Dear Parents, Staff and Students

School Camps

Last Friday the Year 9 students returned from their annual camp looking as though some of them had just walked across Australia. Their 3 days in Mimosa Rocks National Park where they had to carry their backpacks, sleep in tents and prepare their own food certainly took many of them outside of their comfort zone. While school camps don’t place unrealistic demands on students they do provide challenges and opportunities, the benefits of which may not be realised until years later. It is interesting that some of the students’ recollections of the camp today are much more positive than when they arrived back at school last Friday.

It is always interesting to hear of the personalities that emerge when there is a bit of discomfort or unfamiliar surroundings to contend with. It is through the experience of school camps that particular qualities emerge in students that we may not otherwise see in normal daily school life. The absence of such things as technology, home comforts and even ‘parents on demand’ can be very beneficial and this is why we organise camps in conjunction with commercial providers who deal with many hundreds of students on such ventures. A key part of camp and excursion planning lies in the detailed risk assessments that must be provided before they are approved. The willingness of teachers to organise the camps and accompany the students is integral to the success of them and we thank Tim Lawley and Glenyce Moxon for accompanying the Year 9 students.

Likewise the Stage 3 students will soon be heading off to Cooba for their camp and we can be sure there will be many tales to tell of their experiences there. Good luck to Stage 3 in Week 6!

Exams and assessment time

At this time of the year many class groups are doing assessments and the Secondary students will be involved in their yearly exams next week. These are a very important part of school life in terms of seeing what knowledge, skills and competencies our students have acquired as well as giving their teachers diagnostic feedback on the effectiveness of their teaching programs. As with exams right through to the Higher School Certificate, after students have left St Patrick’s, the value of sustained effort throughout the year can never be underestimated and it makes the final revision process just before tests or exams that much more valuable.

We have been affirmed in recent weeks by learning of the considerable academic successes of our past students in their Year 11 and 12 studies at a range of schools. This complements the number of ex-St Pat’s students who have gained leadership positions in their respective schools in 2013 and again we offer our congratulations to them!

Bush Dance this weekend

This weekend promises to be one of the biggest in Cooma for quite some time with the Feast of Poetry on Sunday and the National Busking Championships – we have quite a number of our students involved in these showcase events and we wish them all the best. However, the highlight of the weekend must surely be the St Pat’s Bush Dance which is being held in St Paul’s Hall on Saturday evening. Make sure to come along and enjoy the good food, good music and fun times at this school community celebration. Thank you to the P&F for all the hard work that has gone into organising the event.

News Update

Please join us for the All Saints Feast Day parish mass tomorrow at 10 am.

The final Kinderstart day is being held tomorrow and the students have made such a positive impression over this 4 day program and we look forward to welcoming them next year. The P&F Kinderstart BBQ will take place tomorrow evening for the students and their families.

Congratulations to Stage 2 students on the very commendable reports I have heard about them on their excursion yesterday.

Please continue your prayers for our First Eucharist candidates as they continue towards their receipt of the sacrament on the 11 and 17 November.

Congratulations to our ex-St Pat’s students who have passed their Year 11 and 12 examinations at a range of schools.

We would ask that you keep those in our community who have suffered recent sad losses or who are in ill health in your thoughts and prayers.

Phil Stubbs
Principal

The Musica Viva concert today had an enthralled audience.
We are looking at better ways to communicate more effectively with our community. Although we have phone and mobile contact information, we would like to ensure email addresses are also up to date.

Can you please forward your email address to:
office@elpatscooma.nsw.edu.au.

Please note that any email addresses, like other personal information, will be treated with the utmost confidentiality.

Thank you.
Mark van Ommen
Assistant Principal

A Feast of Poetry is on at the Raglan Gallery this coming Sunday starting at 11.00. Competition winners will be presented with their prizes by Harry Laing and there will be many other opportunities to win great cash prizes on the day. Come along and enter the Poem on the Spot, open microphone or bush poetry competitions.

Any enquiries should be directed to Mrs Stubbs.

Our Secondary winners in the recent Australian Mathematics Competition.

Last Sunday a team of Stage Three students travelled to Canberra for the annual Archdiocesan Netball Carnival. The students did well, winning two games and drawing one game. All the students played well and were great representatives for the school, illustrating good sportsmanship at all times. Thanks to Florance McGufficke in Year 9 for umpiring and Stef Lovat for coaching on the day. Thanks also to Miss Anna Moxon for coaching the team prior to the carnival. We would also like to thank all the parents who came and supported the team.

