Dear Parents, Staff and Students

CEO Director visits St Patrick's

Yesterday we had the pleasure of an official visit by the Director of the Catholic Education Office, Mrs Moira Najdecki. One can only imagine the responsibility of overseeing an education system with more than 20,000 students, 2,500 staff and 57 schools and in this her leadership is exemplary and inspirational. Visiting schools is one of the highlights of her role and our thanks go out to staff and students for making Mrs Najdecki feel so welcome yesterday. The 2013 Secondary Executive and the 2012 Primary Executive were very competent guides in showing Mrs Najdecki around the school and our thanks also to all the Year 9 students for involving her in a moving prayer service as part of the visit. Mrs Najdecki was very affirming of the school and the welcoming nature that is evident on her visits.

2013 Primary Executive announced

In a deliberate departure from previous conventions the 2013 Primary Executive was announced to the Primary students and staff yesterday. This followed on from an outstanding series of presentations in the church last Wednesday when 21 current Year 5 students presented their vision for this leadership role for 2013. All of these students deserve our sincere congratulations for having the courage of their convictions by putting themselves forward for consideration. We are looking forward to a productive and exciting year in 2013 with the incoming Executive:

**Primary School Captains** – Zara Childs and Damian Fletcher

**Vice Captains** – Miranda McGufficke and Broc Allen

What’s happening up high?

You may have noticed a bit of activity at the front of the convent building over recent days. The cross on the eastern side of the building has been in place for 130 years and it has taken a small flock of galahs only 3 months to virtually destroy it. Both of the crosses on the convent will be replaced at the same time and we have no doubt the new ones will outlast all of us.

Staffing for 2013

In amongst all the activity that comes at the end of each year such as reports and Awards Days and various celebrations, staff planning for the following year is also an integral activity. As with most years there are changes in place for the next year and for 2013, at this stage, they are as follows:

* We bid a sad farewell to Ms Katarina Ivancic who will be moving to a large school in Sydney (1500 students in K-12) to further develop her teaching experience. Katarina has added so much to school and Parish life and we wish her the best for her future.

* Mrs Jenni Fraser has been a Learning Support Assistant for a number of years and after balancing this important role with the demands of tertiary study she is now a fully qualified Science teacher and we look forward to welcoming Jenni back to relief teaching in her new role. Congratulations on this significant achievement, Jenni.

* Our Religious Education Coordinator, Mr Paul Mackay, will be on leave for 2013 and we wish him all the very best with the exciting endeavours he will pursue in 2013 during this well-deserved break.

News Update

Congratulations to our Year 10 students who have received such glowing commendations in their second week of work experience.

An enormous thank you to the parents and staff who came along to help out at the Cooma Races catering last Saturday and particular thanks go to Erika Statham and the organising committee for their coordination of the event.

Don’t forget your Christmas copies of our NOURISH cookbook, available from the Office, for those hard to please relatives when you visit them over the holidays!

Don’t forget the Primary Awards Day at noon on Friday at the Ex-Services Club.

Phil Stubbs
Principal

“We must teach more by example than by word….”

St Mary MacKillop (1867)
In One Orange we have been writing some different types of prayers in our Prayer Books.

Dear God,
Help me to make loving choices by saying sorry and helping others and playing with others.
Amen (Isabelle Adams)

Dear God,
Thank you for the trees and the sun and the good work that you do.
Amen (Emily Quodling)

Dear God,
Thank you for all the people in Cooma.
Amen (Mitchell Burke)

Dear God,
Please can you help the people and animals in Africa.
Amen (Molly Brabham)

Dear Jesus,
Thank you for my spiders.
Amen (Talon Kelly)

For a limited time only, Nourish will be available for purchase exclusively from the School Office for only $25. A copy of Nourish would make an ideal Christmas present!

Year nine boys participated in the Celebrate Ability in the town park last Friday sharing their drumbeat experience. It was a great event and congratulations to the organizers. The boys experienced some of the support networks that are available in the wider community for those with disabilities and participated in various activities offered.

Thank you to musicians and singers who visited the Nursing Home on Friday. Special thank you to Mrs Spencer for her large group of guitarists and support for music she continually provides for our school. Also, thank you to Mrs Rooney for her support of music within the school.

Our school K-10 Prayer Service will be held this Monday 10 December at midday in the church. Our Prayer Service is held each year to give thanks for the many blessings we have received throughout the year. It is also an opportunity to think of those who are in need.

To do this we will again support the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal. Students in the Kinder and Stage 1 are asked to bring a small gift for a child wrapped and marked to indicate if it is for a boy or a girl. Students in the remainder of the school, Years 3-10 are asked to bring a money donation sealed in an envelope. Our community has been generous in the past and we ask all students to once again support our appeal.

Parents are most welcome to attend although seating may be limited.

St Patrick’s 2012 Junior Soccer Competition was a huge success! A BIG thank you to all the coaches, parents, canteen assistants and, of course, the players for their support over the past year - I thoroughly appreciated it. A special thank you to Lynsey Nichols - her support and guidance through the year was fantastic. Lynsey put a great deal of time and energy into coordinating St Patrick’s Junior Soccer for many years, and I think I can speak for all involved - we are extremely grateful!

