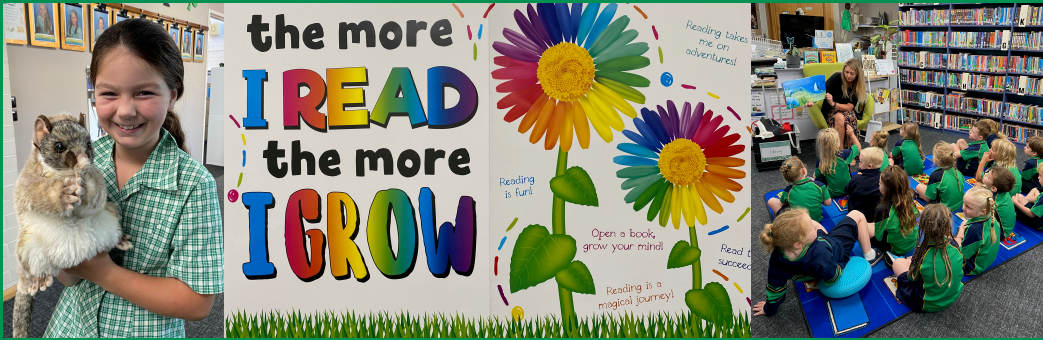


St Patrick's Catholic School Latrobe



School Newsletter Number 6 Tuesday 8th March 2021

PRINCIPAL'S REFLECTION

"As you simplify your life, the laws of the universe will be simpler; solitude will not be solitude, poverty will not be poverty, nor weakness weakness." This statement by the nineteenth century American author, Henry David Thoreau, supports the perspective that as we get older, most of us, arguably, start to simplify things in general - experience has taught us to look beyond the eye-catching facades, to read a face rather than judge from a superficial perspective, to appreciate a gesture rather than scrutinise a performance. In a world that is increasingly placing incredible and unrealistic expectations on our ability to constantly fathom detail, some of us, in the midst of contrived complexity, urge simplicity and see the merits of Thoreau's maxim, "Simplify, simplify" in order to find **sanctuary**, which is in accord with both the tradition of Lent and the best traditions of education - keep things simple in order to maximise focus.

Our brain is incredibly habit-making; committing to regularity of behaviour commends the behaviour to 'muscle memory.' Education relies on this habit-forming phenomenon in a positive manner, however, if we dwell too long on the detail, other aspects of a broader education - in which we all continue to journey until death - is overshadowed and neglected. The notion of **sanctuary** on a personal level, where we perform the job of taking care of our soul, is a part of us that we often overlook or neglect in the context of busy professional and personal demands. For each of us there would undoubtedly be a feeling of lethargy about some aspect of our lives, a feeling that we are unable to 'provide' because we do not have the time to do justice to the task, being caught up in the complexity rather than learn from the simplicity.

During our 2021 Lenten journey, we should be compelled to ask ourselves, "Why?" when we are confronted by feelings of paradox that are associated with living busy lives. We cannot give what we do not have; we cannot become stronger if we don't make the time to be stronger. The notion of finding **sanctuary**, finding relief and release, would be as old as humankind, however, it remains an important question for us to address if we are to search for spiritual well-being. Asking the 'why' of many actions and feelings is often the start of important remediation and is intrinsic to effective education. We have been given free spirits and our relationship with God is based on our choice - what we get out of most relationships is determined by what we are willing to commit. I have mentioned Viktor Frankl in previous newsletters and his writings continue to inspire me. On the matter of choice, he writes, "Between stimulus and response

there is a space. In that space is our power to choose our response. In our response lies our growth and our freedom." Our own search for **sanctuary** will take us deeper within ourselves in what could be a confronting yet enriching experience, hopefully leading to a positive response to life's challenges and affirmations.

