2013

John Therry Catholic High School



Enrolment Information Booklet

John Therry Catholic High School Rosemeadow



A Diocesan Co-Educational Catholic High School serving the Macarthur Region.

FATHER JOHN JOSEPH THERRY



Fr Therry was deeply moved by the plight of Irish convicts who were transported from Ireland to Australia and he volunteered to spend his life in their service. From his arrival on the transport ship the "Janus" in 1820, Archpriest Fr John Joseph Therry was responsible for laying the foundations of the Catholic Church in Australia.

In his missionary service he was opposed by the combined Government and Protestant church, which at that time actively and physically persecuted the Catholic faith.

Fr Therry found the Catholics scattered, dispirited, despised and unknown, sustained only by the Rosary. He knew that the Catholic Church in this new land would need divine intervention, and he consecrated it to the Patroness of Our Lady.

Convicts on death row would pass secret messages requesting a last confession with Fr Therry, knowing he would brave flooded rivers and armed guards to reach them. He was also a friend to the Aborigines who were the most down trodden of all.

Father Therry once said, "For the faith to grow, a place of worship was essential". For this reason, he set about building churches in the new colony. He has been credited as the priest who built more churches than anyone else during his time.

Campbelltown and Appin were part of Fr Therry's extended parish, where his parishioners would wait for their priest riding a horse drawn 'gig' to provide them the blessed sacraments. Governor Brisbane knew well the extraordinary impact that Fr Therry had on the colony when he said. "Had there never been a priest here, perhaps the Roman Catholic worship might have dwindled away...." The Lord of the vineyard had sent His best priest to tend to His flock in Australia. May he one day be recognized as a Saint.

BACKGROUND



John Therry Catholic High School opened on February 9th, 1981, under the principalship of Brother Clarence Cunningham. John Therry Catholic High School was established in 1981 at Rosemeadow. We strive for graduates of John Therry to be confident and courageous young men and women who make a positive difference in their world. Currently a six stream, coeducational, comprehensive diocesan Catholic high school of approximately 1000 students, John Therry draws its students from the parishes of Rosemeadow, Campbelltown, Appin and Ruse.

However, students enrol from outlying areas such as Picton and The Oaks and in excess of 20 State primary schools within the Macarthur region.

Students come from diverse ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds. The school community has an inclusive attitude towards all students as evidenced by initiatives such as the Stage 6 Life Skills Satellite class link with Mater Dei and integrated Life skills classes for Stage 4 & 5. Student leadership has further developed in recent years with expanding roles and a Peer Mentorship Program which is embedded in a vertical pastoral Learning Group structure.

The school has had links to the Marist Brothers and their charism since its establishment. The House system creates a vibrant school spirit and further strengthens values such as Justice & Compassion (Chisholm), Faith & Integrity (Connolly), Respect & Wisdom (Murray), Hope and Gratitude (Ryan). The House Cup is awarded each year determined on academic, social, spiritual and sporting merit points across all aspects of school life. The use of Restorative Justice within the student management system has a positive influence on student self-discipline and students achieving their full potential.

The comprehensive curriculum with its broad offerings in subject choice provides students with the opportunity to excel. Extra-curricula activities enhance student learning experiences. These opportunities are evident in the extensive sport program and a diverse Creative and Performing Arts calendar for student involvement. The emphasis on the use of Technology, with the learning environment being one-to-one laptops years 7 to 12 by 2011, has empowered students to embrace 21st Century learning both within and beyond the traditional classroom setting.

SCHOOL PRAYER

Lord God, You instruct the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit. Grant us by this same spirit to know, love and relish what is right and just and to rejoice continually in your blessing.

MISSION STATEMENT

"To create a learning environment based on Catholic faith which empowers students and staff to achieve their potential as individuals within the wider community"

SCHOOL AIM



John Therry as a Catholic School aims to assist each student achieve his/her spiritual, academic, sporting and social potential.



OUR SCHOOL MOTTO – RECTA SAPERE

"A motto is a written word or phrase usually attached to a crest or badge; it is an appeal to patriotism, or is a description of character for those who use it; its force lies in its meaning."

