The Grace of Difficulty.

St John the Baptist, Jesus’ cousin, has a significant role to play in the Gospels in preparing people for the coming of Christ. This may surprise us as he was a difficult person. He certainly didn’t fit it. Just as well he went off into the desert to live. But people were still drawn to him because he ‘told it to them straight’. The dregs of society loved him and were transformed. The leaders and religious people rejected him. Eventually he was murdered for doing what a prophet does best: challenging people into the ways of God.

Most of us do not have prophets on hand to challenge us into God’s ways but we have difficult people, or people who dearly love who can sometimes be difficult. Our natural response to tough situations is be submissive or to be aggressive – the old ‘fight or flight’ syndrome. But, as we know, neither resolve the situation. We need to look at such situations and such people differently. They can be moments of grace when God’s creative love calls us to act differently, to become a bigger and better person. This does not mean it will be easy. These ‘moments’ can last a long time and can take an awful toll on us. When we are in such situations we need to enter into ourselves and in our hearts ask for God’s guidance. We need to listen, to think, to take advice and then bring the wisdom of God’s strong love into our lives.

Loving God, you not only console us you also challenge us. Give us the wisdom of your Spirit that in the difficult situations of life we may love like Jesus, our brother. We ask this in his name, confident that you will hear us.

Sr Kym Harris osb

ST MARY MACKILLOP QUOTE

“All is in the hands of God”

(Mary MacKillop - 1881)
Dear Parent/caregiver,

DANCEFEVER SUCCESS
Last night our Grades 3-6 classes gathered at the Derwent Entertainment Centre for the DanceFever Challenge. What an amazing night it was with all of our students dancing so well. It was great to see the lengths that the children had gone to with the way they dressed up on the night. They really did look sensational! The actual dancing was fantastic. To see our children presenting a range of dances that they had learnt in only a term was wonderful. The school won two of the major awards and many of our students were among the places! Thank you to all the parents for your fantastic support of DanceFever. Special thanks to the many staff who helped out in different ways. A special thank you to Mrs Leanne Hall who kindly drove families to and from the Valley to the DEC. All in all a very special event.

DanceFever Placegetters:

Grade 6 Fox Trot  Thomas & Tara Shanley  2nd Place
Grade 6 Cha Cha  Shannan Doyle & Shayla Ackerley  1st
Grade 5 Cha Cha  Jordan Walker & Sophie Buick  1st
Grade 5 Fox Trot  Jordan Walker & Sophie Buick  2nd
Grade 4 Fox Trot  Jordan Walker & Olivia Bittner  1st
Grade 4 Cha Cha  Lawson Grey & Georgia Golding  2nd
Grade 3 Cha Cha  Harris Short & Charlotte Francis  2nd
Grade 3 Fox Trot  Tim Mitchell & Polly O’Neill  3rd

CARITAS JUST LEADERSHIP DAY
Last Thursday, Lily Greene, Maireade Brennan, Fraser Johns, Reece Scotland, Tommy Twaits, Lawson Grey, Jordan Coleman and Abby Gordon attended this leadership day for Grade 5 children. The children enjoyed the day and the activities they were involved in. Special thanks to Sheree Brennan and Kate Greaves for transporting the children to the venue on the day.

PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION CALENDAR – ORDER NOW!
Parents are reminded that if you want to order a calendars you need to get your order form and money to the school office by next Tuesday, 10th December. Any orders received after that date will still be received, but we will not guarantee delivery by the end of term.

END OF YEAR REPORTS
As part of our reporting to parents process, we will be issuing your child’s end of year report on Thursday, 12th December. If your family requires an extra copy, please let our school office know by next Monday, 9th December.

