Dear St Patrick’s Community

Following on from the parent information evening given by Tim Smith (Senior Officer of Strategy and Public Policy within the Catholic Education Office) in September, the School Board and the P&F have had discussions about the best ways to ensure the sustainability of parent engagement in the school.

The proposal is to more fully explore the option of a Community Council. This would have a core group (eg treasurer, secretary, school principal) who are ‘surrounded’ and supported by satellite groups (eg maintenance, finance, catering, welcome to new parents, school uniforms, mother’s/father’s day stall or whatever we deem to be important to this school). These can be active or dormant depending on the needs of the school at any set time.

The Community Council meetings are open for anyone to attend including parishioners, the general public, former students/parents and friends of St Patrick’s. Currently the P&F meeting is limited to parents and friends of the school and St Patrick’s school board is a closed meeting for Board members who have been elected.

A Community Council would act both in a supportive and advisory capacity. Currently the P&F is primarily supportive and the School board is primarily advisory.

The benefits of a Community Council include a greater involvement of the community, less meetings for the Principal and some parents and potentially greater transparency. It also allows people to be involved in just the things that they wish to contribute to and to only attend a meeting that is pertinent to that.

The process firstly involves consultation with parents and then with parents’ agreement we can ask for a “Transition period” of 6-12 months. Following this, is a two year trial. At any time along this time line, we can opt out and return to our current model of two separate bodies. Forty eight out of 56 schools within the Archdiocese use the Community Council model, and none have gone back to the separate School Board and school P&F model.

I welcome you thoughts on this topic and you can contact me via email at frances.robertson@cg.catholic.edu.au

Yours sincerely
Frances Robertson
Principal
A Message from the AP

This week we will have a non-uniform day for both the Primary and Secondary.

We are asking K-6 students to bring in the donations for the Tombola Stall. Secondary students will be filling the gift trees and gold coins can allow the Homeroom teachers to fill the tree with vouchers and scratchies.

If bringing in jars/bottles of food items, please ensure that the seal has not been broken and that they are within their use-by date. Instead of food, how about coming up with some different ideas for fillers - maybe a jar full of lollies, hair ties, soap crystals, garden seeds or buttons or a bottle of bubble bath, moisturizer or sunscreen! NO ALCOHOL PLEASE. Thank you in anticipation.

*It is the time of the year when we are carefully considering the best options for the staffing of the classes. We ask that all families who have determined other schooling options for their child in 2016 inform the office by 10 November. Families who are undecided are welcome to come and have a conversation about what is best for their child. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.*

Year 6 students have been given an invitation for their first SPOT day (SPOT = St Patrick’s Orientation Time) for this Friday from 9.00 until 11.40am. We are looking forward to seeing the 2016 Year 7 in their new environment. This will be followed by the TAG Days where where they will be invited to tag along with a Yr 7 student for a morning. We will give them a timetable for those days.

We continue to meet with our building team every two weeks and already there is considerable progress. They are very attuned to the needs of the school and are cooperative with our requests. Students have adapted well to the changes in the playground arrangements. We are appreciative of the support of the Parish in using the green grass area in front of the Church.

We remember and give thanks for the life of Jenny Shatrov, mother of Alexei (Year 9), Maddy, Kate, Ben and John, who has entered eternal life after a long illness.

A funeral service will be held on Friday at 10am in Canberra at St John the Baptist Orthodox Church (Narrabundah). This will be followed by a graveside service at Cooma at approximately 12.30pm. All are welcome to join in celebrating Jenny’s earthly life and her entry to eternal life.

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let the perpetual light shine upon her. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen
A Midsummer Night's Dream
The course of true love never did run smooth.

(William Shakespeare)
As we gallop towards the Bazaar Fair on November 7, we are very aware of the many jobs that need to be done. This week, we want to let you know some of the ways that you can contribute to what is a very important event for the school.

This is an excellent opportunity to ‘build community’ both within the school and in the wider community. We have invited other educational organisations and home-based businesses to join us (for a small fee) and we know that this is helpful to them... and then it is helpful to us. We live in a small community and together we can support one another.

