

# St Patrick's Catholic School Latrobe



School Newsletter Number 5 March 7th 2017

## PRINCIPAL'S REFLECTION

Noel Pearson, the indigenous lawyer, social activist and commentator impresses me greatly. He speaks with authority and clarity; he speaks from experience and with a passion that reflects a willingness to work with others for a common good. A fairly recent article by him examined how some schools become 'institutions', which are emboldened by tradition and a collective acceptance of the importance of the role of education. He agrees with the statement that many issues in schools are not a reflection of 'bad' teachers: few teachers can truly teach effectively if student absenteeism is high **or**, when present, students are argumentative and defiant, **or** when no effective deterrents are available, **or** when members of a school community do not support measures that are designed to deal with the aforementioned issues. In other words, 'good' education does not work in a vacuum.

Pearson quotes the educator Geoffrey Partington, who has a theory that an inordinate amount of time, energy and money is poured into ensuring the rights of students who *do not* (as opposed to the few who *cannot*) accord with school requests for reasonable and responsible behaviour, which he calls 'the compassion that kills'. Effective education demands regular student attendance, calm classrooms and an expectation of consistent effort. Noel Pearson wrote of one of his favourite schools, Djarragun College in North Queensland, comparing it in many ways to Brisbane Grammar and James Ruse Agricultural High School, two extremely high performing schools. Such a comparison is amazing given the different demographics of Djarragun from the comparative schools, however, it is a school that has achieved significant success in achieving many of its aims based on three principles:

1. A firm belief in 'tough love' discipline – where students feel safe, students know boundaries and teachers get on with teaching instead of spending an inordinate amount of time on trying to discipline an unruly element;
2. An expectation that everyone in the school community treats everyone else with respect and love – loaded terms that, when enacted meaningfully, have the potential to achieve real goals;
3. Speaking the truth and expecting each individual in the school community to value education.

Our Project Compassion theme this Lent is most appropriate in the context of this reflection: "Love your neighbour". Thank you to all in our school community who strive to support this important message.

## SCHOOL CALENDAR

### March

Monday 6th	9:00am Morning class prayers assembly (Year 4). 2:00pm School Fair Committee meeting (kinder classroom) - all welcome; afternoon tea provided.
Wednesday 8th	9:30am Years 4, 3 & 1 attend Parish Mass.
Monday 13th	PUBLIC HOLIDAY (Eight Hour Day).
Tuesday 14th	9:00am Morning class prayer assembly (Year 3). Year 4 attend camp (Camp Clayton). Year 4 attend camp (Camp Clayton). 9:30am Years 3 and 5 attend Parish Mass.
Wed 15th	9:00-10:45am Playgroup. NO CANTEEN TODAY: Cakes and biscuits and a sausage in bread will be available for \$2 each.
Friday 17th	St Patrick's Day - SCHOOL FAIR from 4:00pm.
Saturday 18th	Sacramental Program - Preparation Day for candidates.
Monday 20th	Catholic Education Week. 9:00am Morning class prayer assembly (Year 2). 6:00pm school Board Meeting (Staffroom).
Tuesday 21st	Catholic Education week Mass (Marist College, Burnie) - Years 5 & 6 involved.
Wed. 22nd	9:30am Years 2 & 6 attend Parish Mass.
Thursday 23rd	IEP parent-teacher meetings

## 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

## Staff News

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 attending an Aboriginal Key Teacher meeting - we will welcome Mrs Coward to Year 5.

## Book Talk Challenge

So ... your child has read the book ... now what?

A sheet will be placed in with your home readers over the next few weeks. This is a challenge for you and your child. There are a number of "Book Talk" questions to provide a stimulus for discussion. After the text has been read ask a question. These questions aim to help your child practice their comprehension and oral language skills. Colour the book next to the question that you answered. If you complete the challenge please send back your Book Talk Questions sheet with your name on it to Mrs Badcock.

