

# Make Jesus Real

MAY 2019  
BULLETIN



## GREETINGS FOLKS ...

Second term has arrived – the term where we love to make large inroads into our students' learning, and we at MJR are keen to help you where we can.

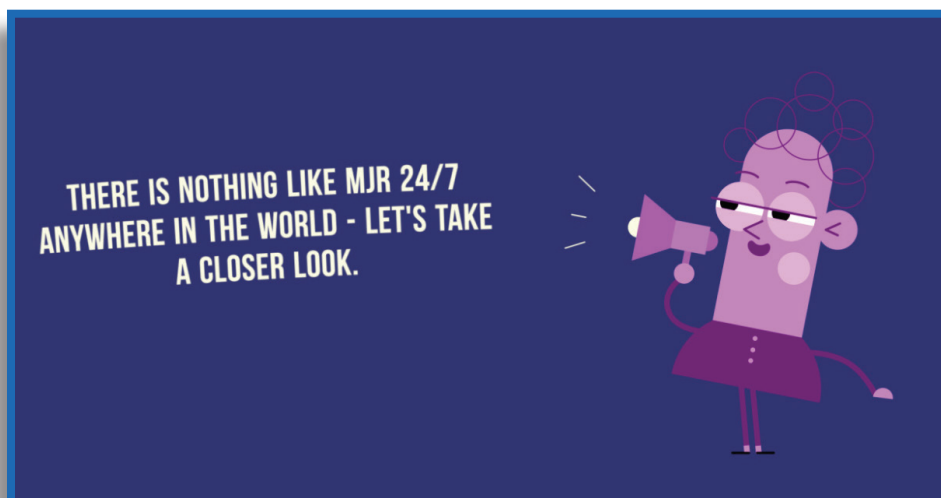
The 2019 MJR conference was a great success. Many areas were covered and hopefully from this bulletin you will gain an insight into where you can incorporate the MJR 'way of life' into your classroom and school. Please take a moment to peruse the many ideas and suggestions – it can, and will, make life easier and happier for you and those in your care.

For those a little more adventurous why not try the following app I was recently introduced to – *Biteable*. It is free and in just 30 minutes I was able to teach myself how to create a video reflection on **MJR 24/7**. Click or tap on this link [biteable.com/watch/mjr-247-2254170](http://biteable.com/watch/mjr-247-2254170) or on the image below.

Why not get the students to do a *Biteable* on MJR and send them to me at [marty.ogle@catholic.tas.edu.au](mailto:marty.ogle@catholic.tas.edu.au) – they will be very excited!

Have a super term – I bet you can find many '*Spirit of Jesus*' moments in your schools if you look for them!

Marty Ogle



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# ODE TO 2019 MJR CONFERENCE

By MARTY OGLE

The conference opened with a video from Martin Tobin,  
sharing how MJR helps us to bear witness.  
Mitch then welcomed us by asking us to see  
the SOJ moments, selflessness and kindness.

Delegates came from far and wide  
sharing ideas, stories plus things to show.  
The ladies from NT, Wilcannia Forbes and Rockhampton,  
proving from little things big things can grow.

The launch of MJR 24/7 was next,  
a new step into Years 7 & 8.  
Gemma and Marty showing the Student Journal,  
plus the Teacher Guide to appreciate.

Michele and Rom shared about MJR,  
with wellbeing and behavioural issues,  
Then 'MY FRIEND JESUS' author Liz Celegato,  
gushing with enthusiasm – we needed tissues.

Gemma from WA spoke about MJR  
introducing it into the secondary school,  
Followed by an inspiring video from Dusty, a past student  
about MJR journaling, as a life learning tool.

Janaya and Amanda from Wynyard in Tasmania  
informed us of their MJR themed week.  
Then a beautiful story from Michael Jones, 40 years,  
a Principal – it was a delight to hear him speak.

Karen from Garratt is trying to find a new way  
for us to communicate across the net.  
Then the guru author, MJR originator, Peter Mitchell  
shared practical hints and ideas, what an asset.

The MJR radio from Cinnamon at Kyogle  
showed us just how far MJR can go,  
Julian and Jason from Tasmania then shared  
the best way we can let MJR grow.

