Dear Parents, Staff and Students

First Eucharist Celebration

With our second group of First Eucharist candidates presented at last Saturday evening’s Mass we are looking forward to the celebration of this significant occasion with Mass this Sunday and a party to be held in the Parish Centre after the 10 am Mass. Congratulations to all the candidates and their families!

Secondary Executive and School Captains

Following a very tense couple of days while votes were counted and thoroughly scrutineered it was a great pleasure to announce the Secondary Executive for 2013 yesterday. Phone calls to parents sometimes involve challenging conversations but this was certainly not the case when I rang parents with the news of their child’s election to the 2013 Executive. All 17 of the candidates did themselves proud with their presentations in the church last week and they can be thoroughly pleased with the way in which they publicly made a commitment to uphold the values that we hold dear at St Patrick’s. Leadership opportunities abound at our school and it is hoped that those students who were not successful in getting a position on the Executive will take advantage of these chances in 2013.

The Secondary Executive for 2013 is:
School Captains – Sam Patricks and Louise Fletcher
Executive Members – Magdalene Shatrov, Josh Steinke, Emma Holgate and Oscar Thomas.

Congratulations to all of these students. Next week we have the presentations by the Primary students who are aspiring to leadership in 2013 and we wish them all the best with their presentations.

Unwelcome visitors leave their mark

Last Sunday I received the type of phone call that I dread when I was told that the school had been vandalised on Saturday night. Two windows were smashed in the Secondary Library and part of the heritage fence near the corner of Vale and Murray Streets was knocked over.

Repairs will be expensive and challenging to complete and the local police are following all possible leads to apprehend the culprits. Fortunately we rarely experience vandalism at school and our students were genuinely concerned when they were informed of the incident on Monday morning. From information received the damage was most likely done by a group of young people who were possibly affected by alcohol and who were roaming around in the early hours of Sunday morning. We would appreciate any information you may hear on the incident being passed to the school or local police.

Stage 3 Camp a great success!

The Stage 3 students came back from their camp last Friday, tired and weary, but with the almost unanimous verdict that it was a fantastic time. The activities were so varied from high wire swings, obstacle courses, archery, a disco and dune buggies to name but a few. The focus was on teamwork, supporting each other, developing positive relationships and having a go at activities that may have been outside their normal comfort zone. Well done Stage 3 and thanks to their teachers for accompanying them!

News Update

Don’t forget the celebration BBQ following Mass next Tuesday to acknowledge Father Paul’s 25th Anniversary of his ordination. Details are in the newsletter or put your name on the list in the church foyer.

Good luck to our Martin Schoo Basketball competitors as they participate in this keenly contested event against Monaro High this week and next.

Congratulations to all the Year 10 students who participated in the Rural Fire Service Cadetship program last week and to those who succeeded with their First Aid course this week. We wish them all the best with their work experience over the next 2 weeks and thank Steve Summerville for his organisation of the activities. Please note the compulsory pastoral program ‘Love Bites’ that involves all the Year 10 students tomorrow.

Phil Stubbs
Principal
**Pastoral Care Day**

On Thursday 22 November, our Year 10 students will be participating in a pastoral care day called ‘Love Bites’. This program is being facilitated by a wide range of personnel who support young people including Nikki Rabbitte (Medicare local), Meghan Quinn (Monaro Rural Health Service), Cathy Guion (YMCA), Emma Green (Cooma Monaro Shire Council) and the School Liaison Constable. The program addresses issues such as healthy and respectful relationships as well as domestic violence and sexual assault. It is done in the safe environment of the school and aims to challenge stereotypes and attitudes while encouraging and educating young people to support their friends. For this program, Year 10 students may wear non-uniform clothing.

**VACANCY SCHOOL BOARD 2013**

A vacancy will exist on our School Board at the beginning of 2013. Our School Board provides an enhanced level of advice and support in key areas such as: education, positioning, facilities, philosophy, marketing and growing the school. Please send your Expressions of Interest to: Ms Erika Statham, Chairperson, School Board St Patrick’s Parish School, PO Box 870, Cooma.

**Stage 3 Cooba Camp**

On 14, 15 and 16 November, Stage 3 went to Cooba for camp. Before we went, we all wrote down some goals we wanted to achieve on camp and then thought up some strategies that might help us achieve them. Most of us were successful with achieving all or some of our goals. Over those three days we did a lot of exhilarating activities. Some of them were the giant swing, dune buggies and the gladiator course. Through camp we learnt how to work as a team, build new friendships and discover different qualities in ourselves. We had a brilliant time and we will never forget the memories from our Stage 3 camp to Cooba. We asked some people in our class what they got out of camp:

- Kiara H - “Getting to know people better”
- Harrison C - “Seeing what people were like out of school and learning new things about them”
- Damon B - “It was the greatest time of my life”
- Jasmin P - “I learnt to be more trustworthy”
- Ursula R - “Facing my fears”
- Michala W - “Having a great time”
- Kadee L - “Building new relationships and having fun”
- Remy O - “It was brilliant”
- Bas D - “I enjoyed learning the suspense of destroying my fear of heights”

**Father Paul’s 25th Anniversary**

This month Father Paul will be celebrating the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. On Tuesday 27 November, there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St Patrick’s at 5.00 pm followed by 5.30 pm Mass. Everyone is invited to a BBQ meal after Mass at the Parish Centre. For catering purposes, if you are able to attend could you please ring Shirley on 6452 2153 or Bev on 6452 2498, or put your name and contact number on the sheet in the foyer. There will be a card also for parishioners to sign. Please bring a plate to share.

