Alleluia is our song!

Dear St Patrick’s Community

The Easter weekend is special for many reasons. In the last dying moments on the cross, Christ gives us the greatest illustration of forgiveness possible. Then to believe in the Resurrection means to cross a boundary. Because of the promise of the Resurrection of Jesus, we realistically can believe that tomorrow can be new, different and better than today. As Christians, we are Easter people; love is our message and Alleluia is our song!

There are some delightful moments as a Principal and last Saturday at the back to Cooma street parade was one of them. Amongst the 80 or so floats, there was my school, proudly proclaiming a quality education since 1884. I certainly walked tall, holding the hands of little St Patrick’s students. I really appreciated the commitment of the parents, Fr Mick, students and staff in preparing the shop front, (next to NRMA) setting up the photo and memorabilia display in the library and joining in the parade. It was a wonderful team effort.

May I remind you of the ANZAC march on Monday 25th April as another opportunity to wear our uniform and proudly march? I am confident that you will also support this event.

Thank you to those who joined us for Easter celebrations and liturgies.

With kind regards

Frances Robertson
Principal

In this issue:

- From the AP’s desk
- Back to Cooma celebrations
- Easter Hat Parade
- Community News
**School Fees and remissions**

Parents experiencing significant financial difficulties may apply for school fees assistance. In line with the Catholic Education Office Canberra and Goulburn Archdiocese Fees Policy, no student will be refused enrolment, be excluded, or be disadvantaged because of an inability (as opposed to an unwillingness) on the part of the parents/guardians to meet financial requirements.

It is recognised that families make choices and priorities in regards to their standard of living, investments, education and extra-curricular activities. The school considers that families who have chosen a Catholic Education consider it important and that fee payments will be prioritised accordingly.

Any reductions granted generally apply on a year by year basis, i.e. a separate application is required each year. In some situations the reductions may be reviewed on a term by term basis, in which case you would be required to lodge an application at the commencement of each term.

Government Grants provide part of the funding required to operate the school. The balance of operating costs must be found through school fees. The continued existence of St Patrick's Parish School is dependent on parents paying the required level of fees. Every effort will be made by the school to recover fees from parents who are deemed to have the capacity to pay.

An ‘Application for Reduction of Fees’ for 2016 form can be obtained form Mrs Debbie Moon, the school’s Financial officer. All applications are confidential.

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**From the AP’s Desk...**

**NAPLAN**

Letters have gone home to students who will sit NAPLAN in 2016.

All students in Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 will sit NAPLAN on 10 (language conventions, writing), 11 (reading) and 12 May (numeracy). Friday 13 May is a catch-up day.

The NAPLAN tests will go for the first 2 hours of each day so student will have normal lessons after the first break.

All students need a 2B pencil, eraser, ruler and sharpener. Students in Years 7 and 9 will need a scientific calculator for the numeracy tests.

If you have any questions about NAPLAN please contact Ms Stephanie Lovat.

**TERM 2**

Term 2 begins for all students on **Wednesday 27 April**.

Students need to be wearing full winter uniform for Terms 2 and 3.

**Word of the week**

**Assessment:** drives instruction and guide future teaching and learning. This is a shift from the past where assessment may have only been used to justify a grade on a report.

There are three forms of assessment:

- **Assessment for learning:** teachers use assessment of students’ knowledge, skills and understanding to inform teaching (often done at the start of a unit)
- **Assessment as learning:** where students use self-assessment and teacher feedback to reflect on their learning, consolidate their understanding and work towards learning goals (often done as part of the unit)
- **Assessment of learning:** summative assessment where a teacher assesses student achievement against learning goals and standards (usually at the end of a unit)

At St Patrick's we use a variety of forms of assessment to provide information about a student's progress.

**Mark van Ommen**

**Assistant Principal**
Back to Cooma celebrations
**** TACO TUESDAY **** $4 each, available to Infants, Primary, Secondary. Please order.

Wednesdays = Mini-Canteen for Infants and Primary.

