Dear St Patrick’s Community

Roses are beautiful flowers and one of my favourites. The generosity from our community continues and this week we have been given eight new roses to rejuvenate the front gardens. They are a beautiful dark red rose and have been given to the school to commemorate a family’s involvement in the school. It was a lovely gesture.

This year’s annual World Humanitarian Day on 19 August has the theme of One Humanity. It’s easy to see some evidence of that at the Olympics, but the other sections of the nightly news suggest a very different picture. Every day, humanitarian aid workers stand on the front lines of war and disaster, braving tremendous dangers and difficulties to deliver assistance to those who need it most.

There are some loose statistics that suggest 130 million people are in need of humanitarian aid right now. That’s an awful lot of people. I can’t help but wonder about our global responsibility in the light of so much need. It really boils down to ‘Love one another, as I have loved you’. John 15:12. This week, may we use the example of Year 10s’ recent Sleep out for Vinnies to inspire us to be generous in the little things we do, to do what we can for others. May we carry the words of Jesus, ‘As you did it to one of the least of my brothers, and sisters, you did it to me.’ Matt 25:40

Mother Teresa should have the final word this week.

Kind regards
Mrs Frances Robertson
Principal

Coming up …
Thursday 18 August
Archdiocesan Athletics
K-6 Snugglepot & Cuddlepie
Friday 19 August
K-2 Snowsports
Yrs 3 - 6 Tennis Program
Monday 22 August
Book Week
Yr 3 - 10 Snowsports
Tuesday 23 August
Yr 3 - 10 Snowsports
NSW Interschools XC
Some information about school fees

On average each day it costs a parent $2.57 for a Primary student and $3.45 for a Secondary student in Years 7 and 8 to attend school at St Patrick’s.

When this is compared to other daily costs, it is a really affordable option.

Let’s consider some other costs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preschool</th>
<th>$25</th>
<th>Movie ticket for 2 hours</th>
<th>$11</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daycare</td>
<td>$73-100</td>
<td>Block of Cadbury chocolate</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffee</td>
<td>$4.50</td>
<td>2litre Coca cola</td>
<td>$4.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Mac meal</td>
<td>$10.40</td>
<td>Bulla ice cream 4litres</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PAYMENT OF FEES**

Fee statements are forwarded within the first two weeks of each term. Fees are due 30 days after the date of issue. The school relies on prompt payment of fees to meet its financial commitments.

Please contact the Finance Officer at the school for any fee queries or if you anticipate a delay in meeting your fee obligations within the required period. This will avoid follow up action being taken.

If you are currently experiencing financial difficulties, please make contact with the Principal. Remember, if we don’t know your circumstances, we aren’t in a position to provide assistance. Applications for fee concessions commence in Term 2 and carry through until Term 1 of the following year. These concessions are managed confidentially and sensitively.

Where there is a failure to communicate with the Finance Officer or Principal over a difficulty to meet your commitment to pay, the matter will be forwarded to an outside collection agency for follow up.

**Options for payment**

- **Cash or cheque:** This can be made at the office or send in cash or cheque with the Remittance Advice on your fee statement
- **EFTPOS:** In person at the office
- **Credit Card:** Payments can be made in person, over the phone, fax, email or by using the Remittance Slip on your fee statement
- **BPoint:** This facility allows you to have regular payments taken automatically from your Mastercard, Visa or Bankcard. Please contact the Finance Officer to arrange this payment
- **BPay:** A lump sum payment can be made using the BPay facility. The BPay Biller Code and Reference number can be found on the bottom left hand side of your fee statement. You can also use BPay to pay your fees in instalments. Calculations of instalments can be made by the Finance Officer
- **Direct Debit:** Forms are available from the School Office. It is the responsibility of families with Direct Debit arrangements to ensure their payments cover their obligations for school fees prior to the end of the school year. Direct debits can be made weekly, fortnightly or monthly as directed
- **Centrepay:** For families in receipt of a Centrelink payment, fees can be deducted directly from this benefit. Please contact the Finance Officer for more information.

