

# St Patrick's Catholic School Latrobe



School Newsletter Number 3 February 21st, 2017

## PRINCIPAL'S REFLECTION

It's been said that talent without discipline is like an octopus on roller skates; there's plenty of movement, but you never know if it's going to be forward, backwards, or sideways. In the eight days that I have had the pleasure of working with the 165 children at St Patrick's this year, I have been impressed with both the generosity of spirit and talent in many areas. Our role as educators is to assist the children in becoming more disciplined in working toward realising these talents - to develop or strengthen **positive habits**. It is never too early and never too late for us, as teachers and parents, to help our children see self-discipline as a means to achieving desirable 'ends'; thank-you to the many parents that I know support us in our daily endeavours in this regard.

At last Wednesday's Parent Information introduction I read a letter from a hypothetical principal to a concerned parent. The letter highlighted that it is too easy to offer narrow appraisals and judgements of each other's frailties and weaknesses. I am confident that teachers are looking to both affirm and challenge students with their engagements with students and families, whilst providing an accurate and honest assessment of each child's application in the context of their abilities; I trust the trust that appears to exist in our school community will provide useful insights to continue to promote productive parent-student-teacher consultations. Doing well can take many guises and teachers will endeavour to appreciate the areas of strengths, tempered with areas that need and can be attended to by a close home-school partnership.

I believe it was Aristotle who said that we are what we repeatedly do, excellence then is not an act, but a habit. Next week as we begin the Lenten time of reflection and sacrifice, let us pray that our habits are a reflection of repeatedly doing what is right, so that we are or become models for our children. Our school gathered yesterday morning for the important Commissioning Service. I thank Father Mike for his generosity of time and spirit in officiating at yesterday's service. Many thanks too, to the parents who gathered and for the patience and attention displayed by the children - our school is blessed with people of spirit and talent.

## SCHOOL CALENDAR

### February

Monday 20th	9:00am Morning class prayers assembly (Year 6) - Commissioning Service for school staff and student leaders. 2:00pm P & F meeting (Kinder classroom) 7:00pm Sacramental Program meeting at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Devonport.
Tuesday 21st	Mitch working in Year 4 on the 'Spirit Of Jesus' program.
Wed 22nd	9:30am Parish Mass (Year 6 attending)
Friday 24th	9:00-10:45am Playgroup 'Silly Socks' day - School Fair hamper items donated please
Monday 27th	9:45am-2:00pm School Swimming Carnival (Latrobe Pool) 6:00pm School Board meeting
Tuesday 28th	Shrove Tuesday - Pancakes available for sale to raise funds for Project Compassion.

### March

Wed 1st	Ash Wednesday - Years 3 to 6 attend Parish Mass at 9:30am. Commence Project Compassion during Lent - "Love Your Neighbour"
Friday 3rd	9:00-10:45am Playgroup
Monday 6th	9:00am Morning class prayers assembly (Year 4)
Monday 13th	PUBLIC HOLIDAY (Eight Hour Day)
Tuesday 14th	Year 4 attend camp (Camp Clayton)
Wed 15th	Year 4 attend camp (Camp Clayton)
Friday 17th	9:00-10:45am Playgroup St Patrick's Day - SCHOOL FAIR
Monday 20th	Beginning of Catholic Education Week: "Love God With All Your Heart" 9:00am Morning class prayers assembly (Year 2)
Thursday 23rd	Individual Education Planning meetings at school (parents-teacher meetings) 9:00-10:45am Playgroup

## SCHOOL TERM DATES 2017

Term 1:	Thursday 9th February - Thursday 13th April
Term 2:	Monday 1st May-Friday 7th July
Term 3:	Monday 24th July-Friday 29th September
Term 4:	Tuesday 17th October-Thursday 21st December

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School Banking Details:

BSB Acct: 067-000 Acct: 1027-3325

## Parent Information Evening - Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 6:00pm

Thank you to the following family members who attended last Wednesday's parent information evening: Rachel Beckett, Jayne Bidwell, Carol Doonan, Jacqui Morris, Ursula Klug, Sally Bond, Rachel Smith, Julie Dewrance-Milligan, Amber Reisz, Mark Newman, Pru and Kate Huxtable, Kristian Kelly, Debbie Dolbey, Inge Watkins, D'Arne and Greg Adams, Acacia Davis, Maree Edgerton, Hannah and Gwyn Parry, Aneeta and Gavin Barker, Elizabeth Kolody, Jason and Tameika Anthony Teachers presented important information to families regarding their expectations and class routines during the evening; a handout summary was sent home to families who were unable to attend the evening.



