Remembrance Day, commemorating the end of the World War 1 in 1918.

Jesus, Prince of Peace, hear our prayer. For all who have served the cause of peace in our armed forces, we pray... For all who have lost loved ones due to war, we pray... For all who continue to suffer due to war, we pray... For all who long for Your peace, we pray... For all who dedicate their lives to Your peace, we pray... For all who bring Your comfort to veterans and their families, we pray... For all of us – called to be messengers of Your peace, we pray... Jesus, Prince of Peace, hear our prayer.

Last Saturday, at Centennial Park, I felt enormously proud to be part of St Patrick’s. As the dust settles after the 2015 Bazaar Fair, the committee will hold its final meeting this week to wind up matters and complete the final tally of funds raised. I am very grateful for the commitment of Erika Statham, Cherie Booker, Eve Rees, Marlene Bottom and Ruby Curtis. The committee and staff have been working for nearly 12 months and it all came together under a sunny sky (thank goodness!). The goals were to run a successful Bazaar Fair where we:

- built connections with our community
- celebrated the entrepreneurial and creative energy in our school and wider community, and
- continued to build our funds for the fit-out of the new Visual Arts/TAS building.

It would appear that we have succeeded on all three goals. Thank you to the Committee, to the staff and parents who ran stalls, to the students who generously donated their time, to the ex-students and ex-parents who came back to help, to the people who baked and sewed and supplied gifts and prizes, to Fr Mick and parishioners who supported the school, to local businesses (especially COLES) who supported our venture and to all the people who turned up to enjoy this community event.

Thank you everyone.

Yours sincerely

Frances Robertson
Principal
Bazaar Fair is a Huge Success!

This year's Bazaar Fair was an extremely successful school and community event that will stay in the memories of many of us for years to come. There are so many people to thank who have contributed and made this event such a positive, amazing and pleasurable experience.

To the Bazaar Fair Committee, WOW! What an experience. This team worked so well together, with a common goal and ran with new concepts to bring this dream to fruition. What a pleasure!

For the **tireless work of our P&F team and parent volunteers**, lead by Marjorie Relevant and Karen McGufficke, this was a fantastic job!

**A massive thank you to COLES who donated the food to our P&F BBQ. Hats off to COLES! The manager, Nathan joined with his employees to ‘man’ the BBQ for the afternoon as well.**

To our financial team who worked tirelessly behind the scenes on the day lead by Sara Souter, Kris Laird, Kelly Gill and Caroline Blyton; thank you all so much.

To our other educational organisations and businesses that joined us on the day; what an absolute pleasure. Thank you so much for joining us. **Our goal was to be inclusive** and the participation of other schools, pre-schools, child-care centres and home-based businesses demonstrated that this is possible.

It has been such a positive experience working with some lovely and friendly community minded people. **Special mention goes to Cooma Visitors’ Centre’s Donna Smith, the Cooma-Monaro Shire Council employees Jane Kanowski and Rob Staples, Cooma Rotary, Allan Spencer and the Busking Championships team, as well as Kathy Manthey and Brian Coyte, with the Snowy Ride. Well done to everyone involved.**

To our administrative team of Deb Moon, Bev Clarke and Sarah Hamilton who supported the Bazaar Fair Committee for the last six months. Thank you ladies a job well done.

To all our parents and many friends of St Patrick’s, we would not have pulled this event off without you giving up your time to help us on the day. To those who baked and donated to hampers, money trees, school baskets and helped with preparations leading up to the event, we are extremely grateful for your support.

Last but not least, to all our teachers, support staff, primary and secondary students, thank you all so much.

Our Bazaar Fair Committee are grateful to Rashida Nuridin and Luaun Edwards who were instrumental with some innovative and creative ideas that were created on the Sunday afternoon craft afternoons. What an awesome team effort!

This event will also be remembered for financially being hugely successful. The final tally for the day is still being counted, but it is a significant amount, and means that we are well on target to reaching our ultimate goal of $100,000. This money will be used specifically to fit out our new secondary building due for completion in early 2016.

Well done everyone. What a team. Go St Patrick’s!

**Bazaar Fair Committee 2015**
**Erika Statham, Cherie Booker, Eve Rees, Marlene Bottom, Ruby Curtis**
A Message from the AP

Thank you to our Police Liaison Officer, Rebecca Lanyon, for her time with the students talking about social media and other matters of the law. She spoke so well, and her excellent combination of humour and seriousness were well received.

