



ST. THERESE'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

From the Principal...

BEGINNING OF THE YEAR MASS/COMMISSIONING OF STUDENT LEADERS

Recently we had the commissioning of our 2017 Student Leaders as part of our beginning of the year mass. Father Mark and Deacon Michael led us in a wonderful gathering and a number of parents joined us to celebrate with our school community of staff and students. Parents of our school leaders should be justly proud to think that their peers see them as worthy leaders of our school.

I read recently the following about student leadership:

- The easy bit is to use the leadership role for the betterment of yourselves: the hard bit is to use it for the betterment of others in our community.
- The easy bit is for you to be popular: the hard bit is to be unpopular by saying "that's not how we act in our school".
- The easy bit is to wear the badge: the hard bit is to deserve the badge.

I am confident our leaders will take on this responsibility with great aplomb and enthusiasm this year.

COMPULSORY PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

We have our scheduled compulsory Prep-Grade 6 Parent Teacher interviews this week from **Tuesday March 14 to Thursday March 16**. These consultations provide an excellent opportunity for parents and teachers to discuss specific issues relating to children's progress and development at this stage of the school year. In addition to the compulsory parent teacher interviews, please remember that we encourage ongoing consultation with parents and are willing to speak with you incidentally or set up mutually convenient interview times as needs arise.

SCHOOL CAMPS

Many thanks to Mrs Liz Moore who recently assisted with organisation and supervision at our recent Grade 6 camp. Our Grade 4 students will be attending camp to Orford next week. Mr Pullen will provide further details to families shortly.

STS SCHOOL BOARD

The St Therese's Catholic School Board works collaboratively in an advisory and supportive role with the Principal within the broad parameters established by the Governing Council and the Tasmanian Catholic Education Office.

Particular responsibilities of the Board include:

- to advise on and assist with the formulation of policy for the conduct of the School in line with TCEC/TCEO policies and Governing Council directives;
- to co-operate with and support the Principal in maintaining the School as an institute of Catholic Education;
- to contribute, where possible, in matters regarded as major initiatives and/or changes;
- to liaise with the local Parish Priest/s and/or Parish Pastoral Council/s, in matters of mutual concern to the School and Parishes;
- to participate in and co-operate with the School on the planning, research, development, implementation and evaluation of the School's Strategic Plan;
- to contribute to the planning and management of maintenance and building programs necessary for the recurrent and long-term welfare and effective development of the School; and
- to oversee the finances of the School, and the prudent use of funds, according to the provisions of this Constitution and the directions of the TCEO.

Recently the School Board held our AGM for 2017 which included the election of office bearers listed below:

Melanie Wallace - Chair

Michelle Green - Deputy Chair

Richard Honey - Treasurer

Amber Zielinski

Natalie Clark

Greg Bonnily

Jackie Strong

Cameron Brown - Principal

Fr. Mark Hanns MSC

Michelle Ryan - Minutes Secretary

SCHOOL PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

The school Parents and Friends Association is an independent body of members of our school community who are vitally interested in the best possible facilities for the education of the children at our school. As well as raising funds through traditional means, it is also involved in the operation of the school through its liaison with the Board of Management. It also acts as a forum for the exchange of ideas between the school and the community.

Recently the P and F held our AGM for 2017 which included the election of office bearers listed below:

Laura Benson - **President**

Lynn Charlton - **Vice President**

Jackie Strong - **Treasurer**

Louise Honey - **Secretary**

Committee Members

Melanie Wallace

Nijole Wilson

Prue Kurowski

Zack McLoughlinSCHOOL

CAR PARK

Our school car park last year underwent a significant upgrade with design and planning a joint process between the school, parish and the Tasmanian Catholic Education Office.

The planning around this was to provide a practical but most importantly safe car park for our students and families. Feedback from senior leadership at the TCEO has indicated they believe we have one of the better designed car parks across the Catholic sector in Tasmania. The functionality of the car park however is ultimately reliant and dependant on the ability of our school families to adhere to correct protocols and procedures to ensure safety for all is not compromised.

I would respectfully ask that all families make appropriate decisions that allow safety for all in our school community and not ignore what our school park is designed to achieve.

