Dear Parents, Staff and Students

With the celebration of Easter occurring this coming weekend it is timely to reflect on the significance of Holy Week and what it means to us. We should never lose sight of the reality that Jesus gave his life for us so that we might live and in doing so he urges us to reflect on how we live that life so preciously given. As with Christmas let us see beyond the commercialism and and secularism of Easter to reinforce the true meaning of this season. We have been focusing on this in many of our classes and this will also be the theme of our Easter liturgy to be held tomorrow at noon in the Church.

The Diverse Life of St Patrick’s

In looking through this term’s newsletters we can get an idea of the vast range of experiences available to students in a typical week at our school. From the St Patrick’s Day celebrations, the Antarctic Experience, the K-6 Disco, the ACT Debating Competition and the various sporting competitions as a few examples, let’s not lose sight of the holistic education that our school offers. It is sometimes easy to find things to question in the life of a school but we should never forget the enormous commitment that teachers and all the support staff make, solely for the benefit of your child or children, both inside and outside the classroom. Likewise those parents who are always so willing to help out with school activities are never taken for granted and to them we also say a big thank you.

“Our need is snow!!” Students from Primary rug up during the Antarctic Experience!

Thank You to the P&F

At the recent P&F Meeting we were informed by the P&F Executive that we would soon be receiving their annual recurrent expenditure donation. In 2012 this amounts to $22,000 which is an invaluable financial boost to the school’s bottom line. Recurrent expenditure is allocated to resources K-10 and includes reading, stationery and KLA resources in K-6, Religious Education resources, Primary and Secondary Library funds, PE and Health resources K-10, assistance with the Seasons program and ICT upgrades. Our gratitude to the P&F for their generosity and hard work cannot be overstated.

Celebrate our Successes

Our Primary and Secondary representative swimmers competed at the Olympic Aquatic Centre at Homebush last week and they can feel very proud of their achievements. This a great honour to represent our Archdiocese at this level. Particular mention should be made of Year 7 student Zac Saddler who was selected in the NSW Combined Catholic Colleges team to compete in the NSW All Schools Championships in Sydney on 7 May. Good luck Zac!

Our Year 10 Mock Trial team was successful in the first round of this year’s state-wide competition against an experienced Year 11 team from Canberra Girls’ Grammar in Cooma Courthouse yesterday. The team members have given up most lunchtimes this year to prepare their courtroom arguments. Congratulations to Gabbi de Rooy, Lora Fraser, Courtney Rolfe, Harry Fletcher, Ben McConkey and Vasek Wichta.

Our Year 7 and 8 debaters have performed very admirably in the ACT Debating Union competition with the Year 8 students winning both their rounds and our Year 7 aggregate scores are amongst the highest in their group of 58 teams.

ANZAC DAY

A reminder that ANZAC Day falls on the first Wednesday of Term 2. We look forward to having a big contingent of students marching in the town parade to show our support for the ANZAC ideals and legacy. Students will meet at 10.30 am at Mack’s Corner in full school winter uniform. Don’t forget hats and it is a good idea to bring a water bottle as well as students will be outdoors for quite a period of time during the ceremony at the cenotaph.

What a great spectacle yesterday with our Easter Bonnet Parade! Well done to Primary students and their teachers! Congratulations to our girls’ AFL team for their efforts in Canberra yesterday!

We would like to thank Mrs Rashida Nuridin for the exceptional job she has done replacing Ms Sabina Kovats who will be returning from leave in Term 2.

Please continue your prayers for those members of our school community who are unwell.

May God bless you over the Easter break as you share in the riches of his blessings, Have a safe and restful holiday break.

Phil Stubbs
Principal
Term 1 has certainly been a busy time for 2 Purple. Students drew inspiration from a talk given to them by Mrs Anna Thornton on Celtic motifs. 2 Purple then created a beautiful Celtic cross for St Patrick's Day using their initials. This term in Science, students have enjoyed learning about different soils and rocks.

**Seasons 2012 Update**

The Seasons Program has progressed well in the Secondary Campus. Participants will complete Session 5 this week. The Primary Seasons Program will commence Wednesday 2 May (week 2 of Term 2). Please contact Kevin Dunne at the school for further information.

**Sports Report**

Students K to Year 10 should have the correct socks when representing the school in sport. The green and gold long sock should be worn and not club socks when competing in sport that require socks other than the white sport sock.

**Primary Swimming:** Congratulations to Maddisen Ward, Molly Janota, Miranda McGufficke and Jasmin Statham-Smith who finished 7th in the Senior Girls relay. Also to Amber Martin-Smith, Sophie Janota, Lucy Thornton and Jasmin Pascoe who finished 11th in the Junior Girls relay. These swimmers competed at the combined Primary school championships at Homebush on Monday 26 March. Amber and Miranda also competed in two individual events and gained valuable experience at this level of competition. Thank you to the parents who travelled and supported the children in Sydney.

