

St Patrick's Catholic School Latrobe



School Newsletter Number 21 Tuesday 21st July 2020

PRINCIPAL'S REFLECTION

"Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfil the prophesy, 'I will speak to you in parables and expound things hidden since the foundation of the world'." This passage from Matthew's Gospel was a wonderful complement to our staff spirituality day yesterday in which our school staff joined as a community engaging in some rich learning and discovery lead by Dr Draško Dizdar, a member of the Emmaus monastic community, and a theologian with the Tasmanian Catholic Education Office.

As a Catholic School, such learning opportunities offer our staff, and by virtue of staff leadership, the broader school community, a greater appreciation of both the depth and breadth of our spirituality; an insight into the complexity and simplicity of our individual and collective faith journeys. Draško unravelled the paradox that is a parable and provided us with an awareness, or a reminder, that being conscious of who we are before God involves a constant assessment of our 'heart' and our actions - that 'knowing' is part of a faith that also obligates us 'doing.'

If the ultimate meaning or purpose in life is to grow in love, to 'will the good for another', we are obliged to be moved to action, with the impetus for action being a compassion for another. Draško emphasised the subversive nature of parables in that they provoke us to see the world in a different way, often a way that challenges us to change direction or attitude. Rather than being simple short stories with an obvious message that reflects a value, Draško drew the analogy of a parable being likened to the 'Magic Eye' books in which the viewer initially only sees colours and lines, however, with a deeper focus, a three-dimensional shape appears. Such an image is not an illusion, unique to each viewer; rather it is intrinsic to the picture and provides a new, richer and, in the case of Jesus's parables, a challenge to us to reflect on how we might need to change in order for others to flourish.

If one of our personal and professional goals is to not only understand, but also to be understood, these learning

opportunities support staff significantly in our appreciation of the complexity of the 'discovery of meaning' of faith, and we appreciate the parent support of this annual pupil-free/staff professional day. As educators, (parents and St Patrick's School staff,) parables remind us that time to discern, to collaborate and investigate, is an imperative if we are to work effectively and collaboratively in our joint responsibilities to enhance student outcomes and some 'answers' require our vision, at times, to have a different focus.

We greatly look forward to welcoming our students back from a well-earned break and supporting families in our joint endeavours to contribute to enhance student outcomes.

Regards,

Rod Linhart (principal)

SCHOOL CALENDAR

JULY

Tuesday 21st	Term 3 begins - Student Leaders for term 3 are announced.
Monday 27th	8.55am Celebration Assembly (weekly assembly of awards being conferred)
Tuesday 29th	Midyear Student Progress Reports distributed - opportunities for parent-teacher meetings (telephone or Zoom)
Wed 30th	Opportunities for parent-teacher meetings (telephone or Zoom)

SCHOOL STUDENT TERM DATES 2020

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 COVID-19 Plan

Some restrictions have eased and the following activities and interactions are now permitted:

- Assemblies - parents may attend provided they sign-in and sign-out sheets provided at the hall entrance.
- The use of volunteers - provided they comply with the usual Working With Vulnerable People Check, observe our school hygiene protocols and sign-in and sign-out at the school office.
- Library returns to usual circulation protocols.
- Set-up for Success/Inquiring Minds (birth to 4 year old Friday morning program) recommences - an adult supervisor/parent of each child observes our school hygiene protocols and sign-in and sign-out at the kinder classroom.
- The use of external providers engaged to support the delivery of the curriculum.
- Day excursions.

A reminder: **please do not enter the school grounds if you or your child are experiencing any cold or flu symptoms.**

Parents may now briefly enter school buildings, however, parents are required to use hand sanitisers and, if staying longer than 10 minutes, please sign-in and sign-out via the school office: children have developed some very pleasing habits of independence in regard to taking responsibility for putting their bag away and getting materials ready for the school day upon entry to the classroom - it would be wonderful for children to continue to be self-reliant rather than parents undertake this task on behalf of their child.

Although parent-teacher interactions are now permissible, in-door gatherings involving large numbers of parents/visitors are still not permitted. As such, our parent-teacher meetings that are planned for next Wednesday 29th July and Thursday 30th July will be conducted via Zoom or via telephone. This does not preclude face-to-face or telephone parent-teacher meetings, however, as a precaution and in reflection of supporting enhanced health and hygiene protocols, the preference is for these midyear progress statement meetings to be conducted via Zoom. Details are included in this Newsletter.

Basketball

- The recommencement of the grade 3 & 4 and 5 & 6 Primary School roster will begin this Friday 24th July. Teams will remain the same as before Covid-19, however, rosters have changed and they have been distributed to families who are involved in this competition today for their information.
- The "Return to Primary School roster guidelines", have also been included for parents to read prior to their child's first game. Note that spectators are limited to 1 person per player. Parents will also be required to complete bench duty each week.
- If you have any queries regarding the recommencement of the roster please contact Mrs Meech or Mr Linhart, or Jan at the DBC Office on 64242440 between 10 – 2 daily.

