## St Patrick's Catholic School Latrobe



School Newsletter Number 4 February 25th 2020

#### PRINCIPAL'S REFLECTION

I have previously only read selected chapters from Greg Lukianoff's and Jonathan Haidt's "The coddling of the American Mind: how good intentions and bad ideas are setting up a generation for failure", however, a parent in our school community lent me his copy, allowing me a fuller and more impressive appreciation of this quite remarkable book, which rests on the following three principles:

- 'Prepare the child for the road, not the road for the child.' Folk Wisdom (origin unknown)
- 'Your worst enemy cannot harm you as much as your own thoughts, unguarded. But once mastered, no one can help you as much, not even your father or your mother.' Buddha.
- 'The line dividing good and evil cuts through the heart of every human being.' Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn.

Engaging in this type of literature - well researched multifocused writing that cites reputable sources with an intent to expose issues that, if unchallenged, have the potential to diminish a common good and, by virtue, an individual's productive role in his or her present community - is always invigorating.

As parents and educators, it is more often than not our interpretation of events that greatly disturbs or excites us, highlighting the fact that a significant amount of what goes on in our minds is outside of our direct control. However, as people of hope, as parents and educators must be, we contend with the perspective that the conscious mind can intervene; that we are people of hope; of 'positive anticipation'. Every day in my role at school I engage with people whose interpretations of events are contrary to mine, a phenomenon that is natural and expected. This experience - this contrariness of interpretations of events - is usually the opportunity for discussion and information sharing, with the result that all leave the conversation with a heightened level of hope. Occasionally, one of our interpretations - mine or the other parties - is so polarised that there is no movement, no consensus...at that time. Experience has proved to me that, in the 'fullness of time', with the benefit of openness to new information, a more open interpretation of events can be appreciated by one or more parties; some would contend that it is the getting of wisdom, which is reliant on keeping an open mind.

Working as part of a community can be richly satisfying and being self-reflective is, I believe, a key quality in being able to both critique and be critiqued; to give people the benefit of the doubt; to be charitable and compassionate in an effort to interpret the people's acts or words; to practice the virtue of 'intellectual humility'; to recognise that our own reasoning can be flawed and prone to bias to the extent that we can rarely be certain that we are absolutely right...are only a few 'self-reflective principles' that align beautifully with our Mercy values and hopefully support an inclusive learning community.

Regards, Rod Linhart (principal)

#### **SCHOOL CALENDAR**

#### **February**

Wed 26th Ash Wednesday (Lent begins): 9.30am

Years 3 - 6 attend Parish Mass. Project Compassion launched

#### March

Monday 2nd 9.00am morning assembly (Year 6)
Wed 4th 9.30am Years 6 & 2 attend Parish Mass
Monday 9th Public Holiday

Thursday 12th School Swimming Carnival

Wed 11th 9.30am Confirmed Catholic students

attend Parish Mass with Mr Linhart

Monday 16th 9.00am morning assembly (Year 3)

Tuesday 17th St Patrick's Day - 'Green Theme' casual

clothes day

Wed 18th 9.30am Years 3 & 4 attend Parish Mass

Thursday 19th
Tuesday 24th
WCPS Swimming Carnival
Book Fair - Open Area

(8.30am -9.00am 2.50pm -3.30pm)

Wed 25th **Book Fair - Open Area** 

(8.30am -9.00am 2.50pm -3.30pm)

#### **SCHOOL STUDENT TERM DATES 2020**

Term 1 Thursday 6th February - Thursday 9th April Easter break Friday 10th April-Tuesday 14th April Term 2 Mon 27th April - Friday 3rd July Term 3 \*Tues 21st July 2020 - Friday 25th September 2020 (\* Monday 20th July: Staff PL Day - Student Free Day) Term 4 Mon 12th October 2020 - Thursday17th Dec 2020

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

#### **WEST Award**

Congratulations to Ava Franklin (Year 6) 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. Families are always most welcome to attend our weekly assemblies.

#### **House Raffle Winners**

Byrne House: Melia Sesara

**Dooley House:** 

Martyn House: William Brazendale

#### STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

**Prep**: Alice Parry for her focused approach towards her learning and for being kind.

Year 1: Lakyn Dezoete for a great start to Year 1!

**Year 2**: Hamish Crawford for his self-motivated and reliable approach towards all learning opportunities.

**Year 3**: Rose Evans for her diligent application and attitude to all learning tasks.

**Year 4:** Ruby Anthony for being a responsible and reliable student who always tries her best.

**Year 5:** Emma Watson for her hardworking and diligent approach in the classroom.

**Year 6**: Zarlia Richardson for her application towards successfully completing set tasks within the allocated time frame.

#### **School Photos**

Thank you to all the parents who assisted us by ensuring their child or children were dressed in full summer uniform - this year's photo is the first in a few years with students dressed in their summer uniform. We intend alternating the date for school photos each year to incorporate summer uniform one year and winter uniform the following year. As always, feedback on this school event is welcomed: please contact your child's teacher, one of the school office staff or Mr Linhart. Thank you to Tameka Harris for her coordination of today's school photos - a significant undertaking.

#### **Staff News**

Mrs Badcock will be away this week; Mrs Fenton will teach Year 2; Mrs Gregson and Mrs Marshall attended a Student Support meeting today; Mr O'Brien taught Year1; Mr Atkins will be attending a deputy principals' meeting this Thursday.

