Spare a Thought for Tim

I probably should be talking about Advent and preparing for the birth of Jesus but I just can’t at the moment. My thoughts are elsewhere. I’ll refocus on that in a short while, but at the moment my thoughts are with a friend and colleague.

Yesterday, our beloved Year Five teacher Jim Levesque woke to discover that his brother, Tim, was involved in a tragic accident. As I write this he is fighting for life after falling down a set of stairs.

My first reaction was to overlay how I’d feel if that were my brother. Devastated doesn’t even begin to describe it. I’d love to make it better but I can’t. I’d love to find a way to ease Jim’s pain, and that of his family, I can’t. All I can do is be there if he needs me. Try to understand how he’s feeling and support him as best I can. I can tell him God is with them sharing their pain, which I believe he is, but that does little to satisfy the anguish of his wife or children.

I truly believe that we need to be the hands of God in this world, helping to make the world a better place. That’s all well and good but this situation is so intangible that I’m not sure what to do. Can I ask that you pray for Tim and his family and spare a thought for Jim who so loves his brother.

I have just been informed that Tim Levesque passed away this morning. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with the Levesque family at this very sad time.

Dear Parents,

I was taking a family around the school yesterday and we happened upon the Year two students preparing their part in the Christmas play. It really hits home how special this season is and how wonderful it is to be part of a Catholic tradition. It also helps to de-commercialise Christmas just a little which I think is a good thing.

Christmas Performance – 10th December

On the 10th December at 9.00am, the whole school will be involved in a Christmas performance. We would love parents and friends of St Patrick’s Parish and School community to join us on the day. It should run for about one hour. I look forward to seeing you there.

THANK YOU KOOLAMAN FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
**Planning Day**

St Patrick’s will be closed this Friday 4\textsuperscript{th} December for a Planning Day.

**CHRISTMAS Hampers for St Vincent De Paul**

This year, as in previous years, each class is collecting food stuff for the St Vincent De Paul Society. Each grade is asked to collect a specific group of food so that St Vinnies can put together Christmas Hampers for the needy in our community. The grades have been assigned the following foods:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Biscuits and shortbread</th>
<th>Foundation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chips, Corn chips Pretzels etc</td>
<td>Year 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lollies and chocolates</td>
<td>Year 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bon Bons and decorations</td>
<td>Year 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cans of fruit and vegetables</td>
<td>Year 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soft drinks</td>
<td>Year 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Life Custard, gravies and sauces</td>
<td>Year 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Foundation (Prep) Transition**

The next Foundation Transition day was held today. There is a Foundation Information Night in our School Hall tonight for parents who have a child starting in Foundation next year.

**Early to School**

There are a number of students turning up to school at 8.10am. Whereas I am thrilled that they love getting to school, there are no staff on duty until 8.30am. Can you please make sure your child/ren get to school at 8.30am and after! Some parents who have to begin work earlier than this time are asked to contact me to make arrangements to ensure their child is covered.

**School Board**

The next meeting of the School Board is tomorrow (Thursday, 26\textsuperscript{th} November) commencing at 5.30pm in the Staffroom.

**Save the Date – End of Year Mass – Wednesday, 16\textsuperscript{th} December**

Just to give our families plenty of notice, we will be holding our End of Year Mass on Wednesday, 16\textsuperscript{th} December commencing at 6.00pm in St Patrick’s Church. We would like to invite all members of the school community including extended families.

**Graduation Dinner**

Immediately following our End of Year Mass, the Year six students and their parents will adjourn to St Pat’s Parish Hall for our Graduation Dinner.

**Term Four Ends**

The last day for students this year is Thursday, 17\textsuperscript{th} December. On this day, school finishes at 3.30pm

**THANK YOU KRISTY DILLON DESIGN FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL**
**CHAIRS for Sale**

We have some school chairs left for sale. Most are in good condition, metal frames with cloth covering. They are available for $7.00 each or ten for $50.00. The sizes range from small to medium children’s chairs. Ideal for cubby houses, playrooms etc. Enquiries to the office.

