“See the hand of God in all that happens….”

_St Mary MacKillop (1871)_

Dear Parents, Staff and Students

So often in the media these days we hear about the issue of cybersafety; new technology, new social media outlets, new challenges – they are all part of the reality of 21st Century life. We have an obligation as parents and educators to reinforce safe online practices and acquaint ourselves with contemporary developments as much as we can. One important source of information about online safety that is frequently updated is [http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/Parents/Resources%20to%20use%20with%20your%20child/](http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/Parents/Resources%20to%20use%20with%20your%20child/). I would encourage you to explore the site and use the resources available to become more familiar with the cyberworld of today’s young people. For students who are feeling the pressure of online interactions, usually through social media such as Facebook, there is an excellent resource at [http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/Its%20your%20life%20and%20youre%20in%20control/](http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/Its%20your%20life%20and%20youre%20in%20control/). Such sites are only of value if students really want to address online issues in their lives and this is an important conversation that must be had at school and at home on a regular basis.

_Goulburn Strike 50th Anniversary and NAIDOC Mass_

On Friday this week our Religious Education Coordinator Paul Mackay will be taking a group of students to Goulburn to participate in the Goulburn Strike Anniversary and NAIDOC Mass. The events of 1962 had repercussions not only in the Archdiocese but far beyond it. In July 1962 authorities required Our Lady of Mercy Preparatory School – a Catholic school in Goulburn, to upgrade their toilet block to cater for the number of students at the school. The school was unable to afford the building work and after much deliberation it was decided that all of the Catholic schools in the town would be closed and students would enrol in Goulburn public schools. This was known as “The Goulburn Strike of 1962”. The protest (intended to last for six weeks) lasted for approximately one week before the NSW Government of the time agreed to pay for the toilet facilities. It is widely believed that this was the catalyst for state aid to non-government schools.

Commemoration events for the 50th anniversary of the strike include a formal dinner to be held at Trinity Catholic College tomorrow evening. Dinner speaker for the occasion will be Dr Brian Croke - Executive Director of the NSW Catholic Education Commission and a combined NAIDOC/50th Anniversary Mass will be held on Friday at Sts Peter and Paul’s Old Cathedral, Goulburn. All schools from the Archdiocese will be represented at this occasion.

_Busy times_

As is typical at this time of year there are so many activities that allow students to appreciate the diversity of the education that is offered at St Patrick’s.

On Tuesday next week our Kinder to Year 2 students are travelling to Canberra for the unique experience of seeing the stage play ‘Peter Rabbit’. We know this will be an exciting event and our thanks go to Katarina Ivancic, Angie Introna and Giovanna Davies for coordinating the excursion.

Our Year 8 debaters are competing next Monday evening in Canberra in the semi-finals of the ACT Debating Union Competition. We are the only Archdiocesan school left in the competition and we wish the best of luck to the team debating on Monday night: Patrick Herbert, Caitlin Galwey, Molly Barrett and Annika Rooney. There were 58 teams in this competition (the only teams left are from Canberra Girls’ Grammar, Canberra Boys’ Grammar and St Pat’s!). Our thanks go to their coach Sue Stubbs and the very supportive group of parents who so readily transport and encourage the students.

As the newsletter goes to print our Secondary Rugby League teams are competing at the Small Schools Tournament at Boorowa and we wish them all the best.

Good luck and safe skiing to our Primary students who begin their Snowsports Program tomorrow and congratulations to our Secondary students who really got into the spirit of their first ski day last Friday at Perisher. Good luck to our Interschool skiers this week.

A reminder that if you know of someone intending to enrol their child at St Patrick’s next year ask them to hand in their enrolment form at the office as soon as possible.

I would ask that you include members of our school community who are unwell in your thoughts and prayers.

_Late Breaking News_

Congratulations to Secondary PDHPE teacher Tim Lawley and his wife Clare on the safe arrival of their second daughter, Quinn Milla Lawley at 3.30 am this morning.

_It’s a girl_!

_Phil Stubbs_

_Principal_
Like all organisations, schools are required to have certain policies and procedures in place. Policies on child protection, workplace health and safety, critical incidents and record keeping are developed by the CEO and are often based on legal requirements.

Other policies are more school based and represent our particular context. These would include policies on assessment, student welfare, electronic device use at school, playground supervision, homework and so on.

Thankfully we have systems in place that ensure policies are kept up to date each year. For example, the annual update of the staff handbook often leads to slight changes in some school based policies.