The words of our motto date from the time of the great Church Councils in the 4th & 5th centuries; they were used in prayer recited before each session by the assembled Fathers:

Our school has adopted this ancient prayer as our own and our motto comes from one of the phrases in this prayer. "To relish what is right and just" (RECTA SAPERE)

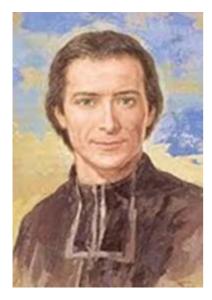
What is the meaning of RECTA SAPERE?

- **RECTA:** Right ideas and actions, honourable and upright things, whatever is just and true in life. To know these right things is the work of education, of experience, of reliance on those who's wisdom we respect. We must strive to know the right things. RECTA: the honest, solid and durable life values worth having and retaining, and opposed to whatever is base, dishonest and not right.
- **SAPERE:** To be wise, and includes the idea of being wise in the use of something; it is more than being clever or shrewd; here it means being wise in the use of right things, appreciating and living by appropriate values, for SAPERE has overtones of feeling the flavor of enjoyment.

The core values of the school are identified within the school motto "Recta Sapere" and its prayer "to know, love and relish what is right and just" and are demonstrated in a strong Catholic ethos where students are advocates for social justice and peace.



John Therry Catholic High School is a Marist School



Marist Values

On June 6th, 1840 the founder of Marist Education, Saint Marcellin Champagnat died. The spirit of St. Marcellin lives on in John Therry Catholic High School. It is characterised by five defining features: Family Spirit; Presence; A Love of Work, Simplicity and In the Way of Mary. The school also promotes the individual House values and values identified within the school motto "Recta Sapere" and its prayer "to know, love and relish what is right and just". All these important values are demonstrated in a strong Catholic ethos where students are advocates for social justice and peace. The school has had links to the Marist Brothers and their charism since its establishment.

"In The Way of Mary"

In a Marist flavoured school, Marist people seek to be like Mary in the way she brought Jesus to life in our world. As Mary brought Jesus to the world, people inspired by Marist values also try to bring Jesus to the world, by the way they love, care, look after, love one another, and forgive one another. 'In The Way of Mary" means bringing Jesus to life in our world by the way we live.

From its beginnings in 1981, John Therry Catholic High School has been influenced by Marist ways of doing things, as well as other Christian values. The five defining features of the Marist way of doing things are: Family Spirit; Presence; A Love of Work, Simplicity and In the Way of Mary.



"Simplicity"

People influenced by the Marist feature of "Simplicity" are open, honest and genuine. They have a preference for simplicity of method, and of expression and action. There are no double standards, they are straight forward and 'fair dinkum'. From these people, 'what you see is what you get'. Others feel at ease among them because there is no hidden agenda. They are transparent and genuine in their relationships. People of Simplicity are people of integrity. Family Spirit; Presence; A Love of Work, Simplicity and In the Way of Mary are the distinctive mix of Christian values which characterise Marist schools. John Therry Catholic High School is one of those schools which have been influenced by this distinctive mix of values.

"Love Of Work"

Marist teachers and students hold in high regard those who do an honest day's work, those who see that our society thrives in all pitching in and doing their bit, supporting one another and all doing their fair share. In a Marist school students and teachers have a love and enthusiasm for what they are doing, see it as of value and do their very best. Marists also value the effort of practical manual work, sleeves rolled up and doing the best one can. Schools such as John Therry Catholic High School which have been influenced by Marist values are places where hard work and excellent achievement are valued. They are places where the individual is genuinely loved and prized. They are warm places where there is a strong family spirit evident, and they are places not characterised by pretence but rather simplicity and calm determination.

"Presence"

Being personally present to others and giving good example by the person we are is the Marist characteristic of Presence. By being who we are rather than saying what we do is the way Marist people influence others for good. When we involve ourselves in others' lives and be there for them we affect their lives and bring about the fine qualities we possess in their lives. We affect others by who we are. Presence means being and doing what is good rather than saying what is good. Family Spirit; Presence; A Love of Work, Simplicity and In the Way of Mary are the spirit of Marist schools and people. These features are observable here at John Therry Catholic High School.

