Dear Parents, Staff and Students

This Christmas let us not forget to keep a place for Christ in amongst all the focus on giving and receiving and be mindful of the ultimate sacrifice that he made for us. When we say that Christmas is about presence, and not just presents, we are asking that he has a place in our hearts and minds as we gather with family and friends over the Christmas season.

We look forward to welcoming our new students in 2012 across Kindergarten to Year 10 and wish all students moving on to other areas and/or new schools all the best.

Again we would like to thank those teachers who are leaving us, Lauren Devlin, Alice Reardon, Alicia Clarke and Chris Millington. All the best with your future plans and thank you for your contributions to St Patrick’s.

Thank you to the parents for the ongoing support of all aspects of our school this year. Congratulations to all students on their efforts and achievements in 2011. A very big thank you to the teaching and support staff who give so much of themselves every year for the benefit of the whole school community.

May you enjoy a restful and joyful Christmas season and the best of good fortune in the New Year.

Kind regards

Phil Stubbs
Principal

The Primary and Secondary Choir as well as the Performance Group visited the Nursing Home last Friday to present a variety of songs. Students are hoping to learn some “Golden Oldies” early next year so the residents can be really involved in the visits.

Students on the K.2 Campus were thrilled to welcome a very special visitor yesterday!

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Children’s Christmas Vigil Mass: Children are invited to dress up as a Christmas character for the Children’s Christmas Mass on Christmas Eve at 6.00 pm. Practice will be held 3.30 to 4.00 pm this Friday 16 December. Phone Carol on 6452 2783 or Sue on 6452 6468 for more information.

St Patrick’s Cooma

- Children’s Vigil Mass—24 December 6.00 pm
- Christmas Vigil Mass—24 December at 9.00 pm
- Christmas Day Mass—25 December at 10.00am

St Andrew’s Nimmitabel
Christmas Vigil Mass—24 December at 9.00 pm
St Mary’s Adaminaby
Christmas Day Mass—25 December at 8.00 am

2nd Rite of Reconciliation for Christmas
Tuesday 20 December 7:30pm St Patrick’s Church

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Six Year 9 students served at the Senior Citizens Luncheon last Thursday and enjoyed the experience. Sarah Hill, Shanaye Miller, Brooke Crawford, Lora Fraser, Courtney Rolfe and Niomi Luker were kept busy waiting on tables, chatting with the diners and enjoying the celebration.
**Cooperation**

Cooperation is being helpful to one another, sharing the load and asking for help when we need it. By working together we can make any place a safe and happy one.

- KG Clara Thornton for being ready to listen
- K1P Lochlan Guilliani for lining up quickly
- 10 Jorja White for helping in the classroom
- Well done children!

**PARSA Awards**

Theme ‘Cooperation’

Cooperation is being helpful to one another, sharing the load. Being cooperative means looking for ways to be helpful and asking for help when we need it. By working together we can make any place a safe and happy one.

- K1P Joshua Mackenzie – for his persistent effort in cooperating with others!
- K1P Charlie Pendergast – for working on cooperating with others!
- K1P Deizel Barrett – for working on cooperating with others!
- 1O Lucy Thornton – for always being such a cooperative class member!
- 2O Will Pendergast – for always being generous with his time and knowledge to help others in need, both inside and outside the classroom!
- 2G Darnel Bartlett – for working cooperatively in groups!
- 2P Anna Connolly – for being a cooperative member of 2Purple!
- 3G Ashleigh Steinke – for creating a cooperative attitude within 3G through her fantastic attitude to notice where people need help and doing something about it!
- 3O Keeley White – for always being a cooperative class member!
- Music/French – Ryan Pielli – for working cooperatively with others and being a helpful member of KG!
- Good work everyone!

**WHAT’S ON**

**Thursday 15 December**

Picnic Day Years 3 to 9 Parish Pastoral Council 6.30 pm

**Friday 16 December**

Last day of Term 4

**TERM 1 2012 COMMENCEMENT DATES**

- Monday 30 January
  - Students in Years 1-7 return
- Tuesday 31 January
  - Students in Years 8-10 return
- Wednesday 1 February
  - Kindergarten commences today

**School Banking Program**

Spen is coming to Commonwealth Bank—Cooma branch on Friday 27 January 2012 to talk to us about the exciting Commonwealth Bank School Banking program. The school banking program includes an exciting and exclusive Rewards Program designed to encourage children to get into the habit of making regular savings. Spen will be excited to see you all at the Commonwealth Bank, Cooma branch on Friday 27 January 2012. Appearance times 10.00 to 11.00 am and 2.30 to 3.30 pm. Phone Commonwealth Bank Cooma for more information on 02 91200360.

**Canteen News**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the amazing volunteers who have helped me through this year and to wish you all a very safe and Happy Christmas. See you in 2012!

Carolyn Hely

Canteen Manager

**Around Town**

- Do you want to have fun and learn to Cross Country Ski? Then why not come to the ‘Come and Try it’ Cross Country day in Jindabyne planned for early next year. More details next term or contact Tina Jones at brunbyjack1@bigpond.com.
- Worldwide Marriage Encounter: 23 – 25 March at St Mary’s Towers Retreat Centre, Douglas Park; 20 - 22 July at St Mary’s Towers Retreat Centre, Douglas Park, 21 – 23 October at Winbourne, Edmond Rice Centre, Mulgoa. For bookings/details contact: Ardell & Bill Sharpe phone 4283 3435 or wsharpe@bigpond.net.au or visit www.wwme.org.au
- OOSH - Cooma North Children’s Centre (Accredited Service: Child Care Benefit applies - CCB) Now offering before and after school care Monday to Friday 7.30 to 9.15 am and 3.00 to 6.00 pm and vacation care from Monday to Friday 8.30 am - 5.30 pm. Holiday programs available from school office or from OOSH, Phone 0450 127 090 or email ooshcooma@dodo.com.au.