This last week has been a time for all Australians to respectfully learn about our shared histories, cultures and achievements and to explore how each of us can join the national reconciliation effort. As a staff, we gathered to reflect on the Spirituality of the Indigenous culture. Because the theme was ‘It’s time to change it up’ we asked ourselves the following questions: What steps for reconciliation can I take in my life? What changes do we need to make to ensure that past injustices are never repeated? How do I describe my identity and belonging in this land? What are the ripples I create through my words, thoughts and actions?

The momentum is gathering for the Art Show (June 12 and 13) and the Grandparents’ and Grandfriends’ Day (June 12). Invitations have gone out and we look forward to seeing many members of our community at both events. These have been conveniently timed to be together so that grandparents don’t miss out and can attend both events.

Tickets for the Art Show’s Friday evening are just $15 and available at the Office and The Fabric Shop. Raffle tickets have gone home.

This week the Director of Catholic Education, Mrs Moira Nadjecki, visited St Patrick’s, along with a film crew to record the event for promoting Catholic schools in the Archdiocese. I was very proud of the students who participated in this. They were articulate and erudite in their praise of our school and the value of Catholic education.

Year 10 are currently experiencing the joys and challenges of the Sydney trip. I am very grateful to Mrs Stubbs, Mr Summerville and Mrs Hulley for their willingness to accompany the students.

Yours in Reconciliation

Frances Robertson
Principal
A message from the AP’s Desk...

**Inspired by others**

The theme of the St Patrick’s Art show reminds me that we often find inspiration in the most unlikely of situations or places. Last weekend I saw an interview with Bruce Springsteen (yes I am old enough to know who he is) about what inspires him to write amazing song lyrics. He said that he often finds inspiration in images from his childhood and by talking to people, but that a song can materialise in the most unlikely of situations.

The message I think Bruce is trying to convey is that he keeps himself open to be inspired.

With those sentiments, let’s reflect on the creativity and individual moments of inspiration that have resulted in the works that are showcased by our Art Show.

**What is Catholic education about?**

The following quote was presented in our Leadership meeting this week

“Let it be known to all who enter here that Jesus Christ is the reason for this school. He is the unseen but ever present teacher in our classes, the model for our teachers and the inspiration for our students.”

Mark van Ommen
Assistant Principal

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Don’t forget to return the raffle tickets for the Art Show.

Check out St Pat’s facebook for the photos of the Year 10 Sydney trip.
Canteen News
It’s survey time! All Infants and Primary families are asked to complete the canteen survey. Have your say! Secondary students will be surveyed separately. A form will be sent home to Infants and Primary families, or alternatively you can complete the survey online: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/H9BHN7J
If you have questions about the survey or the online link doesn't work, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Volunteers:
Wednesday 3/6, 10am Kelly Gill
Wednesday 27/5, 1.15pm Mini-Canteen Marjorie & Kelly
Thursday 4/6, 10am Grant Pascoe
Friday 5/6, 10am Rebecca Croke
Wednesday 10/6, 10am Kim Kleven
Wednesday 10/6, 1.15pm Mini-Canteen Howard & Denise
Thursday 11/6, 10am volunteer needed
Friday 12/6, 10am volunteer needed

This Friday's meal deal: Nachos + Drink = $6
Please remember that you can order ANYTHING on a Friday, not just the meal deal!

Caroline Blyton
Canteen Manager

Visit by the Director of Catholic Education
This week we were privileged to have a visit from Mrs Moira Nadjecki who is the Director of Catholic Education for the Canberra Goulburn Archdiocese. We were able to talk about the changes in the school, the benefits of coming to St Patrick’s and some important aspects of learning that we thought she should know. Then we showed her around the whole school. We found Mrs Nadjecki to be inquisitive about our school, very friendly and pretty laidback. She could easily have a laugh with us. We enjoyed having her with us.

Sam Rumball Year 6 and Caitlin Hain Year 9
A School with Altitude!
ST. PATRICK’S PARISH SCHOOL PRESENTS

Inspired by Others ART SHOW

OPENING NIGHT - Friday, June 12
Canapes, Music by Stypa Snowy Mountains Quartet
This is an evening for Adults (only)
6.30pm - 9.30pm - Primary Campus, Vale St.

ALL WELCOME - Saturday, June 13
Gold Coin Donation - BBQ Lunch Available
10am - 2pm - Primary Campus, Vale St.
Motivational media presentation

Each year students view a Motivational Media Presentation. This year the presentation to take place for our students on Wednesday 10 June is titled “Jigsaw”.

Jigsaw focuses on the fact that at times, life seems like a difficult jigsaw. We have some idea of what we want our life to be, but with so many choices to make and so much conflicting information to process, we don’t know which way to turn. Having the life we want doesn’t happen by chance. Each aspect of our life contributes to the full picture. We need to carefully decide which ones will add to the result we want and which ones will lead to results that will disappoint.

