

NEWSLETTER

Week 8 Term 1 – 16/03/2021

Season of Lent

Give Lent 100%



Lent is not about doing something for 40 days and feeling pleased with my effort at the end. It is about a period of transformation. Am I the same person I was last Lent? Will I be the same person, with the same failings after Lent? Or will I have worked on a part of me that I need to be better, so that every Lent is an opportunity for me to focus on my personal, and spiritual growth. How can I be closer to God? How can I be more the person God made me to be? Good works are a start: Generously giving to Project Compassion, remembering that extra grocery item each week for the Refugee Centre. I also need to care for my soul; am I kinder, less judgmental, more forgiving, more generous with my time, am I present to my God and others, or am I a slave to a screen and social media? Am I more concerned with my public image than the image I see in the mirror of my soul?

Let's use this Lent to grow as people and take our better selves into the Joy of Easter.



HOLY WEEK

Celebrating Holy Week at School

In two weeks, we enter into Holy Week - one of the most important weeks of the liturgical calendar. Across the week, various grades will be responsible for preparing celebrations and reflections to mark these significant feast days.

Through the week, a special prayer space will be prepared for classes to visit and reflect on this important week.

Further information will be sent home to families shortly.

OPEN DAYS 2022

Last week our school held its Open Days for 2022 families. It was wonderful to see many new families as well as current families and their siblings. Congratulations and thank you to all the students who entertained our visitors by playing their instruments, including the Junior and Senior Band. Our visitors also enjoyed observing the students engaged in many tasks, including Music, Coding, Dance, Numeracy, Literacy, Science and Technology and Sport and much more.



St Thomas Aquinas Primary Springwood
Enrol now for 2022 Call for a personalised tour

If you are enrolling your child into Kindergarten in 2022 or have a family friend who is interested in enrolling into St Thomas Aquinas, please contact the school office on (02) 4723 3800 for an application form as soon as possible.

STA SPORTING NEWS

Firstly, congratulations again to all of our STA students who represented the Nepean Zone Swimming Team at Blacktown Aquatic Centre on 9 March. No spectators were allowed at this carnival so a big thank you to all of those dedicated parents who worked with our school to transport their child and others to and from the venue. All of our swimmers tried their very best against some very tough competition and should be very proud of their efforts. A special mention goes to **Lachlan McAlpine** who represented our school in five events and swam strongly in each race. Congratulations also goes to **Baiden Tom** who achieved first place in his 13 years age group in his 50m freestyle event. If any student from the day wishes to know their race times, please see Mrs Blattman for your results.

Boys

Ben Gomez
Baiden Tom
Will Ghata
Lachlan McAlpine
Dylan Cantwell

Hamish Wills
Sebastian Hickey
Luke Malone
Alfie Cook

Girls

Ella Holdsworth
Florence Rooney
Abigail Wilson

Ella Mecham
Madison Moore
Claire Thomas



AFL

Congratulations to **Kael Brown** and **Nicolas Peat** from Year 6 who were both chosen to represent the Parramatta Diocesan AFL team on 26 March at Wagga Wagga. We look forward to hearing about your results, boys and wish you all the best.



RUGBY LEAGUE

Congratulations to **Nicolas Peat** and **Luke Clunes** in Year 6 who have both been selected into the Parramatta Diocesan Open Rugby League team and **Hamish Wills** in Year 5 who was selected into the Parramatta Diocesan under 11's Rugby League team. These three students will represent CEDP at the MacKillop trials held in Canberra on Friday 30 April, 2021. We look forward to hearing more from these talented competitors.



TENNIS

As it draws closer, we wish **Brydan McLeod** all the very best as he competes in the NSWPSA Tennis Championships held in Newcastle on 27 April to 30 April 2021. He will be representing the MacKillop Team and we can't wait to hear about his achievements.

CROSS COUNTRY

Our School Cross Country will be held **this Wednesday 17 March**. If rain persists the carnival will be moved to the following Wednesday, 24 March. **Parents will be advised by 7am on March 17 via SkoolBag.**

All students are to wear their HOUSE-coloured shirt and sports gear for the event, unless they have been advised to wear green if they are involved in the St Patrick's Feast Day. We look forward to bringing you the highlights at the end of the day as there are no spectators for this event as races will be held at various times throughout the day. If you wish to be a parent helper for the whole day, there are a few spots available. If you can help out on the day, please ring our office.

