In praise of the ‘ordinary’

The Olympics are a boon to the media giving, as they do, a stream of ‘extraordinary’ moments with which to fill the newsfeed and entertain. Here is drama, from failure to success with humour thrown in, and in the face of it all our ordinary lives seem so, well, ordinary. Eating breakfast, preparing the lunches seems so dull up against the ice dancing. The joy that overtakes the winners can seduce us into thinking that this is where happiness lies – in outstanding personal achievement that is recognised by others. Not so.

Anyone who works are the top of their craft, be it sportsperson, artist, teacher, parent knows that they give of their best when they are present to the moment. This looks pretty obvious in aerial somersaults. Not so obvious when listening to a child tell about the scrap on the school playground or listening to their reading. But extraordinary things can happen to us, when we enter into the ordinary, attentively. The aerialist who remains calm in the moment has the best chance of landing clean… then the joy flows. In our mundane lives, we may not have such highs but a sense of happiness and well-being can follow when we give of ourselves attentively and lovingly in the most ordinary of moments. Sportspeople often talk of entering ‘the zone’. We can enter such a zone in loving and caring for others by being present to them in daily events. Being present, our hearts shift: we find we don’t give in order to get back, rather we just give. And in doing that, we find ourselves more fully human. Throughout the Gospel, when Jesus calls us to generous giving and selfless love, he is not asking for extraordinary actions but rather a simple presence in ordinary events that allows graciousness to flow.

Loving God, help me to be present to those around me so that in the ordinary events of life, I might show a deep and gracious love. I ask this in Jesus’ name, confident that you will hear me.

Sr Kym

“God gives me strength for what is necessary”

Mary MacKillop
Dear Parent/caregiver,

STUDENT LEADERS 2014

It is with great pleasure that I announce our Student Leaders for 2014.

**School Captains**  Tommy Twaits & Lily Greene

**House Captains**  Fraser Johns & Abby Gordon (Hartz)
Reece Scotland & Sophie Buick (Picton)

**SRC**
Blair Gifford & Maireade Brennan (Grade 6)
Lawson Grey (Kinder - Grade 2 Rep)
Joshua Bradley & Ava Swanson (Grade 5)

I’m sure that you will join me in congratulating them and wishing them well in their leadership roles this year. The leaders will be presented with their badges at our Beginning of Year Mass tomorrow.

PARENT INFORMATION EVENING & WELCOME BBQ TONIGHT

Thank you to the many parents who have responded to our notice about our Parent Information evening and Welcome BBQ at Sacred Heart tonight. This will be a valuable opportunity for you to:

- meet your child’s teachers.
- hear about what is happening in your child’s class this year particularly around the learning and teaching.
- be informed about school and classroom routines and expectations.
- meet other families and enjoy a meal.

The BBQ food and soft drinks will be served from 5 – 7pm.

Parent Information sessions will take place at the following times:

5.30pm  Kinder – Grade 2 Parent Information session.
6.15pm  Grades 3 – 6 Parent Information session.

Children are most welcome to attend and will be fully supervised on the playground by staff while parents attend the information sessions.

BEGINNING OF YEAR MASS INVITATION

Parents and family members are invited to attend our Beginning of Year Mass on tomorrow, Wednesday, 26 February. The Mass will commence at 11.30am in the school hall.

SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Parents are advised that our school swimming carnival, for all children from Kinder – Grade 6, will be taking place on:

**Tuesday, 11th March**

at the
The Huonville Pool
9.30am – 2pm

A detailed note and permission form has been sent home to all families this week.
BOOKS – DO YOU HAVE ANY TO DONATE?
This year, our main educational focus is around literacy. Reading in particular, is really being encouraged and supported throughout the school. Whilst we have a good supply of books in our Library, the more popular ones are often out being read – which is great! We would like to build up our classroom supply of books so if you have any popular student books in good condition that you would like to donate, please send them along. We would be happy to receive books by Paul Jennings, Andy Griffiths, series like Zac Powers, Goosebumps, Specky Magee etc.

NO TOYS AT SCHOOL
Parents are reminded that children should not bring personal toys to school. Having toys at school often leads to difficulties as they are sometimes lost, broken or used at inappropriate class times making them a distraction. The school provides a good range of equipment for the children to use at school.

ALLERGIES
We have a number of children at our school that are severely affected by nuts, eggs, fish and Kiwi fruit. In order to support these children, we ask that these food items are not included in your child’s lunchboxes. Thank you for your support with this.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL
Parents and caregivers are reminded that attendance at school for all children is a legal requirement supported by government legislation. Whilst we fully support children staying home when they are unwell, it is disappointing to hear about children staying away from school for no good reason. A child’s birthday is not a reason to be absent from school. We seek your support as parents and caregivers with this important request.

STUDENT ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL
If your child is unwell or not able to attend school, then it is the parent’s responsibility to contact our school office by no later than 9.15am.

Best wishes for the coming week!

Luch Brighella
Principal

WANTED
Grade 1 and 2 are in need of a bird cage. If you have one that we could use please contact the School office. Thankyou.
The year 1/2 team took themselves on a trip to various scenic locations around the Huon Valley to experience a birdseye view of the place that most of the students live. Obvious enough, they started at Scenic Hill lookout to imagine and sketch what the valley would look like when Aboriginal people lived and thrived. Next visiting the the view from the other side of the valley at various high points on the Cygnet side. Finally the students ended at Geeveston to examine the model of Geeveston that is constructed at the Huon Design Centre.
In 2011 Sacred Heart Catholic School participated in the first Cancer Council, Relay For Life to be held in the Huon Valley. As a school community we have many families and staff that have been affected and are dealing with cancer on a daily basis.

