Glory to Live By

Recently, I was talking with a mum who was taking her daughter to the State Swimming Trials in Brisbane and she spoke of how well she hoped her daughter would do – which really came down to doing a personal best. But I’m sure the daughter’s hopes were for more, maybe even much more, perhaps even being noticed for Olympic training. So what if her hopes were too high, they sure got her out of bed long before dawn each day for training.

Having hopes, even high hopes, is crucial for growth. We aim for what we hope for. Early in Lent, indeed next Sunday, the Gospel tells of a moment in Jesus’ life when his glory shone through him. Up till now, the disciples had known Jesus as just an extraordinary human, now they saw the glory of God shining through him, even when he was talking about the shameful death he was to face. This moment of Transfiguration was not just to show them who Jesus was but also to give those disciples a future glimpse of the glory that God desires for each of us. St Peter, writing years later as an old man, was still fired by this moment of glory. It had inspired him to see what life in God could mean – both at the end of life and also in living gracefully through all the trials of life.

The glory that God desires for each of us is greater than Olympic glory...and far more lasting but we need to actually access it, especially in the difficult and even dull times of life. We need to regularly imagine what our unique personality would be like at its ‘best self’ and then ask for God’s grace to live towards that life. One thing of which we can be certain: God’s hopes for our glory are greater than what we have for ourselves.

Loving God, your desires for me are even greater than I can have for myself. Send me your Spirit to reveal to me, even in a small way, the glory you desire to give me through Jesus. I ask this in his name confident that you will hear me.

Sr Kym Harris osb
THE SEASON OF LENT

Last week we commenced the season of Lent with the celebration of Mass on Ash Wednesday. This was an excellent opportunity to come together as a school and parish community to focus on Lent, an important season in the church’s calendar where we prepare for Easter and Christ’s Resurrection. Traditionally, Lent has been a season of fasting and prayer. Lent is also a time to be kind and generous.

During Lent, Project Compassion gives each of us the opportunity to express our generosity by donating money to help communities in our world that need our assistance.

In 2013, Project Compassion carries the message: "Open doors into the future". The Matuba Children’s Centre in Mozambique, run by Caritas Chokwe, offers orphaned and vulnerable children food, clean water, educational support, livelihood training and a place where they can be safe, happy and healthy. With your support, the Children’s Centre opens doors for children and young people; they find hope for the future and a safe place where they can grow. Each child at our school received a Project Compassion box to take home last week. Families are asked to support Project Compassion by placing some money in the box throughout the season of Lent.

LAUNCH OF PROJECT COMPASSION

Last week, Max Bradley and Hailee Baldwin from Grade 6 represented Sacred Heart Catholic School at this important event held at St Mary’s Cathedral. They received a Project Compassion Candle and box for the school from Archbishop Adrian Doyle. Hailee and Max participated well in the Liturgy and were fine ambassadors for our school.

SPANISH LESSONS AT SACRED HEART

This year our school LOTE Program will provide our children with the opportunity to learn about the Spanish language and also its culture.

Miss Anna Demarco is teaching Spanish to all classes this year. Yesterday our first Spanish lessons took place and the children enjoyed the opportunity to learn Spanish numbers. I’m sure they have already started practising their new language at home.

PBS LAUNCH AT SCHOOL

Last Wednesday, we launched our Positive Behaviour Support Program for our students at school. The launch gave us the opportunity to show everyone our new PBS banners, present students with their PBS wristbands and enjoy some team games that focused on being SAFE, POSITIVE and RESPECTFUL. I must congratulate our Grade 6 students who prepared and ran a range of exciting games for all our students. Special thanks to Mrs Cate Doherty and Miss Shae Longey for their wonderful coordination of this event!

FIRST BOARD MEETING

The first Board meeting of the year will be held this Thursday, February 21. An agenda has been circulated to Board members.
STUDENT LEADERSHIP
We have been working closely on promoting student leadership at Sacred Heart. This week Grade 6 students will vote for our student leaders and they can also apply to be an Aussie Sports Leader. Students from Grades 3 – 6 can stand for our Student Representative Council elections.

BUILDING AN ABORIGINAL CAMPSITE
Last Friday, a number of our Aboriginal students worked with Mr Leigh Oates from Wayraparatee Centre in Geeveston on the construction of an Aboriginal campsite at our school. What a productive day they had using bark and other materials to build the shelter.

PERMISSION FORMS & RETURNS
This week, you will receive a range of information and forms. We ask that parents read through them carefully and complete as required. In some instances you may need to read through information with your child so they are aware of important guidelines that apply to them. Please ensure that these forms are returned promptly to school.

P&F NEWS
The AGM for our Parents and Friends Association will be held next Tuesday, 26 February in the Josephite Centre. Drinks and nibbles served from 6.30pm. Meeting commences at 7pm. Parents are encouraged to attend.

Our Welcome BBQ will be held on Friday, 1st March from 5 – 7pm in the school playground. This is a free BBQ sponsored by the P&F Association. We encourage all families to attend.

Please return the reply form attached to the flyer send home last week about these events.

FREE DRESS DAY
There will be a Free Dress Day on Tuesday, 5th March. Children are asked to bring along a gold coin/s as a donation towards the purchase of eggs prizes for the Easter Raffle.

SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL
This event will be on Monday, 4th March at the Port Huon Aquatic Centre. Children from Prep – Grade 6 will be taking part. Please see the flyer sent home today for more detailed information.

Best wishes for the coming week.

Luch Brighella
Principal

Book Club due back 25th February

Southern Storm Footy Teams
Training has commenced for Under 13, Under 14 and Under 16
@ Franklin Oval Wednesday nights from 4.30 - 6.00pm
Contact Cameron Ashlin with any queries 0407 523 295

Kermandie Junior Football Club
Registration Night
Friday 22nd February @ Clubrooms 4pm.
ABORIGINAL FAMILY CAMP

The Family Camp is fast approaching, March 15th - 17th. I sent a letter out at the end of week one with details about the camp. If you are interested in coming could you please send back the form indicating your interest in attending. Alternatively you can ring the office and leave a message to let us know that you would like to come along. I need to finalise numbers very soon. Remember, the more the merrier!

Mrs Cate Doherty

PBS LAUNCH

The sun was out and the students were pumped for the Launch of Sacred Heart’s School Wide Positive Behaviour Support Program. Miss Longey together with the Grade 6s organised a fantastic afternoon of fun. Students were mixed into multi-aged groups and participated in a variety of games. The students were SuPeR. They played safely, had wonderful positive attitudes and showed great respect to the sports leaders and to each other.

Here’s what some of the students thought:
"It was awesome" (Jack Gr.3)
“It was really really fun” (Lucy Cox Gr.3)
“We had fun helping the younger kids learnt the games” (William Hardy Gr.3)