**Secondary Swimming:** Congratulations to the following students who represented Canberra Goulburn Archdiocese in swimming at Homebush Friday 30 March: Zac Saddler, Sophie Nicholl, Madeleine Rooney and Kate-lyn Patricks. The students all competed with great spirit and represented our school with pride. Congratulations to Zac Saddler—1st 50m Freestyle and 4th 100m Freestyle. He will now compete in the NSW All Schools Carnival.

**Cricket:** Well done to Remy Oldrey and James Hayden who trialled for the Mackillop Cricket team last week and congratulations to James who was selected as part of the 12 player team!

Glenyce Moxon  
K-10 Sports Coordinator

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**Leadership Day**

On Tuesday 2 April the school leaders from Year 5-10, travelled to Jindabyne to participate in team building activities. It was a sunny, beautiful day promising lots of fun. Communication was the key factor in team building activities, we learnt to voice our own ideas and opinions yet listen to others. We participated in the high ropes course which involved each person setting personal goals and working to achieve them. We plan on using our new skills to help the rest of the school community. A big thank you to Mrs Stacey for organising the day and Mr Introna and Mrs Fletcher for their guidance on the day.

Meg, James, Molly and Thomas
**Rugby Union Gala Day**

Boys in Stage 2 and 3 played rugby union at Rotary Oval in the local schools Gala Day on Wednesday 28 March. A great day was had by all students. Stage 3 played three games against Cooma North, Jindabyne and the other St Pat's team. St Pat’s team 1 lost all of their games and team 2 lost two games and won one game. Even though we didn’t win on the day we had a great experience competing with the other schools. Stage 2 had two teams and were involved in coaching drills and played against each other. Thanks to Sam Rolfe the Brumbys development officer and to Chris Allen and Bede Nichols for helping on the day.

By Kane Trent Smith and Steven Harrison

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**SRC Theme Week 10 Imagination/Creativity**

Creativity is seeing something in a new way, finding a new way to solve problems. Creativity helps us to be all we can be. Be open to inspiration and remember to take time for dreaming.

* KG Darcy Brown – for his imaginative creations that he has produced each week for the sound table!  
* 1P Kennedy Purcell – for her creative touch in all her school work!  
* 1O Lily Utrush – for her creative artworks and imaginative ideas that she shares with our class!  
* 2O Alex Smith – for his creative problem solving!  
* 2P Luca Henderson – for always expressing his own creativity in all set tasks!  
* 3O Maddy Wood-Isles – for her imaginative ideas when creating our class ‘Farm of the Future’!  
* 3P Bronte Hely – for being creative and imaginative with her Easter Hat!  
* 3G Kiara Henderson – for her awesome creative writing skills, imaginative problem solving abilities and being inspired by books!  
* Library Jorja White – for her imaginative ideas expressed during library lessons!  
* Music French – Bently Walker-Bruce – for showing creativity in French!  
* School Captains Award (chosen by Thomas Hain and Molly Caldwell) Ivy McGufficke - for the pride and effort she put into her fantastic creative Easter Hat! First class work Ivy!  
* Primary Citizenship Award (chosen by Bas de Ruijter and Maisie Ward) Josh McConkey, Alexei Shatrov and Chisomo Banzi – for initiating and organising a chess club and teaching others to learn how to play!

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**Easter Bonnet Parade**

Students in K-6 proudly displayed their Easter bonnets at yesterday’s Easter Parade. The workmanship and creativity on display were certainly a sight to behold! Well done to all the students!!

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**Infants Chook Lotto**

* Emily Smith 1O for listening carefully  
* Joe Nichols KG for looking and listening at assembly time  
* India Dyball 1P for being considerate

Thank you very much to the families of Emily & Alex Smith and Natalie & Tristan Revelant for Chook Lotto prize donations.

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**SRC Quote of the week**

“Our life is dyed with the colour of our imagination.”

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**SRC ‘SUPER’ Award**

Commencing SATURDAY 28 APRIL – draw details to be announced shortly. Thank you to parents who have agreed to take on the role of Manager/Coach. We still need more Coaches/Managers for some teams. A ruling has been passed by the Cooma Soccer Club that there needs to be a Coach or Representative for each team, each week. A roster can be arranged between parents to accommodate this requirement. ‘Grassroots Coaching Course’ will be held on Saturday 5 May – 1.00 to 4.00 pm.

To register your daughter or son or for more information on the Coaching Course – please contact Simon Buckley on simon_buckley@bigpond.com or call 0412 245 495.

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**P&F News**

* Disco - We made approximately $400 profit. A special thanks to DJ Jim who donated his time and equipment and also to the ‘Disco Queen Teens’ who dressed up and came along to help the K-6 kids ‘get in the groove’!!  
* Clothing Pool – There are loads of clothes for all ages in the clothing pool and with winter coming soon, now is the perfect time to go shopping! Just give Michelle 6452 3605 or Ruby 6452 2092 a call and they will arrange a time to meet. The prices are reasonable and the quality great.

