



St Paul's Catholic School Palette

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Spiritual Works of Mercy: To bear wrongs patiently

Have you ever been wronged? Of course you have. And the advice 'to bear wrongs patiently' would have been very difficult to take. In the midst of the anger and hurt, humiliation and the desire to hit back, to be told to just take it calmly and peaceably seems not only like further insult, it seems down-right impossible – for it is. When we are hurt, we are hurt and no amount of pretending otherwise will take away the pain. But, and you knew that 'but' was coming, we are not being told to take the wrong but to bear it 'patiently' and that is a very different thing. The word 'patient' comes from the word for 'passion' so this advice really is 'to bear wrongs passionately' given that in the Christian understanding this means with passionate love. We are not meant to be timid in the face of hurt, or to lash out in anger. We are meant to be passionately involved, seeking to understand our own pain and that of the others involved, including the perpetrator/s.

And that is why we have to 'bear' wrongs. Something we bear involves work and time. We engage with the situation long enough to find out what is really happening: what is the real cause of our hurt, what can be done realistically and how could grace and love work creatively in this situation? If this sounds like a big ask, it is. It is much easier to be a doormat or to lash out in the face of injustice. For us to transform such a situation, we need help from on high: the wisdom, courage and fortitude of the Holy Spirit. Thinking on your own experience of being wronged, can you imagine how you could creatively and lovingly act with such a power helping you?

Come Holy Spirit, give me the wisdom and courage I need to unleash your creative love in the situations where I am wronged. I ask this in the name of Jesus who turned an unjust death into the place of life.

Sr Kym Harris osb

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a very positive start to Term 3. It's great to see all our teams working well and enjoying themselves. The staff and students have been very patient with the ordinary weather, as we have been spending majority of break times inside.

Mercy Action Program

We are very excited to welcome Sr Margaret back to St Paul's again next week. Sr Margaret is our Artist in Residence and like last year will be spending a week in our school community. Sr Margaret will be working with small groups and will also work on an art piece in the HUB area throughout the week, so the community can see first hand the work of an artist. The piece of art that Sr Margaret produced in 2015 is proudly displayed in the HUB area.

PIT STOP Zone

Next week we are implementing our new Pit Stop Zone. A space at recess and lunch time that will be supervised by a member of the School Leadership Team for students (Prep to 6) that need some extra support in navigating the playground.

A duty teacher will send students to the room if their behaviour is aggressive or inappropriate (including poor language). Once in the room the students will work with a senior staff member to look at how they can improve their behaviour in the playground. Goals will be set and behaviour will be closely monitored. Students in the room (depending on the grade) may be required to do follow up activities either at school or home.

The room will also be a place where children can spend an occasional recess/lunch time if they would prefer to stay inside and play a board game or another inside activity with a small group of friends.

The two main goals for Pit Stop are:

1. Students are given support and guidance so they can re-enter the playground with confidence and strategies/tools.
2. That playground issues are dealt with by a member of the leadership team, so after break times teachers can quickly commence their learning & teaching programs.

Parent/Teacher Interviews

Thank you to the parents/carers who came along Tuesday afternoon to their Parent/Teacher Interviews. We hope that parents found these discussions worthwhile. If you missed your interviews, please ensure you follow up with your child's classroom teacher.

Rocket into Reading

On Tuesday morning a number of students joined the staff for morning tea as their reward for winning the End of Term prizes for our 'Rocket into Reading' Program. Well done to Ethan Allen, Noah Bedford, Harrison Bricknell, Jaxon Kaye, Courtney Banks, Declan McCarthy & Bella Daly. They loved it! Thanks to the staff and parents that are continuing to support this small but valuable initiative. We are making excellent gains with our reading programs.

In April I received a letter from Mr John Mula (Director of Catholic Ed) to say that St Paul's was identified by ACARA (people that run national testing – NAPLAN) for our substantial above average gains in NAPLAN results in Reading. This is fantastic recognition of the hard work of the staff and parents in their commitment to improve student reading outcomes.

School Board Meeting

A reminder for our School Board members that we are meeting this Monday, 1st August at 5.30pm in the staff room.

Congratulations Connor & Isabelle

Late last week Connor Quarry and Isabelle Selby were elected by their peers as our new School Leaders for the second part of the school year. Connor and Isabelle are keen to represent St Paul's and to carry out their important responsibilities. A massive thanks to Hartley Jak and Kate Forrest for being outstanding leaders for the first part of the school year.