The Finance Committee of the Community Council revises school fees annually. It is the normal expectation that fees will increase according to Australian CPI (about 2.5%) each year. The Tuition Fee is set by the Catholic Education Commission. (All Tuition Fees are collected by the school and paid each term directly to the CE-Canberra.)
ASX Sharemarket Game

Game 2 of the Sharemarket Game starts this Thursday and continues until 26 October. Congratulations to the 18 students taking on this real-life challenge:

Bailey Rogers, Siobhan West, Ben Milford, Georgia Manning, Nicholas West, Jeremy Campbell, Sam Sergo, Campbell Healy, Ty McKenzie, Declan Girling, Sam Rumball, Damon Fanning, Jackson Dyball, Eli Wilkinson, Hamish Bottom, Harrison Linton, Tristan Revelant, Cambell Wenban.

Year 8 are getting up close and personal with the human body in Science this semester.
Year 10s reaching out

Year 10 students have set the bar even higher this year by topping their Vinnies Winter Appeal sleep-over efforts of raising $2400. They also organised a raffle of a load of wood and bags or 'Ewe Poo' and these were delivered last weekend.

The winner of the load of wood was Erika Statham, who then donated it to a more needy neighbour. Thanks to Damian and Tim Fletcher for making this happen.

Thomas and Caitlin Hain climbed under a woolshed and shovelled out the 'ewe poo' into bags. The winner is Kylie Chenery.

This will be delivered this weekend.

This is great ‘faith in action’.

Report by Caitlin and Lucy
Year 10 Student Leaders

Canteen News

Such a busy week within the school this week! I hope everyone has enjoyed all the activities that they have been involved in.

A huge thank you to all the kids in the Infants school who have returned their colouring-in competition for **Celebrate Canteen Week**. If you still have yours there is still time to get them in. All the ones I have here in the canteen look fantastic and can be viewed by anyone who would like to see them as they are now decorating our canteen.

Mini Canteen will be as usual this week on Wednesday. Don’t forget your money. Snacks will be available for between 50 cents and $2.

Next week will be **Book Week** and we have some special things planned so stay tuned for more updates.

**Volunteers and helpers this week are:**

- Wednesday 17/08 Kim Kleven James
- Thursday 18/08 Kelly Gill Dominic
- Friday 19/08 Elsa Wagner Kadee

K-2 will be visiting the canteen again this week during the alternative program on Friday. This is a great way for them to practise using money.

A little note will be going home as a reminder for these K-2 students.
Year 2 Ski Program Recounts

Last Friday the 12th August, I went to school very early to go skiing at Thredboland. When we got there I met my instructor Joe and we had lots of fun on the chairlifts.

By Manson 2W

On Friday the 12th August, we had to be at school early due to the K-2 Skiing program. We had to get up at 8:00 a.m. because the bus left at 8:30. Our destination was Thredbo.

My ski instructor was Ryan. The people in my group were Coby, Abby, Daniel and Ethan (my brother).

It was the best day ever!!!

By Declan 2W

On the morning of Friday the 12th August, I got up quite early because I had school skiing. We went on the bus at school. When we got there we changed into our ski gear and then had morning tea. After that, we went into Thredboland and met our instructor. We listened to our instructor and skied. Then we had lunch.

We skied again and then went on the bus back to school.

By Hannah 2W
Research on children and Smartphones

Children are getting their first smartphones, on average, at just over 10 years of age in the U.S., according to a new study from Influence Central.

This young age not only demonstrates just how much mobile technology permeates our lives, but it affects the way children access the Internet and interact with social media. According to the study, approximately 65% of children access the Internet via a laptop or mobile device, up from 42% in 2012.

Furthermore, car rides have become a popular location for tablet use, as 55% of kids prefer tablets in a car, up from 26% in 2012. Meanwhile, 45% prefer using smartphones, up from 39% in 2012.

More than one-third of children have a social media account before they reach 12 years old, and 11% have one before age 10.

The study revealed how early in life children become acquainted with mobile devices and how these devices are often their first experience with the Internet. And children are using their mobile devices for numerous purposes, including games and productivity apps, according to Influence Central CEO Stacy DeBroff.


