Principal’s Message

Dear Parents,

Last Thursday and Friday I had the great pleasure of attending professional development with the other Catholic Principals on the unpacking of Pope Francis’ encyclical Laudato si. Jacqui Remond led the PD from Catholic Earthcare. She unpacked Laudato Si for us.

In the Encyclical, each chapter addresses a particular topic using a specific method, but throughout the entire Encyclical, some principal concepts are continually taken up and enriched:

• The intimate relationship between the poor and the fragility of the planet,
• The conviction that everything in the world is connected,
• The critique of new paradigms and forms of power derived from technology,
• The call to seek other ways of understanding the economy and progress,
• The value proper to each creature,
• The human meaning of ecology,
• The need for forthright and honest debate,
• The serious responsibility of international and local policy,
• The throwaway culture and the proposal of a new lifestyle (16).

The dialogue that Pope Francis proposes as a method for addressing and resolving the environmental problems is followed throughout the Encyclical. It refers to contributions by philosophers and theologians, not only Catholic but also Orthodox (the already cited Patriarch Bartholomew) and Protestant (the French thinker Paul Ricoeur) as well as the Islamic mystic Ali Al-Khawas. The same occurs in the key of that collegiality that Pope Francis has proposed to the Church since the beginning of his ministry: alongside the references to the teachings of his predecessors and of other Vatican documents (in particular of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace), there are many taken from numerous Episcopal Conferences from all continents.
At the heart of Laudato si we find this question: “What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?” (160). Pope Francis continues: “This question does not have to do with the environment alone and in isolation; the issue cannot be approached piecemeal”. This leads us to ask ourselves about the meaning of existence and its values at the base of social life: “What is the purpose of our life in this world? Why are we here? What is the goal of our work and all our efforts? What need does the earth have of us? ” Unless we struggle with these deeper issues – says the Pope – I do not believe that our concern for ecology will produce significant results.”

It is clear that, after Laudato si’, the examination of conscience (the instrument that the Church has always recommended to orient one’s life by reflection on one’s lived relationship with the Lord, should include a new dimension. One would regularly review, not only how one has lived in communion with God, with others and with oneself, but also with all creatures and with nature.”

Google Search Laudato si Summary-Catholic Church in Australia

Earthcare website has many valuable suggestions and ideas as to how schools and homes can support and protect the environment. A strong theme that was repeated to us principals was Act Locally and Think Globally. It is the small actions that we take as part of our ecological conversion. Two schools, Sacred Heart Geesteveston and St Peter Chanel, Smithton, shared what they are doing in their schools with gardens, animals and community involvement.

The challenge was given for all schools to look at what they are currently doing and at what they can do to further address the challenge of Laudato si. After further conversations with the staff I will report back to you and ask your support in addressing this challenge.

This week there is a celebration of all the great things that are occurring in Catholic Education, including our Gr 6 students who will be joining students from all Catholic Schools in a Mass on Wednesday at Sacred Heart Church at St Thomas More’s. All parents are welcome to join us.

Have a great week.

Anthony Healey.
Principal.

EMERGENCY PRACTISE

Within the next four weeks we will hold an unannounced emergency practise with staff & students, to test our response to a potential scenario that staff identify a threat, warranting the school go into lockdown (opposite to evacuation).

Like for fire evacuation drills, we recognised the worth to test this process.

We have plans in place to make this practice as least disruptive as able.

If you have queries you are welcome to call our Safety Officer, Simon Natoli on 0400 105 476
Catholic Education Week
The theme for CEW 2016 is ‘Catholic Education: Opening the doors of Mercy.’ which aligns with the global Catholic Church celebration of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy. Pope Francis sees the Year of Mercy as an opportunity for forgiveness and reconciliation, and is calling on all Catholic communities to extend mercy to those in need.

Classes have been focusing on this theme and have created beautiful artwork. This artwork is displayed in the office and around the school.

On Wednesday, 17th August, the Grade Six students will be attending the Catholic Education Week Mass. This Mass is an opportunity for all northern Catholic Grade 6 students to be together. The students will travel by bus departing at 10:20 a.m. and returning to school by 1:20 p.m. Mass begins at 11:00 a.m. and will be followed by a sausage sizzle at St Thomas More’s. Students are to wear their full winter uniform.

Student of the Week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep</th>
<th>Ebony Johnston</th>
<th>For being a helpful class member</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3/4</td>
<td>Kaiden Stacey-Baker</td>
<td>For his amazing effort in the NIJSSA Carnival</td>
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Wanted - Eddie the Penguin Saves the World Photos!
Do you have any photos from last week's performance of Eddie the Penguin Saves the World that you would like to share. Mrs Boyle would like to make a collage for the students. If you have any photos please email them to stfinnbarrs@catholic.tas.edu.au or drop them into the office on a USB.