**The latest APP & St Patrick’s School (free App) Newsletter Online**

St Patrick’s App is available for free to help keep you up to date with our activities and important dates and reminders.
Details can be found at:

http://www3.spwangaratta.catholic.edu.au/
http://stpatricksict.wikispaces.com/St+Patrick%27s+Mobile+App

**Mass Times**

* Saturday 6.00pm St Patrick's
* Sunday 8.00am St Patrick's
* Sunday 9.00am Our Lady's
* Sunday 10.30am St Patrick’s
* Sunday 5.00pm Latin Mass at St Patrick's

*Terry*

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**CHATTER MATTERS**

Play a game of Odd one Out with your child. Say three things and have your child tell you which word is the odd word out e.g. boat, ship, house – house.
An extension of this is to ask the students why it doesn’t belong.

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**LIBRARY NEWS**

Just a reminder that there will be no more Library borrowing for this year and all Library books must be returned this week.

If there are any readers that have been left at home, could you please return those as well?
Thanking you in anticipation.

Rosie

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THANK YOU LIONS CLUB OF WANGARATTA FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
## DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DECEMBER</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2(^{nd})</td>
<td>7.00pm Foundation (Prep) Information Evening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3(^{rd})</td>
<td>3-6 Swimming Program - YMCA</td>
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<tr>
<td>4(^{th})</td>
<td>PUPIL FREE – Planning Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7(^{th})</td>
<td>P/1/2 Swimming Program – Moore than Swimming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7(^{th})</td>
<td>3-6 Swimming Program - YMCA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8(^{th})</td>
<td>9.30am – 12.30pm Foundation (Prep) Orientation</td>
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<tr>
<td>8(^{th})</td>
<td>Whole School Transition Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>9(^{th})</td>
<td>P/1/2 Swimming Program – Moore than Swimming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9(^{th})</td>
<td>6.00pm P &amp; F Dinner Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>10(^{th})</td>
<td>P/1/2 Swimming Program – Moore than Swimming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11(^{th})</td>
<td>P/1/2 Swimming Program – Moore than Swimming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11(^{th})</td>
<td>Reports Going Home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14(^{th})</td>
<td>P/1/2 Swimming Program – Moore than Swimming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16(^{th})</td>
<td>6.00pm End of Year Mass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16(^{th})</td>
<td>7.00pm Year 6 Graduation Dinner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17(^{th})</td>
<td>3.30pm End of Term Four</td>
</tr>
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## AFTER SCHOOL CARE 2016

Dear Parents,

As we have increasing numbers wanting to use our After School Care program, we are requiring confirmation of numbers for next year to ensure that your child receives a place.

Could those who utilise the After School Care program, please fill out the form below to show what days your child will be attending next year. Your prompt response would be appreciated. Please return this form no later than Friday 11\(^{th}\) December, 2015.

Thank you

Make Up Beauty by Josie

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### ASC 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Child’s/Children’s Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- [ ] MONDAY
- [ ] TUESDAY
- [ ] WEDNESDAY
- [ ] THURSDAY
- [ ] FRIDAY

Thank you Make Up Beauty by Josie for supporting our school.
PAT ON THE BACK

Foundation
Mrs Bray
A big pat on the back to **RYLEY CANNING** for the wonderful way he shows his enthusiasm for maths tasks. Keep up the great work, Ryley!

Foundation
Mrs Rizzo
A big pat on the back to **LAINEY DRAPE** for the wonderful progress she has made in all areas of her learning and displaying great leadership skills in and out of the classroom. You are one of a kind Lainey!

Year 1
Ms Collins
Congratulations to **KAI MCPHAN** for producing some great Acrostic and Cinquain poems this week and for always being so focused on his learning. Well done Kai!

Year 1
Miss Smith
A big pat on the back to **BROOKE DEL MASTRO** for continuing to work diligently even though it is the end of Term 4. You are ready for Year 2, Brooke!

Year 2
Mrs Batey
Congratulations to **FELICITY MURTAGH** for her leadership and confidence when speaking at assembly last week. Terrific work Felicity!

