Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

Last Sunday at Mass, we listened to Jesus telling his disciples: ‘I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were blazing already!’ The imagery of a blazing fire conjures up an array of thoughts and emotions – fire is all consuming, purifying, even cleansing. Fire brings warmth and comfort. Fire brings light and a way to see in the dark. Jesus came to set hearts on fire, to ignite those hearts and minds aflame with an energy and love and ardour and courage that would help to bring about the Good News of God’s kingdom. Jesus was not looking for a half-hearted attempt. He was looking for a passionate response.

At St Patrick’s, we look for that passionate response to life from all our students and we encourage all to make the most of everything offered. We only have to glance at the weekly calendar to see what a wealth of opportunities there are. This week is no exception – On Monday, years 7-10 had a snowsports day; on Tuesday, Stage 3 participated in an illustrators’ workshop while at the same time, the southern region snowsports cross country was attended; today, all students and staff supported the St Vincent de Paul winter appeal with a fundraiser and non-uniform day; tomorrow our year 9 students will immerse themselves in their pastoral care day; and on Friday, our primary and infants students (with some secondary students on the side!) will enjoy the annual book week parade celebrating the theme ‘Reach Across the Universe’. Every day of the school week is accounted for with opportunities for a passionate response. But wait! There’s more. Our Tournament of Minds Teams will be competing on Saturday in Canberra. And we wish them all the best in their endeavours.

The blazing fire which Jesus came to bring - this call to a passionate response - involves not just our physical and mental response, but also our spiritual one. It entails our whole being – body, mind and spirit. As attested by the previous paragraph, we make that passionate response both physically and mentally. But how do we do it with our spiritual being?

When our staff and students listen to the scriptures each day – at assemblies, prayer, lessons or at the Parish Mass – the spirit is nourished and the kindling is set in place. When we put into practice what we have heard in the Gospels, the kindling is set alight. When the fire is lit, and we build it up through a sustained practice of the Gospel values, we set it blazing. When it is blazing, the fire can then be all consuming, purifying, cleansing. It can then bring warmth and comfort. It can then bring light and a way to see in the dark. This kind of fire brings clarity of direction for heart and soul. When we put the Gospel messages and values into practice, we not only feed our own souls but we also model a Christ like response. Parents model these Gospel values every day to their children. They feed their children, clothe them, take care of them, they are up in the night when the children are sick, they support and guide them, they encourage and nurture their gifts and talents. It is sometimes easy to overlook the fact that we are already living the Gospel values. To make it blaze is about a mindfulness of what we’re doing and why.

Next week, we welcome back the NET Team to the secondary campus. NET stands for National Evangelization Team. NET is a dynamic group of young people – people with a passion, with ‘hearts on fire’ who are employed by the Catholic Archdiocese to work with youth in a peer support mode. Each member of the Team has given up work or study for one or two years in order to engage in this ministry of Youth to Youth. It is important to keep this in mind. Most young people are furthering their career and pursuing their studies, so they have put a lot on hold. They share their passion about their faith and life experience in an inspiring, exciting and enjoyable way and they have been very well received in youth groups and schools throughout the Archdiocese and were very much loved by our students last year. It is a great pleasure to welcome them back.

Congratulations to those students last week who travelled to Canberra by mini bus to sing for the second year in a row in the Primary Archdiocesan Choir festival. We are so proud of their second place in the competition and our thanks go to Tina Rooney who prepared them so well, as well as to accompanying teacher Kevin Dunne and honorary bus driver for the day, Paul Mackay. Many thanks to all those staff who go the extra mile nurturing, encouraging and enkindling the potential of our students.

Please keep these members of our school community who are unwell in your thoughts and prayers.

Lou Mackay
Religious Education Coordinator

The Primary Choir on their way to second place in the Archdiocesan Choir Festival.
Congratulations to the Primary School Choir for their exciting performance and their ongoing commitment throughout the term.

Good luck to our Primary athletes Will Pendergast who jumped into 1st place in long jump and Emily Pearce who threw herself to 2nd place discus. We wish them the best of luck in Sydney.

Remember book parade is this Friday. We look forward to seeing the amazing outfits you have worked on. Books are available for sale after the parade.

The photos in the SRC photo competition are set up in the Stage 2 break out area. They are amazing! Well done to all who entered. Parents are welcome to come and look at the display.

Written By Broc Allen and Miranda McGufficke School vice captains.

Illustrators' Workshop

Some of our Stage Three students took part in an Illustrators’ Workshop, which was held at the Monaro Regional Library on Tuesday, as part of ‘Bookweek’ Celebrations. Students created books to illustrate, guided by the expertise of Rowena Evans, a local illustrator. Students will complete their books and read these to the K-2 students back at school.

School Leaders’ Report

Congratulations to the Primary School Choir for their exciting performance and their ongoing commitment throughout the term.

Good luck to our Primary athletes Will Pendergast who jumped into 1st place in long jump and Emily Pearce who threw herself to 2nd place discus. We wish them the best of luck in Sydney.

Remember book parade is this Friday. We look forward to seeing the amazing outfits you have worked on. Books are available for sale after the parade.

The photos in the SRC photo competition are set up in the Stage 2 break out area. They are amazing! Well done to all who entered. Parents are welcome to come and look at the display.

Written By Broc Allen and Miranda McGufficke School vice captains.

Interschools X-Country Skiing

Congratulations to our cross country skiers who competed at the NSW Interschools Championships yesterday. With a record number of students competing we were strongly represented by Kadee and Hudson Laird, Bentley, Spencer and Charlotte Walker-Broose and Harriet Greville.

