**PRINCIPAL’S REFLECTION**

Four things come not back: the spoken word, the sped arrow, the past life and the neglected opportunity.

After spending two days listening to an expert on dealing with critical incidents, it is not surprising that the best, the recommended medium for communicating to people during a critical incident is through talking and discussion of facts with the people concerned. Texting and emailing news of important events such as critical incidences is plagued with problems, the least being miscommunication. The best way to ‘get the facts’ about any issue is to talk to the person, to avoid being engaged in talking about a person or merely posting comments hoping readers have an understanding of context and relevant facts. Good communication has much in common with our school motto of, ‘consideration and courtesy.’

Apart from face-to-face discussions, our school diaries are also effective means of home-school communication and one of the benefits of a small school community is the relative ease of communicating between home and school. Our school usually has staff at school by 7:00am and rarely are the ‘lights out’ before 7:00pm. I believe parents of St Joseph’s students are fortunate to have such immediacy with contacting staff at their child’s school and I encourage parents to make use of this openness and accessibility to staff in the school setting, to review our school website and regularly keep informed by reading the newsletter.

Communication is at the heart of all relationships. My prayer for the forthcoming school holidays is that all families in our school community are able to put aside the time to have some memorable moments and invigorating conversations with each of their family members; building positive and enduring relationships based on the mutual respect that comes from such intimate relationships. As highlighted by the leading quote, the neglected opportunity will not come back.

Kind regards

Rod Linhart

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**SCHOOL CALENDAR**

**September**

- **Mon 3rd**  Sacramental Program 7:00pm  St Joseph’s Church Queenstown
- **Tue 4th**  School photos - students in full winter school uniform  Assembly 2:15pm
- **Wed 5th**  Whole-school Mass - End of term  9:30-10:15am
- **Thu 6th**  Walk to School Day  Jump Rope For Heart Day - students may wear red and bring a donation for heart research
- **Fri 7th**  Fathers' Day breakfast - 8:00am  Term 2 ends at 2:50pm

- **Mon 24th**  Commencement of Term 3
- **Tue 25th**  P & F Fair Meeting - 7:00pm School Library  Assembly 2:15pm  School Board Meeting 7:00pm
- **Thu 27th**  Slipstream Circus - Year 6 wear sports uniform
- **Fri 28th**  Class Mass: Leatherwood & King Billy  Slipstream Circus - Year 6 wear sports uniform  Footy Colours Day - Student dress in footy colours all day; activity afternoon

**October**

- **Mon 1st**  Sacred Heart Geeveston visiting - overnight stay (dinners for this group requested)  Tidy Towns visit - School judging  Whole school standardised testing in Mathematics and Literacy (Monday - Thursday)  Students may wear summer uniform  Assembly 2:15pm
- **Tue 2nd**  Walk To School Day
- **Thu 4th**  BURNIE SHOW HOLIDAY
- **Fri 5th**  BURNIE SHOW HOLIDAY

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SCHOOL POLICIES & PROTOCOLS

School Student Folios
Class teachers will be distributing student folios this Friday (Thursday for Kinder). These folios are compilations of student work that is typical of your child’s work throughout terms 1 and 2. Work samples are usually accompanied by an assessment rubric. Parents are welcome to contact their child’s teacher for any clarification or elaboration of their child’s performance this term in order to arrange a mutually beneficial time to meet.

Volunteer Induction
Many thanks to the following people who have completed the 15 minute induction, which will enable them to work with students at St Joseph’s: Paula DeRoss, Maxine Brown, Angelina Lee, Kristie Kean, Leila Barrett, Michelle Hill, Brett Schulze, Maree Crosswell, Jessica Cox, Michael Close, Anthony Clark, Shannon Dilger, Cheryl Young, Narrell Fry.

SCHOOL PROCEDURES

iPads
Last week staff were involved in some very useful and interesting sessions conducted by Peter Lelong (ICT Education Officer). Our school has 21 iPads and staff have spend much of term 2 familiarising themselves with various educational applications. Early next term we will be discussing how we will be implementing iPads in our school that best serve the enhancement of learning opportunities for our students and support our school curriculum initiatives and programs.

Jump Rope For Heart - Thursday 6th September - Reminder
On Thursday 6th September, our school will be participating in the Heart Foundation’s Jump Rope for Heart Day as part of the Sport Curriculum. Students are asked to bring a minimum of a gold coin donation to donate to the Heart Foundation, and wear something red on the day (e.g. shirt or headband). PE shorts or track pants and sports shoes will also be required to be worn for all classes.

School History Room - Reminder
The installation of display cabinets in our new School History Room was completed recently. This room will house school memorabilia - photos, items, books even uniforms - and information about the school students and staff. We are requesting anyone who might have or know of anyone who might have school memorabilia to contact the school to discuss some options for displaying the memorabilia.

Commemoration of the North Mt Lyell Disaster
We have been invited to participate in preparing 42 lanterns as part of the Queenstown Heritage & Arts Festival 2012: Centenary of the North Lyell Mine Disaster that is scheduled for Friday 12th, Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th October. The lanterns will symbolise the souls of the 42 lives lost in the mine disaster. The children will be making free-form sculptural shaped lanterns. Annie Brennan, a visiting artist, will be facilitating the workshops, with the workshops following a step-by-step process. Annie is requiring 14 students (and as many adult helpers as possible) per workshop – 42 students in total. Workshops will be conducted in the school Assembly Hall and each workshop will be approximately seven hours duration, 10:00am until 5:00pm on Friday 21st September, Saturday 22nd September and Sunday 23rd September – the last three days of the September holidays. The school will provide a light lunch and refreshments during the day and there is no cost incurred to students or adult helpers. An LED torch will hang inside the lantern and the students will be involved in the Friday evening procession along Orr Street to the train station. The lanterns will then be placed onto a train wagon and the train will symbolically, ‘leave the station’ with the 42 departing lanterns. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to learn new skills and engage meaningfully in a watershed moment in our town’s history. An expectation of all participants is attendance at one workshop and participation in the Friday evening procession. Parents of students in Years 3 to 6 were provided with a letter last week and are expected to return an expression of interest form to the school no later than today to confirm their involvement in this unique educational experience.

