Greetings,

Father John Frauenfelder is a Priest who works within our Catholic Mission Team at the Catholic School’s Office. Every week he forwards me reflections on Sunday’s Gospels drawing analogies to real life. He has a knack of leaving a rhetorical question to be pondered. This week, Father’s John’s Words of Wisdom in relation to the Scripture, Jesus Calms the Storm (Mark 4:35-41) are:

Flight attendants always present a confident demeanor and a smile as they assure us that “in the unlikely event that we have to ditch at sea,” we will find our seat cushions also double as flotation devices. But once the plane is airborne, we are all in the hands of God.

It was the same for the disciples in Luke’s Gospel. Once the boat pushed off from the shore, they were on their own, in an alien water world. They were at the mercy of the wind, the waves and the integrity of the boat. Fragile and frightened, when the fury of the squall was upon them, they realized that their only hope was Jesus.

We, today, must have the confidence to ask: “Who then is this whom even wind and sea obey?”

St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal

Thank you for your donations for our St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal! Steadily blankets, scarves, jumpers and beanies are being donated. We have some big buckets in the hall ready to collect your donations!

Reconciliation

Next Wednesday a number of students will be making the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the very first time. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is such a beautiful encounter with God where the children will feel God’s great love; God loves us so much that he forgives us for our wrong-doings! Please keep these children in your prayers as they journey towards this Blessed Sacrament.

What’s happening?

- Paddies Youth Group is running this Friday in the school hall at 7.00pm. Come along and be part of the fun! This is for children from Years 5-Year 8.
- On Sunday the 21st June Year 3 will have their Family Mass with the Parish. At the end of the Mass we will remain in the Church for a quick practice for Wednesday when the children will be making their First Reconciliation.
- The Sacrament of Reconciliation Service is at 7.00pm on Wednesday the 24th June, 2015.
- End of Term Mass will take place on Friday the 26th June at 9.00am.

May Christ’s peace be with you all!

Jacqueline Fletcher
FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Parking

As you are aware the parking problem at St Patrick’s is an issue. I will ask that you please drop your children to school in the appropriate places. There have been numerous parents drop their children off at or near the pedestrian crossing. I understand that we are all busy and in a rush but I would hate to see a child injured or hurt because one of our parents was not following the parking rules. The fine is quite hefty but your children’s safety is paramount. I ask you to please consider this each morning drop off. I have asked the council rangers to visit at drop off zone over the coming weeks.

Drop-off Times

A reminder that no child should be dropped off at school before the teachers begin duty at 8.10am. I understand that this may be difficult for some families but it is a legal issue and there will be no supervision offered to children before this time. If you need supervision then please contact the OOSHC to help out.

Mobile Phones

A reminder that mobile phones are not to be used at any reason at school by any child. Please don’t put your child in a position to get into trouble by calling them during school hours. If you choose for your child to have a mobile phone for after school convenience then please remind them of these procedures.

Kindergarten Enrolments 2016

The official enrolment period has now closed. In saying that we will still be accepting returned enrolment packages for the next week but it is vital we receive them as soon as possible. It is important that any present families, who have a Kindergarten child starting next year, contact the office as soon as possible to get an enrolment form and return it so that we can set up an interview and screener time. If you know of someone who has a child ready for school please let them know enrolments are now overdue.

St Vinnies Winter Appeal PJ Day

Earlier in the newsletter you would have read about the St. Vinnie’s Winter Appeal asking each family to donate a blanket, jacket, jumper etc. for those less fortunate than ourselves. To support this SRC initiative each family is asked to donate an item. In return for this and also to have a celebration for the end of term the children are invited to wear their PJs on Thursday 25th June. Please make sure that the pyjamas the children wear are suitable for school and the weather and a reminder that they must wear suitable footwear which can be their school shoes or normal joggers.
**Coming Up**

19th June  | Staff Development Day – No children at school
22nd June  | Reports sent home
24th June  | Reconciliation 7pm
25th June  | St Vinnies Winter Appeal PJ Day
26th June  | Last day of Term 2
13th July  | First day of Term 3

Regards,

Paul Toomey, Principal

**From the P&F …**

Athletics carnival - thank you to all the mums and dads who helped us feed the masses last Friday. A special thanks to Phil and Luke for cooking the BBQ - with over 330 lunch orders to fill we had a busy few hours! Any feedback is welcome, especially regarding the coffee and Snocone carts. Please send to Michelle at michellecormack@bigpond.com

Canteen - some items may be in low supply next week. We run down stock before the holidays but all the favourites will be back next term (and we never run out of chicken fingers!). Please be mindful when ordering lunches next Friday that chocolate milk and red quench is limited.