Year 2
Ms Rinaldi
A big pat on the back to **EMILY CICCONE** for the maturity she has demonstrated throughout the term, particularly when helping others. Well done!

Year 3
Ms Daglish
A big pat on the back to **JESSICA MCINNES** for her excellent work habits and her friendly nature. Well done!

Year 3
Mrs Vincent
Congratulations to **JAY CANNING**. I am very pleased with how he shared during Maths this week.

Year 4
Miss Gaston
Congratulations to **FLETCHER BEDFORD, TAYLOR BOMAN, JOHNATHON IMPINK & SPENCER JONES** for their excellent efforts at swimming.

Year 4
Mrs Shaw
Congratulations to **TALEAHA CARMODY, JOSH LEDGER & BELLA KING** for the wonderful way they worked together in Inquiry. They researched & found some great facts and produced a lovely story of their own to share with others. Great work!

Year 5
Mrs Kittelty
Congratulations to **JOEL SMITH** for assisting Uncle Wally and Lou during the FIRE carrier commissioning ceremony. Thank you for your help Joel!

Year 5
Mr Levesque
Congratulations to **JIMMY KELLY** for listening carefully and asking questions to help him to solve problems in maths.
Well done to **LOGAN FORGE** for his quiet positive approach to class tasks and the excellent inputs he makes to group discussions and work.

Year 6
Mrs Cornish
Well done to **ROSE DENNEHY** for planning, editing and publishing a terrific narrative for the class to read about ‘Escaping’. Very engaging Rose, well done!

Year 6
Mrs Rickard
Congratulations to **TOM FOX** for always being a kind and helpful class member of Year 6 Rickard.
WHAT’S HAPPENING IN THE CLASSROOM

FOUNDATION – Karen & Karen

Two weeks to go and 23 days to Christmas (Where has the year gone?). The Foundies had a wonderful Teddy Bear’s Picnic last Thursday out on the grass area of the playground. There are some great photos in the office area.

Some reminders:

- Tomorrow 3rd December the children are going to see the movie Hotel Transylvania 2
- Pupil Free Day 4th December (no school)
- Swimming Program – 7th, 9th, 10th, 11th & 14th December. Please return your child’s permission note by tomorrow.

HELP!! We are seeking parents and friends who would be able to overlock the edges of some cut up towels for next year’s Foundation, Year 1’s and Year 2’s. They will be used for cleaning mini whiteboards.

RELIGION – the children are now “getting ready” in their new unit, “We Celebrate Christmas”. They are exploring and identifying times/events where they have to ‘wait’ e.g. birthdays, a new baby, a bus, dinner…etc. They are also reading, discussing and completing activities about Advent as a time of waiting and preparing for the birth of Jesus. To celebrate this event, the children are assembling in the hall each Monday morning during December for a liturgy.

LITERACY – over the next few weeks the children will be revising letters, sounds, High Frequency words and onset and rime families through a variety of games, activities, poems and stories.
This week the children are writing stories in response to stories they have listened to in class.

MATHEMATICS – the children are revising concepts taught throughout the year using a range of practical strategies, such as visual displays, games and concrete materials to strengthen their skills and understanding.

INQUIRY – We are looking at and talking about activities children played in the olden days. The children will sort activities into olden and modern times and record these in their books.

Please ensure your child has their name marked/stitched clearly on their hat.

YEAR ONE/TWO – Gen, Sarah, Janina, Amanda & Nara

Grade One Newsletter Week 9

A friendly reminder, that, on Thursday morning the 3rd December, the Foundies/One/Two children are going to the Cinema. We will be watching Transylvania 2 rated (PG). Please do not send your child with money for the candy bar, as no one will be purchasing anything. We do not require any helpers for the day. Please ensure that your child returns their permission note, latest Thursday morning, otherwise they will not be able to attend.

Swimming
This week our Swimming forms will be going out. Could you please ensure that you send back the permissions notes as quickly as possible, thank you?

