Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

A picture is worth a thousand words. Let us share just some of the images of the St Patrick’s school community over the past week, perhaps Cooma’s busiest week in recent history. The visit by our Director, Mrs Moira Najdecki, the Bazaar Fair in Centennial Park, the Feast of Poetry, the Stage 3 camp, fundraising for the Catholic Missions, classroom culinary events and Secondary exams are but a few experiences that have taken place over the past 7 days.

Thank you to all the students, staff, parents and community members who continue to give so selflessly to our school community………..

Phil Stubbs
Principal

“Remember we are but travellers here …..”
St Mary MacKillop (1873)
Leader’s Report

Last week was a busy week and we missed the mail truck which leaves once a week from the gold fields where Stage 3 was camping at Birrigai. If you were to ask any Stage 3 student if they had a good time, everybody would say ‘Yes!’ A special ‘thank you’ to Mr Joyce, Mr Introna, Mrs Fraser and Mrs Barrett who accompanied us on this excursion.

The school’s Bazaar Fair was a great success in raising money for the school. Thank you to all students, parents and teachers who contributed to make the day a success.

Well done to the students who had entries in the A Feast of Poetry over the weekend.

We also hope the busking entrants had a fabulous time performing over the weekend.

Thank you Mrs Najdecki for visiting our School.

Enjoy another busy week at school and remember your hats!

Broc Allen and Miranda McGufficke

Liturgy

Our Feast of All Saints’ Liturgy was an integral part of our Director’s visit to the school this week.

Stage 3 Camp

On Monday last week, Stage 3 left for camp at Birrigai, Tidbinbilla. When we arrived, we met two of the instructors for an orientation before being shown to our cabins. We were given a drink bottle before the activities began. In tent pitching we were given sticks, tent canvas, pegs and rope which we used to make a tent. Then in team rescue we were split in half to do a really hard obstacle course. We had to dress up for the GFI (goldfields investigations).

For the prospectors’ walk, we walked to “Hidden Valley” to get some samples of dirt which could possibly contain gold. We put our samples in a ‘gold sock’. We were introduced to a “dolly” and a “cradle”, some of the many amazing gold mining tools, which we put our samples into to look for gold. After that we were put into groups and made our own fire and cooked damper.

Then for the 1800’s school, we were shown a PowerPoint of pictures from the 1800’s and were asked to write down what we knew about the school back then and what we would like to know. Boys were given vests and girls were given aprons and we walked to the old school. We were asked to write with “quills” and “slate”. We played games from back then, like throwing a horse shoe around a stick in the ground, gumboot throwing and more.

We had a bonfire on the second night! On the last day, we did a simulation of the goldfields. We were given pounds and set up claims and had to keep an eye out for “Traps” or “Joes”. After all of those fun-filled activities, we packed our bags and we were off.

Birrigai was an awesome experience for everyone. The activities were informative and fun. It was also a great opportunity to make new friends and get to learn new things about the people we already knew.

Thanks to the Stage 3 teachers who organised the camp and the Birrigai staff.

Written by Damian Fletcher and Zara Childs
Thank you

On behalf of the Bazaar Fair Organising Committee we would like to thank the student executive, the many students, teachers, our parent community and the local businesses who helped make this fundraising event such a huge success. We were blessed with gorgeous, sunny weather with a fantastic atmosphere on the day. The money raised (approximately $7000.00) goes towards providing educational resources for all the students who attend St Patrick’s Parish School.

Well done, everyone!

Our Annual Awards Day presentations are fast approaching with the K-6 Awards Day scheduled for Thursday 5 December and the 7-10 for Thursday 12 December. If you would like to make a donation toward either or both of these days, please forward to the school office. A receipt will be issued and all donors are acknowledged in the Award Day booklets. Thank you in anticipation of your support.

STAR Awards Theme – ‘Being Thoughtful’

Being thoughtful is when you do some good to make life better for others. Being thoughtful is when you notice someone or something needs care. When you act thoughtfully you make a situation better. Without thoughtfulness the world is a less friendly place.

* KG Tia Quodling – for being thoughtful towards her peers during transition times!
* 1O Molly Norris – for being thoughtful and aware of others who need looking after!
* 1P Mitchell Burke – for the thoughtfulness he shows to his friends, particularly when they are in need of help. Well Done!
* 2P Julia Bottom – for the thoughtfulness she displays to others at all times on the playground and in the classroom!
* 2O Luca Henderson – for the thoughtfulness he demonstrates when helping his peers in class!
* 2O Jesse Eljuga – for his thoughtfulness by offering to do extra jobs!
* 3P Remy Oldrey – for being thoughtful to others at Birrigai!
* 3O Damon Fanning – for being thoughtful towards his friends!
* 3G Jamie O’Donnell – for making our school a friendlier place by making positive choices to be thoughtful towards all those he engages with!
* Music/French - Kennedy Purcell – for being a thoughtful student during French and Music!
* Library - Alex Smith – for being a thoughtful member of our school community!

Well done Children.

"If someone listens or stretches out a hand, or whispers a kind word of encouragement, extraordinary things begin to happen."

Our School Board is seeking a new Board Member from our parent community. The Board’s objectives are to provide an enhanced level of advice and support to the Principal, particularly in areas of positioning and decision making in areas of marketing and growing the school, along with enhancing the Board’s role, function and profile. If you would like to join a proactive, dynamic and innovative team please direct your interest via the School Office to Chairperson of the School Board, Erika Statham.
Thursday 7 November
2P Parish Mass 10.00 am
K - 6 Sports Awards
Secondary Exams
School Board meeting 6.30pm

Friday 8 November
Secondary Exams
K-6 Swimming Program

Monday 11 November
Yr 10 RFS Cadet Program
Musica Viva – Kinder & Yr 8 Drama Students

Tuesday 12 November
Yr 7 SPOT Day 9 - 11am
Yr 10 RFS Cadet Program

Wednesday 13 November
Yr 10 RFS Cadet Program
MacKillop College Information Meeting
for parents of Yr 9 Students 5.30pm

Thursday 14 November
P&F Meeting 5pm
Yr 10 RFS Cadet Program

Friday 15 November
K-6 Swimming Program
Yr 10 RFS Cadet Program

Monday 18 November
Yr 10 First Aid Course

Tuesday 19 November
Yr 10 First Aid Course

Thursday 21 November
Yr 10 Love Bites Workshop
Yr 7 - 10 Social (Year 6 invited)

Friday 22 November
K - 6 Swimming Program

Please refer to School website for more information
www.stpatscooma.nsw.edu.au

VOLUNTEERS
Thursday 7 November
Rebecca Hain

Friday 8 November
Melissa Caffarelli

Wednesday 13 November
Linda Quodling

MEAL DEAL FRIDAY: Meal Deal 1 - Pie and drink; Meal Deal 2 - Party pies x 3 /sauce/drink and lollypop and Meal Deal 3 - Vegetable or Tuna sushi/drink and freddo. All Meal Deals are $5.00! These are the ONLY choices available on Friday for Primary and Infants.

Thank you for your continued support.
Carolyn Hely
Canteen Manager

* Cooma Little theatre is going to be performing "Once Upon a Witch", a family pantomime which some of our students are involved in. It will be on the first 3 weekends in November and tickets are available for the Cooma Visitors Centre. A brilliant family show!

A photo from the Stage 3 Camp