Dear Parents, Staff and Students

Feast Day of St Mary MacKillop

Tomorrow is a very special day in the Catholic Church calendar with the celebration of the feast of St Mary MacKillop, Australia’s first saint. Her life stands out as a model to all of us through her humility, her deep love of God and her connection with the everyday population.

Mary MacKillop was a great Australian, who loved this land Australia and its people. Much of her energy went into focusing on the poor and neglected and she faced many obstacles and very many misunderstandings in her effort to have others see and understand her hopes and her vision. She accepted all of this struggle with great confidence and above all with great charity for all. She never doubted the final result, firstly because of her great faith in the ‘watchful presence of love’ that surrounded her and secondly because she was prepared to work with the ‘weak ones’, the ‘ordinary Aussies’ who helped weave the tapestry of her journey in life.

Her country now acknowledges her, her Church community has recognised her goodness, and perhaps each of us, in our own way, can be inspired by her.

Our own connection with St Mary MacKillop remains strong and is a significant moment in the history of St Patrick’s. On 11 April 1899 St Mary MacKillop rested in Cooma and it is said she enjoyed tea in what is now the Assistant Principal’s office after travelling from Bombala en route to Bungendore. Her diary entry on that day records “the hospitality of the nuns and priests in the convent after a coach journey on a very rough and heavy road from Nimitybelle”.

DRUMBEAT Program

Last week a group of Year 10 boys were presented to the school for their commitment to the DRUMBEAT program in 2012. The term is an acronym for Discovering Relationships Using Music, Beliefs, Emotions, Attitudes & Thoughts which is an evidence-based program that uses music to engage participants, teach social skills and build self-esteem. Having not touched the drums since last year the boys gave an impromptu, rousing rendition of the rhythms that underpin the DRUMBEAT program. Our thanks go to Karen Lonergan from Youth Connections who does so much for young people throughout the district, as well as Mr Paul Mackay who was the driving force behind the introduction of DRUMBEAT at St Patrick’s.

Snowsports Programs in full swing

Some challenging weather conditions have not dampened the enthusiasm of students in Primary and Secondary as they got into the spirit of the winter snowsports programs at Perisher Blue. The cooperation, positive attitude and perseverance exhibited by the students has been a credit to them. Our thanks go to the organisers Mrs Glencye Moxon and Mr Tim Lawley, as well as the accompanying teachers and parents.

It looks like our K-2 students will have the pick of the conditions this Friday with the first of their two days at Thredboland – clear, sunny conditions with 30 cm of fresh snow are predicted!

Phil Stubbs
Principal
Are you ready for the next Ninja Maths Challenge?! Here it is…

Can you masterfully create a building masterpiece, then instruct someone else to copy or recreate your masterpiece? You cannot show them how, you can only tell them how! Your challenge is to find the best language to help you direct someone else to make an accurate copy.

**MATERIALS**
You could use…building blocks, Lego, Multi Links. Each player should have the same number and colour of blocks.

**PROCEDURE**
1. Person A and Person B sit back to back.
2. Each person has the same number materials, say 4 or 5 to begin with then more as the skill levels improve.
3. Person A makes an object with the materials. Person B is NOT ALLOWED TO LOOK.
4. Person A has to TELL, not show, Person B how to make a copy of the object.
5. Person B can only say ‘YES’ or ‘NO’ or ‘PLEASE REPEAT’.
6. When the task has been completed, you may compare your objects.
7. It is helpful for future games to list the language that made the copy easier to build as well as the language that made it harder to build.

**PARENTS**
This challenge develops:
- spatial language
- language of orientation - left, right, up, down etc.
- language of transformation - rotate, reflect, translate
- spatial perception

Take a photo of your original design and the design of Person B. This can then be put in the red Ninja Maths Tub (located in the K-2 Break-out Area). You could also email your entry to: steven.joyce@cg.catholic.edu.au

The winning entry will be published in the Week 5 school newsletter.

There will be a 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize. All participants will receive a certificate. All entries need to be in by Week 9.
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.
A number of Cookie Dough varieties will be on sale with some fantastic prizes to be won, including Ipads.
Order forms will be distributed soon, so stay tuned! Further, updates in upcoming School Newsletters.

Helpers for the Fete
A reminder we need lots of helpers for the fete on 2 November please complete the form sent out with last week’s newsletter and return it to school.

Personalised St Patricks School Caps - $15.00
We are still accepting orders for the caps, please contact Karen McGufficke mkmcgufficke@bigpond.com if you would like to order one for your child.

P & F Executive

Plants, Herbs and Book Enthusiasts

Bazaar Fair 2013
(School Fete)
Saturday, 2 November 2013
Snowy Ride Weekend
Centennial Park, Cooma
10.00 am – 2.00 pm

Spring is almost upon us which is a perfect time for picking those plants for our summer Bazaar Fair.
Please start taking those cuttings and re-potting plants for our plant stall.