And as always Adrienne is looking for volunteers to help out in the canteen. Volunteering once a term would ease the load on our regulars - just think how much your child enjoys their lunch order on a Friday and how excited they would be to see you behind the counter. No experience necessary! Contact Adrienne on mrspraz@gmail.com if you can help.

**Coming up next term, so save the date –**

Friday 7 August – School Disco
Thursday 13 August – Term 3 P&F Meeting
(to be held at 9am in the infants library, younger siblings welcome)
Thursday 3 September – Father’s Day Stall
Saturday 24 October – Dinner Dance

**Other news**

The soccer Gala Day has been postponed until next term due to the weather.

Congratulations to Sophie Holliday who represented Polding at the cross country at Eastern Creek last week. Sophie once again proved what a talented athlete she is by coming third in this event. She now goes on to compete in the PSSA competition at Eastern Creek. Good luck Sophie.

Just a reminder that sport in schools is programmed for all of next term. Students therefore will need to wear their sport uniforms on Thursdays as well as on their regular sports day.

Fiona Bolton
Sports Co-ordinator
Last Friday, we went ahead with the Athletics Carnival despite the threat of rain. It turned out to be perfect day with the students participated enthusiastically, encouraging their team mates and behaving as we’d expect from St Pats students. Well done boys and girls.

The winning house was Gold with 737 points. Congratulations to all the members of this Colour House.

Second was Green with 632 points
Third was Red with 555 points
And fourth was Blue with 525 points.

A number of records were broken.

Sophie Holliday set a new record for the open girls 800 metres, breaking an old record from 1995.

Elise Patrick set a new record for the 11 year girls high jump.

Ashley Treacy set a new record for the open girls high jump and long jump.

Aiden Walsh set a new record for the junior boys shot put.

**Age champions for boys and girls are as follows:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>8 Years Boys</th>
<th>8 years Girls</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Henri Cleary</td>
<td>Malena Patrick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Years Boys</td>
<td>9 years Girls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keenan White</td>
<td>Abbie Irwin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Years Boys</td>
<td>10 years Girls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Holmes</td>
<td>Stephanie Hansen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Years Boys</td>
<td>11 years Girls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tom Peters</td>
<td>Susanna Palmer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Open Boys</strong></td>
<td><strong>Open Girls</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Peters/Sterling Witt</td>
<td>Ashley Treacy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A huge thank you to all the parents who assisted on the day, either in the canteen or on the track. We wouldn’t have had such a successful day without you. Thank you to all the teachers as well who always give unlimited support on these days.

Notes will be sent out to those 52 students who have made it to the CCC athletics Carnival which is early in Term 3.
First Aid in Schools

First aid in schools Program is a free program St John (NSW) is offering to provide school aged children with first aid skills they can use in case of an emergency. Having children with first aid skills not only can contribute to saving lives but can also build community resilience. Next Monday and Tuesday the students in Stage 2 and 3 will have the opportunity to participate in a 45 minute session aimed at familiarising them with some basic first aid skills.

Years 5 and 6 will be on Monday and Years 3 and 4 on Tuesday. On these days the students will need to wear their sports uniforms to participate in these sessions.

Premier’s Reading Challenge

A very busy week for readers completing the Premier’s Reading challenge this week.
Ben Antony, Ana Rodriguez, Joanna Tony, Shaina Patelia, Ram Sivasampavan, Liam Thompson, Elaouise Thompson and Juan Jose Rodriguez all completed the challenge this week. Well Done Readers!

Carmen Hartz
Teacher Librarian

HELPING YOUR CHILD WITH READING

WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT HELPING YOUR CHILD WITH THEIR READING?

Reading is a complex process, it involves messages expressed in language, which requires a knowledge of the conventions of print and visual patterns to gain meaning. This can be hard work for your child. If you would like some help with how to assist your child with their reading, please join us at 9am in the infants library on Wednesday 24th June. I will explain the process of reading, how to help your child and provide some take home notes.

COMMUNITY NEWS..............

If anyone has found a round remote control (lost on Victoria Street) for a garage, please contact the school office so we can pass it on to the owner.

SCHOOL BANKING

PLEASE SEND YOUR BANK BOOK IN ON WEDNESDAY

School banking award winners for this week:

Kai McCarthy & Lauren Gadd

Thank you for supporting the School Banking program at St Patricks!
Be the best parent you can be!