Welcome

Welcome to Mr Laurence Winckel who is teaching for two days this term in Grade 5 & 6. Mr Winkel is well known to the students and staff as he has been assisting with relief teacher across the school for the majority of 2016. Mr Winckel is replacing Mrs Longey who commenced maternity leave at the end of last term.

Have a great week!

Mr Stuart Kelly

Principal

Has your child gone Pokemon wild? - Article by Michael Grose – Parenting Expert

Pokémon Go! What a craze! Beats just about any fad I've seen including yo yo's, swap cards and the original Pokémon Gameboy way back in the old days – remember the 90's.

While Pokémon Go is geared toward adults and teenagers it's taken off among primary aged children –even some pre school kids – as well. Both genders are playing the game, but a rough count among colleagues and friends indicates that it's boys more than girls that are hooked on the game.

Pokémon Go has plenty of psychological hooks to make boys love it. The roam and search nature of the game appeals to the hunter-gatherer that exists in most boys. There are plenty of things to collect which appeals to a boy's fundamental need to put order and control in his world.

And the competitive element embedded in the game makes it almost irresistible to many boys who love nothing better than to better someone else.

How can we approach this craze?

Many parents have asked me how they should approach the Pokémon Go craze, particularly when their children are besotted by it.

Start by accepting that Pokémon Go, like all fads, has captured your child's interest. It's hard to fight against or even stop your child from being involved in games that 'everyone is playing'.

That leads to these two parenting requirements. First, find out all you can about the game so you know what you are up against. Ask your child to explain what it's all about. Figure out which parts of the game are age-appropriate and which parts are going to present you with headaches. Once kids are old enough to have their own phones and transportation, they're certainly old enough to play the game without help. Pokémon Go gives users plenty of chances to spend real money, so you probably will want to limit in-game purchases.

Lures, an aspect of the game, can present tricky situations for parents. A player can set out a lure to attract Pokémon, but because these lures can be seen by any nearby player, you're not sure who they are attracting. Revisit those Stranger Danger lessons with your kids.

Second, you need to meld your existing family technology rules with the expectations and opportunities that Pokémon Go presents. These include, how much time children are allowed to spend on technology; consider what activities Pokémon Go takes kids away from (including homework); and be aware that's is not healthy for your child to be hooked on one activity at the expense of everything else.

Keep your Pokémon Go player safe -

Pokémon Go gets kids outside roaming and exploring their neighbourhoods, which on the surface, is a good thing. However as one mum told me her son's Pokémon Go experience was leading them to a local quarry, which had some obvious risks attached. So if your kids are old enough to wander unsupervised some quick reminders of safety rules maybe in order, such as crossing a street with a phone in their pocket and only playing the game with kids their own age.

If you join in the craze then be prepared to drive your players around as many Pokémon stops are in interesting places such as parks, historical markers and other gathering spots. Different places have different Pokémon things to collect.. yes, it can get complicated, which is the intrinsic value of the craze.

So my advice for parents is to approach Pokémon Go positively and intelligently. Discover about it as much as your time, your current circumstances and your kids will allow. Join them if possible. Remember, it's a lot of fun; it does get kids exercising more than their thumbs and there are some great learnings (maths, nature and even history) built in to the game. On the other hand, ensure that kids keep a balance in their activities so that a fun craze doesn't become an absolute, all or nothing obsession- which can so easily happen with boys.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Class Mass Schedule

This Thursday we commence our weekly class mass schedule.

Family and community members are all welcome to attend.

Mass starts at 9:00am in the church.

Please find below the schedule for the next three weeks:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Grade</i>
Thursday July 28 th	Grade 5 & Kinder
Thursday August 4 th	Grade 6
Thursday August 11 th	Grade 3

Prayer Assembly

All members of our school community are welcome to join us on Monday mornings for our Prayer Assemblies. Assembly starts at 9:00am in the school hall.

At these assemblies we also celebrate winners in our "Rocket into Reading" competition and birthdays for the week.

World Youth Day

We currently have a Tasmanian group embarking on an amazing pilgrimage for World Youth Day. To keep up to date with their movements all over Europe be sure to check the Facebook page, which is called "*Tasmanian Pilgrimage to World Youth Day 2016*".

PRAYER

God of compassion,
your love for humanity was revealed in Jesus,
whose earthly life began in the poverty of a stable
and ended in the pain and isolation of the cross:
we hold before you those who are homeless and cold
especially in this bitter weather.
Draw near and comfort them in spirit
and bless those who work to provide them
with shelter, food and friendship.

Amen

Mr Sam Morey
AP/RE