Congratulations to Bentley (9th in Div 4 Freestyle), Hudson (5th in Div 5 Freestyle) and Harriet, Spencer and Charlotte (4th team overall in Div 5 Freestyle and Relay) on being selected to compete at the National Interschools Championships at Mt Buller in two weeks’ time!

A very big thank you goes to all the parents for their help yesterday. Good luck to those students competing later this week and over the weekend.

Tim Lawley

Non-uniform day

Winter can a difficult and sometimes desperate time dealing with the cold and the increased power bills to ward off that cold.

To support the St Vincent de Paul Society help those who are struggling, we held a non-uniform day for the whole school. Students were asked to bring a monetary donation to support this cause. We have raised $608.00, well done!
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 0400 787 398 or email SalemCharming@gmail.com

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

---

**Primary SRC STAR Awards**

**STAR Awards Theme – ‘Honesty’**

Being honest is being open, trustworthy and truthful. When people are honest they can be relied upon. Honesty is admitting mistakes even when you know someone might be angry or disappointed. When you are honest others can believe you. Being honest looks like admitting your mistakes and trying to fix them.

- KG Archie Blyton – for his trustworthy nature and being able to be relied upon!
- KG Alana Henderson – for being trustworthy and honest to herself and others at all times!
- 1O Grace Clarke – for being a trustworthy and honest student!
- 1O Ryan Pielli – for being a trustworthy and honest student!
- 1P Keira Johnson – for being honest and true to herself!
- 1P Lili Utrush – for the honesty and fairness she shows to others!
- 2P Alii Reeve – for being a trustworthy and honest student to herself and others!
- 2P Isabelle Adams - for being an honest and trustworthy student!
- 2O Charlie Pendergast – for his trustworthiness.
- 2O Lucy Thornton – for the honest and fair way she interacts with her peers in class!
- 3G Sarah Connolly – for having an open, trustworthy personality and the consistent, honest way in which she makes responsible decisions when interacting with others!
- 3G Darnel Bartlett – for being a consistently reliable Stage 3 leader, because of his trustworthy, open personality and for being a great example to his peers.
- 3O Colin Kingston – for being an honest individual!
- 3O Michala White – for being a responsible class member!
- 3P Paris Davies – for always being honest with her peers!

---

**Father’s Day Gift Stall**

**Friday 30th August 2013**

Students are asked to donate a small gift which will in turn be available for sale for students to buy.

We ask that gifts are wrapped in clear cellophane so that children shopping can see what they are buying. Can all gifts please be given to class teachers by **Monday 26th August**.

On **Friday 30th August** every child will have the opportunity to shop at the stall for their Father/carer. All gifts will be available for purchase and priced between $2.00 & $5.00. Funds raised go to St Patrick’s P&F.

Suggestions for gifts include a coffee mug filled with sweets, magazines, books, sporting items, key rings etc.

We also require helpers to conduct the stall on **Friday 30th August** from 9am.

**Enquiries or if you are able to help with the stall contact:** Natalee Reid on mws@schutebell.com or text 0412 910 152 or Kylie Douch on kouch@bigpond.net.au or text 0412 666 646.

---

**SRC Quote of the week**

"To dream of the person you would like to be is to waste the person you are."

---

**Soccer Gala Days**

**GALA DAY #1**

Friday, 31 August

- U6s & U8s - Kick off at 8.45am
- U10/11s - Kick off at 8.30am

**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

---

**Medical Information**

Please ensure that your medical forms are up to date, particularly if your child is attending an excursion or a school sporting event. This includes all telephone numbers and changes to medical history. Please note the majority of medical forms on file were completed in 2012 and new forms will be required to be completed for every child in 2014.
**WHAT'S ON**

**Friday 23 August**  
Bookweek Parade 12 noon

**Saturday 24 August**  
Tournament of Minds ACT Southside

**Monday 26 August**  
Yr 9 NET Team visit

**Tuesday 27 August**  
Yr 7 NET Team visit  
8.00 am Drama Excursion

**Wednesday 28 August**  
Yr 8 NET Team visit

**Thursday 29 August**  
2P Parish Mass 10am  
Yr 10 NET Team visit

**Friday 30 August**  
Father’s Day Stall 9.30am  
2P Assembly 12 noon

**Monday 2 September**  
Yr 7 - 10 Immunisations

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

**Friday 6 September**  
K-6 Disco 6 - 9pm

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

---

**Canteen News**

**VOLUNTEERS**

Thursday August 22  
Tania Thornton

Friday August 23  
Grant Pascoe

Wednesday August 28  
Jackie Bitar

**FRIDAY MEAL DEAL - ONLY 3 OPTIONS AVAILABLE:** All are priced at $5.00 each.

1. Sushi and drink
2. Pie with drink (sauce 20c extra)
3. Homemade spaghetti bolognaise and drink.

Thank you for your continued support.

Carolyn Hely  
Canteen Manager

---

**Around Town**

- **Mad Hatter Crazy Dress Tea Party:** Saturday 14 September at Cooma Scout hall - Babin Place Cooma. Grab your friends and come along for some crazy fun and festivities. Food, Games, Music, Face painting & more. Two session times - Primary students $4.00, time 4.00-5.30pm, High school students $5.00, time 7.00-9.00pm. Under 4 years old need parental supervision & will cost $1. Adults $5.00. All funds raised donated to Cancer Council Relay for Life.

- **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 nolid1@bigpond.com or contact Cooma Community Garden 0408 640 845.

- **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.