Dear St Patrick’s Community

The following information is provided to assist you in understanding some of the key facts about Catholic schools in Australia and the key issues facing Catholic education in the lead up to the Federal election.

Key facts about Catholic schools in Australia

* More than 765,000 students attend 1,731 Catholic schools across Australia.

* With 91,000 staff in those schools, Catholic education is a significant Australian employer.

* Catholic schools receive government funding, which covers 65 per cent of the cost of schooling in the ACT. Fees and private income cover the rest.

* Catholic schools are welcoming and inclusive communities, with the number of students with disability and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students doubling over the past decade.

* Almost one-third of students in Catholic schools are non-Catholic.

Key issues for Catholic schools

1. Respect for religious freedom in Catholic schools. Catholic schools, respecting the rights and freedoms of parents and carers to choose schooling for their children in the Catholic tradition, should continue to be free to form and instruct students in the Catholic faith and celebrate the faith as an integral and inseparable activity of the Catholic school.

2. Government funding that keeps pace with school costs. Government policy to increase school funding at the rate of CPI from 2018 could see funding increases fail to keep pace with school costs. That could lead to even larger fee increases, affect school quality or lead to school closures.

3. Government funding that is needs-based. School funding should reflect students’ learning needs, with greater educational need attracting additional funding. Catholic schools’ commitment to meeting the learning needs of all students requires appropriate government funding.

4. Government funding to support the construction of new Catholic schools. More than 70 new Catholic schools are planned in the next five years to meet growing demand for school places. Without additional capital funding, these schools may not be built. Government funding is also needed to maintain and upgrade existing Catholic schools.

5. Respect for the autonomy of Catholic schools. The ability of Catholic schools and systems to meet the local needs of a school community is one of their strengths. Government funding arrangements should respect the identity, integrity and autonomy of Catholic school and education systems.

Yours sincerely

Frances Robertson
Principal
HELP! HELP! HELP!

We are looking for parents and friends who are willing to take some books home to cover.

We have been given a large number of new books to put into K-6 class libraries, through the Catholic Education ‘Early Learning Initiative’.

If you have some time to spare and can cover some books for us, please send an email to Mary-Ann Fraser on maryann.fraser@cg.catholic.edu.au or come and collect the books from the K-2 campus on Thursday 23 June. All contact will be provided.

Let’s get books into all students’ hands to help develop their love of reading and learning!

CLAIM THE DATE – KAYE LOWE PARENT SESSION #2

WEDNESDAY 31 AUGUST
Welcome!

Last weekend one of our families was formally welcomed into the Catholic Church. Congratulations to Naomi Saxby, Matilda Saxby-Rendal, Gabrielle and Peter Robinson.

SAVE THE DATE

St Joseph’s P-6 School is 60 and we would love you to join us!

November 5-6 2016

Email: joeysis60@gmail.com
to receive further info and be involved

Open School
Afternoon Sat 5 Nov

Dinner at Old Parliament House
Evening Sat 5 Nov

Family Mass and Picnic
Morning Sun 6 Nov
Preparation for Confirmation

Growth is vital to human life; the body and mind must grow to stay alive. Catholics believe that the soul also needs to grow to maturity in the life of grace, just as the human body must grow through childhood, adolescence, and adulthood. Catholics believe the Sacrament of Confirmation is the supernatural equivalent of the growth process on the natural level. It builds on what was begun in Baptism and what was nourished in Holy Eucharist. It completes the process of initiation into the Christian community, and it matures the soul for the work ahead.

So what occurs during a Catholic Confirmation? The Holy Spirit is first introduced to a Catholic the day that he or she is baptized, because the entire Holy Trinity — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit — are invoked at the ceremony. During Confirmation, God the Holy Spirit comes upon the person, accompanied by God the Father and God the Son, just as he did at Pentecost.