Students placed 1st to 6th in ages 8/9, 10, 11 and 12/13yrs, provided they meet the qualifying times, will represent our school at the Diocesan Cross Country Carnival to be held at Eastern Creek on Tuesday 4 May, 2021. (Term 2, Week 3).

In the event of wet weather parents will be notified on Wednesday morning (7am) via Skoolbag. Students will still be able to wear sports uniforms (including coloured shirt) even if the carnival is postponed.

Simone Blattman, STA Sport Teacher

Winter Uniform - Term 2

Students are to wear their **full winter uniform** by **Monday 3 May, 2021 (Week 3)**. As the weather may be warmer during Week 1 and Week 2 (Term 2) students are welcome to wear either their full summer uniform or full winter uniform.

School Fees

Just a reminder, 1st Instalment for School fees are due tomorrow, Wednesday 17 March. To avoid the Catholic Education Office sending out any reminders can you please finalise your fees or arrangements via BPoint or contact Cheree Brown to discuss options available. ***Cheree Brown, School Finance Secretary***

Effort in Learning Awards

Congratulations to the following students, who received Merit Awards at our last 2 School Assemblies. Well done on your efforts everyone - keep up the good work!



Week 5

Lani Abrahall	Jessie Diekmann	Lexie Mackay	Maddison Syme
Jude Barker	Cooper Donohue	Bede Magee	Leo Tan
Miles Barker	Flynn Duffy	Ivy Matthews	Brooke Thomas
Madeline Blacklock	Isabella Faithfull	Fletcher McDonagh	Claire Thomas
Reuben Boncales	Sully Forsyth	Brydan McLeod	Ruben Vears
Lillian Borg	Beau Gardiner	Madison Moore	Sienna Verriere
Oliver Brown	Jade Gordon	Harriet Murphy	Tyson Verriere
Jacob Burnett	Sophie Gough	Tilly Nassif	Mieke Watson
Dylan Cantwell	Emma Harrison	Leo Nugent	Bridget Whyllie
Sophia Cantwell	Amelie Hucknall	Will Rae	Zoe Wilcox
Elliott Chapman	Poppy Jenkins	James Rafter	Hamish Wills
Mia Cooper	Edward Kerrison	River Rodemark	Amy Withers
Owen Croft	Charles Kirton	Noah Smith	Mia Withers
Isla Croyston	Annalise Lia	Arabella Stewart-Rowley	Minami Wycisk
Tyler Davies	Samuel Lister		

Week 7

Charlotte Babbage	Summah Galea	Ruby-Tuesday Kearns	Florencia Perez-Eaton
James Babbage	Lucy Gerlach	Jacob Konstantinoff	Brooklyn Rawlings
Henry Baddock	Kate Giannakis	Nicholas Koulouris	Hamish Richards,
Eden Batcock	Ben Gomez	Hugo Koutsonikolis	Taiyana Rondo
Carys Beaton	Thomas Harris	Xavier Ligteringen	Darcy Ryan
Bonnie Butler	Emma Harrison	Aiden Lloyd Cartwright	Franklin Saville
Flynn Cann	Payton Henson	Jordan Mamo	Tilly Stephens
Alyssa Cantwell	James Hicks	Summer Mamo	Justin Sykes
Riley Carpenter	John Hogan	Piper Mathieu	Oliver Toth
Harlei-Rose Chalker	Ella Holdsworth	Lachlan McAlpine	Rhys Walton
Cooper Daniel	Ella Hoppe	Dustin McLeod	Reilly Waters
Madeleine Devitt	Sienna Hughes	Catherine Moore	Edward Whyllie
Natalie Duck	Ivy Jenkins	Ava Murphy	Heidi Willingham
Indyana Duffy	Thomas Jenkins	Olivia O'Brien	Angus Wills
Victor Etherington	Natalie Johnson	Jarrold Partlett	Ruby Wilson
Isla Field			

SkoolBag Update - Subscribing to Each Grade

We would like to streamline the messages we push out on SkoolBag so that whole-school information is sent to all families and grade-relevant information is only published to parents and carers of children in that particular grade, so families are not receiving additional information not relevant to them.



