

#### **Upcoming events**

Monday 16 Dec

Yr 6 Liturgy 2pm Church

Yr 6 End of Year BBQ Celebration 5pm

#### Wednesday 18 Dec

Term 4 concludes for students

#### 2020

#### Wednesday 29 Jan

Kindy & Year 7 first day

Thursday 30 Jan

All other Years first day

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Walking together

at St Patrick's Parish School

in 2019

(Pope Francis - Installation Mass 2013)

## St Patrick's Parish School

#### **Dear St Patrick's Community**

**2019 has been a year of** *walking together*: walking together in understanding and learning; walking together in support of one another, showing empathy and kindness; walking together in faith.

We have undertaken many different projects throughout the year - raising money for people around the world in need and in our local community, and showing kindness to others as our 'Kindness Garden' grew within each of us.

We all show the Spirit of St Patrick through our actions and words, by supporting one another and spreading kindness in our

community. This is how we show true 'Strength in Gentleness'.

As we busily prepare to celebrate Christmas with our family and friends, let us remember to walk together, not only with each other, but also with those in need. As Pope Francis said, "**I want to ask you a favour... I want to ask** 

you to walk together and take care of one another."

To our staff members, I say a huge thank you for the work done this year in creating the future for young people.

To you our parents, I thank you for entrusting your precious ones to our care.

May we spend a little time at the Christmas crib to remind us to 'live justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with our God' (Micah6;8).

Christmas blessings for 2019 to all of our families, current and future. I look forward to seeing everyone in 2020.

#### Frances Robertson

Principal

Today, like millions of other people, I went to work. I didn't design a beautiful skyscraper, I didn't write a proposal to save an endangered species, and I didn't drive a bus or fly a plane, or write a crucial bill that would someday become a law.

#### WE TEACI

However, I did spend time with some very important people. I read a story to an attorney, I sang the alphabet song with a Supreme Court Judge. I ate lunch with a pastor, and patted the back of an engineer until he fell asleep. Taught a policeman how to tie his shoes, and introduced an astronaut to the color red. Tomorrow, who knows whom I'll meet, but one thing is for sure... They will be very IMPORTANT for they are our precious children, and the hope of our very future.

## From the AP's Desk

I would like to wish all of our St Patrick's parents and students a safe, happy and holy Christmas and holiday season.

Walt Disney once said, 'You can dream, create, design and build the most wonderful ideas in the world, but it requires people to make the dream a reality'. The reality is that the learning experiences and projects that have taken place this year could not have happened without a great deal of commitment and support from our teachers, parents and students.

I would like to say a special goodbye to our amazing Year 10 students. I still remember the day when they started Kindergarten. Along the way, new students arrived and became part of this amazing year group. You will be missed!

I look forward to seeing you all again in 2020. Steve Joyce Assistant Principal

## **Primary Student Leadership**

In recent weeks, many students have taken the risk of nominating for a Student Leadership position for 2020. particularly impressive were the number of students from Year 5 who carefully prepared, rehearsed and polished speeches to present to the Primary students. Voting followed and a smaller group were invited to present for an interview with Mrs Robertson and Mrs Kovacs (REC).

Congratulations to our **2020 School Captains**: Molly Brabham and Lochlan Giuliani.



Thank you to our 2019 School Leaders for all their work. Primary Leaders: Meg Schofield, Ben Smith, Ollia Stockl, Tom Whyman SRC Leaders: Tia Quodling, Ethan Stacey.

The **2020 Primary Leadership Team** are: Emilia Greville, Willow Joyce, James Burke, Thomas Lloyd . They will joined by **SRC leaders**: Neveah Filiga and Ben Porter.



### Thank you thank you thank you

We had a wonderful team working on the **St Patrick's Cooma Races BBQ** last Saturday.

**Thank you** to the cooks who supplied food to sell. The slices and muffins were delicious.

**Thank you** to the people who donated all the bits and pieces we need to make it operational. Every bottle of sauce mattered.

