

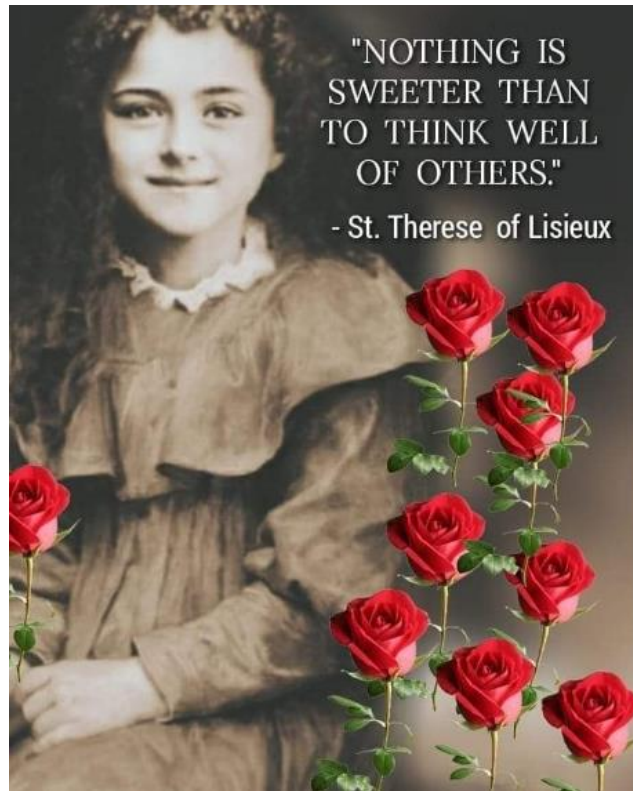


ST TERESA'S
— SCHOOL —
RAVENSHOE

FRIDAY 12TH JULY, 2024.

Principal's Report

Week 1 Term 3, 2024.



Our Three Pillars

Knowledge Love Truth

Our Shared Vision:

To offer every student in every school a world-class education enriched by their lived encounter with the Catholic faith.

We are 75 in '25



Principal's Message



Farewell Deb McDonnell

Dear students, parents, caregivers, and members of the St Teresa's Ravenshoe community,

I am writing to share with you a significant moment of transition here at St. Teresa's that marks the conclusion of a remarkable chapter in our school's history. Deb McDonnell, our esteemed School Finance Officer of over 30 years' service here at St. Teresa's has chosen to retire, a decision made after careful reflection and discussion with her family.

Throughout her tenure, Deb has embodied the Gospel values that are at the heart of our Catholic identity. Her decision to step down from her role is a testament to her humility and commitment to serving others. Deb's dedication and expertise have left an indelible mark on our school community, and her legacy will undoubtedly endure. She has consistently placed the needs of others before her own, often deflecting recognition despite her profound impact on the lives of our students, families, and staff.

Deb's retirement will leave a void that will be keenly felt by all of us. While we may not know the exact path she will take in retirement, we are certain that her spirit of compassion and service will continue to enrich our community in new and meaningful ways.



Please join me in expressing our deepest gratitude to Deb for her years of dedicated service, and in extending our warmest wishes for her as she embarks on this new chapter of her life.

NAIDOC Day at St. Teresa's

The reading chosen for our day of celebrations –

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 6:1-6

Jesus left there and went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples. ² When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed.

"Where did this man get these things?" they asked. "What's this wisdom that has been given him? What are these remarkable miracles he is performing?" ³ Isn't this the carpenter? Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph, ^[a] Judas and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?" And they took offence at him.

Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honour except in his own town, among his relatives and in his own home." ⁵ He could not do any miracles there except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them. ⁶ He was amazed at their lack of faith.

Reflection on Mark 6:1-6 for NAIDOC Week

In Mark 6:1-6, we read about Jesus returning to His hometown of Nazareth. Despite His growing reputation as a wise teacher and miracle worker, the people of Nazareth are skeptical. They know Jesus as the carpenter, Mary's son, and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas, and Simon. Instead of welcoming Him and His message, they take offense and doubt His wisdom. Consequently, Jesus performs only a few miracles there and is amazed at their lack of faith.

When we reflect on this passage during the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Day of Celebration (NAIDOC Week), we can draw profound parallels and lessons. NAIDOC Week celebrates the history, culture, and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. It is a time to recognize their enduring contributions to Australian society and to promote understanding and reconciliation.

