

St Patrick's Catholic School Latrobe



School Newsletter Number 19 Tuesday 23rd June 2020

PRINCIPAL'S REFLECTION

How would you describe your own character? What do we mean when we use that particular word? If someone was described to you as having a fine character, would you know what that meant? There is a good chance that you would. You would probably understand that the subject was moral or ethical strength – what some people call integrity. Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, the influential nineteenth century literary figure stated that, "You can easily judge the character of a man by how he treats those who can do nothing for him." Year 1 has been reading and analysing the message of 'The Good Samaritan' in class and I have been heartened by the responses of the children to the ageless moral tale of the intrinsic value of compassion as being a yardstick when 'measuring' character.

How else do we determine when someone – even ourselves – has good character? As educators, as students, we judge by the evidence: character is revealed in our actions, in the values that we live by. It begins building in early life, in our family. If we are loved and accepted, if we are consistently treated with respect, we grow up free from the burden of trying to prove our worth, free to develop integrity of character. Complementing families, schools, institutions and workplaces can help build and influence character – positively or negatively.

Some people believe that people also shape their own character by asking ourselves: "What are some qualities I value?" Do they include respect, mercy, hospitality, perseverance, courage, and a pursuit of excellence? How these qualities are subsumed into our own sense of character can be judged by how automatic our reaction is when we are placed under pressure.

Neuroscientists have proven that the very act of writing (as opposed to typing on a keyboard) builds stronger neural pathways to knowledge, information and insights. A journal is often considered an effective strategy for this reflection and discernment, and in the

writing, the person is likely to find more questions to ask, and more answers to investigate - to be 'of character' involves constant reappraisal and maintenance; not complacency.

Character has been defined as, "who you are when no one is looking." I thank all in our school community who appreciate not only their own responsibilities in this area of personal growth, but also how each of us has the ability through our 'actions of character' to make a positive influence in our families, our school and communities.

Regards, Rod Linhart (principal)

SCHOOL CALENDAR

JUNE

Monday 22nd 8.55am Whole-school assembly
Tuesday 23rd Sophie, school counsellor, visits
Wed 24th Mr Butcher begins teaching Year 5
Monday 29th **8.55am Whole-school assembly**
(Students only in attendance)
Tuesday 30th Sophie, school counsellor, visits

JULY

Thursday 2nd Mrs Kingshott returns from leave
Friday 3rd Final day of term 2
Student casual clothes day - gold coin donation to contribute towards our school 'Care and Concern' group that supports members of our school community.

Monday 20th Student Free Day
Tuesday 29th Midyear Student Progress Reports distributed - opportunities for parent-teacher meetings (telephone or Zoom)

SCHOOL STUDENT TERM DATES 2020

Term 2 Mon 4th May- 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

55 Bradshaw Street Latrobe, Tasmania 7307
Telephone: (03) 6426 1626 Fax: (03) 6426 2697
E-mail: stpatslat@catholic.tas.edu.au
www.stpatslatrobe.tas.edu.au
School Banking Details:
BSB Acct: 067-000 Acct: 1027-3325

Health and Wellbeing

Any member of staff or student with flu-like symptoms (fever, coughing, sore throat, fatigue, runny nose, aches and pains) will be directed to go home until no longer contagious as determined by a registered medical practitioner. Staff appreciate the support that we receive from families in our collective efforts to maintain an enhanced health and hygiene focus at St Patrick's as we come to terms with the 'norm' that is a heightened sense of good health being expected when engaging in learning at school.

School Uniform

Details regarding our school uniform are found in the front of our school diaries. Students that have hair longer than their shoulders, are required to tie it back using ribbons, clips, bands or scrunchies that are discreet in nature and of the school colours: green, navy blue or yellow. Thank you for your support with the implementation of this policy.



Vinnie's Winter Appeal - Please donate non-perishables, clothes, etc by this Friday 26th June. Thank you.

