

St Patrick's Catholic School Latrobe



School Newsletter Number 25 Tuesday 18th August 2020

PRINCIPAL'S REFLECTION

The nineteenth century American poet, Ralph Waldo Emerson stated, *"Never lose an opportunity of seeing anything beautiful, for beauty is God's handwriting."* In a recent radio broadcast a Dutch photographer, who was involved in trying to determine the 100 most beautiful people in the world, was being interviewed. He advertised in numerous countries asking people to respond if they deemed themselves beautiful. An amazing result from his study was that 80% of the respondents classified themselves as beautiful on the inside and, according to the survey team, they were correct: these people glowed with positive energy and most felt that they were beautiful because they provided an invaluable service to others and, consequently, they were loved and needed. There was no false modesty, yet there appeared, to the survey team, to be no boastfulness about this affirming of service as being revolutionary and affirming for the person who found the term 'beauty' being strongly equated with a feeling of 'worth.' One respondent was an extremely poor woman in Mumbai who lived with her family in the equivalent of a cardboard box in a Mumbai slum, however, she conveyed such happiness and inner beauty because she felt her role in caring and providing for her loving family provided her with beauty. The Dutch photographer has published a book of his investigation, however, I would now be adverse to browse it because the radio broadcast conveyed strongly how beauty and strength often belies external appearances.

Recently when working with our Year 6 students we pondered three qualities in a person that would make them valuable companions if we were shipwrecked on a deserted island. It was reassuring to hear qualities such as 'kindness, compassion, thoughtfulness' being raised - no-one mentioned outer appearances or our shallow interpretation of beauty; our school's Mercy Values certainly affirm the beauty that is intrinsic to those who display mercy, compassion, hospitality and respect. One of our joint roles as parents and school staff is to endeavour to instil such a sense of 'inner beauty' in our children - not the self-indulgent and commercial outer beauty that may mask an unprincipled code of conduct; rather a sense of being valued for the contributions that the child may be willing to make to their world. The Sioux holy man, Sitting Bull, is reputed as having said, "Let us

put our minds together and see what sort of life we can make for our children". Our roles as caregivers for our children will always be influenced by our own upbringing, our temperaments and environmental factors, which may, at times, cause our actions as caregivers to be less than perfect. Thank you to all in our school community who, through their service to others, are indeed beautiful in the eyes of the recipients of such service.

Regards,

Rod Linhart (principal)

SCHOOL CALENDAR AUGUST

Tuesday 18th	Sophie (School Counsellor) visiting. St Brendan-Shaw Open Day.
Friday 21st	9.00am - 10.30am Inquiring Minds/Set up for Success Birth to 4 program in the kinder classroom (all welcome)
Monday 24th	8.55am-9.15am Whole school assembly to confer certificates of merit.
Friday 28th	Latrobe High School Year 6 Boys Challenge Day
Monday 31st	8.55am-9.15am Whole school assembly to confer certificates of merit. Latrobe High School Year 6 Girls Challenge Day

SCHOOL STUDENT TERM DATES 2020

Term 3 Tues 21st July 2020 - Friday 25th September 2020
Term 4 Mon 12th October 2020 - Thursday 17th Dec 2020

SCHOOL STUDENT TERM DATES 2021

Wednesday 20th January - School office opens
Wednesday 27th January - Staff return
Term 1 Mon 1st Feb - Thursday 1st April 2021
Term 2 Mon 26th April - Friday 2nd July
Term 3 Mon 20th July - Friday 24th September
Term 4 Mon 11th October - Thursday 16th December
(One student free day yet TBC)

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Congratulations to the the family of ex-St Patrick's student, Teddy Sheean

Teddy Sheean started at St Patrick's on 28th January 1930 and received his First Communion on 21st May 1931. In 1931 the weatherboard school comprised a small room for infant and Year 1 students, a larger room for Years 2, 3 and 4, and a hall for Years 5, 6 and 7 classes. Teddy left school in Year 5 to work as a bush carpenter (fencing etc) with his father. Members of St Patricks Convent School, along with many others far and wide, are very proud of Teddy Sheean being awarded posthumously the Victoria Cross and to see the Sisters of Mercy, in particular the wonderful Sister Acquinas, acknowledged as Teddy's Teachers. In 2016 Mrs Margaret Mackey, whose four children were fourth generation students at St Patrick's Catholic School, presented Garry Ivory, Teddy's nephew with Teddy's St Patrick's School record obtained from the school's Registrar. Teddy's name, one of 6 ex St Patrick's pupils who sadly lost their lives, is inscribed on the St Patrick's Church Memorial Gates.



