St Patrick’s Primary School
NEWSLETTER
Ph 02 6944 1085 www.spg.nsw.edu.au

Week 7, Term 1 Monday, 7 March 2016

Dear families and friends,

Last week I had the privilege of spending three days with fellow principals of the Canberra Goulburn Diocese. We met to discuss the National Safe Schools Framework, School Governance and Risk Management.

The Safe School Framework is built on the vision that all Australian schools are safe, supportive and respectful teaching and learning communities that promote student wellbeing. If you would like to get more information about this National initiative then visit http://safeschoolshub.edu.au/. The Safe Schools Hub provides the information and links so we can continue to make each and every school in Australia a safe and supportive place for kids to learn, develop relationships, to grow, be happy and to become great citizens of Australia.

This gathering was followed with a reflective spiritual retreat focusing on prayer and meditation exercises led by Archbishop Christopher Prowse. A great couple of days packed with networking, collaboration and self-reflection.

As part of our Safe Schools response you may have noticed that our school gates are closed between 9:00a.m. and 3:00p.m. Please don’t be put off by this, just raise the latch and come on in to the office to sign in. Signage will be appearing shortly indicating procedures on entering the school grounds.

Essentially, this involves what parents have always done; reporting to the office and signing in and out. Please note that when picking up your child within school hours you will be given a red pass out card to present to the classroom teacher. This informs the teacher you have been cleared at the front office to collect your child.

Well done to our students and teachers for the fantastic wall display representing the Catholic Schools Week theme of, “I belong. You belong. We belong”. If you are passing by the school I would invite you to come in and have a look. The wall display expresses the welcoming and collaborative nature of our school where everyone belongs. At St Patrick’s our differences are not only expected, but are celebrated, and seen as opportunities for flourishing.

We are a school open to family and community and we welcome you to participate fully in your child’s education. So please, take the time to get involved with the school community as it will be a most rewarding experience.

Vincent Powell
Principal

Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it.
The Good News

Catholic Schools Week
We had a beautiful Mass last Wednesday as Yr 5/6, Mrs Flanagan, Kinder and Mrs Carberry lead us so well through the celebration. The Yr 6 students presented their Kinder Buddies with a welcome to our St Patrick’s Family and the Yr 5 students lead the readings from scripture. Thank you Mrs Flanagan and Mrs Carberry for your thoughtful coordination of the Mass and ensuring many of our Kinder families were present to witness this welcome.

The theme for this week’s Catholic Schools Week is ‘I Belong, You Belong, We Belong’ which fitted the Mass so well and demonstrated such a powerful introduction to this special time. Please come along to this week’s Liturgy with Catholic Schools Week as its theme to help celebrate as our community. Come into school and see our display the children have all contributed to, to celebrate Catholic Schools Week. Our school leaders from Yr2-Yr6 will represent St Patrick’s with Mr Powell at a special Western Region Mass on Tuesday in Cootamundra. This is a new initiative and has been well supported by our Western Region school community.

Theological Thoughts – from Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church
How can one reconcile the existence of hell with the infinite goodness of God?
God, while desiring ‘all to come to repentance’, nevertheless has created the human person to be free and responsible; and our decisions are respected. Therefore, it is the human person who freely excludes themselves from communion with God if at the moment of death persists in mortal sin and refuses the merciful love of God.

Saint Patrick’s Day
Our patron saint’s feast day is on Thursday, 17 March. We will celebrate with an Irish-themed out of uniform day; Irish Joke-Telling; a special lunch option; an afternoon of tabloids with pre-schoolers invited; and Mass. The Mass is to be held on Thursday (instead of Wednesday) at 12pm in the Church. Please come along, invite others and help celebrate this very special day in the life of our school and Parish community. I’ve told Fr Sijo that our next celebration will be a sea of green as he looks out on his congregation and he is very much looking forward to celebrating with us.

Gospel Quiz
The Joy of Forgiveness. The story of the prodigal son confirms Jesus’ words that there is great rejoicing in heaven over one repentant sinner. The joyful and lavish banquet prepared by the father to celebrate his son’s return is a symbol of the heavenly banquet. In this story the older son cuts himself off from the banquet. Unable to forgive like his father, he chooses to stay outside in his own private hell. May we know the joy of forgiveness and the joy of forgiving. This week’s question: Why did Jesus tell the parable of the prodigal son?

Last week’s question: What type of tree beared no fruit? Answer: It was a fig tree which beared no fruit.

Craig Ferguson
Religious Education Coordinator

Uniform Shop
Could parents please start thinking about their children’s winter uniform requirements, particularly those who have started with us this year and have not yet purchased any winter items. Paula Cotterill our Uniform Shop Coordinator will be in this Tuesday afternoon from 3pm if you would like to try items on for size, otherwise simply download the form from our website fill it in and send it in to the school office with payment.

Please remember to return the Panadol/Asthma and Student Access Agreement Forms this week.

No swimming for sport this week!
Happy birthday to the following students who celebrate their birthday this week.
Chloe Fallon celebrated her birthday on Saturday, 5 March.
Lilly Cotterill celebrates her birthday TODAY!
Our very best wishes to you both on your special day!

Class Merit Award Recipients
Week 6 of Term 1.

Kindergarten - James Reardon - his kind and helpful attitude toward others.
Year 1 - Josie Quine - reading and writing with such enthusiasm and creativity.
Year 2 - Brody Bourne - for using his knowledge of mathematical strategies to obtain answers.
Year 3/4 - Benjamin Leane - a consistent reading diary.