We are in the **planning stages for 2016** and this includes the placement of teachers and classes. This information will be conveyed to parents before the end of this year. We ask that you bear in mind that things can, and sometimes do, change to accommodate changing enrolment patterns.

Separate letters have gone to Year 9 and Year 10 students about significant events before the end of the year. **For Year 9**, there is the process for Leadership for 2016 for their consideration, as well as the challenge for community service.

**For Year 10**, there is important information about events and requirements for the Record of School Achievement (ROSA). To qualify for the RoSA, a student must have:

- attended an accredited school;
- completed courses of study that satisfy the Board of Study’s curriculum and assessment requirements for the RoSA;
- complied with all requirements imposed by the Minister or the Board; and
- **completed Year 10 until the final scheduled day**.

One of the important messages for Year 10 is that that they must maintain **“sustained and diligent application to their work”** (the Board of Studies requirements) **until the end of the school year**. Students who choose to muck around in class are in danger of not receiving a RoSA. Students who do not have RoSA are ineligible to enter into courses in Year 11 and 12. **In addition, we may make the decision to exclude students from celebratory events if they are unable to attend to their learning in class.**

We want good outcomes for all Year 10 students and hope that they enjoy the conclusion to their time at St Patrick’s.

Mark van Ommen

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**The Cecil Brown Award**

Thank you to locally based stud, Hazeldean, who are supporting students to further their studies in agriculture. Congratulations to Harry Fletcher, a former St Patrick’s student, for being awarded this prestigious award as he heads off to commence his studies in Law/Agricultural Science at UNE in 2016.
Congratulations to St Patrick’s students: Elle McGufficke, Safia Nassar, Natalie Revelant, Matilda Joyce, Rocco Caffarelli, Joshua van Ommen, Clara Thornton, Jack Buckley and Mitchell Burke
Dear Parents

Whooping Cough (Pertussis)

The Public Health Unit has been notified of a confirmed case of whooping cough in a student that attends St Patricks School in Cooma. I am writing to provide advice and ask you to watch out for the symptoms of whooping cough in your child. You may not have suspected that an illness in a person with a mild cough, who appears otherwise fit and well, could in fact have whooping cough and spread the infection to other people for up to 3 weeks, which is the time an untreated person remains infectious.

What is pertussis?

Whooping cough is a highly contagious bacterial disease that can be readily spread by direct contact with droplets from the nose and throat of an infected person. Whooping cough may start as a dry tickle or dry cough and progress to cause bouts of coughing, and sometimes breathing difficulties and vomiting. It can be a very serious infection in small children.

What should people sick with pertussis do?

If your child develops symptoms, please take your child and this letter to your local doctor as soon as possible. Your doctor can advise whether whooping cough is likely and arrange for early treatment if needed. If your child has a cough and whooping cough is suspected please do not send your child to school until a diagnosis can be determined.

To reduce the spread, children who have whooping cough should not attend school until they have completed 5 days of the recommended antibiotics. If antibiotics can not be taken, then they need to stay away for 3 weeks after the onset of the cough.

How is it prevented?

It is important to double check that your child is fully up to date with their immunisations against pertussis. If in doubt, please ask your doctor to check. Immunity to whooping cough from immunisation or infection is not life long. It is therefore important to seek medical attention if your child develops a cough even if fully immunised.

A fact sheet with more information is available at


or call the Infectious Disease Surveillance Officer at the Public Health Unit on 1300 066 055
BYOD—Bring Your Own Device for 2016

If you are considering purchasing a device for your child next year for the implementation of the BYOD program, you may want to look at ACER. They have provided the school with information on products that they can tailor to schools BYOD programs.

ACER has been recognised as one of Australia’s leading companies in education. ACER provides a dedicated BYOD portal for parents to access so that you can find out information before purchasing a device. If you wish to have a look at what ACER may be able to provide for your family please copy the attached link into your web browser:

BYOD.acer.com.au

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.

The next workshop in your area will be held:

**TIME & DATE:**
5.30 – 7.30pm
Wednesday
18 November 2015

**VENUE:**
St Patrick’s Parish School
Murray St, Cooma

**BOOK NOW ON:**
02 4221 2592
Donna Jordan

Helping learner drivers become safe drivers
The big day had come...it was finally time for the Year 6 assembly. All of Infants, Primary and parents had come to see it.