In 2014 we are entering a team again and would like to extend the invitation to the whole school community to participate in this very worthwhile event if they wish. It will be held at the Huonville Recreation Ground from approx. 2pm on Saturday, March 29 until 10am Sunday, March 30 2014.

The Cancer Council Relay For Life is the world’s largest fundraising event for cancer, a community of thousands who come together each year to honour the lives of people touched by cancer in Australia and around the world. In 2007, Relay For Life events raised over $14 million nationally to support the Cancer Council’s research, education and support programs.

Whilst fundraising is an important goal, Relay For Life is more than just that: it’s an opportunity to come together as a community to celebrate those who have survived cancer, and to honour those we have lost to this terrible disease. Today, thanks to advances in cancer research, more than 60% of cancer patients will survive more than five years after diagnosis. But there is still a long way to go, and that’s where you come in. Simply by participating in Relay For Life, you are continuing a legacy of fundraising that began over 20 years ago.

Cancer Council Relay For Life is a unique, overnight fundraising event that brings communities together in the fight against cancer. Whether you are a cancer survivor, a carer, supporting friends or loved ones, or simply wanting to make a difference, Relay For Life empowers everyone who participates. Relay is not a race, instead participants take turns to walk or run around the track. Whether you stay for the whole event, camp overnight or just visit and walk a few laps, your commitment and support will make a meaningful contribution to the cancer fight.

The first lap honours cancer survivors and carers who take to the track proudly wearing coloured sashes. All participants gather around the track to applaud the courage and strength shown by those completing the lap. With motivation levels high, all are eager to hit the track as Relay For Life begins with all participants walking the second lap together. Following the second lap, a special reception is held for survivors, carers, VIPs and dignitaries.

There are several ways that you can be involved and support this event.

- Sponsor or donate to someone who is participating, no matter how small.
- Come along and do a lap or two in between your day;
- or settle in for a while (if you wish to bring your tent) and help keep the baton moving throughout the night.

There are no minimums or maximums to the time you spend or the laps you do, the aim is to keep our team baton moving for the entire 18 hours. Just as families dealing with cancer every day don’t get to go home and forget about the trials they are facing, the baton represents the same, hence it continues to go round in circles in rain, hail or shine.

In 2011 our target was 15 participants and to raise around $100 each. We totally surpassed that and raised around $3500 in 6 weeks with both individuals accumulating donations from family and friends and the team organizing a very simple lucky number.

A roster will be drawn up according to when participants are available with those that are staying for the duration filling in between. If you wish to stay longer than your allocated time that is also fine. Children will remain the parents/carers responsibility at all times. Children will only be permitted to stay overnight if they are with their parent/carer.
Sacred Heart Catholic School
is once again collecting unwanted mobile phones for recycling. As a new addition, unwanted ipad/tablets are also now recycled.

Australian Mobile Recycling

would like to announce that along with the $3 CASH they offer per mobile phone they will now be offering an amazing $25 CASH per iPad/tablet received by your school for recycling.

This is a very easy way of clearing out the cupboards while raising funds for the school. When 30 devices are collected they will be forwarded to Australian Mobile Recycling. A collection box will be located in the school office.

Why mobile phones?
Currently there is an estimated 14 million unused mobile phones in Australia. Our aim is to collect as many used and unwanted mobile phones as possible.

What happens to the phones I send in?
All phones received will be recycled for reuse. This means they will be refurbished for resale. Each handset is restored to factory conditions and all sim cards and memory cards will be destroyed. Any phones that are beyond repair will be broken down into their constitute parts and will be recycled by licensed recyclers.

It’s time to empty out those bottom drawers and put your old mobile phones towards a good cause.

PLEASE SEND YOUR UNWANTED DEVICES INTO SCHOOL WITH YOUR CHILD.
Piano Lessons with Mrs Beven

Once again, I am pleased to be offer basic piano lessons for students who are interested. Lessons are conducted weekly on a one-on-one basis at school and the cost is $12.50 for approximately 15 minutes. Students need to have a piano or keyboard at home on which they can practice. If your child is keen to have a go please call me, Elizabeth Beven, on 62976221(home) or 0428976221(mob) to discuss further.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
‘Streams in the desert”
Prepared by WDP Committee Egypt
Friday 7th March 2014

CYGNET
Place St Mark’s Anglican Church
Cygnet Time 10am

GEEVESTON
Time 1.30pm
Place Geeveston Community Church
4886 Huon Highway
Geeveston TAS 7116

Both Services followed by Morning or Afternoon Tea

Enquiries V Evans (03) 6297 1073

Everyone Welcome
Geeveston School and Community Op Shop

WE HAVE MOVED!!!
Now located on School Rd Geeveston, in the old music room.
OPENING THIS WEDNESDAY 26th OF FEB

OPENING HOURS
Mon 9am-3pm
Wed 9am-3pm
Fri 9am-3pm

Join our group on Face Book: Geeveston School Community Op Shop