Wild Wild West
The tickets are on sale for this social evening to be held on Saturday next week June 22. We need some more people to come along to make the evening a success. Please come along for a fun night out by booking through the front office or by contacting Kelly Ciampa.

Help Wanted
Assistance is needed from 6pm on Friday, 21 June to help set up the hall and clean up on Sunday 23 June from 11am. If you can help out please contact Kelly Ciampa on 0431 489 884 or email mtsfundraising@gmail.com Many hands make light work.

Fundraising
Thank you to all those who have returned their money from the sale of plants. If you do not wish to buy the plants please return the unsold items as soon as possible so we can finalise the fund raiser.

School Fee Reminder
As we approach the end of Term 2 I would like to remind parents to ensure that school fees are paid over the next couple of weeks so we can finalise our payments before the end of the term.

School Reports
The teachers are busy finalising the school reports at the moment. As usual reports will be posted home at the end of week 9 and if required interviews can be arranged for the last week of term 2.

Cyber Safety Presentation
Next Tuesday some representatives from the Australian Federal Police are visiting our school to discuss cyber safety with our 4/5 students. With social media being so prevalent in our society today this is a great opportunity to develop the students’ knowledge about the rights and responsibilities associated with being a member of this digital age. We are hoping to host a parent information night on this same topic in the coming months.
Happy birthday to everyone who is celebrating their birthday this week including Gracie Kelso, Skyla Buckley, Jazlyne Duvenhjage, Blake Dooley and Laura Trussler. Have a great day birthday stars.
WHOLE SCHOOL FOCUS:
The Journey

Our value for this week is: **Compassion**

At Mother Teresa we are going to show compassion towards those we meet in our class and on the playground by:

- Empathising
- Expressing care
- Describing feelings
- Taking action to assist other
- Responding to other’s needs

At this time of the term, the teachers are busy finalising your child’s Semester One report. The following prayer serves as a reminder of why we choose to teach in a Catholic school.

**We teach religion all day long.**
**We teach it in mathematics, by accuracy.**
**We teach it in language, by learning to say what we mean.**
**We teach it in history, by humanity.**
**We teach it in geography, by breadth of mind.**
**We teach it in craft, by thoroughness.**
**We teach it in astronomy, by reverence.**
**We teach it by good manners to one another, and by truthfulness in all things.**

**We teach students to build the Church of Christ out of the actual relationships in which they stand to their teachers and to their classmates.**

Please Note: All persons mentioned in the following story are not meant, in any way, to refer to actual people; well, there might be some glimpses of real people.

“When Mrs Carling arrived for her daughter’s parent-teacher meeting, the teacher appeared to be a little flustered, especially when she started to tell Mrs Carling that her little girl didn’t always pay attention in class and, at times, was a little flighty. ‘For example, sometimes she’ll do the wrong page in her workbook,’ explained the teacher, ‘and I’ve even found her sitting at the wrong desk.’

‘I don’t understand any of that,’ replied Mrs Carling defensively. ‘Where could she have got that from?’

The teacher went on to assure Mrs Carling that her daughter was still doing fine at school and was a courteous and likeable little girl. ‘By the way, Mrs Carling, our appointment was for tomorrow.’” Author unknown.

Being a parent is a hard job, a complicated job and sometimes a lonely job. Probably, it’s the most important job parents will ever have, because as their child’s first teacher, they will make a difference one way or another. However, parents have the opportunity to form a viable partnership with their child’s teacher, because together they have a common goal: a successful school year for each child. Teachers need to know that we are all on their side and if we aren’t, we need to be able to express ourselves as to why not.

It’s important to remember that parents and teachers are partners in helping each child achieve a successful transition to adulthood. This combined support is essential if the transition is to be a positive developmental experience for your child. A good relationship with your child’s teacher will make it easier for you to stay informed about your child’s progress across all areas of schooling and to work together if problems arise during the year.

On occasion, you might find that your teacher has constructive criticism about your child; it’s important to keep an open mind to the teacher’s comments. Neither the child nor the teacher is perfect – nor parents for that matter – so, if a problem arises, it’s important to consider both sides of the story. The outcome should be the one that helps your child succeed at school. There needs to be a sensitivity that respects the teacher as a well-trained professional and respects the parents who have special knowledge of their child.

