

St Patrick's Catholic School Latrobe



School Newsletter Number 7 March 21st 2017

PRINCIPAL'S REFLECTION

The Chinese philosopher Lao Tsu stated a simple maxim: "Great acts are made up of small deeds". Last Friday, St Patrick's Day, we experienced the reality of this statement through our involvement in a myriad of diverse and outward looking activities that included: A whole-school assembly; Year 6 students leading classes in activities and peer-support presentations; Years 3 to 6 attending and reading reverently at Parish Mass; Year 6 students serving and offering outstanding hospitality to our parishioners by serving them a delicious lunch in our assembly hall; the amazing level of support offered by a multitude of family members in setting up the school fair to ensure it was ready by 4:00pm; and the incredible level of support in dismantling and packing away at the end of a very long and eventful day. The day emphasised to me the potential that we have as community when we are invited to contribute to opportunities that rely on our good-will and that has the interests of others at heart. I was trying to isolate a single word that would best encapsulate the vital ingredient that I witnessed and experienced by so many people on the day, and I am comfortable in describing it as 'Kindness', the power of which is well described by, once again, one of my favourite philosophers, Lao Tsu, when he states, "Kindness in words creates confidence. Kindness in thinking creates profoundness. Kindness in giving creates love". Thank you to the vast majority of our school community who are so very supportive and who regularly display such kindness - we have much to be joyful about as members of this special school community and it is wonderful to see the results of the many 'small deeds' by so many in our school community that regularly create such 'great acts'.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

March

Monday 20th	Catholic Education Week. 9:00am Morning class prayer assembly (Year 2). Year 6 visiting Strahdevon residents 6:00pm school Board Meeting (Staffroom). Judy Pakinga (Student Support) visiting Catholic Education week Mass (Marist College, Burnie) - Years 5 & 6 involved.
Tuesday 21st	9:30am Years 2 & 6 attend Parish Mass. IEP parent-teacher meetings. St Patrick's School Playgroup 9:00-10:45am Matt Jones (Assistant-Director: North) visiting.
Wed. 22nd	9:00am Morning class prayer assembly (Year 1).
Thursday 23rd	9:30am Years 1 & 3 attend Parish Mass.
Friday 24th	2:00pm School Fair meeting - feedback session at Shadows Cafe, Gilbert St. NW Regional Swimming Carnival (Burnie) St Patrick's School Playgroup 9:00-10:45am.
Monday 27th	9:00am Morning class prayer assembly (Year 1).
Wed. 29th	9:30am Years 1 & 3 attend Parish Mass.
Thursday 30th	2:00pm School Fair meeting - feedback session at Shadows Cafe, Gilbert St. NW Regional Swimming Carnival (Burnie) St Patrick's School Playgroup 9:00-10:45am.
Friday 31st	

April

Monday 3rd	9:00am Morning class prayer assembly (Prep). Commencement of Summer-Winter uniform transition. 2:00pm School P & F AGM (assembly hall)
Wednesday 5th	9:30am Prep & Year 5 attend Parish Mass.
Friday 7th	Plain clothes day - Project Compassion. St Patrick's School Playgroup 9:00-10:45am

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2017

Term 1: Thursday 9th February - Thursday 13th April

Term 2: Monday 1st May-Friday 7th July



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School Fair

To thank everyone who assisted in this year's school fair would warrant a huge space in this Newsletter and I would invariably forget to mention someone, however, many thanks to the significant number of people who were so generous in their time and energy in regards to their contributions towards such a wonderful school community event. Special thanks to the P & F executive of Prue Garwood, Kate and Robyn Huxtable, Sally Bond and Fiona Harlow, and to the commitment of the Fair Committee whose many contributors included Karen Smith, Lorraine Young, Tamiaka Anthony, Maree Edgerton, Danielle Woods, Julie Dewrance-Milligan, D'Arne and Greg Adams, Anita Tueon, and to the numerous parents and friends who were at school at 1:30pm and again at 8:00pm assisting with setting-up and packing away and general cleaning duties in addition to coordinating stalls, and to our teachers and teacher-assistants and Tameka Harris and Lennice Leonard for their outstanding support and assistance with coordination.



