

St Patrick's Catholic School Latrobe



School Newsletter Number 14 May 23rd 2017

PRINCIPAL'S REFLECTION

"You know you've read a good book when you turn the last page and feel a little as if you have lost a friend."

Paul Sweeney

"Books open your mind, broaden your mind, and strengthen you as nothing else can."

William Feather

"Books are the treasured wealth of the world and the fit inheritance of generations and nations." Henry

David Thoreau

Reading is an acquired skill and anyone reading this newsletter has accomplished much in reaching the stage of being able to decode written symbols and integrate meaning and even subtle nuances of this vital form of communication. There is general consensus amongst educators that learning to read is one of the greatest accomplishments of childhood; it is one of the foundation for all learning. As students move beyond the early years, the texts they are required to read become more complex, more diverse and more knowledge-bound and teaching students to understand these texts becomes the over-riding challenge for teachers. Research by Max Colheart (SPELD Newsletter NSW; v.43 n.1 p.7-10; July 2010) asserts that learning to talk is inborn, whereas learning to read has to be actually taught; we all need to take responsibility.

Educators and researchers have long recognised the importance of mastering reading by the end of third grade. Students who fail to reach this critical milestone often falter in the later grades and drop out before completing high school. Research by Hernandez (May 2011 ED518818) found that one in six children who are not reading proficiently in third grade do not graduate from high school on time, a rate four times greater than that for proficient readers. The rates are highest for the low, below-basic readers: 23 percent of these children drop out or fail to finish high school on time, compared to 9 percent of children with basic reading skills and 4 percent of proficient readers.

Another particular concern is the relationship between school attendance and the acquisition of early literacy skills of children. Using the GRADE literacy assessment, (Ehrich et al, Australian Journal of Learning Difficulties, v15 n2 p131-149 Nov 2010) found that classroom attendance was strongly and positively correlated with the acquisition of phonological awareness skills and early literacy skills (e.g. letter recognition, word identification processing).

We are a school that has distinct reading acquisition programs and encourage a love of reading because, to quote from Victor Hugo, "To learn to read is to light a fire; every syllable that is spelled out is a spark."

SCHOOL CALENDAR

May

Tuesday 23rd

Wed 24th

Thursday 25th

Friday 26th

Monday 29th

Wed 31st

June

Thursday 1st

Friday 2nd

Monday 5th

Wed 7th

Thursday 8th

Friday 9th

Monday 12th

Tuesday 13th

Wed 14th

Thursday 15th

Friday 16th

Monday 19th

Wed 21st

July

Monday 3rd

Tuesday 4th

Wed 5th

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2017

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

Term 3: Monday 24th July-Friday 29th September

Term 4: Tuesday 17th October-Thursday 21st December

55 Bradshaw Street Latrobe, Tasmania 7307

Telephone: (03) 6426 1626

Facsimile: (03) 6426 2697

E-mail: stpatlat@catholic.tas.edu.au

www.stpatlatrobe.tas.edu.au

School Banking Details:

BSB Acct: 067-000 Acct: 1027-3325

Staff News

Mrs Jak will be away Wednesday, Thursday and Friday this week - we welcome Mrs Wescombe to teach in Prep. Mrs Badcock will be away this Thursday and Friday - we welcome Mrs Gausden who will teach Year 2 on Thursday. Mr & Mrs O'Brien will be away this Friday and next Monday - we welcome Miss Donohoe who will teach Year 6 this Friday and Mr Batt who will teach Year 6 next Monday.

Congratulations Mrs Kingshott.

Recently, Mrs Kingshott attended her graduation at the University of Newcastle (UoN), where she graduated with a Master of Theology. Mrs Kingshott was fortunate to share this celebration with her parents and her husband. Mrs Kingshott undertook her theological studies in an endeavour to improve her practise as a teacher within the Catholic school system. Achieving her master degree required effort, commitment and above all, dedication to studying, all necessary for life long learning. In 2013, Mrs Kingshott, completed a Graduate Certificate, specialising in Religious Education. When the opportunity to study a Master's degree was offered, Mrs Kingshott realised that there were many positives in relation to continuing Post Graduate studies. As a student she was humbled by the vast knowledge lecturers possess about Theology, and was grateful to work with these truly inspirational people. The course has further educated Mrs Kingshott in terms of elements such as, the historical lens and the author's perspective when studying Religion. Mrs Kingshott was able to analyse her personal interest and knowledge of the Visual Arts, to direct her final studies through questioning whether Visual Art can be Theology. For Mrs Kingshott the course has added a deeper understanding of Religious Education and its purpose within the Catholic educated system.



