Dear Parents, Staff and Students

Tournament of Minds team off to Perth
The anticipation and nail-biting came to an end on Sunday evening at the Australian National University in Canberra when our Secondary Tournament of Minds (ToM) team was announced as the ACT Regional winner in the Applied Technology division. The team comprising Madeleine Rooney, Jessica Brown, Angela Sullivan, Charlie Keegan-Bull, Jasmine Bujalski, Magdalene Shatrov and Emma Holgate will be competing in the Australasian Pacific finals in Perth from 18-21 October.

This year 50,000 students took part in the competition, culminating in the finals in Perth where 600 students from all Australian states and territories as well as New Zealand, Hong Kong and Singapore will compete. St Patrick's has been involved in ToM since its inception in the ACT in 1991. During that time we have represented the ACT region at the national finals 6 times.

The Tournament of Minds’ aim is to enhance the potential of young people by developing diverse skills, enterprise, time management, and the discipline to work collaboratively within a challenging and competitive environment. Good luck to the team and congratulations also to their coach, Sue Stubbs.

NAPLAN results
At last the 2012 NAPLAN results have arrived for the tests that were completed in May and they will be distributed today. If your child is in Year 3, 5, 7 or 9 and they completed the tests I would ask that you read the information accompanying the results very carefully. Remember that the results show the performance average across a very diverse range of student abilities. The next few weeks will be spent carefully analysing the trends shown in the results and these will inform teaching and learning in the year ahead.

If parents would like additional information about their child’s performance, such as their growth from one test period to the next, please make an appointment to discuss the results with your child’s classroom teacher. In the brief time we have had to look at results we have charted a steady improvement in performances from Year 3 through to Year 9, with an outstanding range of results across all domains of numeracy, grammar and punctuation, writing, reading and spelling in Year 9 in particular. As we so often say, NAPLAN is only one dimension of the life of the school and we only have to look at our broader achievements this term to realise that.

Sullivan Shield footballers do us proud
Congratulations to our Sullivan Shield footballers for their efforts in the final round last week, despite being narrowly beaten by Yass in the final. The students were a credit to the school for their commitment and sportsmanship. Our thanks to coach Mike Introna and the parents who assisted on the day.

Have a restful and safe break!
After one of the busiest terms we could imagine, as well as a winter that had plenty of chills and ills, we hope that staff and students have a restful break in anticipation of Term 4. Thank you so much to all the teaching, office and support staff for your enormous commitment and efforts this term, to the parents for your constant support of so many aspects of school life and to the students for getting involved and making the most of opportunities given to you.

School resumes for students on Tuesday 9 October.

Phil Stubbs
Principal
The year of grace is not a program, it is an opportunity!
This means creating situations, being proactive, making chances and openings for grace to flow - is our responsibility. Grace is ever present, it is God who graces.
What are opportunities we might create?
- Notice - notice the richness of life!
- Begin the day with the intent that it will be grace-filled
- Hug family!
- Affirm and give thanks for life’s rich blessings
- Celebrate
- Pray
- Journal
- Take out the camera
- Walk, cycle, jog, dance!
- Smile - bring grace to others
- Watch a comedy and laugh
- Do something that is unusual for you
- Join community at weekend Church Service
- Savour a home cooked meal from “Nourish” with family or friends

Giovanna Davies

If you received a perpetual trophy at last year’s Awards Day, please return it to school as soon as possible in preparation for the 2012 Awards Days. Thank you.
Enthusiasm is being full of spirit. Enthusiasm comes from having a positive attitude. A person without enthusiasm becomes boring. Enthusiasm makes life more enjoyable. When you enjoy what you are doing, even the dullest job can be fun. Show enthusiasm to others by celebrating with them. Your enthusiasm shines through your smile.

Super Theme Week 10 – ‘Being Enthusiastic’

- KG Tyler Hart – for his enthusiastic attitude during physical activities!
- 1P Ethan Hart – for his enthusiastic story telling!
- 1O Lachlan Ferraris – for being an enthusiastic member of 1Orange and having a positive attitude towards school work!
- 2O Cheyenne Connell – for being an enthusiastic member of our school community!
- 2P Spencer Walker-Broose – for being an enthusiastic class member of 2Purple and having a good sense of humour!
- 3O Tim Bottom – for being enthusiastic in his preparation and presentation of his global connections assignment!
- 3P Lachlan Inskip – for being a very enthusiastic student in Maths Lessons!
- 3G Harrison Jones – for always being full of enthusiasm, having a positive attitude and a real zest for life!
- 3G Darcy Paul – by showing enthusiasm in the way he is happy for his friends!
- Music/French Koby Grech – for being enthusiastic during our gavotte dance practice!
- Library Brooke Tangye – for her enthusiastic attitude to all aspects of school life!
- Primary Captains Charlotte Geelan – for always having an enthusiastic smile and enjoying her friends!

People are just about as happy as they make their mind up to be” Abraham Lincoln

Thank You to Simon Buckley for organising all the St Pat’s soccer teams throughout the winter season.

Year 9 students have been studying Changing Communities in Geography this term with Cooma as a case study. Recently the students went to the education centre at Snowy Hydro where Mrs Tracey Crowe spoke to the students about the effects of the Snowy Scheme on the town and surrounding areas. They were shown a DVD and then the highlight of the tour was a question and answer session with Mr Charlie Salvestro. Mr Salvestro came to Australia from Italy as a child and ended up in Cooma where his father had come to work on the Scheme. He also worked on the Scheme and had many stories to tell about life both in the camps and in the towns. He was also able to talk to the students about the changes to the community since the 1950’s.