Fair Feedback

Please provide the school with feedback regarding our recent fair prior to, or at, next Wednesday's (29th March) Fair meeting that will be held at Shadows Cafe, Gilbert Street Latrobe, commencing at 2:00pm - all are most welcome to attend this informal meeting, which will scrutinise the fair and discuss fair plans for the future. Our school Parents & Friends Annual General Meeting will be conducted in the school assembly hall on Monday 3rd April. If you would like to nominate yourself or nominate someone you feel would be an asset to the committee for a position on the Parents & Friends Committee please pick up a nomination form from the office and ensure it is received by Mr Linhart prior to **Monday 3rd April**.

School Uniform: Winter Change-Over

Parents are advised that our Summer-Winter uniform change-over commences in term 2, Monday 1st May. Please prepare for this by checking your child's needs for full Winter uniform now to ensure your child presents in full Winter uniform as of the first day back after term break and contact the school office well in advance of the end of term 1 (Thursday 13th April) to ensure your child has a full Winter uniform. **Students may begin this transition from Monday 3rd April.** The Winter uniform is:

GIRLS - WINTER

- School skirt or pinafore.
- Green school shirt and school tie (or dark green skivvy if cold).
- Navy blue school jumper.
- Green school polar fleece jacket or navy soft-shell jacket.
- Navy blue tights or socks.
- Low-heeled black school shoes with arch support.
- Green scarf (optional) – scarf to be worn outside and during sedentary activities only

BOYS - WINTER

- Green school shirt and school tie (or dark green skivvy if cold).
- School jumper.
- Long grey trousers or grey shorts.
- Navy blue socks.
- Black shoes (no other colour) with arch support.
- Green polar fleece jacket or navy soft-shell jacket.
- Green scarf – to be worn outside and during sedentary activities only.

Parent-Student-Teacher Meetings: End of term 1 (Tuesday 11th April & Wednesday 12th April)

As part of our reporting schedule, teachers will be making themselves available for parent-student-teacher discussions **between 3:30pm and 7:00pm on Tuesday 11th April and Wednesday 12th April** – we will try to accommodate meetings during the school day if this is your preference and if it is possible. Except for Kinder children, students are strongly encouraged to attend these discussions (although there may be a decision made by you and your child's teacher that determines your child's attendance at this meeting may not be appropriate). If you are bringing other children to a meeting, please ensure they are engaged in independent, quiet work to allow the parent-student-teacher meetings to proceed without distraction. The intent of these 15 minute meetings is to have the opportunity to talk openly and honestly regarding your child's progress this year, whilst also discussing some areas that might or will require some work. It is envisaged that some discussions will be undertaken regarding establishing goals that teachers believe may be important to support to ensure your child makes the most of their schooling this year. A letter with preferred meeting times is included in today's Newsletter and time allocations will be distributed to families in Tuesday 4th April's Newsletter - **please ensure you return your preferred times by Friday 31st March.**

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

Congratulations to Logan Benson (Year 5) who was awarded a WEST certificate during yesterday morning'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 March our whole school PBS focus is "**Learning**" and our WEST focus is '**Encouraging**'. We encourage you to talk to your child about this monthly focus and what it means to him or her.

House raffle winners

Byrne House: 114 points Matilda Hayes (3)

Dooley House: 119 points Ruby Anthony (1)

Martyn House: 132 points Arlo Valentine-Smith (4)

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Prep: Zarna Bakes for being a responsible class member who helps others. Thank you for always trying your best with everything you do.

Year 1: Ryan Jackson for always thinking of others.

Year 2: Stella Riley for working hard to complete her classroom jobs.

Year 3: Linden Woods for his fantastic acrostic poem about St Patrick.

Year 4: Harry Marshall for displaying a never-give-up attitude on camp and for always including others.

Year 5: Flynn Glann for his creative response to writing a biography and for being an active listener at Mass.

Year 6: Charlie Reman for his well - mannered and hardworking approach in the classroom.