Many thanks to Ms Meech for her coordination of our school's participation in this competition.

Care & Concern initiative - Friday 3rd July

The gold coin donation casual clothes initiative that was held on the final day of term 2 raised \$162.30, which will be used to support families at St Patrick's who are in need. Thank you for the contributions.



WELCOME

Please observe the following practices that support our school COVID-Safe Plan.



All visitors who have arranged to stay longer than a short 'drop-off', are required to sign-in and sign-out at the school office please.

WEST Award

Congratulations to Alexander Fawkner (Year 1) who received a WEST certificate during today'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.

Student Leaders. Congratulations to the following students who were conferred with leadership badges and responsibilities during today's assembly:

School Captains Term 3: Ava Chamley and Kyle Jordan

Dooley House Captains: Samuel Ling and Maddy Withers

Byrne House Captains: Matilda Hayes and Ava Franklin

Martyn House Captains: Eden Mayes and Allie Hardimon

SRC terms 3 & 4: Jimmy Tueon, Ryan Jackson, Abbie Venton and Koby Harrington.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Prep: Alivia Dewrance-Milligan for consistently trying her best with her school work and for being kind and caring

Year 1: Emmy Radich for pleasing improvement with her approach towards her work.

Year 2: Leon Garrad for his focus and effort in learning and applying spelling strategies.

Year 3: Hailey Mitchell for being a caring class member and displaying a positive approach to all learning tasks.

Year 4: Ryan Jackson for working hard in class and for thoroughly completing his tasks.

Year 5: Adam van der Hulst

Year 6: Merinda Jones for her persistence and determination to practise and correctly spell the Oxford 200 Words.

New Furniture

Six new tables have recently been purchased. These tables are located in the open area outside the Year 3 and Year 4 classrooms. The tables are semi circles and can be used individually for a small group or joined to form a larger circle. The design of these tables has been perfect for small-group instruction and observation of student-staff interactions in regards to focused engagement has been very encouraging.

'Inquiring Minds (Set-up for Success)

We are very excited to inform you that 'Inquiring Minds (Set-up for Success)' is able to re-commence on site at St Patrick's School **commencing this Friday 24th July (9.00am to 10.30am)**. Intrinsic to the principles of the 'Inquiring Minds (Set-up for Success)' program is enhancing parent engagement in their child's learning and we are looking forward to supporting your important role in your child's foundational learning experience.



I wish to express my sincere thanks to all families and to Mrs Klug, our 'Inquiring Minds (Set-up for Success)' coordinator, who continued to engage in this extremely worthwhile program via technology during COVID-19 restrictions. We appreciate that, at times, it has been difficult to maintain engagement through online platforms and we thank you for embracing the technology and for trying and persisting with a new way of learning.

Protocols for all adults who will be on the school site for this program include:

- Please complete the more **detailed sign-in and sign-out sheet**, which will be located at the inside entrance to the Kinder classroom.
- Please **hand-sanitize** upon entry and exit of the school – sanitizers will be available.
- Please maintain a **physical distance of 1.5 metres** from other adults whilst on site.
- Please do not enter the school grounds if you or your child is experiencing any **cold or flu symptoms**.

School Canteen

The school canteen will resume this Thursday 23rd July. A copy of the menu is available on the school website or a printed copy can be collected from the office.

<https://www.stpatlatrobe.tas.edu.au/canteen-menu->

Devonport Junior Soccer Saturday Competition

Families with children who are participating in this Saturday morning competition have received a roster, team list, 'Return to Play Guidelines' information sheet, with today's Newsletter and the Values Statement for Parents, Carers and Other Spectators Attending School Sporting Events'. Soccer tops will be sent home with students by no later than this Thursday. **We still require coaches for our Open 6 team and our Under 8 team.** Coaches will not be required to fill out team sheets on game day as has been the usual practice.

All information regarding the 2020 soccer season should be available on the Devonport Junior Soccer website by Saturday <https://www.devonportjuniorsoccer.com/>.

Some points of note from the 'Return to Play Guidelines' include:

- There is a 500 person limit for Meercroft Park.
- Spectators to use hand sanitisers on arrival and departure.
- Avoid handshakes between players.

School Survey - School Improvement Planning

Our school is involved in putting together our next three year School Strategic Plan (2021-2023). We draw on school data that include academic results, positive behaviour data and curriculum planning imperatives in this process. We also use feedback from staff, parents and students in creating this strategic plan. Parents would have received both a Compass notification from the school and a link to a survey that is being conducted by an external body in regards to an opportunity for parents to provide their insights, reflections and responses for school improvement. Please contact Mr Linhart if you have any questions or comments relating to either the survey or the process of school improvement. Thank you.

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 29th July and Thursday 30th July. (How to book via Compass is included with this newsletter)**

COMMUNITY NEWS & REMINDERS

Care and Concern

Thank you to the many families who have contacted the school to offer of 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 prepared 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.**