Many hands make light work. We look forward to seeing your involvement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Task</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 6 November</td>
<td>Collecting tables and chairs, BBQs, Catering equipment, food supplies, drinks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 7 November</td>
<td>Set up BBQ and trestle table and chairs in the park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6.30am until 9.00 am</strong></td>
<td>Be part of the catering team B at the BBQ</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>7.30am until 10.30am</strong></td>
<td>Set up stalls</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday 7 November</strong></td>
<td>Prepare floats of money, be part of the finance team reporting to Sara Souter, distributing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>10.30am-2.30pm</strong></td>
<td>Be part of the catering team C at the BBQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday 7 November</strong></td>
<td>Operate a stall: Showbags and Fairy floss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>10.00am-2.00pm</strong></td>
<td>Face painting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday 7 November</strong></td>
<td>Lucky dips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>10.00am-2.00pm</strong></td>
<td>Wet sponge</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday 7 November</strong></td>
<td>Football passing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>10.00am-2.00pm</strong></td>
<td>2nd hand Books &amp; Games</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday 7 November</strong></td>
<td>Cake and treats</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>10.00am-2.00pm</strong></td>
<td>Chocolate wheel</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday 7 November</strong></td>
<td>Nail painting &amp; Hairspray</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>10.00am-2.00pm</strong></td>
<td>Trash and Treasure (with Fr Mick)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday 7 November</strong></td>
<td>P&amp;F Second hand uniforms</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>10.00am-2.00pm</strong></td>
<td>Plant stall</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday 7 November</strong></td>
<td>Tombola</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>10.00am-2.00pm</strong></td>
<td>Craft items</td>
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Please record your preference and return to the school by Friday 30 October.

Name: ___________________ Email: __________________________ Mobile: ___________

Stall ________________________________________________________ Time: ___________

The Bazaar Fair Committee thanks you for your support and we hope to see many of our school families present on the day.
Public Speaking at Jindabyne

On Saturday 24 October, Charlotte Mitchie competed in the district 9710, Rotary 4-way speaking competition. After practising her speech at the semi-finals in Canberra a little while ago, she was more than prepared to face the 300 plus Rotarians at the conference. The speech involved incorporating the Rotary 4-way test of:

- Is it the TRUTH?
- Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Using these guidelines Charlotte discussed a very modern issue of same sex marriage and the idea of a holding referendum in Australia. Although she was the youngest competitor, Charlotte made a huge impression on the audience and judges. They are looking forward to her entry next year.

Congratulations Charlotte, you presented confidently and passionately. The school and community should be impressed with the achievements of students who have taken the initiative to step outside their normal comfort zones, and the fantastic mentoring and support they receive to do so.

Maths Is Fun In Year 4 - Our Potato Olympics

Formula Poetry by 4M

Dragons
Soaring
Breathing fire
Scaly, scary, mythical.

Fairies
Flying
Casting spells
Cheeky, mischievous, naughty!
When Pope Francis was elected Bishop of Rome he selected the name of Francis from the compelling and attractive figure of St Francis of Assisi. Pope Francis says, “I believe that Saint Francis is the example of excellence of care for the vulnerable and of an integral ecology lived out in joy and truth. He is the patron saint of all who study and work in the area of ecology or environmental science. He was particularly concerned for God’s creation. He lived in simplicity and in wonderful harmony with God, with others, with nature and with himself.

Just as happens when we fall in love with someone, whenever St Francis would gaze at the sun, the moon or the smallest of animals, he burst into song. He even preached to the flowers, inviting them “to praise the Lord.”

Pope Francis further writes if we feel intimately united with all that exists, then care for creation will well up spontaneously.

Saint Francis, faithful to Scripture, invites us to see nature as a magnificent book in which God speaks to us and grants us a glimpse of his infinite beauty and goodness. “Through the greatness and the beauty of creation one comes to know their maker.”

Rather than a problem to be solved, the world is a joyful mystery to be looked upon with gladness and praise.

The Canticle of Creation (by Saint Francis of Assisi)
Be praised, my Lord, for all your creation
for our Brother Sun and Sister Moon,
and for the stars which you have set shining and lovely
in the heavens.
Be praised, my Lord, for our Brothers Wind and Air
for Sister Water and for Brother Fire,
Be praised, my Lord, for Sister Earth, our Mother,
bringing forth fruits and vegetables of many kinds
and flowers of many colours.
I praise and bless you, Lord, and I give thanks to you,
and I will serve you in all humility. Amen.
Canteen News
A GIANT THANK YOU goes out this week to our canteen volunteer Elsa Wagner, and Year 10 student Jake Crawford. Elsa ran the canteen for me on Tuesday morning so that I could attend a canteen network meeting.

Not only did I throw Elsa in the deep end with more orders received than anticipated, there was also a power outage so she had to substitute hot food orders with cold options. With Jake's help, Elsa did a great job for the first break and I’m very appreciative! So if your children didn't get what they ordered this morning, I do apologise but it was due to the power outage.

Mini-canteen happens for Infants and Primary on Wednesdays - items are priced from 50c to $2. The attached photo is an example of the yummy fresh items which are sold.