#### School Swimming Carnival - Thursday 12th March

A final program will be distributed to families next week, however, a summary of the day includes:

- 9.30am 12.30pm Students in Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 will be involved in swimming events and some novelty events at the Latrobe pool.
- 12.30pm 2.30pm Students in Prep, Year 1, Year 2 will be involved in novelty events at the Latrobe pool according to the following timetable:
  - 12.00pm: Years 1 & 2 students have lunch at school.
  - 12.20pm: Year 2 walk to the pool for a supervised free swim of 45 minutes (12.30-1.15pm)
  - 1.00pm: Year 1 walk to the pool for a supervised free swim of 45 minutes (1.15-2.00pm)
  - 1.30pm: Prep walk to the pool for a supervised free swim of 40 minutes (1.50-2.30pm)
- Students in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be participating in races for selection to represent the school at the NW Catholic Schools' Swimming Carnival that will be conducted in Burnie on Thursday 19th March.
- The school canteen will still operate on this day.
- Parents may take children home from the pool provided school staff are informed please.
- Sunscreen will be provided by the school and available at the pool for students to apply.



School Yard - Our 2017 tree plantings provide much student engagement.

#### Care and Concern

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 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.

#### **FAITH DEVELOPMENT**



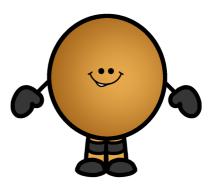
Project Compassion is Caritas Australia's annual Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal. Millions of Australians come together in solidarity with the world's poor to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. Project Compassion inspires so many communities to come together to raise much needed funds for the most vulnerable women, children and men in Australian and around the world. Together we can help break the cycle of poverty and injustice. We will be involved in some fundraising during Lent so we can 'Go further together.'

#### **School Fee Assistance**

A letter has gone home with the newsletter today to families who received fee assistance last year; details regarding requesting fee assistance for 2020 are included in this letter for families to then make a quick response please. As a small school we have a limited discretionary budget that we can commit to support families who have applied for fee assistance - families are encouraged to discuss any request for fee assistance with Mr Linhart at the earliest convenience please. We are yet to be guided by a new Catholic Education Tasmania Fee Assistance Policy, however, we will do our best to support families who request fee assistance. Please contact Lennice Leonard (School Executive Officer) or Mr Linhart for any advice.



## **THANK YOU!**



To Lorraine Young, Bart McGann and Julie Dewrance-Milligan for making pancakes on Monday afternoon and to Lorraine and Bronwyn Watson for preparing them for students this morning. We greatly appreciate your time and kindness.

#### **COMMUNITY NEWS & REMINDERS**

'Inquiring Minds' Birth to 4 program - a 'Set-Up for Success' Catholic Education Tasmania initiative.

Our 'Inquiring Minds' birth to 4 program is run every Friday during term from 9.00am to 10.30am. This program involves considerable focus on communicating to parents the learning intentions of important activities that are associated with early years learning. Mrs Stoessiger and Mrs Klug will be working together to engage parents in early years learning experiences that will ensure children who are enrolling in kindergarten, will be informed in regards to developing key social, emotional, physical and cognitive skills and understandings. Parents or an adult family member stay for the duration of these sessions; there is no obligation in regards to any cost. Please feel welcome to participate.



#### School Stationery/Book-Packs

Thank you to the many families who provided the school with some feedback on the back-to-school 2020 class stationery orders. Mr Linhart has compiled a response based on this feedback and has forwarded this on to the suppliers. We are considering alternate arrangements in regard to back-to-school class stationery packs for the 2021 school year and families will be provided with information regarding these deliberations later in the year.

#### **REMINDERS**

#### **World's Greatest Shave**

Lachlan Wallace is participating in this year's World's Greatest Shave, a very worthy event that raises money for research into blood cancer. Lachlan's message from the site is below. A donation box is located in the school office and the school canteen, and you can also donate or leave a message of support online on the World's Greatest Shave website. It would be wonderful if we can help Lachlan

achieve his goal. My name is Lachlan and I'm taking part in the World's Greatest Shave for the Leukaemia Foundation! I'm on a mission to shave the world from blood cancer. My goal is to raise \$1000. My school principal said he'll shave his head with me if I raise \$1500!!! Please sponsor me to give families facing blood cancer the emotional and practical support they need. You'll also fund vital research to help more people survive blood cancers, while improving their quality of life. Every day another 35 Australians are diagnosed with a blood cancer. That's one Aussie every 41 minutes. Although research is improving survival, sadly an Australian loses their life to blood cancer every two hours.



### A play-based Birth - 5 program open to all families

Qualified early years educators plan developmentally appropriate experiences for you and your child to explore together.

Our educators work with families to support parental understanding of the development of early literacy, numeracy and communication skills.



# Devonport Chess Club

CHECK IT OUT

From Novice to Grandmaster, everyone is welcome.

The club meets on the 2nd. & 4th. Tuesdays during school term

East Devonport Community House 106 David St. East Devonport 6 - 8 p.m.

(03) 64277542

**EVERYONE WELCOME** 





St Patrick's Catholic Primary Kindergarten Room



Every Friday during school term



9am - 10:30am



A hat, water bottle, piece of fruit & gold coin donation

We look forward to welcoming your family to our Birth-5 Sessions 55 Bradshaw Street, Latrobe Phone: 6426 1626