Dear St Patrick’s Community

Further to the information that was introduced two weeks ago, I would like to take some space to outline some aspects of the Equity Policy that will accompany the Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program for 2016.

The St Patrick’s Parish School BYOD program, like all such programs in an education setting, inherently imposes a financial cost on students and their families by requiring them to supply a device (either a laptop or a tablet). At the same time, the St Patrick’s Parish School BYOD program can only function if all students have access to appropriate technological resources in all their classes. This school takes seriously the role of education in ensuring all students have access to equitable learning outcomes. The purpose of the BYOD Equity Policy is to establish the framework for the BYOD program and to provide this for all students, irrespective of their families’ financial means.

Therefore, St Patrick’s Parish School will:

1. Provide appropriate technology resources to all students through the digital wireless network, computer labs, library and classrooms’ resources for printing, if appropriate.
2. Ensure the BYOD program’s device specification information is designed so that a range of devices in capability and cost are suitable.
3. Provide some devices for families who cannot afford to purchase their own device through the loan of a School Owned Device, limited to daily, overnight or weekend use.
4. Provide prioritised access to digital devices for students who cannot purchase a BYOD device whilst at school.

It is almost time for Year 6 students to begin the process of transition to Year 7. This year we have really tried to smooth the pathway by having Mr van Ommen teaching Year 6 Mathematics and involving the students in some high school activities (eg Soup Mondays and end of term activities). In a few weeks, I will begin gathering small groups of students for conversations about their preparation for high school. This will be followed by interviews in Term 4, where the students will demonstrate how they have set and tried to achieve their goals. As is always the case, parents can request a time for a look around the Secondary campus. A member of the Leadership Team is happy to escort you. It might be better to wait for warmer weather though!

Our school was very proud to be the musical ensemble for the NAIDOC Archdiocesan Mass on Friday. Two of our Indigenous students were ‘front and centre’-Sara Knott led the Responsorial Psalm and Alleluia in front of the whole congregation at St Christopher's Cathedral and Dominic Holgate received a NAIDOC Award for his contribution to Indigenous recognition and reconciliation in the school community. It was a great opportunity to really experience the theme for NAIDOC 2015...Learn, Respect and Celebrate.

Yours in peace

Frances Robertson
Principal
A Message from the AP

Belonging
The school uniform is part of our commitment to being a place of belonging. It identifies our school to the community. How we wear our uniform and the actions of students when in uniform sends a message to the community of the values we hold as a school. A great example of this is ANZAC day.

Recently members of the public have expressed concern about the actions of students after school. This relates to the reckless riding of bicycles through town that almost resulted in serious injury to a member of the public. Once again can I remind students of the need to exercise caution when riding bicycles, crossing roads and moving around town. This is particularly heightened with the increase in traffic during the winter season.

Snowsports
Snowsports began last week, with Secondary students enjoying good snow conditions last Thursday at Perisher. Years 3-6 and K-2 Snowsports will occur in the next few weeks. Staff use much of their own time to plan Snowsports and ensure students who cannot attend are engaged back at school in lessons or alternate programs. Part of this planning involves a review of safety procedures each year, knowing that such an activity comes with inherent risks.

The value of Snowsports goes beyond the fact that we are in an area where this activity can occur. Snowsports provides many of our students with the only cost effective way to enjoy the mountains in winter. Community and camaraderie are developed as many of the students ski or board with others they do not normally associate with at school. This is also true for our camps and other extra-curricular activities that occur throughout the year. Back at school those who cannot attend Snowsports have the opportunity to participate in normal lessons in Secondary or an alternate program in K-6 that allows them to develop new skills in physical activity and craft.

Thank you
Mark van Ommen
Assistant Principal

Enrolment time for 2016
We have to plan staffing and the school is required to finalise their students numbers for 2016 very soon. If you need an enrolment pack and an interview, please contact the Office on 64521721.

NET experience notes have gone home for Yrs 7-10. Have you seen it?
Dominic Holgate received a NAIDOC Award from the Director of Schools, Mrs Najdecki, for his contribution to Indigenous Recognition and Reconciliation in our community.

Thank you to Year 5, the school choir, senior musicians, Mrs Rooney, Mr and Mrs Mackay, Mrs Wilkinson, Mr Joyce, Mrs Blumer and Mrs Knott for a wonderful experience for our students.
NAIDOC Mass for the Archdiocese
We were proud to host the Southern Region Public Speaking competition for Stage 3 (Year 5 and 6) this week. Congratulations to our school’s two representatives, Sam Rumball and Ava Barrett, who will progress to the next round. Thank you to Mrs Stubbs for her adjudication.
Bazaar Fair 2015

Saturday, 7 November 2015
Centennial Park, Cooma
9.00 am - 2.00 pm

Colour Theme: Green and Gold (just like St Patrick’s!).

Whether you are into veggies, plants, trees, perennials or annuals we need our families, staff and students who are gardeners to start thinking how they can contribute towards this stall.

The Bazaar Fair Committee (BFC) would like to hear from you. Please do not be shy.
We have a colour theme: Green/Gold (just like St Patrick’s!).

For those who have farming properties who are in close proximity to shearing sheds, why not bag up some manure for composting to sell at this stall.
Get gardening, propagating or bagging manure.