Cameron Brown
Principal

Kindergarten 2018 Enrolments

Kindergarten applications for 2018 are due before Friday 5th May 2017. If you have a child due to start Kinder next year, please get your application to us before this date. Enrolment forms are available from the school office.

Grade 7 Enrolments

Grade 7 enrolment applications are due at your nominated Catholic high school before Friday 31st March 2017. If you intend for your child to continue on at a Catholic school for Grade 7, please ensure you contact that school for enrolment forms.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Thursday 16 March - School Banking Rep from CBA at school 8.30am - 9.30am

Friday 17 March - Canteen Meal Deal - See Skoolbag for details

Monday 20 March - Catholic Education Week

Grade 4 Camp to Spring Beach Youth Camp, Orford

Thursday 23 March - P&F Fundraiser for Matt Kean 1.40pm

Monday 27 March - Learn to Swim ALL WEEK Grades 3, 4 & 5

Tuesday 28 March - Kinder with grade 5 Buddies excursion to Botanical Gardens



Reflection



St Patrick: Slave to Saviour 'Abducted by pirates at the age of thirteen, sold into slavery, works for years, escapes only to return decades later to conquer his oppressors.' While this sounds like a blurb for a Game of Thrones style series, in this story, the hero returns to conquer with love...and that love being love of Jesus Christ. When Patrick was abducted in the fifth century from Britain and taken to Ireland he was a fairly typical adolescent. While his parents were religious, he wasn't...nor was he particularly interested in the studies that were offered him as the child of an established family. But things changed for him when slaving in Ireland: his faith carried him through the dark and difficult times -- so much so that when he had to opportunity to escape, he went and studied his faith, was ordained and returned to preach to his former oppressors

At the heart of Christianity is the capacity to turn bad experiences into good. Even when treated appallingly, we can respond with creativity and love. In the grace of God, we can become channels for love and peace to the very people who have hurt us. No, this isn't easy and often it takes time but this grace transforms our attitude to life.

And not only does this change bad times...it makes the good even better. The St Patrick's Day celebrations are more than a party -- they are a celebration of what God could do through one person...and could do through us as well. What better to celebrate!

Sr Kym Harris osb

Our school will be having a fund raising event This isn't just about getting money, nor even about have fun. In the spirit of St Patrick, it is about creating love in the midst of our school community. So come, support us and make this a time when love continues to conquer all.

Validation & Payment Arrangement Forms

These forms have been sent home with students over the past few weeks. If you haven't already done so, could you please return the forms ASAP so we can update any changes to your details. Also, we require the payment arrangement form to be signed & returned, even if you already have a payment plan in place.

School Banking

St Therese's School will be offering Commonwealth Bank Dollarmite School Banking every Thursday. There will be a representative from the Commonwealth Bank here this Thursday morning (16th March) outside the school office to help parents who require more information or wish to open an account. Please see the attached flier with this newsletter for more information.

St. Therese's has received notification that we are no longer able to process Kookaburra CDF school banking for students.

The Catholic Development Fund will issue a letter to all account holders shortly regarding this.

School Canteen

This coming Friday the 17 March, is our first canteen day for 2017. There will be a Meal Deal instead of normal canteen this week, so please don't send a normal lunch order in. Meal Deal information is on Skoolbag.

Normal canteen orders will resume Friday 24 March. If anyone has some time to spare to volunteer in the canteen, please let the office know.

Matt Kean - Fundraiser for Cancer

Matt Kean is doing a fundraising swim to raise funds for cancer research at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Foundation in Melbourne. If you would like to donate, you can do so by going to this link where further details are available.

<https://supportingpetermac.everydayhero.com/au/MattKeanDevilofaSwim>

School Soccer

If your child would like to play school soccer this year, please sign-up ASAP as the due date has been extended until this Thursday 16/3/17.

So far, we are down on team numbers, so more students signing up would be fantastic!

All details are on the school soccer website: www.stssoccer.com or please see Steve Tew.

Grade 4/5 Tuned Percussion Ensemble

This year we have a new optional music ensemble that the Grade 4 and 5 students have had the opportunity to trial during Week 1 and Week 2. The ensemble is a tuned percussion group - playing glockenspiels, xylophones, metallophones and marimbas. In Week 3 a number of students chose to commit to the ensemble for the 2017 school year. They have chosen to call their ensemble - Percussion Rush. We will be rehearsing each Friday after lunch and have been working on a piece called Tango by local marimba composer Gerard Van de Geer. Percussion Rush will be performing what they have learnt at school later this term.

