# My Friend Jesus



# MJR Bulletin AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2023

As many Australians come out of winter, Mitch and myself have been lucky to have been travelling in the warmer climates. This month's Bulletin features some highlights from our travels. Plus – *insert drumroll here* – I have exciting news about the **2024 MJR Conference**!

SPIRIT Make OF JESUS JESUS Real

Enjoy and God Bless. Marty

### MARTY IN THE NT

During August, I was fortunate to be in the Northern Territory where MJR is 'alive and thriving' in many schools. Plus, a number of them are looking at where they can use the MJR philosophy in their school communities for the first time.

I began at the beautiful St Joseph's Catholic College in Katherine. We discussed that MJR can – and should be – both a personal and professional journey. Their enthusiasm for MJR is contagious. My next stop was at St Mary's in Darwin where I spent the day visiting all the classes. I then ventured accross to Wurrumiyanga on Bathurst Island (Nguyu) where the Tiwi schools made me feel very welcome. I also took part in the Murrupurtiyanuwu Catholic School assembly and it was amazing to see that Tiwi students I taught many years ago, are now leaders at Tiwi schools. Like, Angelo Orsto, who is Deputy Principal at Xavier Catholic College – where I was Deputy Principal back in 1997-98!



Murrupurtiyanuwu Catholic School assembly

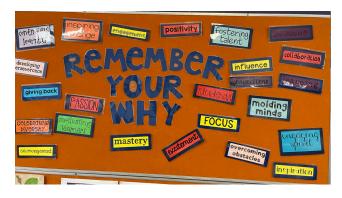


Angelo Orsto and myself

Both Tiwi schools, under great leadership, are striving to improve the attendance of students. Each saw the potential of *Make Jesus Real* to help connect students to other subject areas.

Back in Darwin at Holy Spirit Casuarina – where MJR is embedded right across the school community – I took a group of students in Years 3–5. We looked at 'Making a Difference'. They spoke about the terrible helicopter accident that happened on the Tiwi Islands – where three USA soldiers were killed – and wondered how they could help. They decided they would design cards to give to the parents of those killed and for all the students to sign or write a message. These were eventually given to the Northern Territory Deputy Chief Minister to give to the US Ambassador. This is the *Spirit of Jesus* in action.

Also at Holy Spirit, I saw this wonderful staffroom board – a great reminder.







## MJR AND THE MATILDAS

Danielle Nilon from St Joseph's Primary School Woodburn NSW has written a wonderful message about MJR and the Matildas.

... there has appeared a bright light in the form of the Matildas that has captured and given rise to a wonderful positive SPIRIT THAT HAS GRIPPED AUSTRALIA – including all age groups – especially young teenagers and primary kids. The Matildas HAS UNITED AUSTRALIANS IN SUCH A POSITIVE WAY. ...

Click <u>here</u> to read Danielle's full message and how she compared the Matilda's with MJR values.

#### STEPS DON'T HAVE TO BE BORING!

St Laurence Catholic Primary School in Dubbo is a school that loves everything MJR. This is what they have done to boring steps. Many thanks Mitch for the picture.



# FROM ACROSS THE SEAS!



Gemma Thomson, co-author of *MJR 24/7* found this impressive table at the Edmund Rice Heritage Centre in Waterford, Ireland.

Yes, 'Live Jesus in your Hearts - FOR EVER.

### Be the Spirit of Jesus 2024 MJR CONFERENCE Perth

MJR24

Make Jesus Real



We are excited to be planning a MJR Conference in Perth on the 15th & 16th April 2024.

We need to ascertain your interest in sending your staff to the conference to enable our planning.

#### **REGISTER YOUR INTEREST AND SAVE!**

Please register your interest <u>here</u> so we can plan for the conference appropriately.

Earlybird places are limited. However, all registrants will be given priority access to purchase these discounted tickets when they become available.

Over two incredible days, you'll discover how Make Jesus Real has been transforming primary and secondary school communities around Australia.

Meet and learn from teachers from around the country, and participate in wonderful workshops that will equip you with the tools, ideas, and real-world knowledge that can transform your school's faith community.

You will come away from the **2024 MJR Conference** feeling invigorated, motivated, and excited!

Your expression of interest is crucial for us to continue planning this event.

Click <u>here</u> to register your interest today.







# **MITCH'S TRAVELS**

As Mitch travelled up the east coast spreading the Good News through MJR he also played for the MJR golf trophy in a number of places. He plays with teachers who continue to spread the positive effect of the MJR philosophy has on them and their school communities. Below are photos from two golf days.





MJR Golf Day at Mullumbimby and the MJR Red Hat day with Pat, Paul, Mitch, Tom, Mark and Gerard.

Many of you will remember that Mitch visited St Joseph's Primary School Woodburn after it was flooded. Sadly it is now condemned. The school is now situated 8 kms away in demountables. They used the MJR messages to 'push through' and they were so pleased to receive free MJR books from Garratt Publishing to help them. Mitch said they are an amazing school community who see the positives in their future. Here are two of the ways they welcome people.



#### **REFLECTION ACTIVITY**

A super exercise that Mitch does with the students is a 'How I have grown as a person' reflection. Click here to view the results of this exercise. It is a great list of reflections from Year 6s at Holy Rosary Tasmania. We need to reflect everyday!

# LINKS

Here are some super YouTube videos to use in your classrooms and/or staff meetings.

Make Jesus Real

#### Zion Clark

An extraordinary man who has overcome so many things in life. I won't spoil it –JUST WATCH IT!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DQG1t2a2f4s

#### Winter Vincent - Waves For Water

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PDBJJ8wcekl



# MJR PODCASTS

The MJR Podcast – A GPS for Life

PODCAST a GPS for life

Each Podcast episode has an accompanying 3-2-1 Activity Sheet which is available from the Resources page of www.makejesusreal.com.au/resources.

To listen to the MJR Podcasts go to:

#### Spotify:

https://open.spotify.com/show/4VDJEOnCL2UVvL7AqPX91Y

#### iTunes: https://podcasts.apple.com/au/podcast/ the-mjr-podcast-a-gps-for-life/id1513474986

## WF WANT TO HFAR FROM YOU

Got an idea for a story, or want to share a story that captured the ears and hearts of your students?



We'd love to hear from you.

Please email Marty at: marty.ogle13@gmail.com.

Note: If you are including images, please ensure you have permission to do so.

#### Live Jesus in your Hearts - FOREVER! The MJR Team



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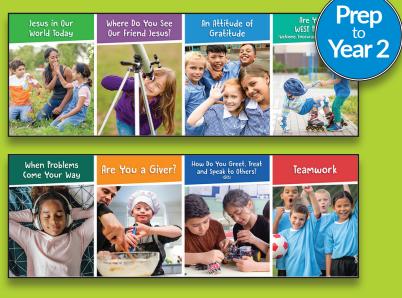
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