Dear St Patrick’s Community

In the last week we have seen the wonderful display created by Ms Knott and students on the front fence with one of life’s most powerful words: SORRY.

It commemorates Reconciliation Week; the time we acknowledge as a nation the injustices done to some of our indigenous brothers and sisters. The forced removal of children from their families has caused incalculable grief and left a legacy of hurt.

Saying sorry is a pre-requisite to reconciliation. This, in turn, is a step towards forgiveness and a return to ‘wholeness’.

Actually, forgiveness is not only about others, but also about our own spiritual growth. Love and forgiveness cannot be separated. If we choose to live out the love of God as the purpose of our life, then forgiving is an option that cannot be avoided.

But the first step is the simple yet profound word, ‘Sorry’.

In the last week, we have reflected on the enormous contribution of parents in the life of St Patrick’s. As we transition to a new structure for parent representation (the new Community Council), we give pause to remember all of the resources purchased through fund-raising, all of the community building activities and all of the functions that have been held.

As there have been new challenges and areas of the school requiring support, the parents have accepted these and responded with renewed energy for fund-raising. There was great need in Infants and Primary during the refurbishment of these areas. In the last two years, we know that the biggest challenges are in providing good resources in Secondary. The new TAS/VA building would not have got past step one without the commitment of funds from the P&F.

So it is with considerable gratitude that I can announce that there has been a formal hand-over of this new building. We will now begin to plan the opportunities for our community to come and see the inside. It is fantastic!

Kind regards

Frances Robertson
Principal
The excitement is building for the Year 10 students as they prepare for the journey to Sydney next week. This is a wonderful opportunity to experience independence and learn in a different environment. There are valuable social skills that are integral to the trip. Mixing with others in different settings helps to build on these skills.

Some of the places that the students will visit are:

- ANZ Stadium
- Sydney Observatory
- Hyde Park barracks
- Sydney Tower
- ABC studios.

They will also complete the walk from Bondi to Bronte along the coast.

The outstanding success of this excursion in the past has been largely due to the cooperation and responsibility of the hundreds of students we have taken to Sydney for many years.

We are confident that the students are well prepared for this new learning environment.

The school is very appreciative of the work and time Mr Steve Summerville has put into preparing the bookings and taking care of all the organisational matters.

We also appreciate the time commitment of Mrs Alyson Hulley and Mrs Lou Mackay who will be attending and supporting the students.

We wish them all a successful trip and look forward to seeing the photos and hearing the stories on their return.

Mark Van Ommen
Assistant Principal
Da Vinci Decathlon

A team of talented Year 7 and 8 students participated in the da Vinci Decathlon at Canberra Grammar on Tuesday. This decathlon with a difference is run in the spirit of an Olympic decathlon but with events of an academic and cultural nature. Over the course of the day the 57 teams participated in the following ten events:

- Art and Poetry
- Engineering
- Science
- Philosophy
- Creative Producers
- Mathematics
- Cartography
- English
- Code Breaking
- General Knowledge

The tasks were exciting and challenging with a particular emphasis on higher order thinking skills and creativity. Our groups performed particularly well in a number of the events with the Year 7s winning the Engineering challenge and the Year 8s excelling in Creative Producers (where they came second and performed for the audience at the end of the day).

Well done to:

Thanks also to the parents who left Cooma in the dark to get teams there on time for a very early start.

International Adventure

Jasmin Statham-Smith from Year 10 is currently in Seoul as part of the Australian delegation attending the Rotary International Conference. She is standing to the right of this photo.
Sacrament of First Reconciliation

In the spirit of this Week of Reconciliation, we have had 19 children from our school and other local primary schools taking part in the Sacrament of Reconciliation as they move forward in their faith journey as young Catholics.

Our Year 3 students have followed a school based program of study looking at the many aspects of reconciliation in their immediate life and how they can share in God’s mercy, which is a key focus of this, the Year of Mercy.

The program had at its centre the story of the lost sheep and all of our young people learned that God will always bring them home and be their shelter.

Congratulations to these children and their families as they share this special sacrament.
Our Kindergarten 2017 Interviews have commenced!

If you know anyone with a child ready to start school, please invite them to make an appointment for an interview.

Welcome to our Faith!

Congratulations to our staff member, Danielle Trigg, who was presented to the Church during Saturday evening Mass, as part her journey towards becoming a Catholic. Thank you to Suzanne Stacey and Fr Mick for sponsoring and supporting this.

Information Meeting

Monday 13th of June
4-5pm
PD Murphy’s Cafe

For more information contact
Miss Trigg

Do you want to make a difference...
Do you want to learn leadership skills...
Do you have great ideas...
Do you want to have fun...

Come and learn how we can help you do all these and much much more....
Hello from all the students in 1F

Welcome to winter!
We made a list of our best days at school so far:
♦ Spending time with friends and teachers
♦ the Swimming and Athletics carnivals
♦ reading books and writing
♦ playing soccer
♦ going to the disco
♦ using Reading Eggs and computers

We also like drawing and creating art, writing sentences and playing at school.
We look forward to many more fun times for the rest of the year.

From 1F

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Canteen news

As we welcome in winter this week, I would like to add soup to the menu! Soup helps to keep us warm and fills tummies, keeping kids happy and healthy in these winter months.

This week’s special will be a SWEET POTATO AND COCONUT SOUP served with a garlic bread for $4.

Don’t forget TACO TUESDAY - available every Tuesday for only $4!

The canteen also requires volunteers and would love to welcome some new faces.
Please contact the office or drop in and see me if you can spare any time at all.

Next week’s volunteers:

Fri 3/6 Elsa Wagner
Tue 7/6 Gwenda Hayley
Wed 8/6 Kim Kleven
Thur 9/6 Chris Haylock
Fri 10/6 Volunteer needed
Dr Robin Silverman.com

Rostrum Public Speaking

Quarter Final #12

Monaro

Thursday, 2 June 2016

Venue: Cooma Ex-Services Club
Vale Street, Cooma

Rostrum Coordinator: Leigh Harkness

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Competitor</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cooma North Primary</td>
<td>Charlotte Wool</td>
<td>I need more time!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooma Primary School</td>
<td>Bella Clay</td>
<td>Keeping up with technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lindabynne Central Schools</td>
<td>Letitia Murphy</td>
<td>Ooars</td>
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<tr>
<td>Snowy Mountains Christian School</td>
<td>Nicholas Moruz</td>
<td>I need more time!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Snowy Mountains Grammar School</td>
<td>Olivia Weston</td>
<td>I need more time!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Patrick’s Parish School, Cooma</td>
<td>Tom Carton</td>
<td>The year of the monkey</td>
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Semi-Finals

Winner proceeds to Garran Primary School on: Wednesday, 27 July 2016
Runner-up proceeds to St Benedict’s Primary, Narromundah on: Tuesday, 19 July 2016
BRIGHT Award Winners for Week 5

Congratulations to the following winners; Meg Schofield, Emelia Greville, Annaliese Buckley, Heaven Lennon, Mitchell Burke, Toby Inskip, Emily Smith.

5L Class News

Year 5L have recently expanded their inquiry based learning through the process of ‘STEAM’. Traditionally STEM (minus the A) education involves undertaking tasks or challenges which have a particular combined Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics focus.

5L are a creative bunch so we have added ‘A’ or Art to this investigative process, as we all know that an integral part of solving any problem is creativity.

Our most recent challenges have involved an accurate recreation of the globe using balloons. This challenge required the students to label common features on their globe inclusive of hemispheres, latitude and longitude, the equator, all continents and the meridian.

We have also created a toy soldier launcher, with the winning distance of 23 metres and a suspension bridge which held 17kgs of books until it collapsed.

Not only do these challenges work the brain they also test everyone’s teamwork skills and thinking flexibility.

We hope to include more of these challenges in our weekly learning!
A group of Year 10 students visited the Sir William Hudson Nursing Home last Friday to assist with serving a special afternoon tea to the residents. Betty Mattner is integral to these events and students have come to know her as an energetic dynamo who organises them to quickly become efficient waiters and quickly mix with the residents. Thank you to Ken Sillich and Debbie Heffernan who also supported the visit and provided tasty food. Nursing home staff and a resident are pictured above with Justin Manning, Charlotte Mitchie, Luci Clarke, Tilly Thomas, James Hayden and organiser Betty Mattner. Pictured below is Ken Sillich and Betty Mattner with Charlotte Mitchie and Justin Manning.
School Banking is improving your kid’s ‘Common Cents’:

It’s been a great start to the school year, and every week we see the students putting in a fantastic savings effort. That might be because of this year’s Grand Prize: a VIP tour of Australia Zoo to meet Robert and Bindi Irwin! Many of our true blue Outback Savers are well on their way to reaching their 15 deposits by the end of Term 3, which will give them an automatic entry into the Grand Prize competition.

Aside from the Grand Prize, two new reward items are available this term. After making 10 School Banking deposits, students can redeem the Mud Splat Handball or the Outback Pat Bag Tag!

Learning about your child’s ‘Common Cents’
Earlier this year, CommBank released a report exploring just how clued-up about money Australian children are. They were asked to complete the ‘Common Cents’ Quiz, which looked at five key areas of financial literacy: spending, saving, earning, budgeting and investing.

The research revealed our nation’s kids are – on average – educated earners and spenders, and children whose parents have smarter money habits recorded higher ‘Common Cents’ scores. Here are some of the statistics we’ve uncovered:

- 68% of Aussie kids like saving their money more than spending it.
- 77% of them understand they can earn extra money by doing chores around the house.
- Only 50% know what a budget is, with one in five thinking it’s a sheet of paper with numbers on it.
- Over 50% of children surveyed would take $5 now, over larger monetary sums if they have to wait.

The report also shows that 69% of primary school children in Australia receive pocket money, and 62% of those are expected to complete tasks to earn it. Pocket money is a great way for parents to teach kids the value of money and the earning process.

If you’re curious about your child’s ‘Common Cents’, we encourage you to take them through the simple Quiz that’s available at: commbank.com.au/commoncentsquiz

For more tips, videos and activities to stimulate your child’s interest in money skills, head to The Beanstalk at commbank.com.au/youthsaver