The main topics addressed include:

• Having a Vision
• Knowing Ourselves
• Being part of a community
• Making Good Decisions
• Overcoming difficulties

Through using powerful images and messages about the value of planning for our lives and making good choices in relationships with others, Jigsaw communicates to young people that life can sometimes be confusing. It makes the point that it often seems that things that happen in their life make no sense and even move them further away from their dreams. However, by ensuring that they understand their goals, make plans to achieve them and surround themselves with supportive people, they can make sense of the jigsaw of life.

All students n Yr 7 to Yr 9 will be attending. The cost has been kept low; it is just $3 for the bus and $3 for the presentation. The students need to have the correct money on the day and hand it to the bus driver and at the door when they go into the presentation.
Sir William Hudson Visit

Seven year nine students visited the Sir William Hudson Hostel last Friday. They were there to assist the Parish’s turn to provide afternoon tea for the residents. The students enjoyed their visit as they had the opportunity to interact with the nursing staff, members of our Parish and residents. Facilities at the nursing home have been greatly improved over the last two years and spaces have a more comfortable and “homey feel” with large windows facing the northern sun and opportunity to “soak in” the light. Students enjoyed speaking with Mrs Mattner who has been a long time organiser of the afternoon tea visits. They also enjoyed speaking with Judy Costello who has regular column in the Cooma Monaro Express and who visits regularly to entertain with her wonderful piano playing.

Pictured from left to right are: Nursing staff member, Kadee Laird, Brittney Wilkinson, Tilly Thomas, Charlotte Mitchie, Bas De Ruijter, Ken Silich, Betty Mattner, Cherie Booker, Thomas Hain, Damian Fletcher and Gemma Collins

The school received a special thank you note from Mrs Betty Mattner.
Red Shield Appeal Door-Knock

Students gathered on Sunday morning at the Salvation Army headquarters to receive instructions for the annual doorknock Appeal. Captain Louise Nicholson visited Year 10 students earlier in the term to explain the work of the Salvation Army. Simon Buckley from the Parish Pastoral Council assisted to provide a link with the Parish, the school and the Red Shield Appeal.

Thank you to our teachers, Mrs Rooney and Mr Mackay, who also accompanied the students. Students were assigned to various areas and indicated that their experience was very worthwhile.

Pictured are students, supporters, as well as ex-students now at MacKillop College. Congratulations to all students for your wonderful support on Sunday.
Harassment

A common definition of Harassment covers a wide range of behaviours of an offensive or intimidatory nature. It is commonly understood as behaviour intended to demean, embarrass, disturb or upset, and it is sometimes repetitive. In the legal sense, it is intentional behaviour which is found threatening or disturbing. In the workplace, it is recognised that it is a serious problem with serious mental and physical impacts. Therefore, in some cases, it is a criminal offence.

For the same reason, we take it seriously at St Patrick’s.

This week Mrs Robertson, Mr van Ommen, Mrs Fletcher and Ms Daley spent quite some time talking with Year 8 about harassment.

Together, we have identified behaviours that will not be accepted: name calling, throwing food/stones/paper/pens, being mean to or about people with disabilities, invading personal space or stalking, repeating comments or mocking, teasing about intellectual abilities, asking or teasing about relationships, commenting about body image, unwanted touching or shoving, leering or inappropriate looking, mean/sarcastic comments, spreading rumours, homophobic comments, comments about race/hair colour/size, laughing at inappropriate times, obscene gestures or touching/removing/hiding personal items.

We agreed that students have a right to feel safe, that they are entitled to feel like they belong and everyone needs to be able to get on with their learning without ongoing harassment (even if it is lower level).

We clearly reiterated the need for the bystanders to speak up. Students were also told how they can report harassment. It is not ‘dobbing’; it is providing information for the benefit of everyone.

Students also identified that some other students target and harass some teachers. It was a very frank and open conversation. Because harassment is illegal in the ‘grown up’ world of work, there will be significant consequences for students who persist with this behaviour. The students will receive one warning only. Then they will be suspended, followed by counselling with a member of the Leadership team to ensure that they fully understand that this is not acceptable behaviour at St Patrick’s.

VOLUNTEER BUS DRIVER REQUIRED

St Patrick’s Parish School Cooma is looking for a volunteer driver (either parent or community member) with a bus license (MR license) who would be willing to drive 23 students and 2 staff members to the Blue mountains for an outdoor education camp.

WHEN: Wednesday, 2 September–Friday 4 September inclusive

VENUE: Blackheath Caravan Park and surrounding areas. Accommodation and some meals will be provided.

OTHER DETAILS: The parent/community member would need to currently have a Working With Children’s Check (Volunteer) or be prepared to complete the Working With Children’s Check application form.

Further details of the itinerary can be provided. Please contact Ms Tina Wawrzyniak via the school office if you are interested.
Need a bike?
We are selling these bikes and the money raised will go to charity. They are suitable for a Secondary student.
See Mrs Robertson if you are interested.

