

## NEWSLETTER

15 September 2020

### Staff Development Day

Our staff will be involved in a full Staff Development Day (**pupil free day**) on **Monday 12 October, 2020**. Students will return to school for Term 4 on Tuesday 13 October, 2020. Our staff will be focusing on the Science and Technology curriculum.

This year our teachers have been working with Mrs Kelly Jawerth (Teacher Educator - Science) from CEDP. Mrs Jawerth has shared her knowledge and expertise in developing teaching and learning tasks in our Science and Technology units of work. Mrs Jawerth will be co-facilitating a professional learning day with our teachers on our next Staff Development Day - Monday 12 October, 2020.



Students are invited to wear something **Green** this **Friday, 18 September 2020** to recognise and acknowledge *The Season of Creation time*.

*This is a multi day for all students and they are encouraged to wear something green. Students need to wear their joggers and a hat.*

As the new buds appear for Spring, everyone is invited to participate in the Diocese of Parramatta's celebration of "**the Season of Creation**". It's the annual worldwide Christian celebration of prayer and action for our common home that takes place each September through to October. The event culminates on 4 October, The Feast Day of St Francis of Assisi.

For Catholics around the world, the 2020 **Season of Creation** marks five years since the release of Laudato Si', the letter from Pope Francis on the care of our common home. Pope Francis says "This is the season for letting our prayer life be inspired anew, to reflect on our lifestyles, to undertake prophetic acts for creation. It's a time to call for courageous decisions and direct the planet towards life, not death. **The Season of Creation** is a time to care for the most vulnerable and restore the connections that make us whole."

We're encouraging students to get out into nature and create! They can take photos, paint, write, compose or otherwise create a piece about what your favourite place of nature is in the Diocese. Submit your creations to <https://www.parracatholic.org/seasonofcreation/> Send it in **by 25 September** to be part of an online reflection to feature on The Well ([thewell.org.au](http://thewell.org.au)) from 4 October – the Feast Day of St Francis of Assisi.

Office Hours: 8.30 am - 4.00 pm

(02) 47233800 

StThomas@parra.catholic.edu.au 

[www.staspringwood.catholic.edu.au](http://www.staspringwood.catholic.edu.au) 

## National Child Protection Week: Putting Children First

We all play a part in keeping children and young people safe and ensuring they can live and learn in a safe environment. During National Child Protection Week we pledge commitment to listening to the voices of children and young people and remaining vigilant to their safety and wellbeing.

In support of the National Child Protection Week theme, "Putting Children First", and in line with the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards, Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP) is committed to the establishment and implementation of child safe systems, policies and procedures.

The aim is to have in place practices that are proactive and preventative in nature, providing children and young people with school environments where they are safe, informed, participate, and where the adult community, working together with children and young people, work towards making this happen.

By providing the community with the knowledge, support and procedures to keep children safe and young people safe we are equipping everyone with the tools and skills needed to be ambassadors of child safety!

## Term 4 - Summer Uniform

*Uniform Choice for the remainder of Term 3*

The weather is starting to warm up and we are enjoying some beautiful sunny days with increasing temperatures. Therefore, we have decided that the students will have a choice to wear their **winter or summer** uniform **for the remainder of Term 3**. Whichever uniform is chosen to be worn on a particular day, it is important that the students wear the full uniform - summer or winter including their hat and appropriate shoes, NOT a mixture of the two uniforms. All students will be required to wear their summer uniform from the commencement of Term 4.

## STA Uniform Update

We would like to thank our families for their patience as we have engaged with a new supplier. As communicated earlier, the availability of the uniform has been delayed significantly and we have continued to work hard with our new supplier to minimise any problems with students not having the correct uniform. Although our Clothing Pool is available, we do have limited stock at the moment. Parents are able to purchase plain non-branded items until new stock is available.

### ▪ **Summer Uniform – girls**

Girls Summer dresses are due to be available week commencing 20 September 2020. All items of Girls' Summer uniform are expected during the school holidays.

### ▪ **Summer Uniform - boys**

Boys short sleeve shirts are due to arrive on 25 September 2020. All other boys summer uniform is now available.