Volunteers - Thank you
Wednesday 28/10, 10am Kelly Gill 1.15pm Kelly & Marjorie
Thursday 29/10, 10am Jackie Bitar
Friday 30/10, 10am Sara Souter
Wednesday 04/11, 10am......1.15pm Howard & Elsa
Thursday 05/11, 10am Grant Pascoe
Friday 06/11, 10am Rebecca Croke

Put the code word "BLUE" on your lunch order this Friday to receive a freebie :)

Caroline Blyton
Canteen Manager

Mini-Canteen Treats! Fresh fruit & yoghurt cups $2

P&F Catering for the Hazeldean Ram Sale
HELP WANTED PLEASE

The School’s P&F have been lucky enough to be given the opportunity to provide the catering for the Hazeldean Ram Sale on Saturday 31 October. This will take place on the property. It will be in the form of a BBQ and light morning tea. We are seeking five to eight people who can set up, turn sausages, make a cuppa, serve and pack up. It is pretty straightforward. Others who can provide brownies (preferably uncut slabs) and muffins are also needed. Please contact Karen at mkmcgufficke@bigpond.com

Thank you, in anticipation.
The 2016 Kindergarten children came for their first KinderStart day. This is the next step in their orientation for school. They boarded the Kindergarten Train for new adventures.
Welcome to all new families. Thank you to the P&F for supporting the new parents with a morning tea. Our next KinderStart day is Tuesday 10 November.
Grigoryan Brothers, Guitar Virtuosos To Perform in Cooma

Australia's most famous guitar duo, the Grigoryan Brothers will be performing at St Paul's Anglican Church Hall, 136 Commissioner Street in Cooma on Sunday 22 November at 4:30pm.

The Grigoryan Brothers' astounding guitar playing and musicality has been the acclaimed by music critics and audiences all over the world as well as here in Australia. The Cooma concert will be part of their Australia-wide "This Time" tour. This much anticipated CD release, also named "This Time" will be the sixth in the series of CDs that have made the Grigoryans a household name in Australia and internationally, one of Australian's most sort after musical exports.

This is a "must-see" concert, book your ticket early.

You can book your tickets online at: www.trybooking.com/JJYX

Expressions of interest...it's not too late

Are there any parents of St Patrick's wanting to be a "parent buddy" for the parents of the 2016 Kinder children?

About 20 children are expected to start next year, and it could assist in a smoother, more welcoming transition for families new to the school system to have someone to talk to. We'd love to hear from you, as we require more parents to offer help!

There will be a coffee time for the parents of the Kindergarten children during the Kinderstart day on Tuesday 27 October, if you are available to pop in & say hello. Alternatively, please email me for more info on the idea at lumargeo@yahoo.com or catch me at the school pick up. We would love to have you on board!

Kind regards

Lucinda George (P&F representative)
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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME &amp; DATE:</th>
<th>VENUE:</th>
<th>BOOK NOW ON:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.30 – 7.30pm</td>
<td>St Patrick's Parish School</td>
<td>02 4221 2592</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Murray St, Cooma</td>
<td>Donna Jordan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 November 2015</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Helping learner drivers become safe drivers

Thinking of enrolling at St Patrick's Parish School, Cooma?

Our orientation program for Kindergarten and Year 7 students is underway, but it’s not too late to secure a place at St Patrick's for next year!

We are 'A School with Altitude'. The inherent message here is that each child is encouraged to strive and aim high in whatever field of endeavour they are engaged. St Patrick's aims to fan the spark of imagination that will support a love of life-long learning and the pursuit of talents.

We believe that St Patrick's Parish School offers a distinctive education in the form of:

- an explicit commitment to Catholic spirituality and values;
- a concern for the safety and care of the students;
- a desire to lead students to be respectful and responsible in their choices;
- an offering of rigorous, engaging and challenging learning experiences;
- the provision of good learning facilities.

If you think St Patrick's could be an option for your child in 2016, please call our office on 6452 1721 to make an appointment with our Principal, Mrs Frances Robertson.
WHEN SCHOOL IS A LONG WAY FROM HOME

Are you entitled to claim the Private Vehicle Conveyance (PVC) subsidy? The subsidy can provide twice-a-year payments to help you cover the expenses.

To be eligible for travel under the Private Vehicle Conveyance Subsidy (PVC Subsidy) students must be:

- a resident of NSW;
- 4 years 6 months of age or older;
- enrolled at a registered day, boarding or distance education school; either:

(1) an infant student (Year K-2) who resides more than 1.6 kilometres walking distance from the nearest existing transport pick up point (i.e. bus stop or railway station);

or

(2) an infant student who resides where no public transport is available between home and school (i.e. no distance criteria are applied);

or

(3) a primary student (Year 3-6) or a secondary student (Year 7-12) who resides more than 1.6 kilometres walking distance from the nearest transport pick up point, or more than 1.6 kilometres by the most direct practicable walking route to the nearest point of physical entry to school grounds;

Note: School years in each State may differ from NSW.

or

(4) where the only means of travel for a student to the transport pick up point or school is by private boat. This is regardless of the distance between the residence and the transport pick up point or school, and their year in school.