* Class Liaison Parents – Thanks to the parents who have volunteered so far. We need more parents please, especially in the Infants and Secondary. Please contact us if you can help.

* P&F Meeting – Thank you to everyone who attended our meeting last week. It was great to see some new faces. Keep an eye out for the next meeting date next term.

* Don’t forget to drop us an email with any issues you may have or to let us know you can help. My email is hwalker-broose@bigpond.com.

Have a great holiday and keep safe.

Cheers the P&F Team…
**WHAT'S ON**

Thursday 5 April
Holy Thursday
Easter Liturgy 12.00 pm
Secondary Awards Assembly from approximately 12.45 pm
Last Day Term 1
Friday 6 April
GOOD FRIDAY
Monday 23 April
Staff Development Day
Tuesday 24 April
Students return for Term 2
Wednesday 25 April
ANZAC Day
Thursday 26 April
Archdiocesan Touch Trials Cootamundra
Year 10 Defence Talk
Friday 27 April
Anzac Day Liturgy 12.00 pm
3-6 Harry Nichols shield
Monday 30 April
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK
K-6 Athletics—Snowy Oval
Tuesday 1 May
7-10 Cross Country
Wednesday 2 May
K-6 Pet Presentation
Thursday 3 May
Year 9 Parish Mass 10.00 am
Open Classrooms—Catholic Schools Week
Friday 4 May to Sunday 6 May
Gymkhana SMGS
Monday 7 May
Year 7 & 8 Debating ACT Round 3
Tuesday 8 May
Confirmation meeting—Church
Wednesday 9 May
Year 8 Pastoral Day
Thursday 10 May
Year 7 Parish Mass
K-6 Walk Safely to School day
3O Assembly at the Club

**Canteen News**

Meal Deal this week will be Lasagna or Spaghetti Bolognese with Garlic bread and red licorice. Cost is $5.00. This will be the ONLY choice available on the LAST day of term. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of my volunteers and to wish you all a very safe and happy Easter.

Carolyn Hely
Canteen Manager

**Around Town**

- **2012 YOUTH WEEK AND SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM**
  **THURSDAY 5 TO SATURDAY 21 APRIL:** For further information on the activities planned for the school holiday program please check the student noticeboard or phone Emma 0437 135 092 or Cathy 0403 498 322.

- **EXPERIENCE ANOTHER CULTURE:** In June-July students aged 14-19 from Europe, the USA and Latin America will arrive in Australia to study at local schools for 2-10 months. Opportunities are available to act as a host family in a volunteer/unpaid capacity. To learn more about this opportunity, phone 1300 135 331 or visit the website http://studentexchange.org.au/.

- **CIRCUS MONOXIDE’S PRECARIOUS PRESENT:** LIVE IT! Shows and workshops 11 to 16 April. All workshops are free. Workshop bookings tama-ra@circusmonoxide.com.au. Show tickets available at the door—adults $20, children $10 and concessions $15. Under 5s free. Enquiries 6499 2286.

- **SCHOOL HOLIDAY SOCCER CLINICS ARE BACK IN COOMA!** Capital Football, in conjunction with the Cooma Football Club, is proud to present the "Football Fun" School Holiday Clinics program these school holidays in Cooma. The Fun holiday clinics program gives kids a fun and exciting school holiday learning experience in a high paced, energetic and football centred atmosphere. The program is available for boys and girls and is suitable for all levels of player ages 6-12. Clinic dates are Tuesday April 10 to Friday April 13 from 9am to 12 noon at Nijong oval Cooma. Cost is $110 (regional discount from the normal fee of $140). To register go to www.capitalfootball.com.au/site/holidayclinics.php or call Pat McCann on 6175 7116.

- **ACTIVE KIDS HOLIDAY PROGRAMS AT COOMA PUBLIC SCHOOL:** Tuesday 10 to Friday 13 April and Monday 16 to Friday 20 April from 8.30 am to 3.30 pm. Looking for something FUN, ACTIVE and SAFE in the school holidays? Active Kids Holiday Programs is running their multi-sport clinic at Cooma Public School. Programs are open to children aged 5 - 12 from all schools. Cost: $40 per day - We accept Credit Card payments. What to bring - Packed lunch, drink and morning tea, sun block, sports shoes and hat for outdoor activities (on premises). BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL: phone 1300 656 695 or visit www.holidayprogram.com.au.

- **COOMA NORTH CHILDREN’S CENTRE (OOSH):** Located at Cooma North Public School Baroona Ave Cooma Autumn Vacation Care Tuesday 10/04/2012 to Friday 20/04/2012 8.30am -5.30pm Programmes available at schools or contact OOSH on 0450 127 090 or email ooshcooma@dodo.com.au.