When we are idle or when we have moments of just sitting quietly, really doing nothing, attention moves into a different state. When we have moments where we can rest, attention moves into a slower state, it connects different parts of our brain together, and this is when we have self-reflection, insight, longer term future thinking, more deeper reflections. That is lost in a world where busyness dominates. And that is one of the biggest challenges, because it is in those slower attention times when we feel more of a sense of meaning, connection, direction in our life; we make some of the bigger choices that make life meaningful. Thank you to all in our school community who are never too busy to firstly, engage in their own sanctuary, and secondly, be better prepared therefore to offer sanctuary to others.

Regards,

Rod Linhart (Principal)

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

MARCH

Tues 9th	Speech Pathology visiting. Sophie, School Counsellor, visiting.
Wed 10th	Speech Pathology visiting.
Thurs 11th	School Swimming Carnival.
Fri 12th	Casual Clothes Day to support Oliver's entry in the 'World's Greatest Shave.' 9.00-10.30am 'Inquiring Minds/Set-up For Success' birth to 4 program - St Pat's Kinder classroom (all welcome.) 8.55am - 9.20am School Assembly. Sophie, School Counsellor, visiting.
Mon 15th	St Patrick's Day activities at school
Tues 16th	NW Cath. Schools Swimming Carnival
Wed 17th	
Thurs 18th	

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 Alivia Dewrance-Milligan who received a WEST Award and to Dana Al-Roubaie for receiving an Aussie of the Month 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: Kashaf Kapila

Dooley House: Wilf McGann

Martyn House: Jaxon Boyle

Recycling: Tahlia Simmonds

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Prep: Gracie Morse: Gracie, your confidence and independence regarding all aspects of school has grown. Thank you for helping in Prep and around the school.

Year 1: Tahlia Simmonds for maintaining a consistent effort with the work in your writing book. Keep up the great work!

Year 2: Meg Kelly for showing compassion and respect for others.

Year 3: Harper Clark for working hard on improving her skills and for demonstrating care and kindness towards her classmates.

Year 4: Zara Omogbai Musa for her positive attitude towards learning tasks in Geography and being a kind friend to her peers.

Year 5: Harrison Fawcner for his enthusiastic and positive contribution to whole class discussions.

School Board

Our School Board met last week for their Annual General meeting and elected an executive for the 2021 school year. The St Patrick's School Board executive for 2021 is Felicity Derin-Reeves (Chairperson), Julie Fawcner - absent (Secretary), Carl Garrad (Treasurer), Beverly Sullivan (Deputy Chairperson) Nick O'Toole, and Belinda Kelly - absent. Thank you to these parents for their generosity of time and expertise. Members of the School Board meet six times a year to work collaboratively with the principal to advise on and assist with the formation of policy, to contribute, where possible, in matters regarding major initiatives, to oversee the finances of the school and to participate in planning, research, development and implementation and evaluation of the school's strategic planning. The School Board is always interested in welcoming parents and friends of St Patrick's to express an interest in being part of this important advisory body - please contact Mr Linhart if you are interested and wish to be an observer at a meeting.



St Patrick's Catholic School Uniform Policy.

The School Board believes that a clearly stated and a sensibly implemented Uniform Policy and Jewellery and Hair Policy is important for the following reasons:

- To provide a focus and a sense of school spirit for students attending the school.
- To provide an opportunity for parents and staff to instil in the children a sense of pride in their appearance.
- To prevent excesses in fashion trends and to eliminate competition among students, which could lead to peer group pressure and be a distraction from learning.
- To provide parents with an economic means of clothing children for school, which also involves uniform presentation of children for school.

A reminder that the following items are required school uniform please: black shoes (no other colour) with arch support; navy blue socks – no logo; plain navy blue track pants or plain navy blue shorts for HPE.

eSafety Commissioner Webinars for parents and carers

The eSafety Commissioner is a valuable resource aimed at supporting Australian communities to have safer, more positive experiences online. In 2021 the website <https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/webinars> is providing a series of free webinars for parents and carers which will explore the latest strategies for keeping children safe online. These live webinars explore the latest research and they are a great way to learn how you can help your child develop the skills to be safer online. All sessions are delivered by eSafety's expert education and training team. The current webinar is eSafety's parent guide to cyberbullying and online drama. This webinar will look at how parents and carers can support young people to have safe and respectful online relationships and what to do if things go wrong. It will cover:

- starting conversations with your child about their online friendships and positive ways to deal with changing relationships
- understanding the rights, laws and community expectations that govern social media use
- where to seek help if your child is involved in a cyberbullying incident.

