

# St Patrick's Catholic School Latrobe



School Newsletter Number 7 March 17th 2020

## PRINCIPAL'S REFLECTION

'It is the heart of the family that life comes into being. In the heart of the family the joys, hopes, sorrows and worries of life are shouldered and shared. This intimate community provides our first experience of love, rejoicing when a child is born, educating and guiding little ones as they grow. It is where we learn the importance of sharing, overcoming disagreements and offering forgiveness. In the family we learn compassion and care for those who are ill, in need or in trouble. In the family we draw on the wisdom of generations and pass on the faith. These are some of the aspects and values of family life that each person longs for and that prepare us to take our place in society and meet life's challenge' Pope John Paul II, *Familians Consortio*, 1981.

In my role, I feel it as a great privilege to have the opportunity to work so closely with such a broad spectrum of families. In most conversations, I am reassured that the sentiments expressed by parents of students of St Patrick's Catholic School are shared by staff of St Patrick's - a desire for children to feel part of a community where they feel safe, where they learn to appreciate their own gifts whilst recognising the gifts of others and acknowledging the differences of others in a positive way. Our teaching and learning programs and numerous school initiatives hopefully complement the learning philosophy in the various households that contribute to our school.

Mark Twain said, "It is wiser to find out than to suppose". In this current time of significant challenge to 'norms' and expectations, his words would ring true to all of us, because if we base our actions on suppositions, our actions are soon revealed to be wasted and may in fact hinder progress, rather than 'enact' growth. Twain's quote highlights to educators the understanding that, whilst curriculum should be rigorous, instruction creative and resources rich and varied, we can often be so tied to the present that we fail to enable our students for the future.

Research suggests that when planning a future with students the number of students who failed to reach age-appropriate grades dropped by more than one half if they were asked what kind of future they would like to have, what hurdles they anticipated, how they might deal with them, and which of their friends would be most helpful along the way. An important aspect of our conversations as adults with children is generally to expect the child to identify one goal that they want to achieve and to support them in having a degree of

control in achieving such a goal. As educators, we realise that to be effective we try to teach well, assess frequently, and follow up relentlessly. In all our conversations with parents and students, we try to be future-oriented, whilst being mindful of the precious present, and the lessons from the past. May your strength as a positive family unit complement our strength as a cohesive school community as we engage with due discernment in our wider society during a time of not inconsiderable challenge.

Regards,

Rod Linhart (principal)

## SCHOOL CALENDAR (Red colour = newly added)

### March

Monday 16th	Latrobe High School students complete five days work experience placement at St Patrick's Student English and Mathematics book sent home for parent review
Tuesday 17th	St Patrick's Day - 'Green Theme' casual clothes day. 6.00pm School P & F meeting (staffroom) - <b>CANCELLED</b>
Wed 18th	9.30am Years 3 & 4 attend Parish Mass - <b>CANCELLED</b>
Thursday 19th	NWCPS swimming carnival (Burnie) - <b>CANCELLED</b> <b>Canteen - CANCELLED</b>
Friday 20th	9.00-10.30am 'Set-up For Success' - Inquiring Minds birth to 4 program in the kinder classroom - <b>CANCELLED</b> <b>Canteen - CANCELLED</b>
Tuesday 24th	School Book Fair
Wed 25th	School Book Fair

## 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 - Thursday 17th Dec 2020

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

### WEST Award

Congratulations to Oliver Singline (Year 1) and Ross Crawford (Kinder) who received a WEST certificate this week. 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 on Mondays in recognition of the previous week's efforts. We also congratulate Zarna Bakes (Year 3) for being awarded 'Aussie of the Month' for displaying responsibility and consideration of others in her daily endeavours.