Sarah Elliott



P&F Update

The P&F 2017 AGM was held on 2nd March and a new committee was elected for 2017 as follows:

President: Laura Benson

Vice President: Lyn Young

Treasurer: Jackie Strong

Secretary: Louise Honey

Committee members: Melanie Wallace, Nijole Wilson, Prue Kurowski & Zak McLoughlin

Fundraiser

As some families may be aware, Matt Kean is currently raising funds for cancer research. Matt was a great support to the P&F as Acting Principal in term 3 of 2015 and we would like to support him in his fundraising efforts. We plan to have a competition to see which class can make the longest "coin line". Starting Thursday 16th each classroom will have a money box and we ask that parents send in silver coins to be collected over the course of a week. On Thursday 23rd March we will lay the coins out in lines (weather dependent - on the tennis courts or otherwise the hall) whichever class has the longest line will win! Prize will be negotiated between the students and teacher. Please clean out under those couch cushions and help us support this great cause.

Matt will be present on the afternoon of judging and is thankful to all families for their support. If families would like to make a direct donation to Matt's fundraising page and read all about his story so far, please visit <https://supportingpetermac.everydayhero.com/au/MattKeanDevilofaSwim>

Easter Raffle

The next fundraiser will be the ever popular Easter raffle which will be drawn on the last day of Term One. Families are asked to donate prizes that can be made into hampers, please watch Skoolbag and our Facebook page for more information in the coming weeks.

The next P&F meeting will be held on Thursday 30th March at 6.00pm

Laura Benson
P&F President

LOST PROPERTY - A bright green drink bottle clearly name 'Harry F' and has a fabric tag attached. If you have found it, please return to the office, thank you.



School Banking Information Session.

St Therese's Catholic School is excited to offer the Commonwealth Bank School Banking program to all students.

School Banking is a fun, interactive and engaging way for young Australians to learn about money and develop good savings habits. Children who deposit money into their Youthsaver account through School Banking earn Dollarmites tokens, which they can save up and redeem for exciting rewards.

The rewards available during 2017 are:

- Cyber Handball
- Colour Change Markers
- 3D Chalk Set
- Tablet Case
- Smiley Emoji Keyring
- Volt Handball
- Pencil + Tech Case
- Epic Earphones



School Banking is also a great fundraiser for our school. Our school receives \$5 when a student makes their first ever School Banking deposit and 5% on every deposit made through the school (to a maximum of \$10 per individual deposit).

School Banking day is Thursday. Each week you need to put your child's deposit book and money in the special banking bag in the class basket.

We will be holding a School Banking Information Session at our school:

Time: 8.30 am – 9.30 am

Date: Thursday 16th March

Location: In front of School Office

Please join us and find out more about the School Banking program and how your child can get involved.

If you are interested in opening a Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account for your child you can visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking and click on the link to open a Youthsaver account. A School Banking representative will be available at the Information Session to show you how you can do this. In order to verify yourself and your child, you will need your driver's licence and your child's birth certificate, but if you don't have these with you on the day, you can complete verification online at home.

SEE US AS WE ARE

ST MARY'S COLLEGE OPEN DAY Tuesday 21 March

We warmly invite all prospective parents and students to our Open Day. Take a tour and see what we get up to on a regular day at the College. Speak with students, staff and College parents and find out what makes us a leader in Catholic education.

Register at Reception on the day (lower Brisbane Street entrance)
Tours depart regularly between 9.30am-12.00pm

164 Harrington Street, Hobart
enrol@smc.tas.edu.au | www.smc.tas.edu.au/open-day



OPEN DAY THURSDAY 16 MARCH 204 TOLOSA STREET, GLENORCHY

KINDERGARTEN – YEAR 6

Learning in Action Tours 11.00am

Facilities Tours 4.00pm

YEAR 7 - 10

Learning in Action Tours 11.30am

Facilities Tours 4.30pm

2018 YEAR 7 INFORMATION SESSION

6.30pm for all prospective families

Bookings can be made via our website
www.dominic.tas.edu.au or call Michele on 6274 6010

