Dear Parents, Staff and Students

We warmly welcome our Brigidine visitors
We are keenly looking forward to this Friday when we will have a visit from four very special people in the history of St Patrick’s who will be coming to Cooma to launch a book on the Brigidine history at the weekend Masses. The visitors are Sister Ann Harrison, Sister Sheelah Mary Mogan (a previous Principal), Sister Elaine Whittaker and Sister Pat Nagle.

The nuns will be touring the school during Friday and are really looking forward to renewing some old acquaintances at the Grandparents and Friends Day which is being held on the Primary campuses on that day. Please feel free to make yourself known to the Sisters when you see them during their visit.

Year 10 visit to St Mary MacKillop College
Yesterday we had a very successful visit with our Year 10 students to the senior campus of MacKillop College in Canberra. The day started with a focus on the transition to senior studies, including an outline of the ACT senior accreditation system. A whole school assembly involving more than 800 students from their senior campus was a highlight and the welcoming staff and students made for a very memorable occasion. The senior students engaged with our students throughout the day and gave them a guided tour of the outstanding facilities at the college.

The visit was part of our development program to establish a Catholic pathway to senior studies for our students beyond Year 10. The next stage in the process is a Year 11, 2014, information evening on 15 May. This will be combined with a Careers Expo involving tertiary institutions from throughout NSW and the ACT which will get under way from 4.30 pm at the Senior Campus at Isabella Plains.

The ACT enrolment period concludes on 24 May so I would encourage all interested parents to contact the college prior to that date to discuss their options for 2014.

Harry Nichols Shield success
Congratulations to our Stage 2 and Stage 3 footballers who were successful in taking out the Harry Nichols Shield at the Cooma Showground last Friday evening. Throughout the games our students displayed commitment and sporting behaviour and are to be commended for this. Thank you also to the parents and trainers, as well as those students who acted as officials during the tournament.

Welcome to our new Technics teacher
The school community would like to extend a very warm welcome to our new Technology and Applied Studies teacher, Mr Chris Reeks, who has taken over the position vacated by Mrs Lillian Everitt. Chris has a wealth of experience in this practical area and has been a stalwart in education and community circles on the Monaro over many years. Welcome to St Pat’s, Chris!

ANZAC Liturgy
A very solemn and dignified ANZAC Liturgy was held last Wednesday where the Primary and Secondary students acknowledged the enormous sacrifices made by those members of our defence forces, past and present.

Thank you to Mrs Hulley for organising this significant commemoration and to our Student Executive for coordinating the event.

Secondary Athletics Carnival
Brilliant autumn sunshine was the backdrop to a successful Secondary Athletics Carnival at Snowy Oval last Thursday. The level of participation was outstanding and encouragement for students to try their hardest was the order of the day. Thank you to organisers Ms Wawrzyniak, Mr Lawley, Mrs Moxon and the parents who provided such valued support.

News Update
Congratulations to our Mini Vinnies students who were so impressively engaged in the St Vincent de Paul Anniversary Mass last Sunday morning and thank you to Mrs Fraser for her coordination of the students.

Don’t forget the Mother’s Day stall in Primary this Friday morning.

Good luck with our Primary Athletics Carnival tomorrow.

NAPLAN preparations have been in full swing for many weeks now in preparation for the tests next week. Good luck to the students involved!

Congratulations to our Year 8 debaters on their success in Canberra last Monday evening.

Phil Stubbs
Principal
On Thursday 2 May 2013, we held our annual athletics carnival at Snowy Oval. The weather was lovely and cool, making for a perfect day. A huge CONGRATULATIONS to all students who attended on the day. Your outstanding participation in all events and great house spirit is to be commended. A special thank you to house captains for your efforts with war cries, which saw Aqua emerge as the winner. Also thanks for your efforts at the end of the carnival with clean up and packing up of equipment. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff and the four wonderful parents who assisted on the day acting as officials: Erika Statham, Ruby Curtis, Gai Patricks and Sally Connolly. Thank you to Carolyn Hely and the ladies in the canteen who organised the BBQ and kept us fed and watered for the day. The collective efforts of staff, parents and students contributed to the success of the carnival. Without your support, the carnival would not have run efficiently.