Mark van Ommen
Assistant Principal

The Secondary Parent/Teacher Interviews will take place in the Functions Room at the Cooma Ex-Services Club on **Wednesday 1st August for all students Years 7-10**.

Appointments can be made between 4.00 – 5.30 (on the booking sheets which have been distributed to all students); and between 5.30 – 7.00 parents and students may wait until teachers are free for an interview. It is an advantage if students attend the interviews with their parents and you may wish to bring the student’s school planner and Semester One school report.

Do kids matter? Of course! They matter to families, to schools and to the community. ‘Kidsmatter’ is a framework designed to bring together these three groups to improve children’s mental health.

Good mental health is vital for learning and life. Children who are mentally healthy are better able to meet life’s challenges. They also learn better and have stronger relationships with teachers, family members and peers.

At St Patrick’s Parish School Cooma, we will be introducing the ‘Kidsmatter’ framework. As it is a process, and not a program, Kidsmatter will be implemented over a period of time. We hope to involve as many of the school community as possible.

There are four component areas of focus involving learning, planning and action for addressing children’s mental health.

- Component 1: A positive school community
- Component 2: Social and emotional learning for students
- Component 3: Working with parents and carers
- Component 4: Helping children with mental health difficulties

Component 1 will commence later this term. Further information will appear in the school newsletter. You are also invited to visit the website: [http://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/primary/](http://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/primary/)

Kidsmatter is a national mental health initiative, developed in collaboration with the Australian Government Department of Health and Aging, beyondblue: the national depression initiative, the Australian psychological Society, and Principals Australia.
Infants
- Matilda Mitchell 1O for a wonderful effort during Maths Groups
- Toby Inskip 1P for walking well in line
- Charlotte Dakin KG for great listening

Year 9 students are pictured hard at work during practical testing of electronics last term.

Please support the Mini Vinnies group in Primary by bringing in any donations of winter clothing or blankets, etc for our winter appeal.

We will accept donations until Tuesday, 31 July. Donations can be left at the school office or the Primary Library.
Mini Vinnies Group

“No one can sincerely try to help another without helping themselves”

Infants
• Matilda Mitchell 1O for a wonderful effort during Maths Groups
• Toby Inskip 1P for walking well in line
• Charlotte Dakin KG for great listening

Cases of head lice continue to be a problem in the school. Please check your child’s hair regularly and treat accordingly. If you are unsure how to treat nits, please consult with your local Chemist. We must remind all parents and children that hair longer that the shoulders must be tied back securely at school. This means ponytails, pigtails or plaits. Headbands are not enough to secure the hair and prevent the spreading of lice.

SUPER Theme Week 2 – “Consideration”
Consideration is thinking about how your actions affect others and caring about how they feel. It is paying attention to what other people like and don’t like. When people behave selfishly and don’t practice consideration, other people feel hurt. When we are considerate others know they are important to us!

• KG Sienna Davies—for the consideration she shows others when they are unsure of what to do!
• 1P Lochlan Giuliani—for his considerate attitude towards others!
• 1O Paige Walker—for being considerate of others in class by treating others fairly and with respect!
• 2O Amber Martin-Smith—for always being considerate about other’s feelings and thinking about how her actions affect them!
• 2P Olivia Heise—for always being considerate towards others in her interactions with them!
• 3O Lily Eljuga—for being considerate to all those around her! Well done Lily!
• 3P Dominic Holgate—for being considerate about the feelings of others!
• 3G Harrison Chong—for consistently practising consideration by caring about how others feel and having the ability to make people feel good about themselves!
• Music/French Natalie Revelant—for being considerate when a class member was upset!
• Library Georgia Manning—for showing consideration to others and sharing during library times!
• Primary School Captains Alex Smith—for always playing fairly and being considerate of others!
Well done children!

Navigating Teenage Depression
Depression is more common than you realise. A free community education seminar is being offered on ‘Navigating Teenage Depression’

When: Wednesday 25 July 2012
Time: 6.30pm–8.30pm
Where: Monaro High
Who: the whole community, in particular parents, teenagers and people who work with young people.
Facilitator: a speaker from the Black Dog Institute.

The seminar comprises of an overview of what depression is, how to spot early warning signs, understanding the risk factors, role of personality is relation to depression, what to do and how to build personal resilience.