Student Feedback - School Strategic Plan

We will continue to provide parents, via the Newsletter and means such as sending books home and offering information sessions, with some insights into educational methodologies that assist staff in framing learning and teaching at St Patrick's. Research by Hattie concludes the most powerful single influence on achievement is feedback but impacts are highly variable, which indicates the complexity of maximising benefits from feedback. Feedback is defined as a process through which learners make sense of information from various sources and use it to enhance their work or learning strategies. This definition goes beyond notions that feedback is principally about teachers informing students about strengths, weaknesses and how to improve, and it highlights the centrality of the student role in sense-making and using comments to improve subsequent work. Information may come from different sources e.g. peers, teachers, friends, family members or automated computer-based systems to support student self-evaluation of progress. Appreciating feedback refers to students both recognising the value of feedback and understanding their active role in its processes. To make the most of feedback processes, students need to be developing evaluative judgment, which is the capability to make decisions about the quality of work of oneself and others. Lower achieving students are often relatively weak at self-evaluating their performance and frequently conflate effort with quality. Research undertaken by Michael Henderson at Monash University states:

- Learners are active in the feedback process.
- Educators seek and use evidence to plan and judge effectiveness.
- Learners and educators have access to appropriate space and technology.
- Information provided is usable and learners know how to use it.
- It is tailored to meet the different needs of learners.
- It is a valued and visible enterprise at all levels.
- There are processes in place to ensure consistency and quality.

Emergency Relief Program

Don Ryan, Executive officer: Tasmanian Catholic Schools Parents Council, has been in contact with Marianne Curran, Statewide Administration Coordinator: Catholic Care Tasmania, in regards to the Emergency Relief Program run by CatholicCare and has asked us to share this information with our St Patrick's School families for their information. This program is currently assisting people who may have lost their jobs or had their hours reduced as a result of COVID-19, and are experiencing financial difficulties. (They are still assisting non-COVID related financially affected people as well). It is not a requirement that a recipient is receiving Centrelink payments to be eligible. The program information is available via this link: <https://catholiccaretas.org.au/programs/emergency-relief>

WEST Award

Congratulations to Himash Keerthiratne (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 (online) our assemblies.

House Raffle Winners

Byrne House: Jon Stendt (3)

Dooley House: Tom Anthony (P)

Martyn House: Lucy Chapman (2)

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Prep: Tom Anthony for his positive attitude towards learning and great engagement.

Year 1: Henry Jones for careful listening during class discussions and his ability to contribute relevant and valuable thinking and ideas

Year 2: Zita Omogbai-Musa for learning her timetables facts.

Year 3: Egan Bos for his welcoming smile and positive attitude towards all tasks.

Year 4: Thomas Marshall for his outstanding effort and application towards the completion of his work. Well done

Year 5: Monty Manion for his mature approach to all learning tasks.

Year 6: Zaria Richardson and Matilda Hayes for their outstanding attitude and application to all tasks throughout the week.

Staff and Class News

Mrs Kingshott is away this week and will return next Thursday 2nd July - Mrs Butcher and Mr Linhart are teaching Year 6; Mrs Meech was away today - Mrs Mac taught in Year 4; Mr Lowry is away until the beginning of term 3, Mrs Marshall was away today - Mrs Fenton taught in Year 1.



Morning daily whole-school assemblies

The school received permission late last week to resume our whole-school student assemblies - at this stage, these assemblies are restricted to staff and students only. It was wonderful to be together as a whole school yesterday morning and it emphasises the importance of 'presence' in supporting a common appreciation of our culture - collectively, staff and students and parents work hard on developing and maintaining a sense of community and we have missed the community spirit that is reflected in our daily morning assemblies.

Mersey Leven Catholic Parish Masses

Mersey Leven Catholic Parish Masses Fr Mike will be livestreaming Mass indefinitely as made necessary by the guidelines pertaining to COVID

19. If you wish to have access to these livestreams please email Fr Mike (mike.delaney@aohtas.org.au) and he will send you a link with instructions. The email will also include dates and times of when Mass will be celebrated. You are also able to view Masses online through the Mersey Leven Catholic Parish Facebook page.

School Canteen

Amy Davis will be absent for the next two weeks (final weeks of term 2) and we are very grateful to Carl Garrad who will coordinate the school canteen in her absence. For the next two weeks the school canteen will operate on a reduced menu - please ensure canteen orders for the remainder of term 2 reflect this. A copy of this menu is available as an insert with today's Newsletter and is located on our school web page in the 'News and Forms' tab - 'Canteen Menu - end of term 2' and on our school facebook page. Thank you to Carl for his support and to all families who support this initiative.