FINAL POINTSCORE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>House</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Aqua</td>
<td>897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Caelum</td>
<td>759</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Terra</td>
<td>642</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Ignis</td>
<td>582</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AGE CHAMPIONS FOR 2013

Congratulations to the following students who have excelled in athletics and are age champions for 2013:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>House</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12yrs</td>
<td>Gabrielle Steiner</td>
<td>Aqua</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13yrs</td>
<td>Abby Macnab</td>
<td>Caelum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14yrs</td>
<td>Annagh Weston</td>
<td>Terra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15yrs</td>
<td>Jazmin Fely</td>
<td>Ignis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16yrs</td>
<td>Dannielle Barron</td>
<td>Aqua</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RECORDS BROKEN

Congratulations to the following students who broke records on the day:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Time/Distance</th>
<th>Previous Record</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jnr Girls Relay</td>
<td>Terra</td>
<td>1.04.19</td>
<td>1.05.05 (2012)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 yr Boys Long Jump</td>
<td>Joseph Nassar</td>
<td>5.58m</td>
<td>5.40m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Both Year 7 and 8 teams are sitting in the top 10 from a pool of 56 teams in the ACT Debating Union's competition for schools after four rounds. This week’s topic, that we should ban professional boxing, raised many social and ethical questions. Their final round next week is a secret debate where the topics are received one hour before the debate. Well done to all students and many thanks to the parents who transport and support them each week. Well done to: Luci Clarke, Laura Cooke, Ellie Bowe, Penelope Fletcher, Kiara Henderson, Josh McConkey, Abby Macnab, Emily Mills, Meg Pearce, Erin Pearce and Gabrielle Steiner.

Both stage 2 and 3 played with great sportsmanship and pride. Our attack was great and though our defence was generally pretty good, we can improve on it! Thanks to the opposing teams from Cooma Public and Cooma North. St Pats won the Harry Nichols Shield and we received the trophy with honour and pleasure. This is the fourth time we have won the shield in 10 years. Thank you to Harry Nichols for his speech - it made us appreciate all the players.

Thanks to Daniel Hopkin and Josh Zammit for giving up their time to coach the Stage 3 side and to Paul Dyball and Mark McGufficke for coaching Stage 2.

Written by Darnel Bartlett and Bailey Rogers

A letter to parents with information regarding the Australian Mathematics Competition for 2013 will be sent home this week. The competition is open to Years 3-10 students and the cost is $5.00 per student. Permission forms and $5.00 for the entry fee need to be returned to the school no later than Friday 17 May 2013. Parents who require more information regarding the competition can contact Kevin Dunne at the school on 6452 1721.
Don’t forget our Grandparents and Friends day this Friday 10 May. Classroom activities will commence at 12.30 pm followed by a picnic lunch on the oval of the K-2 campus at 1.20 pm (weather permitting). If you wish to pre-order your lunch, please complete the order form sent home yesterday and return with money by no later than Thursday 9 May. The only choices for lunch for students K-6 are:

1. PIE WITH SAUCE AND DRINK OF CHOICE, including flavoured milk/juice or water....$5.00
2. HAM AND SALAD ROLL AND DRINK OF CHOICE...$6.00
3. CHEESE AND SALAD ROLL AND DRINK OF CHOICE...$6.00

A number of students are regularly late to school. Below is a reminder of bell times. Please aim to get to school in time:

**Primary**
- The morning warning bell sounds at 8.57 – morning assembly commences at 9.00 am. All students are expected to make their way to the assembly area following the warning bell. A second bell will sound at 9.00 am and all students are expected to be ready for assembly.
- Early lunch is from 11.00 to 11.40 am
- Afternoon recess is from 1.20 to 2.00 pm
- The final bell sounds at 3.10 on the K-2 campus and 3.20 on the 3-6 campus

**Secondary**
- The morning bell sounds at 8.55 for roll call. All students are expected to be at roll call.
- Morning tea is from 10.40 to 11.00 am
- Lunch is from 12.50 to 1.35 pm
- The final bell sounds at 3.25 pm

This term our Literacy Coach, Mary Kite, will be working with staff and students in the Primary school on reading. Each fortnight Mary will work with classes on building skills and strategies, as well as a love for reading. This is a great opportunity for teachers to embed current practices for teaching reading into their classrooms, and for students to build skills and enthusiasm for reading. Mary will also be running a session for parents on 28 May looking at strategies that you can use at home to support your child.

On Friday 24 May we will be participating in National Walk Safely to School Day. We would like to encourage as many parents, carers and their children to walk to school on this day.

An alternative for those who need to drive their child to school will be to meet at Centennial Park anywhere between 8:00am – 8:45am. Along with parents, carers and teachers, the children will walk to school together. If you cannot walk with your child, feel free to drop them off and they will walk with our school group. We will begin the walk to school at 8:50am.

