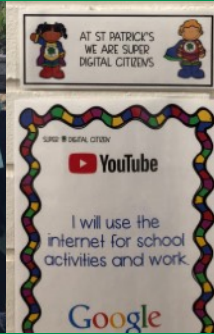


# St Patrick's Catholic School Latrobe



School Newsletter Number 32 October 22nd 2019

## PRINCIPAL'S REFLECTION

In a 2018 edition of the academic journal, *Cross-cultural Research*, researchers Ming Cui, Hille Janhonen-Abruquah and Carol Darling investigated the cross-cultural phenomenon known as 'helicopter parents.' Helicopter parenting, defined by these authors as a form of over-involved parenting of young adult children, is shown to be associated with young adult children's well-being. With a sample of 441 American and 306 Finnish university students, results suggest that maternal and paternal helicopter parenting was associated with university students' symptoms of anxiety and depression, life dissatisfaction, and emotional dysregulation.

This study is one of many that focuses on this phenomenon and was supported in a report by the American Psychological Association (June 18, 2018) in which the researchers found that, while it is natural for parents to do whatever they can to keep their children safe and healthy, children need space to learn and grow on their own, without a parent hovering over them. The study found that over-controlling parenting can negatively affect a child's ability to manage his or her emotions and behaviour.

I am a great fan of the nineteenth century social commentator, poet and author Walt Whitman, and the recent holidays provided me with an opportunity to renew some reading. Whitman states, "Now I see the secret of making the best person: it is to grow in the open air and to eat and sleep with the earth." As with all the best literature, and as with all the most interesting people, places and experiences, there is a literal level and there is the level of learning that comes from discerning the words in this example. From the research that I have undertaken in regards to the helicopter parents phenomenon, and in the context of Walt Whitman's apparently simple sentence, there is the opportunity for us all as parents and educators to appreciate the value for our children to 'grow in the open air' and to 'eat and sleep with the earth' with the appreciation that we and many trusted others have endeavoured where reasonably possible to equip them with some of the knowledge, understandings and skills that will hopefully allow them to 'grow into' the many and varied

experiences that define a life well-lived. Thank you to all in our school community who contribute towards a trusting relationship that is necessary for such a formation.

Regards, Rod Linhart

Principal

## SCHOOL CALENDAR - term 4 included as an insert

### OCTOBER

Monday 21st	9.00am Year 6 morning prayer assembly
Wed 23rd	9.30am Years 6 and 2 Parish Mass
Friday 25th	'Mitch' visiting - Years 3 & 4 'Spirit of Jesus' sessions.
Monday 28th	9.00am Year 3 morning prayer assembly 6.00pm School Board meeting
Tuesday 29th	10.30am school choirs visit Strathdevon
Wed 30th	9.30am Years 3 & 1 Parish Mass 'Soctober' casual clothes & socks day Year 6 MJR session with Paul Crennan.

## SCHOOL STUDENT TERM DATES 2019

Term 4: Monday 14th Oct - Wednesday 18th December.

## 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 Mon 20th July 2020 - Friday 25th September 2020

Term 4 Mon 12th October 2020 - Thursday 17th Dec 2020

## Staff Professional Learning Day/Student-Free Day

**Monday 25th November** is timetabled as a whole-staff professional learning day. Staff will be provided with professional learning in the 'Seven Steps to Reading' program, which will further enhance some significant professional learning (Initial Lit; Man Lit) that we, as a school, have provided to staff in our endeavours to enhance our mastery of literacy learning. **Students will not attend school on Monday 25th November.**

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

### WEST Award

Congratulations to Joey Griffiths (Year 3) 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:** Thomas M

**Dooley House:** Kyle B

**Martyn House:** Lily M

### STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

**Prep:** Lakyn Dezoete for getting along with others and for being kind.

**Year 1:** Harry Phegan for great participation and sharing of ideas in our History unit.

**Year 2:** William Brazendale for his respectful engagement and insightful contributions during class prayer.

**Year 3:** Brad Jones for a positive start to the term and displaying empathy for others.

**Year 4:** Loretta Smith for an outstanding effort with her persuasive writing task.

**Year 5:** Jacob Hughes for settling quickly into Term 4 by being respectful of other learners needs.

**Year 6:** Ruby Meech for a well researched and powerful speech in her debate. An outstanding effort Ruby!

### Student Swimming Program - Monday 11th November to Friday 22nd November.

Over the past two years we have asked for feedback from families and staff in regards to our water familiarisation program. After reviewing the feedback, discussions amongst the School Board and staff and with the swimming instructors, we have decided to focus the program on developing swimming competency, rather than water familiarisation. Therefore students in Prep, Years 1 and Year 6 will not be involved in the program this year, with the focus instead being on developing swimming competencies for students in Years 2, 3, 4 and 5. The swim-school instructors, Adrian and Carol-Lyn Triffett, have provided us with an overview of the program, which is provided to families as an insert to this Newsletter. Each class level will have three instructors, with the majority of the allocated daily class session being in the pool. Our 10 day school swimming program will be offered Monday 11th November to Friday 22nd November. The timetable for the program will be: Year 2 Commence instruction at 9.00am - completion of teaching session at 9.45am; Year 3 Commence instruction at 9.45am - completion of teaching session at 10.30am; Year 4 Commence instruction at 10.30am - completion of teaching session at 11.15am; Year 5 Commence instruction at 11.15am - completion of teaching session at 12.00 pm.

