

# St Patrick's Catholic School Latrobe



School Newsletter Number 32 Tuesday 20th October 2020

## PRINCIPAL'S REFLECTION

With **Book Week** being celebrated this week, it is timely to reflect on books continuing to be tangible objects of communication; communicating through words and deeds is the finest form of communication. One very important facet of education is endeavouring to equip future citizens to be effective communicators. George Bernard Shaw stated that, "The problem with communication is the illusion that it has been accomplished." As educators (and, as always, parents and carers are included in this broad, important term), we should never cease to try to enhance the skills of our children in being effective communicators. A recent reading of research in the area of communication highlights five activities that should happen every day in literacy classrooms:

- **Comprehension.** Reading instruction must focus on making meaning or comprehending as well as reading the words fluently. This experience includes reading, discussing, and writing about concepts and ideas.
- **Constant verbal interaction.** Discussion involves all students and often takes the form of a conversation rather than an interrogation where the teacher asks all the questions. Students talk extensively with their teacher and their peers, explaining their thinking and rethinking what they understand.
- **Reading 'just right' texts.** Using books and other materials at the right reading level is crucial. Teachers should regularly update students' levels through running records and re-telling to make sure they are working with materials at the optimal level of challenge.
- **Writing.** Writing is a powerful way to develop children's proficiency with all aspects of literacy.
- **Scaffolding reading and writing.** Effective teachers don't tell students the correct answer when they struggle. They look for parts of student responses that they can use to encourage rethinking and elaboration and offer supporting information to get students thinking on their own. Scaffolding is a distinguishing characteristic of effective teachers and schools.

We can never underestimate the importance and value of communicating. I am generally heartened by the openness and honesty of the expression that characterises our school community. Some conversations may be awkward and tense, however, they are conversations that need to be entered into all the same. I commend all in our school community to keep open our communication channels and continue to build a rich, diverse and forward looking

community of learners because, communication leads to community, that is, common understandings, intimacies and mutual respect...and to hopefully find the time to sit with their child or children and embrace the shared joy of reading a book, a shared experience of significance intrinsic in nurturing wonderful memories together.

Regards,

Rod Linhart (Principal)

## SCHOOL CALENDAR

### OCTOBER

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Monday 19th  | 6.00pm School Board meeting   |
| Tuesday 20th | Sophie (school Counsellor) visiting   |
| Friday 23rd  | 9.00am Assembly - Recognising<br>Teddy Sheean's Victoria Cross - visit<br>by Minister Barnett and Garry Ivory |
|              | 9.00am - 10.30am Inquiring Minds/<br>Setup for Success Birth to 4 program<br>in the kinder classroom          |
|              | Footy colours day - casual clothes<br>(no donation)   |
| Monday 26th  | Standardised testing (PAT) in Reading,<br>Maths, Spelling and Vocabulary.                                     |
|              | Socktober event at school   |

Wed 28th

### NOVEMBER

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Monday 2nd   | Recreation Day <b>Public Holiday</b>                                  |
| Thursday 5th | School Athletics Day  |
| Monday 9th   | Two-week Swimming program begins<br>for students in Years 2, 3, 4 & 5 |
|              | 9.00-10.30am Pre-Kinder session at St<br>Patrick's                    |
|              | Mitch ('Spirit of Jesus') visiting Years 3 & 4                        |

## SCHOOL STUDENT TERM DATES 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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School Banking Details:  
BSB Acct: 067-000 Acct: 1027-3325

## Children's Book Council Book Week Celebrations (19th October to 23rd October).

This year's theme, 'Curious creatures, wild minds' will provide families with some hopefully interesting conversations in regards to Book Week Dress-up, which is timetabled for Wednesday 21st October. Students may use the theme as inspiration for dressing-up or take a book character as suitable inspiration. Please ensure any dress-up costume is suitable for the 'rough and tumble' of school, which includes enclosed footwear please. We will begin Wednesday with a character display from every class and, as with all assemblies, parents and friends are most welcome to attend observing our COVID-19 guidelines please. To help celebrate Children's Book Council Book week classes will be involved in a 40 minute 'virtual classroom performance' conducted by our regular book week performer, Tony Bones. Being based in Melbourne, Tony could not perform live to the many schools who form part of his performances, however, his virtual performance has rave reviews and we are looking forward to seeing the children's reactions when they view the performance tomorrow. Our Year 6 students have had a preview of the performance and will assist in creating an engaging atmosphere by including some props during the performance. Another 'opportunity' that has emerged from 'challenge.' **Please note if your child is not dressed to the "Curious creatures, wild minds" or a book theme, they must wear their school uniform and not casual clothes.**

### Year 5-Kinder Cobbers

Our Year 5 students have embraced their leadership skills in the annual 'Year 5-Kindergarten Cobber Collaboration', which involves our Year 5 students 'cobbering' with a Kinder student on a regular basis towards the end of term 3 in preparation to support the kinder students who begin to explore the 'big playground' of the school yard in term 4 in preparation for Prep in 2021. It has been wonderful to see the relationships that have developed between the students in these classes and see WEST, MJR and SOJ 'in action', providing us with reassurance that one of the strengths of St Patrick's is the opportunities for such meaningful collaborations.



### Footy Colours Day - Friday 23rd October.

A reminder that children may dress in their sport's code colours (or casual clothes) to celebrate the upcoming AFL Grand Final.

### Minister Barnett Visit - Friday 23rd October.

Minister Barnett will visit our school this Friday morning as part of our morning assembly to briefly discuss with students the event conferring of the Victoria Cross to Teddy Sheean. Minister Barnett will be accompanied by Gary Ivory, a close relative of Teddy Sheean who was one of many people who worked tirelessly to ensure Teddy Sheean was conferred with this most distinguished of military awards.