Marty with magic and a positive idea  
how to incorporate 'OK with a smile',  
This is both a school and home project,  
and then we finished in KAHOOT style.

Lots of laughs and smiles with the MJR song,  
'Jesus in Our Hearts Forever!'  
Then delegates shared the happy hour  
this prepared us for Friday's adventure.

What a highlight Friday was – on the buses,  
to see MJR in classroom with students and teacher,  
Primary went off to St Therese's School in Essendon  
others to St Kevin's – to show how MJR can reach ya!

At St Therese's School, Mitch began in Years 3/4  
followed by Liz and Victorian Michele.  
Many teachers, new and old to MJR  
took something home for 'Show and Tell'.

At Toorak, Marty and Gemma demonstrated 24/7  
in front of the teachers and boys  
Highlighting future planning and Grit,  
– how it can bring success and joys.

We finished with circle questions, sharing  
highlights and where to from here?  
We had gathered knowledge and wisdom,  
and then shouted new friends a beer!

So until we come together again  
maybe in two years time,  
We pray that the way you share MJR  
is better than this rhyme!

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## 2019 MJR CONFERENCE TAKEAWAYS

### 2019 MJR Conference Presentations and Videos

Presentations and videos from the conference are now on the MJR website and can be viewed here: [makejesusreal.com.au/2019/04/04/2019-mjr-conference-resources](http://makejesusreal.com.au/2019/04/04/2019-mjr-conference-resources)

### Feedback

The feedback that was provided on the last day has been invaluable. Karen has created an infographic summarising it and can be viewed here:

[garrattpublishing.com.au/pdf/MJR-teacher-resources/ConferenceResources/2019Conference/FeedbackInfographic.pdf](http://garrattpublishing.com.au/pdf/MJR-teacher-resources/ConferenceResources/2019Conference/FeedbackInfographic.pdf)

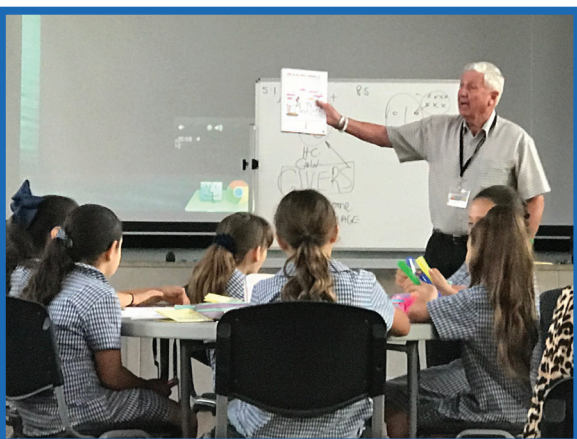
### Where to Next?

After discussions amongst the MJR team, plus taking onboard feedback from the 2019 MJR Conference delegates, it has been decided that 2020 will be a year for diocese to have their own gatherings. Already WA, Rockhampton, Tasmania, Wilcannia Forbes and other diocese are planning their own events.

The proposal is the 2021 conference will be held in Newcastle, but this still has to be confirmed.

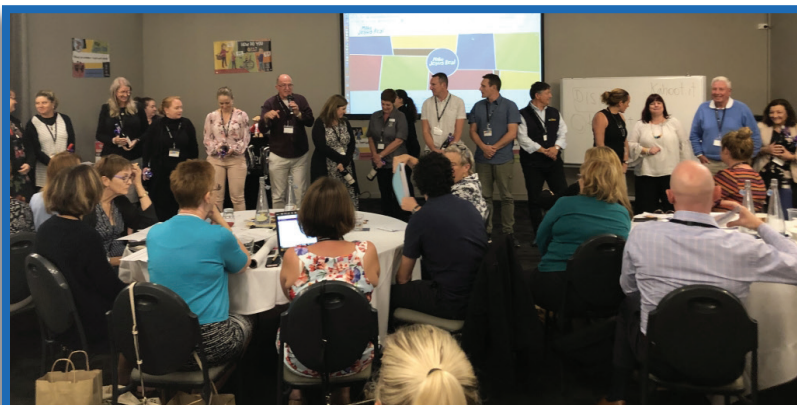
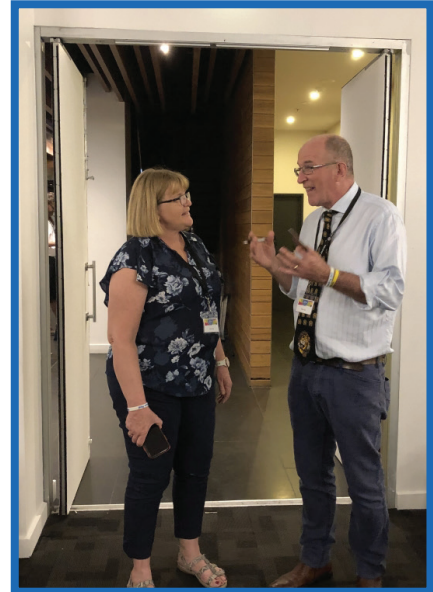


