

St Patrick's Catholic School Latrobe



School Newsletter Number 30 September 24th 2019

PRINCIPAL'S REFLECTION

Recent studies by Rasmus Hougaard, founder of the global leadership organisation, the *Potential Project*, found that leaders - people entrusted with responsibilities for others - are generally not doing a great job in motivating their people. A study of 250,000 leaders, asked them: "How well do you engage your people" - 82% of leaders said they were doing a great job. When the researchers asked their employees, however, 77% said that their leaders were not doing a great job and that 65% of employees would forego a pay rise to see their leader fired! Why? It shouldn't come as a surprise, but one of our key Mercy values has the answer.

Hougaard found that the longer a person is in a position of power, the part of the brain that is associated with *mirror neuron*ing, (the neurons in the brain that allows us to be empathetic), is gradually switched off. Therefore one of the most important jobs for leaders is to keep the ego in check, that they behave in a selfless way, not for their own gain but for the gain of the people they lead. In an assessment of the 35,000 leaders of the study, 96% of these leaders said that compassion is extremely important for their leadership, however, the study about mirror neurons, highlighted that, with positions of power, people will often lose their ability to really empathise with people - where the intention is to want to be of benefit to others; that by means of 'my interaction with you', **we** may have a better day.

What is affirming is that Hougaard's comprehensive research identified that a culture based on empathy and compassion can arise; a culture where people are more **attentive** to each other; people are more aware of **how** they communicate; there is a culture of a stronger sense of **presence**, a stronger sense of **focus on the right priorities** rather than being distracted. People move from empathy (feeling) into action-orientation (compassion) and they try to solve issues with this person by coaching or mentoring, by delegating the work to others, by taking on the work themselves if needed; compassion is an action that comes initially from being empathetic. Aristotle is quoted as saying, "To perceive is to suffer" and certainly empathy involves an element of discomfort. However, by harnessing the energy that is

associated with suffering - and we can all attest to the 'strange strength' that is associated with suffering - then empathy can be a 'compassionate' tool for building/connecting people into groups, for allowing us to function as more than self-obsessed individuals. Thank you to all in our school community who embrace our Mercy value of compassion regardless of our own challenges.

Regards, Rod Linhart

Principal

SCHOOL CALENDAR (Items in red are recently added.)

SEPTEMBER

Monday 23rd	Mercy Week assembly
Tuesday 24th	Coastal Young Voices competition
Friday 27th	Footy Colours Day P & F special footy colours day canteen (usual canteen orders will not be offered today) Final day of term 3 - staff and students return Monday 14th October

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 Monday 27th April - Friday 3rd July

Term 3 Monday 20th July 2020 - Friday 25th Sep't 2020

Term 4 Monday 12th Oct. 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 Zaria Richardson (Year 5) 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: Meg (Prep)

Dooley House: Henry (Prep)

Martyn House: Victor (Prep)

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Prep: Connor Bray for excellent work in Mathematics.

Year 1: Oliver Singline for being a kind and caring member of class who always thinks of others.

Year 2: Sophie Franklin for her superb efforts with persuasive literacy activities.

Year 3: Sophie Mulcahy for consistently applying herself to all tasks and giving her best effort.

Year 4: Emma Watson for her display of data in digital technology.

Year 5: Maddy Withers for consistently applying a positive attitude toward her learning.

Year 6: Taylor Wells for consistently making positive choices in the classroom and always striving to give 100%.

Parliament and Civics Education

Years 5 and 6 students from our school have recently undertaken an education tour of the national capital, Canberra. Students were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy. The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government contributed funding of \$220 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate was paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion and allowed us to reduce the total cost of this trip to families.

School Buildings and Facilities

There will be considerable work undertaken in several parts of the school over the holidays: the corridor and office areas carpets will be replaced, necessitating grinding the underlying concrete; the roof above the corridor areas will be replaced and heat pumps that are currently on the roof re-aligned; additional raised garden beds will be created and existing beds refurbished. Many thanks to Mrs Leonard for her work in coordinating much of these projects and to Mr Broos for his exemplary work as a utility officer serving and supporting our staff and students.

