Dear Parents

The beautiful weather continues as we approach the winter. I hope Sunday will be a very special day for the Mums at Mother Teresa. Happy Mothers’ Day. Children who have brought in $5 for a gift will be taken down to the hall tomorrow to select a gift for Mum.

From next week we would like all the children to be dressed in their winter school uniform with their black school shoes for their normal uniform and joggers for the sports days. Hats off day is not until the end of this month so we need to continue our hats on or play in the shade rule until the end of the month.

Chicken Pox

We have had a report of Chicken Pox in Kindergarten yesterday so I am informing all families to be on the lookout for any signs of this disease. It is my understanding that children can still contract a mild form of Chicken Pox even though they have been immunised. If in doubt please consult your family doctor.

PJ day

Just for fun tomorrow the Hospitality team from year 4/5 is inviting the children to come dressed in their pyjamas for the day. Please ensure the children wear joggers tomorrow and donate a gold coin.

Parish Centre Opening

An invitation is extended to all Mother Teresa families to attend the Pentecost Sunday Mass at 9.30am on Sunday May 19. After Mass there will be the official opening of the parish centre. Drinks and food will be available after Mass.

Parent Rep Meeting

My apologies for putting the incorrect night for this meeting in the newsletter last week. The meeting is tonight at 7.00pm in the staff room and a note was sent home on Tuesday with a special invitation to the parent reps for each class.

Community Council Meeting LIFE

On Tuesday May 21 there will an Open Meeting of the Community Council to which all parents are invited. At the meeting we shall discuss and demonstrate the learning platform LIFE. The meeting will begin at 7.00pm. Members of the CC will meet before the Open Meeting at 6.00pm in the staff room. If you are coming along to the meeting, please let Donna know at the front office so we can accommodate the parents in terms of seating.

NAPLAN

The children in Year 3 and 5 will take part in NAPLAN testing next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. This is a National Testing Program that takes place each year at this time.
Happy birthday to everyone who is celebrating their birthday this week including Georgia Mormanis, Suzanna Radic, Larni Bush, Declan O’Grady, Jon Savos, Aidan Wunsch, Thomas Abad, Alexia Ryan and Ellen Johns. Have a great day birthday stars.

Mothers’ Day Stall
Friday, 10 May
$5 per gift

Preschool
Abagail Wilson (Yellow Seahorses)
Jamie Cadiz (Blue Whales)
Emma Walters (Purple Starfish)
Stefan Cicchini (Red Turtles)

Kinder
Joshua Blinkhorn (Aqua)
Esther Huetter (Sapphire)
Tiarna Ruberto (Teal)
Jacob Korab (Turquoise)

Year One:
Dante Comacchio (Amber)
Aakash Senthil (Ochre)
Connor Norman (Orange)
Zac Briese (Tangerine)

Year Two
Isabella Hope (Emerald)
Jordan Whittaker (Jade)
Kaidan Whittaker (Lime)

Year Three
Jackson Hahn (Lilac)
Gabriel Comacchio (Violet)

Year Four/Five
Emma Howse (Crimson)
Emily Sajler (Magenta)
WHOLE SCHOOL FOCUS: The Journey

The value we are focussing on for the next two weeks is: RESPECT

At Mother Teresa School we will try to:
• Makes positive choices
• Listens politely
• Has a positive attitude
• Treats others as they wish to be treated
• Is aware of the impact they have on their surroundings
• Cares for their belongings

Thank you to Mrs Smith and Year 4/5 Crimson on presenting a wonderful focus assembly with it’s catchy slogan ‘We Expect Respect’.

ASCENSION

This Sunday we commemorate the Feast of the Ascension which celebrates Jesus' ascension into heaven 40 days after his resurrection. A day of great joy! While we do not see Jesus with our eyes, we know that he is still with us. Or perhaps we see Jesus whenever we look at another person. Jesus is as close to us as we are to each other.

