"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'
Matthew 25:40

Year 10 are preparing for their winter sleepout in support of the Vinnies Winter Appeal. We will be sleeping at the school this Friday evening and breakfast will be at 5am Saturday. Mark van Ommen and I will be with the students. We are going to discover if there really are ghosts in this building. The students are seeking sponsorship for their 10 hours without an electric blanket or heating. And so am I! Can you help me? Please? So far, only my mother has sponsored me! Contact the office with any donations.

Thank you for looking after a member of the community by donating a gold coin on the non-uniform day last Friday. We are able to give $500 and a voucher donated by Coles to Cambell Wenban’s family as a result.

I had the pleasure of being a guest at the St Clare’s College’s musical Cats on the weekend. The singing was spine-tinglingly good. It is always a treat to see young people going beyond their comfort zone. There is another musical coming up very soon at St Mary MacKillop College (17-21 August) and former St Patrick’s students are starring. You can get your tickets to Legally Blonde by calling the MacKillop office. And here at St Patrick’s, the preparations are well underway for the very first Shakespearean production, Midsummer Night’s Dream, which will be showcased October 21-23. Please add these dates to your calendar.

There is another important date.... there are just twelve weeks until the second major fund-raiser for the school, the Bazaar Fair. Lots of work has been done by the Bazaar Fair Committee in preparation for this significant event on Saturday November 7. If you have ideas or want to join this energetic group, please see the contact details inside this newsletter. There is also a creative group meeting on some Sunday afternoons in the Art Room. Let me know if you want to come as well. As always, you would be welcome.

Yours sincerely
Frances Robertson
Principal
A Message from the AP on the Feast of St Mary MacKillop (8th August)

On the 18th October 2010, The Daily Telegraph reported on the canonisation of Mary MacKillop, the process of declaring her to be St. Mary of the Cross. The authors (Tony Vermeer and Lucy Carne) wrote “St Mary was recognized for her lifelong commitment to the poor, particularly in setting up schools through the order she co-founded, the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart.” As a result, Australia has its first Saint, Mary of the Cross (MacKillop).

Mary stood as a defender of the plight of the poor. She was a person in whom the weak could seek refuge and find counsel. She was and continues to be a beacon of hope for so many people. For Mary there was a cost but this was her mission in life, entrusted to her by God.

In the process, Mary MacKillop teaches everyone a magnificent lesson. The poor are where you will find the face of Christ. The weak are where the strength of Christ can be seen. Those in need are where the compassion of Christ is most profound. Her motto: “Never see a need without doing something about it”, still has relevance in our world today.

The speed of change, the grandeur with which we can do things, the profound influence that technology can and does have in our life, can lead us to a place that is lonely and dismissive of others. More than ever, Mary MacKillop has a message that we should all hear and act upon. When was the last time you saw a need and did something about it? When you do, be prepared to also find Christ in that moment.

Ever generous God,

You inspired Saint Mary MacKillop
To live her life faithful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and constant in bringing hope and encouragement to those who were disheartened, lonely or needy.
We ask that our faith and hope be fired afresh by the Holy Spirit so that we too, like Mary MacKillop, may live with courage, trust and openness.
Ever generous God hear our prayer.
We ask this through Jesus Christ. Amen
An important message from the Year 10 Leadership Team

Brrrr......It’s crazy, but we are planning to undertake the challenge of sleeping out on a Cooma winter’s night... and we are doing it so others don’t have to.

Would you like to support our attempts at raising funds for the Vinnies Winter Appeal?

You can help by sponsoring a member of the Year 10 team. We will be ‘roughing it’ for about 9 hours (with breakfast at 5am!). So you can make a donation for the whole project or sponsor the student per hour.

Who? Year 10 students

When? Friday 7 August, starting at 9pm and finishing at 6am

Where? At St Patrick’s, where we will discover if there really are ghosts in the building!

You can contact a Year 10 student or the school office to make a donation to this Vinnies Winter Appeal.
WANTED:

- Do you have some old wooden coat hangers at home that you don’t need?
- Are there some buttons floating around in drawers?
- What about lengths of ribbon or leather cord that needs a new home?
- Or a ball or two of thick wool?

The Bazaar Fair creative 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!