"Family Spirit"

The relationships in a Marist influenced school are family-style relationships. Here one observes warm, down to earth relationships among the members of the school. There is a sense of belonging, a place for everyone. It is where hospitality abounds. Marist schools have a spirit where all relate and belong to each other as members of a loving family would naturally do. Everyone belongs and feels as if they belong.





Pastoral Care at John Therry What is Pastoral Care?

Pastoral Care assists the student to develop a capacity for independence, initiative and mature judgement. Pastoral Care places an emphasis on the development of the individual.

School-based pastoral care is the total climate of care which exists in a school. It should reflect the broad Christian ethos of individuals caring for and respecting one another. It should include a structure where teachers and other professionals are responsible for the emotional and spiritual well-being of individual children and where strong relationships are established between teachers and the students and their families.

Our School

The Pastoral Care of students at John Therry Catholic High School is seen as an integral part of the total School program. Each student should be treated with respect by staff members and other students. We try to reflect a 'sense of the sacred' where dignity, belonging, connectedness and self-respect are the focus.

Teachers endeavour to create this atmosphere of care in a variety of ways, both formally and informally, in their capacity as leaders, Co-ordinators, Support staff and classroom teachers. All teachers show specific care and understanding for those students who are physically, emotionally or socially disadvantaged.

The Learning Mentors together with the Year Coordinators (supported by Assistant Year Coordinators) provide the pivotal link between home and school and are the conduit for the flow and dissemination of information regarding individual students. Learning Mentors have a special bond with students as they set the tone for each day. They are contact persons with the particular opportunity to provide care and corrective help. They conduct formal interviews with the students in their Learning Group, monitor the emotional, social and learning needs of the students and act as student advocates throughout the year. Students are vertically streamed, each group is composed of students from years 7 to 12. This grouping allows for the success of the Peer Mentoring Program where students assume an active leadership role in assisting and mentoring junior students from their group. Learning Group is essentially is a time for building up relationships between the student and the Learning Mentor, creating an optimal environment for academic achievement, assisting students to develop effective study habits and inspiring them to be a holistic and active member of the John Therry community.

The Transition Co-ordinator has a special place in the school as the link between the Junior and Senior school. This Co-ordinator enhances the spiritual, social, sporting and academic growth of the students at John Therry. The Student Futures' Co-ordinator helps students with their life orientation and career development.

The Pastoral Care Coordinators provide the link with welfare agencies through which professional help for students with serious worries or concerns is obtained.

All staff members endeavour in both broad and specific ways to increase the students' selfesteem and their capacity to relate with others.

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

RELATIONSHIPS RESPONSIBILITY RELEVANCE

"It's not the falling down, it's the getting up that counts"

At John Therry Catholic High School we believe in the restorative justice principles which restore the damage that may be caused in relationships.

The keys principles are:

Talking about the behaviour without blaming or being personal.

Focusing on the relationship and how people are affected.

Restoring damaged relationships.

Being future focused and talking about how to make things right.

Seeing mistakes and misbehaviour as opportunities for learning.

Planning how to manage setbacks and to be more resilient people.

Affective Questions:

Focus on the specific behaviours or incident without blaming.

Use "relational" questions to draw out who was affected and how they were affected.

Direct questions toward problem solving what needs to happen to "make things right"?

- 1. What happened?
- 2. How did it happen?
- 3. How did you act in this incident?
- 4. Who do you think was affected?
- 5. How were they affected?
- 6. How were you affected?
- 7. What needs to happen to make things right?
- 8. If the same situation happens again how could you behave differently?

UNIFORM:

Students are asked to wear their uniform with pride and to be sound ambassadors for the school. Students must wear hats to and from school and throughout the day in Term 1 and 4 and during sport. We do recommend students wear hats whilst in the sun all year round as a general safe protection against potential damage from the sun.

MERIT AWARDS:

At John Therry Catholic High school all students are encouraged to do their personal best. As an extrinsic way to reward the efforts of students we have a level system in place that is based on the merit award system.

Merit awards are issued in the following areas:

Spiritual Social Academic Sporting

Once a student received merit cards in one area they are issued with a larger certificate at a Year assembly. When a student continues to accumulate points they are then awarded a Year Co-ordinator's Award (awarded at a Year assembly), an Assistant Principal's Award (awarded at a school assembly and movement to Silver level) the Principal's Award (awarded at the school assembly with a Gold Card and movement to Gold level) and for student who achieve two Gold level Certificates they are awarded the John Therry Medal.