About 38 Stage 3 students took part in the local T20 schools cricket day at Nijong Oval. Congratulations to all who participated and displayed cooperation and team spirit. Well done to those students who made the day enjoyable for someone else. It was great to watch the fun students had while hitting sixes, getting run out, dropping and taking catches or just being part of a team.

Last Friday 3G had their assembly. Below are some thoughts from our class:

- “I loved watching the reactions from the Kindies during Bas’ ad and the slide show” – Kiara
- “My favourite part was when I read … ‘and my lovely mum’.” – Kane
- “It was fun and a bit hard” – Megan
- “Everyone had fun and did their best” – Michala
- Molly C and Molly J did a good job with slide show” – Matthew
- “We can work well together” – Chloe
- “Lots of smiles in the audience, I had a smile myself, a smile of pride” – Bas

Email Address

Nourish Christmas Special!

Pre-order your Christmas gift NOW!
$25.00 RRR.

(THIS OFFER IS EXCLUSIVE UNTIL 21 DEC 2012).

Contact School Office for your copy.

Super 8s Cricket

Our Secondary winners in the recent Australian Mathematics Competition.
**Stage 3 Bush Dancing**

Stage 3 students getting ready for the bush dance.

**Chook Lotto**

Infants - Week 3

- Charlotte Geelan KG - for listening carefully during assembly
- Toby Insip 1P - for listening carefully during assembly
- Talon Kelly 1O - for being responsible

**SRC Quote of the week**

"Commitment isn't something that happens by chance."

**Primary SRC Super Awards**

SUPER Theme Week 4 – ‘Commitment’

Commitment is the willingness to give your all to a friendship, task or something you care about. When we are committed, people can count on us to keep our promises. When you are committed, you don't allow problems to hold you back. Being committed leads you to success.

- KG Kate Carton – for the commitment she demonstrates towards everything she does!
- 1P Joshua L Hely – for his committed attitude towards his reading!
- 1O Emily Quodling – for her commitment to presenting her work neatly and completing homework activities every week!
- 2P William Lehrmann – for his improved commitment to completion of all schoolwork!
- 2O Ivy McGufficke – for commitment to improving all aspects of her study!
- 3G Kiara Henderson – for achieving success with her learning through her committed attitude of giving her best to each task she undertakes!
- 3P Lachlan Jones – for showing commitment towards his school work!
- 3O Erin Dodd – for always striving to complete work to the best of her ability!
- Music/French Ursula Ronan – for being committed to all given tasks and taking responsibility for her learning!

**CLASS 30**

This term in 3O, we have been learning more about angles in mathematics. In Science, we have been learning about microorganisms and how they can help or harm people. We have also been writing Dreamtime stories and enjoyed creating our string art.

By Joel Case and Noah Mylan

**P&F News**

- **CAPS:** By popular demand the P&F are putting in another cap order. If you missed out last time and are interested in placing an order, please contact the office for an order form.
- **BUSH DANCE:** Saturday 3 November at St Paul’s Church Hall. Tickets on sale now from the Fabric Salon or at the door.
- **Decorations:** if you have gingham or check tablecloths, old hats, drizabones, rabbit traps, ornamental garden windmill, etc (all items should be clearly labelled), please contact one of the organisers listed below.
- **Setup:** from 10.00am on Saturday 3 November. BBQ, etc needs to be transported to venue. Helpers also needed to tidy up on Sunday.
- **Desserts:** If you can make a dessert, please let us know how many servings so we can ensure we have enough for everyone. Ovens available if required. Help is also needed on the Saturday making salads & preparing potatoes.
- **Auction Items:** We have sourced some fantastic auction items. Just a few more items required for our Bloke Barrow (wheel barrow full of bloke stuff) - any donation appreciated.

**Family BBQ & Picnic:** A reminder to all K-2 parents to return your reply slip for our welcome BBQ for the new Kindergarten families tomorrow evening. Contact Karen if you have any queries.