Winter-Summer Uniform Transition

Winter-Summer uniform transition began last week, with the expectations that students commence school on the first day of term 4 - Monday 14th October - in full Summer uniform. The school Uniform Policy was included with last week's newsletter and is in the school diary for regular reference.

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.

Religion Books

Religion books will be sent home this week, the final week of term 3, for further parent-child conversations. This resource hopefully allowed parents the opportunity to review some of the work that is covered in class, to engage in some focused conversations with children and to provide scope for similarly focused conversations with teachers. The home-school partnership is a crucial support relationship for student progress and parents are welcome to note in their child's diary or ring the school office to organise parent-student-teacher meetings to discuss any aspect of a child's education at St Patrick's.

Triathlon

Families of children in Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 should have received a nomination form in today's Newsletter regarding the Schools Triathlon Challenge, which is proposed for Thursday 28th November. Nomination forms are due back to the school **no later than Wednesday 16th October please.**

Kindergarten Outdoor Transition

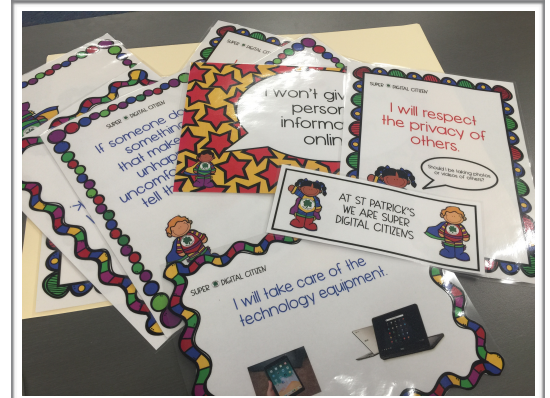
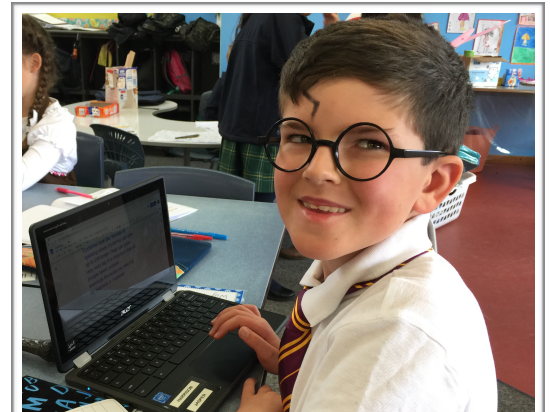
As part of a transition for kindergarten students into their 2020 five day primary school experience, kindergarten students are engaging in play in the primary school playground, beginning last Thursday 19th September. Kinder students will have the specific assistance and support of a 'class cobbler' from an older grade, who have developed a relationship with the kindergarten class; these 'class cobblers' will offer specific student support for kindergarten children, especially in the early phase of this transition. Kindergarten students will still be welcome to use their own toilets and the kindergarten gate to the primary playground will be left open. The primary playground gates will be secured and staff will provide extra vigilance.

Digital Citizenship at St Patrick's

We have the benefits of digital technology in our school to enhance learning outcomes. Students use technology to collaborate, learn, research and communicate. What does it mean to be a responsible digital citizen? Digital citizens think critically about what they see online and learn to make smart choices online and in life. This means understanding the benefits and risks of sharing information, knowing the difference between a credible news source and a sponsored ad, balancing screen time with other activities. It means taking care of the resources we have so that we can share technology. Developing these skills is essential for our school environment and our technology rich world. But digital citizens aren't born they are taught these skills. As part of helping promote a positive school culture that supports safe and responsible technology use each classroom will discuss and display digital citizenship topics to regularly inform and enhance the skills of our learners.

