

## From the Principal - Mrs Valencia

### The Matilda Effect - a story of Inspiration

Throughout the past weeks, the world, and particularly our country has been enchanted by the Matildas. Families have gathered around the television, mine included, wishing and willing the Matildas through to the next round. Television ratings have been smashed, ticket sales have been through the roof, sold out from venue to venue, and families have been prioritising watching these incredible games over all else. My daughter's soccer club has moved all training sessions forward on Wednesday evening so that the club members can be home to watch the semi-finals. Matilda fever has well and truly swept the nation!



The power of inspiration is such an interesting concept. After all, most of us have never met the Matilda's. We do not know them personally, many may not even have seen them play in real life, but at this time in history, everyone wants to be a Matilda. Children have picked up soccer balls that were weathering in their backyards. Penalty shootout practise is happening around Australia, and more than ever, children are considering being a goalie... a most formidable position in my opinion.

Many times, I think the power to inspire is underrated. We think, 'what could I possibly bring that would inspire someone else?' What could I say or do that would motivate someone else to action. We think we are just ordinary people living ordinary lives. Each of our beloved Matilda's are also ordinary people... but they are choosing to live extraordinary lives. This has nothing to do with playing for Australia at the World Cup, and has everything to do with the fact that they want to inspire. They believe they can inspire and they are using their opportunities to inspire the lives of millions of other people.

Time and time again in their post match interviews you hear them say, 'this is for the young boys and girls...' or 'I hope that through our matches, young people across the world will fall in love with football'. They hand out their shirts and soccer boots, sign jerseys and soccer balls – not to be famous, but to stare young boys and girls in the eye and tell them to never stop dreaming, never stop believing.

Inspiration can be found in any place. I found it last week at our Learning Expo as I spoke with passionate boys and girls, who with a twinkle in their eye, told me all about their learning. There was inspiration in Prep as they shared the process of growing their water cress. Inspiration could be found in Year Two as they described how our ears can hear, and inspiration was seen in Year 6 as they designed and articulated their sustainable homes. Every single learning space dripped with inspiration at our Expo. Truly inspiring! At the end of the evening, it was evident to me how our teachers inspire learning at St Paul's.

So as we all hold our collective breath for the Matilda's and jump in the air screaming at our TV's, let's take inspiration from their example. Let's choose to take our ordinary lives and live in an extraordinary way, serving each other, lifting one another up, in Christ's name.

Have an extraordinary week!

Love Mrs V x



## BEING THANKFUL

Some days we can get caught up in the craziness which is Term 3 and we can lose sight of the moments that bring joy and hope into our worlds. So, I'd like to encourage you today to take a moment.... Think back over this last week for the moments you are thankful for.

For me, I'm thankful for awesome friends who encourage and speak into my world, I'm thankful for opportunities to help grow and shape our school for the future, I'm thankful for breakfast club starting up, I'm thankful for the parent helpers who generously give their time to our school community, I'm thankful for my family.....

So, my encouragement this week is, don't let the busy/stress/overwhelm rob you of the wonderful moments to be thankful for this week.

*"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." Colossians 3:17*

Blessings

Chappy Teneille



## What's coming up?



- 21-25 - Book Week (Read, Grow, Inspire)
- 21 - Book Blanket
- 23 - Book Week Parade
- 24 - Tuckshop Special - EKKA Show Day
- 25 - Grandparents Day
- 28 - Year 5 Taste of Grace Visit
- 29 - P&F Father's Day Stall
- 31-01 - Year 3 Camp - Sea Life



- 03 - Father's Day
- 04 - Northern Cluster Gala Day (Yr 3-4)
- 06 - Early Educator Day