Cybersafe Alert

The school has been alerted that this website http://pic-collage.com/ has been piggy backed to a social networking site and young people are being asked to post compromising pictures of themselves. The police have become involved in one case. Parents are encouraged to check what their children are accessing and to remind them about the laws relating to sexting.
We celebrate seven Sacraments in the Church! The first one is the Sacrament of Baptism. Last night at our Reconciliation preparation meeting, we talked about the start of our faith journey when we were baptised. Can you identify the baptismal symbols in the picture below?

Through baptism we become brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ, so we have a special relationship to one another through Jesus. When we have a special relationship, we need to take good care of it. However, sometimes we don't always make the right decision or choose the right way to act. This is where the Sacrament of Reconciliation comes in.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation celebrates the loving presence of God who loves us unconditionally. This unconditional love is also a forgiving love. When we come to reconciliation, we come to a loving and forgiving God. This acknowledgement that God is in our lives and that God is important to us, helps to bring us closer to God and to one another. We make a stand that we want our relationships to be right with God and with people, that our relationships are important and worth working for and that we want our relationships to be whole.

Sin – that three letter word - disrupts our relationships both with God and with others. So what is sin? And why should we say sorry?

If I was to pick up my Mum’s favourite glasses, and they slipped out of my fingers and they broke into bits, then that act would be an accident. My Mum might be upset and I would probably feel pretty bad, and want to make it up to her somehow, but it would still be an accident. It’s not a sin. But if I was to pick up my Mum’s favourite glasses and drop them on purpose, that deliberate act would be a sin. They’re still broken, she’d still be pretty upset, but it wasn’t an accident. It was on purpose. The difference then, between the two actions is that one is accidental (not a sin) and the other is a freely chosen and deliberate act – a sin. Because God loves us so much, we are given the freedom to choose our actions – even if they’re wrong. If we’re honest, not all our actions are good, some are wrong. Saying sorry, acknowledging that we have done the wrong thing and trying to do better, helps us to be mindful of who we really are and how we can grow in our relationships with God and others.

Those preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation are now in the final stages of their journey. Next Tuesday will be our last session before the actual celebration of the Sacrament. Please remember them in your prayers.
Year 5I Class Mass

Last Thursday 5I had their class mass with Father Mick. The theme for our Mass was Justice and Peace. Here are our thoughts on our Mass.

“I liked how our mass was peaceful.” - Rylee Byrne and Riley Brayshaw
“I like how Father Mick invited us to stand around the altar for the Eucharistic Prayer.” – River Wilkinson
“I liked how the singing at Mass, sounded really nice.” Joshua Hely, James Williams, Paige Walker and Olivia Bottom
“I liked how Father Mick took the time to explain parts of the Mass I didn’t know.” Ava Barrett, Neeve Girling and Lachlan Hemphill
“I liked how I got to read the Responsorial Psalm from the pulpit.” Koby Grech
“I liked receiving Holy Communion.” Kennedy Purcell
“I liked how people showed respect for this ceremony.” Millie Blyton
“I really liked how Father made sure we understood what justice and peace meant.” Molly Brabham
“I liked it when we got a blessing when we shared the meal.” Paloma
“I thought it was good how Father Mick explained to us what the story of Zaccheus actually meant.” Tom Carton

Thank you to Fr Mick for supporting the students.
Congratulations to St Patrick’s Primary students on their behaviour and sportsmanship at the Southern Region Athletics Carnival Bega. Congratulations to students who have progressed to Archdiocesan Athletics at the AIS on Thursday 13 August. It was pleasing to see parents who drove from Cooma to support their child/ren. Thank you to Tim Lawley and Glenyce Moxon for co-ordinating students to attend the carnival and Glenyce Moxon & Steven Joyce for accompanying students on the bus. It was an enjoyable & social day.
Congratulations to . . . .

Byron van der Plaat for his first placing in the Under 16s ACT Snowsport event last weekend.

At Snowsports, one of the snowboarding instructors went out of his way to comment on how fantastic his group from St Patrick’s was - out of all the school groups he has taught they have been the most well behaved and best mannered and he felt like they were actually listening when he was teaching them skills. He was very impressed with them.