A recount from Ashley

Last Friday morning I got up very early and I was at school at 8:00a.m. The bus left at 8:30a.m. and we got to watch a movie. When we got there we met our instructor Ann. We went on the jumps and on the black run. It was very, very, very exciting! For lunch we had sausage rolls, chips, juice and water. It was really, really Yum! By Ashley 2W
Fathers’ Day Gift Stall
2nd September 2016

Students are asked to donate a small gift which will in turn be available for sale on the Fathers’ Day Stall on Friday 2 September.

We ask that gifts be wrapped in clear cellophane so that children shopping can see what they are buying. Can all gifts be given to class teachers by Monday 29 August.

On Friday 2 September every child will have the opportunity to shop at the stall for their Father/carer. All gifts will be available for purchase and priced between $2.00 and $5.00.

Funds raised go to support our school

Suggestions include: a coffee mug filled with sweets, magazines, sporting items, key ring, gardening supplies, vouchers…

If you would like to get involved or assist on the day, please contact Natalee Reid on mws@schutebell.com or text 0412910152

The Olympics comes to Cooma!

Friday 12 August was an exciting day for Kindergarten, Year One and Year Two students who participated in the Alternative Ski Program. The day took on an Olympic theme with students making their own Olympic torch and listening to Koala Lou, a story about the bush Olympics. Students used their creativity to make colourful Rio birds and each child decorated a cupcake with the Olympic rings and designed their own flag.

After lunch, children had the opportunity to visit the school canteen and purchase snacks and drinks from Mrs Croke. In the afternoon, students were challenged by an obstacle course and participated in running and ball games with Mr Lawley.
A Win for St Patrick’s Parish School Choir

The St Patrick’s Parish School Choir travelled to Canberra last Thursday for the 2016 Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn - Catholic Primary Schools Choir Festival. This very talented group of vocalists were led by Mrs Tina Rooney and accompanied by Mrs Jane Wilkinson. Schools from the across the Canberra and Goulburn Archdiocese took part in the competition and were all vying for the coveted First Place Trophy.

The day was once again organised by the Knights of the Southern Cross, Canberra Branch and hosted by St John Paul II College in Nicholls. The wonderful Performing Arts Centre of St John Paul’s provided the perfect backdrop for the six choirs, as their beautiful voices filled the auditorium.

Special mention was given to the St Patrick’s students from Year 3 through to Year 6, who had travelled the furthest to be there and were very excited to be part of this wonderful event, one that they have taken part in before. St Patrick’s songs of ‘Hine e Hine’ (a Maori Lullaby) and ‘Hush ! Somebody’s Callin’ My Name’ (arranged by Brazeal W. Dennard) were sung to perfection and received a resounding applause by all in the audience.

All six choirs presented a range of songs, that had the judges deliberating for quite some time before making their final announcement. During the interval, St Patrick’s performed another two songs.

All of the students under the guidance of Mrs Dee McFual and accompanied by Mr Jim Bowring then joined together for an all school combined choir that performed for Archbishop of Canberra & Goulburn, Christopher Prowse and Mrs Catherine Rey, Principal of St John Paul II College.

All choirs are to be congratulated for their excellent listening skills as they sat and waited patiently for their turn. They showed manners and respect towards one another, especially during breaks as students entered and left the stage.

After the presentation of Appreciation Certificates, it was onto the Awards Ceremony. The feeling was that it was going to be very close with three of the six schools singing exceptionally well. After a nervous wait, it was finally announced that the Winner of the 2016 Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn - Catholic Primary Schools Choir Festival was St Patrick’s Parish School, Cooma.

Needless to say the choir made up of Kate Carton, Charlotte Dakin, Annaliese Buckley, Kaitlin Stanger, Maddie Stanger, Erin Alexander, Kennedy Purcell, Sienna Davies, Emily Revelant, Grace Maxwell, Matilda Saxby Rendal, Georgia Rumball, Esther Robinson, Lottie Walker-Bruce, Molly Brabham, Ava Barrett, Suki Blyth, Jack Barton and Ethan Stacey were overjoyed and thrilled with the final result. Considering Ava, Molly, Matilda and Kennedy have been in the choir for the past four years, it was fitting way for these four senior Primary students to finish their time with the St Patrick’s Primary Choir.
The alternative to the ski program was a hive of activity this week in 3-6.
Year 8

Researching information for their biography unit

Meditating with Mandalas (learning about different ways of praying)

Homeroom gatherings and lessons