

St Patrick's Catholic School Latrobe



School Newsletter Number 29 Tuesday 15th September 2020

PRINCIPAL'S REFLECTION

"When we see persons of worth, we should think of equaling them; when we see persons of a contrary character, we should turn inwards and examine ourselves." This quote is attributed to Confucius and, as with Jesus's teachings, the value of humility and unselfishness appears a key 'through-line'. I am constantly struck with just how real to me is the sentiment alluded to in Confucius's statement in my daily interactions with others - how often the characteristics and attitudes that I find challenging and annoying in others are often also displayed by me in my relationships with others. The book of John highlights how Jesus too, reminded others to be aware of their own failings before first 'throwing the first stone.' There is a degree of peace that comes with the willingness to appreciate that the imperfection in others is often truly a reflection of one's own imperfection.

With this sense of humility in mind, I was only too aware of the importance of so many valuable individuals abound in our unique school, '*persons of real worth*' who I would fall short in any effort on my behalf of thinking of equalling them. For example, last Friday during lunch-play I observed:

- Mr Fawcner and Mr Thompson training their soccer teams;
- Paul Campbell (organised initially by Mrs Hayes) concluding a three week basketball clinic for our school representative players, being ably assisted by Mrs Meech;
- Mr Atkins and Mr O'Brien working with their *First Lego League* team members;
- Mr Angliss offering indoor bowls to anyone interested;
- Amy Davis, Carl Garrad and Kylie Ling supporting our amazing canteen to the grateful pleasure of students and staff;
- The vast majority of students playing a variety of games, displaying joyful delight at the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors with minimal adult intervention.

What humbles me is the fact that such a 'snapshot' is not out of the ordinary at St Patrick's - the list of '*persons of real worth*' is quite exhaustive and includes

a great many parent volunteers, extraordinary staff in every position at St Patrick's whose constructivist approach to enhancing student outcomes has been acknowledged in two extensive surveys that were undertaken this year (information on page 3 of this Newsletter.)

As we enter the penultimate week of term 3, I am exceedingly grateful for, and appreciative of, all the very many '*persons of real worth*' of St Patrick's whose collective efforts help lift 'schooling' to 'education' in the sense that, intrinsic to our programs, is the notion of collective responsibility in that we are greater than the sum of our parts.

Regards,

Rod Linhart (principal)

SCHOOL CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

Monday 14th	Winter-summer uniform transition begins
Tuesday 15th	Sophie (school Counsellor) visiting
Wed 16th	P&F - Hot Chocolates & Donuts (Recess)
Friday 18th	9.00am - 10.30am Inquiring Minds/Set up for Success Birth to 4 program in the kinder classroom (all welcome)
Friday 25th	Footy colours day (morning assembly) 10.30am Mercy Day Assembly - sharing of student responses. Final school day for term 3

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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English and Mathematics books are being sent home this week.

Enhancing the means of regular, home-school communication is a key priority at St Patrick's and, in addition to daily school diary sighting and signing, weekly school Newsletters and the availability for parents to contact the school after hours by ringing the school phone number, teachers endeavour to inform parents of some of the school work covered in class by way of sending student notebooks home through the term. Students will bring English and Mathematics books home this week in order to support this valuable home-school relationship.

YEAR 3 NEWS (Miss Stuart)

In Year 3 we have been exploring some of Frida Kahlo's self-portraits. We observed that she liked to use bright, vibrant colours, she often included flowers and animals in her work. We were inspired to create our own self-portraits. Firstly we explored the dimensions of the face, sketched our own using pencil and then added the details we wanted. Our next step was to use oil pastels to make them colourful and vibrant.



Cyber Awareness: eSafety

Classes have been accessing learning materials from the eSafety Commissioner website to support learning about being safe online as part of Child Safety Week. The eSafety Commissioner website, <https://www.esafety.gov.au/>, is a fantastic resource for parents, children and schools. The site also offers a help section for children on a number of topics. The section Security and Privacy of My Device section gives the following advice:

- password protect your device
- don't use unknown or free wifi connections
- use built in security features like 'find my phone'
- update software to ensure you have the most up to date security features
- install security and antivirus protection
- back up your data



WorkSafe COVID-19 Visit

We recently welcomed a WorkSafe Tasmania Inspector to St Patrick's to scrutinise our school COVID-19 Health & Hygiene Plan and to inspect our associates regime. I am please to announce that the inspection was supporting of the school's routines and validated the enhanced cleaning and distancing protocols. Thank you to all parents for continuing to support these protocols, to our staff for the extra efforts that they are undertaking throughout the day to enhance the cleaning expectations, and to students for their willingness to abide by the heightened level of personal hygiene expected. A reminder for all people who intend being at school to ensure they abide by adult social distancing and not to enter if displaying flu symptoms.

Devonport Basketball Tournament

Paul Campbell concluded a third day of training for our students who are competing in the Devonport Basketball Primary School Tournament that will be played during the last weekend of the school holidays.



Photos that appear in newsletters: Parents are welcome to contact Tameka, Lennice or Mr Linhart if they would like any photo that we take of their child or children that appear in the Newsletter.

WEST Award

Congratulations to Nathan Davis (Year 5) who received a WEST Award 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: Sophie Franklin

Dooley House: Kyle Jordan

Martyn House: Egan Bos

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Prep: Ross Crawford for an excellent effort in all areas of learning. Thank you for trying your best, Ross.

Year 1: Caleb Banks for excellent effort and sound improvement with his writing tasks.

Year 2: Isabelle Gee for carefully choosing words when writing poetry.