**Thank you** to the parents, old and new, who came to serve customers and turn sausages.

For one grandmother, it was reliving a past life as a St Patrick's parent, but she still belongs and so she came to help. For another parent, it was the beginning (we hope) of a long association with St Patrick's as her little girl starts school next year. For some parents, it was their hundredth time at turning up to an event and just pitching in. And they did so cheerfully and generously.

**Thank you** to the students who also donned aprons and did prep work and served front of house. They were showcasing our school very well.

**Thank you** to Marjorie Revelant and Emma Kanowski who were real troopers in doing the preparation and holding the fort on Saturday. Thank you to Victoria Elgey, our Community Council chairperson, for the behind the scenes work.

**Thank you** to Fr Mick and Garry Robertson who are honorary St Patrick's staff members and always turn up anyway. They obviously love the smell of BBQ onions!

**Thank you** to Mick Schofield, a former parent, and the president of the Cooma Monaro Race Club for making sure that everything is ready for us. His support was invaluable.

It was another successful event for St Patrick's. We waved our flag in the public arena and we made substantial money for the school (final counting to happen this week after all receipts are in).







## Jingle Bells at William Hudson

This week the sounds of Christmas rang like sleigh bells when Year 8 RE students joined the residents of Sir William Hudson Nursing home in a little festive celebration.



Carols, choreography, cards and chats were shared, and smiles were everywhere to be seen as the community came together during this wonderful season of Advent.

## **The Nativity**

And it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. So all went registered. evervone his to be to own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; because he was of the house and lineage of David:

To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were should accomplished that she be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. Gospel of Luke 2:1-7

Jesus was born about 4 BC at the end of the reign of Herod, the King of Judea, and the Roman Emperor Caesar Augustus. His legal father **Joseph** was of the Israelite House of David (Luke 2:4) and his mother **Mary** was of Levitical descent through her cousin Elizabeth (Luke 1:5). St. Joseph took his wife Mary and the infant Jesus on the Flight to Egypt to avoid Herod and the Slaughter of the Innocents (Matthew 2).

Upon their return, the Holy Family settled in Nazareth in Galilee where Jesus grew and spent his childhood and early adult years. Little is known of his childhood except he was called a Nazarene (Matthew 2:23), and at age 12 he was found in the midst Bucket List for Christmas

of the teachers in the Temple of Jerusalem (Luke 2:46).

The first Christmas Nativity Scene was created by St. Francis of Assisi in December of 1223 in Greccio, Italy. He was visiting there to give the sermon at Midnight Mass and decided to fashion a Nativity scene in a nearby cave. He built a manger with hay, and then brought live people and animals to celebrate the Nativity of our Lord Jesus.

In the opening paragraph of his March 25, 1995 encyclical *The* Gospel of Life, John Paul II comments: "The source of this great joy is the Birth of the Saviour; but Christmas also reveals the **full meaning of every human birth**, and the joy which accompanies the Birth of the Messiah is thus seen to be the foundation and fulfilment of joy at every child born into the world (John 16:21)."









## **Spirit of St Patrick**

Each term, we celebrate all the students who are demonstrating through their words and actions that they have embraced our school **'Strength in Gentleness'**. This is known as the **Spirit of St Patrick**.

Anyone can nominate a student for this special recognition. If you see a special action, please let us know.

Along with receiving a certificate and a green wrist band, the students are invited to a Principal's morning tea. It is treat time!













The approach to teaching Mathematics is no longer restricted to drill and practice. So what

## does Mathematics look like in the classroom?

During a Mathematics lesson students may be:

Working with the teacher, independently and in pairs Using manipulatives, for example, counters and bead strings to show their understanding Making connections with mathematical ideas Visualising their learning Matching symbols, drawings and words Using mathematical language to explain their thinking and learning Convincing others of their learning Asking questions and responding to questions Recording learning using symbols, diagrams/representations and mathematical language Finding efficient ways to solve problems

# This year Kindergarten to Year Two classes have been focusing on 3 key questions during Mathematics lessons:

How do you know you have solved the problem?

What strategy did you use?