Lessons from Jesus' Experience in Nazareth

1. **Value and Respect Local Knowledge and Wisdom:** Jesus, despite being a figure of great wisdom and power, is not valued in His own community. Similarly, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have a deep reservoir of knowledge and wisdom, especially regarding the land, environment, and sustainable living. However, their contributions have often been overlooked or undervalued. Jesus' experience challenges us to respect and learn from the wisdom of the Indigenous communities, recognizing their important role in our society.
2. **Overcoming Prejudices and Stereotypes:** The people of Nazareth saw Jesus through the lens of their preconceived notions and biases, which prevented them from accepting His message. In Australia, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have often faced prejudice and stereotypes. NAIDOC Week is an opportunity to confront and overcome these biases, to see Indigenous Australians not through the lens of outdated stereotypes, but as valuable, diverse, and equal members of our society.
3. **Faith and Open-mindedness:** Jesus was limited in what He could do in Nazareth because of the people's lack of faith. This teaches us the importance of being open-minded and willing to believe in the potential and capabilities of others. By fostering faith in each other and being open to learning and growth, we can create a more inclusive and supportive community.

Applying These Lessons in 2024

In the context of an Australian society in 2024, Jesus' experience in Nazareth speaks to our need for greater reconciliation and unity. It calls us to:

- **Listen and Learn:** Actively listen to the voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Learn from their stories, experiences, and cultural heritage. Schools, families, and communities can incorporate Indigenous perspectives into their daily lives, promoting mutual respect and understanding.
- **Promote Equality and Justice:** Work towards eliminating the systemic injustices and inequalities faced by Indigenous Australians. This includes advocating for their rights, supporting Indigenous-led initiatives, and ensuring that their contributions are recognised and valued in all sectors of society.
- **Build Bridges of Understanding:** Encourage meaningful dialogue and relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. Celebrate cultural diversity and work together towards a shared future.

Conclusion

As we reflect on Mark 6:1-6 during NAIDOC Week, let us remember Jesus' call to recognise and honour the wisdom and contributions of all people, especially those who have been marginalised. In 2024, we are invited to embrace a vision of Australia where every person's value is acknowledged, where we learn from each other, and where unity and reconciliation are at the heart of our society. By doing so, we can create a nation that reflects the inclusive and compassionate spirit that Jesus embodied.

St. Teresa's Student Academic Progressive Reporting Process

As we have concluded another semester of school and received feedback on our children's progress, it's a crucial time for parents and caregivers to actively engage in guiding their primary school-age children forward. The assessment scores and comments provided by teachers offer valuable insights that can serve as a roadmap for the next steps in their educational journey.

Approaching this roadmap with positivity and support is paramount. Research, such as that summarized in James Clear's "Atomic Habits," emphasizes the power of small, consistent steps in achieving long-term goals.

Applying this principle to education, parents and caregivers can help their children cultivate effective study habits, set achievable goals, and build resilience in the face of challenges.

Furthermore, the feedback received may highlight areas where additional support or resources are needed. This is an opportunity for parents and caregivers to collaborate closely with teachers. Initiating a conversation or meeting with the teacher can provide clarity on the assessments, strategies for improvement, and ways to tailor learning experiences to the child's strengths and needs.

Engaging in this partnership not only supports academic growth but also reinforces the importance of education in a child's life. When children see that their parents and caregivers are invested in their learning journey, they are more likely to develop a stronger commitment to their studies and recognize the profound impact education can have on their future opportunities.

In summary, by actively participating in your child's education, leveraging feedback constructively, and maintaining open communication with teachers, parents and caregivers play a vital role in fostering their child's academic success and personal growth. Together, we can empower our young learners to navigate challenges, cultivate a love for learning, and achieve their full potential.

Feedback from our school Satisfaction Surveys indicate that students of St. Teresa’s could do with more support from parents and caregivers.