School Banking News

There is an exciting competition in Term 3 for School banking which has great prizes for Dollarmite A/C holders & our school may also receive a prize for students who make 3 deposits during Term 3.

The Term 3 competition is in addition to Reward token prizes for 10 deposits.

If there are parents who would like their child/ren to be part of Dollarmite School Banking, please phone Marjorie Revelant 0418485229 or email marjoriem66@hotmail.com to have a pack sent to your child. Children are eligible for Term 3 competition if 3 deposits are made during Term 3.

Below are dates for School Banking for Term 3 Week 5 to 10:

Thursday 13 August
Thursday 20 August
Thursday 27 August
Thursday 3 September
Thursday 10 September
Thursday 17 September

Marjorie Revelant
School Banking Coordinator
Canteen News

Green it up! Add a slinky apple or vegie sticks to your order this week!

Volunteers - Thank you!

Thursday 06/08, Lisa Walsh
Friday 07/08, Grant Pascoe
Wednesday 12/08, 10am Kelly Gill
Wednesday 12/08, 1.15pm Mini-canteen Marjorie & Kelly
Thursday 13/08, 10am Grant Pascoe
Friday 14/08, 10am Rebecca Croke

Mini-canteen happens on Wednesdays for Infants and Primary students. Items are priced from 50c to $2.
No meal deal this week, so order whatever takes your fancy :)

Caroline Blyton
Canteen Manager

Cooma School of Music invites you to ...

Musica Da Camera-Orchestral concert

On 9 August at 2.30pm at St Paul’s Anglican Church in Cooma
Tickets: Adults $20 - Concession $15 - Children under 15 FREE
Tickets available at the door & at Cooma School of Music
Bazaar Fair 2015

The Bazaar Fair Committee (BFC) planning for this community and school event is well underway. If you have any inspirational, engaging, innovative and creative ideas that we have not thought of we would love to hear from you so why not drop us a line via email. We will be sure to reply and keep you in the loop.

Feel free to contact either: Frances Frances.Robertson@cg.catholic.edu.au; Ruby 44ruby@gmail.com; Cherie cherie.booker57@gmail.com; Erika SalemCharming@gmail.com or Eve eve.rees3@det.nsw.edu.au,

Feel free to ask us any questions!!

Bazaar Fair 2015

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

ONE MAN’S TRASH
ANOTHER MAN’S TREASURE

TRASH and TREASURE STALL
If you have items that are in good condition and are no longer required for family use, please consider donating these to our TRASH and TREASURE stall. Contact Fr Mick before the Fair or bring them along during our set-up from 7.30 am the morning of the Fair.
The simplest way

...to pack a creative lunch box!

Don’t feel like you have to send the same old vegemite sandwich every day. Here are some of our best tips for making lunch boxes interesting for you, and your kids!

- **Make fresh spring rolls** – they’re great for dinner and can be used as leftovers, too! See eatittobeatit.com.au for a free recipe
- **Cut vegies into thin sticks** – send with a small container of hummus
- **Make a fruit salad** – dice whatever fruit you have into small pieces
- **Make a roast vegie sandwich** – leftover roast vegies are delicious on fresh bread
- **Add fruit to yoghurt** – split a large tub of reduced-fat yoghurt into small containers, and add pieces of fruit for a sweet twist.

For more information visit www.eatittobeatit.com.au or join us at facebook.com/eatittobeatit
"Monaro in Pictures: Why I live in the Monaro Region".

The competition is designed to capture the spirit of the Monaro Region from the people who live here. The goal of the project is to develop a beautiful coffee table book, which will feature 100 of the best photos entered in the competition. The project is an initiative of the Cooma Monaro Shire Council Arts & Cultural Activities Committee.

Please send all entries to monaroinpictures@gmail.com. Each photo needs to be accompanied by a separate entry form. There is no limit to the number of entries submitted, and there is no age limit for contributors.

Please also check out the Facebook page "Monaro in Pictures Book Project".

The closing date for entries is 30 November 2015. The book will be produced in time to be launched at the "Back to Cooma Festival" to be held during Easter 2016. Good luck!

Arts & Cultural Activities Committee Cooma Monaro Shire Council
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.
- 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.

Thank you for helping educate students about tax in Australia.

Regards

Graham Whyte
Assistant Commissioner of Taxation