After the National anthem and school prayer, Lachlan McGufficke and Ty McKenzie did a French conversation about what they liked. It was very impressive!

We then had a play to perform about the Australian Gold Rush. Soon all the gold diggers were on stage. They were great! Sam Rumball, Lucy Thornton and Ty were looking for gold with a big reward. The reward was $5000. Then Hudson Laird came on with a sign that said 'No'. I found it quite funny. Lachlan, Aliyah, Jorja and Olivia showed us how to look for gold. James Dyball and I were the troopers. We had to take the diggers to gaol. Then Declan Girling came on as Peter Laylor. He explained to the diggers that they were being picked on by the Troopers. He asked the diggers to throw their licences into the fire. This lead to the event called the Eureka stockade. The troopers killed many diggers. In the end the diggers were given better rights.

The play was great fun to do and watch.

By Spencer Walker-Broose
Canteen News

Volunteers - Thank you!
Wednesday 11/11, 10am Kelly Gill, 1.15pm Kelly & Marjorie
Thursday 12/11, 10am volunteer needed
Friday 13/11, 10am Chris Haylock
Wednesday 18/11, 10am Linda Quodling, 1.15pm Howard & Elsa
Thursday 19/11, 10am Kim Kleven
Friday 20/11, Chris Haylock

If anyone is able to help out in the canteen this Thursday 12 November or Thursday 10 December please let me know :)

Green up your order! Add vegie sticks or a slinky apple! Try something new!

Caroline Blyton
Canteen Manager

LEAGUE TAG IN CANBERRA

On Wednesday 4 November, two mixed teams from Years 5 and 6 headed to Kambah District Playing Fields in Canberra, where they competed in a ‘round robin’ girls’ league tag competition. The girls were all smiles and sunshine; sadly we couldn’t say that about the weather though. It was a cloudy, sprinkling, half miserable kind of Canberra day, but this didn’t dampen the spirits of any of the girls.

All teams played extremely well, and the sportsmanship at the carnival was to be rewarded. The girls were put down to play five games throughout the day. Sadly, one team didn’t show, meaning the girls only managed to play four games in total.

All teams played well and have improved since the first training session. The improvements definitely showed on the day. Congratulations to one of the Year 6 girls’ team who managed to win 3 of their 4 games. Great effort was made by the Year 5 team and the other 5 and 6 mixed team who played great games, but on the day the other schools proved to be too strong for the new, less experienced teams.

A huge thank you goes to the parents and supporters who provided transport for the girls on the day and stayed to support them throughout the day.

Ashleigh Steinke (Coach)

LOST AT BAZAAR FAIR

Child’s brown leather hat – brand name Barmah. If found, please call the school office.
Thank you to everyone that supported our Community Action Network stall at the Bazaar Fair by purchasing coffee or popcorn.

We raised over $250.00 while supporting the coffee farmers in Same, Timor Leste.

If you were not able to make a donation but would like to support the students of the Fuan Nabilan Matan Centre for the Blind and Vision Impaired in Timor Leste, please send a donation to school marked 'Timor Leste' by Friday 13 November and we will add it to our funds.

Thank you.

You CAN make a difference - ST Patrick’s Community Action Network and Primary Mini Vinnies

And a parent said...

As a parent of Infants & Primary students, I would like to congratulate St Patrick’s Parish families, students & parishioners for supporting the Bazaar Fair on Saturday. It showed that a small community can achieve big things.

As a parent of a 1st Communion candidate on Sunday 8 November, I would like to thank Lou Mackay & Father Mick MacAndrew for their time given to candidates to prepare for 1st Communion.

Congratulations to candidates for their excellent behaviour during the Mass.
Cooma Tigers FC are continuing their FREE Soccer Clinics for players aged 10-12 years.

The clinics are held in Cooma at the Nijong Oval, Starting at 4.30 - 5.30 pm (approx), every Monday. Jindabyne Clinics are held at The Park Rd Ovals, Jindabyne, every 2nd Tuesday (Next is on 10th November), 4.30 - 5.30 pm (approx).

These Clinics are designed to assist all players entering the full field games in the 2016/17 seasons.