**Nourish**

For a limited time only, Nourish will be available for purchase exclusively from the School Office for only $25. A copy of Nourish would make an ideal Christmas present!

**Criteria for Primary Awards 2012**

The **Snowy Hydro Altitude Award**

Academic independent and creative learner

Behaviour consistently displays appropriate behaviour

Leadership role model to others

Participation participates in school and community activities

Spiritual displays dignity and respect for others and themselves

**Sister Louise Award for Joy and Concern (3-6) and Strength in Gentleness (K-2)**

Students who demonstrate care and concern for others and live their lives in a truly Christian way

**Class Awards**

Kindergarten students all receive a book award

Infants—maximum of 5 awards per class of any combination

Primary—maximum of 6 awards per class of any combination

**Striving for Excellence**

Students who have excelled in a range of curriculum areas

**Endeavour**

Students who are constantly striving to do their personal best

**Courtesy**

Students who always show friendliness towards their peers, staff and visitors to the school

**Citizenship**

Students who demonstrate they are conscientious members of the school community through their helping, caring and independent manner

**Cultural Awards**

Students who have been involved in a range of cultural and academic activities

**Primary Certificate**

All students moving to Secondary

The **Brigidine Citizenship Award**

Awarded to a Stage 3 student who displays initiative and awareness of the needs of members of the school and wider community

**The Mike Kelly Student Leadership Award**

Awarded to a Stage 3 student who regularly demonstrates good leadership qualities within the school community

**Cooma Day VIEW Club Literacy Endeavour Award**

Awarded to a student who has demonstrated a positive attitude to literacy and learning in 2012

**Cooma Evening VIEW Club Literacy Endeavour Award**

Awarded to a student who has demonstrated a positive attitude to literacy and learning in 2012

**Infants and Primary Good Sports Awards**

Consistently fair and enthusiastic and makes sport enjoyable for others
Parents of Teenagers Q & A

Are you raising a teenager? Do you have questions and concerns? A free Q & A panel (light refreshments provided) is offered Wednesday 21 November 2012 from 5.30 to 7.30 pm at Horizons Resort, Lake Jindabyne. An expert panel will address your questions about:

- Risky behaviour and partying
- Alcohol, drugs and the law
- Social networking
- Sex and sexuality
- Mental health
- Parent teen relationships and communication

For further information contact Sue-Anne Muggleton (Monaro Family Support Service) on 6452 3450.

MS Sydney to Wollongong Bike Ride

Thank you to everyone who donated money for the MS Bike Ride. I was fortunate enough to raise $920.00 in cash and online donations.

Steven Joyce

Chook Lotto

Infants
- Cooper Inskip 1P – for listening well at assembly
- Clara Thornton 1O – for excellent listening at assembly
- Chloe Hemphill KG – for listening and following directions

SRC Quote of the week

"Success comes in cans. Failure comes can't's."

Primary SRC Super Awards

SUPER Theme Week 7 – ‘Perseverance’

When we persevere, we stay friends even when the friendship is tested. We don't give up until a problem is solved. You are practicing perseverance when you think before deciding to commit to someone or something. Perseverance is when you set goals and stick to them until they are completed.

- KG Joe Nichols – for his perseverance in always following the rules and doing the right thing by his class mates!
- 1P George Jacob – for his determination to choose to do the right thing!
- 1O Natalie Revelant – for persevering with her reading and writing and improving greatly as a result!
- 2O Arthur Bottom – for demonstrating greater perseverance with difficult tasks!
- 2P William Lehrmann – for his improved commitment to completion of all school work!
- 3P Sarah Hartley – for demonstrating perseverance at camp!
- 3G Bas de Ruijter – for the perseverance he showed on camp by achieving his goals and making camp enjoyable for others!
- 3O Ryan Birch – for the persistence he shows when editing and improving his written work!
- Music/French Elle McGufficke – for persevering to learn her French words!
- Library – Bronte Hely – for the perseverance she displays when completing tasks to a high standard!

Book Fair

A reminder that the Book Fair is being held in the Secondary Library until tomorrow. There are lots of books suitable for all ages. Also trays containing rubbers, pens, pencils and novelties. The school receives a commission from sales. Students and parents can visit the Library between 8.00 and 8.30 am and again from 3.30 to 4.30 pm.

URGENT ... URGENT... URGENT

Cooma Races – Sundowner Cup

Saturday, 1 December 2012

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!