Deloraine Your Drama Festival (Mrs O'Brien)

Last Thursday night, the cast of *The Easter Egg Hunt* eagerly made their way to Deloraine to take part in the 65th annual Deloraine Youth Drama Festival. The cast had been working hard on their performance all term and managed to pull off a spectacular show, filled with high energy, wonderful expression, dramatic actions and witty one-liners! The performance filled me with pride, not only because their hard work paid off, but because it is a hugely daunting task to get up and perform in front of a crowd on an unfamiliar stage! A very well done to all our cast and to Ethan our perfectly-timed sound technician! Also, a big thank you to Mrs Mulcahy for her exceptional costume making, Mrs Jak and Mr Linhart for their support, Kimberly Watkins, Basmala Ragheb and Mrs Kingshott for their help with props and all the parents that supported the cast in learning their lines and accommodating the after-school practise. The cast will be performing *The Easter Egg Hunt* one final time at morning assembly this Wednesday the 25th of September. Please feel welcome to come and watch.



The Story of Catherine McAuley

This week we remember and celebrate the life of Catherine McAuley. Catherine started the Sisters of Mercy, who came to Latrobe in 1893 to teach the students of St Patrick's School. The Sisters of Mercy taught at our school for over 100 years and today we strive to demonstrate their values of mercy, compassion, hospitality and respect.

Catherine was born in Dublin in 1778. When Catherine was growing up in Dublin there were many poor people who had very little food, hardly any warm clothes and were often sick because of the cold and hunger. Catherine used to watch each week when her father gathered many of the poor children in the garden of their home and fed them and taught them about the love of God.

When Catherine was about five her father died but she never forgot his love of God and his kindness to the poor people. Soon her mother had no money to look after Catherine and her younger sister Mary and brother James and they went to live with an uncle and his family. This family were not very interested in being Catholic and it was often hard for Catherine but she never gave up talking to God.

When Catherine was about 20 she went to live with Mr and Mrs Callaghan. The Callaghan's were kind to Catherine and gave her some of their money to help her care for the poor people. Catherine taught the children about God and taught the servants how to sew. She opened a small shop so that the servants could sell what they had made.

One of the important things that happened while Catherine lived with the Callaghan's was that Catherine used to read the Bible to Mrs Callaghan because the old lady was ill and blind. Catherine used often sit under a tree and reflect about what she had read.

When Mr and Mrs Callaghan died they left Catherine all their money. With this money Catherine built a large house, which she called The House of Mercy. Mercy means loving and kindness, and because Catherine knew that God had shared His Mercy with her she wanted to share God's Mercy with others. Catherine wanted all the poor people to know how much God loved them.

The House of Mercy was opened on September 24th, which happened to be the feast of Our Lady of Mercy.

In the House of Mercy the poor children came to school. There was a part where Catherine's helpers looked after young women who had nowhere to live. Catherine and her helpers went into parts of Dublin where poor sick people lived.

It was decided that Catherine and her helpers would become Religious sisters and so they did. Because Catherine and her Sisters walked all over the poor parts of Dublin to help poor people they were called "The Walking Nuns."

Soon other places in Dublin wanted these Sisters of Mercy to come and help their poor sick people and to teach their children. Soon the gift of Mercy was shared across Ireland and England.

Catherine became ill from all the journeying that she did for God and soon she had to go back and stay in Dublin to be cared for. Just before she died Catherine told one of her friends to make sure that everyone had a comfortable cup of tea after her funeral.

Today there are sisters of Mercy all over the world and they still share Mercy with people. Here in Tasmania there are some schools where the Sisters first taught in Tasmania, St Patrick's in Latrobe, Our Lady of Mercy in Deloraine, and Stella Maris in Burnie and now they are at St Paul's in Bridgewater. If you want to identify a Sister of Mercy look for the Mercy Cross which every Mercy Sister in the world wears.