Secondary Athletics Carnival Thursday 7 April - Canteen Helpers Please! I will need a few helpers on the day at Snowy Oval, and in the canteen to process the normal K-6 lunch orders in the morning. Please contact me if you can spare 1-2 hours or more, thanks!! Just phone the school office or email caroline.blyton@cg.catholic.edu.au

This week’s volunteers are (thank you):
Wednesday 30/3, 10am volunteer needed, 1.15pm Keira Lennon
Thursday 31/3, Keira Lennon
Friday 1/4, Elsa Wagner
Tuesday 5/4, Jackie Bitar
Wednesday 6/4, 10am Rebecca Croke, 1.15pm Keira Lennon
Thursday 7/4, Secondary Athletics Carnival—Rebecca, Chris, Kelly .... more needed please!
Friday 8/4, Sara Souter

Sugar quiz: How much sugar is in our food? The World Health Organisation wants us to limit our sugar intake to six teaspoons a day, do you know how much is hiding in your food? Take this quiz with your family: http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-03-17/quiz-what-does-six-teaspoons-of-sugar-look-like/7086790?

Caroline Blyton
Canteen Manager

Are you interested in your child’s literacy progress and the latest research on how to boost literacy levels?

Adjunct Professor Kaye Lowe from University of Canberra will be visiting our school on Monday 4 April from 7.00pm until 8.30pm for a presentation on literacy. Kaye has considerable credibility, experience and qualifications in the area of literacy, which extends from preschool to adulthood. She has published numerous articles and three books and contributed many chapters to literacy publications.

We are having a small supper and if you RSVP, we may be able to provide some limited child care with the Secondary students entertaining the little ones.

Parents and carers can have a profound impact on their children's literacy learning and can make the difference to the reading future of their children. Come along and learn how to help your children with strategies so they can learn to help themselves to become more successful learners.

All parents in Kindergarten through to Year 6 are encouraged to attend.
HELP REQUIRED FOR THE SECONDARY ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Thank you to those who have offered their assistance at the Athletics Carnival next week. **We are still in need of extra parent helpers.** If you are willing to assist on Thursday, 7 April from 9.00am-2.30pm, we would be most grateful.

If you can help, please complete the parental assistance slip which was attached to the information letter and send it in to the office **before this Friday.** If you have misplaced the sheet, please ring the office or send an email to office.stpatscooma@cg.catholic.edu.au.

Thank you in anticipation.

Ms Tina Wawrzyniak  
Carnival Organiser

DONATIONS OF WOOL

Our Indigenous students working on their ‘latch hook’ artwork, **‘Songlines: The Living Narrative of our Nation’**, would like to thank you for your huge donation of wool.

Because of your generosity, we now have sufficient wool to finish this exciting project!

Again, sincere thanks ...

Miesje Blumer  
Aboriginal Education Worker
Parents Count Too

Helping your child with – Counting

One of the first experiences children have with numbers is “counting”. Counting starts as learning a pattern of words, just like a nursery rhyme. As children’s counting develops, they begin to relate the words to a quantity or number of things.

How do children learn to count and use numbers?

Children learn the pattern of counting words by repetition. Initially, this pattern may have gaps where the child leaves out a number in the sequence, or the child may invert numbers. It is common to hear a child say twenty-one after counting to twenty-nine.

However, remembering the words for each number in the correct order is only part of the process of counting. To “count” children need to match saying the number words with the correct number of “things”.

Children should be given lots of opportunities to practise and explore counting groups as well as making groups. Children also need to recognise and name numbers.

CROSS COUNTRY—CORRECTION

The dates printed in last week’s newsletter for the next level of Cross Country were incorrect. The Primary Cross Country will be held on Tuesday 3 May in Wolumla and the Secondary on Wednesday 18 May in Canberra. Further information and forms for the students who were successful in progressing to the next stage will be provided in the coming days. A reminder that the 8 and 9 year olds are combined (considered one age group) for the Southern Region Cross Country—the first 6 boys and 6 girls for the combined group being eligible to compete.

St Patrick’s Soccer is still seeking a Coordinator for this season

Registrations are now open for the Saturday Morning Soccer Competition - that is run by the Cooma Soccer Club. However, at this stage St Patrick’s does not have a 2016 Coordinator.

The Competition is run between the local schools and played under guidance with the Capital Football modified soccer rules, in a fun and friendly environment.