Currently most families have subscribed to the school account only, which is great. In order to streamline the messages further, we ask that if you have not yet subscribed to your child's grade, can you please do so by following the instructions below. This will ensure that you receive all school and all grade relevant information. You can subscribe to more than one grade if you have more than one child.

How to Install SkoolBag

For iPhone and iPad users: Go to the Apple App Store, search for "SkoolBag" and download the free SkoolBag app. After opening the app, add your school(s) and you're ready to go!

For Google Android Users: Go to the Google Play Store, search for "SkoolBag" and download the free SkoolBag app. After opening the app, add your school(s) and you're ready to go!

To subscribe to Grades: Tap to open the app on your device. Tap on the St Thomas Aquinas logo appearing at the top of the screen to access a list of information categories. You will see the headings *General*, *Groups* and *EForms*. Tap on *Groups* to see a list of the scholastic years/grades at our school. Tap on *Add/Remove groups* to select and subscribe to your preferred grades. Now you should see all notifications relevant to those specific grades as well as all general notifications.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2021 TERM 1	Week 8	Wednesday 17 March	School Cross Country St Patrick's Day
		Friday 19 March	Feast of St Joseph
	Week 9 NAPLAN Online Practise Papers for Years 3 & 5 this Week.	Monday 22 March	NSWCPS Swimming Carnival
		Wednesday 24 March	Back-up Date for School Cross Country
		Thursday 25 March	Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord
	Week 10	Thursday 1 April	Holy Thursday LAST DAY OF TERM 1
Friday 2 April		Good Friday – Public Holiday	
TERM 2	Week 1	Monday 19 April	Students & Staff Commence for Term 2

Sport Inclusion Australia Eligibility Information – Athlete Registration and Primary Eligibility Application National Eligibility Guidance Notes

Defining Intellectual Disability

The Primary Eligibility Criteria used by Virtus/Sport Inclusion Australia is based upon the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disability (AAIDD, 2010) definition of intellectual disability which is consistent with that of the World Health Organisation (WHO, ICD-10 and ICF, 2001), and states:

“Intellectual Disability is a disability characterised by significant limitation both in intellectual functioning and in adaptive behaviour as expressed in conceptual, social and practical adaptive skills. This disability originates before the age of 18.”

The Primary Eligibility Criteria

Based upon the AAIDD definition (above), the Virtus/Sport Inclusion Australia Primary Eligibility Criteria to compete in intellectual impairment sport is:

1. Significant impairment in intellectual functioning. This is defined as 2 standard deviations below the mean, that is, a Full Scale score of 75 or lower.
2. Significant limitations in adaptive behaviour as expressed in conceptual, social, and practical adaptive skills. This is defined as performance that is at least 2 standard deviations below the mean of, either: a. One of the following 3 types of adaptive behaviour: conceptual, social, or practical skills b. An overall score on a standardised measure of conceptual, social and practical skills.
3. Intellectual disability must be evident during the developmental period, which is from conception to 18 years of age.
4. **Students must meet all 3 elements of the criteria to be eligible for consideration as having an intellectual disability. See the eligibility criteria table below.**

Sport Class	Eligibility Criteria
INAS II-1: Virtus II-1: Intellectual Impairment Paralympic Classes: Athletics T20 Swimming S14	Athletes with Intellectual Disability: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Full-Scale IQ score of 75 or lower; 2. Significant limitations in adaptive behaviour; 3. and onset before age 18
*Virtus II-2: Down syndrome	Athletes with Down syndrome who have: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A formal diagnosis of Down syndrome including type (Trisomy 21, etc) 2. For safety athletes must not have symptomatic Atlantoaxial Instability (AAI)
*Virtus II-3: High Functioning Autism	Athletes with (High Functioning) Autism who have: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Full-Scale score IQ of above 75, OR no diagnosis of intellectual disability, and; 2. A Formal diagnosis of Autism, ASD or Asperger's syndrome <p>Note: Athletes with Autism who meet the criteria for II-1 intellectual disability will be classified in that class.</p>