The webinar will include case studies, research and targeted advice so you can support the young people in your life to have safe, enjoyable online experiences. Register online on the website and the dates are listed below. Dates:

- Tuesday 16 March 7.30 to 8.30 pm
- Wednesday 17 March 12.30 to 1.30 pm
- Wednesday 17 March 7.30 to 8.30 pm
- Thursday 18 March 3.30 to 4.30 pm
- Monday 22 March 12.30 to 1.30 pm

School Fees 2021

Our new Finance Management System, TechOne, is integrated with Compass, it is now possible to view your account balance as well as pay your school fees via the Compass Parent App. Please see the attached letter which provides very important information to parents regarding school payment processes that are associated with this new system.

World's Greatest Shave - Friday 12th March - Casual Clothes Day (Can donation for Vinnies.)

Students are asked to bring with them a Gold coin donation towards Oliver Gatehouse's World's Greatest Shave and a can towards the Year 3's can drive for Vinnies.

**CAN FOR CASUAL
CLOTHES DAY
FRIDAY, 12TH MARCH**

**BRING A CAN OF FOOD(CHECK THE DATE)
TO WEAR CASUAL CLOTHES**



LATROBE BASKETBALLERS. Below: Some of our students who are representing Latrobe with the new mascot for the Tasmanian Jack Jumpers which is the NBL team. All the best to Ruby, Lulu, Amaja, Talei, Tyla, Melia, Sophie, Jimmy and Luca who was a former St Patrick's student.



St Patrick's Day Celebrations- Wednesday 17th March

St Patrick's Day Dress Up Parade will be held at the morning Assembly - students are invited to come to school dressed in either green or in response to the St Patrick's Day theme.

- Six rotation groups will be offered for all primary classes during the afternoon.
 - Each group will be run by SRCs or House/School captains.
 - Each rotation will go for 10 minutes with a 2-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 on the day (all items \$2.00 each) (P & F) – Project Compassion fundraiser.
- BBQ lunch with Sausage and Icy-Pole (no cost.)

Thank you to Tameika Anthony (P & F President) for her coordination of some aspects of some food items and Mr Atkins for supporting the Student Representative Council involvement in the afternoon activity sessions. If you are available and interested in cooking sausages on the morning of Wednesday 17th March, please contact Mr Linhart or the school office staff.

Year 6 Excursion mid-September 2021

As communicated to families in correspondence last year and confirmed early in February our plans for the biennial school trip to Canberra and Sydney has been a focus of considerable discernment due to the travel restrictions caused by COVID-19 regulations. Given the uncertainty of interstate travel that still exists, the decision was made to cancel this year's Canberra trip – a considerable determinant for this decision is focused on the health and well-being of the group in the context of possible compulsory lockdowns, quarantining and loss of deposits – these factors have considerable potential to adversely influence the wellbeing of individuals. An excursion of a similar duration has now been organised to explore sites in Tasmania, and details have been communicated to families of Year 6 students today.

PARENTS & FRIENDS (Tameika Anthony)

The next St Patrick's Catholic School Parents & Friends meeting will be held at 2.00pm on Friday 12th March in the kindergarten class - all are most welcome to attend this informal meeting. Amongst other items, we will be discussing a plan to start getting the Mother's day stall organised.

COMMUNITY NEWS & REMINDERS

School Swimming Carnival - Thursday 11th March

Permission for this event need to be completed via the **Compass app** by **no later than Tuesday 9th March please**. If you are unable to do this via the Compass Parent App, please advise via your child's diary or contact the school office for a paper copy. **If the permission form has not been completed/returned students will remain supervised at school.**

We have been advised that the swimming pool's COVID-19 Safety Plan does not permit parent spectators at this event - thank you for your understanding and support.

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 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.



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.