



MJR Bulletin



OCTOBER 2022

I hope you all had a nice break heading into term four.

We've had so much happening around Australia recently that the Bulletin is big this month. So, let's get straight into it!

MJR is deeply immersed in this saying, *From Little Things Big Things Grow*. We strive to create positive habits in our young students so that eventually when they grow up, they become positive contributors in all that they do.

Therefore, I thought I would dedicate this Bulletin to showing some great examples of *From Little Things Big Things Grow*!

Marty

FROM LITTLE THINGS BIG THINGS GROW

This famous Paul Kelly anthem has inspired many people and organisations with its story of patience and **NGU** (Never Give Up). Written by Paul Kelly and Kev Carmody in 1991, *From Little Things Big Things Grow* charts the struggle for land rights by the Gurindji people, led by Vincent Lingiari. It tells the story of the *Wave Hill Walk-Off* in 1966 through to the symbolic handing back of their land eight years later – an event which became a catalyst for the Aboriginal land rights movement.

Below is the link to the YouTube video for you to share with students and staff – look out for the appearance of a well-known Australian near the end!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y4ilmKD85TQ>

Here are some examples of other things that started out small...

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Woodburn NSW.

Mitch was recently at **St Joseph's**, a school deeply affected by the recent floods with their whole school completely flooded. They lost everything including books, electronics, teacher resources, equipment etc.

When I was at **St Thomas More's, Launceston**, I showed the Year 5s these photos of the school. A number of students were so concerned that they came to me after the session and have since organised to raise money for St Joseph's via a raffle. Garratt Publishing have also organised replacement MJR workbooks for the students. The Principal wrote back to say how grateful they were.

Yes, 'From Little Things BIG Things Grow'!

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Woodburn NSW



St Brendan's Catholic Primary School, Mackay

MJR is an integral part of all that they do at St Brendan's Mackay. Mitch sent these photos and the following snapshot of what they do – they started small.

MJR Testimonial 2022

It is quite a challenging task to put on paper what we have done with MJR as a new school. Suffice to say that MJR has played a very big role in the development of the religious life of our school. It provides an accessible culture and language for all students and parents, and helps bring Jesus into our everyday lives and conversations. MJR provides a simple, relatable, 21st Century lens for us to build our Catholic (Ignatian) charism around.

Our school motto is 'Finding God in All Things' – so MJR 'God Moments' were where we began. We then introduced a fortnightly MJR focus which is talked about at assemblies and in classrooms. Soon after, we developed a 'MJR School Planner' that aligned fortnightly MJR focuses with the school and liturgical calendar. We introduced a 'MJR Award' that is awarded to one student per week. We printed MJR Award certificates and the student receives the certificate at an assembly along with a MJR arm band. Running alongside this, we run fortnightly 'MJR Pastoral Groups' – where all students in the school are split into a multi-age group (P-6) and participate in a 30min lesson and activities. A host teacher and Year 6 students lead this lesson.

We use school signs, the School App, and a Parent Facebook Page to engage parents and communicate MJR messages every fortnight.

Thank you, Mitch!! MJR is an important part of the religious life of our school... thanks to you!

Shaye Gaviglio, APRE

St Brendan's Catholic Primary School, Mackay

Here are some great examples of the many ways the school integrates MJR into their community.

Yes, 'From Little Things BIG Things Grow'.



TEAMWORK

Jesus asks us to use our talents and do our best for others.

When we WORK TOGETHER, great things can happen!

'WESTie' people are great team players ☺

Together
Everyone
Achieves
More

IN THIS SCHOOL WE ARE A TEAM
We respect EACH OTHER. WE TAKE RISKS.
We try our best. WE LEARN FROM OUR MISTAKES.
WE DREAM BIG!
We celebrate each other's success!

Team Players...welcome, listen, encourage, include, respect other people's opinions AND stay focussed on what they are trying to achieve.

Walking in the Footsteps of Christ

SO! GO! CHA! SO!

Look out for the SPiRiT OF JESUS... 👁️

**HELPING
CARING
SHARING
FORGIVING
ENCOURAGING
LOVING
KIND**

TREAT OTHERS AS YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE TREATED

If we are 'switched on' to what is happening around us, then we start to realise that Jesus is with us all day, every day, in us and in others.
Where was the Spirit of Jesus in my life today?