STOP! Do not throw out any books or board games. We will be in desperate need of these for our book stall.

Bring them along on Fair day to Centennial Park.
This is a major P&F fundraiser for 2013 – stay tuned.

If you have misplaced your Bazaar Fair form you can download a copy from the school website:
If you have not already done so, please return the flyer to the school office ASAP.
The Bazaar Fair Committee thanks you for your ongoing support.

Nourish

You can now purchase Nourish at $25.00 per book or 3 for $60.00 from the School Office. A perfect gift for family or friends with some great hearty warm recipes for this winter!

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P & F Executive

2014 Year 11 Monaro High Information Evening

Students who are attending Monaro High School in Year 11 next year are invited to attend an information evening next Monday 12 August at 7.30 pm in the Staff Common Room which will outline subject requirements and 2014 course options along with details of the orientation program for incoming students to be conducted the following day.

SRC Photography Competition
‘Happy snapping’!
This term the Primary SRC is running a Photography Competition. It is open to all students K-6 and is free to enter. All you have to do is take a photograph and complete the entry form. The photo must have been taken by you. You can enter a maximum of 3 photos per category. The only category you can ‘digitally enhance’ your photograph, is in the Creativity section. The categories are: Life/Nature, Posed and Creativity. A 1st, 2nd and 3rd ribbon will be presented to each category in each class.

All entries need to be in by Friday 16 August week 5.
We will display the photographs and winning photographs in week 7 in the Library. Entry forms will be distributed to everyone in the primary this week!

Uniform Review Committee
The Uniform Review Committee have, in consultation with the School board, decided to postpone a major review of uniform at this stage and will concentrate in the immediate future on consolidating the uniform policy currently in place.
**Thursday 8 August**  
Southern Region Principal’s meeting  
2O Parish Mass 10.00 am

**Friday 9 August**  
K-2 Ski Program

Years 7-10 Motivational Media presentation Monaro High

**Monday 12 August**  
Debating semi-finals  
Yr 11 MHS 2014 Info Evening 7pm - 8pm

**Tuesday 13 August**  
Yr 11 MHS 2014 Orientation Day  
7 - 10 Ski Program

**Wednesday 14 August**  
Yr 10 Bournda Fieldtrip  
Primary Archdiocesan Choir festival

**Thursday 15 August**  
Archdiocesan Athletics  
Yr 10 Parish Mass

**Friday 16 August**  
K - 2 Ski Program

**Monday 19 August**  
7 - 10 Snowsports  
Bookweek

**Tuesday 20 August**  
Southern Region Snowsports - X Country

**Wednesday 21 August**  
Non-uniform Day Vinnies Winter Appeal

Please refer to School website for more information  
www.stpatscooma.nsw.edu.au

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**Canteen News**

**VOLUNTEERS**

A special thank you to Jackie, Melissa and Grant for all your help on Friday!

**Thursday 8 August**  
Tania Thornton

**Friday 9 August**  
Kim Kleven

**Wednesday 14 August**  
Volunteer needed please!

FRIDAY MEAL DEAL IS NACHOS and DRINK FOR $5.00. THE ONLY OTHER OPTION AVAILABLE IS SPINACH AND RICOTTA ROLL and DRINK OR VEGETABLE SUSHI AND DRINK FOR $5.00.

Thank you for your continued support.  
Carolyn Hely  
Canteen Manager

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**Around Town**

- **Plant Propagation Workshop:** 24 August at the Cooma Community Garden. Course covers propagation by seed, cuttings and division. Also hot house design and irrigation. Workshop cost of $70 includes morning tea, take home plants and seedlings. Bring along any plants that you wish to propagate (bring branches of fresh/new season’s growth wrapped in wet paper). Course will benefit anyone wanting to mass produce plants for a vegetable/market garden, tree wind breaks, home production nursery or just a home garden. Bookings are essential. For a booking form email nodig1@bigpond.com or contact Cooma Community Garden 0408 640 845.

- **Padua Class of ’83 Reunion:** A Reunion is planned for Saturday 9 November 2013. The organising committee are trying to locate ex-students who would have completed Year 10 at Padua Catholic High School in 1983. This includes students who may have left a little earlier as well as teachers who would have had the pleasure of educating us! Please contact Kerrin Hardie (Prout) on 0404 462 292, kezzah88@gmail.com, or visit Facebook: Padua High Wanniassa Class of ’83.

- **Teaching someone to drive can be a happy experience.** You can learn all the simple steps on how to teach a learner driver at a **FREE** two hour workshop at Monaro High School on Monday 28 October from 5.30 to 7.30 pm. Book now on 02 4221 2770 Mitch May.