The merit system is linked to the points system which is also house based. Students receive merit and demerit stamps in class in their school planner and these are checked each Monday by Learning Mentors and the Senior Peer Mentors. The green merit points are added each week to the academic component of the House Trophy.

The level system comprises the following: Gold Level Silver level Aqua Level Violet Level Purple level Case Management eg. Suspension contract

All Catholic Schools are founded on the person of Jesus Christ. John Therry is guided by Gospel values and shares the evangelising mission of the Church. Catholic schools give witness to this by their actions and by placing faith development in the context of everyday life and culture. The Pastoral Care program has the responsibility to develop the whole person. Pastoral Care at John Therry is the unifying focus for the spiritual, academic, social and emotional aspects of school life.

Pastoral Care Team

JOHN THERRY CATHOLIC HICH SCHOOL



It is vital that parents and school have an accessible means of communicating.

For minor concerns the school can be contacted by writing a note in the student's planner diary eg uniform,

Learning group issues. A handwritten note is required to explain a student's absence, if a student is leaving early or if a student is arriving late. Parents can telephone the school to discuss more personal or complex issues. The table below outlines the appropriate person to contact for any enquiries or complaints.

Who to Contact	Issue	
Learning Mentor	Absences, welfare issues, learning issues	
Class Teacher	Specific subject or classroom issues	
Year Coordinators 2012		
Mr Daniel Goodhew – Yr 7		
Miss Lea Chisari – Yr 8	Walfare issues or concern influencing a student's	
Mr Shane Chapman – Yr 9	Welfare issues or concern influencing a student's	
Mr Scott Patterson – Yr 10	learning across subject areas	
Miss Nicole Hogan – Yr 11		
Miss Jessica Torpy– Yr 12		
Subject Coordinators/Contacts		
Religious Education – Mrs Leonie Flynn		
English – Mrs Lorraine Ramchandra		
Mathematics – Mr Allan Jolly		
Science – Ms Wendy Rowan	Subject concerns ofter the class teacher has been	
Creative Arts – Mr Steve Peters	Subject concerns after the class teacher has been	
HSIE – Mr Nathan East	involved	
Technical & Applied Science – Mr Tony Graham		
PDHPE – Mr Jamie Cook		
Learning Technologies – Ms Christina Fraser		
VET – Mrs Maree Durrington		
Students & their Learning Coordinator	Major subject concerns after the Subject	
Mr Gavan Martyn	Coordinators have been involved, Curriculum Issues	
Pastoral Care		
Mr Paul Hughes		
(Years 10-12 Pastoral Care Coordinator)		
Miss Donna Redman	Major welfare issues	
(Years 7-9 Pastoral Care Coordinator)		
(Student Futures Coordinator)		
Assistant Principal	Ongoing major school based issues	
Mr Simon Abernethy		
Bursar	Any concerns about fees or other financial questions	

Students may be referred to the Catholic Care School Counsellors who are available for personal and family counselling and parent advice.

John Therry Catholic High School



Our Website

http://www.jtchsdow.catholic.edu.au/

This is a good source of information for parents. Please take the time to visit and familiarize yourself with the resources available on our website. Some examples of information to be found are:

School Policies Newsletter Uniform Shop Curriculum Calendar/Events Pastoral Care Sport



Please Note: We are currently redeveloping our school website and transitioning to the new version. We apologise for any shortcomings you may experience at this time.

JOHN THERRY CATHOLIC HICH SCHOOL



SCHOOL ORGANISATION

TIMETABLE STRUCTURE

- 1. The school operates on a 10 day timetable
- 2. School commences at 8.40am and concludes at 3.10pm daily.
- 3. Each day consists of six periods. Period length averages 50 minutes per lesson.
- 4. Students will be part of a daily Learning Group (prayer, rollcall, daily notices).

THE CURRICULUM

Religious Education is a compulsory course studied in all years. The broader Catholic Life And Culture includes retreats, reflection days and liturgies held at various stages throughout the year.