### House Raffle Winners

**Byrne House:**

**Dooley House:**

**Martyn House:**

### STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

**Prep:** Angus Anthony for encouraging others.

**Year 1:** Alexander Fawcner for demonstrating initiative in the classroom and being a terrific helper

**Year 2:** Lucy Chapman for her use of language features in imaginative writing.

**Year 3:** Sophie Franklin for her great application towards persuasive writing tasks.

**Year 4:** Sophie Mulcahy for working hard to complete her tasks with accuracy and detail.

**Year 5:** Joshua Warren for his outstanding effort in measurement.

**Year 6:** Kyle Barnes for his charitable and generous heart.

### Staff News

Mrs Marshall was away yesterday - Mr Angliss taught Year 1. We welcomed eight Year 10 students from Latrobe High School who are with us this week on work experience. Next week we welcome four TasTAFE students who will be with us one day a week for the rest of term 1, all of term 2 and part of term 3 as part of their certificate course in educational studies.

### Proposed Parent-Student- Teacher Meetings - CANCELLED

In accordance with Catholic Education Tasmania guidelines in the context of the Coronavirus pandemic, our usual parent-student-teacher meetings that we offer during the final weeks of term 1 each year have been cancelled. Parents are welcome to note in their child's diary a request to arrange a mutually convenient time for a telephone conversation to be arranged between parents and the teacher or teachers. Similarly, your child's teacher or teachers may make a note in your child's diary for the purpose of arranging a time to have a telephone conversation regarding your child's academic and/or social progress.

### Devonport Primary School Basketball Competition

Thank you to Mrs Mulcahy, Mrs Tueon, Ms Stuart and Mrs Anthony who supported the basketball team's in Mrs Meech's absence last Friday. The school will have a number of teams represented in this competition and we are very grateful to Mrs Lamprey and Mrs Meech for coaching the teams during school lunch-breaks and to the parents who ensure their child or children are at the games on time and play with a healthy competitive spirit. **THIS COMPETITION IS CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

### Canteen - Cancelled 19th-20th March

Unfortunately, due to the unavailability of canteen staff this week, we are unable to offer our canteen service this week only. We hope to have the canteen back next week. We will advise families via the newsletter facebook page and compass app if this changes.







## **FAITH DEVELOPMENT**

### **Project Compassion**

Thank you to the many families who are putting small change in their family Project Compassion boxes that will be used by Caritas Australia to assist families and communities who are in significant need of our assistance. Project Compassion boxes will be requested during Holy Week - the week beginning Monday 6th April.



**Caritas**  
AUSTRALIA

**End poverty  
Promote justice  
Uphold dignity**

### **Devonport Junior Soccer Association Saturday Morning Competition**

We currently have the following teams registered for the 2020 soccer season. Thank you to all parents who have nominated themselves as coaches for this year.

U6 (Prep) Coach - Jason/Tamieka Anthony

U7 (Year 1) Coach - Jamie Fawcner

U8 (Year 2) Coach - Adrian Singline

U9 (Year 3) Coach - Claye Davis

U10 (Year 4) Coach - Felicity Derin-Reeves

Open 5 (Year 5) Coach - David Jessup

Open 6 (Year 6) currently we only have 5 players registered. We need an additional 5 players from our school or we may need to merge with another school to fulfil this team.

**Please see communication that we received today from the Devonport Junior Soccer Association in regards to the upcoming soccer season.**

### **School Soccer Roster**

*The Devonport Junior Soccer President, with the support of the Committee and the Devonport Council, have made the decision to cancel the first two weeks of School Soccer (28th March and 4th April). The health and safety of players, volunteers, parents, guardians and grandparents are of the utmost importance to us. By cancelling the first two games, it gives us approx five weeks to continue gathering information, evaluate and make a decision regarding the remaining of the season. This is not a decision we have taken lightly.*

We will continue to communicate to families that have a child or children registered for the 2020 season as we receive communication in regards the soccer season.

## Coronavirus

As members of a connected school community, most of us are aware of the news relating to COVID 19. Whilst there are yet to be any positive COVID 19 cases in our community, the school remains vigilant. Catholic Education Tasmania is in close contact with Public Health and the Department of Education regarding this matter. Any action taken in response to a suspected or positive COVID 19 case amongst school staff or students will be aligned to Public Health advice and education sector agreed protocols.

The aim for any measures introduced is to constrain contact to the broader community and to restrict activities as far as possible to the core practices of the school.