### 2021 Class Bookpacks

Information regarding our 2021 class bookpacks will be provided in next week's Newsletter, however, we have completed negotiations with a new stationery supplier and we plan to have class bookpacks available from the school (rather than online ordering and delivery via an intermediary) from mid-November, allowing families significant time this year to prepare for 2021. Families will, as in previous years, have the option to purchase stationery items on their own initiative rather than the packs available from school.



## WEST Award

Congratulations to Leon Garrad (Year 2) who received a WEST Award during Monday's morning assembly and to Adam van der Hulst for receiving the Aussie of the month award for September. 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:** Edmund & Amir

**Dooley House:** Angus & Dexter

**Martyn House:** Tallan & Ross

## STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Prep: Tom Anthony for your application towards the writing task about our mates. Well done, Tom.

Year 1: Evie Bracken for great progress with recognising numbers to 100.

Year 2: Leon Garrad for his skilful use of addition strategies in maths.

Year 3: Mushtaq Kahn for consistently displaying WEST qualities and for always giving his best effort.

Year 4: Sophie Mulcahy for being a conscientious worker in class and her kindness to others.

Year 5: Georgie Tueon for having an outstanding attitude to learning every single day.

Year 6: Beau Wheeler for his gentle manner and his ability to share the leadership roles during peer fitness.

## Years 2 - 5 Swimming Program: Monday 9th November to Friday 20th November.

Students in Years 2, 3, 4 and 5 will participate in their Swimming program at the Latrobe Swim Centre from Monday 9th November to Friday 20th November inclusively. We support the Latrobe Swim Centre's request that we communicate to parents that they are running with the current ruling by Health and Safety Standards, in regards to **"no parent/ spectator present"** during swim programs whilst the facility is booked. Families of students in Years 2, 3, 4 and 5 were forwarded a letter today. **Permission forms will be sent home next week and must be completed** no later than **3pm Thursday 5th November** please. Students will experience a variety of activities aimed at increasing confidence in the water and improving swimming skills. The Swimming Program is part of our Physical Education Curriculum and all students are expected to participate.

## Mandatory Reporting requirements under The Children, Young Persons and Their Families Act 1997

This Act legally requires members of certain professions within the community to report concerns, or suspected abuse or neglect of children to Child Protection Services, or to a Gateway Service. For example, all employees within the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Education and Catholic Education Tasmania are mandated to report their knowledge, belief or suspicion that a child has suffered, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect; workers are legally obligated to report and may be held accountable if they fail to do so, which overrides any confidentiality and privacy requirements that may otherwise govern behaviour in this regard. Staff, therefore, are obliged to make notifications, usually through the principal, of any concern observed or communicated to them - staff do not investigate, nor interrogate and such details are treated as confidential.

## School Board

Our School Board meets six times a year from 6.00pm to 7.15pm/7.30pm, providing parents with an important opportunity to review and discuss school governance such as the school's strategic direction, buildings and facilities, policies and protocols. The meetings are informal, usually accompanied by some light food and drinks. **We are looking to add two members to the School Board and warmly invite parents and/or friend of the school to join** - prospective members may wish to observe for a meeting or two. Please contact Mr Linhart if you wish to nominate - forms are available from the school website.



## COMMUNITY NEWS & REMINDERS

**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.

## COMMUNITY NEWS & REMINDERS

### Progress Achievement Testing - Term 4 Week 3 (Mr Atkins)

Progress Achievement Tests (PAT) are formal tests that students in Years 1 - 6 complete annually. These tests are one way that we can track student progress from year to year. All students in Years 1 - 6 complete the PAT Reading and PAT Maths tests, students in Years 2 - 6 complete the AGAT test (general reasoning ability) and students in Years 3 - 6 complete the PAT Spelling and PAT Vocabulary tests. These tests are timetabled to occur during Week 3 of term 4.

### Book Club

Book Club issue 7 is out now. This is the Christmas edition with lots of wonderful gift ideas. Orders need to be in by no later than Tuesday 27th October. Thank you for all your support with book club throughout this year.

### Care and Concern

A reminder for all families that we have the ability to prepare meals and to let the school office or Mr Linhart now 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.**

### 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. The following activities are now permitted:

- Families making a birthday cake or cakes that are shared with a child's class to celebrate a birthday - PLEASE contact the class teacher first to ensure if any class member has any food allergies.
- Adults attending assemblies - please sanitise or hand-wash upon entering any of the school buildings (as is the protocol for all staff and students) and sign-in on the assembly hall sign-in sheet.
- Adults volunteering in classes - please sanitise or hand-wash upon entering any of the school buildings (as is the protocol for all staff and students) and sign-in at the school office.

## Socktober

Bring a gold coin for  
Silly Socks and plain clothes  
on 28th of October

The money goes to Catholic Mission  
to help the poor.

Please bring a gold coin!



**We would really appreciate it if you could  
help us to help others. By Lulu and Rose.**



Nippers is a fun way for children aged 5 to Under 14 to enjoy the beach in a safe environment.

The Junior Development Program is designed to ensure children have fun at the beach while participating in lessons that will give them a pathway to becoming a fully rounded participant in lifesaving, sport and the community.

Our Nippers train twice a week on Thursdays from 5-6.30pm and on Saturdays from 10.30-12pm from November until April.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE DROP IN TO OUR  
REGISTRATION DAY OR VISIT:  
[www.portsorellslsc.org.au/nippers](http://www.portsorellslsc.org.au/nippers)

**Registration Day**  
24 October 2020 | 10am - 2pm



**Port Sorell SLSC**  
1 Dumbledon Street, Howley Beach  
Bringing the Community to the Beach