Teachers are dedicated and caring and want to be good teachers. Jonathan Sarks, Rabbi and author of “The Politics of Hope”, said about them: “Teachers open our eyes to the world. They give us curiosity and confidence. They teach us to ask questions. They connect us to our past and future. They are the guardians of our social heritage. Life without a teacher is surely not a life.”

Everyone likes to be appreciated and teachers are no exception. If we go for the “We” attitude and work with our child’s teacher, then our child will have a great school year and so will we, and, with a bit of luck, so will the teacher.

**FIRST EUCHARIST /RECONCILIATION**
*(children in Year 3 or older)*

**Compulsory Parent Information Session:**
Tuesday 18 June at 1:00pm or 7:00pm

**Commitment and Enrolment Mass:**
Saturday 29 June at 6pm OR Sunday 30 June at 9:30am OR 5:30pm

Held at Holy Spirit Church, Burdekin Ave, Amaroo

Peace and Best Wishes
Anne Leet Religious Education co-ordinator
Week 7 is almost over and we are rapidly approaching the school holidays and the middle of the year. However the children are still working hard in the classrooms and making some amazing discoveries.

The Blue Whales presented a fantastic assembly on Wednesday and gave us some interesting information about the different countries they have been investigating, so well done for all the hard work that went into the assembly.

Meanwhile in the classrooms, the Yellow Seahorses have been looking at different road signs and what they mean. They have set up a road using masking tape on the floor, to practise driving. They will be discussing the rules of the road and the children will be obtaining their driving licences in preparation for building and driving their go-kart. As some of you may have noticed Ms Sadler is a keen footy fan and has been wearing footy tops when her team has been successful. This has instigated lots of conversations, and the children have decided to have a ‘footy day’. They will therefore be looking at the different footy teams, their strips and other interesting footy facts in preparation for the day.

The Purple Starfish have enjoyed a short yet busy week this week. They have organised the plan for outside and tried to think of new ideas of how they can use and arrange the toys to make it exciting for everyone. They looked at their world map, and discussed the different countries and areas they could see, drawing and writing their thoughts. They also made some wonderful hessian squares, with beads threaded through...ready to make a patchwork wall hanging.

The Red Jellyfish have been looking at animals and discussed which animals they would like to learn about. The children sorted animals into groups. Some by features and others by where the animals lived. They also made bubble pictures and looked at the patterns and colour changes.

As well as practising for their assembly, the Blue Whales have started a conversation about aliens! They read the book, 'Aliens in Underpants’, and discussed what aliens may look like, in preparation for making their own aliens next week.

And finally the Green Turtles have continued with their stained glass window work, and made stained glass window biscuits. The children had a great time crushing the lollies to make the glass. They have also started talking about caterpillars and the life cycle of butterflies after Ellen brought her butterflies in for news last week.

The Rainbow Fish have been having a great time getting to know their new classmates, the hermit crabs. This week they have designed a hermit crab play area for them to play in!

Thank you for your continued support,

Clare Addinell and the ELC team.
Last week we introduced our fourth social skill; Peacefully Resolving Disagreements.

During last week’s Focus Assembly, Year 1 Amber showed us the four steps to take in order to peacefully resolve a disagreement with a friend. These steps ensure that we resolve our disagreements in a calm, sensible and respectful way.

At Mother Teresa we ...
Talk It Out Together

1. Stop the problem. Cool down.
2. Talk about the problem. Take turns talking and listening.
3. Think of solutions to the problem.
4. Pick a solution you both like and go with it.

A Few Wise Words: When asked what it means to peacefully resolve a disagreement, Year 4/5 student Sophie Rodda answered; “If some people are having an argument or disagreement, instead of getting angry at each other and possibly hurting each other, they can talk it out and find a solution or a compromise that will hopefully suit both people”.

This Week’s Challenge!
Sit down with your child and ask them what peacefully resolving a disagreement looks like, feels like and sounds like.

Either email the responses to lauren.maher@cg.catholic.edu.au or give them to Mrs Maher in person.

The responses will be made into a ‘Y Chart’ and published in next week’s newsletter.
MATHS – CHEEKY CHALLENGE
EXPLORING SYMMETRY

Here is the next Maths Cheeky Challenge...