Dash & Dot - New Robotics Funded by the P&F (Mr Atkins)

At our last staff meeting the staff were introduced to our wonderful new Dash & Dot Robots. This full classroom kit, containing 12 Dash and 6 Dot robots, as well as a variety of amazing accessories, was purchased by the P&F to help support all of our students in developing 21st Century Coding and Robotics skills. Staff had an opportunity to learn the basics behind these robots, and we found that our previous coding experience and skills in using programs such as Scratch, were easily transferable to this new technology. On Friday, our lucky Year 3 class were given the first opportunity to test out the new robots. Students quickly learned that their previous experiences in using 'Block Coding' allowed them to program these new robots, and the transfer of learning was clearly evident. We hope that between now and the end of the year all students will come home at some point with stories of their adventures with the Dash and Dot robots. Finally, a huge thank you has to go to the P&F who work so hard to raise funds that help support important initiatives such as this.



2020 Pre-Kinder/ 2021 Kinder

St Patrick's Catholic School, Latrobe, will be offering a Pre-Kinder program each Monday morning for five weeks for children who have been accepted into our 2020 Kindergarten class. Sessions will be facilitated by Melissa Wescombe and Kim Klug, our current kindergarten teacher and teacher-assistant. The sessions will begin at 9.00am and conclude at 11.00am, and all sessions will take place in the St Patrick's Catholic School Kindergarten classroom on the following days:

- Monday 16th November (children to bring a drink & morning tea).
- Monday 23rd November (children to bring a drink & morning tea).
- Monday 30th November (children to bring a drink & morning tea).
- Monday 7th December (children to bring a drink & morning tea).
- Monday 14th December (children to bring a drink & morning tea).



This timetabling will mean the existing 'Inquiring Minds – Setup for Success' sessions that we offer on Fridays will still be offered as usual; Friday 18th December will be our last 'Inquiring Minds – Setup for Success' session for 2020. The five Pre-Kinder sessions are aimed to provide children with a realistic 'taste' of kindergarten for 2021; it is expected parents leave their children with the kindergarten staff for the duration of the program. Parents are welcome to stay for the first 15 minutes of the 'drop-off' (leaving by 9.15am.) Due to our funding agreement with the federal government, parents of pre-kinder aged students are now obliged to remain on the school grounds for the duration of any pre-kinder session – activities and information sessions are planned for parents – coffee, tea and a light morning tea will be available to parents for all sessions. The parent sessions will be convened in the school assembly hall, beginning at 9.15am and concluding at 10.30am.

WEST Award

Congratulations to Aleks O'Toole (Prep) who received a WEST certificate during Monday's morning assembly. We will continue to acknowledge those students who exhibit WEST (*Welcoming, Encouraging; Sorry; Thankful*) qualities and Mercy Values (Hospitality, Compassion, Mercy and Respect) by presenting awards at our Monday morning assemblies.

House Raffle Winners

Byrne House: Aleks O'Toole

Dooley House: Jaxon Hampton

Martyn House: Edmund Barker

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Prep: Jahzelle Reilly for her fantastic effort in all learning areas, especially spelling.

Year 1: Jacob Hingston for excellent engagement in class discussions.

Year 2: Izabella Goss for her comprehension skills when reading; finding the main idea and inferring.

Year 3: Lulu Meech for her application to Drama tasks, especially her Mime and Readers Theatre learning tasks.

Year 4: Claire Simpson for working hard on learning her multiplication tables and learning her weekly spelling. Keep up the good work Claire.

Year 5: Emma Watson for her perseverance in her school work.

Year 6: Luca Adams for transferring her understanding of her weekly spelling lessons into her written work.