Oral Language

Sheena Cameron and Louise Dempsey are two teachers from New Zealand who have a wealth of experience in classrooms and have developed a range of very practical resources for teachers. The focus for our current professional development in literacy is Oral Language and we welcomed the opportunity to learn principles and practices in these areas from the presenters. Mrs Marshall and Mrs McIver attended a day session at Ravenswood Primary School and Mr Linhart, Mrs O'Brien and Mrs Badcock attended an evening session at The Tramsheds. Both venues were brimming with teachers from around the state and the inspiring and practical nature of the presentation meant that we were putting oral language opportunities into the classroom the very next day!



Canberra Instalments Due

Canberra instalments are due either monthly or quarterly, with the 4th monthly instalment due on the 27th May and the 2nd quarterly instalment due on the 20th May. Thank you to those parents who are already making regular payments. Payments can be transferred 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 Mr Linhart or Mrs Leonard on 64261626 or via email: lennice.leonard@catholic.tas.edu.au

Friendship (by Riley Kuys, Year 6)

*Friendship is a beautiful thing,
You have ups and downs and sometimes you say 'budda-bing!'
To have a good friendship you must be neat,
Otherwise you might crack under pressure in the heat,
Or sometimes you travel the world, and end up in Beijing.*

*Friendship is a beautiful place,
Where you together set your pace.
You want a friend whom is very exciting,
Where both of you will do no smiting,
But in the end they have your back and know your face.*

(Right) Riley working with our Assistant-Director: North, Matt Jones, on Matt's recent visit to St Patrick's in which he talked with students in some classes and participated in seven minutes of meditation with our Year 5 class.



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

Congratulations to Maddi Lamprey 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 May our whole school PBS focus is "**Learning**" 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 House: Vinnie Manion 66 points

Dooley House: Linden woods 69 points

Martyn House: Charli Reeves 66 points

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Kinder: Chloe Anthony for creativity and persistence.

Prep: Jake Bracken for trying hard to sound out words.

Year 1: Joey Griffiths for making great progress with reading.

Year 2: Anna Skurulis for making an effort to learn her tables facts.

Year 3: Merinda Jones for her positive attitude and hard work with her Mathematics coordinate task.

Year 4: Lochie Veitch for his positive attitude and conscientious approach towards his learning.

Year 5: Ashlin Churchill for the enthusiasm he has displayed towards investigating Earth's place in space.

Year 6: James Watson for excellent listening skills and for positive contributions to discussions.

School Cross Country

The school cross country is proposed for Thursday 25th May, commencing at 1:00pm and concluding at 2:45pm. We will be assembling at the Latrobe Football/Recreation Ground (seated in class groups) at 1:00pm to commence our competitive races (Years 6, 5, 4 and 3) and recreational running after initial 'cheer-offs' led by House Captains. Details include: Assemble in the Latrobe Football Ground Grandstand at 12:55pm; 1:00pm - Year 6 girls; 1:02pm - Year 6 boys; 1:15pm - Year 5 girls; 1:17pm - Year 5 boys; 1:30pm - Year 4 girls; 1:32pm - Year 4 boys; 1:45pm - Year 3 girls; 1:47pm - Year 3 boys; 2:00pm - Year 2 girls; 2:02pm - Year 2 boys; 2:10pm - Year 1 boys; 2:12pm - Year 1 girls; 2:15pm Prep girls; 2:17pm Prep-boys; 2:20pm - Kinder. Thank you to Mr Butcher who will be coordinating the day, and to Latrobe High students who will be assisting. All students will receive a participation sticker or ribbon and the first 3 places in Years 3-6 will receive a medal and certificate and be eligible to compete in the North West Catholic Schools Cross Country, which will be held at Stella Marist, Burnie, on Thursday 15th June. Students will walk back to school at the completion of the carnival for teachers to dismiss from classrooms - school bags will not be taken to the event.

