

St Patrick's Catholic School Latrobe



School Newsletter Number 7 Tuesday 16th March 2021

PRINCIPAL'S REFLECTION

"You are a product of..." Staff are involved in two after school workshops deepening our Mercy traditions and we were all asked this question of 'who I am'. A five minute period of silent discernment did not allow me sufficient time to identify the many factors - people, places, genetics - that influence 'who I am.' I do acknowledge with great clarity, that I am greatly and usually significantly positively influenced by my 'work-mates' - the students, students' family members and school staff. I have been significantly blessed by my daily interactions with such a diversity of people who continue to both inspire and humble me with their individual and collective generous deeds and intentions. I am deeply appreciative of how the simple daily human interactions, the good and the challenging, have helped to develop my perceptions and character. An example of such unexpected influence is my interest in Greek philosophy has been renewed after conversation with one of our many inspiring students who is deeply interested in the subject, and I came across a quote by Epictetus a few weeks ago: *"It's not what happens to you, but how you react to it that matters."* While it is understood that each of us deals differently with life's challenges, Jesus' response to arguably life's greatest challenge, the Easter Story, illustrates unequivocally that our God is not removed from our lives - what we experience, he too has experienced; our God is not removed from our reality.

Children are reminded during daily morning assemblies that life is about being generous in spirit and deed, and that it is in giving to those who may never be able to 'pay us back' that we measure true generosity. The nineteenth century American philosopher William James stated a simple mantra that has significant strengths despite its brevity: *"Act as if what you do makes a difference; it does"*. People are centrally concerned with motivation - how to move themselves or others to act. We all, at times, struggle with how to motivate those who we wish to influence, and we all struggle to find energy and persist at the tasks of life and work. People are often moved by external factors such as reward systems, 'grades', evaluations, or the opinions they fear others might have of them. Yet just as frequently, people are motivated from within, by interests, curiosity, care or abiding values. These intrinsic motivations are not necessarily externally rewarded or supported, but nonetheless they can sustain passions and creativity. The interplay between the extrinsic forces acting on us and the intrinsic motives and needs inherent in human nature is the territory of Self-Determination Theory.

Motivation is hopefully tempered with a humble sense of self, in the sense that humility is not thinking less of oneself, rather thinking of oneself less. I am grateful to the many in our school community whose motivation of wanting to make a difference, to be a positive influence - **'To Be More'** as a reflection of our Lenten reminder - is complemented by a recognition of the importance of distilling our communication in order for the generosity of spirit to culminate in a brevity of respectful, discerned communication. In regards to the power of influence, Jesus was asked by John the Baptist's disciples if he was indeed the Messiah. Jesus, in his customary way, did not provide a straight-forward answer. Instead he said to John's followers to go back to John and tell him what they have seen Jesus do, referring to the blind being able to see again, the lame being able to walk, lepers being cleansed, the dead raised to life. Two things strike me as being important to us, as educators, in Jesus' response:

- We should let our actions do the talking for us.
- We should know that there are usually no straight-forward or simple answers to most questions - many decisions in life involve a personal response based on our experience and character - our ability or willingness to see the truth or the good in any decision.

I pray that when you contemplate the many factors that have contributed favourably to the question, 'Who I am...' that the many wonderful personalities that comprise St Patrick's School rate as highly as they have for me when I made my own discernments.

Regards,

Rod Linhart (Principal)

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2021 (updated items in red, bold print)

MARCH

Tues 16th	Sophie, School Counsellor, visiting. Staff after-school Mercy Charism PL.
Wed 17th	St Patrick's Day activities at school
Thurs 18th	NW Cath. Schools Swimming Carnival
Term 1	Mon 1st Feb - Thursday 1st April 2021
Term 2	Mon 26th April - Thursday 1st July
Term 3	Mon 20th July - Friday 24th September
Term 4	Mon 11th October - Thursday 16th December
(One student free day - Friday 2nd July)	

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WEST Award

Congratulations to Lily Nichols (Prep) who received a WEST Award 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.

House Raffle Winners

Byrne House: Connor Bray

Dooley House: Jahzelle

Martyn House: Axel Bos

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Prep: Milla Rockliff for always trying her best with her school work and for being a caring class member.

Year 1: Maria Al-Shabbani: Maria, you possess a positive, persevering attitude towards your learning. You are a great contribution to our class and a good example to others. Thank you!

Year 2: Dakota Skipworth for always being attentive during class discussions and offering thoughtful contributions.

Year 3: Isabelle Gee for her enthusiasm and fantastic ideas for her narrative writing.

Year 4: Charlie Jones for his focused approach to learning tasks and positive attitude.

Year 5: Ekam Gill for accurately using a protractor to measure and construct given angles.