### PAT Testing

Students from years 1-6 will be participating in PAT (Progressive Achievement Tests) during week 3. The tests are online, multiple choice and each test will take approximately 40 minutes. Tests will include maths, spelling, comprehension and vocabulary. The main aim of PAT is to provide information to teachers on the strengths and needs of their students. PAT tests will provide teachers with objective information for setting realistic learning goals and planning effective programs. The key feature of the PAT Tests is that there is a common scale for comparison covering the range of year levels that allows progress to be tracked from year to year. The PAT Tests are actually an assessment for learning. The tests will indicate what skills students have mastered, what skills they are consolidating and even more importantly what skills they need to be educationally stretched.

### Basketball post and backboard - expressions of interest invited.

With the purchase and installation of our two new adjustable basketball posts, one of our older basketball posts and backboards is available for purchase. If you are interested, please write your name and your offer on a piece of paper, place it in an envelope and submit it to the school office staff no later than the afternoon of Monday 28th October. The post and backboard is available for viewing outside Mr Broos's shed.



### Triathlon

Thank you to the families of children in Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 who nominated via the school in the Schools Triathlon Challenge, which is proposed for Thursday 28th November. A team list and some information regarding our involvement in this event will be included in forthcoming newsletters.

## School Athletics Carnival - Thursday 31st October

Mrs Hayes has been very imaginative and she has created an extremely interesting athletics Carnival, which should bring out the best in all participants. **A detailed booklet will be distributed in next week's Newsletter**, however, a summary of the day includes:

Classes walk with class teacher over to Council Oval, (staff and children have hat, and drink), ready for a 9.20 start please.

9.25 – 10.25      Grade 3-6      Running Races

                         Kinder- 2      Tabloid Events

10.30 – 10.40      INSIDE RECESS FOR EVERYONE, return to oval - including Kinders - ready for 10:45 start

10.45 – 11.50      Grade 3-6      Tabloids

                         Kinder – 2      Running races

**\*\*Everyone come together at tents at 11.50\*\***

12.00 – 12.25      Tug-o-War Competition - students; Parents/Staff.

12:30                **\*\*100m FINALS for Gr 3-6**

Students return to school for lunch - end of carnival.

Please contact Mrs Hayes or Mr Linhart if you require any clarification or elaboration.

## Year 4 Science (Mrs Meech)

In Science, Year 4 have been exploring forces. We have been learning about microgravity and how it affects how astronauts live and work in space. The students used an inquiry process to explore gravity and get a straw to move along a piece of string (without directly pushing it with their hands) using just a balloon, string and tape. We also have been experimenting with magnets and completed a design for a game using magnets. We presented our games to the class and we have reflected and evaluated our work for further improvements. We also had the opportunity to share our games with the Prep class. We were then able to re-evaluate our work based on the Prep students' participation.



## First Lego League

This year the school has been lucky enough to secure a \$1500.00 grant from Google to allow students in Years 5 and 6 to participate in First Lego League. First Lego League is a world wide competition where students from Year 5 to Year 8 compete in Lego Robotics Challenges and develop Science Innovation Projects. You may have noticed the table for the Lego Robotics Challenges sitting outside the Year 3 Classroom. We have a number of Year 5 students that are involved and they have done a magnificent job in what is essentially an extremely difficult STEM challenge. They are learning many valuable skills as they journey through the project together. All their hard work will come to fruition on Saturday 2 November when we will be travelling to Hobart to compete in the regional tournament where their robots will compete against other teams to score maximum points.





### Student Achiever

Well done to Aiden in Year 5 who provides book reviews for yet to be released books for the Devonport Book Shop. Aiden is currently reading the book, "The Impossible Boy", which is due for release next month.

### Staff News

Mrs Gregson is on long service leave; Mr Linhart attended a principals' meeting yesterday; Mr Atkins attended a NAPLAN workshop yesterday afternoon; Mrs Fenton is teaching Prep to release Mrs Jak to conduct PIPS testing (1:1) testing in Prep); Mrs Leonard and Mr Linhart attended a Finance and Human Resources meeting today; All staff will attend a five hour Religious Education workshop after school this Thursday; Mr Atkins will attend a Moderation meeting this Friday.

### Library - Book Club

Issue 7 of Book Club is out now. Orders are to be in no later than 29th October 2019.

### PARENTS & FRIENDS

Parents & Friends meet next Tuesday 29th October in the school staffroom at 6.00pm. All are most welcome to attend - discussions will include some fund-raising ideas and focus areas and some initiatives for welcoming new families in addition to supporting the school's Sustainability and Care & Concern initiatives.

### REMINDERS & COMMUNITY NEWS

#### Enrolment 2020

If parents know that they will not be continuing enrolment of their child/children at St Patrick's in 2020 please let the school office staff or Mr Linhart know as soon as possible. Our current staff budget planning relies on accurate predictions of enrolments for 2020; your response will be confidential, however, early notification to the school will assist us greatly in our planning for 2020.



### Bus Services - 2020 changes to routes.

Public consultation has commenced for the proposed new North West and Intercity Bus network. This consultation process will continue through until 27 October 2019. It is very important that you take the time to visit the below link and have a look at what is proposed for the North West Bus network which will be in place for the next 10 years - especially those families who use the current East Devonport Service. If there are any questions as to possible impacts of these changes please don't hesitate to comment in the link provided. The Department of State Growth, passenger transport can be contacted on 61 663 343 or Merseylink on 64 277 626. The link to leave your valuable feedback is [www.transport.tas.gov.au/haveyoursay](http://www.transport.tas.gov.au/haveyoursay).

## Socktober



WEAR YOUR CRAZIEST SOCKS!!!  
+ plain clothes day

Wednesday 30th October  
gold coin donation

\* donations will go to Catholic Mission,  
who work towards ending global poverty

 **catholic  
mission**  
Reach out. Give life.