Is there another strategy you could use?





The academic and sporting successes of our students culminated in our Term 4 and Annual Awards Ceremonies over the last week. It was very pleasing to see the number of students receiving academic awards, and the other students supporting and applauding their peers as they received their awards. This was another example of the wonderful community atmosphere here at the school.



**Secondary Awards Ceremony** 

#### The St Patrick's Parish School Primary Altitude Award

This award acknowledges achievement and commitment across a range of areas:

Academic - independent and creative learner; Behaviour - consistently displays appropriate behaviour; Leadership - role model to others; Participation - participates in school and community events; Spiritual - displays dignity and respect for others and themselves.

The St Patrick's Parish School Altitude Award for Primary students was awarded to Meg Schofield.



Mathematics and Science Awards, which are awarded to students from Years 4-6. This award is to promote and acknowledge achievements and endeavour in this particular area of learning.

The winner from Year 4 is Thomas Alcock; Year 5 is James Burke and from Year 6 is Archie Blyton.



This year the Strength in Gentleness Award has been won by Hamish Ward. The winner of the Sister Louise Prize for Joy and Concern has been won by Esther Robinson.



The Brigidine Citizenship Award goes to Emilia Greville.

The Winner of the Community Chest Citizenship Award is Talia Caffarelli.

The CWA scholarship recipient for this year is Gabrielle Bitar.

The winner of the Literacy Endeavour Awards are Charlotte Morley and Tom Whyman.









The Brigidine Leadership Award was awarded to Ben Smith.





Each year at St Patrick's we recognise Year 1 to Year 6 students who have exemplified Excellence, Endeavour, Courtesy and Citizenship. Each class teacher selects the combination of excellence, endeavour, courtesy and citizenship awards that best fits the students in their class.















Our Air Force cadets have completed their End of Year Parade, followed by time with the Commissioner of Air Force cadets, Paul Hughes.

Congratulation to Jack Buckley, Darcy Luton and Mitchell Burke.



## Message from Hon Bronnie Taylor MLC

Thanks so very much for having me at your awards ceremonies Frances.

I love your school and I love what you do.

Bronnie

The Hon Bronnie Taylor MLC

Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women

NSW Parliament House

SYDNEY. NSW 2000







## **The Rural Fire Service Presentation**

Thank you to the RFS, especially Regina Roach and Verne Dunning, for running the cadetship program for our Stage 5 students.

Thank you to our Mayor, Mr Peter Beer, Mr Rein Peet and Pastor Jenny Robinson for acknowledging the students' achievements.





#### **Criteria for Secondary Awards 2019**

**Outstanding Sports Performance Award** Awarded to students in the year of their performance who satisfy the following minimum criteria:

**Athletics** (Track & Field)/Swimming/Cross Country – first to eighth place in the final at Combined Catholic Colleges Championship or competes at State Championships.

**All other individual sports** eg. Golf, Touch Football etc – demonstrated outstanding performances in interschools competition and who has been recognised by representation at a Combined Catholic Colleges level.

**Team Sports** - a student or team who has demonstrated outstanding performances in inter-schools competition and who has been recognised by representation at a CCC level or any team reaching the final 16 of an inter-school or CCC competition.

**Snow Sports** - a student in any of the four snow sports disciplines who qualifies, competes and is a member of a second or third placing individual or team at a national level.

**Sportsman/Sportswoman of the Year** Awarded to a student who has performed at an above average level across a range of at least two or three sports.

**St Patrick's Trophy for Sportsmanship** Awarded to a student who has been actively involved in a range of sports and participates in a way that enhances the enjoyment for self and others.

**Outstanding Achievement Across a Range of Subjects** Based upon a number of grade As across the year.

**Outstanding Application Across a range of Subjects** Based upon number of 1s for effort across the year.

Most Improved Most Improved in subject.

**Citizenship** Demonstrates citizenship by awareness of the needs of others and puts that awareness into action by involvement in community and school activities.

**Gold Bar Award (this was awarded at the Term 4 Assembly)** Awarded to a student who has received four school awards in one year.