Student Casual Clothes Day - Friday 3rd July (last day of term 2)

There are many families in our school community who benefit from some hospitality and support from our school's Care and Concern initiative. As a means to raise some money to support this school-based initiative students are welcome to dress in casual clothes (covered shoes only - no opened toe shoes or thongs) and contribute a gold coin donation towards our school 'Care and Concern' group that supports members of our school community. Thank you for your support.

Reporting student learning engagement: 'Student Progress Statements.'

In line with advice from Catholic Education Tasmania, this year teaching staff will produce **Student Progress Statements** to inform parents of student learning and achievement throughout terms 1 and 2. These will be distributed to families on Tuesday 28th July (week 2 of term 3) and there will be an opportunity for a parent teacher conversation following this. The traditional 'Mid-year Report', therefore, will be replaced by the 'Student Progress Statement': this Progress Statement will provide feedback about a student's progress in key learning areas aligned to the relevant Australian Curriculum and Good News for Living achievement standards. It is a snapshot of student progress up until the end of Term 2, inclusive of learning and assessment opportunities undertaken by students, while working at home. In response to Federal Government amendments regarding the reporting of student achievement due to the Covid-19 pandemic, an A-E rating will not be provided. Student progress will be described as either **developing**, **consolidating**, or **extending**, indicating achievement against the expected standard at the time of reporting. Staff will continue to work diligently in ensuring students are engaged in meaningful and curriculum-oriented learning experiences with each child's responses to these tasks and activities contributing towards a body of work that teachers will make a judgment on student attainment. **Tuesday 29th: Midyear Student Progress Reports distributed. Opportunities for parent-teacher meetings (telephone or Zoom) on Wednesday 30th July and Thursday 31st July (booking details next week.)**

COMMUNITY NEWS & REMINDERS

Care and Concern

Thank you to the many families who continue to 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 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.**

Lost Property

Archer Parry (Prep) has lost his brand new size 6 woollen jumper. Archer's jumper has been named, could you please check your child's bags to make sure they have not accidentally picked it up.

Feedback - School Improvement Plan

St Patrick's is in the process of creating its next three year school strategic plan. The school leadership team will use feedback from our recent Organisational Culture Inventory that was completed by all staff earlier this year, student achievement data, Positive Behaviour Support data, the Catholic Education Tasmania strategic plan and feedback from parents via the School Board and students via the Student Representative Council. **An online School Improvement Parent Feedback Form is also be available via the school website until this Friday 26th June - please feel welcome to provide us with your feedback, including suggestions**, in regard to our creation of the school's next three-year School Strategic Plan.

Recommencement of the Friday Grade 3 to 6 Primary School basketball roster

The Devonport Basketball Council Inc. is currently planning to recommence the Friday grade 3 to 6 Primary School basketball rosters in Term 3 and we would like feedback on whether your child/children will be participating. If you can please complete the below survey form by **FRIDAY 26th JUNE**. https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScqOOZUQMWFp9z2mrEzfu6Of0kjZXpz7eNDhE9c4I7Vo7OrAA/viewform?usp=sf_link We will only run one roster for the remainder of 2020 which will be for 12 weeks and set down to recommence on Friday 24th July until 20th November with no games being played during the school holidays and on the following Fridays (11/9, 18/9, 9/10 and 23/10) due to U22 games being played in Devonport. Please remember that the situation with Covid-19 is constantly changing and commencement date will be subject to approval by Public Health and the Department of Education Continuation of the roster (prior to Covid-19) or a new roster will be determined by registered players and whether they wish to play. As a Club we are extremely excited about the return to basketball for our local primary school children. Further updates will be passed onto parents/guardians as they come to hand. **Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact Jan at the DBC Office on 64242440.**

Latrobe Basketball

Latrobe Basketball Association are holding training sessions for U/10 Boys (Born in 2011 & 2012) on a Monday afternoon starting on the 22nd June from 3:30-4:30. Everyone welcome, bring a ball, a drink and great attitude. Covid 19 policies and procedures in place. **Any questions please call Kristie 0418 385.**