## Project Compassion (Mrs Marshall)

**"You shall love your neighbour as yourself." Matt 22:39**

Caritas Australia's annual fundraising and awareness-raising appeal, bringing thousands of Australians together in solidarity with the world's poor to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. Running through the six weeks of Lent each year, Project Compassion is an extraordinary, ongoing demonstration of the faith, love and generosity of caring supporters, all in the name of justice and peace. Pope Francis, in his encyclical 'Laudato Si' reminds us, "We must regain the conviction that **we need one another**, that we have a **shared responsibility for others** and the **world**, and that **being good and decent are worth it.**" The theme for Project Compassion 2017 is "Love your neighbour". Last Wednesday, each family would have received a Project Compassion box. If you fill yours, another box can be obtained from the office. Please donate what ever you can. Project Compassion Boxes will be collected in the last week of Term 1.



This year, Project Compassion demonstrates how love for our neighbours can transform lives. For more than 50 years, Caritas Australia has been privileged to work together with our neighbours – our most vulnerable sisters and brothers in First Australian communities and in many other countries. Working with our partner agencies in those communities, we have developed the strength to combat poverty, promote justice and uphold the dignity of every person. For more information and to see the assistance our donations bring to others, go to [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion). Last week we raised \$193.10 from Pancake Day to donate towards Project Compassion. Thank you again to those lovely ladies in the kitchen (Lorraine Young, Pru Garwood, Sally Bond and our own prodigal daughter, Fiona Harlow) who helped to make this possible.



## ICT News (Mrs Badcock)

Is managing technology at home challenging? The internet can be a valuable and engaging environment. It can also present some challenges. A report on Australian teens by the ACMA looked at the online engagement of young people, the devices they use and the services and activities that they find captivating. 74% of those surveyed accessed online services between 5pm and 10 pm and 28% continued their access between 10pm and midnight. There are a number of ways to manage web connected devices. The safety website [www.esafety.gov.au/education-resources/iparent](http://www.esafety.gov.au/education-resources/iparent) provides some practical solutions to managing technology at home including safeguards, parental controls and screen time limits.

## Devonport Junior Soccer 2017

Soccer this season will once again be coordinated by Richard and Jayne Bidwell; I thank them for taking on this role within our school community. Children from Prep to Year 6 are invited to play in the roster, which is open to both boys and girls. The games will be played at Meercroft Park in Devonport each Saturday morning. The season will commence on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April, however, teams need to be nominated by Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March. If your child would like to play soccer this season **please complete the online registration form and pay the \$75 registration fee by Tuesday 14th March**. No late registrations will be accepted under any circumstances. For teams to be nominated, we will need a parent/older sibling to volunteer as team coaches and/or managers and to coordinate training times and game days for teams. Anyone interested in assisting as a team coach/managers should contact Mr Linhart asap.

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

Congratulations to Loretta Smith (Year 2) 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: 52 points Adam Van Der Hulst (2)**

**Dooley House: 83 points Natalie Mason (6)**

**Martyn House: 85 points Seth Mansfield-Burgess (5)**

### STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

**Prep:** Melia Sesara for trying her best with all of her school work and for being a responsible class member.

**Year 1:** Ruby Anthony for always taking the time to help others.

**Year 2:** Emma Watson for her positive attitude to classwork.

**Year 3:** Matilda Hayes for a fantastic effort with persuasive writing and her beautiful artwork.

**Year 4:** Molly Clarke for her amazing work in numbers.

**Year 5:** Luke Harris for taking pride in his homework and producing some fantastic sentences using his list words.

**Year 6:** Riley Carter for his positive attitude to work, especially with Maths groups.

### Digital Technology (Mrs Badcock)

During 2017 teaching staff are participating in an online learning course developed by the Adelaide University. This course provides teachers with knowledge about concepts and topics in the Digital Technologies learning area of the Australian Curriculum. Teachers will collaboratively develop resources and share ideas on topics including programming, data and computational thinking which they will implement in their classrooms. On Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February Peter Lelong, the Digital Technologies Project Officer, introduced the course to staff and he will assist with future support and professional learning.