Spirit of Jesus

@ St Patrick's... Term 3
Week 9



- ✿ Aleks & Alexander - asked Seth to play with them at lunch time
- ✿ Zander - excellent manners towards teachers
- ✿ Owen - put away sports equipment without being asked
- ✿ Ellie - invited Alexander to play
- ✿ Kyle, Jacob, Koby, Mac and Reuben - showed compassion towards Samuel when he hit his head in football
- ✿ Mini Vinnies - making cupcakes to help raise money for others

- ✿ Keith & Edgar - playing nicely together
- ✿ Tom A - guided one of his friends to do the right thing
- ✿ Melanie - waited until last before getting something to eat at drama practise
- ✿ Violet, Chloe & Eva - playing nicely together
- ✿ Mac - putting Ruth's chair up for her
- ✿ Logan A - giving praise to others for their sketching
- ✿ Callie Rand - offered to take Kyle to the airport in Launceston (Canberra trip)
- ✿ Miss Stuart - gave her chair to Mrs Marshall
- ✿ Mrs Adams - helping with cupcake making
- ✿ Kind members of the community - our car broke down and people stopped and offered us a lift
- ✿ Mrs Kingshott - giving me a compliment
- ✿ Emily - invited Abbey to play basketball
- ✿ Georgie, Charlie & Coby - encouraging their classmates
- ✿ Emma - invited Emmett to play tag

REMINDERS & COMMUNITY NEWS

Contacting the school over the holidays (From 4.00pm Friday 27th September to 8.15am Monday 14th October)

Please ring the school phone number (6426 1626) at any time during the school holidays to get in contact with Mr Linhart - the call will be directed to his mobile. Please leave a message and a return call will be made within as short a period as time as is reasonable for a holiday period.

P&F News

The P&F will be holding a lunch day on the final day of term, Friday 27th September to coincide with Footy Colours Day. Party Pies, Cocktail Saus and Ice cream will be on offer. **Normal school canteen will not be running this Friday 27th September.** Order forms are due back today. No late orders will be accepted.

You may have noticed a bright green ticket, that went out with a previous newsletter. This is a raffle ticket for the chance to win 1 nights accommodation at the Country Club Villas in Launceston. The raffle for the night accomodation in Launceston will be drawn at Friday's footy assembly. Please have tickets back prior to Friday morning if you intend to buy one.

Student Achievers

Kyle (Year 5) had a busy week; after attending the five-day Canberra class trip he competed in the Launceston Swimming Club Pentathlon on Sunday 15th September. The Pentathlon involves swimming each stroke as well as a 100m Individual Medley; competitors must complete the butterfly, breaststroke, backstroke, freestyle and the 100m individual medley. The times are then added together and those with the quickest times are the overall winners. The Pentathlon saw the best swimmers from across Tasmania compete in a tough day of swimming - Kyle did amazing out of the 20 swimmers in his age category.

COME JOIN US FOR TRACK CYCLING
NEW RIDERS WELCOME

TUESDAY 8TH OCTOBER



MVDCC
Mersey Valley Devonport Cycling Club

**COME & TRY
TRACK CYCLING**

Learn track skills, bike safety and bike set-up
Run by accredited Cycling Australia coaches and Track bike supplied
Bring a bike helmet, gloves and a waterbottle

We want you to Come & Try Track Cycling

The MVDCC is a friendly, family orientated club which hold races during the road season and track cycling from October through to the end of the summer months.

The club welcomes you along to their Come & Try Track sessions held at the Devonport Oval each Tuesday evening between 5:00-6:00 PM from 8th October until 5th November 2019.

These sessions will be conducted by qualified coaches from the MVDCC and if you don't

have a track bike, there are bikes available to use at the club.

This is a great opportunity to learn about riding and develop your skills as a track cyclist to continue on racing during the track season.

Please contact the club for more information about how you can learn bike skills and be involved in cycling.

**Contact: Graeme Cure
MVDCC Club President
Ph: 0418 141 677**



2019 School Holiday Clinics

FUN FILLED HOCKEY SESSIONS FOR SCHOOL KIDS OF ALL AGES

McKenna Park, Burnie



Thursday 3rd & 10th October

Get into Hockey - Basic Skills Session

Time: 10:00am - 12:00pm

Ages: 6-12 yrs

Cost: \$20

REGISTER

<http://www.hockeytasmania.com.au/Junior-Zone/School-Holiday-Program>



or further details contact Participation Co-ordinator: tbarry@hockeytasmania.com.au

www.hockeytasmania.com.au