Visit by Sacred Heart Catholic School, Geeveston
We are welcoming in true West Coast spirit students from Year 6 from Sacred Heart Catholic School Geeveston on Monday 1st October. If you are able to contribute a meal item to assist in catering for this group, please leave your name and the dish with the school office staff prior to the end of the first week back in term 3 (Friday 28th September). Our school is held in extremely high regard in our willingness to offer hospitality to such visitors and I am very appreciative of any assistance that can be offered.
and Alison Harback who prepared a healthy vegetable soup that was available to students without cost last Monday.

**Walk To School Day - Thursday 6th September.**

Due to a clash with this Friday’s Fathers’ Day Breakfast, which is proposed for this Friday at 8:00am, our monthly ‘Walk To School’ Day is scheduled for this Thursday 6th September. It would be wonderful to have as many participants as possible attend this activity. A staff member will be meeting any participants and leaving Green’s Shop at 8:00am and the Queenstown Railway Station at 8:20am.

**Working Bee - Date claimer**

We intend holding a school working bee on the last Sunday of the school holidays, beginning at 10:00am and concluding with a BBQ lunch at 1:00pm. **If you are able to come along for all or part of this time, your help will be most appreciated.** Tasks will include: waxing the school bus, weeding the vegetable gardens and flower gardens, pressure cleaning the Orr Street verandah. For catering purposes, please let the school office know if you are able to attend.

**WEST & MJR**

We acknowledged George Rowlings and Mya Lee who received WEST Awards during last Tuesday’s assembly. Students and staff will continue to look for students who we, as a school community, wish to acknowledge as reflecting Welcoming, Encouraging, Sorrowful and Thanking qualities.

**Making Jesus Real (MJR).**

As part of having the Making Jesus Real program present throughout the whole school we will be having a monthly MJR focus.

For the month of September our whole school focus is “Teamwork”. The main message of the concept is about all the simple ways you can give of yourself to others. These simple ways can include smiling, thanking others, being welcoming and waving. We encourage you to talk to your child about the monthly focus and what it means to them.

**LITERACY - BOOK READING LINC**

Queenstown Community Services Hub have invited Blue Gum and Sassafras students to see the children’s book illustrator and author Nick Bland on Tuesday 25th September at 2:00pm. Nick Bland will be doing a book reading, showing how he draws his illustrations and will also sign books. There will also be craft activities for the children. The Queenstown Community Services Hub will be selling his books prior to the day or on the visiting day.

We encourage parents to pick up their children from the Hub after Nick Bland has finished. Unfortunately the centre cannot allow parents to be in the room while Nick Bland does his reading and activities as there isn’t enough space for everyone.
COMMUNITY NOTICES
Community notices are required prior to 4:00pm on Mondays in order to ensure inclusion in the school newsletter.

Junior Basketball
AGM Wednesday 26th September at 7:30pm at the Queenstown Stadium

Child Care for September School Holidays 2012. The Queenstown Child Care Centre provides care for children up to 12 years of age. Vacancies exist for your child if you require child care now or

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2013
Please find below a list of the dates for 2013. As previously advised next year we will be moving to a four term year.
TERM 1: Wed 6th February - Fri 19th April
EASTER BREAK: Fri 29th March - Tues 2nd April
TERM 2: Mon 6th May - Fri 5th July
TERM 3: Mon 22nd July - Fri 27th September
TERM 4: Mon 14th October - Fri 19th December

Active After School Community Program
Letters were distributed to families last Wednesday regarding possible interest in the term 3 Active After School Community Program. To ensure continuity of this program, we requested any response from families no later than today please.

A Special Prayer for Fathers
God, bless all the fathers in the world. Guide them to be good role models and loving to all their children. Help them to be a father like you are. Give them grace and patience to handle situations in a loving way.
Amen

REMINDEERS:
School Summer Uniform
It is proposed that the winter to summer uniform transition be undertaken in the week immediately prior to and the week immediately after the Burnie Show holiday, which is on Friday 5th October. Students will, therefore, be permitted from Monday 1st October to Friday 12th October to make this winter to summer uniform transition. Please ensure you contact the school of your child’s summer uniform requirements prior to the end of term, Friday 7th September.

Father’s Day Breakfast and Liturgy
A Father’s and Grandfather’s Day Breakfast is proposed for the last Friday of term, this Friday 7th September. The breakfast will commence at 8:00am sharp with a brief liturgy and conclude at approximately 9:00am. Many thanks to the following fathers who have responded to our RSVP: John Dilger, Kevin Bailey, Grant Cox, Michael Close, David Windridge, Raymond Harback, David Young, Glenn Courtney, Brett Schulze, Paul Shea, Matt Williscroft, Dion Delaney, Ben Eliot, Cameron Schultz.

Kindergarten Interviews
Interviews for prospective 2013 Kindergarten enrolments will be conducted during the first week of term 3 (Monday 24 September, Tuesday 25 September, Wednesday 26 September). If you are aware of anyone interested in enrolling their child at St Joseph’s Catholic School in Kindergarten for 2013, please inform them of this important prerequisite for 2013 enrolment. The school Office Administrators, Kerri and Clare, have enrolment packages that can be mailed to any interested prospective Kindergarten parent.