### ▪ **Sports Uniform**

Engaging with a new supplier has allowed us the opportunity to make changes to the sports uniform. We have introduced a new two-tone sky/navy collared polo shirt, microfibre shorts, microfibre track pants and microfibre jacket. The full new Sports Uniform is expected to be available mid-October.

There will be a **transition period of 12 months** (to Term 1 2022) for the new sports uniform to be worn by all students. **Please see over the page for images of the new STA sports uniform.**

### ▪ **Sizing of the Uniform**

The sizing will vary to the previous supplier. A full uniform list with sizing guidelines will soon be available. Our school will have samples of sizes for students to try on. Should families require any special orders please email the store manager at Liverpool - [liverpool@theschoollocker.com.au](mailto:liverpool@theschoollocker.com.au)

### ▪ **Kindergarten 2021**

The School Locker advised that all items will be available for 2021 Kindergarten students to order next term. We are hoping to have a "pop up" stall onsite at school for students to try on their uniform. More information will be available soon.

### ▪ **Location of The School Locker Store**

The School Locker originally advised our school and the Catholic Education Office, Diocese of Parramatta that they would have a store location closer to our school, making it more convenient for families to visit to try on and purchase uniform items. We are disappointed that this has not occurred at this stage. CEDP are in communication with The School Locker regarding this important matter.

(Continued over.)

# New St Thomas Aquinas Sports Uniform

St Thomas Aquinas – Sports Uniform  
28 JULY 2020 | ROSD-31361



St Thomas Aquinas – Sports Uniform  
5 AUGUST | ROSD-31361



## QKR APP

We recently launched the QKR App, our new payment platform for all ad-hoc items for purchase. This app will now replace all cash and parents are able to order hats and pay for Clothing Pool items. Once you have made a purchase for a hat the school is notified immediately, and we will then deliver the hat to the student for their recess or lunchtime play. The app is free, and your profile is confidential. If you require any assistance, please contact Cheree Brown, our Finance Secretary. Please note, payments for school fees cannot be made on QKR. Current arrangements for school fees have not changed.

## Student Absences

Thank you to all the families for your great support of students who are not well. We ask all our families to continue to follow the guidelines below as we work together to ensure the well-being and health of our school Community.

- No student should attend school if they are unwell.
- Each student who is absent from school or who has been sent home because they have flu-like symptoms, must have a COVID-19 test.
- A negative COVID-19 test result must be provided to the school before a student can come back to school. The notification can be a NSW Health or COVID-19 Testing Centre letter, SMS or email and/or a medical certificate.
- Please send this notification to the school via email BEFORE the commencement of the school day.
- Students are not able to return to school until they return a negative COVID-19 result and are symptom free.

## Self-Isolating

- A student should not come to school if they are unable to isolate from a sibling or family member who is a confirmed close contact of COVID-19.
- Where families find it difficult to isolate siblings from other family members who are confirmed close contacts of someone with COVID-19, the sibling should not attend school during the period of isolation.
- Family members of close contacts are asked to keep a very close watch for COVID-19 symptoms and follow medical advice.

### Absent Notes

If your child is absent due to being UNWELL, we ask that the written note explaining the absence is more specific and describes why your child is absent e.g. stomach-ache, earache instead of UNWELL. At times our staff may contact you for further clarification, so that we are aware of the reasons. We thank you for your support in this area.

### 2021 Enrolments

We are now accepting **Kindergarten Enrolments for 2021**. If you have a child who is starting school in 2021 please contact the school office for an enrolment pack as soon as possible. Please let friends and family who are interested know, too.



**ENROL NOW**  
**ST THOMAS**  
**AQUINAS**

---

**Primary Springwood**

Enrolment forms are  
now being accepted

### Dates for your Diary

<b>TERM 4</b> <b>2020</b>	<b>Monday 12 October</b>	STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY
	<b>Tuesday 13 October</b>	Students return to school in Summer Uniform
	<b>Friday 13 November</b>	9.30am-12.30pm Infants Sports Fun Day
	<b>Friday 20 November</b>	9.30am-1.30pm Primary Sports Fun Day