Father,
help us keep in mind that Christ our Saviour lives with you in glory and promised to remain with us until the end of time.

MOTHERS’ DAY

Sunday is also Mother’s Day. Easter is a good time for Mother’s Day because mothers are people who give life. They try to see that their children are fed, healed, comforted and protected. We give thanks for our mothers, stepmothers, grandmothers, Godmothers, aunts and anyone who is like a mother to us.

"God could not be everywhere and therefore he made mothers."
~Jewish proverb~

"Of all the rights of women, the greatest is to be a mother."
~By Lin Yutang~

"The heart of a mother is a deep abyss at the bottom of which you will always find forgiveness."
~By Honore’ de Balzac (1799-1850)~

"Youth fades; love droops, the leaves of friendship fall; A mother’s secret hope outlives them all."
~By Oliver Wendell Holmes (1809-1894)~

"The joys of motherhood are never fully experienced until the children are in bed."
~~Author Unknown.~~

Beattitudes for Mothers’ Day

Blessed is the mother who understands her children, for she shall inherit a kingdom of memories. Blessed is the mother who knows how to comfort, for she shall inherit her children’s devotion. Blessed is the mother who guides by the path of righteousness, for she shall be proud of her offspring. Blessed is the mother who is never shocked, for she shall receive confidence. Blessed is the mother who teaches respect, for she shall be respected. Blessed is the mother who emphasises the good and minimises the bad, for in like manner her children themselves make evaluations. Blessed is the mother who treats her children as she would be treated, for her home shall be filled with happiness. Blessed is the mother who has character strong enough to withstand the inconsiderate remarks and resentments of the growing child, for again in due time, she shall be honoured.

Wishing all our mothers and grandmothers a very happy day on Sunday:

Peace and Best Wishes
Anne Leet Religious Education co-ordinator

Peace and Best Wishes
Anne Leet Religious Education co-ordinator
The children had a fantastic day on Friday when they visited Canberra Theatre to watch Possum Magic. It was a great performance and the children were a credit to the school with their fantastic behaviour.

This week in the classrooms the children have been very busy making some lovely surprises for Mothers’ Day. They have worked really hard on their presents so we hope that you like them.

What else have the children been up to this week in the classrooms?

The Purple Starfish have been continuing their space project by talking about the different planets. They tried marble painting and made some wonderful pictures. They are all looking forward to Mrs Newth’s return next week.

After returning from Possum Magic on Friday the Green Turtles had a little Possum Magic party in the classroom with Vegemite sandwiches, Lamingtons and Minties—it was great fun, and very yummy! Their study of the story has also lead into a discussion of our reflections and being invisible and visible. We shall see where this will lead over the next few days.

In the Blue Whales Max brought in some elastic and asked if they could thread leaves on to it. The children made a variety of crowns and bracelets and other adornments. Will Stubbs also brought in a book about the human body, and the children were very interested in reading it. They then decided to make a big skeleton, which they called ‘Pinkie Pie’! They read another book about skeletons called ‘Funny Bones’.

The Red Jellyfish have been completing some superhero training. They breezed through their training course on Monday and they are working towards completing their other training requirements to gain a superhero squad certificate.

And finally in the Yellow Seahorses they have been moving their furniture around to make space for their new Australian animals area, they have also brought a hay bale inside which the children have been enjoying playing on. They have been discussing and making a list of what animals they know that are native to Australia.

The children have also been practising for their class assembly which is next Wednesday, and they are looking forward to all their parents coming to watch.

Thank you for your continued support,

Clare Addinell and the ELC team
2013 RECOGNITION AWARDS

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN CATHOLIC EDUCATION

This is a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate outstanding achievements by individuals, groups and whole schools within the System.

I encourage all staff, Principals, parents, School Councils and Boards to consider nominating an individual staff member or a faculty or a team of teachers or indeed the whole school for outstanding achievement in the past 12 months.