### School Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to all students for giving their best during our recent school swimming carnival. The weather was kind to us and students appeared to really appreciate the opportunity to both 'unwind' with a change of routine and 'wind-up' for some events. We are extremely grateful to the St Brendan-Shaw students and staff who assisted us on the day and to our BBQ helpers and to those parents who assisted with recording times - Sally Bond, Jessica Menzies, Pru Garwood, Tameika Anthony and Joanne Mulcahy. Many staff worked throughout the day without a break and I certainly appreciate their dedication to supporting this activity. Feedback on the day is always welcome. One suggestion is to have the Years 3 to 6 students return to school for the BBQ at 12:30pm and to then have activities for the Preps, Years 1 and 2 students in and out of the pool from 12:30 to 2:00pm. Please contact Mr Linhart or your child's teacher for any comments or suggestions - we are always trying to improve our programs. Yesterday the following students were presented with their swimming age championship medals and certificates - well done to the following swimmers:

Year 3 Girls Age Champion 2017 Maggie Laycock

Year 4 Girls Age Champion 2017 Logan Lamprey

Year 5 Girls Age Champion 2017 Olivia Gow

Year 6 Girls Age Champion 2017 Lucy Doonan

Year 6 Girls Age Champion 2017 Annalee Bidwell

Year 3 Boys Age Champion 2017 Mac Butler

Year 4 Boys Age Champion 2017 Vinnie Manion

Year 5 Boys Age Champion 2017 Ryan Mulcahy

Year 6 Boys Age Champion 2017 Kelly Simpson



Our school swimming squad who will represent our school in Burnie on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> of March are:

Ava Chamley, Ava Franklin, Linden Woods, Mac Butler, Maggie Laycock, Samuel Ling, Kyle Barnes, Matilda Hayes, Harry Marshall, Josie Darby, Logan Lamprey, Molly Clarke, Vinnie Manion, William Higgins, Ify Nwaba, Jack Hayes, Joseph Ryan, Krystal Riley, Luke Harris, Olivia Gow, Piper Emerson, Brock Railbird, Ryan Mulcahy, Lucy Doonan, Annalee Bidwell, Charlie Reeman, Jesse O'Brien, Kelly Simpson, Maddi Lamprey, Natalie Mason.

## Canberra Payment Arrangements

Invoices for the 2017 Canberra excursion will be sent home with students in Years 5 and 6 today. Thank you to those parents who have already made payment arrangements. The payment options include:

- \$90 x 10 monthly instalments; February to November on the 27th day. (A February catch-up payment is due now).
- \$225 x 4 instalments; March/May/July/September on the 20th day.

Canberra instalments can be made by using your existing school fee payment arrangements that you have already provided to the office or alternately by transferring directly to our school bank account; BSB 067000 Acc 10273325 (Reference: Surname/Canberra). Should you wish to discuss or inform us of your payment arrangements, please contact Mrs Leonard on 64261 626 or via email: [lennice.leonard@catholic.tas.edu.au](mailto:lennice.leonard@catholic.tas.edu.au)

## Camp Clayton

Invoices for the 2017 Camp Clayton excursion will be sent home with students in Year 4 today. Payment is required by Friday 10th March.

## 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 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.

### Mersey Community Care

Mersey Community Care is a not for profit organisation and is seeking new volunteers to assist in providing services to meet the rapidly growing needs of our clients. We have a team currently of 147 volunteers (the lowest in 10 years) who provide services for the care of frail, older persons, younger people with disabilities and their carers to live an independent life in their own home, providing opportunities to participate in community life. If you are able or unable to run the attached ad could you please kindly advise. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated. Kind regards, Zara King, Volunteer and Social Support Coordinator, Mersey Community Care Association Inc. 167 Steele Street | PO Box 286 Devonport TAS 7310 Ph: (03) 6424 8883 Fx: (03) 6424 8719

### Aussie Of The Month.

Congratulations to Georgie for being awarded February's Aussie Of The Month.