Bruce Sullivan, a relationship expert who provides education to families, communities and corporations all over the world, shares these simple guiding principles to help remind us all to live life well and be the best parent we can be:

**Principle #1: Have fun**

What is your default response in that moment when your children or life presents something that you are not expecting? Do you laugh or do you put on your “cranky pants”? If it isn’t fun, make it fun! You will be in a much better shape to solve the problems that your family presents if you choose to “put on your happy pants” and emit a little joy, rather than the alternative. As Bruce says, “having a positive attitude will not solve all your problems all the time but it will annoy enough people to make it worthwhile”.

**Principle #2: Be grateful (versus being cynical)**

As a nation Australians can be quite cynical. The typical talk of many adults is not grateful talk, Bruce says, but rather it is predicated in cynicism, and there’s no such thing as healthy cynicism. It’s all unhealthy. Think about how you can remind yourself to be “do gratefulness” versus cynicism. When you walk in the door after work do you engage in an “I had the worst day” competition with your partner or children or do you focus on the joys in the day and what you are grateful for? Make an agreement with yourself to bring some joy and humour and gratefulness into your space.

**Principle #3: Good intentions are not enough**

Good intentions are either a great start or an ongoing excuse for what could have been. Our children, partner and family don’t judge our good intentions - they judge our behaviour and how it impacts on them. Everyday we are presented with opportunities to make our behaviour congruent with our intentions. Are our children being exposed to talk of hope, promise, curiosity, opportunity and problem solving or are they listening to cynicism, complaining and constant criticism? So if we want the best outcome for our family we need to ask, am I doing whatever it takes? Ask yourself, how am I prepared to change what I do to get a different outcome in my family, instead of expecting the kids to do everything first? How can I change as a parent to ensure that intention equals behaviour equals outcomes? At the end of the day, we said “yes” to parenting so we need to be the person demonstrating humour, joy and gratefulness as opposed to the “cranky pants” alternative.

Want to know more about being the best you, you can be? Go to Bruce Sullivan’s website, sign up for his free e-newsletter http://brucesullivan.com.au/freeresources/
We are looking for Volunteers for the 2015 School Year.
We need Volunteers to ensure canteen will remain open during the year.

If you can help out we would love to hear from you. If you have a date in mind, let us know and we will slot you in.

Contact Adrienne on 0414 509547 or mrspraz@gmail.com if you would like to volunteer. Mrs P is contactable anytime, so check your 2015 calendar and if you have a date in mind, even if its months away, let her know your availability.

### TERM 2, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>INFANTS</th>
<th>PRIMARY</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY 24th June</td>
<td>Jay Clarke</td>
<td>Hayley Lanham</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Recess only 9.30am -11.30am)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY 26th June</td>
<td>Annabel Cockerton</td>
<td>Hayley Lanham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(ALL Day – 8.15am – 2.00pm)</td>
<td>Angela Stitt</td>
<td>Adrienne Prazauskas</td>
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### TERM 3, 2015

<table>
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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY 15th July</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Recess only 9.30am -11.30am)</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRIDAY 17th July</td>
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<td>(ALL Day – 8.15am – 2.00pm)</td>
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<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
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If you have dates in mind for NEXT TERM (3), please contact Adrienne on mrspraz@gmail.com or 0414 509547
SCHOOL DISCO
Friday 7th August

Infants - 5.30pm - 6.45pm
Primary - 7.00pm - 8.30pm

Entry fee
$2.00 per school aged child

Canteen and glowsticks available on the night.

The P&F is proud to host the disco but needs volunteers to run the evening. Please contact Michelle on 0408 412 408 if you can lend a hand.
“Come on Jack! Get a move on. School starts in ten minutes and you’re not even dressed yet!”

If this scenario sounds familiar then you are not alone. Anecdotal evidence suggests that getting children to school or pre school on time can be one of the most difficult tasks for parents. Missing a few minutes each day may not seem like a big deal but your child may be missing more than you realise if he or she is continually late.

Current research shows that mornings for most children are the most productive time of the day with 10.00am the peak period for productivity. When children arrive late and take time to settle as they inevitably do precious minutes are lost. A child who is fifteen minutes late to school each day misses one week of school every year.

How can you get your dawdling kids out the door without yelling yourself hoarse? Here are a few techniques and ideas for you to try to get your punctually-challenged children to school on time:

✔ Establish a morning routine.

Make sure your children know what is expected of them in the morning, and also what you will do. Resist nagging but be willing to take them to school even if they haven’t fully prepared for the day.

✔ Identify and remove distractions such as television.

If the children are regular watchers before school change the routine and keep the TV off. It should only be turned on when children are completely ready for school.

✔ Teach some of the basics of time management.