THANK YOU MARIO SOLIMO FOOTWEAR & SHOE REPAIRS FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
Literacy
In Literacy this week we are continuing on with the theme of Poetry. We will be learning about Cinquain Poems. Each line has a set number of syllables
Line 1: 2 syllables
Line 2: 4 syllables
Line 3: 6 syllables
Line 4: 8 syllables
Line 5: 2 syllables
The children will be given an example of a poem and a focus topic. For example: Puppies. Children will then get a chance to write their own Cinquain Poem.
Our Spelling focus this week is ‘ss’ at the ending of words such as class.

Numeracy
In Numeracy this week we are revising addition. We are expanding our addition knowledge by taking activities from a Year Two level. The children will be looking at ways to work out two digit number equations, and then correcting it themselves on calculators. This will be a challenge, but they are ready for it.

Inquiry
We are finishing off our Inquiry unit on ‘Let’s Play’. We are finishing the subject with playing our favourite board games that some children might like to bring in and share with the class and I like to play a journal piece.

Religion
We are starting our Advent focus, this week we will be getting our prayer tables ready for Advent and sharing stories of when Mary said ‘Yes’.

YEAR 2
What an exciting few weeks we have left of term! Tomorrow, the Junior School are celebrating their hard work during the year with a movie at the local cinema! Many thanks for the prompt return of permission notes for this excursion.

Next week will see the Junior School commence their swimming program. Permission notes and a timetable have been sent home for this.

Religious Education
This week in Year 2 we have begun preparing our Advent Liturgy for Monday morning, next week. Parents and Friends are most welcome to join us for this liturgy in the hall at 9.00am. In class, we have continued discussing the season of Advent by singing songs and reflecting on this period in the church as a time of preparation.

Numeracy
In numeracy this week, we have continued with the revision of concepts taught throughout the year to help strengthen skills and learning. This week, we have focused on number concepts and using money as part of addition and subtraction.

Literacy
This week our spelling focus is ‘sh’ as an initial sound, middle sound and final sound. We are also furthering our understanding of procedural texts by continuing to read, discuss and compose this text type. Students this week looked at the procedure for making pizza!

THANK YOU MONROES HAIR DESIGN FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
Library Books
A reminder that overdue library books need to be returned to school as soon as possible! Notices of overdue loans will be sent home and we kindly ask that these overdue books be returned to the library. There will be no more borrowing for the remainder of the year.

Term 4 Dates:
Friday December 4: Pupil Free Day
Monday December 7: Year 2 presenting Advent Liturgy – 9.00am
Tuesday December 8: State-wide Transition day
Thursday December 10: Whole school Christmas Concert in hall at 9.00am
December 7, 9, 10, 11 & 14: Swimming Program

YEAR THREE/FOUR – Trudi/Paul, Annee, Michelle & Trish

Literacy
This term the Year 3&4’s have looked at writing procedures! Each grade has produced some fantastic pieces of work. Well done everyone.

Numeracy
Over the next week or so both the Year 3&4’s will be revising a number of topics that we have looked at over this term.

Inquiry
Students continue to look at how the Aboriginal people tell stories through art and dance. Students will look at a variety of different Aboriginal stories and look at the symbols used to tell stories. If you are passing through, you must pop your head into 4Shaw to see the amazing setup of the room. Year 3D are going to create Aboriginal Huts as their assessment piece for this unit. The kids have been asked that they need to gather leaves, tree bark, twigs, stones and anything they may need to complete this task. 4S are telling their Dreamtime story through painting. 3V have created a Diorama about their Dreamtime story and they are on display outside their room. They are fantastic. 3D’s will be ready by the end of the week.

Please check your child’s hair regularly as at the moment we have a number of reported cases of head lice.

Reminders:
* Please continue to ensure your children are reading regularly and completing any given homework.
* Years 3 & 4 have reading diaries that are to be filled out please; this helps us to record children’s active home reading.
* Students are to revise their times tables each week for homework.

