Our Lady Help of Christians is commemorated on 24 May.

Almighty God, deepen in our hearts our love of Mary Help of Christians.

Through her prayers and under her protection, may the light of Christ shine over our land. May Australia be granted harmony, justice and peace. Grant wisdom to our leaders and integrity to our citizens. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

We think this week is about what it means to be Australian. How blessed we are to have Mary Help of Christians, a gentle mother, as the patroness of Australia. We also reflect this week on the powerful message contained in the commemoration of Reconciliation Week.

Many Aboriginal people are disadvantaged in many areas of their life, as some very sad statistics show. But what can be done, alongside efforts in health, education and employment, are practices of inclusion. Including recognition of Aboriginal people in events, meetings and national symbols shows our respect, and respect is a good base on which Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians can come closer and eventually reconcile a shared history. Together with the prayer above, I offer the Acknowledgement of Country by Jonathan Hill;

Today we stand in footsteps millennia old. May we acknowledge the traditional owners whose cultures and customs have nurtured, and continue to nurture, this land, since men and women awoke from the great Dream.

This week I am presenting to the school community two beautiful paintings, which have been painted and donated to us by Dale from the Cooma Correctional Centre. These are on display in the school’s foyer. I appreciate the work of a parent, Mr Simon Buckley, in helping that to happen.

We are building the momentum towards some significant events: the Grandparents’ and Friends’ Day on Friday 12 June. This is followed by the Art Show on Friday evening and Saturday 13 June. Tickets are available for Friday evening 12 June Art Show at the Office. Spread the word! I would not want you to miss either of these events!

Yours in reconciliation
Frances Robertson
Principal
A message from the AP’s Desk...

Dear Parents/Careers and Students

Secondary homework and assessment support
Every Monday at first break 11:00-11:30 Mrs Blumer will be in the Library to assist students with assignments and assessment tasks. She is also available to offer advice and liaise with teachers to help students with their organisation so these tasks can be completed by the due date.

On the other days of the week particular KLA teachers will be available at second break in the Library to help students with assignments or homework. Teachers include Mrs Knott, Mrs Hulley, Ms Trigg, Ms Wawrzyniak, Mr Summerville and Mrs Stacey. The students who have used this time to complete work or ask for help have found it very beneficial.

Mark van Ommen
Assistant Principal

Are you able to spare a couple of hours supporting the 2015 Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal on Saturday 30 or Sunday 31 May?

Are you able to walk & talk with a friend or a family member to collect money for this very worthwhile appeal? Have you assisted with this appeal in the past and would like to be involved again for 2015?

Have you answered "Yes"? Then please contact Simon Buckley on 0412 245 495 or via email simon_buckley@bigpond.com or Captain Louise (from the SALVOS) - 0423 294021 or Mary Bennett - 6452 2202 or Mr Mackay at school.

This is a great opportunity to build ‘community service’ hours. Time needs to be recorded in the Student Diaries.

(This appeal has been supported by the St Patrick’s Parish Council and will be a team effort, as we join together with students from St Patrick’s Parish School.)

In this newsletter:

- Art Show
- National Reconciliation Week
- NIDA
- Canteen News
- Cross Country results
- Maths Comp
- Calendar matters
- Parent support evening
- Grandparents & Friends day
- Primary Rugby Union Trials
- A message from the Raglan Gallery
- Da Vinci Decathlon
- Hand Foot & Mouth Disease

Are you able to spare a couple of hours supporting the 2015 Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal on Saturday 30 or Sunday 31 May?
ST. PATRICK’S PARISH SCHOOL
PRESENTS

Inspired by Others
ART SHOW

OPENING NIGHT - Friday, June 12
Canapes, Music by Stypa Snowy Mountains Quartet
This is an evening for Adults (only)
6.30pm - 9.30pm - Primary Campus, Vale St.

ALL WELCOME - Saturday, June 13
Gold Coin Donation - BBQ Lunch Available
10am - 2pm - Primary Campus, Vale St.

OPENING NIGHT TICKETS $15 AVAILABLE AT SCHOOL OFFICE & The Fabric Salon
Are you coming to the ART SHOW on the 12 and 13 of June? Invite a family member or friend to join you.

The plans for the Art Show are all happening! Thank you to the parents who came on Thursday for the mounting working bee. It was very successful and we got a lot of work done as well as a lot of chatting!

If you can spare some time this Thursday between 9.00 and 12.00 we will be hanging fabric, sorting the odd socks that have come in and cleaning! All most welcome.

Keep those odd socks coming in…..all will be revealed at the Art Show!

Thank you to the generous families who have donated prizes for the Art Show Raffle. Each family will be given a booklet of 10 raffle tickets. We are asking each family to sell the tickets.