The Feast of Pentecost commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit from heaven to earth upon the 12 apostles and the Virgin Mary, occurring 50 days after Easter and 10 days after Jesus' Ascension (Acts 2:1–4).

This sacrament is called Confirmation because the faith given in Baptism is now confirmed and made strong. The focus is on the Holy Spirit, who confirmed the apostles on Pentecost (Acts 2:1–4) and gave them courage to practice their faith. Catholics believe that the same Holy Spirit confirms Catholics during the Sacrament of Confirmation and gives them the same gifts and fruits.

This Friday evening, the children will be presented to the Church at 6pm for the sacrament of Confirmation. The Vicar General, Father Tony Percy will preside. All are welcome to join us for this special event.

The Fruit of the Spirit

LOVE
JOY
PEACE
PATIENCE
GOODNESS
KINDNESS
FAITHFULNESS
GENTLENESS
SELF-CONTROL

9 Gifts of the Holy Spirit

1. The Word of Knowledge
2. The Word of Wisdom
3. The Gift of Prophecy
4. The Gift of Faith
5. The Gifts of Healings
6. The Working of Miracles
7. The Discerning of Spirits
8. Different Kinds of Tongues
9. The Interpretation of Tongues
Confirmation Spirituality Retreat

Please pray for our Confirmation candidates: Ava Barrett, Harry Barton, Millie Blyton, Anna Brayshaw, Riley Brayshaw, Tomas Carton, Lochlan Giuliani, Deana Hedger, Kennedy Ann Purcell, Emily Quodling, Harry Rees, Matilda Saxby-Rendal, Amelia Peri and Thomas Walker.
NAIDOC Week

As Term 2 draws to a close, our Indigenous students are preparing for the celebration of NAIDOC week. This year's theme is *Songlines – The living narrative of our nation*. This will highlight the importance of Songlines to the existence of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Songlines are the oldest living narrative of our nation, and will be the focus for the 2016 NAIDOC Week celebrations. NAIDOC Week 2016 will run from 3-10 July and is an opportunity for all Australians to come together to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, The Dreaming describes a time when the earth, people and animals were created by our ancestral spiritual beings. They created the rivers, lakes, plants, land formations and living creatures. Dreaming tracks are sometimes called ‘Songlines’ which record the travels of these ancestral spirits who ‘sung’ the land into life.

The National NAIDOC Committee encourages all Australians to explore and celebrate how, through Songlines, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people remain connected to Country and have been able to maintain and share sacred stories and ceremonies for tens of thousands of years. (http://www.naidoc.org.au/news/2016-national-naidoc-theme-announced).

At St Patrick's, our Indigenous students have continued working on the latch hook rug, aptly named the 'Berridale Boulders'. It is beginning to take shape and will be a beautiful piece of artwork when finished.

The students in each campus have been reading a series of stories called 'Yarning Strong’ and have been able to share these tales with their peers.

The younger students, besides reading a large variety of Indigenous stories, have also been busy preparing their art work and making posters for the up and coming NAIDOC week.

Lachlan, Riley, James and Koby – small reading group engrossed in the 'Yarning Strong' series of books.
Laura – preparing a poster for NAIDOC week.
Manson – finishing his artwork for the NAIDOC Week 2016 Colouring in Competition,
Chloe – one of our star workers on the latch hook rug also enjoys reading the Yarning Strong series books.
Cambell – an enthusiastic reader.
Riley and Campbell – both young students enjoy their Indigenous readers and are also working on their artwork for NAIDOC week.
Welcome to another little man for Kindergarten 2017.

Bright Awards

Congratulations to: Grace Clarke, Ava Lawley, Paige Walker, Charlie Dowton, Joshua Van Ommen, Ollia Stockl, Georgia Rumball and James Jux.
Firstly I would like to congratulate Year 6 on their wonderful manners and great behaviour whilst visiting the canteen on Tuesday. It was great to see so many smiling faces.

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

Unfortunately, there will be no Sushi available this week.