Samuel Sharman - an impressive summary of a TV show
Year 5/6 - Jack Kingwill - participating in class discussions.
- Zoe McDonnell - her commitment to her role in readers theatre.

Wildcat Award Recipients
Week 6 of Term 1.

Responsible Don Cotterill, Allie Sullivan, Tom Scott, Harry Crowe, Oliver Gailey, Sadie Eccleston & William Gaskin.
Respectful
Locky Eccleston

Western Region Swimming Carnival

- On Tuesday, 1st March, Xavier Graham, Edward Murphy, Ryan Fairall, Jack Kelleher, Paddy Reardon and Abbey Flanagan travelled to Queanbeyan as members of the Western Region Swimming Team.
- The senior boys relay (Xavier, Paddy, Ryan and Jack) swim well and beat their entry time from Temora. They were placed 5th.
- Abbey swam a personal best in her 50m age race and placed 6th overall. She also improved on her backstroke time and was placed 11th.
- Paddy swam a strong race in his 50m age race heat and was placed 10th overall.
- Edward swam well in his event, senior breaststroke placing 8th.
- Xavier also swam in the senior backstroke (8th), breaststroke (3rd) and butterfly (3rd).
- Jack Kelleher competed in the 11yrs 50m freestyle (2nd), Backstroke (2nd) and Butterfly (1st) and improved his times from the Temora swimming carnival.
- Jack will now compete at the Archdiocesan Swimming Carnival in Homebush, Sydney on the 31st March in 11yrs 50m freestyle, backstroke and butterfly – Good luck Jack!

TUCKSHOP NEWS...
Stay tuned for a special tuckshop menu for our upcoming St. Patrick’s Day next Thursday, 17 March.

Holy Week & Easter Celebrations 2016
Holy Thursday, 24 March - Mass of the Lord’s Supper - 6.00pm
Good Friday, 25 March - Stations of the Cross: 10.00am
- Celebration of the Lord’s Passion & Communion - 3.00pm
Easter Saturday, 26 March - Vigill Mass - 6.00pm with service of light.
Easter Sunday, 27 March - Mass Gundagai - 8.00am
- Mass Jugiong - 10.00am

Latest News...
Ryan Fairall and Paddy Reardon have made it through to the next level of Rugby League while Grace, Charli Fiddes and Sally Scott have made it through for Netball after successful efforts at today’s Winter Trials. Well done to everyone who trialled today.
Are your children keen to play rugby? Sign up with the Tumut Bullants!

We train once a week (Fridays) and play once a fortnight (Sunday) - playing two games. We also have a Girls Viva 7’s Touch Rugby comp.

REGO DAY & TRAINING
Registration day & training on FRIDAY 11 MARCH 2016 at 5.30pm at Jarrah Oval (Booral Ave) Tumut.
- Costs are $80 per player. This fee includes their shorts, socks and bag (for new Club members).
- All coaches have their Smart Rugby accreditation.
All children MUST be registered before they commence training and playing.
Contact Jock Mason on 0418 649 203 with any enquiries.
Check us out on FaceBook at https://www.facebook.com/pages/Tumut-Bullants-Junior-Rugby-Union-Club

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**ROSTERS**

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<th>ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER</th>
<th>TUCKSHOP ROSTER</th>
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<td><strong>Wednesday, 2 March</strong></td>
<td><strong>Saturday, 12 March</strong></td>
<td><strong>Friday, 11 March</strong></td>
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<td>Liturgy 12pm</td>
<td>Max Peterson &amp; Tom Scott</td>
<td>Kate Graham Michelle McDonnell</td>
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<td>Radio 2.15pm</td>
<td>George Harpley &amp; Don Cotterill</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday, 9 March</strong></td>
<td><strong>Saturday, 19 March</strong></td>
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<td>Sally Scott Charli Fiddes</td>
<td>Xavier Graham &amp; Hugh Graham</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday, 16 March</strong></td>
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**St. Patrick’s Phone Directories**

If you have not already collected your local telephone directory they are available from the following outlets for $10.

Gundagai Newsagency, Gundagai Real Estate, and the Coolac Store.

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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Wednesday, 16 March - NRL Gala Day  
Thursday, 17 March - St. Patrick’s Day  
Thursday, 24 March - St. Patrick’s Cross Country Carnival  
Friday, 25 March - Good Friday  
Saturday, 26 March - Easter Saturday  
Sunday, 27 March - Easter Sunday  
Monday, 28 March - Easter Monday  
Wednesday, 30 March - Michael Mangan - Whole School Performance 11am - 12pm  
Thursday, 31 March - Mackillop Swimming  
Monday, 4 April - Responsible Pet Talk Kindergarten and Year 1 11am  
Tuesday, 5 April - Western Region Cross Country - Adelong  
Friday, 8 April - Term 1 ends.  
Wednesday, 27 April - Term 2 begins  
Tuesday, 10th - Thursday, 12 May - NAPLAN Years 3 & 5

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Please note cake cooks are required to bake 3 doz cupcakes or 2 slab cakes and cookie cooks are to provide 1 batch of the recipe handed out.
Dear Year 5 & 6 Students and Parents/Carers

You are warmly invited to the Information Evening for Year 7 2017, to be held on **Tuesday 15 March at 6pm** in the MPC at Gundagai High School.

This marks the beginning of the transition to high school for Year 6 students and this event provides you with an opportunity to hear all about the great opportunities available to our students.

Year 5 students and their families are more than welcome to also join us and meet our teachers and be part of our school community.

We are looking forward to meeting you.

Adelia Fuller
Principal