St Patrick’s Parish School
Cooma

Already it is Week 3!

We were pleased to welcome John Barilaro and Bronnie Taylor to our school last week to launch their Christmas card competition with students.

They will be joining us again as the officials for the opening of our new building on November 14. Fr Tony Percy and Mrs Moira Nadjecki will also be officiating. This building is such a vote of confidence in the future of the school and already it has been used in creative and interesting ways.

One area that we have been conscious at improving at the school is looking after the transition points for our students.

The transition to Stage 6 has had better information about a wider range of options and students have been supported in their application processes.

From Year 6 to Year 7, there are several steps: informal interviews, the SPOT Days, the TAG Days and a new special information booklet. Parents are also invited to have a tour of the high school at a mutually convenient time. A phone to the Office can easily arrange that.

The transition to Kindergarten has many elements: Big Steps program, Kinderstart, information sessions and support evenings.

This year we will pay more attention to the transition to Primary from the Infants campus. There is already a transition day (11 November) where all the Year 1-5 students 'try out' being in the older class. We now also invite Year 2 parents to a gathering at 5.30pm on the 17 November in the Year 2 classroom. We can share information and clarify questions.

Although we are a K-10 school, it is important that we ensure that the transition points are well supported.

One of the most beautiful and memorable times in a child’s life is receiving First Communion. Please remember the Year 3 and 4 students who will be celebrating this Sacrament this weekend for the first time.

As they continue to walk in faith, may Christ always guide their steps.

Thank you to all those who have supported their journey to this important day.

Kind regards
Frances Robertson
Principal

SPECIAL DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday 27 October
Year 6J Assembly 12.30pm

Saturday 29 October
First Communion Mass Yr 3/4

Sunday 30 October
First Communion Mass Yr 3/4

Tuesday 1 November
KinderStart 9.30am - 11.15am

Thursday 3 November
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

Friday 4 November
Year 7 2017 SPOT Day transition to high school 9 - 11.30am
Christmas Card Competition

The Member for Monaro John Barilaro is inviting pre-school and primary school students in the electorate to take part in his annual Christmas card competition. Launched this last week, the 2016 competition gives children in the Monaro electorate the chance to showcase their creativity and talent.

"There is obviously a great deal of creativity in the electorate that needs to be captured," said Mr Barilaro. "This is a wonderful opportunity for students to let their creative abilities flow. The children will have a few weeks to send in an entry so I hope that lots of young people will take up the challenge and get involved."

The winning design will front Mr Barilaro’s official Christmas card, printed onto hundreds of cards sent to organisations and individuals.

This year’s theme is ‘Christmas in the Future’

Entries should have the artist’s name, age and school should be clearly marked on the reverse of each entry. All entries must be sent to 213 Crawford Street (PO Box 998) Queanbeyan NSW 2620, and received by 5.00pm on Monday 21 November 2016.

First prize winner will receive a $100 gift voucher, second prize $50 and third prize $25.

A presentation for the winning entry will occur at a convenient time in December.

From the AP’s Desk

Thanksgiving

Last week we farewelled Mrs Beverley Clarke. Staff gathered for a short liturgy and then a celebration for the contribution Bev has made to St Patrick’s over almost 13 years. On behalf of all of us, Mrs Moser acknowledged the service Bev has provided to the staff, students and school community. We all acknowledged that Bev would be remembered for the way she performed her role professionally, diligently and with a sense of humour.

Altitude Award

As a follow on from the message about end of year awards, I would like to remind students in Year 8 and Year 10 of the Altitude Award.

This award recognises students who have demonstrated excellence in academic awards, completed 20 hours community service, completed 20 hours of school service, represented the region in any area and participated in cultural events. The commitment to achieve this award is significant and requires the student to submit an application to be considered for the Altitude Award.

If students are interested in applying for this prestigious Award they should see Mrs Fletcher or Mrs Robertson as soon as possible.

Hats

A reminder that all students should have a school hat. They must wear a school hat when they are outside in the sun. This includes at each break if they are playing in a non-shaded area.

God Bless

Mark van Ommen

Assistant Principal
First Holy Communion

This coming weekend the students who have been preparing with their teachers and Fr. Mick will receive Holy Communion for the first time at the 6pm Mass on Saturday and the 10am Mass on Sunday. Part of the preparation is a retreat day where there will be prayerful community building for the students of St. Patrick's and from other schools.

While a child’s first Communion is indeed a cause for celebration and should be beautiful and memorable, the true focus of that holy and special day must remain the sacrament itself as the students are welcomed to the table of the Lord.