Building personal Resilience
A free community education workshop is being offered on ‘Building personal Resilience’

When: Thursday 26 July
Time: 9.30am – 12.30pm
Where: Sovereign Inn
Who: relevant for people seeking to enhance their own personal resilience to life’s stressors.

The workshop looks at what resilience is and how adversity can play a positive role in our lives. Places are limited - RSVP 93828203.
Thursday 28 July
3-6 Ski Program

Friday 27 July
Day 2 Secondary Skiing
3-6 Ski Program
3G Assembly 12.00 pm at the Cooma Ex-Services Club

Monday 30 July
3-6 Ski Program

Tuesday 31 July
3-6 Ski Program
K-2 Peter Rabbit Theatre Production in Canberra
Reconciliation meeting in the Church 6.30 pm

Wednesday 1 August
Secondary Parent/Teacher Interviews

Thursday 2 August
3-10 Australian Mathematics Competition
Year 10 Careers Expo in Canberra
2P Assembly 12.00 pm at the Cooma Ex-Services Club
P&F Meeting 2.00 pm - Venue (Primary staffroom)

Friday 3 August
Day 3 Secondary Skiing

Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 August
Reconciliation Request for Candidates this weekend masses

Tuesday 7 August
Year 7 2013 Info evening (Secondary Library) 6.00 pm
Reconciliation meeting in the Church 6.30 pm

Wednesday 8 August
Mary Mackillop Feast Day
Southern Region Principals’ Meeting—Pambula

Thursday 9 August
3-6 Southern Region Athletics Bega
School Board Meeting 6.30pm

Friday 10 August
K-2 Ski Program

Friday 17 August
K-2 Ski Program

Monday 20 August
Book Week

Wednesday 22 August
CEO Primary Schools Choir Performance

Thursday 23 August
K-10 Archdiocesan Athletics (Canberra)

Monday 10 September
Spot Day Year 7 Orientation

Thursday 13 September
CCC Athletics Homebush

Friday 14 September
Poetry & Drama Workshops

Sunday 16 September
TOM Territory Finals

Thursday 20 September
TOM Australasian Finals

Friday 21 September
Last Day of Term 3

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**Canteen News**

- **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** Due to the Primary Ski program this week, I am facing a volunteer shortage. If you are able to help, even for just 1 hour on Thursday or Friday, I would be very grateful.
- **FREEZER:** Unfortunately, one of my large freezers has broken down and I am waiting on a replacement. This means FROZEN FRUIT cups are not available at the moment. I do have Lemonade Icy Poles and Frozen Yoghurts, **but NO Calipos.**
- **MEAL DEAL FRIDAY:** Hot Dog with sauce and Frozen Yoghurt OR Drink (please specify) with 3 fruit sticks for $5.00.

If you have any thoughts or enquiries, please call me at the school or on my mobile 0406 763 375.

Thank you for your continued support.

Carolyn Hely
Canteen Manager

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**Around Town**

- **Raglan Gallery and Cultural Centre:** Opening hours Wednesday to Sunday 9.30 am to 4.30 pm. Sense of Place is a screening program of Contemporary Australian video art showcasing the work of artists united by their investigation of cultural identity and the evolving concept of “Australian-ness”. Coming soon: The Hill – An exhibition of paintings, etchings, video and sculpture by Jen Mallinson, Sue Chancellor, Lorna Crane and Poppy Benton. Opening by Andrew Gray Regional Arts Development Officer South East Arts at 3.00 pm on Saturday 4 August. Continues through to 26 August.

- **Ski de Femme/Fast and Female:** Sunday 22 July – Check-in at 9.00 am at the Perisher Nordic Centre. Book in online or just roll up o the day. Under 20s register online and for $10 you receive an official Fast and Female Buff. Register on the day for $20 Under 20 includes buff and lunch. Adults $30 includes lesson, morning tea and lunch. Register at www.FastandFemale.com. For more information, contact Allison Stoddart 0416627747 or Rhonda Cunningham 0405963450.

- **Worldwide Marriage Encounter:** A weekend for married couples. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset . . Your Marriage! This is a unique opportunity to recharge your relationship batteries, refocus on each other and fall in love all over again!
  Weekend date: 19 – 21 October, Wimborne, Edmond Rice Retreat Centre, Mulgoa (nr Penrith) NSW
  Bookings: Ardell & Bill Sharp tel. 02 4283 3435 or wsharpe@bigpond.net.au
  Information: website www.wwme.org.au