Please contact Eva Tangye 0413555565 or Karen McGufficke 0417496708 if you can help in any way. Many thanks and appreciating your support

The P&F Team

**BUSH DANCE**

6.30 pm - 10.30 pm
Saturday 3rd November 2012

Two course dinner & fantastic bush band
“The Usual Suspects”

Auction & Raffle
Beverage refreshments available

St. Paul’s Church Hall Commissioner Street Cooinda

Tickets available – Fabric Salon
94 Abbotsford Crescent

$10 Family  $9.50 Adults  $6 Child

Enquiries contact Eva Tangye on 0413 355 295
**WHAT'S ON**

**Thursday 1 November**
- 4th Kinderstart 1.30—3.00pm
- P & F Kinder 2013 BBQ 5.00pm

**Friday 2 November**
- K-6 Swimming

**Saturday 3 November**
- P & F Bush Dance (St Paul's Hall) 6.30pm

**Monday 5 November**
- Secondary exams

**Tuesday 6 November**
- Eucharist practice 9.30am
- Secondary exams

**Wednesday 7 November**
- Principal Retreat
- Secondary exams

**Thursday 8 November**
- School Board Meeting 6.30—7.30pm
- Secondary exams
- Friday 9 November
- Secondary exams
- K-6 Swimming

**Sunday 11 November**
- 1st Eucharist 10.00am

**Monday 12 November**
- Year 10 Rural Fire Service cadet program

**Tuesday 13 November**
- Eucharist practice 9.30am
- Year 10 Rural Fire Service cadet program

**Wednesday 14 November**
- Stage 3 camp at Cooba
- Year 10 Rural Fire Service cadet program

**Thursday 15 November**
- Stage 3 camp at Cooba
- Year 10 Rural Fire Service cadet program
- P&F Meeting 5.30 pm

**Friday 16 November**
- Year 10 Rural Fire Service cadet program
- K-6 Swimming

**Saturday 17 November**
- First Eucharist 7.00—8.00pm

**Monday 19 November**
- Year 10 First Aid course
- Year 10 First Aid course

**Tuesday 20 November**
- Year 10 First Aid course

**Wednesday 21 November**
- Years 9 & 10 Martin Schoo Basketball
- 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

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**Canteen News**

**VOLUNTEERS**

**Thursday 1 November**
- Misook Barnes

**Friday 2 November**
- Cassy Mackenzie

Due to Friday swimming, can Friday volunteers PLEASE be at the canteen from 12 noon until 1.30pm. Thank you.

**FRIDAY MEAL DEAL - HOMEMADE NACHOS with SALSA and SOUR CREAM/DRINK OF CHOICE - the cost will be $5.00! THIS IS THE ONLY CHOICE AVAILABLE TO BOTH PRIMARY AND INFANTS.**

Thank you again for your continued support.

Carolyn Hely
Canteen Manager

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**Around Town**

- **COOMA CATS:** Looking for girls aged 13-18 to play in the AFL NSW/ACT Youth Girls U18s Cup in Canberra on Saturday 17 November 2012. No experience necessary — training sessions held prior to carnival. All you need is a pair of boots, a mouth guard and a desire to learn a new game. Contact Rob Barnes 0425827130 or email secretarycoomacats@gmail.com.

- **A FEAST OF POETRY 2012:** Sunday 4 November at the Raglan Gallery, Lambie Street. Song competition presentation by Allan Spencer from the Cooma School of Music at 10.00 am. Finalists read their poems, winners announced and prizes and certificates presented from 11.00 am. Prizes to be won for all age groups for open microphone section, poem on the spot competition and original bush poetry competition for students. Live entertainment, refreshments and coffee. A Feast of Poetry Anthology 2012 on sale for $10. For more information, contact Lucy Nesci on 6452 5546.

- **Cooma Junior Rugby Club** invites young players and parents to play OZ Tag each Thursday afternoon starting this Thursday 1 November from 4pm at the Rotary oval. There is no cost to play. Teams will be a mix of children and adults - if the parents are experienced players they can help guide the young ones - no age limit. This is a great opportunity to develop the ball skills, passing, running into holes, support play, draw and passing and communication in defence and attack. Teams will be arranged on each day with a few games going at once dependent on numbers. Come along and have some fun.

- **TRASH 'N' TREASURE and MARKET DAY!** Monaro High School - Saturday 24 November 2012 from 8.00am—1.00pm, $10 per stall. All proceeds to the Free The Bears Fund, a non-profit organisation dedicated to protecting, preserving and enriching the lives of bears. Please help us in stopping the abuse, neglect and illegal trading www.freethebears.org. **Come along and browse through our stalls of new and second hand items which may just be your treasure! There will also be a sausage sizzle and raffle on the day. Entry is by gold coin donation.** (In the hall if bad weather). For details or to book a stall phone Chey or Tammy on 0434 515 475 or Monaro High School on 6452 4611.

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