Thank you for your assistance with this.
Thank you to everyone who came along to the Rock N Roll Disco and made the night an enjoyable event! It was fantastic to see everyone dressed up in all those bright FLURO colours! Special Thank You to our P & F volunteers, you are the only reason these events work so well.

Don’t forget...

› We are having Steve Biddulph return with 'The Secret of Happy Children' on Wednesday, 19th October. The P & F is finalising details and excited to have Steve return!

› We are starting the work around making our 2016 school magazine happen. This is going to be a great piece of memorabilia of the year gone.

› Scholastic gave St Finn Barr’s $650 worth of books for our Library, and a special 'Coming Soon' event just for us! Watch this space for more details... ...
Do you enjoy helping others learn?

Would you like to learn more about further education and share this knowledge with other parents/carers in your community?

Would you like to learn new skills that will help you to organise and run community based meetings?

If you answered ‘yes’ to these questions, we want to meet you!

We are establishing a community-based learning group for all parents/carers with children in grades 5-8 in Rocherlea, Mayfield, Mowbray and Invermay, very soon.

The group will meet once a school term over coffee to chat and learn about what education options are available for children after grade 10. Parents/carers will also have the opportunity to visit UTAS, colleges, business and TasTAFE.

We’re looking for a small group of parents/carers or interested community members to lead this exciting new community based-learning group. You will be trained in 3 VET Units of Competence (fully subsidised) and with the support and guidance of the project manager organise and facilitate the groups and their activities.

To find out more ring, text or email:

Denise Delphin 0439 369 396 / manager@nscctas.org.au
Linda Richardson 0407 916 544 / Linda.Richardson@thesmithfamily.com.au
Marcel Kerrison 0417 622 047 / marcel.kerrison@utas.edu.au
# August 2016 Calendar

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<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
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<td>Catholic Education Week</td>
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<td>Morning Prayer - 5/6 HC</td>
<td>Playgroup 1-2:45pm - Music Instruments</td>
<td>Catholic Education Week Mass @ 11:00 a.m. - Sacred Heart Newstead</td>
<td>Parents Walking Group, meet in back car park at 2pm</td>
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<td>Drama Performances - Gr 5/6 Cousins @ 10am, Gr 5/6 Pat/Ed @ 11.45 am, Gr 5/6 Coombe @ 1.45pm</td>
<td>Bring a music instrument from home.</td>
<td>Parent Borrowing from Library @ 2.45pm</td>
<td>Parents Walking Group, meet in back car park at 2pm</td>
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<td>Morning Prayer - 3/4 BH</td>
<td>Board Meeting @ 6.30pm</td>
<td>Parent Borrowing from Library @ 2.45pm</td>
<td>Parent Borrowing from Library @ 8.45am</td>
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<td>Drama Performances - Gr 3/4 Hyatt @ 10am, Gr 3/4 Clayton @ 11.45 am, Gr 3/4 Crosswell @ 1.45pm</td>
<td>9am-10.30am - Making our own music</td>
<td>Daffodil Day - Dress in Yellow for Gold Coin Donation</td>
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<td>Morning Prayer - Prep LM</td>
<td>Playgroup 1-2:45pm - Father’s Day Activities</td>
<td>Father’s Day Activities @ 12:00 (No Class Liturgy / Mass due to Father’s Day Activities)</td>
<td>Parents Walking Group, meet in back car park at 2pm</td>
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<td>P &amp; F Meeting @ 7.30pm</td>
<td>Parent Borrowing from Library @ 2.45pm</td>
<td>Parent Borrowing from Library @ 8.45am</td>
<td>Parent Borrowing from Library @ 8.45am</td>
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<td>Playgroup 1-2:45pm - Pop up playgroup at Heritage Forest - Signs of Spring</td>
<td>Parent Borrowing from Library @ 2.45pm</td>
<td>Parents Walking Group, meet in back car park at 2pm</td>
<td>Parent Borrowing from Library @ 8.45am</td>
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**Upcoming Events**

[Image of Upcoming Events logo]
Small gift donations are urgently required for the Father’s Day Stall

Donations are of something small that a Dad would like to receive, things like chocolates, a mug, stationery, car cleaning items, gadgets, key ring, fishing, sports...

STALL DATE: Wednesday, 31st August 2016

Thank you if you have already sent your gift along. The stall is a success when each family brings in a small donation to contribute to the pool of gifts available for your child to purchase for Dad this Father’s Day.

Thank you for your support

St Finn Barr’s Parents and Friends
ROCK & ROLL NIGHT