Stage 4 consists of Year 7 and 8. The following pattern of study is mandated by the Board of Studies. In order to meet these requirements the school offers:

YEAR 7 SUBJECTS	PERIODS PER CYCLE
Religious Education	6
English	8
Mathematics	8
Science	8
History/Geography	6
Personal Development/Health/Physical Educati	on 4
Art	6 (Semester One or Two)
Music	6 (Semester One or Two)
Mandatory Technology	6
Sport	4 (plus MISA sport)
Cross Curricular	
ICT/Research skills/literacy skills	4
Assembly	1

Liturgical Instruction, Mass (Fridays), Reconciliation, Prayer and RE lessons take place in an integrated program throughout the school year.

Languages will be studied in Year 8

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITES

A broad range of extra curricular activities are offered at John Therry.

These include: Debating, Public Speaking, Choir, Band, Drama, Musicals, St Vincent de Paul Society, School Magazine Committee, Mathematics, English, Science, Geography and Computing Competitions, Tournament of Minds, Duke of Edinburgh.

SPORT

Year 7 have two lessons of integrated sport per week that is staffed by specialist PDHPE/Sport teachers. This is currently on a Wednesday. They also have the opportunity to represent the school in MISA competitive sport (each Tuesday afternoon) and at Diocesan sport carnivals. This is in addition to the 2 lessons per fortnight of practical PDHPE lessons.

COMMUNICATION

The main form of parent, teacher and student communication is the Student Planner. It is essential that all students have their planners with them at all times. The front section of the planner contains essential information concerning the day to day running of the school. The other means of communication is the Weekly Newsletter. This is distributed each Friday on the school's website, <u>www.jtchsdow.catholic.edu.au</u>. Parents and students should ensure that they access the newsletter each week.

TRANSPORT

Most students travel to and from school on buses. The school has a huge drawing area and they are well serviced by the bus companies. All students should carry their passes whenever travelling by public transport. More information about bus lines is distributed at the commencement of each school year.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

Catholic Schools rely heavily on parental involvement. On application to the school, parents are asked to indicate possible future involvement. This includes such things as: Library work, examination supervision, working bees, reading programs, sport transport and carnival support. Your assistance is most welcome in all aspects of school life.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE AT JOHN THERRY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

LETTER OF EXPLANATION TO PARENTS

Dear Parents/Carers,

Br Clarence Scholarship for Academic Excellence

\$500 per year with a review of eligibility each year.

The recipient of this scholarship are determined by the Principal. The selection process considers: Year 6 school reports from Primary school, NAPLAN information from Year 5, student's responses at the enrolment interview and other information supplied by the family and the parish priest Fr Sarkis. This is an ongoing scholarship provided the student shows diligent application to studies and a high grade average over the course of the school year and indicated by the 2 semester reports.

Fr John Therry Scholarship

\$500 per year towards school feed in Year 7

This scholarship is for students who may be talented in areas such as sport, drama, dance, music, singing, debating & public speaking and whose family is experiencing financial difficulties. Applicant's family is required to supply written financial details in order to qualify for this scholarship.

Indigenous Scholarships

Please discuss your particular needs with the Principal at the time of your enrolment interview.

Hardship assistance with school fees, uniform and other costs.

Parents who have financial concerns may wish to apply for:

- a) A fee reduction
- b) An extension to pay fees
- c) Special consideration for a particular hardship which is short term

Please contact the school throughout the interview process or directly to the Finance manager after acceptance of enrolment to make financial arrangements.

Regards

Manyo J

Karen Young Principal

John Therry Catholic High School

Fee Structures 2012

Important Changes for 2012:

- The tuition fees have been adjusted by the Catholic Education Office to include a 4% increase for Secondary schools in the Wollongong Dioces for 2012. However, in 2012, the John Therry tuition fees have been reduced to be in line with the other Diocesan Secondary schools and our Building Levy has been increased for this same reason to meet the school debt servicing for its Building loans. In the past, a percentage of the school's higher tuition fees were used to service these building loans.
- 2. **Subject levy changes for years 9&10**. A common subject levy will be included in the Subject Resource fees from 2012 for years 9&10, and no separate levies will be charged. Separate subject levies will still apply for Years 11 &12. There will be no increase in subject levies for Years 11 & 12 in 2012.