Go for it Mathematicians!!

Can you use one of these poly plug frames to create a symmetrical pattern? You will need to print a copy of these frames. (They are on the next page).

For an extra cheeky challenge you could create symmetrical patterns with a partner. For each challenge you will need to print off the poly plug frames from the next page. You take one and your partner takes one. You make a pattern/artwork by colouring in a few of the circles (you partner is not allowed to watch you do this). When you are done flash it to your partner. They need to try to recreate it from memory! Put your two frames side by side – have they created a mirror image? Are they symmetrical?

For a super cheeky challenge try to create some rotational symmetrical masterpieces.

Reflection Symmetry
Reflection symmetry is when an image has one line of symmetry cutting the image in half and one half of the image is the mirror reflection of the other.

Rotational Symmetry
With Rotational Symmetry the image is rotated (around a central point) so that it appears 2 or more times. How many times it appears is called the Order.

Mr Lowe and I would love to see and share your hard work!!!
We will publish your Maths Cheeky Challenge answers in next week’s newsletter!!

Remember to keep sending in those challenge solutions.
CONSIDER and REMEMBER:
◇ How many colours will you use?
◇ Will your image demonstrate reflection symmetry or rotational symmetry?
◇ Can your family or friends create a mirror image of your masterpiece?
◇ CREATE YOUR SYMMETRICAL MASTERPIECE
◇ OR CREATE AN IMAGE AND HAVE YOU’RE A FRIEND OR FAMILY MEMBER CREATE THE MIRROR IMAGE.
◇ SCAN (as a PDF) OR PHOTOGRAPH YOUR SYMMETRICAL MASTERPIECE
◇ LABEL ITS PARTS/FRACTIONS
◇ MAIL YOUR ANSWERS AND IMAGES IN TO MISS JEFFRIES FOR PUBLICATION
◇ LOOK FOR YOUR MASTERPIECES IN NEXT WEEK’S NEWSLETTER
◇ BRING IN YOUR MASTERPIECES SO THEY CAN BE DISPLAYED ON THE MATHS CHEEKY CHALLENGE WALL.

PARENTS
◇ This challenge helps children:
◇ Visualise and conceptualise symmetry (reflection symmetry and rotational symmetry),
◇ Develop memory recall,
◇ Problem solve to create symmetrical images.
Congratulations and thank you for completing the Cheeky Challenge.

Student Responses

Maria created her number line using a sparkly pen, an A4 piece of paper and glue. The love hearts are for counting by 5s and the people are for counting by 10s.

Thank you to all those students who participated in the Tournament of Minds

Tournament of Minds

We would like to congratulate you all as we were very impressed with your hard work, enthusiasm and the standard to which each of you participated in a team and solved challenges! You should be very proud of your efforts, we sure are!

We are very pleased and excited to announce that Mother Teresa School will have three teams competing in the Tournament of Minds Competition held at Australian University on 25th August, 2013.

Congratulations to: Payton Askew, Angus Paton, Jessica Cousins, Amelia Machin, Sam Freire, Olivia Mugridge, Lara Mears-Smith, Claire Brooker, Sarah Watt, Emily O’Mahoney, Petria Scott, Olivia Norman, Janaya Abbott, Owen Kelly, Isabella Hodge, Tiana Hoare, Grace Dwyer, Megan Hare and Thomas Ryan.

This is the beginning of an adventure in problem solving and discovery. The next few weeks will be challenging, busy and exciting for these children. They will be learning to: work together with other team members, make decisions, solve problems and communicate effectively with one another. The teams will receive their copies of this year’s Challenges at the beginning of Term Three. They then have 5 weeks to formulate a solution to their chosen Challenge and present their solution as a 10 minute play on Tournament Day.

Brooke Jeffries and Lissy Leet
Mother Teresa School Presents

Wild Wild West Night

- Lucky Door Prizes
- Raffle
- Silent Auction
- Mechanical Bull
- Texas Hold 'Em
- Roulette
- DJ
- Line Dancing
- Home-Style Food & Drink

Saturday 22nd June
6:30pm - Sunrise

Tickets on sale NOW
Giddy-Up!

There's only 16 day to go till the
Wild Wild West Night

Hurry in and grab your tickets!