Infants

- Darcy Brown KG for great listening
- Tony Bitar KG for sitting and listening beautifully
- River Wilkinson 1P for lining up well
- George Jacob 1P for listening carefully at assembly
- Luke Fely 1O for donating a Father’s Day gift
- Joshua W Hely for being attentive during assembly

P&F News

- Claim the date: Saturday 3 November is the date set for our much anticipated bush dance. The P&F is planning to hold an auction and a raffle. Any donations would be greatly appreciated. Please contact a P&F representative.
- Have you seen the order form for your child’s personalised official school cap? This is a unique and limited edition offer. Order forms are due back to school Friday 14 September 2012.
- Don’t forget to drop us a line with any issues or to let us know that you can help with the bush dance. Please contact Heather: hwalker-broose@bigpond.com or Eva: tangles71@gmail.com

Hope you all have a good week!
Cheers the P&F team
Friday 21 September
Last Day of Term
Poetry and Drama Workshop

Monday 8 October
Staff Development Day

Tuesday 9 October
Students return to school Term 4

Wednesday 10 October
Year 9 Camp Briefing
Friday 12 October
K-6 Swimming

Monday 15 October
School Registration

Tuesday 16 October
School Registration
Eucharist 1st Meeting 6.30 - 8pm

Wednesday 17 October
School Registration
Thursday 18
Parish Council Meeting 6.30pm

Friday 19 October
7-10 Gala Day
K-6 Swimming

Saturday 20 October
Eucharist (request of candidates) 6pm-7.30pm

Sunday 21 October
Eucharist (request of candidates) 10am-11.30am

Monday 22 October
Spot Day (Year 7 Orientation)
Eucharist 2nd Meeting (Homes)
National Dental Survey
Tuesday 23 October
Stage 3 Super 8’s Cricket at Nijong oval
National Dental Survey
First Kinderstart 9.30am - 11.00am

Wednesday 24 October
Year 9 Camp - Mimosa Rocks
National Dental Survey
K-6 Water presentation Multi Function Centre 9.30am

Thursday 25 October
Year 9 Camp - Mimosa Rocks
Principals Conference
2nd Kinderstart 9.30am – 11.00am

Friday 26 October
Year 9 Camp - Mimosa Rocks
K-6 Swimming
3G Assembly 12pm

Sunday 28 October
Catholic Primary Netball Carnival

Monday 29 October
Eucharist 3rd Meeting (Homes)

Tuesday 30 October
3rd Kinderstart 1.30pm—3.00pm

Wednesday 31 October
Musica Viva K-8 and Drama 9am - 2pm

Thursday 1 November
4th Kinderstart 1.30pm - 3.00pm

**Canteen News**

**VOLUNTEERS**

Thursday
Rebecca Hain

Friday
Melissa Caffarelli

- Due to this being the last week of Term 3, if you order an item that is unavailable, an alternative will be given. Please note that I have sold out of Spaghetti Bolognaise and Macaroni cheese so these two items will not be available until next term. Sorry for any inconvenience.

- FROZEN FRUIT CUPS ARE BACK!!!!They are still 50c.

- The new menu is still being finalised. Sorry for the delay.

- FRIDAY MEAL DEAL - Back by popular demand.....NACHOS! This is served on plain corn chips with a freshly cooked meat and vegetable sauce/cheese/tomato salsa and sour cream. A drink of choice is also included for $5.00! THIS WILL BE THE ONLY CHOICE FOR BOTH PRIMARY AND INFANTS.

Thank you to all my wonderful volunteers. Have a safe and happy break and see you next term
Carolyn Hely
Canteen Manager

**Around Town**

- Combined Primary Schools Holiday Disco: Monday 24 September at the Australian Hotel (entry via Sharp Street) from 1.00 to 4.00 pm. $5.00 per child. Games and prizes to be won. Soft drinks and snacks available. Parents welcome to stay and enjoy homemade cakes, tea and coffee. All money raised donated to Monaro Early Intervention Service (MEIS) who provide life-changing services to children with disabilities in our area. Enquiries phone Renee 0415 117 789 or Donna 0428 484 106.

- Cooma Children’s Centre (OOSH) Vacation Care Service: OOSH is located at the Commissioner Street Entrance Cooma Public School and will be offering vacation care from Monday 24 September to Friday 5 October 2012. Programs are available at the school office or from Cooma Public School. Enquiries phone 0450 127 090 or email ooshcooma@dodo.com.au.

- Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend for married couples: 19-21 October at Winbourne, Edmund Rice Retreat Centre, Mulgoa (near Penrith) NSW. Bookings phone 4283 3435 or email wsharpe@bigpond.net.au. For more information, visit www.wwme.org.au

- Cricket NSW T20 Super 8 Gala Days: Tuesday 23 October for students in Cooma primary schools at Nijong Oval, Wednesday 24 October for students in Secondary schools in Cooma at Nijong oval and Thursday 25 October for students from Berridale and Jindabyne schools at a venue to be confirmed.

- Monaro Junior Cricket Season: Commencing Friday 12 October with registration and skills afternoon at Nijong Oval from 4.30 pm. Season runs from 18 October through to 22 March with a break over the Xmas holiday period. Registration costs $70 per child and includes registration, equipment and insurance. For further details contact Ben Hearn 0416258422 or visit www.mjca.nsw.cricket.com.au.

- Mike Kelly MP Education Forum: Wednesday 3 October 12.00 to 2.00 pm in the Function Room at Cooma Ex-Services Club. All welcome!