Year 6: Jess Gatehouse for her genuine care and concern toward her peers, especially those who have been unwell, and absent from school.

LOTE News (Lockett Sensei)

On Tuesday March the 23rd, Year 6 have the opportunity to learn about Japanese dance and the culture behind it. They will hear all instructions in Japanese from a native speaker. They will also learn a Japanese exercise routine which they will be able to teach back to the school. We will have visiting schools also attending from Miandetta Primary, St Brendan Shaw College, Nixon Street Primary, Hillcrest Primary and Andrews Creek Primary School.

Staff News

Staff at St Patrick's have been involved in two afternoon/evening workshops for the last two Tuesdays. These sessions are facilitated by Belinda Chapman, a faith-filled Catholic presenter and former member of our school community. The focus of these whole-staff sessions involves a deputing of our Mercy Charism, which is an important 'anchor' or 'bedrock' aspect of staff being suitably informed and empowered in the values that help make our unique school community such a special workplace. We were joined by Father Steven Smith from the Mersey-Leven Parish last Tuesday.

An appreciation for Mrs Leonard, our school's Finance and Executive Officer, whose work 'behind the scenes' is not often appreciated by most in our school community due to the esoteric nature of her duties: the following is an extract from a communication from the Catholic Education Tasmania Director: Corporate thanking Mrs Leonard personally for her outstanding leadership in implementing a new and complex finance system (we are one of three pilot schools in the state): *Thanks to Lennice for all your hard work, at times at the last minute, as issues emerged. Your thorough work, thinking ahead and dedication has made the transition into TechOne/Compass as smooth as it could have possibly been, and your thoughts and feedback into the project have been, and will continue to be, invaluable. We've always known it Lennice (and often say it down here in the Hobart office) - but sometimes it just needs to be said out loud - you're very good at what you do!! We're very glad you were in our Group 1 rollout! - this is quite an affirmation for 'our' Mrs Leonard!*



Year 2 Art (Mrs Badcock)

During Term 2 Year 2 students will be considering the following Elements of Design when they create work: shape, colour, texture, line and pattern. When looking at the colour wheel students chose colours to create Cool Cats and Hot Dogs using textas and water or pastels.



Devonport Winter Basketball roster (Mrs Meech)

Thank you for all those students who have registered for the Devonport Winter Basketball roster. We are able to enter teams in the Years 1/2 (with 2 students joining us from another school) Years 3/4, Years 5/6 Girls and the Years 3/4 Boys divisions. We will also have some students who will be playing in a Years 1/2 Boys team with students from another school. We will require coaches for the Years 1/2 Girls and Years 3/4 Boys teams. Interested parents please contact Mrs Meech ASAP. The roster begins on Friday, 19th March for 3/4 & 5/6 teams and Wednesday, 24th March for 1/2 teams. Playing tops for the school teams will be distributed in the near future.

Student Achievement: National Cross Country Mountain Bike Championships.

Monty Manion (Year 6) has been very successful at the National Cross Country Mountain Bike Championships that was conducted last week. Monty is now the **U13 national champion for XC!** He is very excited and has shown great sportsmanship. Congratulations Monty and his family who have been enormous support for helping Monty realise this extremely high level of achievement.



Leukaemia Foundation



World's Greatest Shave

Congratulations to Oliver Gatehouse for his willingness to support cancer research through gaining donations for the World's Greatest Shave. The generosity of the school community raised \$324.30 last Friday and this helped ensure Oliver achieved his goal of raising \$560 for this important scientific research. Well done Oliver and everyone who helped Oliver realise his goal.





School Swimming Carnival - Thursday 11th March

Our Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 students were outstanding in their participation of last Thursdays school swimming carnival, which was both used as a selection process for this week's NW Catholic Schools Swimming Carnival, and an opportunity for students to be WEST ambassadors, looking to encourage others and be thankful for the opportunity to break-up the 'four-walls of learning' paradigm - and what wonderful participants they were! In my 39th year of teaching I can honestly say that the level of participation and encouragement for others was second to none - very well done to all participants and to the staff who supported the events and the children. We were also ably supported by some St Brendan-Shaw College students whose courtesy and consideration was exemplary. I received the following comment from a staff

member of the day that sums up the general feeling: *"I once again would like to say how much more enjoyable the swimming carnival was yesterday with students willingly wanting to swim in all events. The spirit of sportsmanship was evident in the cheering and encouragement."*



NW Catholic Schools Swimming Carnival School Representatives

We wish all the very best to the following students who will be representing St Patrick's at this Thursday's NW Catholic Schools Swimming Carnival:

Year 6

Gideon Barker (**Year 6 boy age champion**), Ruben Clarke, Adam van der Hulst, Jasper Chamley, Josh Warren, Eamon Young, Monty Manion.