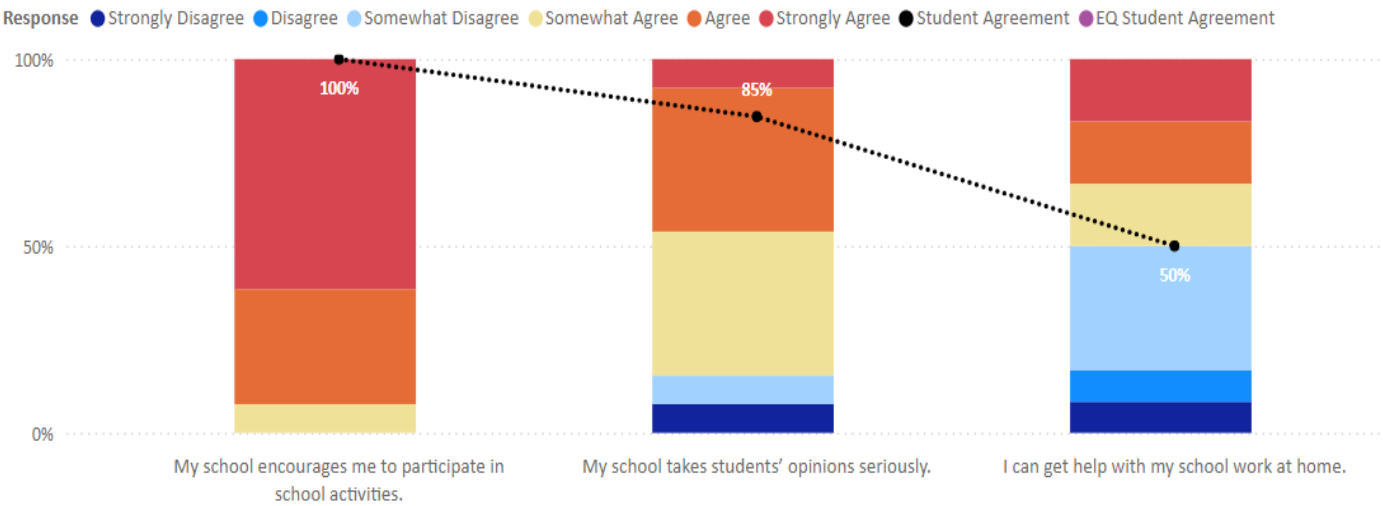
Student Feedback Survey

School

All

Percentage of Students who agree with the given statements

Partnerships



STUDENT WELLBEING SURVEY 2024

Student Wellbeing Survey - Information for Parents

Your child has been invited to take part in a survey about student wellbeing and mental health. The survey will be completed online during school hours between 29/7/2024 and 16/8/2024. The survey contains between 23-55 questions (depending on the age of your child) and will take 10- 15 minutes to complete. The level of support provided to your child whilst completing the survey will vary depending on their age and support needs. All responses will be anonymous and confidential.

What is the survey about?

This annual survey is being issued to all students in the Diocese of Cairns by the Engagement Wellbeing and Learning directorate of Catholic Education Services. The survey aims to gather student opinions about aspects of the school that relate to supporting student wellbeing and mental health.

What is the purpose of the survey?

The survey will provide schools with student opinions on what the school is doing well and what they can improve to better promote and support student wellbeing and mental health. Long term this survey may be used to track student wellbeing and mental health over a period of time.

What personal information will be collected and who will it be disclosed to?

Your child's school email account will be used so that they can access the survey and information regarding your child's school, age, gender and ethnic background will be collected. Your child's email address will not be linked to their responses so all responses will be completely anonymous and confidential.

Your child's school will receive de-identified individual student, grade and school group data based on the survey responses of all students at that school. De-identified survey data will also be used by the senior leaders in Catholic Education Services Cairns to compare survey responses across all the schools in the Diocese of Cairns.

How is my child's privacy protected?

All responses are completely anonymous, and it will not be possible to identify your child from their answers. As per Catholic Education Services Cairns Privacy Policy, your child's personal information will be managed in accordance with the Australian Privacy Principles contained in the Commonwealth *Privacy Act 1988* and the *Privacy Amendment (Enhancing Privacy Protection) Act 2012*.

What choice do you and your child have?

Completing this anonymous survey is entirely you and your child's choice. Your child can choose not to answer some or all the items. You or your child will not be disadvantaged if you choose not to participate. It is hoped that all students will participate in the survey to help improve their school community.

What do I need to do to participate?

Please discuss the above information with your child and be sure that they understand what the survey is about. If there is anything you do not understand or if you do not want for your child to participate in the survey, please talk to one of your child's teachers.

Thank you for your support.

TUCKSHOP NEWS

The P & F has agreed to increase the price of the sausage sizzle to \$2.50.

