From the Principal’s Desk

Dear parents, staff and students

With the challenging flood events that occurred throughout our district last Thursday I would like to thank all those members of the school community who assisted with the safety, well-being and reassurance of both students and staff during what were unique circumstances. As teachers were given notice to evacuate or return to their homes urgently it was necessary to collapse classes and make interim arrangements at very short notice. Those teachers still present were focused on reassuring their students; the office staff had to cope with enormous demands on them to ensure the flow of information and students leaving continued as smoothly as possible throughout the day. By the end of Thursday all students were home safely which is testament to the duty of care that our staff prides itself in. Thank you for your support of the processes that are in place at school for every child’s benefit, including the signing out of children as they leave.

I am sure the floods throughout the southern region will be a keen topic of conversation at the Archdiocesan Principals’ Retreat which I am attending until Friday this week. We can certainly feel proud of the St Patrick’s school community response to this uncommon and challenging natural disaster.

Yours sincerely

Phil Stubbs
Principal

Dear Parents, Students and Staff

Congratulations to our primary students who competed at the Archdiocesan Swimming Championships at Harden last week. Despite the cold and rainy conditions students performed very well with some going onto Homebush to compete for the Archdiocese. Also a big thank you to Mrs Introna who presented the Kindergarten information night last Monday. This was a chance for parents to hear about the routines, expectations and learning opportunities their children will experience this year.

For our Year 10 students there is a very important meeting tonight, 7 March, starting at 6.00 pm in the Secondary library. Lindy Billing, from the Board of Studies, will outline the change to the exit credential for Year 10 students in 2012 and beyond. It is vital that all students and parents attend. Students will also be given their assessment handbooks on the evening.

The Cooma show is on this Saturday, with many of our classes entering art works and some of our students performing. St Patrick’s students will also be part of the guard of honour for the arrival of the Governor General at 11.30 am. If you are able to help at the St Patrick’s food stall, even for 1 hour, it would be very much appreciated. BBQ training will be provided on the day and we can supply an apron.

With the rain last week we have had to reschedule the Leadership liturgy and secondary parent teacher interviews. Details of these changes are contained within the Newsletter.

Please continue to pray for members of our school community who are unwell and for those who have been affected by the floods and heavy rain.

Mark van Ommen
Assistant Principal

Year 10 students Keegan White and Emily Ewart in a Science DNA laboratory

Kinder Green have celebrated 21 days of school!! Read our report inside to see what we have learned so far.

Year 10 students at the Crossroads Day at Monaro High School on Monday. A full report in next week’s newsletter.
**Leadership Liturgy**

MONDAY 12 MARCH
COMMENCING AT 12.10 PM

Parents and friends are most welcome to come along and join us. **All students must be in correct summer uniform.**

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**Volunteers Needed to Contact New Readers**

We are looking for some parent volunteers who may be able to help contact some new readers in the Stage 2 block. If you can help, please contact Steven Joyce or Marg Field on 6452 1721.

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**kGreen**

All thumbs up for Kindergarten! After 21 days of school we know how to:

1. Write our names
2. Line up with a partner
3. Pack our bag
4. Listen to instructions
5. Be kind to one another
6. Read our flipbooks with the sight-words: I, am, a, see, me, go, to, the, at, mum, dad, boy, girl
7. Count forwards to 10 and back
8. Make the sign of the cross
9. Meditate for up to two minutes
10. Play heads down, thumbs up!

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**Primary Sport Report**

**SWIMMING:** A very wet and memorable swimming carnival was held in Harden on Friday 2 March. Thank you to all the parents who travelled to Harden under very difficult circumstances. Well done to the following students who competed:

Lucy Thornton, Sophie Janota, Amber Martin-Smith, Jasmin Pascoe, Maddisen Ward, Molly Janota, Miranda McGufficke, Shelley Kleven and Andrew Pearce

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Junior Relay Team</th>
<th>Senior Relay Team</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amber Martin-Smith</td>
<td>Maddisen Ward</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jasmin Pascoe</td>
<td>Molly Janota</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sophie Janota</td>
<td>Miranda McGufficke</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lucy Thornton</td>
<td>Amber Martin-Smith</td>
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Congratulations to Amber Martin-Smith and Miranda McGufficke in individual events and the Girls senior and junior relay teams who will now compete on 26 March at Homebush.

Thank you all for proudly representing our school.

**CRICKET:** Congratulations to James Hayden and Remy Oldrey who have been selected to represent the Canberra Goulburn Diocese in Cricket and will compete in Temora 22 March 2012.