Year 3: Jason Richards for applying himself to tasks and displaying an attitude of gratitude.

Year 4: Harrison Fawcner for his excellent application to spelling and for looking for the Spirit of Jesus moments throughout his day.

Year 5: Tyler Bakes for his positive attitude to his tasks.

Year 6: Lachlan Wallace for his great attitude while being a positive role model for Prep students during morning reading.

Child Safety Week.

St Patrick's is supporting the community-based 'Day for Daniel' this year. Child safety messages featured during morning assemblies this week and last week. **Students are welcome to dress in red on Wednesday 16th September (gold coin donation) to raise awareness for child safety.**



School Validation

We welcomed four educational leaders to St Patrick's last Thursday as part of our external validation of our school's strategic direction and an added scrutiny in regards to our auditing for School Registration. As part of this meeting, we gathered data from staff, parents and students in the course of one survey in July, and from all staff in March. The results of this survey material provided considerable 'evidence' for both the panel and the school leadership team to consider in the light of our current position and the strategic direction that we will embark on with our next three year school strategic plan (2021-2023.) The surveys highlighted the positive influence of a 'Constructivist Culture' (blue colours) that is apparent at St Patrick's, with our school rating higher than the top 10% of the most constructive organisations that are included in sample data that refers to thousands of organisations in Australia and New Zealand. Our 2021-2023 school strategic plan is aimed to build on this supportive environment to allow staff and students to set realistic and challenging goals that reflect a belief that **Attitude + Application = Achievement**.

MOST CONSTRUCTIVE ORGANIZATIONS



Top 10%

LEAST CONSTRUCTIVE ORGANIZATIONS

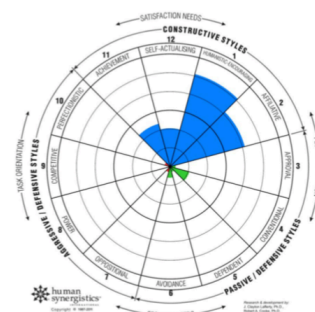


Bottom 10%

St Patrick's Catholic School - Actual Culture 2020



March 2020, N=27



- **Humanistic-Encouraging:** people are supported and developed to be successful
- **Affiliative:** people are friendly and cooperative
- **Achievement:** people set realistic but challenging goals and believe their personal effort makes a difference
- **Self-Actualising:** people express their uniqueness, creativity and embrace change

COVID School Health & Safety Plan

Thank-you to all our parents who continue to support our school's COVID-19 Safety Plan by observing signage regarding health and hygiene protocols.

PARENTS & FRIENDS: Hot chocolates and Donuts

The P&F will be selling a hot chocolate with a donut **tomorrow (Wednesday 16th September)** at recess. No prior orders are required. They will be available from the canteen window at the start of recess. The cost is \$2.50, which includes both the drink and donut. Limit of one drink and donut per student.

COMMUNITY NEWS & REMINDERS

Inter-town Basketball

Ruby Anthony, Sophie Mulcahy and Talei Sesara played off in the 1st semi final on Sunday for the Latrobe Demons against Devonport warriors, in the under 12, division 2 competition. It was a nail biter right to the end, unfortunately Devonport won by 3 points. Well done girls!



Winter-Summer Uniform Transition

Students may wear their full summer uniform from Monday 14th September, with the expectation that all students from Prep to Year 6 are wearing their full summer uniform at the commencement of term 3, Monday 12th October. Details regarding the uniform and the Uniform Policy are available from our school website in addition to the front of our school student diary. Please contact Tameka or Lennice in the school office regarding uniform needs.

Care and Concern

A reminder to all families that we are able to prepare meals for members of our school community who may be in need. Please let the school office or Mr Linhart know if you would like a meal delivered. If you would like to be included in our Care and Concern Volunteer List please contact the office or make a note in your child's diary - thank you to the many school community members who are already on this list and are assisting others: **Feel free to contact the office staff or Mr Linhart if you think we could offer support in any way to members of our school community.**

Rethink Waste

On Thursday and Friday last week, each of our classes had the opportunity to attend a Rethink Waste presentation with Owen Walker, our local Rethink Waste expert. Owen talked to the students about what happens to the waste we produce at home and at school, and what we can all do to minimise the amount of waste we produce, as well as what to do to ensure we are properly disposing of the waste we do produce. As a Catholic School, we are called to ensure that we take care of our common home, our planet, our precious gift. Our SRCs will soon be involved in organising a Waste Audit to see what our waste footprint looks like so that we can make informed decisions about what we can do to make further improvements at St Patrick's. The SRCs already organise recycling at recess and lunchtime, but we know there is more that we can all do to help. One thing that you may like to do is speak to your child or children about the rethink waste presentation and discuss some ways in which you could reduce the amount of packaging or the types of packaging being used. A link to the Rethink waste website is below. Thank you all in advance for your support.

<https://rethinkwaste.com.au/>



HOLIDAY CLINICS



Enjoy quality training in a fun environment, by qualified coaches who are passionate about football and care about young people

Week 1
29th September - 1st October
U/5 - U/8: 9am - 10:30am
U/9 - U/12: 9am - 12pm

Week 2
6th - 8th October
U/5 - U/8: 12pm - 1:30pm
U/9 - U/12: 12pm - 3pm

Cost
U/5 - U/8 | 1 Day \$15 | 2 Day \$30 | 3 Day \$40
U/9 - U/12 | 1 Day \$30 | 2 Day \$60 | 3 Day \$80



visit devonportstrikers.com.au/holiday-clinics to register