W. W. J. D. What would Jesus Do?

Walking in the Footsteps of Christ

SPiRiT OF JESUS

What's in it for ME?

WiiFM

Jesus asks us to...

- ☑️ Don't be a **WiiFM** and ask **What's in it For Me?**
- ☑️ Don't expect something in return
- ☑️ Don't do things just to get a reward
- ☑️ Don't boast about the things that you do

Be Generous

GIVE WITHOUT EXPECTING ANYTHING IN RETURN.

Helping others makes us feel good and that's the only reward that we need ☺



Holy Spirit Catholic School, Darwin

I recently had the privilege of visiting Darwin and presenting to students and staff at a number of schools. Below is the MJR wall at Holy Spirit Catholic School. Every week students who receive the MJR award have their photos taken in front of the wall where it is sent home and/or used in the newsletter.



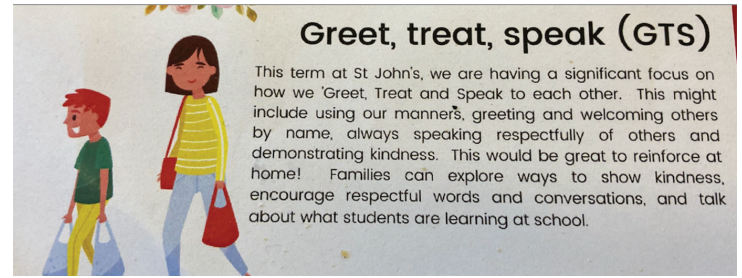
St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Darwin & Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School, Darwin

I presented a refresher day at these two schools. The first picture is of the staff who attended. The second is the unique way these creative leaders remember what they had heard – with painted tiles. They are now hanging at their schools. Great Idea!



St John's Richmond, Tasmania

Below is an article for parents from the school's newsletter.



Greet, treat, speak (GTS)

This term at St John's, we are having a significant focus on how we 'Greet, Treat and Speak' to each other. This might include using our manners, greeting and welcoming others by name, always speaking respectfully of others and demonstrating kindness. This would be great to reinforce at home! Families can explore ways to show kindness, encourage respectful words and conversations, and talk about what students are learning at school.

Larmerier Catholic Primary School, Tasmania

Ray Smith and his wonderful Year 6 class completed the colouring mural that was highlighted in the June Bulletin.



They have done an amazing job of working together to colour the background, individually colouring the sheets, and then gluing them altogether to make their completed mural.

If this has inspired you, click [here](#) to view the story. There you will find the link to download the blank mural.

And finally, to finish, rather than video suggestions this Bulletin, here's an MJR endorsement and a Kahoot!

WHY DOES MJR WORK?

Have you ever wondered where and/or why does *MJR* work?

Dr Dan White, previous Executive Director of both the Tasmanian and Sydney Catholic Education Offices, had this to say about *MJR*.

I have had the wonderful opportunity of observing ***Making Jesus Real*** in action across a number of dioceses in Australia. In many respects *MJR* has successfully proved to be the '***missing link***' that has not only complemented and enriched our traditional Religious Education curriculums but even more importantly has underpinned the spiritual growth and formation of our young people by explicitly putting the teachings and values of Jesus at the very centre of their everyday lives.

In particular, the emphasis in ***MJR*** for children to deeply reflect daily upon how they are living out their faith in Jesus, combined with the active encouragement to regularly dialogue with their parents about what they have learnt, are real features of the program. I would seriously encourage each and every Catholic school to explore how the various ***MJR*** resources could enhance both their Religious Education and Personal Development programs.

Dr Dan White OAM

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW THE MJR ACRONYMS?

Use this link or scan the QR code below to test your staff and students on how well they know the MJR acronyms – it's fun to play!

<https://play.kahoot.it/v2/?quizId=9536db2b-ab57-4bd1-bcb2-678e1da3c16c>



MJR PODCASTS

The MJR Podcast – A GPS for Life

Each Podcast episode has an accompanying *3-2-1 Activity Sheet* which are 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>

the



WE WANT TO HEAR 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.ogle@catholic.tas.edu.au.

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

Live Jesus in your Hearts – FOREVER!

The MJR Team ... Marty, Mitch, David, Karen, Rose, Sandy and Charmaine



www.makejesusreal.com.au



1300 650 878



sales@garrattpublishing.com.au



www.mjr247.com.au



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