Dear Parents, Staff and Students

Welcome back to the Class of 2003

Last Saturday evening we welcomed the ex-students who graduated from St Patrick’s in 2003 to look over the school and share in a celebratory meal at the Ex-Services Club. This essential aspect of the culture and tradition of St Patrick’s is largely attributable to the dedication of Mrs Margaret Hassall who for many years has coordinated the school reunion groups and developed many ways of seeking out and contacting ex-students in all parts of the globe. The 10 year reunion evening was characterised by lively and mostly fond recollections of school experiences and memories of teachers and others who had helped to shape the young adults that they are today.

One of the activities during the reunion was to distribute a sealed letter that each of the students wrote to themselves on their final day at St Patrick’s back in December 2003. We have conducted this exercise over quite a number of years and it is fascinating to see the reaction when ex-students see for the first time in 10 years what they wrote 10 years previously about how they thought their life might unfold in the intervening time. What career path would I be on? Would I be married with children? What school friends would I keep in touch with? What things would be important in my life? Where would God be on my journey, given that I had attended a Catholic school?

Perhaps this “10 year projection” is an exercise that we can all do ourselves. Where might I be in 10 years time? Who will be the important people in my life? How can I ensure that God has a central place in my life and what do I need to do to nurture that relationship?

The reunion evening was also characterised by the ex-students talking about how their career paths had unfolded since 2003 and the implied notion of their “success” over that time. Having attended many of my own school reunions this is a topic of discussion that diminishes in significance as the years progress. Do we measure “success” by how much we earn or own? Is “success” judged by our academic qualifications or our status in the corporate world? The concept of success depends very much on personal perspectives and I can only continue to hope and pray that the students who experience an education at St Patrick’s go out into the world as responsible, caring and reflective citizens for whom God has a central place in all that they do.

The new Australian Curriculum is on track

Staff continue to be very actively engaged in preparing for the introduction of the Australian Curriculum in English, Maths, Science and History in 2014. The staff development day at the start of this term allowed us to engage with teachers at other schools in the southern region to develop teaching programs and establish professional connections. Funding available from the Catholic Education Office this term has further facilitated the professional conversations need to ensure a smooth transition to the new curriculum. Teachers across Primary stages and across Key Learning Areas in Secondary have increased their familiarity with the online planning resources available through the NSW Board of Studies. This evening the whole teaching staff is involved in a professional development program to enhance their understanding of programming for the new syllabus areas. We do appreciate your understanding with classroom changes that are necessary to ensure that teachers are freed up to engage in these vital activities in preparation for 2014.

News Update

Well done to 2P for their reverence and participation at the Parish Mass last Thursday. They certainly set a high standard for other groups to aspire to.

Thank you to the P&F for the very successful Fathers’ Day stall last Friday and no doubt all those dads out there appreciated their gifts and love they received on their special day on Sunday.

Don’t forget the fun and funky music planned for the K-6 disco this Friday evening!

I will be on leave for the next couple of weeks as I follow in the footsteps of St Patrick around Ireland and visit the original convent of the Brigidine Sisters in Tullow, amongst other sites on the ‘emerald isle’. During my absence the school will be in the capable hands of Mr Van Ommen as Acting Principal and Mr Joyce as Acting Assistant Principal.

Please continue to pray for those members of the school community and their family members who are unwell at the moment.

Phil Stubbs
Principal
A number of students across the school have experienced success recently. After a strong Interschools Snowsports result a few weeks ago Bentley Walker-Broose was invited to attend a Snowsports Australia XC Futures Camp at Perisher last weekend.

St Patrick’s also has three students: Will Pendergast, Emily Pearce and Gabrielle Steiner who have been selected to represent the Canberra Goulburn Archdiocese at their respective state athletic carnivals to be held in Sydney in the next two weeks.

Congratulations to those students and a very big thank you goes to their parents for their continued support.

Mr Lawley

Well we hope all dads had a very special Fathers’ Day on Sunday. Here is a special quote: “My father gave me the greatest gift you could give another person, he believed in me!” Anon.

Don’t forget to get your ‘funky gear’ out for the K-6 Disco on Friday night.

Reminder – keep ‘jumping’ to build up your heart health with skipping. Don’t forget about your skipping routine.

By Broc Allen and Miranda McGufficke School Vice Captains

Trust the Count – refers to students having a deep understanding of the numbers to 10 both in terms of what they represent and how they might be reconfigured or viewed in relation to other numbers to include rich part-part-whole knowledge. For example, when students read, write or hear ‘seven’ they can imagine what that collection might look like and how it relates to other numbers. They can see a seven in their mind’s eye as 1 more than 6, 1 less than 8, 3 and 4, or 5 and 2. This is not about addition or subtraction. It is about deeply understanding what each number means and they trust their knowledge (Dianne Siemon, 2006).

India and Lili using a combination of concrete materials to show their knowledge of the number 10.

Secondary SRC

Thank you to all students who entered the competition and to our judges who had a difficult task. The entries were much improved on 2012. House points, prizes and vouchers from School’s Studio will be awarded to all entrants at the end of term assembly.

**School Leaders’ Report**

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**Numeracy**

**Sporting Success!**

**Secondary SRC**

**Photography Competition 2013**

Thank you to all students who entered the competition and to our judges who had a difficult task. The entries were much improved on 2012. House points, prizes and vouchers from School’s Studio will be awarded to all entrants at the end of term assembly.