The 2013 Season is already being planned - if you can assist in any way, be it with St Patrick’s Junior Soccer or the actual committee involved with Cooma Football Club - please do not hesitate to contact me.

On a final note - there are some jerseys and balls still out there - if you have any of these, please contact me and I will arrange to collect them. Once again - Thank you to all involved with St Patrick's Soccer 2012 - don’t forget to check out the Cooma Football Club's new website: http://www.coomafc.org/ For further details about the 2013 Season please contact Simon Buckley - 0412 245 495 or simon_buckley@bigpond.com

St Vincent de Paul Thanksgiving Prayer Service & Liturgy Reminder

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Spring Flowers
By James Williams

Junior Soccer Wrap-Up 2012

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Thank you to the following children and their families for Chook Lotto donations:

- Annaliese and Jack Buckley
- Ivy and Miranda McGufficke
- Charlotte Geelan

A big thank you to Erika Statham and Ruby Curtis for leading a fantastic team of workers in preparation for the Cooma races and on the day. Also, a big thank you to all the parents and teachers who assisted on the day and who cleaned, setup and transported items, and also those who baked delicious goodies. It is very much appreciated. Significant funds were raised which will be used to purchase new resources for the school.

Once again a reminder that there will be executive positions available on the P&F for 2013. The AGM will be held in early term 1 2013, so please consider taking on a leadership role within the P&F. Meetings are held approximately twice a term pending on what event is coming up. If you are interested please contact Karen McGufficke or Eva Tangye.

The P & F Team
### WHAT'S ON

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<tr>
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<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 6 December</td>
<td>Year 10 Work Experience</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 7 December</td>
<td>Year 10 Work Experience</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 10 December</td>
<td>Primary Awards Day 12.00 pm Ex-services Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 10 December</td>
<td>K-10 Thanksgiving Liturgy 12.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 11 December</td>
<td>Year 10 Dinner</td>
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<td>Wednesday 12 December</td>
<td>Year 10 Picnic Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 13 December</td>
<td>Secondary Awards Day 1.00 pm in the Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 18 December</td>
<td>K-2 Santa and parent picnic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 19 December</td>
<td>Last day students and staff</td>
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### Canteen News

**VOLUNTEERS**

- **Thursday 6 December**
  - Meg Clarke
- **Friday 7 December**
  - 10 am to 12 noon Melissa Caffarelli
  - 12 noon to 1.30 pm Denise Johnson

**Friday Meal Deal**

- 2 Chicken Nuggets/2 party pies/sauce/Juice or milk and 3 fruit sticks. All this for $5.00!!
- **This will be the only choice available to both Primary and Infants. Thanks you.**
- Thank you for your continued support.
  - Carolyn Hely
  - Canteen Manager

### Around Town

- **A The Hub Youth Centre January School Holiday Program:** 14 to 25 January 2013 Monday to Friday. All events are free for young people aged 12 to 17 years of age. Bookings are essential for catering and food requirements. Contact Emma 0437 135 092, Cathy 0403 498 322, phone the Youth Centre 6452 5534 or facebook us @Cathy Emma Hub.

- **2013 Canberra Raiders Membership:** Are you looking for something to do with your friends and family on a weekend? Why not consider getting a 2013 Canberra Raiders Membership. For as little as $15 per game, you can attend every match at Canberra Stadium and you also get heaps of cool Raiders items like a cap, scarf and key ring. Visit www.raiders.com.au/membership or call Raiders HQ on (02) 6253 3515 for more details. 5 hours of entertainment each weekend for $15 – unbeatable value.

- **Introduction to Digital Photography Workshop** at the Cooma TAFE on Saturday 8 December 2012 with photographer Paul McIver, for those 15 years and over. Time: 9 am -1.30 pm. Cost $100. Contact Cooma TAFE 6452 0799.

- **In2Cricket School Holiday Training Camp:** Thursday 24 and Friday 25 January 2013 10.00 am to 3.00 pm at the Cooma Squash and Sports Centre, Murray Lane Cooma. For boys and girls 7 to 14 years of age. Only 15 places available. Cost $90 – book by 1 January 2013 and save 10% (includes bat, ball and bag, all coaching, games and giveaways. Register online www.in2cricket.com.au (type in 2630) or call Stuart on 0422 496400.

### 2013

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 30 January</td>
<td>Years 1 - 7 first day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 31 January</td>
<td>Kindergarten and Years 8 - 10 first day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 6 February</td>
<td>Years 1-6 Swimming Carnival</td>
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<td>Kindergarten pupil free day</td>
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<td>Friday 8 February</td>
<td>7-10 Archdiocesan golf</td>
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<td>Monday 11 February</td>
<td>7-10 Immunisation</td>
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<td>Wednesday 13 February</td>
<td>K-6 School photos</td>
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<td>7-10 long distance swimming</td>
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<td>Thursday 14 February</td>
<td>7 - 10 School Photos</td>
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<td>No Kindergarten</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 18 February</td>
<td>Year 7 Camp</td>
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<td>Tuesday 19 February</td>
<td>Year 7 Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 20 February</td>
<td>Year 7 Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 21 February</td>
<td>K - 6 Southern Region Swimming Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 22 February</td>
<td>No Kindergarten</td>
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