Please go to the following website or YouTube link:
www.walk.com.au

Steven Joyce
K-6 Coordinator

St Patrick’s Parish School Cooma
P&F Association presents
BAZAAR FAIR 2013
Snowy Ride weekend – Saturday 2 November 2013
Come and enjoy the festivities in Centennial Park from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm.

We have a great committee with some fantastic ideas! We would love to hear from our parental community. If any parent is interested in helping organise this major fundraising event and would like to be part of an innovative, creative and flexible team, please contact Erika Statham on 0400 787 398.

Application for Exemption from Attendance at School

Under the requirements of the Education Act, parents/guardians are required to apply for exemption from attendance at school in advance of any anticipated absence of their child/ward. The period of exemption will vary according to the circumstances and the exemptions are approved by the Principal. If you wish to apply for exemption from attendance at school for a period of time for your child, application forms are available from the office.

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Mother’s Day Stall
The Mother’s Day stall will be held this Friday 10 May. If your child has not brought in a gift to be placed on the stall, we would appreciate it if you would send one in tomorrow.

We still require a couple of parents to help out on the stall from 9.15am – 11.00am. If you can help, please contact Natalee on 0412 910152.

If you are looking for a Mother’s Day gift idea, the “Nourish “ cookbook is available at the School Office for the special price of $25.00 or 3 for $60.00. Happy Mother’s Day to all our mothers and grandmothers!

P&F Executive
Thursday 9 May
Year 8 Parish Mass
K-6 Athletics carnival

Friday 10 May
K-6 Brumbies visit
U16 Archdiocesan rugby trials
K-6 Grandparents and Friends day 12.30 - 2.00pm
Mothers Day stall 10am

Monday 13 May
Debating round 5

Tuesday 14 May
NAPLAN (Language and writing)

Wednesday 15 May
NAPLAN (Reading)

Thursday 16 May
NAPLAN (Numeracy)
P & F Meeting 5pm

Friday 17 May
Interschools Gymkhana

Saturday 19 May
Interschools Gymkhana

Sunday 20 May

Tuesday 21 May
First confirmation meeting 6.30pm

Wednesday 22 May
Archdiocesan cross country

Friday 24 May
National Walk to School Day
3 - 6 Brumbies gala day
Yr 10 ADF visit

CANTEEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR ATHLETICS CARNIVAL - I need helpers to serve in the canteen at Snowy Oval, even if you can only do half or one hour. Please contact me through the school or my mobile 0406763375. The day will be busy but also fun!

I also need another volunteer for the Grandparents and Friends day on Friday between 12.00 and 1.00 pm as lunch time will be at 1.20 pm.

FRIDAY MEAL DEAL - PLEASE REFER TO NOTE REGARDING GRANDPARENTS AND FRIENDS DAY CHOICES. THEY ARE THE ONLY CHOICES AVAILABLE ON FRIDAY. Thank you again for all your support.

Carolyn Hely
Canteen Manager

Cooma Basketball Registration
Monday 13 May:
12 – 14yrs Boys 4:00 pm; Wednesday 15 May: 4-7yrs Girls 3:50 – 4:30 pm, 8 – 12 yrs Girls 4:30 – 5:30 pm; Friday 10 May: 4-7yrs Boys 3:50 – 4:30 pm, 8 – 12yrs Boys 4:30 – 5:30 pm

FREE Oral Health Centre: The Cooma Community Health Child Dental service is operating on Mondays and Tuesdays, offering free dental check-ups and dental treatment to all children up to 18 years of age. To access the service please call 1800450046 (this is a free call) and provide your child’s details including Medicare card number. We also provide oral health education talks to schools, child care centres and mothers groups, etc. For more information please call 64553276.

Do you help care for a Relative or Friend: Are you a Young Carer? Young Carers are children and young people who help provide care for someone who has a chronic illness, disability, mental illness, is frail aged, or has an alcohol or drug problem. Young Carers usually have more responsibilities than their friends - sometimes a lot more. A caring role can put young people at risk of not completing their studies or it may impact on their ability to participate in school or social activities. We can provide a range of support to help Young Carers to complete their schooling, hang out with friends or to simply take the pressure off. These include taking a break from the caring role (respite), time off to study for exams or catch up on schoolwork, tutoring, social support, equipment, transport and help in the home. For a confidential chat please call the Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centre, on Freecall 1800 052 222. Forms and further information are also available from Kevin Dunne (Student Welfare Officer) at school.

If you wish to receive your school newsletter by email please contact the school office on 6452 1721 or email office.stpatscooma@cg.catholic.edu.au.