

NUMBER 29

9th September 2021

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

VISION To provide a positive school environment that allows every individual the opportunity to flourish.

REMINDERS FOR WEEK TEN: TERM THREE 2021

Friday September 10 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prep/1/2M at school • Remote Learning for 3/4C, 5/6A & 5/6T
Monday September 13 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prep/1/2M at school • Remote Learning for 3/4C, 5/6A & 5/6T
Tuesday September 14 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prep/1/2M at school • Remote Learning for 3/4C, 5/6A & 5/6T
Wednesday September 15 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prep/1/2M at school • Remote Learning for 3/4C, 5/6A & 5/6T
Thursday September 16 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prep/1/2M at school • Remote Learning for 3/4C, 5/6A & 5/6T
Friday September 17 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prep/1/2M at school • Remote Learning for 3/4C, 5/6A & 5/6T • End of Term 3 2:30pm

PREP/1/2 BACK TOMORROW

Great news that Prep/1/2M will be back at school tomorrow. At this stage 3/4C, 5/6A & 5/6T look like they will be continuing with Remote Learning through to the end of Term. But as always, during this pandemic, I have learnt that circumstances can change in the blink of an eye.

Onsite supervision remains available for students in Year 3 to 6, for vulnerable children and children of essential workers.

KINDNESS & GRATITUDE

Wonderful that one of our students has demonstrated kindness and gratitude by making care bags for all staff members.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to the following students who will celebrate their birthday in the coming week:-

Tayli Holmes-Wilson (8) celebrates her birthday on Sunday as does Andreena Hockley. Paddy Impey turns 10 on Thursday.



PREP 2022

Enrolments - We are now taking school tours for 2022 enrolments. If you require an enrolment pack for a sibling, pop into the school office. Due to the current regulations, we are unable to conduct school tours for 2022 enrolments.

All schools in the Portland and District area encourage students to go to their local school. Your local school can be found by visiting <https://www.findmyschool.vic.gov.au>

RESILIENCE PROJECT

The newest section on TRP@HOME is now live - and this one's for parents!

Filled with resources, expert knowledge and stories, they have loaded this section with ideas for parents and carers to support their own wellbeing, plus a range of tips to help them embed positive mental health habits with the rest of the family.

Check out the parenting section here: https://bit.ly/TRP_Parenting

LEE GIBBONS.....PRINCIPAL

Chaplains' Corner – What the Paralympians teach us

Aren't they just amazing people? The Paralympians. Words fail us. What a great privilege to watch their remarkable achievements. Top marks to all who achieved a medal. But well done to all who participated. Just to be taking part was a wonderful accomplishment. The commitment, the energy, the concentration, the passion of all Paralympians were simply breathtaking.

I have a friend who was a thalidomide baby. Known her for decades. No arms or legs, only hands and feet. Mary is one of my heroes. Sure, there are obvious limitations. Huge. But have these held her back? Hardly. It's not her body that's run her life. It's her unconquerable faith and spirit. So, I've thought a lot about what I've seen at the Paralympics. About Mary. And it strikes me that I suspect that we all have limitations of one kind or another. I think we have much to learn from these friends....

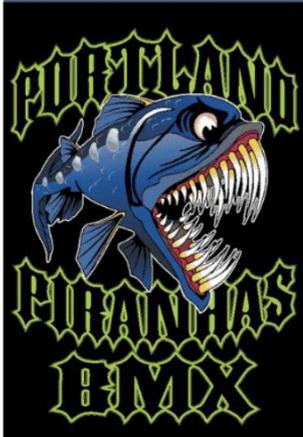
- **Some limitations are instantly observable** – Many of the Paralympians spoke freely about their history. Some were born with physical disabilities. Some had suffered horrific accidents and were permanently disabled. Others spoke about their mental health issues. All up front.
- **This open acknowledgement earns our respect and support** – When we see disabled people entering fully into the world of the track and field, the pool and the tennis court, we give them the thumbs up. We honour them for their outright courage on full display. And rightly so.
- **My friend Mary never sought sympathy from anyone** – Now, at nearly sixty years, she's been to Africa three times and India. She drives her own car. Currently she's a consultant with the Australian Federation of Disability Organisations. I doubt that she ever saw herself as having a disability.
- **There are other kinds of disabilities which are not so obvious** – Think about this for a while. As a mum or dad, we have our limitations too. They probably aren't on full display. Others, even those close to us, may not be remotely aware of them. But they are there and we have to deal with them.
- **So, what kinds of disabilities?** – If we put them all together it would be a long list. But try these for size: what about the anxieties and stresses that gang up on us? The struggles with ourselves to manage these, to stay on top, to get through and not go under.
- **Or the way we see ourselves** – Others don't see our lack of confidence, our fears about the future, our uncertainty about how to cope. We have a crushing sense of simply not having what it takes to give our partners and kids what they really need. We often see ourselves not measuring up.
- **We keep this inner turmoil to ourselves** – Partly because we don't want to bother anyone with our own stuff. Or that others wouldn't understand even if we tried to share with them. We think they might even be shocked if we put it all out there. So, our pain waits to greet us every morning.
- **Now it's time to take a leaf from the Paralympians' book** – That raw courage on display in the pool and on the track simply declares that disabilities don't own the right to have the last word. Those lifelong setbacks are there to be conquered. We need to let our friend Mary teach us a few lessons.

We stand to gain much by looking our own personal disabilities in the eye. The moment we decide to tackle them is the moment we take that first step towards a fresh way of approaching each day. So, let's be Paralympian mums and dads, at peace with ourselves and determined to be the best we can be.

John – stay in touch revsimmo@gmail.com 0428 780 421, Andreena 0428 233 082

**October
2nd
2021**

BMX COME N TRY



**FREE
EVENT
10:30 -
12:30**

PORTLAND BMX CLUB

For more information and registration please go to our facebook page or ridenation.com.au and search Portland BMX Club.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT MADDY 0409618405