

A Word From Father John

St Cecilia's School The 'Buddy Bench'

This year there is something new and special in St. Cecilia's School. It is the 'Buddy Bench'.

I had never heard of a 'Buddy Bench, until this year.

I think it is a brilliant idea.

Sometimes someone is feeling down or sad or left out. Just imagine that one day some of your friends let you know that you are not welcome to play with them. You would feel down. The idea of the 'Buddy Bench' is that you could then sit quietly on the 'Buddy Bench'. And then what happens? I am told that if there is anyone sitting on the 'Buddy Bench' you are not allowed to walk past that person without sitting down with them and chatting. It doesn't matter who you are.... fellow class mate, friend, teacher, principal, parent.... anyone. You may not walk past the person sitting on the 'Buddy Bench' without sitting with them and chatting.

It is a modern version of what St Matthew wrote, many years ago, in his story of Jesus. He said that in the Christian community (outlined in Chapters 5-8) there was to be no lost child and no unforgiven person. It worked in St. Matthew's day. It works today. What a great school we have! A school of Faith, Family and Friendship and no-one is ever left out.

Fr. John