Uniform Policy

- The Principal is empowered by the School Board to implement the approved uniform policy and, in doing so, may grant exception to a child from wearing all or part of the uniform for a designated period of time.
- An explanatory note or timely communication from parents is required to be communicated to the Principal if a child is not wearing the correct full school uniform; this note is to be carried by the child.
- Any student without a note explaining the wearing of full school uniform will not be permitted to play during recess and lunch breaks; issues regarding the wearing of full school uniform are expected to be resolved within a reasonable time (preferably up to one week, however, usually not extending beyond two weeks).
- Parents of students who are not in full school uniform without reasonable cause will be sent a note stating that their child has not been permitted to play and that there is an expectation that full school uniform is expected to be worn within a reasonable time.

Saturday Soccer (Devonport Junior Soccer Competition)

Thank you to all families who are supporting our school's involvement in this competition, especially our team coaches and the Year 6 students who are training the teams each Thursday. We have not received any feedback from adults regarding confirming any after-school soccer training (as per our letter sent on the 18th May to soccer families) so the Thursday lunch-time training will continue to be the main soccer training for teams. The roster for this Saturday is included in the Soccer Roster Booklet that was provided to families after Easter; please contact the office staff or Mr Linhart if you would like a copy.

Under 6 - Ground 3	9.00am
Under 7 - Ground 6	10.30am
Under 8 (Green) - Ground 12	10.40am
Under 8 (White) - Ground 10	11.30am
Under 10 - Ground 8	9.00am
Open 5 - Ground 1	11.00am
Open 6 - Ground 11	12.00

St Patrick's Catholic School Parents & Friends

Why Join the P&F Committee?

Well...why not ? People have all sorts of ideas about what joining a P&F Committee will be like. "What will the people be like?" "Will there be tea and coffee or beer and wine?" "What will I get out of it?"

The best P&F's are inclusive and find ways of incorporating all the different things that people can offer. Joining P&F can have a number of good points and like everything, you get out what you put in. One of the main reasons parents join is because they want to get involved in some way with the school. Some work during the day and can't do parent help, some have particular skills they would like to put to good use, others want to make new friends.



The commitment is not too much - the occasional daytime or evening meeting, the school fair, canteen or other school fundraiser. Everyone has different talents and skills they can bring to the parents and friends association. Be that a fantastic cookie recipe for a cake stall, an ability with something like graphic design or computers, or the commitment to be a P&F Committee Member. Similarly, parents are a great interface between the school and the 'outside world' (very handy for soliciting raffle prizes, sponsorship other gifts in kind or professional help).

It has also been shown in research that when parents demonstrate to their children they value the school, their children tend to do better both academically and socially. There are lots of ways of supporting our children at school, starting with just showing an interest in their day, meeting their teachers, helping out at school events and being part of the P&F.

What can you get out of being a part of the P&F?

The P&F is helpful for finding out information about what is going on at the school. It is easy to get out of the loop when you don't see other parents regularly. Being in the P&F will help gain insight into what is going on within the school and the broader school community.

It provides the opportunity to meet other parents and teachers, particularly through Welcome and Social events. Some enjoy organising things and helping out. It is nice to have that sense of community which makes you feel safe and connected. However, people participate and contribute at whatever level they can manage within their own busy lives.

What are the meetings like?

Meetings only happen once a month and they never go for more than one hour. Afternoon tea or supper is provided and time for a chat with other parents and teachers.

Wanting to "give it a go"?

If you have not yet discovered the joy of helping your school's parents and friends association please have a think about it. It's a great way to help our school, our kids and build the sort of communities we all want to live in.

You're welcome to email or contact any of the P&F committee members if you have any queries or attend a meeting - there is a folder outside Mr Linhart's office with the names inside. And why not bring a friend - it's always easier to have some support in a new environment.

Everyone is welcome to attend the meetings, so please come along and show your support to the P&F and the School. All P&F meetings are at the school and alternate monthly between afternoon (Mondays 2pm) and evening (Tuesdays 6.30pm). Dates and times can be found in the P&F Folder, on the Schools Website and the Skoolbag App.