There is one booklet of 10 raffle tickets. Please write a name and phone number on all tickets sold. Sold & unsold tickets need to be returned to St Patrick’s Parish School by Friday 12 June by 9am.
Please place sold & unsold tickets with cash into an envelope clearly marked ‘2015 Art Show Raffle’ with your child’s name.

If you are able to sell more raffle tickets please contact the school office or email Emma Hill, emmahill@cg.catholic.edu.au and some more tickets can be sent home with your child.

Tickets $1 each

**PRIZES:**

1st Prize: Pambula Beach Big 4 Discovery Park – accommodation package $150

2nd Prize: Ladies Pamper Pack

3rd Prize: 10 x bales Lucerne hay/5 x bales oaten hay (good quality horse hay) $150

4th Prize: 1 x load wood $100 and a Fire lighting Pack

5th Prize: Gardening pack 10 x bags manure, Mitre 10 Gardening Centre voucher and Gardening items.

6th Prize: BBQ Pack - Bread voucher $30.00, Frank’s Butchery meat voucher $25.00, BBQ essentials

7th Prize: Pet Pack – A pet food Voucher from South East Rural and Cooma Pet Shop

8th Prize: Roses Restaurant – Voucher $30.00

9th Prize: Feed Café – Cooma – Voucher $30.00

**Conditions Apply**

Thank you to the generous St Patrick’s families and local businesses who have donated prizes.

**DRAWN:** Monday 15 June at 1.00 pm

Thank you in anticipation for your help.

The Art Show Committee
About reconciliation

Jesus is the love of God breaking into the world, reaching out beyond the barriers that separate people from each other and offering reconciliation and peace. Those who were marginalised by others around him were accepted and loved by Jesus. Those who had suffered persecution and isolation from the world around them, found in Jesus freedom and hope and the courage and strength to transform their lives.

Reconciliation is based on Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians coming to an honest understanding of our shared history, a commitment to building cooperative partnerships based on trust and respect and a recognition of the distinctive rights of Indigenous peoples.

Reconciliation requires commitments and action from governments and the community.

National Reconciliation Week and Week of Prayer for Reconciliation - 27 May to 3 June

The Week of Prayer for Reconciliation gives us the opportunity to reflect, through prayer, thought, discussion, and act on what still needs to be done in reconciliation.

Week of Prayer for Reconciliation was started in 1993, and expanded to become National Reconciliation Week in 1996, becoming an Australia-wide focus point for reconciliation activities.

National Reconciliation Week and the Week of Prayer for Reconciliation coincide with two important dates in Australia’s history:

- 27 May marks the anniversary of the 1967 Referendum in which more than 90 percent of Australians voted to remove clauses from the Australian Constitution which discriminated against Indigenous people.
- 3 June marks the anniversary of the judgement in the 1992 Mabo case in the High Court, which recognised the Native Title rights of Indigenous people as the original inhabitants of Australia and overturned the belief that the land was unowned and empty – *terra nullius* – prior to the arrival of Europeans in 1788.
Last week we had Cody Fern and Toby Wallace, two young Australian actors who are making their mark on the film world in Los Angeles, come to school to conduct a 3 hour workshop with 38 of our students in Years 7-10 who study drama. The aim of the workshop was to prepare students for the physicality of our upcoming production of Shakespeare’s *A Midsummer Nights Dream* in October. Cody and Toby also focused on students stepping outside of themselves and giving their all to the acting experience. What a great experience!
Australian Mathematics Competition 2015

A letter to parents with information regarding the Australian Mathematics Competition for 2015 was sent home this week. The competition is open to Years 3-10 students and the cost is $6.00 per student. Permission forms and $6.00 for the entry fee need to be returned to the school no later than Friday 5 June 2015. Parents who require more information regarding the competition can contact Kevin Dunne at the school on 6452171.

School Cross Country Carnival

Last Wednesday a large number of students from both secondary and primary campuses travelled to Stromlo Forest Park in Canberra for the Archdiocesan Cross Country Championships.

The students ran distances ranging from 2km to 6km, depending on their age, with their effort, enthusiasm and sportsmanship outstanding over the course of the event.

Congratulations to the following students who have qualified for NSW Catholic Primary Schools and NSW Combined Catholic Colleges Cross Country Championships to be held at Eastern Creek in Sydney on Friday 12 June; Mitchell Reid (8/9 Boys), Olave Wilkinson (8/9 Girls), Eric Henderson (10 Boys), Clara Thornton (10 Girls), Natalie Revelant (10 Girls), Troy Rees (12 Boys) and Bailey Rogers (14 Boys).

Thank you to the parents, carers and grandparents who transported and supported out students on they day. Your continued support is appreciated. Thank you also to Ms Tina Wawrzyniak for her help on the day as well.