Over the coming days teachers will continue to have conversations with students regarding what they can do to minimise the spread of infection in what is a usual protocol for the onset of the winter flu season e.g.

- washing hands with soap and water on a regular basis and after coughing/sneezing;
- the correct way to cover our mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing;
- the importance of avoiding touching the face with unwashed hands;
- minimal intra-school gatherings beyond single classes;
- adopt appropriate social distancing measures.

In the interests of meeting the objectives that are listed above, new measures that Catholic Education Tasmania schools are enacting include the cancellation of the following:

- School Board and Parents & Friends meetings.
- Parent-student-teacher evenings;
- Assemblies;
- Excursions;
- Camps;
- School performances;
- Staff attendance at professional learning.

As a school community we will continue to be vigilant regarding the spread of Coronavirus in the forthcoming months any respiratory infections and viruses such as cold and flu that tend to circulate at this time of the year. In addition, we kindly ask parents and guardians to assist by keeping children home from school when they exhibit cold and flu like symptoms. Hand sanitisers are positioned throughout the school and they are available for use by members of the school community, however parents may decide to provide small bottles of antibacterial hand sanitiser to their own children for their use throughout the day when hand washing is not possible.

The link to a school Coronavirus special report contains some very useful information. The report can be accessed by clicking on this link. [https://schooltv.me/wellbeing\\_news/special-report-coronavirus](https://schooltv.me/wellbeing_news/special-report-coronavirus) We will continue to provide updates as they become available.

Families are requested to direct enquiries regarding COVID-19 to the school principal; the school will continue to update families of any developments in protocols via our online (Compass, school Facebook) and through letters and the Newsletter.

- **Please find as an insert the latest correspondence from Dr Gerard Gaskin, Executive Director Catholic Education Tasmania.**
- **Please also find as an insert a summary of cleaning and personal hygiene practices that are required for all Catholic schools in Tasmania.**

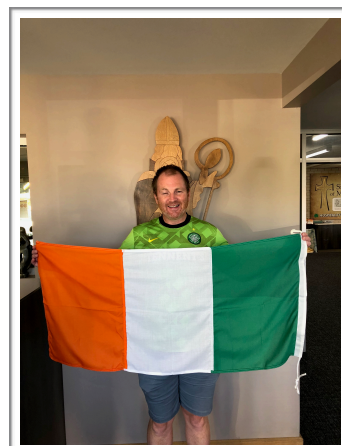
## Student Absences

Where non-attendance is due to a parent deciding to keep their child home due to fears of contagion e.g. no medical advice to do so supported by a medical certificate or they aren't covered by the exclusion period due to travel, these students will have any absence for the above reason marked as: *Unauthorised – Not an excusable circumstance*. There will be no expectation/requirement that work is provided for students who are absent for either reason at this stage, however, we will determine our capacity to provide work for students who are absent with a medical certificate.



## St Patrick's Day 17th March

As a school, we celebrate St Patrick's Day on Tuesday 17th March; the parish will celebrate on Wednesday 18th March with a 9.30am Mass. Students responded to the 'Green Theme' for the day - with the wearing of the green.







### World's Greatest Shave

Year 6 student, Lachlan Wallace, participated 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. 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.

The good news for Lachlan and for the thousands of Australians affected by cancer, is the fact that Lachlan exceeded his initial goal of \$1000, instead **raising \$1800** to assist helping the Leukaemia Foundation to reach its bold goal of 'zero lives lost to blood cancer by 2035'.

Thank you to all in our school community who helped Lachlan exceed his goal by offering daily encouragement and support, and for the many school-based donations - well done Lachlan!



### Student Achievement

Congratulations to Monty Manion, Year 5, who recently participated in the 2020 National Cross-Country Bike Championships in the Under 13 age division; Monty finished 2nd in a very strong field of older competitors.