**Memorial Award for Adventurous Spirit (in memory of Shaun Jarrett)** Shaun was a student at the school from 1993 – 1996. This award commemorates Shaun's life and his admirable qualities of perseverance, honesty and humility. It is awarded to a student who is genuine, hardworking and persistent in his/her efforts.

**Memorial Award for Creativity (in memory of Robbie Wiley)** Robbie Wiley was a student at the school from 1998—2000. This award commemorates Robbie's life, his gift for thinking beyond the obvious and his free-spirited enthusiasm. It is awarded to a student with qualities of creativity, originality and inventiveness.

**St Cecilia Music Award** This award is given to a student who has contributed consistently to the musical life of the school.

**Memorial Award for Creative Expression/Poetry (in memory of Naomi Knight)** In memory of the life of Naomi Knight who was a student at St Patrick's from 1986 – 1996 and was a gifted and talented writer. This award will be presented to a student whose use of the written word is both inspirational and uplifting.

**CWA Award** The CWA Award recognises a student who has a strong interest and ability in Food Technology. This award acknowledges that the student not only has strong practical skills but, in keeping with the philosophy of the CWA, a strong interest and knowledge in food related issues, and a willingness to get involved in community matters.

**The Community Chest Award** This is awarded to a student who meets the following criteria: Put others before themselves; Be aware of and empathetic to the needs of others; Be non judgmental; Be willing to step out of their own comfort zone to help others; Encourage and foster acceptance; Be involved in community focused activities, school based and /or outside of school

Snowy Hydro Science Award This award is given to a student who has demonstrated excellence in Science.

**Reuben F Scarf Award for Commitment** This award is given to a student demonstrating consistent effort and a desire to improve.

**St Patrick's School Altitude Award** Awarded to a student who has demonstrated excellence in the following five areas:

Academic awards Community Service (10 hours for Stage 4, 20 hours for Stage 5) School Service (10 hours for Stage 4, 20 hours for Stage 5) Regional Representation Participation in Cultural Events

Congratulations to Joshua Abrokwah for his high achievement in all five areas.























**K-2 Christmas Concert** 



# **Colour Connect Day**

We raised \$1131 for Relay for Life & Vinnies Xmas Appeal.





Thanks for your

Support!

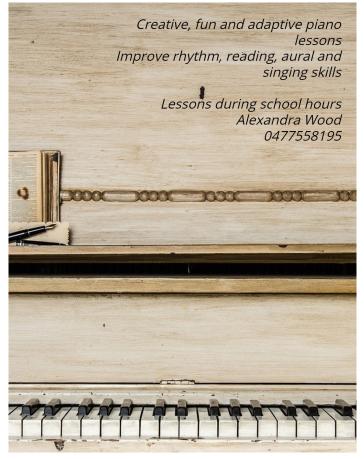












#### COOMA CHAMPS TENNIS



## School Holiday Tennis Camp



Come along and have loads of fun Win great prizes, while learning lots about tennis ROYAL TENNIS CLUB COST:\$120 BBQ LUNCH

Bring along swimmers for some water fun CAMP 1 : Mon 23-Tues 24 Dec, 2019. 9AM–3PM CAMP 2 : Wed 8 – Thurs 9 Jan, 2020. 9AM-3PM CAMP 3 : Wed 15 -Thurs 16 Jan, 2020. 9AM-3PM CAMP 4 : Wed 22- Thurs 23 Jan, 2020. 9AM-3PM ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHER AVAILABLE We are now taking bookings for Term 1, 2020 Please contact Tom Perea : 0404838049 The School Holiday Learn toSwim Programwill be held fromMonday 6 January till Friday 17 January.

Bookings are now being taken. All levels will be catered for. Squad Camp will run from Monday 6 January to Wednesday 8. From 10.00 am to 2.00 pm. Lunch and Morning tea will be provided. Places will be limited to the squad camp so book early. Please call Michelle 0414 880 783 or email michellethomas7@bigpond.com for bookings.