These annual awards are not limited to any one category. You may wish to celebrate improvement in a curriculum area or the successful introduction of a program or excellent teaching. The scope of the award is limited only by your experiences as a school community.

I urge you all to participate in the 2013 Recognition Awards

Who can nominate?
Any member of the school community can nominate another.

What happens to a nomination?
All nominations will be ratified by the Recognition Panel. The Panel will forward the final recommendations to the Director.

How many nominations can a school lodge?
As many as a school community sees worthy.

Where do I get the nomination form?
The form is available from the Principal or on the CEO Intranet after 20 May 2013

When will the awards be presented?
The Awards will be presented during the Catholic Schools Week Celebrations in Canberra on 28 March 2014

What does a successful nominee receive?
A certificate is presented acknowledging the success of the nomination. The school is encouraged to use this award as part of the promotion of their own school.

When do nominations close for this year?
Nominations will close 23 November 2013. Nomination Forms will be on the CEO Intranet after 20 May.
We move into the second week of learning about “RESPECT”. The children has been putting this new skill into practice and the staff have noticed the children showing an increased level of respect. The students should know our slogan and will be familiar with the do’s and don’ts

"Expect Respect"

At Mother Teresa School we all “Expect Respect” when interacting with all members of the school community!

Quiz your child/children on the do’s and don’ts of RESPECT

**Do’s**

- Begin each day with a promise to respect yourself and others.
- Use your manners- please, thank you, excuse me, you’re welcome.
- When someone is talking use your eyes and ears to listen.
- Listen carefully to what others say.
- Look for the good in others.
- Speak in a quiet and calm voice.
- Say nice things to others.
- Take turns and share.
- Respect your own property (jumper, hat, pencils).
- Respect school property (sports equipment, toilets).
- Treat others the ways you want to be treated.

**Don’ts**

- Make fun or laugh at others.
- Make faces, roll your eyes, argue or back chat.
- Look at the ground when someone is talking to you.
- Yell or scream if you are upset.
- Tell others what to do.
- Put down others.
- Ignore others.
- Say others are bad or not good enough.

Weekly Challenge – Interview your child/children and ask them... What are 3 ways we can show RESPECT for our school environment?

Email your child/children’s responses to me and I will put them in next week’s newsletter.

brendon.pye@cg.catholic.edu.au

See the next 4 pages for – Parent tips and responses from last week’s challenge
SEE THE VALUE IN SOCIAL SKILLS

10 Parenting Tips for Teaching Respect:

(1) **Model it:** If you want them to do it, you have to do it too.

(2) **Expect it:** When your expectations are reasonably high, children rise to the occasion.

(3) **Teach it:** Give children the tools they need to show you respect.

(4) **Praise it:** When you see or hear your children using respectful language and making respectful choices, recognise it and praise them for making positive, respectful decisions.

(5) **Discuss it:** Pick out times when you see other children using respectful or disrespectful language or behaviour and discuss with it your children.

(6) **Correct it:** Be strong, firm and direct when teaching respect. At the same time, be sure you are being respectful yourself while correcting the behaviour.

(7) **Acknowledge it:** Don’t just let things slide! Be sure to notice when respectful behaviour is being exhibited and make sure to call them on disrespectful behaviour!

(8) **Understand it:** Your children are growing and learning. Sometimes word choice and behavioural decisions are made because they do not have the correct words or behaviour to relay “I’m tired,” “I’m frustrated,” or “I’m angry.”

(9) **Reinforce it:** Remind children of their good decisions so that they remember how it felt, the praise they received, and the overall experience of being respectful.

(10) **Reward it:** Respectful behaviour should be something that children want to do without overindulgent rewards. However, it is good to associate respectful behaviour with intangible rewards such as praise, recognition, extra responsibility, and privileges.

Teaching respect takes patience, time, and a willingness to do as you preach. Time isn’t everything though, is it? It takes years to rear a respectful child and only moments to fill one with anger and disrespect.