Players are required to wear/bring, boots, shin pads, and drink bottle. NO SCHOOL UNIFORMS to be worn. All clinics are weather permitting. Please contact below number for any possible cancellations.

Further information is available from Cooma Tigers Youth Development Officer, Brett Simpson on 0402 205 987 or email magicleancooma@gmail.com

Many Thanks
Brett Simpson
Cooma Tigers Youth Development Officer 2015/16
Tigers FC NPL Coach 2015
Understanding Empathy

Ever feel like your teenager has little or no compassion for others?

Do they find it hard to see things from another person’s point of view?

Research has shown the way the brain develops in adolescence affects empathy and that skills relating to empathy are still developing during the teenage years. By encouraging teenagers to have an understanding of empathy we can help these skills develop more quickly.

Empathy is the ability to feel or understand what another person is feeling – to put yourself in someone else's shoes. Empathy is “seeing with the eyes of another, listening with the ears of another and feeling with the heart of another” (Alfred Adler).

During extended Homeroom, Secondary students have watched two videos relating to empathy. Both videos aimed to allow students to reflect on their need to understand others before making judgments. It also sought to make students realize that there are often situations affecting others that we are not aware of simply by looking or speaking to them.

You can also help your child develop empathy by trying the following:

1. Discuss current events with your child and ask them how they think the people in the story may be feeling
2. Help them to problem-solve different situations. For example: “How would you like to be treated if you were the new girl?” “If you were being bullied, what would you want your friends to do to help?”
3. Model showing empathy to others

Learning to stand in somebody else’s shoes, to see through their eyes, that’s how peace begins. And it’s up to you to make that happen. Empathy is a quality of character that can change the world.” – Barack Obama
Up Hill and Down

In the dead of night, a brumby, a Pygmy possum and a Corroboree frog met together under a large snowgum tree. All of them spoke with hushed, low voices, anxious not to be overheard.

“Our home is being taken over” said the brumby “Something must be done.”

“I agree” said the Pygmy possum “Just yesterday my tree was cut down, to make room for some silly chairlift!”

“And my pond is becoming more and more polluted every day” put in the Corroboree frog.

“If this continues we will have no home. We will have nowhere to go. It has to stop!” said the brumby.

“Let’s make a plan to stop it!” said the frog.

***

Throughout the night the trio discussed what could be done to save their mountains. When the first rays of sunlight came over the rise, they had hatched a cunning plan.

Their plan was to go to the offices, in the town. With them they would take some litter from the frog's pond, some of the branches and twigs from the possum’s tree, and the most important of all, a ‘don't litter’ sign. The brumby had found it after the bulldozers had come through, demolishing everything in their path.

The brumby would take them into town, where he would leave the frog and the possum to sneak into the council’s offices, and place the items on the desk. Then they would go home and wait, to see if improvements were being made.

All they could do was hope that their plan to save their home would work...

***

They spent the day before they left getting ready. The frog spent his day in his pond, gathering rubbish for the plan. The possum spent her day picking up all the branches and twigs from her old home. And the brumby spent his day scavenging litter that would hopefully make the humans understand what the trio wanted done. He managed to find a travel brochure, featuring a picture of the progress on the new chairlift. The possum put a massive scratch through the picture with her razor-sharp claws, as if saying “This is where my home used to be!”

The trio weren’t overly confident that their plan to save their home would work; however, they had to give it a go. They held another urgent meeting under the snowgum tree, and talked their plan over and over again, making sure they knew what to do, and when to do it.

After a couple of hours’ sleep, they were on the way to town. The brumby followed the road, sloping and curving steeply downhill. He was careful to keep a fair distance from the road, not wishing to be seen. The possum and frog were hidden under his mane, peering their heads out to watch the world passing by.
Every so often he would stop for a drink, cracking the ice with his hoof. The frog and possum were careful to hold on to his mane. One time they didn't hang on and they both went slipping and sliding down his neck, falling onto the ice. Luckily both of them were unharmed.

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The trio arrived in town three days later. They found it hard to remain hidden. A couple of times they were spotted by humans, who stared curiously at them, or, even came up close to try and give them a pat. The brumby would gallop off, fast. He was terrified of humans. Rumour has it that they try to take brumbies from their home, and train them up to be their own slaves, which meant the humans riding them. He shuddered to think about it.

