WEEKLY REFLECTION

Seasons of our lives.

One of my brothers has taken up growing his own veggies. It has given him great joy and satisfaction. No matter how dark it is when he gets home from work he goes out and checks his plants. Lately, he poured out his concern that they haven't been growing as well as before. It is winter. And when I pointed this out to him it didn't stop him being disappointed.

This sounds so trivial but it highlights two things in our experience that can influence strongly how we feel. One, there are times and seasons for growth in our lives. We are not machines. We don't go on and on, on a even keel, all the time. With our health, in our relationships, in our growth in any area, we have growing seasons and we have seasons when nothing seems to be happening...that we know of. I call those times the winter times and to a large extent we just have to live through them.

Which leads to the second aspect of this experience. We want things our way and even things as small as our veggie patch not producing to our standards can put us off. Much as we would like to be, we are not God in our world. Something as simple and as inexorable as the passing seasons upsetting our gardening dreams can teach us that. If we have to adapt and respond to things as they really are in the veggie patch, how much more in our relationships, in our health and in our family life.

Loving God, send me your wise Spirit to guide me when life doesn't go the way I want it. Stop me from whinging and complaining negatively and wasting what I might gain. Rather let me be like Jesus and bring life and love out of the situation. I ask this in His name, confident that you will hear me.

Sr Kym Harris

GRADE 6 LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

In Grade 6 this year, our students have been participating in a Leadership Program in which all of the Tasmanian Catholic Primary Schools are involved. Mr Peter Mitchell, (Mitch as he prefers to be known), the Outdoor Education Consultant with the Catholic Education Office, has run the Leadership Program for many years with primary school students.

The program aims to provide opportunities for Grade 6 students to participate in leadership activities which promote values, character building and Christian living. The program enables students to explore co-operative group sharing activities and encourages them to show initiative in decision-making and problem solving tasks. It encourages affirmation of others and develops leadership potential through understanding the responsibilities of being effective leaders.

REPORTS

The 2013 mid-year report will see all Catholic schools in Tasmania begin reporting on the Australian Curriculum standards in English, Mathematics, History and Science. During 2013 and 2014 all schools will be in a transition period as they implement both a new curriculum and a new reporting format. Students in all grades will receive a full learning report including comments for all the core learning areas.
The mid-year report will be sent home in the first week of Term 3 and teachers have spent considerable time over the last few weeks in preparation. There will be an opportunity for parents and students to meet with the teachers in early Term 3 for parent/teacher consultations.

**WHAT CAN WE ACHIEVE?**

The ability to seize an opportunity, be creative or see a possibility, are often admired qualities in individuals or major organizations. In life we can often either see ‘a glass as half empty, or half full’ as they say. We can sometimes focus on the negative and this can compromise or cloud our thinking and we end up focussing on ‘what can’t be done instead of what can be achieved’. In our school, we want to be able to recognise and celebrate our students for what they can achieve and accomplish, rather than focus on what they can’t achieve.

As parents/carers would be aware, we have and will continue to invest heavily in the IT/Computer area. I am continually enthused when I visit classes and see what our students can achieve in this area. Perhaps we would not have thought that our Kindergarten students would be capable of using iPads if we saw the glass as ‘half-empty’. I have included for your information below some famous quotes which you will no doubt find interesting:

‘The Americans have need of the telephone, but we do not. We have plenty of messenger boys.’
Sir William Preece, British Post Office, 1878.

‘Who the hell wants to hear actors talk?’ HM Warner, Warner Bros, 1927.

‘I think there is a world of market for maybe five computers.’ Thomas Watson, chairman of IBM, 1943.

‘Television won’t be able to hold on to any market that it captures after the first 6 months.’ Darryl Zantuck, 20th Century Fox, 1946.

‘There is no reason why anyone would want a computer in their home.’ Ken Olsen, Digital Equipment Corp, 1977.

‘No one will need more than 637KB of memory for a personal computer-640 KB ought to be enough for anybody.’ Bill Gates, Microsoft, 1981.