Georgie Tueon (**Year 6 girl age champion**), Emily Phegan, Maddy Hawkins, Talei Sesara.

Year 5

Jack Chapman and Harrison Fawcner (**Joint Year 5 boy age champions**), Ryan Jackson, Kyan Mayes, Cameron Reeves.

Sophie Mulcahy (**Year 5 girl age champion**), Ruby Anthony, Tyla O'Toole.

Year 4

Egan Bos (**Year 4 boy age champion**), Jimmy Tueon, Livai Sesara, Oliver Parry, Jason Richards.

Melia Sesara (**Year 4 girl age champion**), Zara Omogbai-Musa, Zarna Bakes, Lulu Meech, Amaja Scott.

Year 3

William Hawkins (**Year 3 boy age champion**), Leon Garrad, Hudson Brumby, Harry Phegan.

Harper Clark (**Year 3 girl age champion**), Lucy Chapman, Chloe Anthony, Sophia Simmonds.



Noone Street Gate - No accessing the Kindergarten playground via Noone Street

In the interests of our efforts to ensure as safe an area as possible for our Kindergarten students, as of tomorrow, Wednesday 17th March, the Noone Street gate that allows access to the kindergarten playground will be permanently close/locked in the Kinder nature play area. Thank you for your support - please contact Mr Linhart or Mr Atkins for any comment or question regarding this decision that has been made after discerning what we believe supports student well-being.

Student Mathematics books provided to parents this week.

Students will take a Mathematics notebook to share with parents this week. We will include this as a regular feature throughout the year as a means of initiating discussions between parents and children, and between parents and teachers in regards to content coverage in key learning areas - English books were taken home earlier this term. Please ensure your child brings their notebook back to school the following day.

Discussions with teachers during school hours (8.30am – 2.55pm)

Classrooms, and teachers, are extremely busy from 8.30 to 3.00pm each school day. Catching up with a teacher during class time is great if it concerns a quick question or clarification, however, parents are asked to arrange a time before or after school (preferably face-to-face) to discuss aspects of learning and teaching to ensure all parties have sufficient time and opportunity to have a productive conversation. Intentions and communication can often be confused if we don't allow sufficient time to both talk with, and listen to, another.

PARENTS & FRIENDS (Tameika Anthony)

Fish and Chip Day: The P&F will hold a fish and chip day on Wednesday March 31st. An order form is included with today's newsletter. Order forms with money included are due by no later than 3pm on Wednesday 24th March.

Mothers' Day Gifts: We will be holding a mothers day stall on Thursday 6th May. A variety of lovely gifts will be available to purchase, prices will range between \$4 - \$12.

Easter Egg Raffle - Easter Egg Donations Requested

Families are asked to contribute an Easter egg that will be used to create some Easter Egg raffle hampers - classes have bags for collection of raffle hamper items. The SRC will be selling Easter egg hamper raffle tickets outside the assembly hall every morning and outside the school canteen every Thursday and Friday commencing next Thursday. Tickets will be 50 cents and raffles will be drawn during our Holy Week school assembly on Holy Thursday 1st April. Depending on the number of eggs that we receive, we are hoping to have one raffle winner per class. Easter egg or chocolate donations can be left at the office or with your child's teacher - many thanks in advance. The St Patrick's School P & F will also purchase Easter eggs to ensure all students receive some eggs on Thursday 24th March - many thanks to the P & F.

St Patrick's Day - Wednesday 17th March.

As a school, we celebrate St Patrick's Day on Wednesday the 17th March. Students may respond to the 'Green Theme' for the day - the wearing of the green. Please ensure your child wears shoes (not thongs or sandals) and a shirt (not a singlet.) Thank you for your cooperation and in thank you in advance to those children/families who will put some thought into their 'Green Theme/ Irish Theme' response. Some features of how we will celebrate as a school community tomorrow include:

- St Patrick's Day Dress Up parade at the morning Assembly.
- 6 Rotation Groups (each group will be run by SRCs or House/ School captains.)
- Each rotation will go for 10 minutes with a two-minute change over.
- Each house will be split into two groups - Early Childhood and Upper Primary
- We will have small prizes for winners of each activity (chocolate gold coins.)
- Students quickly come back to the hall to thank the SRCs & Captains and to offer SOJ moments if time before heading back to class to end the day.
- Green food fundraiser during recess (P & F) – Project Compassion fund-raiser.
- Free BBQ lunch with Sausage and Icy-Pole - thank you to Carl Garrad who has volunteered to help cook.



COMMUNITY NEWS & REMINDERS

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.