Year 2 Mathematics (Mrs Fenton)

In Year 2, students have been developing their fluency in time-telling. They have been revising how to tell time to the hour and to the half-hour. They have now started practising how to tell time to the quarter-hour. Students enjoyed playing a whole class game called 'Race Against Time'; they skip counted in 5s to 60, replacing 15, 30 and 45 with the language of quarter past, half past and quarter to. It was particularly tricky, and they all put in an excellent effort!

Students have benefited from learning in small groups, led by Mrs Fenton, Mrs Badcock and Ms Mundy on Thursdays and Fridays. During these targeted sessions, students have participated in a range of activities; diagnostic testing on MathsOnline, explicit instruction using manipulatives, and differentiated skill consolidation. It was a pleasure to observe the students making their own clocks, as they discussed the accurate placement of the hours, recording of the minutes, and labelling of their moveable hands.



COVID School Health & Safety Plan

Thank-you to all our parents who continue to support our school's COVID-19 Safety Plan. Some reminders in regards to some of our actions and expectations:

- No-one to enter the school grounds if he or she is feeling unwell - exhibiting cold or flu-like symptoms.
- Parents attending assemblies or volunteering (working in class for longer than 15 minutes) to please sign-in on either the sign-in sheet that will be provided (assembly hall foyer) or at the school office.
- Parents entering classrooms at any time are to please sanitise or wash hands thoroughly.
- Student desks and workspaces continue to be disinfected three times a day; regular cleaning of frequently touched internal surfaces continues.
- Students and staff are expected to wash hands or sanitise their hands upon entering classrooms.
- Signage that communicates important aspects of our school's COVID-19 Safety Plan will be displayed.
- Library borrowing is permitted (resources are cleaned upon return.)
- Day excursions are permitted upon completion of an enhanced risk assessment protocol.
- Currently NOT PERMITTED: school camps; large gatherings of parents on site; any non Catholic Education Tasmania personnel that is not directly related to a curriculum (learning and teaching) initiative.

PARENTS & FRIENDS

Congratulations and many thanks to members of the St Patrick's School P&F who held a lunch day last Wednesday 12th August. They raised a profit of \$472.31. A special mention to the Latrobe Top Shop who supplied the chips for this day. Thanks also goes out to Loraine Young, Bart McGann, Anita Tueon and Tameika Anthony who helped on the day.

The P&F will be holding a Fathers Day Raffle, ticket books will go home with families today. The raffle will be drawn on Friday 5th September at the morning assembly. Tickets and money to be returned back to the school office by Thursday 4th September.

Thank you to the families within our school community who have donated prizes to this raffle.



1st prize - Karcher High Pressure Cleaner (donated by Kelly Family)

2nd Prize - \$100 Anaconda Voucher (donated by MGP/Wescombe Family)

3rd Prize - \$50 Belly's Bar & Grill Voucher (donated by Radich Family)

4th Prize - \$30 Top Shop Voucher (donated by Latrobe Top Shop)

5th Prize - Chocolate Hamper & Bottle of Wine (donated by Anvers)

COMMUNITY NEWS & REMINDERS

Care and Concern

Thank you to the many families who regularly contact the school to offer assistance by providing ingredients or cooking meals for families who might be doing it tough. A reminder for all families that we have the ability to prepare some meals and to please let the school office or Mr Linhart know if you would like a meal delivered. Please feel welcome to be included in our Care and Concern Volunteer List - thank you to the many school community members who are already on this list and are assisting others: **Always please contact the office staff or Mr Linhart if you feel we could offer support in any way to anyone in our school community in need.**



Cupcakes

FOR SALE

* limited number
* contains gluten & dairy

Tuesday 22nd August
at recess

\$2

No need to pre-order, just buy on the day.

*Money will go towards the 2021
Year 5 & 6 Canberra Trip.*



STRIKERS ACADEMY



HALF TERM HALF PRICE SPECIAL

When: Tuesday & Thursday, 4 - 5pm
Beginning on the 25th of August
Who: Boys & Girls from 5 - 12 Years Old
Where: Valley Road Soccer Ground

FOR MORE INFO AND TO REGISTER



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