‘Next Christmas, the iPod will be dead.’ Alan Sugar, British entrepreneur, 2005

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday break and look forward to all students returning in Term 3.

Cameron Brown
Principal

**TERM 3 PRINCIPAL’S AWARD**

Kindergarten – Elizabeth P’oryem  
Prep – Zoe Mulcahy  
Grade 1 – Sunday Lagu  
Grade 2 – Angus Mitchell  
Grade 3 – Toby Kop  
Grade 4 – George McLeod  
Grade 5 Amy Hill  
Grade 6 – Alex Pears  

Congratulations to all recipients!
KINDER EXCURSION

On Thursday the Kinder children went on an excursion to the Sustainability Learning Center at Mt. Nelson. We left school at 9:15 and travelled on a big bus (a highlight of the excursion) to learn all about minibeasts. Our guide was called Bindi and she taught us how insects change colour so they cannot be seen by animals who might eat them. We were able to play with an enormous stick insect, who crawled up our arms. We went on the Corridor Challenge where we were able to try our hand at lots of different scientific experiments. After this we went to the Train Park for lunch and a play. It was a great day and we would like to thank our Parent Helpers who came with us.

GRADE 3 T.M.A.G. EXCURSION

On Friday the 28th June Grade 3 went to the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery. At 10:05 the bus came to pick us up. We got there at 10:11. We walked quickly because we were excited. We needed to stand and wait for 4 minutes. Mrs Jackson got an Aboriginal teachers bag then we headed off. We went first to the BIGGEST room. There were iPads and you press what section. So I had a go then we went to this table and there were lots of hatches. There were lots of slots but I put my hand in the black hole with dead animals. Then we went to the Aboriginal room. There were lots of models and objects but what I enjoyed was putting my hand down the snake hole and seeing a model of a boat. There were some beautiful shell necklaces and lots of features on the walls. Then Ms Pitfield led us to the Aboriginal art work. There was some really creative art work but I was most inspired by the art work of the brown model of the head and shoulders of three great Aboriginals. There also was a nice feature wall. Our fun was nearly over but there was one more room that tells the whole story. It was a dark place. There were pictures, canons and a movie about how it started and more. When I was watching the clip I thought how did it all start. I went to listen to some of the sounds about how the dark times were and it wasn't nice. Then we went outside and Mrs. Jackson got some of the Aboriginal stuff out of the bag like kelp, rock tools and more. On that day I learned lots about cultures and about the first people who stood on earth.

By Toby Kop
**Introducing Library monitors to Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic School**

A Library Monitor is someone who is chosen by the class teacher to take on extra tasks and responsibilities on behalf of the school library. Two students from Grades 1 through to Grade 5 will be selected as Library monitors for the term, beginning in Term Three. Some of the tasks will change depending on what grade you are in.

**DUTIES:**
- Returning all the class books to the Library, on the day of the Library lesson.
- Keeping all the books in the classroom tidy on the shelves
- Changing the classroom books for new ones, if the Teacher wishes
- Grade 3, 4 & 5 Monitors can be involved in Library Monitor meetings, to be held in the Library at lunchtime once a month.
- On occasion, assist at the Library desk to return the books by scanning them for Mrs Webster

**Why do I want to be a Library Monitor?**
- *It is a position of leadership and responsibility*
- *It will give you new skills*
- *You will get to wear a 'Library Monitor’ badge*
- *You will receive a thank-you certificate at the end of term assembly*

If this sounds like something you would like to do, just let your class teacher know. Good luck and have a lovely holiday break! 😊

Mrs Webster – Library Technician

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Would you like to try a sport where it’s not freezing? Well we’ve got something for you to consider.

New Town Cricket Club are about to start an off-season program in preparation for the upcoming Cricket Season. Whether you are considering trying 20:20 cricket, you want to surprise last year’s team mates, or are a seasoned campaigner looking to dominate the competition, then this could be for you.

To find out more please send an email to lindsayrolle@hotmail.com and we will include you in our off-season emailed correspondence.

Lindsay Rolle
New Town Bucks Cricket Club
Game Development Officer 2013-2014
Level 2 Cricket Coach.