

St Patrick's Catholic School Latrobe



School Newsletter Number 4 February 28th, 2017

PRINCIPAL'S REFLECTION

Last weekend, Caritas Australia launched the 2017 program with this year's theme, "Love Your Neighbour". Taking as its inspiration - *compassion in action* - in response to Jesus' commandment to love and to His mission to bring the Good News of the Kingdom to all.

As we enter the Lenten season and participate in the reflection that begins with Ash Wednesday tomorrow, it is important to note the maxim, "life precedes doctrine". Scripture and sacred texts provide us all with insights and, hopefully, the inspiration to bring about some positive change in our lives and the lives of others. However, it is our experience with others and with what life 'dishes out' that really determines the depth and influence of our experience with words and doctrines - ideas don't change people on a deep level; encounters with others changes people.

With the approach of Lent we welcome a time when we can re-examine, renew and refresh our relationship with God and with others. The weekend's Gospel is the conclusion of the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus was teaching the crowds how to live 'in the Spirit' and how to put the Beatitudes into practice. All who listened to Jesus that day in the crowd were invited to change an aspect of their lives so that others may live more fully. For many, listening to the words of Jesus was not sufficient to bring about needed change in their lives - their own sense of justice prevailed over a wider and deeper sense that Jesus was trying to inculcate in their lives.

It is in our encounters with others that our relationship with our God is revealed and that was the same in Jesus's time as it is today. Jesus made it plain that entrance into the kingdom of heaven is for those who do His Father's will - those who listen to His words and act upon them. Speaking the message and doing great deeds need to reflect a faith that must be actively lived out. We are called to a life based on His words and lived in love and justice - Lent will provide each of us the opportunity to reflect on how others may see such traits being 'lived out'. I pray that each member of our school community take as their model for personal growth not the actions of others (*I am good because I am better/different from him, her or 'them'*), but the words of Jesus, which were put into action and relate to showing love by displaying courtesy and consideration to all.



SCHOOL CALENDAR

February

- Monday 27th 9:15am-1:45pm School Swimming Carnival (Latrobe Pool)
3:00pm School Fair Meeting (Kinder classroom)
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
- 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 from 4:00pm
- Saturday 18th Sacramental Program - Preparation Day for candidates.
- Monday 20th Catholic Education Week
- Tuesday 21st Catholic Education week Mass (Marist College, Burnie) - Years 5 & 6 involved

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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Staff News

Mrs Stoessiger will be away this week - we welcome Miss Cook and Mrs Coward to Kinder; Mrs Badcock is away today - we welcomed Mr O'Brien to Year 2; Mrs Lawrence-Vick will be away until Monday 20th March - we welcome Mrs Anthony to the T-A role in Mrs Lawrence-Vick's absence; Miss Cook will be releasing teachers for 40 minute planning meetings on Monday 6th March and Wednesday 8th March; Mrs Kingshott will be away on Thursday 9th and Friday 10th March - we will welcome Mrs Coward to Year 5.

School Policies and Procedures

Policies and procedures are available electronically from the school website or in print form upon request from the school office. Information regarding policies and procedures will be a regular feature of our school newsletter. Mrs Badcock (Assistant Principal: Learning and Teaching) has provided a summary of our support for Home Readers. This is included below:

Home Readers

Mrs Carter and Mrs Males have been very busy getting our Home Reader resources up and running for 2017. Home Readers can be returned for exchange on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Each classroom has a Home Reader tub for collection. Using these resources is one of many great ways to support your child's language development. This year a focus for our teaching staff in professional development is Oral Language. It is important for children to have the skill of retelling the text they read and also the ability to answer questions about the text. These responses reflect their understanding. We use these indicators in our benchmarking process when students are assessed on their reading level.

After reading any texts with your child/ren you can help them to develop their understanding by **asking a question**.

A LITERAL QUESTION:

Literal meaning is simply what the text says. It is exactly what happens in the story. It is a very important part of comprehension because it provides the foundation for more advanced comprehension.

Ask questions about

- the main idea
- the facts
- the sequence of events
- the characters in the story

AN INFERENTIAL QUESTION:

Inferential questions are about the meaning of the text. We can work out the answer to inferential questions by considering hints or clues in the text and using our own knowledge and experience.

Ask questions about:

Why...?

How do you know...?

What do you think...?

How do you feel...?

Can you explain..?

So, after reading, ask a question.



Shrove Tuesday

Many thanks to Mrs Marshall who coordinated today's Shrove Tuesday 'pancake day'. Our 'awesome foursome' of Lorraine Young, Pru Garwood, Sally Bond and Fiona Harlow served scores of scrumptious pancakes to an appreciative community. Many thanks to these volunteers who contribute enormously to our school community. Traditionally a day in which people cleaned out the pantries in order to ready themselves for a degree of sacrifice during Lent, Shrove Tuesday is a good reminder of appreciating the present, whilst being aware of planning for the future.



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

Congratulations to William O'Grady who received 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.