(http://www.drrobynsilverman.com/parenting-tips/10-tips-on-teaching-respect-to-children-you-cant-get-it-if-you-dont-give-it/)

See next page for children’s responses to weekly challenge
SEE THE VALUE IN SOCIAL SKILLS

Last Weeks Challenge– Interview your child/children and complete the following questions...

- What are three ways you can show your teacher respect?
- What are three ways you can show your friends respect?
- What are three ways you can show your parents respect?

Here are the responses-

Lily Nutt (year 1 ochre)
What are 3 ways you can show your teachers respect
- sit on your bottom and listen
- eyes on the teacher
- Speak nicely to the teacher

What are 3 ways you can show your friends respect
- listen to your friends carefully to what they say.
- playing fairly together and being nice.
- make sure your friends are happy with what you say.

What are 3 ways you can show your parents respect.
- talk to them politely
- be fair to your parents by doing what they ask
- listen to your parents

Mikayla Nutt (green turtles preschool)
What are 3 ways you can show your teachers respect
- do what the teacher says.
- put hands on your head when mrs Blythe rings the bell.
- holding her hand and helping her have a nice day and say thank you.

What are 3 ways you can show your friends respect
- helping your friend who is sad.
- Playing nicely with Emily and Amelia
- sharing my toys after show and tell.

What are 3 ways you can show your parents respect.
- being nice to them
- helping them clean up
- giving something nice to them.

Jordan Wilson (Year 4/5)
What are three ways you can show your teacher respect?
- Put up your hand when you would like to speak
- Use good manners
- Show whole body listening

Continued on next page
SEE THE VALUE IN SOCIAL SKILLS

Jordan Wilson continued...
What are three ways you can show your friends respect?
- Help them if they are hurt or upset
- Include them in your games
- Always be a good sport and never cheat

What are three ways you can show your parents respect?
- Talk to them in a respectful way
- Thank them for being great parents
- Do chores to help them

Madeline Dooley (Year 4/5)
What are three ways you can show your teacher respect?
- Use good manners
- Use a calm voice
- Put your hand up when you would like to speak

What are three ways you can show your friends respect?
- Use kind words
- Don’t exclude them from games
- Always share your belongings

What are three ways you can show your parents respect?
- Don’t back chat
- Don’t complain when you are doing your chores
- Always use your manners

Nick Ross Verco (Year 4/5)
What are three ways you can show your teacher respect?
- Whole-body listening
- Use your manners
- Wait your turn to talk

What are three ways you can show your friends respect?
- Agreeing and listening to their ideas
- Sharing and playing fairly
- Help them if they are hurt

What are three ways you can show your parents respect?
- Clean your room without being asked
- Make them breakfast in bed
- Set the dinner table

See next page for more responses
Leanne Evans (aka Little Miss Irish)

What are three ways you can show your teacher respect?
- Whole-body listening
- Don’t talk over the teacher when they speaking
- Always show good behaviour in class

What are three ways you can show your friends respect?
- Don’t boss them around
- Ask them what game they would like to play
- Help them out if they are upset.

What are three ways you can show your parents respect?
- Do as you are told
- Do your homework without being asked
- Don’t interrupt them when they are talking.

Matteo Vardenega (Year 2)

What are three ways you can show your teacher respect?
- By using your manners
- Making good choice
- Following our class rules

What are three ways you can show your friends respect?
- Use kind words
- Play fairly
- Take them to the front office if they are hurt

What are three ways you can show your parents respect?
- Show them that you love them
- Helping out with jobs around the house
- Make them breakfast on Mothers day and Fathers day

Thank you again for you support
Brendon Pye

If they don’t respect, appreciate and value you, then they don’t deserve you.
From the desk of the DSTA

Sarah Stubbs. Defence School Transition Aide. Mother Teresa School, ACT.
Mobile: 0419397383. email: sarah.stubbs@cg.catholic.edu.au