## School Swimming Carnival and the NW Swimming Squad.

Children participated extremely well in last Thursday's annual school swimming carnival, with some very impressive performances from the eventual age champions, in addition to some extremely heartening performances by so many children who entered as many races as they could with the full knowledge that the races will be challenging for them. The House Captains led an inspiring chant at the conclusion of the morning assembly and we embarked on a day of activity and enjoyment. Thank you to our House Captains who so ably assisted Mrs Hayes with the marshalling, Mrs Harris for finalising the program, and to Mrs Marshall, Thomas and Harry Marshall and Mr Atkins who erected the marques before school. Congratulations to the following students who were to be invited to represent the school in this Thursday's NW Catholic Schools Swimming Carnival, which has been unfortunately cancelled - points awarded from last week's carnival swims are in brackets after each child's name:

Year 3: Jimmy Tueon - male age champion (18), Melia Sesara - female age champion (35), Zarna Bakes (10), Zara Omobai-Musa (6), Rose Evans (2), Livai Sesara (2), Egan Bos (15), Frank Dewrance Milligan (2).

Year 4: Ruby Anthony (36) female age champion, Jack Chapman (28) male age champion, Harrison Fawkner (26), Ryan Jackson (4), Cameron Reeves (10), Sophie Mulcahy (26), Indy Wells (19), Tyla O'Toole (2).

Year 5: Gideon Barker (27) joint male age champion, Ruben Clarke (27) joint male age champion, Georgie Tueon (39) female age champion, Adam van der Hulst, (11) Eamon Young (4), Emily Phegan (23), Talei Sesara (8), Keira Emery (4).

Year 6: Kyle Jordan (42) male age champion, Maddy Withers (42) female age champion, Paul Barass (24), Koby Harrington (4), Mac Butler (4), Allie Hardiman (24), Ava Chamley(6), Matilda Hayes (6).



## P&F NEWS (Tameika Anthony)

### St Patrick's Parents and Friends Sausage Sizzle and Dumplings Fund-Raiser.

Thank you to Tameika Anthony (P & F President), Anita Tueon (P & F Secretary), Kirrilly Jones (Vice-President), Bart McGann, Julie Dewrance-Milligan and Lorraine Young for their support of last week's P & F sausage sizzle and golden dumplings fund-raiser.

The scheduled P & F meet in the school staffroom tonight has been cancelled.





### Reading Intervention - Parent Information Session

Thank you to Lisa and Bronwyn who attended the Minilit and Macqlit parent information session that was conducted by Mrs Badcock last Friday at 2.00pm. Booklets outlining the session are available upon request - please note in your child's diary if you would like an information booklet sent home.

### Home Readers

Where possible for students who are involved in early levelled readers, we will try to include more than one book in their home reader folder. Home readers are changed every Tuesday and Thursday and, educationally, it is very sound practise for your child to re-read a book. However, we will try to provide more readers for those levels that do not contain much text. **PLEASE READ WITH YOUR CHILD DAILY - you will make a real difference in your child's ability to grasp letter-sound recognition and in their comprehension.**

### COMMUNITY NEWS & REMINDERS

**'Inquiring Minds' Birth to 4 program - a 'Set-Up for Success' Catholic Education Tasmania initiative: FROM ADVICE FROM CATHOLIC EDUCATION TASMANIA THIS PROGRAM IN ALL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS HAS BEEN TEMPORARILY CANCELLED**

Our 'Inquiring Minds' birth to 4 program is offered Fridays 9.00am to 10.30am during school terms. 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 from 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 stays for the duration of these sessions; there is no obligation in regards to any cost. Please feel welcome to participate.

### ANZAC Day Commemorations - Cancellation

Please find below the following correspondence from the Latrobe Council regarding the cancellation of ANZAC Day services: *"Thank you for your support of Latrobe's ANZAC Day Services however, on the recommendation of RSL Tasmania today, Latrobe Council has decided to reluctantly cancel the staging of its ANZAC Day Citizens Commemorative Service for 2020. This is extremely disappointing however the wellbeing of those most vulnerable in our community is key to this decision."*

### REMINDERS

#### 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.**

#### School Fee Assistance

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 (School Executive Officer) or Mr Linhart for any advice.