Easter Egg Raffle - Easter Egg Donations Requested

Families are asked to contribute an Easter egg that will be used to create some Easter Egg hampers. The Years 5 & 6 students will be selling Easter egg hamper raffle tickets outside the assembly hall every morning and outside the school canteen every Thursday and Friday. Tickets will be 50 cents and raffles will be drawn during our school assembly on Thursday 13th April.

Project Compassion - "Love Your Neighbour"

On Holy Thursday, 13th April, each class will bring their Project Compassion boxes to the basketball court and fill in an image of a love heart to reflect our theme for this year's Project Compassion, 'Love Your Neighbour'. Many thanks to all who contribute to help others in need. **Families are requested to please ensure their Project Compassion boxes are brought to school on Thursday 13th April.** Many thanks.

Plain Clothes Day - Project Compassion fund-raiser

Students are invited to wear casual clothes (no thongs or singlets please) to school on Friday 7th April. The cost will be a gold coin donation for Project Compassion.

Class News - Year 6 (Mrs O'Brien)

The Year Six students have had a very busy start to the year and they have been working hard all throughout the term. This term so far has seen the students develop their leadership skills and team-work through the MJR day at Camp Clayton and Peer Fitness, challenging their brains with daily brain teasers, understanding numbers and exploring electricity as well as developing their skills in the art of meditation and being mindful. To help with meditation the Year Six class had a special parent help come in – Mrs O'Brien's mum – to help make some eye packs. Mrs Daniel sewed some material into pouches; the students then dyed them and filled them with wheat and their chosen relaxing scent. Mrs Daniel then sewed up the packs and we have had a soothingly scented, relaxed room and meditation time ever since. Thank you Mrs Daniel for all your help.



Student Star

Congratulations to Vinnie Manion (Year 4) who recently competed in the Tasmanian Little Athletics Championships in Hobart. Vinnie competed extremely well and he was very proud of his efforts, especially with his 1st place in the high jump. Well done Vinnie. Families are invited to contact Mr Linhart with stories of achievement within our talented school community.



Care and Concern

Our school community is special in many ways - dedicated staff, supportive parents, cooperative students - however, our Mercy Charism provides us with key values that, I believe, are real ingredients for our uniqueness - Excellence, Compassion, Hospitality, Dignity, Mercy and Justice. We try hard to live out these values and one way of displaying compassion is for us to be a support to those in our school community who have undergone loss. Please contact your child's teacher, the office staff or Mr Linhart if you feel we could offer support in any way to anyone in our school community in need.

Hot Cross Bun Fundraiser

The Year Five and Six classes are currently fundraising for the Canberra trip later in the year. You are able to pre-order Banjos Hot Cross Buns and pick them up fresh from the school on the last day of Term 1, Thursday April the 13th, just in time for Easter. For every pack sold through the school, Banjos will donate \$1 towards our school trip. Order forms will be sent home with students tomorrow, please complete the order form and return, along with the payment, to the school office by no later than Thursday April the 6th.

HOT CROSS BUN SELECTION:

- Traditional Hot Cross Buns – 6 pack for \$4.95
- Gourmet Hot Cross Buns - 6 pack for \$6.95
- Chocolate Hot Cross Buns - 6 pack for \$6.95
- Mini Chocolate Hot Cross Bunnies - 12 pack for \$6.95
- Mini Traditional Hot Cross Bunnies – 12 pack for \$4.95

Devonport Junior Soccer 2017

- Details regarding teams will be communicated to families tomorrow - this will include training days for teams (this year we will be coordinating training at school during lunch-breaks rather than after school).
- The games will be played at Meercroft Park in Devonport each Saturday morning. **The season will commence on Saturday 1st April.**
- Invitations will be called for team coaches/managers who should contact Mr Linhart with their interest in ensuring we have a responsible adult on the sideline each game to coordinate the team.

REMINDERS

Catholic Education Week

This year from 19th-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.'³¹ There is no commandment greater than these."



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.

Bookclub: Issue 2 of Book Club out now! Orders are due back by the 28th March please. Back orders from Issue 1 are expected to be distributed later this week.

COMMUNITY

Please find enclosed a flier regarding the Shamrock 1st term Vacation Care Program.