We began term two with our ANZAC Liturgy. It was lovely to see the children so settled as we remembered all service men and women, past and present. I’d like to thank Major Tony Watson (Isabella 2E) for joining us as our guest speaker. We were also lucky to have PO(ANC) Lorne Thurgar (Michael Blue Whales and David Kinder Turquoise) play the Last Post and the Rouse for us. Thank you Lorne. The Defence Kids who brought forward our symbols and shared readings and prayers did such a great job! They worked very hard in the morning as we practiced to get it right and I was very proud of the way they conducted themselves. Well done! Thank you to family and friends who came along to support our first dedicated ANZAC liturgy. It was great to see some uniforms in the crowd. The kids, in particular our Defence kids, love to see mums and dads in their uniforms.

The Australian Navy Cadets is currently recruiting for its June 2013 intake. Parents have the opportunity to bring along their 12.5 to 19 year old children on the following Fridays: 10 May, 17 May and 23 May from 6.30pm - 10pm. TS Canberra is located at HMAS Harman. Information about Navy Cadets can be found at www.cadetnet.gov.au. For more information about TS Canberra you can contact Petty Officer Lorne Thurgar on 6127 6861 or Mob: 0417 771 703

Our Defence Kids Club began again last Tuesday (the giant poppies made by some of the big kids last term looked fantastic last Monday, by the way!). We meet in the hall at lunchtime and the children bring their lunch with them and eat together before starting.

The DCO Autumn/Winter Floating Coffee Club will meet on the following Tuesdays:
June 4th, July 2nd and August 6th. The north side group meet at the Gungahlin Library at 10am and everyone is welcome.

National Families Week runs from the 15th to the 21st May. DCO Canberra are launching the new National Heart Foundation Pram Walking Group for Defence parents with young children. They are meeting at the Black Mountain Peninsula playground on Wednesday 15th May at 10.45am for an 11am start. Please bring a picnic lunch to have after the walk and stay to enjoy games and activities.

An Information Evening for parents about Dyslexia will be Presented by Alison Hatcher, Psychologist and former Teacher at the Library of Canberra Girls’ Grammar Junior School on 4 June & 19 June 2013. The session will run from 7 pm until 8.30pm. The Cost is $38.00 . For Bookings please go to the Alison Hatcher page of the Canberra Psychology Clinic webpage and use the link http://www.trybooking.com/CTFW. For more information Ph. 62475710 or email assessme.act@gmail.com. Alison Hatcher is in private practice conducting educational assessments for school-age children. Literacy difficulties are her special interest.

The information session will cover: Current understanding of Dyslexia, Dyslexia in relation to other learning difficulties, How Dyslexic children will appear at home and in the classroom, Where to seek help, What to expect from an assessment, Sources of support and information.

Happy Mother’s Day to all of our mums this Sunday!
Sarah
MATHS – CHEEKY CHALLENGE
Back to Back Building

Welcome to the second week of this mathematical building challenge!!!

Can you masterfully create a building masterpiece then instruct someone else to copy or recreate your masterpiece? You cannot show them how, you can only tell them how!! Your challenge is to find the best language to help you direct someone else to make an accurate copy.

Go for it Mathematicians!! 😊

MATERIALS
- Building blocks e.g. Lego, Multi Links, about 6-12 per player. Each player should have the same number and colour of blocks.

PROCEDURE
1. Person A and Person B sit back to back.
2. Each person has the same number and colour cubes, say 4 or 5 to begin with then more as the skill levels improve.
3. Person A makes an object with cubes but Person B is NOT ALLOWED TO LOOK.
4. Person A has to TELL, not show, Person B how to make a copy of the object.
5. Person B can only say ‘YES’ or ‘NO’ or ‘PLEASE REPEAT’.
6. When both people think the copy is correct, you may compare your objects.
7. It is helpful for future games to list the language that made the copy easier to build as well as the language that made it harder to build.