The sacrament of Eucharist brings to completion the Christian process of initiation. In this sacrament, we remember what Jesus did for us in his life, death and resurrection. We remember particularly the Last Supper, that final meal Jesus shared with his disciples. At that meal Jesus gave us the Eucharist so that we could remember him in a special way.

When we receive Communion, we believe that we receive the person of Jesus into our very beings. We become one with him, and we become one with each other. As a community we become ‘the body of Christ’.

Special Masses

On All Saints’ Day Tuesday 1 November, there will be Mass at 5.30pm. On All Souls’ Day Wednesday 2 November a Mass will be celebrated at the Cemetery at 10am (or in the Church if it is raining) and again later in the Church at 6pm.
Dear St Patrick’s community

How lucky I’ve been! Thank you all so much for your well wishes. I am very excited for my career move, but also a little sad to be leaving a place where I have felt very much at home.

I am very thankful for all the years I was part of the "St Pat's family" and look forward to keeping in touch.

Thank you so much for all the kind words and sentiments and my beautiful flowers and gift voucher.

Best wishes to you all.

Bev Clarke
INTERACT! What has it Meant for Me.

Before I became involved in Interact, I was always wanting to help other people and be a part of my community. This is what inspired me to get involved in Community Service. I saw an advertisement in the School Newsletter on Camp INTERACTION to be held at Wee Jasper, NSW. Once I found out a few details about what was involved with the camp, I decided to spend a week of my school holidays in April attending this camp. This is where I made new friends and formed new friendships, learnt lots of new skills, met facilitators running the camp and participated in practical and theory sessions. Looking back on this week and what it entailed, I was on my way to gaining a nationally recognised qualification, a Certificate II: in Active Volunteering. Little did I know, how this helped my own personal development whilst influencing my life now and in the future.

A week or so later, I heard from a Cooma Rotarian about the possibility of putting in an application for a part of a delegation that would attend 2016 Rotary International Convention, Seoul in South Korea for eight days. Not within my wildest dreams did I ever imagine I had a chance. But I have come to realise unless you have a go, you never really know. All my dreams came true.

After the Convention, I came back to present at the Cooma Rotary Club evening and write articles for St Patrick’s Parish School Newsletter and Cooma-Monaro Express newspaper. I was recently asked and will be presenting at the 2016 Rotarian District Conference being held on 27-30 October 2016 in Goulburn. This will be in front of a large audience detailing what I have learnt from this experience and what ideas and goals I have implemented. One of those goals was to set up a Cooma Interact Club. Cooma is the only area within the Rotarian District area that did not have a Cooma Interact Club. INTERACT is for high schoolers aged 12-18 years who want to join together to tackle the issues in their community that they care most about. As well as raising funds for a local project and one overseas project. Club members decide on what projects they would like to raise funds.

Later this year, and with the help, work, guidance and mentoring of Cooma Rotary Club and Interact Chair District 9710, Ms Natalie Jupe, my goal came to fruition. We have a tiny group of members comprising of: Sara Knott, Ivy McGufficke, Maria Tarasyuk and Cheynae Hely. We all work together as a team and help each other out with doing work for raising funds for projects, along with the mentoring that we receive from Ms Danielle Trigg, who has helped and guided me immensely through my journey.

This is how Ivy and I came to meet the Rotarian District Governor, Mr Steve Hill recently at the Civic Reception that was held at the Snowy Monaro Regional Council Chambers with other local Rotarians and Council Administrator, Mr Dean Lynch. Mr Steve Hill is in charge of the entire Rotary District that comprises from: South Coast, Eurobodalla Clubs, Canberra, Goulburn, Cooma, Batlow, Yass and Tumbarumba.

I would encourage any student to get involved and be inspired by what you are passionate about and make your dreams become a reality. We are always looking for new enthusiastic and proactive members to join our club. Why not come and support our latest project in raising money for 'Farmer Drought Packs' at our movie fundraiser evening being held on Thursday, 27 October 2016 at Cooma Twin Cinema at 6.30 pm.

Jasmin Statham-Smith Year 10
President, Cooma Interact Club
Do you know a young person (aged up to 29) doing awesome things? Nominate them for a NSW Young Achievers award! Applications close 15 December.

Canteen News

Hello warmer weather!!! What a wonderful way to start the week with a rare warm and sunny day, as well as a visit from the Yr 4 students on Tuesday and Yr 3 on Wednesday on retreat for their First Holy Communion.

Such a fantastic way to start the week with their smiling happy faces.