Care and Concern

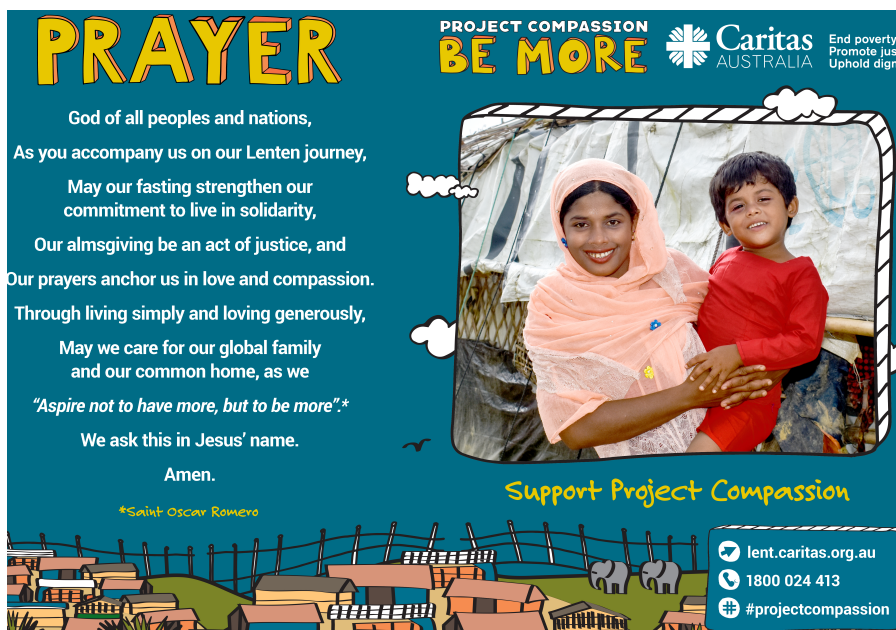
Please feel welcome to be included in our Care and Concern Volunteer List - thank you to the many school community members who are already on this list and are assisting others: **Always please contact your child's teacher, the office staff or Mr Linhart if you feel we could offer support in any way to anyone in our school community in need.**

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

Our 'Inquiring Minds' birth to 4 program operates **each Friday during school term time 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 Klug will be working 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.

GRATITUDE (Ralph Waldo Emerson)

To laugh often and much;
To win the respect of intelligent people
and the affection of children;
To earn the appreciation of honest critics
and endure the betrayal of false friends;
To appreciate beauty, to find the best in others;
To leave the world a little better,
whether by a healthy child, a garden patch,
or a remedied social condition;
To know even one life has breathed easier
because you have lived.
This is to have succeeded.



PRAYER

PROJECT COMPASSION **BE MORE** Caritas AUSTRALIA End poverty. Promote justice. Uphold dignity.

God of all peoples and nations,
As you accompany us on our Lenten journey,
May our fasting strengthen our
commitment to live in solidarity,
Our almsgiving be an act of justice, and
Our prayers anchor us in love and compassion.
Through living simply and loving generously,
May we care for our global family
and our common home, as we
"Aspire not to have more, but to be more".*
We ask this in Jesus' name.
Amen.

*Saint Oscar Romero

Support Project Compassion

lent.caritas.org.au
1800 024 413
#projectcompassion

Inquiring Minds at St Patrick's

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.



WHERE: St Patrick's Catholic Primary Kindergarten Room

WHEN: Every Friday during school term

TIME: 9am - 10:30am

WHAT TO BRING: 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

St Patrick's Catholic School COVID-19 School Safety Protocol

- Adults to please **hand sanitise** upon entering any school building: the school provides hand sanitiser at school venue entry points or adults may use their own (and be observed to use a sanitiser).
- Adults, where practicable, to **maintain 1.5m physical distancing**, observing seating arrangements as communicated by signage or instruction please: indoor event attendance limited to one person per 2 square metre per indoor space.
- Adults to **sign-in**, either at the school office or on a list provided at the entry of the school building. The school is obligated to record contact details of visitors to school events held in school venues, with this information stored securely for a period of 21 days.
- Appropriate COVID safe signage is communicated at school entry points. Key message to visitors - **if feeling unwell, it is important not to be in attendance**; the school will bar entry to people who have tested positive for COVID-19 or who are close contacts of a person who has tested positive for COVID-19.
- Although daily cleaning of frequently touched internal surfaces is undertaken, we ask adult visitors to avoid touching surfaces unnecessarily.

THANK YOU

PLEASE:

- **DO NOT ENTER IF YOU ARE FEELING UNWELL.**
- **SIGN-IN AT THE SCHOOL OFFICE/ASSEMBLY HALL** IF YOU ARE STAYING MORE THAN 10 MINUTES.
- **APPLY SANITISER** UPON ENTRY TO ANY BUILDING.
- **OBSERVE APPROPRIATE SOCIAL DISTANCING.**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR SCHOOL COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN.