Dear St Patrick's Community,

**Our new Design Building** is a precious resource for us. It stands on precious land. The soil beneath us was walked on by our indigenous brothers and sisters for nearly 100,000 years.

We look to the cross on our buildings and know that we are part of something over 2,000 years old; a Catholic tradition.

We look to the older buildings on this site and are reminded of the work of the **Brigidine Sisters** who arrived here in 1887.

I look to young faces that I see every day and I see the present, with a very real and genuine urgency for good learning. Then, we admire a brand new Design Building and in it we see the future.

From 100,000 years ago to the future, we have it all in this little pocket of Cooma.

In all that we do, I am reminded of the quote from Amanda Harlech, “We have to keep an eye on the future, with a sense of the past in every passing moment of the present.”

Apart from Week 6 beginning with the opening of the new Design Building, the week also includes the 2W Assembly, the Year 9 Reflection Day, the Year 5 Birrigai ’Discovering Gold’ Day and the Year 6-10 Social. Also, Year 6 have another SPOT Day in High School. Last week the Year 6 students had a wow of a time at Cooba and Kindergarten 2017 arrived for their second KinderStart Day. The Musica Viva concert and a netball carnival were also thrown in.

**Learning can take place in many different formats and locations.**

Thank you to all the staff who are going above and beyond to make the learning good for every single child at St Patrick's.

Yours in peace,

**Frances Robertson**

Principal

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**SPECIAL DATES TO REMEMBER**

- **Wednesday 16 November**
  - Yr 6-10 social

- **Thursday 17 November**
  - Year 9 Reflection Day
  - Parent gathering for transition to Primary school

- **Friday 18 November**
  - Yr5 ’Gold’ excursion Birrigai
  - Year 7 2017 SPOT day - transition to high school

- **Saturday 19 November**
  - 2nd hand uniform shop open 10am-11am

- **Monday 21 November**
  - K-6 Swimming Program

- **Tuesday 22 November**
  - K-6 Swimming Program
  - Yr 7 & 8 Basketball

- **Wednesday 23 November**
  - Yr 7-10 Science workshops

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“Education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.” Malcolm X
This week began on Sunday with World Kindness Day.

We say a huge thank you to the school's Kindness Ambassadors, Fr Mick and Mrs Bronnie Taylor, who through their generosity and kind words are wonderful examples of this quality.

From the AP’s desk

Congratulations

I would like to commend some of our students for the positive way they have responded to some challenging conversations last week. We are here to help students make a positive contribution to the learning, safety and belonging within the school community. By providing them with the language and strategies to take some ownership of their behaviour, we feel we are giving them skills for life.

Relief teachers

Our wonderful relief staff are valued members of our school community. They often step in at short notice to teach, provide learning support or clerical assistance in the office. Without their dedication, love for the students and flexibility, we could not provide our teaching staff with professional development opportunities and ensure the smooth operation of the school.

Kinderstart

I wish to thank all our K-2 staff for the welcoming atmosphere they created last Friday for our second Kinderstart experience. In particular, I wish to acknowledge Mrs Fraser who facilitated an information session on reading for our 2017 Kindergarten parents, which was very well received. This sets our students up for reading success right from the start.

Mark van Ommen
Assistant Principal

K-2 Parents

Sundowner Cup - Cooma Races
Saturday 3 December 2016
(Cooma Racecourse)

WE NEED YOUR HELP PLEASE!

Each year St Patrick’s caters at the Cooma Races, Sundowner Cup. This is one of Cooma’s social highlights of the year. This event is one of our major fundraisers for St Patrick’s. This money is used for enhanced educational learning, new equipment, maintenance and those special things that all our children will benefit from on their way through from Infants, Primary and our Secondary Campus.

We would love to see our families involved prior to and present on the day.

Why not come along and join in on the festivities.

Please contact via email:
Lucinda George: lumargeo@yahoo.com or Erika Statham: SalemCharming@gmail.com

We look forward to hearing from all of you.
St Patrick’s Community Council - Cooma Race Committee
Thank you to the parents who worked so hard with their fund-raising for the last five years, to the staff who prepared a beautiful liturgy, to the staff who prepared the setting for this opening and to the friends of St Patrick’s for joining us in this celebration.
This week the Year 9 students have been invited to a special day designed just for them!

The focus for the day will be to explore the students’ personal development as a young adult. Ms Pip Daley has developed these programs, in consultation with others, and she and Mr van Ommen will be facilitating the day. The atmosphere will be relaxed and responsive to the students using a variety of informative material and strategies to generate good discussion and reflection.

The students will be divided into male and female groups to focus on specific matters relating to their gender.

Guest speakers have been invited to share their wisdom and life experiences.

Some of the panellists for the Gorgeous Girls’ program are: Nikki Rabbitte, Kristy Nicholls, Jade Roach, Sara Feeney-Marks and Jane Cay.

The Man Up program for the Year 9 boys will include: Robert Coyte, Sam Stevenson, Johnny Nassar, Richard Mack and Mark Williams.

One the school’s Learning Support Assistants, Lisa Haines, will be guiding students through a yoga session. She is a very talented and qualified yoga instructor.

Watch the newsletter and facebook site for the photos! It promises to be a good day.

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Canteen News

Happy Week 6 everyone.

With the weather looking to be warm for the rest of this week, don’t forget that we are now making salads in the canteen.

Last week’s Chicken Caesar Salad proved to be popular and so will be running again this week for $6; a plain Caesar for $5. Also please don’t forget to stay hydrated. Cold bottles of water are just $1 straight from the fridge.