## 2019 MJR CONFERENCE MEMORIES



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# MITCH'S TRAVELS IN W.A.

480 Teachers 340 Students 10 Powerful Days

Hello

From April 1 to April 12th, I had ten extraordinary days flying into Kalgoorlie, back to Perth, then to Albany and back to Mandurah working with teachers and students from 16 schools.

The photo below, shows the staff in-service day at **St Simon Peters** school in Ocean Reef, Perth. It was organised by Eugene Lee from St Denis where you can feel and sense the *Spirit of Jesus* in the atmosphere of the school.



Back at **St Denis**, Eugene contacted the P&F and suggested a mural be painted on the big wall as you walk in the school. The P&F took it on completely.

It is a combination of pre Kindy to Year 6 artwork and was combined by the mother of three students, **Renee Vassiliou**.

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# MITCH'S TRAVELS IN W.A. Cont'd



Quinn with her parents on a 'Bad Hair' Fundraiser Day

The school also has a monthly **MJR and SOJ Award**. The award depicts the MJR mural.

**Quinn Gooch** from Grade 4 won the month's **MJR and SOJ Award**. Quinn also has 'Denis the Bear' for a month.

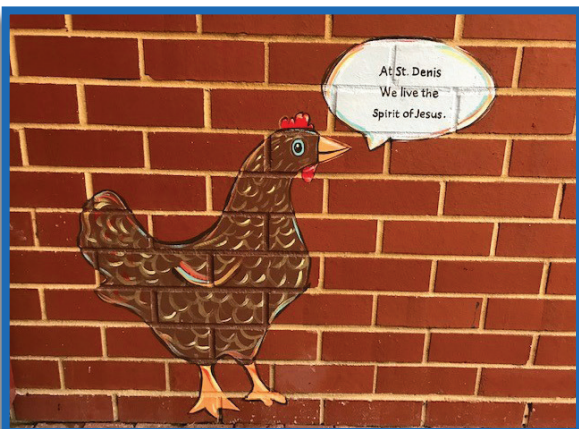
Quinn got the award because she "makes everyone feel good about themselves, is interested in other people, greets and treats others with a warm smile, using their name and is encouraging to others."

These are wonderful qualities that we all can aspire to.

Students and teachers participating in a 'Bad Hair' Fundraiser Day



Around the school on the brickwork there are a number of cartoons of chooks with MJR messages. The school also has an awesome chook house that the kids love and call "Cluckingham Palace."



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# MITCH'S TRAVELS IN W.A. Cont'd



To me the best part of my trip was, that after 19 years of going to Perth, a number of Principals are going to support Eugene to organise three different big MJR symposiums in the Perth and Bunbury Dioceses. They will be held in the first two weeks of Term Two and will also incorporate the new Grades 7 & 8 book by Marty Ogle and Gemma Thompson, **MJR 24/7.**

Eugene over the years has organised 68 schools to have a MJR PD. Now the staff are implementing MJR in their schools.

## FROM ACROSS AUSTRALIA ...

I have been hearing from different parts across Australia, very encouraging reports about the enthusiasm the MJR Conference generated.