The average adult underestimates by about 25 per cent the time it takes to do various jobs. Make sure you have realistic time estimates and stop packing so much into the time you allocate. Encourage older children to estimate how long it takes to do activities such as getting ready in the morning. Then they can measure the time taken to do these tasks and compare their estimates with real time.

✔ Arrive at school ten minutes early.

Plan to arrive at school early rather than be there on time. This idea works well for perpetual latecomers, whether young or old.

✔ Model a good routine.

It’s pointless expecting children to be organised in the morning if you are in a muddle yourself. Set a good example by being as methodical as possible and avoid sleeping in unless your children are so organised that they get you breakfast in bed. And pigs might fly as well!
WHAT IS THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (the national data collection) is an annual collection that counts the number of school students with disability and the level of reasonable educational adjustment they are provided with.

The national data collection will count students who have been identified as receiving an adjustment to address a disability under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (the DDA). The DDA can be accessed from the ComLaw website at www.comlaw.gov.au.

WHAT IS THE BENEFIT FOR MY CHILD?

The aim of the national data collection is to collect better information about school students with disability in Australia.

This information will help teachers, principals, education authorities and families to better support students with disability to take part in school on the same basis as students without disability.

The national data collection is an opportunity for schools to review their learning and support systems and processes to continually improve education outcomes for their students with disability.

WHY IS THIS DATA BEING COLLECTED?

All schools across Australia collect information about students with disability. But the type of information currently collected varies between each state and territory and across government, Catholic and independent school sectors.

When implementing the national data collection, every school in Australia will use the same method to collect information. Therefore, a government school in suburban Sydney will collect and report data in the same way as a Catholic school in country Victoria and an independent school in the Northern Territory.

The information provided through the national data collection will enable all Australian governments to better target support and resources to benefit students with disability. The data will help schools to better support students with disability so that they have the same opportunities for a high quality education as students without disability.

WHAT ARE SCHOOLS REQUIRED TO DO FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY?

All students are entitled to a quality learning experience at school.

Schools are required to make reasonable adjustments, where needed, to assist students with disability to access and participate in education free from discrimination and on the same basis as other students.

These responsibilities are outlined in the DDA and the Disability Standards for Education 2005 (the Standards). The Standards require educators, students, parents and others (e.g. allied health professionals) to work together so that students with disability can participate in education. The Standards can be accessed via the ComLaw website at www.comlaw.gov.au.

WHAT IS A REASONABLE ADJUSTMENT?

A reasonable adjustment is a measure or action taken to help a student with disability access and participate in education on the same basis as students without disability. Reasonable adjustments can be made across the whole school setting (e.g. ramps into school buildings), in the classroom (such as adapting class lessons) and at an individual student level (e.g. extra tuition for a student with learning difficulties).

WHAT INFORMATION WILL BE COLLECTED?

Every year your child’s school will collect the following information for each student with a disability:

- the student’s level of education (i.e. primary or secondary)
- the student’s level of adjustment
- the student’s broad type of disability.

The information collected by schools will be provided to all governments to inform policy and
programme improvement for students with disability.

WHO WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?

The definition of disability for the national data collection is based on the broad definition under the DDA.

For the purposes of the national data collection, students with learning difficulties such as dyslexia or auditory processing disorder as well as chronic health conditions like epilepsy, diabetes or asthma, that require active monitoring by the school, may be included.

WHO WILL COLLECT INFORMATION FOR THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?

Teachers and school staff will identify the number of students with disability in their school and the level of reasonable adjustment they are provided based on:

- consultation with parents and carers in the course of determining and providing reasonable adjustments
- the school team’s observations and professional judgements
- any medical or other professional diagnosis
- other relevant information.

School principals are responsible for ensuring the information identified about each student is accurate.

HOW WILL MY CHILD’S PRIVACY BE PROTECTED?

Protecting the privacy and confidentiality of all students and their families is essential. Personal details such as student names or other identifying information will not be provided to local or federal education authorities.


IS THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION COMPULSORY?

All education ministers agreed to full implementation of the national data collection from 2015. This means that all schools must now collect and report information annually on the number of students with disability in their care and the level of adjustment provided to them.

Information about the arrangements that may apply to your school in relation to this data collection is available from your child’s school principal and the relevant education authority or association of independent schools.

Even if your child’s information is not included in the national data collection, the school is still required to provide support to your child with education needs.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact your child’s school if you have further questions about the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability and how it may involve your child.


An e-learning resource about the Disability Standards for Education 2005 is freely available for the use of individuals, families and communities at http://resource.dse.thededucationinstitute.edu.au/.