Please contact either Simon Buckley on simon_buckley@bigpond.com or Matt Gibbs - mattgibbs1009@gmail.com.
St Patrick’s Parish Presents

The Autumn Ball

Saturday April 9, 2016
at the Multifunction Centre

Music Supplied by
Big Connexions Dance Band
(18 Piece orchestra and vocals)

BYO • Drinks & Eats
Tickets: $30 Single / $55 Double
Available at The Fabric Salon,
Tag the Trend, Mainstreet &
St Patrick’s Parish School Office

Artwork by The Monaro Post
Easter Hat Parade

Thank you for all the support of parents.
Community News

COOMA LITTLE THEATRE APRIL PRODUCTION AND 60TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

"Return to the Forbidden Planet" by Bob Carlton

The Little Theatre is proud to be celebrating its 60th anniversary with this colourful show, and invites everyone to come along and join the party. The Audiences too will LOVE our newly renovated foyer and auditorium, entryway and brand new toilet facilities – limited mobility toilet included. We also have option for wheelchair seating in the auditorium. To secure your tickets go to www.clt.org.au or see Cooma Visitors Centre. Get in now in order to ensure you and your group gets the seats you want.

60TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

2015 was our 60th year of continuous provision of live amateur theatre on the Monaro. As we were undergoing extensive renovations for the last year we have held over celebrating until during this – our first production in our shiny new venue. So, the weekend of April 16 and 17 is party time. The theatre will remain open between the matinee and the evening show for members and ex-members to enjoy some nibbles and a drink or a coffee, catch up with old friends and have a laugh looking over the old photo albums. The next morning, an egg and bacon roll brunch will also be on offer. Please let us know if you intend to come to this one.

SATURDAY MORNING SOCCER COMPETITION

Registrations now open for the Saturday morning soccer competition for players U6s-U11s. Any child 12 or over will only be able to register in the new Capital Football Junior League. The competition for 2016 starts on 30 April and finishes 20 August. Registrations this year are ON LINE ONLY – go to www.myfootballclub.com.au. You need to register early to allow the school Coordinators time to nominate the correct number of teams into the competition. Contact details for Cooma Football Club can be found at coomaafc.net.

Grassroots Coaching Course
Saturday 9 April 9am-12pm at Nijong

This year Capital Football will be holding a free Grassroots course for any parents interested in managing or coaching a Junior team (U6-U11). This course will provide the techniques and drills that will help to coach and guide your young players. The course is for the adults only, however please bring the kids along for some training and small game time, to be supervised by club members and senior players. The canteen will also be open for a sausage and light snacks. Please show your interest by registering at the link below: http://education-ffa.sportingpulse.com.au/Entry/?EID=14137. For any other info contact mark.planthire@gmail.com.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY TENNIS CAMPS

Camp 1 : Wednesday 13 to Thursday 14 April
Camp 2 : Wednesday 20 to Thursday 21 April
9am – 4pm  ROYAL TENNIS COURTS
2 Day Camp - $100.00  Discounted to $80.00

Please call Tom: 0404838049

AFTER SCHOOL ACCREDITED
SCHOOL HOLIDAYS (& A BIT MORE)

AT COOMA LIBRARY!

⇒ Saturday April 2nd at 11am Meet two of Australia’s most popular authors

  Rural Romance writer Fleur McDonald &
  Foodie-Fiction Author Josephine Moon

⇒ April 4th-8th Senior’s Week events every day.

  Contact us for a full program

⇒ School Holiday Craft Wednesday April 13th at 10.30am AND

  Thursday 21st at 2pm. Free

⇒ Friday April 15th at 11am Gran’s Bag.

  Children’s Theatre Show (4 - 7 yo). Free

⇒ Monday April 18th free kids movies

  11am Blinky Bill (G)
  2pm Hotel Transylvania 2 (PG)

⇒ Wednesday April 20th at 10.30am Preschool Storytime

  Celebrates Mother’s Day. Hear stories & make craft

⇒ Wednesday April 27th The State Library NSW Going Places Tour

  presents Australian author Mark Henshaw

EVENTS ARE FREE. TO RSVP OR FOR MORE INFORMATION

6455 1730 OR EMAIL library@monaro.nsw.gov.au