This will start in term 3.

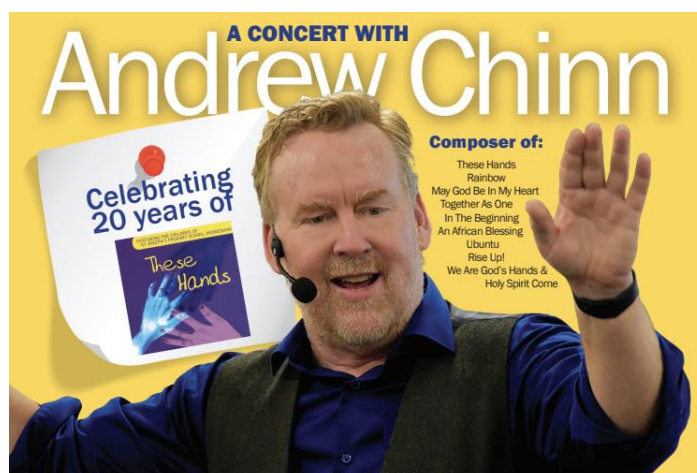


We need families to assist with sausage sizzle Friday cooking and preparation. Contact the school and register for terms 3 & 4.

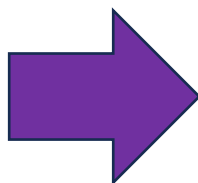
An email was sent to families today; there are still a few Fridays that have not yet been filled.



What is the News?



St Joseph's
School
Atherton



Thursday, 18 July
Year 3-6 only

Butterfly Music is the music of Andrew Chinn and friends. Since 2000 Andrew has been recording Christian music for children (and some for adults too) for use in Religious Education and liturgy. Andrew has an extensive background in Catholic education having taught in Catholic primary (elementary) schools in Sydney for twenty years. He has a Bachelor of Education, a Graduate Diploma in Religious Education and a master's in educational leadership.

St Joseph's	St Teresa's Ravenshoe	St Joseph's School Jack St Atherton	Andrew arrives 11:20am	Hall? Church?	11:50am – 12:35pm Choir workshop (45 mins) 12:40pm – 1:30pm Whole school concert (50 mins) St Teresa's eat 'big lunch' before bus trip Depart St Teresa's 11.15am Arrive St Joseph's 12:05pm Unload from bus 12:10pm Eating time/bathroom break/quick play Note: St Teresa's joining whole school concert, not choir workshop Concert begins 12:40pm Concert ends 1:30pm Bathroom break/stretch Board bus 1:45pm Bus leaves 1:50pm Arrive Ravenshoe 2:40 Unload from bus/bathroom break/stretch School buses leave St Teresa's 3:05pm	Andrew leaves 1:50pm	Travels to Cairns	Travel time 1 hour 25 mins
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St. Teresa's Friday 19 July, 2 pm.