With the anticipated cold weather this week we will be selling THAI CHICKEN CURRY (not spicy) with Rice for $5.00 Large or $3.00 Small

**Parent helpers this week:**
- Wed 22/06 Keira for Mini Canteen
- Thursday 23/06 **Volunteer needed**
- Friday 24/06 Elsa Wagner
- Tuesday 28/06 Annie Ford

**Yr 10 Helpers:**
- Dominic
- Kadee
- Justin
- Josh

As always I would like to thank all volunteers for their help and support in the canteen and if there are any parents, carers or grandparents out there who have some spare time we are always in need of volunteers. Please contact the office or drop in and see me. It is a great way to meet others within our school community.

Rebecca Croke
Canteen Manager
Free one day workshop for parents and carers

Workshop: 16-17NSWPCS  Location: Cooma NSW

Like all school-aged students, young people on the autism spectrum benefit from strong, positive relationships between home and school. Positive Partnerships uses evidence based materials and practical resources to help support these relationships by facilitating workshops for parents and carers.

This workshop is suitable for parents, full time carers and grandparents.

What will you gain?

The Positive Partnerships parent/carer workshop intends to:
- Increase understanding of the impact of autism on learning
- Introduce a planning tool that can be used to share an understanding of your child
- Explore ways to work in partnership with your school
- Share information about how to access support both inside and outside of school
- Provide an opportunity to network and share strategies with other parents/carers

Workshop details

Venue: Cooma Ex Services Club
106 Volo Street
Cooma NSW 2630

When: One day workshop – Wednesday 20 July 2015
9.15 am – 3.00 pm (Registration from 8.30 am)

Optional session available for those that are able to stay from 3 pm – 4 pm with a focus on “Understanding Behaviour”

Online registrations open on Wednesday 8 June 2016 and close two days prior to the workshop.

If you have an email address and access to a computer please register directly through our secure website www.positivepartnerships.com.au.

You will receive a confirmation email of your registration.

If you have any enquiries phone the Positive Partnerships Infoline 1300 881 971 or email parentcarer@autismspectrum.org.au.
PLAYNRL HOLIDAY CLINIC

“Come & enjoy a morning of rugby league fun & games”

Register Online at PLAYNRL.COM

Cooma Showground, Cooma
Monday 4th July 2016, 11 am—1 pm
Cost $40

includes:
- Full Rugby League Coaching from NRL Development Staff
- NRL Holiday Pack
- Med Football Ball
- Kicking Tee
- Cap
- Backpack
- Water Bottle
- Hard Pump

Free
The Other Talk is about Australian families talking openly about alcohol & drugs.

Presented by the Australian Drug Foundation

No question is too silly and no topic is off limits.

Having open communication with your family has never been so important.

22 June 6:00-7:30PM
Rydge’s Jindabyne

This free education evening is brought to you by your local Community Drug Action Team and the Snowy Youth Council. Presented by Geoff Muir, Head of Policy & Advocacy at the Australian Drug Foundation. Geoff has worked in alcohol and other drug fields for three decades with roles in training, education and community development for government and non-government services.

The evening will commence with speakers from NSW Police, Doctors, NSW Institute of Sport and the Snowy Mountains Liquor Accord, who are speaking to our region’s 15-16 year olds this same day. Their direct feedback will shape our evening discussion.

Learn how to start the conversation.

For more information call Council’s Youth Development Officer
02 64511550

Celebrate Refugee Week

Community Film Screening
Tuesday June 21,
6PM for a 6:30 start
The Hub Youth Centre
41 Vale St, Cooma

TRADES INFORMATION SESSION

To find out more, join us at our Trades Information Session:

When: Tuesday 21st June 2016 at 6:00pm
Where: Bega RSL Club
168 Auckland Street, Bega NSW 2550
RSVP: Email cptaoc@dfr.com.au

Please include your full name, contact details and TRADES in the subject line in your RSVP email.

Defence Force Recruiting

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