Tuition fees as scheduled by the Diocese of Wollongong:

Years 7 & 8	\$1,323 per year per student
Years 9 & 10	\$1,428 per year per student
Years 11 & 12	\$1,782 per year per student

Please note sibling reductions apply to Tuition fees:
25% for second child enrolled at John Therry
50% for third child enrolled at John Therry
100% for fourth and additional children enrolled at John Therry

Building Levy:	\$435 per pupil per year
P&F levy:	\$75 per family per year
Sport Fees:	\$185 per student per year Years 7,8,9,10.
	\$50 per term of participation in Years 11 & 12 (for MISA participants and Rep

players only)

is sheet)

Technology fees:

\$150 for Years 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

The Technology fee covers the cost of the provision of infrastructure, network maintenance and ongoing minor school based computer repairs, software purchases, access costs for the internet and provision of printers.

Plus a variety of 1:1 laptop programs in stage 4, 5, & 6 are as follows:

*\$350 per student per year in Year 7 (2012 is first year of 2 year purchase scheme contract for Lenovo PC netbooks)

No Gov't funding available for years 7&8

*\$350 per student per year in Year 8 (2012 is second year of 2 year purchase scheme contract for Lenovo PC netbooks)

No Gov't funding available for years 7&8

*\$195 per student per year in year 9 (Second year of 2 year purchase scheme contract for Lenovo PC netbooks adjusted and a reduced amount to a maintenance contract for Lenovo PC machines due to additional Gov't funding accessed.)

*\$450 per student per year in year 10 (4th year of contract purchase plan for Macbooks which finishes end of 2012. Gov't funding for Lenovo PC machines in year 11 2013. Reduced to \$195 for years 11 &12)

*\$195 per student per year in year 11(Maintenance contract for Lenovo PC machines. Education Revolution Gov't funded machines)

*\$195 per student in Year 12 (Maintenance contract for Lenovo PC machines. Education Revolution Gov't funded machines)

Please note all Gov't funded machines in years 11 & 12 must remain the property of the school for a total of 4 years and must be returned if a student leaves. From 2013, this will apply to all machines issued to students in years 9-12.

Year 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 Pastoral and Reflection Days \$30 per student

Camps and Retreats are currently run for year groups 7, 10 and 12. It is proposed that a year 8/9 camp be introduced for 2012. The additional cost of approximately \$250 per camp/retreat will not be included in school fees but billed separately to parents at the time of the camp or retreat.

Please note that individual Student Account statements will be distributed to parents in early February.

SUBJECT	YR 11	YR 12
Construction	\$110	\$110
Community and Family Studies	\$50	\$50
Drama or Dance	\$70	\$70
Electronics	\$90	\$90
Industrial Technology Wood#	\$110	\$110
Industrial Technology Multimedia#	\$100	\$100
Food Technology	\$190	\$190
Hospitality	\$225 + uniform	\$225+ uniform
Information Processing Tech.	\$100	\$100
Information Technology	\$100	\$100
Music & Music /2unit	\$70	\$70
Photographic & Digital Media#	\$125	\$125
Textiles & Design Technology#	\$90	\$90
Visual Arts#	\$115	\$115
PDHPE 2unit	\$100	\$100
Sports Coaching VET	\$100	\$100

Subject levies for 2012

These subject levies apply per student per year for each subject the student chooses. Subject choices are always approved in writing by parents in advance during the selection process

NOTE: Major Project costs in these subjects can be excessive. An amount is set aside for students to complete their major projects but any additional costs due to the student's choice of more expensive materials or presentation costs will need to be met by the parents.

Some subjects have compulsory field trips, excursions or camps. Please check the subject information booklet carefully at the time of choosing subjects for senior study.

Please consult your tax agent for current information and Government incentives in regards to claims for your child's education expenses.

Please contact the school Bursar, Mike Palomares, to discuss any matters in relation to school fees. Please note that school scholarships are applied each year dependent on a student's application to their studies. Parents are informed on their fees statement as to the continuation of any scholarship. Also, Fee Arrangements are checked and verified in writing each calendar year eg Direct Debits, Applications for Reductions or Extensions to Pay.

Thank you for your ongoing support Karen Young Principal