Mr Lawley

Canteen News

Reusable Lunch Bags - They have arrived! Please have a look at the link for more info. All colours except blue are currently available: http://stpatscooma.nsw.edu.au/srcfiles/Reusable-Lunch-Order-Canteen-Bags-V2.pdf

Volunteers:
Wednesday 27/5, 10am Year 10 Student
Wednesday 27/5, 1.15pm Mini-Canteen Denise & Howard
Thursday 28/5, 10am Lisa Walsh
Friday 29/5, 10am Year 10 Student
Wednesday 3/6, 10am Kelly Gill
Wednesday 27/5, 1.15pm Mini-Canteen Marjorie & Kelly
Thursday 4/6, 10am Grant Pascoe
Friday 5/6, 10am Rebecca Croke

This Friday’s meal deal: Sweet Chilli Chicken Tender Wrap + Drink = $6
Please remember that you can order ANYTHING on a Friday, not just the meal deal!

Caroline Blyton
Canteen Manager

Have you seen the school’s webpage and facebook page?

Simply go to www.stpatscooma.nsw.edu.au

We are updating the webpage and it now includes easy access to the newsletter, school notes, the school calendar and a button down the bottom to press to link to the facebook page. You don’t have to be a regular user of facebook in order to see this page and all of the information and photos contained on it.
Do you have a spare moment to collect used stamps?

Mary Bennet, a member of the St Patrick's Parish, collects and recycles used stamps as a fund-raiser for the development of an orphanage in the Philippines. This is being established by the Presentation Sisters of Mary.

There is a box in the foyer of the Church or you can bundle them up and leave them at the Office and we will deliver them for you.

This is such a simple way to support another struggling community.

Calendar Matters

At the recent P&F meeting there was talk of difficulties transposing the school calendar to personal calendars and keeping up with changes.

I have checked out the school calendar and you will note it is a google calendar and can be directly imported into your own (on-line) calendar. This way any updates are automatically transferred and clashes/gaps are easy to find.

Just go to the google tab in the bottom right corner of the school calendar and click on the + and you will be asked if you want to import this calendar to your own. Give this a go - it should work with most of the big systems (being ODF based). If you want to move to an on-line google calendar then it’s relatively easy to sign-up a google account and you get it free (also available on smart phone).

Once imported you can turn the school calendar on and off if its cluttering your own personal calendar as well - only check it when you want.

Brian Williams
P&F Secretary

It’s enrolment time at St Patrick’s

Rueben Croke was the very first student to be interviewed for Kindergarten in 2016. He has received his green message bag ready for the coming year.

All families of Kindergarten students for 2016 need to contact the Office on 64521721 to make an appointment for their interview before the end of term.

Applications for all other year groups are also being accepted at this stage. There are waiting lists for some classes, but we hope to be able to accommodate families wishing to come to St Patrick’s.
On the 21 May we went to the G.A.T.E.W.A.Y.S Advanced Math Program at Campbell Primary school in Canberra. We had three different teachers who taught us different areas in maths. Their topics included Ballistic Birds, ABC Is As Easy As 123 and The Story Of The Secret Shape And Solid.

In the topic ‘Ballistic Birds’ with our teacher Sanjin Dedic we learnt about the flight of an object. We figured out different formulas which gave us the answer to how far we had to throw an object to hit another object.

In our next topic ‘ABC Is As Easy As 123’ with Narelle Wood, we learnt what voice recognition has in common with maths. We also learnt how to decrease the number of words in the English language so we could put fewer words in the voice recognition.

Our final topic was ‘The Story Of The Secret Shape And Solid’ with Justin Mckenzie. In this topic we learnt new types of shapes and how we can drill a square hole with a curved shape! We were also shown a video on how a man made a bike wheel out of a triangle! Justin also showed us how we can draw perfect shapes. I think G.A.T.E.W.A.Y.S is a fun program and a great opportunity to learn.

Written by Tomas Carton
Friday 12 June for Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2.

We invite you to bring the students to school and we will gather for the morning assembly on the Primary quad at 9.05am.

Then, we are inviting all Grandparents and Grandfriends to come to the Parish Centre for a shared morning tea and discussion about learning at St Patrick's. We want to hear your opinions!

There is then an opportunity to visit the classrooms with the children and have lunch together. We will be finished at 11.30am. A separate invitation is coming home. We look forward to seeing you.

Reminder

Parents of students in K-6 please remember to return your expression on interest notes for the Snowsports program by Friday this week.

Claim the date

Parent Support Evening K-6 : Student Reports – What do these grades mean?