If you know you don't have time for meetings, but like the idea of helping out as a volunteer, you can advise the P&F and we'll contact you when the need arises.

Additionally, you can contribute your ideas or suggestions by emailing the P&F at stpatspandflatrobe@gmail.com

Book Talk Challenge (Mrs Badcock Assistant Principal: Learning & Teaching)

Thank you to those families who responded to the "Book Talk" questions in your child's home reader package. Hopefully this resource provided a stimulus for discussion after reading. These questions were aimed at helping your child practice their comprehension and oral language skills. Good readers develop comprehension strategies.

- **Make connections**
Good readers connect what they know with what they are reading.
- **Predict**
Good readers think about what is going to happen.
- **Questioning**
Good readers ask themselves questions as they read.
- **Monitoring**
Good readers stop and think about their reading and know what to do when they don't understand.
- **Summarise**
Good readers identify the most important ideas.
- **Visualise**
Good readers picture what is happening when they read.

In the following weeks a "Question Strip" bookmark will be included in the home reader folder. This will again provide an aid for reading, listening and talking to understand information and develop ideas.



Garden News (Mr Tim)

Year 5 enjoyed a great time picking their 2 varieties of climbing beans. We sowed the purple king and blue lake seed back in early February and with no frosts to speak of, the beans have produced a terrific crop. We ate a lot as we picked, and took some back to our classroom to share and take home. We also cleaned up the old pumpkin patch, removing the old vines and weeds and throwing them onto the compost heap.

Year 3 removed the bird net from the strawberry patch and folded it up for winter storage in the shed . We also began the long-ish task of tidying up the strawberry patch, which involves weeding and trimming the strawberry plants back to just the strawberry crown and the healthy looking leaves. It's one of those jobs which needs to be done so we get another great crop next year. The year 3s jumped into it with lots of enthusiasm and even more chatter, and our bed is looking better already. We will continue this task during the next few weeks.

Year 1 are very proud of their garden bed. We have lettuce which are about ready to pick and a lovely crop of spring onions, which we weeded and made look a lot cleaner . Some of the year 1s tried the juicy little lettuce leaves and followed that up with some of our very crunchy carrots. All the kids love our healthy veggie snacks with carrots being the all year round favourite. Another super day in our school veggie garden – well done everyone.



REMINDERS

School Banking - Thursdays

Commonwealth Banking Day is Thursday of each week. Please contact Lennice or Tameka in the school office for any information regarding this opportunity. CDF Kookaburra Banking is still functioning for the time being at St. Patrick's. Account holders deposits will still be processed by Mrs Bellchambers.

2018 Sacramental Program

Father Mike invites families who are interested in attending the Parish Sacramental Preparation Program next year to attend an information session later this month. Children will need to be in Grade 3 or above in 2018. Session Details:

- Monday 29 May 2017 - Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Devonport

(This session will commence at 7.30pm and run for approximately 1 hour). Please contact Father Mike, Mrs Marshall (AP: RE), Mr Linhart or the school office if you would like further information.

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.

Enrolments for 2018

Applications for Kinder enrolments for 2018 are now being taken. This year we will be conducting interviews as soon as possible after we receive applications - our kinder enrolments have been very pleasing and we are hoping to, once gain, have a healthy interest in enrolments so please let any friends know that we are **now taking enrolments** for 2018 and to avoid disappointment should they decide to apply for enrolment later in the year and discover that we have reached our capacity. Parents and carers wishing to enrol their child/ren for the commencement of the 2018 school year are asked to complete an enrolment form, which is available from the school office.



St Patrick's
School Fair

SAVE THE DATE
Friday 16th March 2018

Fun Activities - Food
Side Show - Craft
Entertainment

Supported by
D SIGNS & PROMOTIONS
www.d-signs.com.au

The poster features a green background with white text. It is decorated with colorful balloons (orange, green, yellow) and green shamrocks. A rainbow is visible on the left side, and a green leprechaun hat with a gold buckle is on the right. The text is arranged in a clear, hierarchical layout, with the event name at the top, the date in the middle, and the activities at the bottom. A small logo for 'D SIGNS & PROMOTIONS' is in the bottom right corner.