PARENTS
This challenge develops:
- spatial language
- language of orientation - left, right, up, down etc.
- language of transformation geometry - rotate, reflect, translate
- spatial perception

Mr Lowe and I would love to see and share your hard work!!!
Please email in the fabulous instructions you said to your family member to direct them in re-creating your masterpiece along with your photo and we will publish your Maths Cheeky Challenge answers in next week’s newsletter!!
Email Miss Jeffries: brooke.jeffries@cg.catholic.edu.au
Join us in the celebration of Pentecost, our Parish Feast Day.
Mass will be held at 9.30 am followed by the
Official Opening of the Parish Centre & Presbytery at 11am.
Tea and Coffee
Cake Stall
Jams and Relishes
Gift Stall
Sausage Sizzle
Asian Fusion

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR
Thank you very much for all of the families who came along and supported our Book Fair last week. We were overwhelmed with the turn out over the two days. I am pleased to let you know that over $6,000 was taken from sales and the school will receive $1,500, which will go towards purchasing new books for our library.
If you have ordered a book from the book fair—these have been ordered and I have been notified that these will be arriving late next week (week 3). All book fair orders will be handed out to the children as soon as they arrive.

Thank you, Janet Bruce
BRINGING UP GREAT KIDS

Parents and Carers are invited to Bringing Up Great Kids a parenting program developed by the Australian Childhood Foundation for parents and carers of children aged 2-10 years.

This course will give you insights and skills needed to....

- Promote positive and nurturing relationships between parents and children
- Explore the management of stress in your parenting role
- Encourage the development of your child’s positive self-identity
- Develop the ability to contain strong emotions and to think through the responses to your child, rather than give ‘knee-jerk’ reactions
- Overcome some of the obstacles that are getting in the way of being the kind of parent you would like to be.
- Create opportunities for positive exchanges with your children.

The course is offered 3 hours per week over a 4 week period

DATE: WEDNESDAY 22 MAY 2013
TIME: 6 – 9pm
LOCATION: 57 Hicks Street, Red Hill (cnr Hicks and Nuyts Streets)
COST: $60.00
Fee includes course materials and supper (Concessions available

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL contact Gayle 61626122
GUNGAHLIN CHILD & FAMILY CENTRE

The Gungahlin Child and Family Centre is a free service staffed by a range of professionals including social workers, community development workers, maternal and child health nurses and offers a broad range of free support programs, services and activities to assist parents and young children (pre-birth to 12 years).

SERVICES

A range of services are offered through the Child and Family Centres. These include;

- **Drop-in parenting information & counselling support (INTAKE)**
- **Parenting support and group programs for adults** (sometimes after hours)
- **Case management and case coordination**
- **Group programs** for school-age children
  - A range of universal and targeted **playgroups**
- **Community Development**, including Growing Healthy Families (for the Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Community)
- **ACT Health Services** (immunisations, child health checks, Maternal and Child Health nurses, midwifery, new parents groups, Speech and physiotherapy drop-in services)
- **External agencies operate from the centres** (such as, Relationships Australia, Women’s Health, Housing ACT).
- **Children’s Behaviour & Emotional Wellbeing Clinic (under 8)**
- **Parents as Teachers Program**

DROP IN / INTAKE SERVICE

Parents can speak to an intake worker about issues such as:

- General parenting concerns
- Family relationship issues / family violence
- Children’s behaviour both at school and or at home
- Kinship carer issues
- Information on a range of community services for family support
- Family recently moved into the area
- Family members with mental health issues
- Toddler tantrums or siblings fighting
- Children affected by change and expressing feelings of anxiety / depression
- Divorce or separation issues
  - Emotional wellbeing of a parent or child

Intake is available Monday to Friday 9:00am – 5:00 either in person or by phoning the Gungahlin Child and Family Centre on 62070120.