St Pat’s P&F are catering at the Cooma Races and we need volunteers to work in the canteen and on the BBQ. All funds raised go towards purchasing educational resources for the school. Another flyer has been included with the newsletter. Please complete the roster on the back and return it to the school as soon as possible. Alternatively, reply via email to office@stpatsooma.nsw.edu.au with the times you are available. All helpers receive a free pass into the races (please include your email address so that the roster can be emailed out to you).

Ruby Curtis will be cleaning at the Racecourse on Friday 30 November between 9.15 and 10.45 am. If you can HELP with the cleaning, please contact Ruby on 0402 038676. Transportation is also required to move larger appliances – please phone Karen McGufficke on 0417 496 708.

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MAINSTREET CLOTHING, THE SALVATION ARMY & 2XL / SNOW FM PRESENTS: THE 2012 CHRISTMAS FOOD & TOY DRIVE

Some families are not as fortunate as our own and, at Christmas time, some of them need our help. We are not looking for monetary donations, but for donations of non-perishable food items and new toys, which will bring Joy and Relief to those in need. YOUR School will be participating by acting as a collection point for your donations. Please take your contribution to them for collection PRIOR to Friday 7 December, 2012. All goods WILL be collected during the following week by the SALVATION ARMY, for distribution to needy local families. Please be aware that Occupational Health and Safety Legislation does not allow for the distribution of second hand toys so please, only new toys. When you donate, know that your contribution is greatly appreciated.

A HUGE THANK YOU FROM MAINSTREET CLOTHING COOMA, THE SALVATION ARMY AND SNOWY MOUNTAINS 2XL / 97.7 SNOW FM.

P&F News

As the end of year approaches, it’s time to think and plan for 2013. Next year is already looking to be a very busy but exciting year.

Currently the P&F have Executive positions that need to be filled. We are looking for motivated parents who will be able to donate some of their precious time to the school community. Meetings are held approximately twice a term depending on what event is coming up.

The P&F’s objective is to raise money, build community rapport and support other parents. This can only be achieved through people’s willingness to contribute.

The P&F Team.
Thursday 22 November
Year 10 “Love Bites” Pastoral program
7-10 Performance group VIEW Concert

Friday 23 November
Years 9 & 10 PASS surf trip Tathra
K-6 Swimming

Sunday 25 November
Eucharist Mass & Certificates

Monday 26 November
Year 10 Work Experience

Tuesday 27 November
Years 7 & 8 Martin Schoo Basketball Celebration BBQ Fr Paul 25 Anniversary

Wednesday 28 November
Year 10 Work Experience

Thursday 29 November
Year 10 Work Experience

Friday 30 November
Year 10 Work Experience
K-6 Swimming

Year 9 Drumbeat Performance 12.00 pm in Centennial Park

Monday 3 December
Year 10 Work Experience

Tuesday 4 December
Year 10 Work Experience
CEO’s Director’s visit

Wednesday 5 December
Year 10 Work Experience
Thursday 6 December
Year 10 Work Experience
Friday 7 December
Year 10 Work Experience

Primary Awards Day 12.00 pm Ex-services Club

Monday 10 December
K-10 Thanksgiving Liturgy 12.00 pm
6-10 School Social—Farewell to Year 10 Welcome to Year 6

Tuesday 11 December
Year 10 Dinner

Wednesday 12 December
Year 10 Picnic Day

Thursday 13 December
Secondary Awards Day 1.00 pm in the Church
Year 10 Graduation Mass 6.30 pm

Friday 14 December
K-6 Swimming
Reports Distributed

Monday 17 December
Years 3 to 9 Picnic Day

Tuesday 18 December
K-2 Santa visit

Wednesday 19 December
Last day students and staff

- 2013 Canberra Raiders Membership: Are you looking for something to do with your friends and family on a weekend? Why not consider getting a 2013 Canberra Raiders Membership. For as little as $15 per game, you can attend every match at Canberra Stadium and you also get heaps of cool Raiders items like a cap, scarf and key ring. Visit www.raiders.com.au/membership or call Raiders HQ on (02)6253 3515 for more details. 5 hours of entertainment each weekend for $15 – unbeatable value.

- Celebrate Ability Day at Cooma Centennial Park Friday 30 November 2012 from 11.00 am to 1.30 pm. All welcome. A family day of celebration and entertainment, plus a free sausage sizzle! For more information call Department of Family and Community Services Ageing, Disability and Homecare on 6452 0400.

- Introduction to Digital Photography Workshop at the Cooma TAFE on Saturday 8 December 2012 with photographer Paul McIver, for those 15 years and over. Time: 9 am -1.30 pm. Cost $100. Contact Cooma TAFE 64520799.

- In2Cricket School Holiday Training Camp: Thursday 24 and Friday 25 January 2013 10.00 am to 3.00 pm at the Cooma Squash and Sports Centre, Murray Lane Cooma. For boys and girls 7 to 14 years of age. Only 15 places available. Cost $90 – book by 1 January 2013 and save 10% (includes bat, ball and bag, all coaching, games and giveaways. Register online www.in2cricket.com.au (type in 2630) or call Stuart on 6452 1213 or 0422 496 400.