Volunteers this week are:
Wednesday 16/11 Sue Bottom
Thursday 17/11 Brett Dawson
Friday 18/11 Nicole Withers

Bec Croke, Canteen Manager
How to make a great speech

Get your audience's attention!

Crime doesn't pay!

Do something surprising.

Use palm cards

Make some gestures

Make eye contact with your audience.

Making speeches in English

Have fun!
English Matters

According to the Australian English syllabus, developing proficiency in English is aimed at enabling young people to become “confident communicators, critical and imaginative thinkers, lifelong learners and informed and active participants in Australian society.” Examples of this can be found in all of our English classes.

Year 7
Year 7s have been engaged by some of the real-life issues we have discussed during our reading of the play Two Weeks with the Queen. They are now writing their own missing scenes from the play and will perform them for the class next week. As always, there is a focus in Year 7 on challenging students to develop their literacy skills by reading for at least 30 minutes a day, completing Spellodrome practice each week and utilising Homework Club for assistance with assessment tasks.

Year 8
Move over Donald Trump and Hilary Clinton! Year 8 is in the house! If the quality of class speeches delivered by Year 8 is any indication, our future is in very capable hands. These students can inform you, amaze you and convince you of almost anything – such as the very real possibility of time travel, the need to protect the endangered red wolf and knowing why dolphins jump out of water! They have also analysed the techniques used by famous orators such as Winston Churchill, Martin Luther King and a range of modern political figures.

Year 9
It is estimated that in the space of one day we are bombarded with 5,000 advertisements! Year 9 English classes are becoming critical viewers of this type of persuasion, and in particular how it positions us to accept a particular stereotype of gender or culture. Students are critically analysing advertisements and then creating their own print or electronic texts that promote an unpopular or unfamiliar product or viewpoint. Look out for their advertisements promoting animatronics, ballet for footballers and even tyre swings!

Year 10
Many Year 10s have discovered their inner journalist in the recent Media Matters unit where they have examined feature articles, blogs, vlogs, opinion pieces and columns. They have then written their own media pieces based on an issue or topic that is of particular relevance or concern to them. The depth and range of their pieces have been very impressive with topics ranging from the inconsistency of laws relating to young people to the etiquette expected from young tradespeople working inside peoples’ homes.

Awards... Take 2!
Community Council of St Patrick’s Parish School, Cooma

Cooma Races - Sundowner Cup 2016

Saturday 3 December 2016

One of Cooma’s Social Highlights of the Year!

St Patrick’s Parish School is once again running the catering for this event.

We need our families to assist on the roster during the day.

You will receive a FREE PASS to the Sundowner Cup. You may pick up your FREE PASS from the School Office on Friday morning 2 December 2016 from 10.00 am onwards.

Please indicate your preferred times on the roster below along with your contact details, as the completed roster needs to be emailed out to HELPERS the Tuesday prior to this event.

* Come along and join in with the festivities on the day. *

(Please indicate your preference of times below with a tick)

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Please RSVP your completed flyer to the School Office directly or via email to: stpatsofficeocg.catholic.edu.au by Monday 28 November 2016

Name: _______________________________ Mobile: _______________________________

Email: ___________________________________________________________

Friday 2 December 2016

We need 4-5 HELPERS on Friday, 2 December 2016 to assist with preparing and cleaning at the Cooma Race Course in the morning from 10.00 am - 12.00 noon.

Contact: Erika Statham (0400 787398) or Marjorie Revelant (0418 485229) if you can volunteer your time.

(Please indicate your preference of times below with your name and contact please)

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2W’s Assembly
MAINSTREET CLOTHING COOMA,
THE SALVATION ARMY & 2XL / SNOW FM PRESENTS:
THE 2016 CHRISTMAS FOOD & TOY DRIVE

Some families are not as fortunate as our own and, at Christmas time, some of them need our help.

*We are not looking for monetary donations, but for donations of non-perishable food items and new toys, which will bring Joy and Relief to those in need.*

YOUR School will be participating by acting as a collection point for your donations. Please take your contribution to them for collection PRIOR to Friday 2 December 2016. All goods WILL be collected during the following week by the SALVATION ARMY, for distribution to needy local families.

Please be aware that Occupational Health and Safety Legislation does not allow for the distribution of second hand toys so please, only new toys.

When you donate, know that your contribution is greatly appreciated.

*A HUGE THANK YOU FROM MAINSTREET CLOTHING COOMA, THE SALVATION ARMY AND SNOWY MOUNTAINS 2XL / 97.7 SNOW FM.*

Congratulations to all the recent Award recipients. Their combined efforts in many different areas help to make St Patrick’s a great school.
OPEN DAY @ THE CUC

When: Tuesday 29th November 2016 @ 5-7pm
Where: Cooma Universities Centre, 38 Bombala Street Cooma
Cost: FREE! Come look around the CUC and enjoy a free BBQ provided by us!

Open Day @ The CUC is the perfect opportunity to find out more about what the CUC is and what we do. You will have the chance to talk to the CUC staff and have all of your University questions answered!

Contact the CUC on info@coomauc.com.au or 02 6452 3386 for more information!
Cooma North Preschool is now taking enrolments for the 2017 school year. In accordance with the Start Strong Package we are extending our operating hours from 8.30am to 4pm during NSW school terms, and reducing daily fees.

Cooma North Preschool is a not for profit, community based preschool that has been providing quality early childhood education to the community for almost 65 years.

For an enrolment pack or further information, please contact the preschool on 64521198 or email coomanthpreschool@bigpond.com