This week’s $5 Salad Bowl will be a Tandoori Chicken Salad so why not be adventurous and try one this week?

Please don’t forget to have a look at last week’s newsletter or the school website for the new Canteen price list as there have been a couple of changes to the menu.

Also please don’t forget Mini Canteen on Wednesday. The kids really enjoy participating in this each week and prices are between 50c and $2.

Volunteers in the canteen this week are:

Wed 26/10:  Kim Kleven
Fri 28/10:  Kelly Gill and Nicole Withers

Rebecca Croke
Canteen Manager
**School Photography Guidelines for Parents and Carers**

**Information for Parents and Carers**

We recognise that parents and carers enjoy photographing and recording the progress of their child at school and on school activities. We recognise that many of you like to share these personal memories online and on social media.

We ask for your cooperation and care concerning the use and distribution of photographs of other children at our school. Some families have very real legal and safety issues which could put a child at risk if an image is made public online. More generally, it is respectful of the privacy of other members of the school community to ask permission before posting an image online. Even if your social media settings are private, it is easy for images to become public, particularly if they are tagged or shared by others.

**Best practice guidelines**

The following best practice guidelines have been adopted by our school to keep our students and school community safe, and to ensure respectful practices concerning the use of social media. When taking photographs or recordings at school or at school events and your images include other identifiable persons please follow these guidelines:

- Crop out other students or seek the permission of the student or (for students under 16) his or her parent/carer before posting online.
- Do not tag or name the person without permission.
- If a parent or carer requests that you do not circulate an image of their child to others, please comply with the request.
- Please seek the permission of our staff to photograph or record their activities at school. Photography of staff presenting or receiving awards is permitted.

The school will periodically review these best practice guidelines.

**Mandatory policies:**

The school may from time to time determine that photography or recording at school events or on school grounds is restricted. Where restriction is notified, failure to comply may result in your exclusion from school premises or activities. There may also be consequences as set out in the enrolment agreement.

Under no circumstances may you photograph or record in private areas such as change-rooms, or in school offices or staffrooms, or at meetings, without express permission.
#Rewrite your Story

The Office of the Children’s Guardian has produced some excellent material for educating about cyberbullying. There are resources for both students and parents.

This is a resource that will be used at school to promote healthy relationships.


Premier's Anzac Memorial Scholarship - Expression of Interest

High school students from across the State have an incredible opportunity to develop their understanding of the Anzac legacy by applying for a scholarship to visit battlefields and memorial sites where Australians fought overseas.

The scholarship is available to Year 10 and 11 students with a keen interest in history.

If you are interested and want to find out more go to www.veterans.nsw.gov.au.

Expressions of interest can be lodged until 5pm Monday 14 November 2016 at Premier's Anzac Memorial Scholarship Program Expression of Interest.
Recent award winners
Year 5 Assemblies
Cooma Kids Proms

Proms Concert will be at Cooma Ex Services’ Club
Thursday 17 November 2016

Concert will start at 7.30pm

Free admission for under 18yr olds

$15 admission for 18yr and above

$10 admission for Concessions and Arts Council Members

The Proms Concert is an informal concert with the emphasis on fun. If you have never been to a live classical performance, this is your concert.

Tickets can be purchased from the Cooma Ex Services’ Club prior or on the night.
Once upon a time...... and that’s exactly what it’s like. The crowd is taken back in time during the latest production of sleeping beauty, held by the Cooma Little Theatre cast.

The show is full of amazing actors and dancers, all bringing their own little perks to the show. There are scenes that will make you gasp, scenes that will make you cry, scenes that will make you laugh. The show will leave you feeling all emotions, especially thankfulness that you went and bought those tickets!

**LOCATION AND TIME**

Cooma little theatre is holding a stage production based on the story of Sleeping Beauty but with a 50’s twist. It is being held on the 28th of October-12th of November at Cooma Little Theatre. Everyone is welcome to come and watch this fantastic performance!

**TICKETS**

Sleeping Beauty slept through her true love’s Kiss (that didn’t work) and woke up to a phone call about buying tickets to the magical performance...... ......Sleeping Beauty was shocked and responded with the majestic words of “All tickets are available by buying them on the Cooma Little Theatre website at [www.clt.org.au](http://www.clt.org.au) or phone Cooma Visitors Centre on 64551742.”

Sleeping Beauty is a fantastic Production with a terrific cast. Everyone is welcome to come along and enjoy this wonderful show by The Cooma Little Theatre Cast.

And they all lived happily ever after......