BOOK WEEK IS WEEK 8

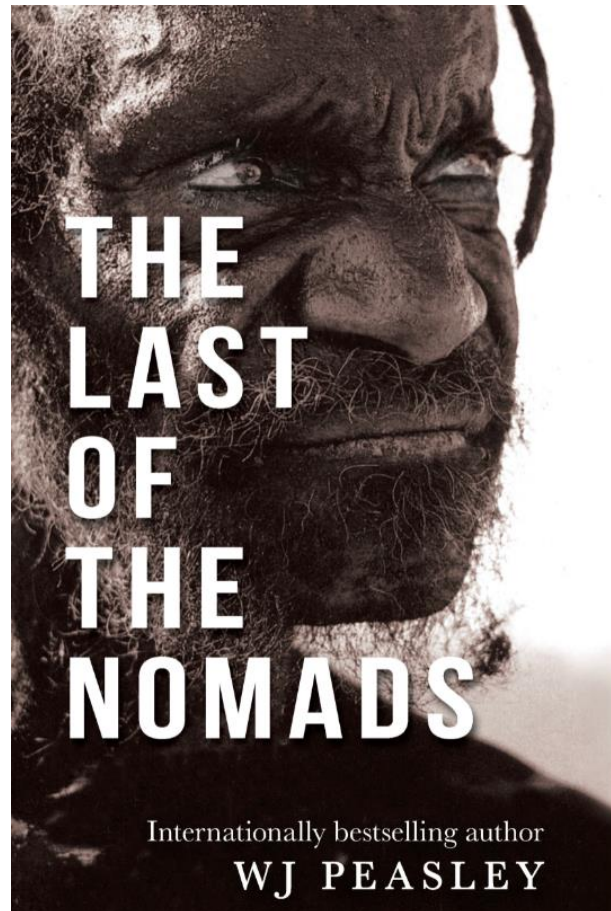


St Teresa's Primary Ravenshoe - Life of the School Calendar – Term 3, 2024

	WK	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JULY	1	7 NAIDOC Week	8	9 ATHERTON SHOW DAY	10 Staff Meeting	11 NAIDOC Day Celebrations	12 Principal's meeting	13
	2	14	15	16 Deputy Executive Director Ian Davis visit Assembly	17 Staff Meeting Principal's Debrief – Mike in Cairns	18 Rhyme time Andrew CHINN Concert Year 3-6	19 Musica Viva	20
	3	21 Counsellor not in School Catholic Education Week	22	23 Assembly	24 Staff Meeting	25 Principal's Zoom	26 MSB NAIDOC Day	27
	4	28	29	30 Assembly Lockdown Drill 1 pm	31 Staff Meeting	1 Mike away Track & Field Mareeba	2 Mike away Track & Field Mareeba	3
AUGUST	5	4	5	6 Assembly	7 ILO Network Day Staff Meeting Principal's Debrief Mary of the Cross	8 Senior Leadership Conference - Mike	9 Senior Leadership Conference - Mike	10
	6	11 Counsellor not in School	12 Parent, student, teacher note out to parents - PTO	13 Assembly	14 Staff Meeting	15 Feast of the Assumption Mass Rhyme time I&O: ACU Professional Study - Mike	16	17 Cent Sale
	7	18 Book Week, Reading is Magic	19	20 Assembly Fire Drill 1 pm	21 Staff Meeting	22	23	24
	8	25	26	27 Assembly	28 Staff Meeting	29 Father's Day Liturgy	30 Professional Learning Day Pupil Free	31
SEPTEMBER	9	1 Father's Day Parent Student Teacher meetings	2	3 Assembly	4 Staff Meeting	5	6 Under 8's Day Senior Leadership Intensive	7
	10	8 Parent Student Teacher meetings	9 Executive Director Bill Dixon Visit	10 Assembly	11 Staff Meeting	12	13 St Theresa's Feast Day Liturgy	14

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

The Principal's Book Pick



"The Last of the Nomads" by W.J. Peasley is a poignant and captivating account of the extraordinary life of Warri and Yatungka, the last known Aboriginal nomads of Australia's Western Desert. The book chronicles their remarkable survival in one of the world's harshest landscapes, their encounters with settlers and explorers, and their eventual meeting with modern society. Peasley's narrative is both respectful and empathetic, offering insights into Aboriginal culture and traditions while highlighting the profound impact of European settlement on Indigenous communities. Through meticulous research and sensitive storytelling, "The Last of the Nomads" serves as a powerful testament to resilience, cultural heritage, and the enduring spirit of Australia's Indigenous peoples. It is a must-read for those interested in Australian history, Indigenous studies, and tales of human survival against all odds.

MJ Luth

Every child
Every classroom
Everyday

CHRISTMAS IN JULY!

JULY 2ND } 3pm - 7pm } SANTA ARRIVES AT 5:30PM

SANTA IS TRAVELLING AROUND, UPDATING HIS NAUGHTY AND NICE LIST.
SANTA WILL BE CALLING INTO THE RAVENSHOE MILLSTREAM COUNTRY CLUB TO SEE ONE AND ALL. EVERYONE IS WELCOME FOR AN AFTERNOON OF FUN.

(PARENTS MAKE SURE YOU GET YOUR LITTLE ONES TO WRITE THEIR WISHLISTS, TO GIVE TO SANTA)

MENU
ROAST PORK
ROAST BEEF
HOT CHIPS
DINO NUGGETS

GREEN & RED JELLY CUPS
DESSERTS

\$15 PER ADULT

CHILDREN 10 YEARS & UNDER FREE

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A BOOKING, CALL OR MESSAGE -
PH - 0476 594 540



St Teresa's School Ravenshoe

Under 8's Day 2024

Friday 6th September

9:30am - 11:30am

Rainbow Theme

Sausage sizzle from 11:30am