### Students

During yesterday's Commissioning Service, our student leaders were reminded of the importance of their responsibilities and how much more is expected of them in modelling our school values of Mercy, Hospitality, Excellence, Dignity, Compassion and Justice. I am confident that the children elected into these positions will benefit greatly from their experience and prove to be good role models. The service emphasised the importance of all student leaders being exemplary role models if entrusted with any leadership position; these positions come with high expectations. Our student leaders for term 1 (terms 1 and 2 for SRC members) are:



**School Captains:** Amelia Klug, Maddi Lamprey

**Martyn House Captains:** Charlie Reeves, Eva Saunders-Curran

**Dooley House Captains:** Annalee Bidwell, Tomas Sullivan

**Byrne House Captains:** Lucy Doonan, Jesse O'Brien

**Student Representative Council:** Mushtaq Khan, Lincoln McQueen, Loretta Smith, Mac Butler, Molly Clarke, Seth Mansfield-Burgess, Kelly Simpson

### School Captains: two per term; voted by students from years 3-6 and staff

- Consistently display WEST qualities (*Welcoming, Encouraging, Saying sorry, Thanking*)
- Be confident in public speaking – school assemblies, community events as required.
- Have a heightened sense of the importance of being well-presented in their school uniform and in their general demeanour or manner.
- Be viewed as excellent role models by staff, students and the wider school and general community.
- Display reliability and a degree of initiative as required.

### House Captains two per term per House; voted by students from years 3-6 and staff

- Consistently display WEST qualities (*Welcoming, Encouraging, Saying sorry, Thanking*)
- Consistently display sportsmanship – not necessarily outstanding personal sporting abilities; rather a willingness to be involved and to involve others in sport.
- Be reliable and willing to assist in promoting sport and other student welfare programs.



## SCHOOL-WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT, W.E.S.T. and MERCY VALUES

Congratulations to Jasper Chamley for receiving a WEST award during yesterday's assembly. We will continue to acknowledge those students who exhibit WEST (*Welcoming, Encouraging; Sorry; Thankful*) qualities by presenting awards at our Monday morning assemblies. Families are always most welcome to attend our weekly assemblies. For the month of February our whole school PBS focus is "**Belonging** and our WEST focus is '**Welcoming**'. We encourage you to talk to your child about this monthly focus and what it means to him or her. Our student leaders were presented to our assembly yesterday. Students elected to positions of leadership will be involved in regular meetings to discuss how they can support positive change at St Patrick's.

### STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

**Prep:** Grace Dixey for trying her best with all tasks and for making good choices.

**Year 1:** Cameron Reeves for beautiful bookwork and always taking time and care with his presentation.

**Year 2:** Georgie Tueon for always working hard and being nice.

**Year 3:** Clay Mott for being an encouraging class member and trying his best at all times.

**Year 4:** Vinnie Manion for displaying a positive approach to all tasks.

**Year 5:** Chloe Barnes for her creative narrative writing.

**Year 6:** Taegue Mott for his cooperation and positive start to the year.

### Pupil Free Day 2017 - Friday 7th July

The Catholic Education Office allocates one Pupil Free Day during the school year for staff professional learning. The North West have been allocated Friday 7th July as our Pupil Free Day as a region for 2017. We appreciate that this may impact on childcare for families so provide this advanced notice. Friday the 7th July is the final day of Term 2.

### Sacramental Program

Families with children in Years 3, 4, 5 or 6 are warmly invited to participate in our Sacramental Program to prepare to celebrate the sacraments of RECONCILIATION, CONFIRMATION and EUCHARIST this year. Information sessions to explain the preparation program will be held on:

- Monday 20th February, 7.00pm at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Stewart Street, Devonport or
- Tuesday 21st February 7.00pm at Sacred Heart Church, Alexandra Road, Ulverstone

For further information please contact the Parish Office 6424 2783 or Mrs Marshall or Mr Linhart.

We offer Luca, Alex, Thomas and William (pictured right with parents) all the best as they embark on this year's Sacramental Program. The O'Grady and Adams families attended last night's introduction to the program that is being conducted by Father Mike. If any families are interested in joining, it is not too late - please contact Mrs Marshall, Mr Linhart or the Parish Office for details.

### Catholic Education Week

This year from 19th to the 24th March 2017 St Patrick's Catholic School will join with Catholic schools across Tasmania to celebrate Catholic Education Week (CEW). This year's theme is 'Love God with all your heart' and is drawn from St Mark's Gospel 12:30. It is here that Jesus is asked which is the greatest commandment and he answers "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' 31 The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these." More information will be communicated in forthcoming Newsletters.