Glenyce Moxon
K-10 Sports Coordinator

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**Secondary Parent-Teacher Interviews**

For parents of students with surnames from M-Z and anyone else who was unable to come to the first night, interviews will be held on Thursday 22 March. Bookings from 4.00-5.30 pm and drop in between 5.30 to 6.30 pm.

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**Year 8 Tathra Camp 2012**

Last Monday and Tuesday Year 8 students attended camp to develop skills in surf safety and team building. A very cool coastal current of 16-17 degrees as well as driving rain on Tuesday did not dampen the enthusiasm or participation. Students gained a valuable insight into the recognition of rips and the need to understand safe practice on the coast. Students also participated in a number of problem solving activities that required lateral thinking and considered communication.

Congratulations Year 8 for your acceptance of the difficult weather conditions and excellent involvement.
Infants:

- Chloe Hemphill KG—for listening carefully to instructions
- Mitchell Burke 10—for great listening
- Joshua L Hely 1P—for taking pride in his appearance

Well done!

**Chook Lotto**

- Chloe Hemphill KG—for listening carefully to instructions
- Mitchell Burke 10—for great listening
- Joshua L Hely 1P—for taking pride in his appearance

Well done!

**SRC ‘SUPER’ Award**

**Theme Week 6 ‘Excellence’**

Excellence is giving your best to any task you do or any relationship you have. Doing your best helps you find what talents you have. When you practice excellence, day by day you strive to improve. And remember we can’t excel at everything!

- KG Charlotte Dakin – for her excellent attitude to all class work and always finishing work to a high standard!
- 1P Thomas Carton – for practicing excellence in all he does!
- 1O Koby Grech – for his excellence and effort with number work!
- 2O Ivy McGufficke – for the excellent way she treats all people in her class and the school community!
- 2P Kiah Joyce – for excellence in completing all tasks and discovering new talents!
- 3O Isadora Barsoum – for the great effort she puts into all her art works and the excellent results she achieves!
- 3P Lachlan Inskip – for showing excellence in his maths work!
- 3G Chloe Bottom – for practicing excellence every day by striving to improve her schoolwork which is displayed by her positive, appreciative nature!
- Music French Ava Barrett – for always striving for excellence in French and Music!

Great work everyone!!

**NOURISH**

Only three days to go to get your recipes in for our cookbook. Don’t Miss Out! We need recipes for: Soups, Brunch/Lunch and Dinners, Kid’s in the Kitchen/Sweet Treats, Gluten-free or Vegetarian. Send your recipes to stpatsrecipes@gmail.com or use the link: http://createrecipebook.com.au/machform/view.php?id=44 and type out the online Recipe Request. Download the forms at the school website: http://stpatscooma.nsw.edu.au/parents/pfformsandnotes.html or drop a typed WORD document into the School Office marked “COOKBOOK REQUEST”. If your recipe is not of your own creation tell us where it originated, eg “Maggie Beer”.

Remember to pre-order your copy of “Nourish” ASAP so you don’t miss out. When making direct debit payments, add your surname and the number of books you are ordering. Even though you have made a direct debit, we still need a completed pre-order form that can be left at the School Office or handed to one of the organisers stated on the form. Cheques are to be made payable to: St Patrick’s Parish School P&F Association.

We thank Allianz Insurance, our major sponsor, who is providing funds to produce this memorable cookbook along with our local sponsors. Nourish will retail for $20.00 a book.

**P & F News**

- **Cooma Show – Helpers Needed for the Cooma Show** – Please fill in the Roster form on the flyer. We need helpers for the day, even if you can spare an hour. REMEMBER the show is **THIS SATURDAY** 10 March. To download a copy of the flyer, go to www.stpatscooma.nsw.edu.au, click on the Parents tab, then on the P&F Forms and Notes tab and select the Cooma Show Request form document. **Donations:** we still need lots of donations, so please if you can bake; buy, cook, etc, note it on the form and drop it back to school so that we know what goodies we have to sell. We have enough offers of Cup Cakes but we need biscuits and slices please.

- **Disco** – The date is set!! Friday 23 March is Disco night. Please put it in your diary. If you can help on the night please phone Eva on 0413 355 565.

- **When Do P&F Meetings Suit You??** We need your feedback to enable us to set meetings at varying times to give everyone an opportunity to get involved and bring new ideas to the table. Please let us know the time of day that best suits you. We are very keen to get lots of parents along whenever possible, even if it’s just to an occasional meeting.