ABC GIVING TREE
This year our Junior Joeys are promoting the ABC Giving Tree and we encourage all families to donate a special gift that can be given to a child in need of support for Christmas. Gifts can be put under the Christmas tree in the office foyer. Presents should be wrapped and parents are asked to attach a tag which indicates if it’s for a boy or girl and the suggested age. Thank you in anticipation of your generosity.
ENROLMENTS 2014 – GRADES 4, 5 & 6
We have a few positions available in these grades for next year. If you know of any families that may be interested, please encourage them to make contact with our school office.

Have a great week!

Luch Brighella
Principal

CHRISTMAS CAROL EVENING – THURSDAY, 12 DECEMBER
6pm
Families are asked to keep this night free so that you can come along and enjoy this great school event.

Each class will be singing Christmas Carols that they have learnt. Families can bring along a blanket, a picnic tea to enjoy while the carols are being sung, and perhaps a candle. Some cold drinks will be available for purchase on the night.

This event will be alcohol free and there is no smoking.

GEEVESTON CHRISTMAS PARADE – FRIDAY, 13 DECEMBER
Families are reminded that the Annual Christmas Parade in Geeveston is being held in Geeveston on Friday, 13 December, commencing at 6.30pm. Everyone is very welcome.

WANTED
Prep would appreciate any donations of glass jars with light screw on lids.

Thank you
From Prep

Dates for your Diary
Fri 6th Dec                        Grade 6 Leavers Mass 10am
Tues 10th Dec                     Kinder Excursion - Tranquil Point Yoga
Wed 11th Dec                      DanceFever K-2 Showcase 1:45pm
Thur 12th Dec                     End of Year Reports sent home
Fri 13th Dec                      Christmas Carols @ SHG 6pm
                                  Geeveston Christmas Parade
Dear Parents,

Could all library books be returned over the next 2 weeks. This enables us to get them back onto the shelves ready for next year.

There will be no more borrowing after this week.

Thank you
Cathie Stockford
Calendars will feature artwork by your children as well as school photos.

All childrens’ artwork from the same family will be incorporated into one calendar.

Order your Calendar now! Only $7.50 each

The P&F welcome any suggestions to improve our calendar from previous years! – Just email Kate at mitchintas@gmail.com

Students Names: ..................................  Grade: ....................

........................................  Grade: ....................

........................................  Grade: ....................

........................................  Grade: ....................

Number of calendars required: ................. @ $7.50

Payment Enclosed:  $......................

Calendar orders and payment must be received in the office before Tuesday 10th December 2013.
What’s Been Happening at Sacred Heart

Dancefever Challenge
Planting out our new veggie gardens
GEEVESTON CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Sacred Heart Catholic School is participating in the Christmas Pageant this year, at Geevston on Friday 13th December.

Our school has had great fun in the pageant in previous years. It would not have been possible without the support and enthusiasm of the children and their families. So we hope you have your festive spirit ready and come along and be part of the pageant.

We will once again be entered as a pedestrian and bicycle group, although due to the success of the billycart derby earlier this year the organisers have decided to include billycarts if you still have yours and would like to ride it, fell free, just remember your helmet.

We rely on parents for added adult supervision while participating to allow children to hand out lollies and balloons along the way. There is to be no throwing of lollies and all bike/billycart riders must have helmets, otherwise they will be refused participation.

Children are encouraged to dress up although, if you do not wish to dress up, please still come along and walk with us anyway.

Everyone is to meet outside Huon FM, on School Road at 6.00 pm. The parade will depart from School Road at 6.30 pm and conclude at the Heritage Park.

There will be a BBQ to follow (gold coin donation). There will also be a jumping castle and carols.

With the changeable weather, please ensure that children have a Santa hat (or normal hat), a drink and a coat.

If your child/children would like to participate, please return the slip below to school, or phone me on 0409 337 065.

Parent/guardian participation is always appreciated. If you are able to walk with the parade please indicate on the slip also.

Thankyou

Maree McQueen

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Child/Children’s Name:

Walking / Bicycle / Billycart Class:

Parents Name:

Do you intend to stay with the group: YES / NO

(please circle)