Term 4 Dates:
November 30th, December 1, 2, 3 & 4: Swimming Program
December 4: Pupil Free Day
December 15: Year 3&4 End of year break-up
December 16: End of Year Mass
December 17: Students last day

THANK YOU NETWORK VIDEO FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
RE - Year 5/6 students are continuing to celebrate Advent by participating in the weekly Liturgy as well as take part in a range of classroom activities. Students have enjoyed sharing the way their families celebrate Christmas as well as comparing the similarities and differences with their classroom peers. Students have been reading the Bible and researching the Birth of Jesus the Messiah and are preparing to write an article that explains the true meaning of Christmas.

Literacy - As we begin to wind down for the year, students have been given the opportunity to research a topic of choice and create a Passion Project. Students have taken on this opportunity to channel their learning into something that is of very high interest. Students need to follow a specific process by firstly deciding on a topic that interests them yet is unfamiliar to them. Secondly, students need to devise a range of open-ended questions that they can further research. This task is very open-ended however, students have been provided with an assessment rubric in which they need to ensure they follow. Please encourage your child to share their findings with you!

Students are continuing with their book activities by responding to the Gardners Multiple Intelligence grid - students read their books independently and complete activities based on their learning style. Classrooms are a mess but the students are having a blast!

Maths - Students have been working very hard during the Fractions unit. This week students will be looking at the relationship between fractions and decimals as well as revise a few concepts covered in preparation for their final post unit assessment task for the year. Please encourage your child to complete set tasks on the Study Ladder as a homework task.

Swimming - Swimming has been great fun! Students have impressed us with their organisation of belongings and the smooth transitions between getting changed, swimming lessons and bus transfers. Just a reminder, that, we will swim tomorrow and on Monday.

Pupil Free Day - Students will not be required to attend school on Friday the 4th December as this is a whole school planning day.

NAPLAN results - If you would like to view your child’s NAPLAN results you will need to contact either James or Catherine to collect them. Results can only be collected by parents and will not be sent home with your child.

Year Six Graduation Dinner - All notes need to be returned ASAP. We need to confirm numbers and dietary requirements. The dinner will be taking place on the 16th December after our end of year Mass.

Year Six Final Week - Notes were sent home last week to inform parents of the last week of school for the Year Sixes. These were for graduation bears and end of year fun day which will take place on Monday the 14th December.

State Wide Transition Day - Next Tuesday the 8th December, Year Six students will be going to Galen for the whole day whilst Year Five students will be spending a day with their new class and teacher for 2016.

Reports - Reports will be going home on Friday the 11th of December

THANK YOU NU FRUIT WANGARATTA FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
FOUNDATION (PREP) ORIENTATION

These are the dates for our Foundation, 2015 Orientation Program:

**Tuesday 17th November** 9:30am to 11:00am

**Thursday 26th November** 9:30am to 10:45am

**Wednesday 2nd December** 9:30am to 10:45am
(Bring a piece of fruit and drink)

**Tuesday 8th December** 9:30am to 12:30pm
(Bring a piece of fruit, drink, hat and snack for playtime)

Children are encouraged to attend all sessions so that they are familiar with their school environment prior to the commencement of school.

There will be a **Foundation (Prep) Information Evening** for parents on Wednesday, 2nd December 2015 in the school hall commencing at 7.00pm. The aim of this meeting is to prepare your child for school life at St. Patrick’s. The duration of this meeting will be about one hour.

THANK YOU JUBILEE GOLF CLUB WANGARATTA FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS SPECIALS
And Vouchers to be won!!

Christmas Specials Start Monday Nov 30:

3 Christmas shortbread biscuits $1.50
Cherry Ripe Slice $1.50
Cheese and Bacon Mini Pizza $3.50

5 x $20 vouchers to be won - orders must be online and will be drawn the last week of school. (Mon 14th)

Try our new seasonal berry and yoghurt bowl available to order for either recess or lunch $2.50. Our lunch special of the chicken schnitzel burger or a sweet chili chicken wrap are also still available as is the raspberry muffin!!

Orders can be placed online at: www.3rdlittleduck.com.au (payment can be via paypal, credit card, direct debit or cash) or placed into the lunch order box located at the front desk by 9am.

Don’t Forget Healthy Rice paper rolls!!!
Chicken Teriyaki Roll GF $2.50
Vegetable (Avocado) Roll GF $2.50