**Portraits**

Winner – Molly Barrett Yr 9
Highly Commended – Claudia Messerer Yr 9, Caitlin Galwey Yr9

**Nature**

Winner- Alexei Shatrov Yr 7
Highly Commended – Molly Barrett Yr 9, Louise Fletcher Yr 10

**Action**

Winner - Gabrielle Steiner Yr 7
Highly Commended - Grace Nesbitt Yr 8, Penny Fletcher Yr 8

**Fantasy**

Winner - Alex Childs Yr 10
Highly Commended – Magdalene Shatrov Yr 10, Sam Patricks Yr 10

**Black and White**

Winner - Molly Barrett Yr 9
Highly Commended – Jessica Brown Yr 8, Grace Nesbitt Yr 8
“If you think you’re too small to do a big thing, try doing small things in a big way”

NOURISH

Nourish is still available for purchase at $25.00 per book or 3 for $60.00 from the School Office. Nourish is filled with a huge selection of fantastic tried and tested recipes. This beautifully presented hard-covered cook book is a must for your collection! Call into the office today to secure your copy at this special price!!

A Feast of Poetry

Entries close on September 10 for this local competition. Pick up an entry form from your teacher or the Cooma Visitors’ Centre. There are special categories for Infants (K-grade 2), Primary (grade 3-6), Secondary (7-10) and open (any age group). Cash prizes range from $30 to $300.

BAZAAR FAIR 2013

Saturday, 2 November 2013 in Centennial Park, Cooma 10.00 am – 2.00 pm

Students who volunteer to HELP on the day will receive Community House Points and a thank you letter from P&F President, Mrs Karen McGufficke – a great addition to student portfolios. The Fair is always a fun morning! Bring your friends and help out with our school’s major fundraiser in 2013. Send your name to Erika Statham 0400787398 or email SalemCharming@gmail.com.

Students will be allocated to an appropriate stall for an allotted time together with an adult volunteer.

ST PATRICK’S PARISH SCHOOL P&F ASSOCIATION

Billy G’s Gourmet Cookie Dough Fundraiser

We are conducting a Billy G’s Gourmet Cookie Dough Fundraiser in the lead up to our Bazaar Fair.

Funds raised will provide extra Educational Resources for all students

All students should have received a Billy’s Gourmet Cookie Dough order form. An individual prize program has been included for every student/family selling one or more tubs. The more tubs you sell the better the prize! There is a selection of over 55 prizes to choose from such as Barbie, Nerf, Hot Wheels, Razor and much, much, more. If you have misplaced your order form, refer to School website under hyperlink: http://stpatscooma.nsw.edu.au/parents/ pfformsandnotes.html and print off a copy of the order form and notice. There will also be forms available from the school office. Take the order form to your family, friends and work colleagues and even to your child’s sporting activities! Students who sell one or more tubs will be entitled to a prize of their choice and will also receive family discount voucher valued at $38 in savings for Baskin Robbins, Stefan Hair Salon and AMF Bowling.

WIN AN IPAD – each student also has the chance to win an iPad. At the end of each term, a winner will be selected. If one of our students wins the prize, our school will also win 2 iPads - so don’t forget to enter. For more details on this promotion and how to enter, please look inside the order form.

Once the fundraiser is complete, simply detach the order form with your orders and don’t forget to select a prize! You can then return the order form along with your monies to the School Office before Friday, 20 September 2013. We will advise a date of when the cookie dough and prizes will be delivered.

Please ensure that you make arrangements to collect your cookie dough order on the day of delivery as the product is frozen and we do not have enough storage to store your order when the cookie dough arrives.

Happy fundraising from the Bazaar Fair Committee!
WHAT'S ON

Thursday 5 September
3G Parish Mass 10am
School Board meeting 6.30pm

Friday 6 September
K-6 Disco 6 - 9pm

Sunday 8 September
Tournament of Minds (ACT finals)

Tuesday 10 September
Yr 9 - 10 PASS rock climbing 9am - 5pm
Stage 2 Public speaking finals (Moruya)

Wednesday 11 September
Yr 6-10 Author Richard Harland Visit

Thursday 12 September
3O Parish Mass
P&F meeting 5pm

Friday 13 September
CCC Athletics Homebush
3P Assembly

Monday 16 September
Stage 3 Council Chamber visits 10am

Tuesday 17 September
Yr 7-10 Rugby League - Monaro High School
Stage 3 Southern Region Public Speaking

Wednesday 18 September
Yr 9 - 10 PASS rock climbing 8am - 5pm
3O Assembly

Thursday 19 September
Yr 8 Parish Mass 10am

Friday 20 September
Jump Rope for Heart “Jump Off”
Yrs 7 - 10 Awards Assembly

Canteen News

VOLUNTEERS
Thursday 5 September
Tania Thornton

Friday 6 September
Melissa Caffarelli

Wednesday 11 September
VOLUNTEER NEEDED PLEASE!

MEAL DEAL-A huge thank you to all the families who ordered lunch last Friday. Your cooperation and understanding by making a choice out of the 3 offered, made a huge difference to our busy morning. Thank you for your support with this.

CHOICES THIS WEEK ARE;
* MEAT PIE with DRINK of choice[20c extra for sauce]
* MACARONI CHEESE/ Packet of CHIPS and FROZEN FRUIT CUP
* SUSHI and a DRINK OR SPINACH AND RICOTTA ROLL and DRINK

ALL ARE $5.00 EACH

Should you have any thoughts or queries please contact me through the school, enjoy your week.
Carolyn Hely
Canteen Manager

GALA DAY # 2
Saturday 7 September
U7s & U9s - Kick off at 8.45am
U12/13s - Kick off at 8.30am
Gala Draws are available by emailing: simon_buckley@bigpond.com