Contact: Ruby Curtis 0402 038 676 or Erika Statham 0400 787 398

Do you have:

- Some old wooden coat hangers at home that you don't need?
- Some buttons floating around in drawers?
- Lengths of ribbon that need a new home?
- A ball or two of thick wool?

The craft group would love to have these things in preparation for goodies that they are making for the Bazaar Fair. Please send to the Office and we will recreate it into something new and fabulous!

The MacKillop musical is on this August, with five shows running from Monday 17 August to Friday 21 August. All performances will take place at the Wanniassa Campus Theatrette and will begin at 7.30pm.

Tickets will be available from the Front Office of each Mackillop campus from Monday 27 July. Prices are $10 for student/concession and $15 for adults. The canteen will be available during the intermission and each show should be completed by 9pm.
Canteen News

This Thursday: Please note that there will be **no hot food available for Secondary students at the second break this Thursday** due to my absence for the day. Only drinks, snacks and sushi will be available to purchase during the second break. Thank you to the parents who will be ensuring that the canteen is fully operational for all campuses for the first break on Thursday!!

Congratulations to all of the students who have been trying something new from the canteen this year. Popular choices this term seem to be the Sweet Chilli Chicken Tender Wrap and the St Pat’s Pasta, both are great healthy options!

Volunteers - Thank you!
Wednesday 29/07, 10am Kelly Gill
Wednesday 29/07, 1.15pm Mini-canteen Kelly & Marjorie
Thursday 30/07, xxx & Elsa Wagner
Friday 31/07, Grant Pascoe
Wednesday 05/08, 10am Linda Quodling
Wednesday 05/08, 1.15pm Mini-canteen Elsa & Howard
Thursday 06/08, Lisa Walsh
Friday 07/08, Grant Pascoe

Mini-canteen happens on Wednesdays for Infants and Primary students. Items are priced from 50c to $2.

This Week's Friday Meal Deal:
St Pat's Kranksy Hot Dog & Drink $6.50 (sauce and cheese on hot dog included)
Don’t forget that anything can be ordered on a Friday!

Caroline Blyton
Canteen Manager

---

Children's Writing Competition

**Up Hill and Down**

Original works can be either non-fiction or fiction, use the theme “Up Hill and Down”, and submitted by school students in 3 age groups:

- Years 3-6
- Years 7-9
- Years 10-12

The major prize winner will receive a return airfares from Canberra to Brisbane, generously donated by Qantas.

The closing date is Friday 9th September 2015
For further details and conditions please contact:
Snowy Mountains Readers Write Festival Inc.
www.snowymountainswritersfestival.org

---

Australian Mathematics Competition 2015

**Years 7-10 Thursday 30 July**

The Australian Mathematics Competition for Years 7-10 will be held during **Periods 3 and 4 on Thursday 30 July** which is Day 4 of the Secondary timetable.

Secondary Students doing the Mathematics Competition will go to C4 after assembly on Thursday morning. Bell times will be as per normal Day 4.

The competition lasts for 75 minutes plus 15 minutes organisation.

**Primary students will do the Mathematics competition on Friday morning because of the clash with Archdiocesan Athletics Championships being held on the Thursday.**

Please see Mr Dunne for more details.
During the holidays, Year 6 student Cambell Wenban and his family experienced the tragedy of losing their home and possessions in a house fire.

To help the Wenban family get back on their feet, there will be a **non-uniform day on Friday 31 July 2015 for students across all campuses**. Please bring a gold coin or more, if you can spare a greater contribution, as a donation to the Wenbans.

We particularly want to make sure that Cambell has everything that he needs to support his learning and is well equipped for school.

Please ensure students are appropriately dressed for the cold weather and are wearing suitable footwear if they have PE that day.
You’re invited to our BOOK FAIR!

Date: Friday 28th August 2015
Time: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Place: Primary Library

70th Anniversary of the Library
Celebrating Children’s Book Week 2015!
Started work? Lodge your tax return with *myTax* - it's easy

*myTax*
- is the fastest way to lodge
- is easy to access (via tablet, smart phone or computer)
- already includes some of your personal information (pre-filled from employers, banks, government agencies and more).*

How to lodge
- Get your tax file number and your birth certificate, passport or citizenship certificate ready.
- Create a myGov account at [my.gov.au](http://my.gov.au)
- Phone the ATO on **13 28 61** and press 5 at the prompt to get your unique linking code.
- In the myGov Services page, link to the ATO with the unique linking code.
- Lodge your return through *myTax* by 31 October.

*Most pre-fill information is available in the last week of July, so it’s easier to wait until then to lodge. Then you only need to review the information,*

Learn more about tax and super

Watch our videos 'How to create a myGov account and link to the ATO’ and ‘A quick demonstration of lodging with myTax’

Find out more about lodging your first tax return at [ato.gov.au/firstreturn](http://ato.gov.au/firstreturn)

Engage your students in their financial future with our free educational resource *Tax, Super and You* at [taxsuperandyou.gov.au](http://taxsuperandyou.gov.au).

Take advantage of our free interactive webinars and in-school presentations covering a range of tax topics - just email [schoolseducationprogram@ato.gov.au](mailto:schoolseducationprogram@ato.gov.au).

Thank you for helping educate students about tax in Australia.

Regards

Graham Whyte
Assistant Commissioner of Taxation