Cooma Champs Tennis

SCHOOL HOLIDAY TENNIS CAMPS
9am – 4:30pm ROYAL TENNIS COURTS
4 Day Camp - $200.00 discounted to $180.00 3 Day Camp – $150.00 discounted to $135.00
2 Day Camp - $100.00 discounted to $90.00
Discount given if booking and payment received 5 days prior to camp date.
Cooma Champs Tennis also offers tennis lessons throughout the school Term.
Come along for lessons with Cooma Champs Tennis and let Tom’s experience on the world tennis stage, and the knowledge and patience of his team bring out the very best in your child. While the kids are having a lesson why not have one yourself. It’s never too late for mum or dad.

TOM PEREA : ACCREDITED ATPCA / TENNIS AUSTRALIA CLUB PROFESSIONAL.
ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL ACCREDITED Please call Tom:0404838049

World No Tobacco Day 31 May 2015

Sunday 31 May is World No Tobacco Day. It is important that we remember the harm that can be caused to children through secondhand tobacco smoke. That is the smoke which smokers exhale after inhaling from a lit cigarette. There is no safe level of exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke.

Breathing second-hand tobacco smoke can exacerbate the effects of other illnesses such as asthma and bronchitis. It can increase the risk of cardiovascular disease, lung cancer and other lung diseases.

For children, inhaling second-hand tobacco smoke is even more dangerous. This is because children’s airways are smaller and their immune systems are less developed, which makes them more likely to suffer negative health consequences of second-hand tobacco smoke such as bronchitis, pneumonia and asthma.

Quitline 13 78 48
Health Southern NSW Local Health District
Primary Minnie Vinnies visit St Vincent de Paul store

After school on Monday 1 June, St Patrick's Primary Minnie Vinnies group visited the Cooma St Vincent de Paul shop. The students gained a greater understanding of how the store operates and who it benefits. Students also learnt that there are about 14 volunteers who help run the store.

Part of the Minnie Vinnies' pledge says that we will try to ‘Live out the gospel message through words and actions’ and ‘make a positive difference in our world'. The students certainly observed examples of these words put into actions at the local store.

Here are comments from our Minnie Vinnies group after visiting the St Vincent de Paul store:

“We learnt that St Vincent de Paul doesn’t throw out anything; everything is used, either recycled or sent to other stores and countries,” Annaliese Buckley and Natalee Revelant.

“I learnt that even if clothing is torn or stained, it can still be used as rags which are sold to mechanics,” Ivy McGufficke.

“I learnt that there are about 14 volunteers that help in our Cooma St Vincent de Paul store,” Lilly Janota.

“I learnt that it is important to separate any goods that are donated, so that everything can be used,” Nowell Utrush.

“Going to our Cooma St Vincent de Paul store helped me realise how we can help in our community by not wasting clothing and goods that we don't want,” Charlotte O’Donnell.

“We thought it was great that Cooma had so many volunteers who were generous enough to give up their time to work in our St Vincent de Paul store,” Molly Brabham and Tom Carton.

“I learnt that St Vincent de Paul doesn’t just look after homeless people in Australia; it looks after people all over the world,” Georgia Rumball.

Mike Introna

Mini Vinnies Organiser
Are you coming to the ART SHOW on the 12 and 13 of June? Invite a family member or friend to join you.

The plans for the Art Show are all happening! Thank you to the parents who came on Thursday for the mounting working bee. It was very successful and we got a lot of work done as well as a lot of chatting!

If you can spare some time this Thursday between 9.00 and 12.00 we will be hanging fabric, sorting the odd socks that have come in and cleaning! All most welcome.

Keep those odd socks coming in.....all will be revealed at the Art Show!

Thank you to the generous families who have donated prizes for the Art Show Raffle. Each family will be given a booklet of 10 raffle tickets. We are asking each family to sell the tickets.

There is one booklet of 10 raffle tickets. Please write a name and phone number on all tickets sold. Sold & unsold tickets need to be returned to St Patrick’s Parish School by **Friday 12 June by 9am**.

Please place sold & unsold tickets with cash into an envelope clearly marked ‘2015 Art Show Raffle’ with your child’s name.

If you are able to sell more raffle tickets please contact the school office or email Emma Hill, emma.hill@cg.catholic.edu.au and some more tickets can be sent home with your child.

**Tickets $1 each**

**PRIZES:**

1st Prize: Pambula Beach Big 4 Discovery Park – accommodation package $150

2nd Prize: Ladies Pamper Pack

3rd Prize: 10 x bales Lucerne hay/5 x bales oaten hay (good quality horse hay) $150

4th Prize: 1 x load wood $100 and a Fire lighting Pack

5th Prize: Gardening pack 10 x bags manure, Mitre 10 Gardening Centre voucher and Gardening items.

6th Prize: BBQ Pack - Bread voucher $30.00, Frank’s Butchery meat voucher $25.00, BBQ essentials

7th Prize: Pet Pack – A pet food Voucher from South East Rural and Cooma Pet Shop

8th Prize: Roses Restaurant – Voucher $30.00

9th Prize: Feed Café – Cooma – Voucher $30.00

**Conditions Apply**

Thank you to the generous St Patrick’s families and local businesses who have donated prizes.

**DRAWN: Monday 15 June at 1.00 pm**

Thank you in anticipation for your help.