Here are a few comments that may be of help to you:

“ There is no Catholic guilt when doing MJR. You do what you can, when you can. You can't do everything in the books, and it is best to leave the students some things for them to complete in years to come and that is what Dusty from the video does. ”

“ The students love their books, (a change from computers and iPads) and the AFTER EFFECT in years to come when they read it again. ”

“ If you can, be faithful to the 3 to 5 second lesson once a day:

“Name it when the SOJ moment happens.”

Recently, I was at St Cuthbert's Hobart and the kids were saying to me in class “SOJ” pronounced (SODGE). I didn't get it, until it was explained to me that they were naming the moment! ”

“ The 5 minute lesson once-a-week after lunch, go into your “Heart Room”.

2 minutes quiet time. 1 minute reflecting where they saw the SOJ moment in their life.

1 minute writing 2 to 3 lines. 1 minute listening to 4 stories. Total 5 mins.

That is what they will read in years to come. ”

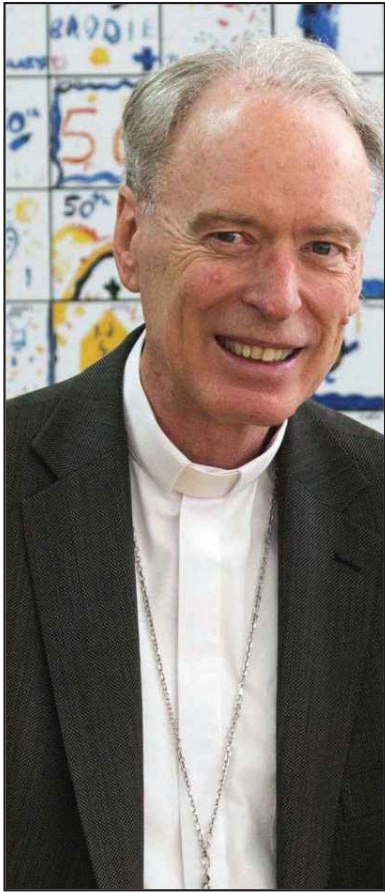
Finally, I was invited to speak to 195 Year 12 students a few weeks ago. When I asked them, “Who still has their Grade 6 MJR books?” – so many of them put their hand up!

So, for teachers hesitant about getting the books, that little story maybe of help to you. MJR definitely has an after effect that lasts for years – very useful for your students as they go off to secondary school.

Until next time,

Mitch

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Bishop Don Sproxton

## WE NEVER STOP LEARNING

Recently, *The Record*, featured a fascinating article by Bishop Don Sproxton, Auxillary Bishop of Perth, regarding learning being a lifelong journey.

In particular, he said, "The teachers in our schools occupy a special place in our lives and have a profound impact on us." Our very own Peter Mitchell and *Making Jesus Real* got a special mention:

*... Peter went on to develop a wonderful resource for schools entitled, **Making Jesus Real** (MJR). When I read it, I could recognise words and phrases that he was using 40 years ago and which had an enormous impact on me and my classmates. He made being a Christian real. MJR is perfectly aligned with the religious education program in our Catholic schools. It provides a way for children to learn how to take on the attitudes and values of Jesus, and so to learn how to live in a positive way with others, themselves and God.*

*I was struck recently by a couple of sentences I read about the calling of the teacher in our Catholic Schools. It says, "The Catholic teacher, therefore, cannot be content simply to present Christian values as a set of abstract objectives to be admired, even if this is done positively and with imagination; they must be presented*

*as values which generate human attitudes, and must be encouraged in the students. Examples would be these: a freedom which includes respect for others; conscientious responsibility; a sincere and constant search for truth; a calm and peaceful critical spirit; a spirit of solidarity with and service toward all other persons; a sensitivity for justice; a special awareness of being called to be positive agents of change in a society that is undergoing continuous transformation". ...*

We'd like to thank *The Record* for allowing us to print this excerpt. If you would like to read the full article, please go to:

[www.therecord.com.au/news/local/we-never-stop-learning](http://www.therecord.com.au/news/local/we-never-stop-learning)

### Live Jesus in your Hearts – FOREVER!

The MJR Team ...

Marty, Mitch, Michele, David,  
Rose, Karen, Sandy and Charmaine

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