## Garden News with Mr Tim

Year 4 kicked "Garden 2017" off by harvesting our onion crop, which has been growing through the summer. It was fun finding the onions in their rows but it was also tricky because the weeds had grown over the top of them. But we did find lots and collected them in the wheelbarrow. We also prepared a garden bed by weeding and digging, and at the end of our work ate yummy new carrots from a bed which we have just started. Year 2 put the onions onto a wire rack to dry before we store them for winter. Year 2's also sowed lots of seeds into punnets which hopefully we will be able to sell as seedlings at the fair. It was lots of fun, and we needed to work as a team with 1 person sowing the seeds and the other person covering them up by scratching the potting mix over the top with a little stick. We sowed parsley seeds, celery, silver beet, lettuce, spinach and thyme. Prep's first big day in the garden was very exciting with lots of digging, planting and chatter. We planted silver beet and also some bok choy, and then we ate beans straight off the bean plant. Not everyone liked the taste of the raw beans but everyone loved the carrots!



## REMINDERS

### Library News

Mrs Carter has taken on the library responsibilities extremely well this year and classes appear to be happily using our library space and resources. A reminder that library bags are essential items for borrowing. Library times are: Mondays - Year 6, Year 4, Prep; Tuesdays - Year 5, Year 3; Wednesdays - Kinder, Year 2, Year 1.

### School Swimming Carnival - Monday 27th February

A reminder that permission slips (included as an insert in last week's Newsletter and available as a download from Schoolbag or the school website) are due back tomorrow please. The Swimming Carnival itinerary is included as an insert. We have listed all students in Years 3 to 6 in their respective houses for swimming events - students will not be forced to swim; this list is to inform students, marshals and recorders of possible participants only. **Volunteers needed: If you are available to help with the BBQ (10:30-12:30pm) please contact the school office or Mr Linhart.**

### Working with Vulnerable Persons Act

You are reminded that if you wish to help in the classroom, accompany classes on excursions, assist in the Uniform Shop or Canteen, coach sports teams etc, in accordance with Tasmanian Government Legislation, you must be registered for Working With Vulnerable People. This costs the volunteer \$17.76. This means that if you do not hold this certificate you cannot volunteer at school. Please contact the Office if you require any assistance with this application process. Applications must be made online at [www.justice.tas.gov.au/working\\_with\\_children/application](http://www.justice.tas.gov.au/working_with_children/application)

## COMMUNITY

### Welcome Bonnie!

Teague and Clay welcomed a new arrival, Bonnie (pictured right), last Friday. mother and daughter are doing well!

**Devonport Primary basketball roster** – The winter roster for Grade 1 & 2, Grade 3 & 4 and Grade 5 & 6 will remain as school-based. Games will be played on Friday nights commencing on Friday 10th March. It is a requirement of Basketball Tasmania that all players register online. The DBC requires all intending players to be registered and paid before Tuesday 28th February 2017. **NO LATE REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.** To register go online [www.devonportwarriors.com.au](http://www.devonportwarriors.com.au) or you can attend registration nights to be held at the meeting room (next to the Youth Centre) on Thursday 23rd February from 3.30 pm until 5.30 pm or Tuesday 28th February from 4.00 pm until 6.00 pm. Registration fees: \$75-00 for children born in 2008, 2009 and 2010, \$85-00 for children born 2006 and 2007 and \$95-00 for children born 2004 and 2005. If you require any assistance with online registrations or have any queries regarding rosters please contact Jan at the DBC Office on 64242440 between 10 – 2 daily.





### **St Patrick's Parents and Friends - School Fair (St Patrick's Day 17th March 2017)**

With less than four weeks to go before our School Fair that coincides with St Patrick's Day, our efforts are starting to 'gear-up'; please feel welcome to join in and help with some ideas or tasks - we are scheduling weekly meetings every Monday, with **our next Fair Meeting being held in the Kindergarten classroom on Monday 27th February at 3:00pm.**

Classes have confirmed their responsibility for the day this week and later this week each class will receive a letter explaining how families can assist with a specific aspect of the fair. Classes will be involved in the following:

- Kinder Cupcakes
- Prep Scarecrows
- Year 1 Cold Rock Ice-cream
- Year 2 Lolly jars
- Year 3 Sweets
- Year 4 Lucky bags & show bags
- Year 5 Lob-a-choc
- Year 6 Jams and sauces

**We are desperately seeking recipes** for our school recipe book that we would like to launch at the fair. **PLEASE**, if you have a tried and true recipe (it doesn't have to be fancy) that we can include, please send it in by this Friday to ensure we have enough time to prepare the book. Thank you for your support.



This Friday students are welcome to wear 'Silly Socks' and we are asking families to contribute items that can be used for either a male or female hamper - toiletries and/or 'treats'. These items will be used as raffles for the fair and your donations will be extremely gratefully received. Each class will have a 'Fair Box' located near their door for these items to be left and the class that has the most items on the Friday of the week will be rewarded with an icy -pole and 10 minutes extra play. Many thanks for your support of this and further requests for support. We are asking for **plants, greenlife , vegetables, anything garden** to sell on our plant stall at the fair . Plants can be dropped off at school and Mr Tim can keep them in the garden anytime from now on.