For more information or to apply online for 2016 and see full terms and conditions visit: www.transport.nsw.gov.au/pvc

WHOOPING COUGH ALERT

There is an outbreak of whooping cough (pertussis) in NSW, mainly affecting school-aged children.

Coughing spreads the infection to others nearby. Whooping cough can spread to anyone at home, including younger brothers and sisters. Whooping cough can be especially dangerous for babies.

Whooping cough starts like a cold and progresses to bouts of coughing that can last for many weeks. The infection can occur even in fully-vaccinated children. Older children may just have a cough that is persistent and may be worse at night.

- Children with these symptoms should see a doctor.
- If your doctor diagnoses whooping cough in your school-aged child, please let the school know and keep your child at home until they have taken 5 days of antibiotics. Keep coughing children away from babies.
- Whooping cough vaccines give good protection against infection but immunity fades with time. Check that all your children are up to date with their vaccines, due at 6 weeks, 4 months, 6 months, 4 years and 12 years of age (offered to all Year 7 students through the NSW school-based vaccination program). A booster is also recommended at 18 months of age.

A booster dose of vaccine is also recommended for adults that are in contact with young children, such as school staff and parents. Pregnant women are recommended to have a booster dose during each pregnancy and this is funded by NSW Health. Those who are new parents or carers of babies should consult their general practitioner about appropriate immunisation.

Your local public health unit can provide advice about whooping cough on 1300 066 055
AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL BUSKING CHAMPION

Cooma NSW - Saturday 7th November 2015

ENTRY FORM

Name: ................................................................. Age*: .......... Age Category: [ ] Primary [ ] Secondary [ ] Open

Consent of Parent or Guardian (needed for children under 16 years of age):
I consent to have my child perform in the Australian National Busking Championships™. I also consent to allow images and/or video of my child taken during this event to be displayed on our official website and/or Facebook page. I also understand any children under the age of 16 years of age must be accompanied by their parent or guardian during this event.
Signed: ............................................................... (Print Parent/Guardian’s Name) ...........................................................

(*at 07/11/2015 - Only required for children who may be performing)
Postal Address: ................................................................. (Please tick appropriate box)
Phone: ................................................................. Mobile: ................................................................. Email: .................................................................

Will you be competing for the prizes? [ ] YES [ ] NO - just for fun!

When will you be available to perform? [ ] All day Saturday - or [ ] Only during these times

How many sets would you like to perform? .... How long are your sets? [ ] 30 minutes - or [ ] 60 minutes.

Will you be performing solo? [ ] - or in a group? [ ] If you’re in a group, what is its name?

How many in your group? .............................................. (Please complete a separate entry form for each member of your group)

How would you best describe your performance?

Have you got any of your performances online?

Will you be using any amplification? [ ] NO [ ] YES (details please)

Do you want to perform [ ] in the same spot - or [ ] would you like to play at several locations?

Do you have any other special requirements?

Terms and Conditions:
- All performers must be registered and have their registration fee clearly displayed.
- As this event is family friendly, the organizers reserve the right to exclude any performances that may be deemed offensive to a general audience.
- Volume levels must conform to any direction given by the event organizers or officials.
- Performers who wish to be eligible for prizes must be available to perform in the Finals Concert at any time during the event.
- Any images or video taken during this event may be used by the event organizers for future promotion.
- All decisions of the judges are final and no correspondence will be entered into.

Signed: ................................................................. Dated...

Entry Fee: $15 for each participant. Maximum of $50 per group (Please include payment with this form)

All fees will be paid to the Rotary Club of Cooma
Please make Cheques payable to the ROTARY CLUB OF COOMA INC ANBC COOMA BUSKING
All fees will be gladly accepted at Cooma School of Music on behalf of the Rotary Club of Cooma

Amount: $ ................................................................. Cash / Cheque / Direct Deposit* / Credit Card ........................................ Visa or MasterCard (please cross out which doesn’t apply)

[ ] ................................................................. Expiry Date: [ ]/ [ ]

CVV [ ] Card Holder Name: ................................................................. Signature: .................................................................

*Direct Deposit: To ROTARY CLUB OF COOMA INC ANBC COOMA BUSKING BSB: 062 523 Account No: 10243818
Please email receipt of your Direct Deposit to: aflan@coomamusica.com.au

Please return this form to: Cooma School of Music, Shop 2 Partview Arcade 123 Sharp Street, Cooma NSW 2630 Ph: (02) 6452 6677 Fax: (02) 6452 4538 Email: aflan@coomamusica.com.au

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES SATURDAY 31st October 2015