- **School Calendar** – The school is currently working on getting a school calendar online. 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

The P&F Team
Wednesday 7 March
Year 10 Assessment Meeting 6.00 pm Secondary Library

Thursday 8 March
2O Parish Mass 10.00 am

Friday 9 March
Bruce Coleman visit (Years 7 to 10)
K-6 Clean up Australia

Saturday 10 March
Cooma Show (P&F Catering)

Monday 12 March
Leadership Liturgy 12.10 pm

Tuesday 13 March
Year 9 Pastoral Day 9.00 am to 1.30 pm
7-10 Brumbies Gala Day

Wednesday 14 March
Year 7 Camp

Thursday 15 March
Year 7 Camp
30 Parish Mass 10.00 am

Friday 16 March
Archdiocesan Football trials and gala day (to be confirmed)
Auskick Gala Day Years 3-6

Sunday 18 March
K-6 Soccer Carnival Canberra

Monday 19 March
St Patrick’s Day

Tuesday 20 March
Antarctic Experience Stage 2 and 3

Thursday 22 March
3G Parish Mass 10.00 am
Secondary Parent Teacher Interviews (at the school)
School Board Meeting 6.30 pm

Friday 23 March
K-6 Southcare Fundraising Day (to be confirmed)
K-6 P&F Disco

Monday 26 March
Year 7 & 8 Debating ACT Round 1

Wednesday 28 March
K-6 Brumbies Gala Day

Thursday 29 March
Year 7 and 10 Immunisations
3P Parish Mass 10.00 am
P&F Meeting

Friday 30 March
CCC Swimming Homebush
7-10 Boys Auskick

Saturday 31 March
20 Year Reunion

Monday 2 April
Board of Studies Assessment Seminar
Leadership Day

Year 7 & 8 Debating ACT Round 2

Tuesday 3 April
7 & 8 Girls Auskick
K-2 Easter Bonnet Parade

Wednesday 4 April
Year 10 Excursion to Blue Lake (to be confirmed)
K-6 Cross Country

Thursday 5 April
Holy Thursday
Easter Liturgy (to be confirmed)
Last Day Term 1

Canteen News
Volunteers
Friday 9 March—Anna Holgate

MINI CANTEEN HELPERS: Every Wednesday a mini canteen will be held for Infants and Primary and I need help to set up and to serve the children. If you are able to offer half an hour from 11.00 am, I would be very grateful—it’s lots of fun! This week’s MEAL DEAL is 2 chicken nuggets/2 party pies/1 tomato sauce and a Juice or Milk of your choice (please specify). Cost is $5.00. Please write your order on a bag with money enclosed on FRIDAY. This will be the ONLY choice available to Primary and Infants. Any suggestions or thoughts are welcome, or if you are able to help on Wednesday or any other day, call me at the school or 0406 763 375. Thank you for your continued support.
Carolyn Hely
Canteen Manager

Around Town

DEAN’S TRANSIT GROUP:

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<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>MORNING</th>
<th>AFTERNOON</th>
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<tr>
<td>6.50am</td>
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<td>7.00pm</td>
<td>Arrive Cooma Centennial Park</td>
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<td>Canberra Airport</td>
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<td>Civil Interchange Bay 6</td>
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<td>12.15pm</td>
<td>Calwell Shops</td>
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<td>1.00pm</td>
<td>Passengers from South Canberra to transfer at Calwell for Cooma</td>
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<td>1.15pm</td>
<td>Stop Michelago/Bredbo (on request)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.30pm</td>
<td>Arrive Cooma Centennial Park</td>
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Zone 1 – Williamsdale, Royalla, Michelago $15 one-way/ $20 return
Zone 2 – Cooma, Bunyan, Bredbo, Colinton $18 one-way/ $22 return

• COOMA NETBALL: Registrations Saturday 3 and 10 March from 10.00 am to 12.00 pm at the Cooma Netball Courts, Yarra Street. Competition starts 17 March. Netta 5-10 yrs, Age Divisions 12-17 yrs, Opens—boys welcome! Email coomanetball@hotmail.com.
• PARENT LINE COUNSELLORS are on call 24/7 to discuss any issues that relate to your family—1300 1300 52 or visit our website www.parentline.org.au.
• MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITY FESTIVAL: Sunday 18 March 9.00 am to 3.00 pm Centennial Park. Contact Yvi at Monaro Family Support Service 6452 3450.
• HELPING LEARNER DRIVERS BECOME SAFER DRIVERS: Free workshops for parents and supervising drivers—18 April 6.00 to 8.00 pm Cooma Ex-Services club. Bookings 4421 2405.