You are invited to an evening to assist parents with a greater understanding of A-E grading featured on student reports. Specifically designed for parents of students in Year 1 and 2 but all parents from K-6 are welcome to attend.

When: Wednesday 17 June at 5.30-6.30pm
Where: Year 1 classroom
RSVP: by Friday 12 June to your child’s classroom teacher

Primary Rugby Union Trials

The Archdiocesan rugby union trials for primary students is being held in Yass on Monday 1 June. If your child is interested in trialling, notes have gone home. Please return the permission note, along with the Archdiocesan consent form and nomination form by Friday 29 May if your child is attending.

I’m sorry for the very short notice for these trials. It unfortunately got lost amongst a lot of the other sport that has happened in the last five weeks, or is being planned for next term. I do endeavour to give parents at least three weeks’ notice of upcoming sporting events.

If you would like to contact me about this, or about any other sporting matter here at school, please call me on 6452 1721 or email me at Tim.Lawley@cg.catholic.edu.au

Thanks
Tim Lawley
Sports Coordinator
A message from the Raglan Gallery

We have the date set for the 2015 Student Artscape commencing on Saturday 5 December and running until the end of the year. We are looking forward to your students participating once again this year.

On another subject - in order to keep the Gallery open from Wednesday to Sunday, the Board organises a roster of volunteers to attend the gallery in two shifts from 9.30am until 1pm and from 1pm until 4.30pm.

Filling these slots is becoming more and more difficult for our two volunteer who organise the roster. There are several reasons for the unavailability of gallery attendants such as an aging population of present ones, Winter ills take their toll on many people, many households now have both parents working so are too busy and there are many organisations in Cooma that make demands on people's time and commitment.

We are inviting your senior students to consider doing a shift at weekends, perhaps in pairs. There are many advantages and it would be good learning experience in working in the Gallery. There is exposure to many and varied exhibitions, meeting and greeting visitors to the gallery from the Cooma region, interstate and overseas as well as handling merchandise which is part of our fundraising. The historic Gallery is heated and is a pleasant place to spend four hours - especially in Winter.

A further request is would it be possible to put a notice in your school newsletter inviting community members to consider volunteering at the Raglan Gallery?

You can contact our President Joey Herbert 64527272 or me at the Gallery 64523377 or at home 64522773 or Email raglangallerycooma@bigpond.com

Thank you for considering our requests.
Mary Ziesak  Art Exhibition Coordinator
Raglan Gallery and Cultural Centre

St Patrick’s Year 7 and 8 Da Vinci Decathlon Champions

This week the Year 7 and 8 team from St Patrick’s competed in the Da Vinci Decathlon competition at Canberra Boys’ Grammar School. This is an annual competition focused on thinking skills.

The competition covered ten areas of challenges, covering fields including Mathematics, Cartography, Art and Poetry, Engineering and Philosophy. There were 48 other teams from around the Canberra district competing against our two teams.

The students made Saint Patrick's proud, rising to all the day's challenges and showing strong teamwork skills. Both teams placed in the top ten groups in the Art and Poetry sections; a commendable result.

Congratulations to Andrew, Ryan, Emily, Miranda, Michala, Harrison, Eli, Hamish, Hugo, Jamie, Georgia, Sophie and Megan.
26 May 2015

HAND FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE

Dear Parents

The Public Health Unit has been notified of several cases of Hand Foot and Mouth disease at St Patricks School in Cocma.

Hand Foot and Mouth disease is usually a mild viral illness. It can rarely lead to more serious complications such as viral meningitis (infection of the lining of the brain and spinal cord).

Symptoms include a mild fever, sores in the mouth and a rash with blisters. The rash does not itch and is usually located on the palms of the hands and soles of the feet. It may also appear on the buttocks. The blisters start as small red dots, and then often become ulcers lasting seven to ten days. They appear inside the cheeks, gums, and on the sides of the tongue, as well as on the hands and feet. Diagnosis can be confirmed by a throat swab or stool specimen. There is no specific treatment.

The incubation period is usually three to five days and cases are most infectious during the first week of the illness. Transmission occurs from person-to-person either by direct contact with the nose and throat discharges or blister fluid or the stool of infected persons. Good hygiene is the best protection i.e. hand washing with soap and water, avoid sharing cups or toothbrushes and ensuring the mouth and nose are covered when coughing and sneezing.

Children are to be excluded from the child care centre until all blisters have dried and should not be deliberately pierced as the fluid is infectious.

For more information please see
or contact me on 02 4824 1840.

Yours sincerely,

LISA CLARKSCN
Surveillance Officer
Public Health Unit

Public Health Unit
Murrumbidgee and Southern NSW Local Health Districts
Locked Bag 11 Goulburn NSW 2580
Tel 02 4824 1840 Fax 02 4822 3038