House Raffle Winners:

Byrne: Tom Bond

Dooley: Ty Weatherill

Martyn: Olivia Gow

Father Mike is one of the Parish Priests in our Mersey Leven Catholic Parish. We thought we would like to find out a bit more about him.

Birthday: 3rd May 1951

Born/lived: Hobart, Tas. Lived most of my life in Tasmania but spent 4 years in Geelong, Vic (1961-64), 7 years in Victoria when studying for the Priesthood (1969-1975) and various times interstate and overseas whilst serving as a Reserve Naval Chaplain.

Footy team: Geelong - the greatest team of all!

Favourite food: Pizza and roast pork but not at the same time!!!

Favourite comedy movie? Not sure about that. Favourite movies are murder mysteries.

Fondest childhood memory: The birth of my twin sisters after having four brothers.

What would be your perfect day? A day at a seaside retreat with some good food, fine wine, a good book and time to reflect.

If you could master one skill you don't have right now, what would it be? Being able to produce an app for the Church.

If you could travel anywhere, where would you go and why?

Ireland (again) because I really love the people and the country.



STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Prep: Tanner Davis for listening to the teacher and trying his best to improve his work.

Year 1: Suraya Khan for her conscientiousness.

Year 2: Jasper Chamley for making a determined effort with mental computation skills.

Year 3: Isabelle Overton for being a conscientious student and taking pride in the presentation of her work.

Year 4: Molly Clarke for always being kind and caring to others.

Year 5: Ify Nwaba for confidently sharing her understanding about the complex concepts of Lent.

Year 6: Nat Mason for her outstanding effort.

What is Ash Wednesday?

Ash Wednesday is one of the most important holy days in the liturgical calendar. Ash Wednesday opens Lent, a season of fasting and prayer. Ash Wednesday takes place 46 days before Easter Sunday.

Ash Wednesday comes from the ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting. The practice includes the wearing of ashes on the head. The ashes symbolise the dust from which God made us. As the priest applies the ashes to a person's forehead, he speaks the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return" or alternatively, the priest may speak the words, "Repent and believe in the Gospel."

Writings from the Second-century Church refer to the wearing of ashes as a sign of penance. Priests administer ashes during Mass and all are invited to accept the ashes as a visible symbol of penance. The ashes are made from blessed palm branches, taken from the previous year's Palm Sunday Mass. While the ashes symbolise penance and contrition, they are also a reminder that God is gracious and merciful to those who call on Him with repentant hearts. His Divine mercy is of utmost importance during the season of Lent, and the Church calls on us to seek that mercy during the entire Lenten season with reflection, prayer and penance.

Year 6 Leadership Day

Mrs O'Brien, Marty Ogle, Mr Linhart and the Year 6 students enjoyed a wonderful day together at Camp Clayton on Friday 17th February, challenging themselves to become WEST people in words and deeds. Well done Year 6 on making the most of this opportunity to collaborate and set worthy goals.



Garden News (with Mr Tim)

A beautifully warm, late summer's day had our little green thumbs ready for action in the garden. Year 3 began the dusty job of cleaning out the hen house by shovelling all the old straw into the barrow and tipping it along the sweetcorn crop. It was hot work, especially wearing a dust mask but it was great fun. Others pulled weeds out of the hothouse and heaped them onto the compost bins. Super work Year 3, everyone worked brilliantly. Progress continued when the Year 1's pulled the gloves on and cleaned up their garden bed. A real highlight was all the wildlife we discovered. Snails, millipedes, furry white caterpillars and slugs were all studied at close range and talked about excitedly. Year 5 finished the great work started by Year 3 earlier by putting new straw in the hen house and laying nests which will keep the girls happy as the nights start to cool off. And in a first for the garden Year 5 buried their "I can't box" which contains the thoughts of the students naming things they can't do at the moment which they will work on during the year to improve. The box will be dug up late in the year and all the messages read again. Our delicious garden munchies this week for the hard workers were those beautiful carrots and beans again, and the first of the pears were shared. As a special treat at lunchtime we enjoyed sweet tomatoes on a cracker. Great work everyone.



REMINDERS

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

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 the 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.

COMMUNITY

Devonport Primary Soccer Season

Preparations are underway for this year's Devonport Soccer Season Information regarding the 2017 season will be included in our upcoming newsletters - our school has an impressive participation rate in this competition and we hope to field a number of teams to ensure all year-levels are represented. The soccer season will begin on Saturday 1st April and we envisage confirming teams, coaches and rosters well before then. We are looking to the school community for a person is willing and able to be our school representative at the Devonport Junior Soccer Association meetings (which is a prerequisite for our school's involvement in this popular sport). If you can assist us, please contact Mr Linhart for more details. The school will support anyone who can volunteer for this position.

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 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.

Student Star

Piper Emmerton in Year 5 recently won the under 11 age division in the Rosebery Festival. Congratulations Piper and well done on giving things a go!



Care and Concern

Please feel welcome to contact Mr Linhart or a staff member if you wish to bring to our attention any needs that a school community member might have that we could support.