***

They made camp in somebody’s back yard. They hid themselves in a huge, over grown bush with dark leaves and spiky thistles. The frog and possum explored the town, trying to find the council’s offices. They wondered if they had come to the right place. They read the big sign, welcoming tourists. It had said “Welcome to Berridale. Population: 800 people’.

They eventually found the council office. It was just off the main street, to the left.

Once finding it they returned to the brumby who was relaxing, hidden in the bushes, nibbling subconsciously at a tuft of grass.

“We've found the council's office!” exclaimed the frog.

“We are ready to go!” said the possum.

“Well, let’s do this this then!” said the brumby.

He gave them a lift to the office, following directions from the frog.

“Well, looks like we’re here. Just keep calm and stick to the plan. Good luck!”

“Thank you, mate.”

“See you soon!”

***

The two crept in through a crack in the bricks. There were mouse droppings littered here and there. The pair explored between the dark walls, till they saw a beam of light.

“Look” the possum whispered “There is a hole in the wall” “We can get through!”

“Okay” said the frog, his voice wobbling with nerves.

***
The pair reached the reception desk, dragging the bag of litter and evidence behind them. With difficulty they hoisted it up to the desk.

“Oh my!” a voice sounded.

The speaker was a lady, dressed smartly. She had a very pointy nose and small spectacles.

The pair ran for their lives, leaving a trail of muddy footprints behind them.

They found the hole in the wall and the crack in the bricks and sprinted out onto the streets. The brumby was there to meet them. They climbed in his back and started on their way home.

***

Many days later they noticed a small change in their home. There were more bins for rubbish. New signs were placed around saying things like ‘Be kind to our environment’ and “Please put your rubbish where it belongs”. No more big bulldozers came through and work was delayed on the chairlift.

The trio were heroes in their community of animals. They were loved and appreciated more and more every day. They all lived peacefully and happily for the rest of their lives.

Written by Lucy Kamenz.

Congratulations also to Ivy McGufficke and Miranda McGufficke for their story entries which were awarded ‘runners up’ in their categories.

Merit Award Winners
Monaro Community Access Service (MCAS) has been providing support services to the Cooma Monaro communities for 30 years this year, and to celebrate, and to increase public awareness and support, we are holding a fundraising night.

MCAS provides a whole range of support services in the community, including domestic violence support, educational programs, and financial assistance.

With no guarantee of continued government funding, we are now seeking help and support from our local community to ensure these services continue.

During the evening there will be a charity auction and raffle, to raise much needed funds to keep the service running. It will also be a celebration of the 30 years of service already provided to the community, with a presentation of the history of MCAS, and also our future vision and direction.

Local businesses have been very generous with donations of items for our auction and raffle, and we are now asking the wider community to support us.

Ticket price includes a welcome glass of champagne, finger food and musical entertainment, as well as the chance to pick up some great items in the auction. Our raffle will also be drawn on the night.

Please get a group of friends together, join us for a fun evening, and learn more about this important community organisation. If you are unable to attend, but would like to make a donation, please contact us (details below).

For further information, please contact MCAS on 64526174, or Heather Anoleck on 0431 35 873.

Monaro Community Access Service

Charity Auction

Saturday 21st November 6.30pm at Cooma Ex-Services Club

Ticket includes finger food, welcome champagne, and musical entertainment by John Lyons & Heather Anele.

Tickets $45

For further information, please contact MCAS on 64526174, or Heather Anoleck on 0431 35 873.

Men from Snowy River

Late Thursday morning students from Year 3 to Year 10 lined the footpath on Vale and Commissioner Streets to welcome and acknowledge the Men From Snowy River commemorative march as it passed through Cooma.

As many would know, the original twelve marchers set off from Delegate on 6 January 1916 and passed through many of the small Monaro villages on their way to Goulburn where they numbered 144 in all. Notable amongst their number was one Bert Corey (Ernest Albert Corey), a blacksmith, who joined the march at Nimmitabel and went on, as a stretcher bearer, to become the only soldier in the British Empire to be awarded the Military Medal four times. The records show that numbers of the men were related to students at our school to this very day, so it was an occasion of considerable pride for some.

Although the re-enactment group was quite small, our students gave them a fine, welcoming cheer as they passed on their way.