This week is “National Volunteer Week”. I am in awe of volunteers, people who selflessly give of their time to make the world a better place for others. The volunteers at St Vincent De Paul are a classic example of this. I realise that some enjoy the camaraderie of the role but more importantly, when they go home at the end of the day, they can be satisfied that they have helped make the world a better place.

Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders) are another great organisation of volunteers. These doctors show their humanity (and Godliness!) by helping those in the greatest need. Many could be living quite comfortably working for a Medical Practice. Instead, they put themselves in harm’s way around the world to attend to the medical needs of some of the most needy people on the planet. They often work in some of the most dangerous and violent places in the world.

More locally, people like Alex Carmody, whom I watched for many years as he tirelessly raises money for the Good Friday Appeal. I have no doubt his reward is knowing that he has made life a little better for sick children. His kindness and generosity is a gift from God.

I could go on about the wonderful work of volunteers but I think that you get the “drift”. As far as I’m concerned, volunteering for acts of goodness is also an act of God. I want to finish with a quote from Teresa of Ávila who said:

“Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which he looks compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good. Yours are the hands through which he blesses all the world. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are his body. Christ has no body now on earth but yours.”

So God bless all our volunteers and the way they are able to show God to others. Volunteering doesn’t mean a big commitment either. If you think that, if in Wangaratta alone, everyone performed one act of kindness per year then there would be nearly five hundred acts of kindness per week. That’s got to make a difference to the world.
Dear Parents,

This week our Grades three and five students will be involved in the Naplan testing. Naplan is a National testing regime that attempts to gain insights as to how students are performing at key points in their educational journey. The results of this testing is made available to parents. However, I’ve always found it advisable to ensure the results are cross referenced with the school’s own, more comprehensive, assessment regime as a “one off” test such as Naplan will not always give an accurate assessment of a students abilities.

**School Photos**

These will take place THIS FRIDAY, 15th May. Photo envelopes were sent home a few weeks ago. These should have been returned some time ago. If they haven’t been returned please do so ASAP.

*Winter uniforms are to be worn on the day. We will have a few spare shirts for students to wear as a back up. Some parents are concerned that the long sleeve shirts are not yet available from Steers. This is not a problem as students can wear their short sleeve shirts with their windcheaters on the day.*

**ASSEMBLY**

Due to school photos on Friday, we will be holding our Assembly tomorrow at 9.00am. Everyone welcome!

**In Sympathy**

Please keep our beloved Grade Three teacher Trudi Vincent and her family in your thoughts and prayers this week. Trudi’s mum passed away last Friday after a short illness. It’s never easy losing a family member but losing your mum can be particularly difficult.

**Eucharist and Confirmation PARENT Meeting – 20th May**

On 20th May there will be a parent meeting for parents of children who will be making their Eucharist and Confirmation this year. Children will need to have been Baptised and have made their Sacrament of Reconciliation, in order to be able to make their Eucharist and Confirmation. The meeting will be held in St. Pat’s Supper room at 7.00pm.

Eucharist/Confirmation will be on the weekend of 22nd and 23rd of August, 2015.

**Feast on Ovens (Ladies Luncheon)**

Tickets are selling well for the Feast on Ovens ladies lunch, which will be held in our school hall on Saturday 30th May commencing at 12.30pm. Enjoy a two course lunch by Rinaldo’s Casa Cucina, wine and beer, great prizes and a guest speaker. It should be a great girl’s day out. They deserve no less as far as I’m concerned (although I’d love to be a “fly on the wall” to hear what they talk about!). Tickets are available from the Office.

THANK YOU 3rd LITTLE DUCK CATERING FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
School Closure

Just a reminder, that St Patrick’s will be closed on Monday 1st June to allow staff to work on a Professional Development activity with Karen Starkiss (Special Education).

Catholic Education Week – 22nd to 29th May

All Sandhurst Diocese schools celebrate Catholic Education Week from 22nd to 29th May. During this week activities are planned to celebrate our Catholic identity and achievements. A celebration of all Wangaratta Catholic Schools will be held on 25th May (Monday). We will hold a special prayer service and get-together. The Years Foundation (Prep) to Twos will come together at St Patrick’s School, all Years Three and Fours will gather at Our Lady’s School and our Years Five and Sixes will assemble at St Bernard’s.

During this week, offers of enrolment will be sent out to new families, the Chronicle will run an article on Catholic Education and each school will have their own way of celebrating during the week.

As part of our Catholic Education Week activities, we have Andrew Chinn visiting the school. Andrew is a singer/songwriter who records mainly Religious Education based material. The children are very familiar with his work as we use his songs quite a bit during our liturgies.

SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

Over the coming weeks, in the lead up to our School Cross Country and the Districts Cross Country, we are very fortunate to have Anna Pasquali running some training sessions for the students over at Merriwa Park. These sessions will happen of a Wednesday lunch time for interested students.

P-6 School Cross Country at Merriwa Park - Thursday 21st May
District Cross Country - Friday 5th June

A LEARNING WALK May 26th 9.00am - 10.00am

For Parents/friends to walk through the whole school to observe students in class, to ask questions and to see school from every level: Foundation to Year 6. To think about learning and what it means to you, to have an opportunity to talk to staff and other parents about learning, to have meaningful input into future planning and to enjoy being a part of your school community.

A Learning Walk Expression of Interest Form

YES! Please register me for the...Learning Walk 9.00am-10.00am Tuesday 26th May

Name/s: ________________________________________

Return the Expression of Interest to the school office by Tuesday 19th May

THANK YOU APPIN STREET BAKERY FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
The latest APP & St Patrick’s School (free App) Newsletter Online

St Patrick’s App is available for free to help keep you up to date with our activities and important dates and reminders. Details can be found at:

http://stpatricksict.wikispaces.com/St+Patrick%27s+Mobile+App

Mass Times

* Saturday 6.00pm St Patrick’s
* Sunday 8.00am St Patrick’s
* Sunday 9.00am Our Lady’s
* Sunday 10.00am Moyhu
* Sunday 10.30am Whitfield (1st Sunday)
* Sunday 10.30am St Patrick’s
* Sunday 5.00pm Latin Mass at St Patrick’s

Terry

CHATTER MATTERS

Here is a list of fabulous books to read with your child that model complex sentences and rich vocabulary:

Fancy Nancy series by Jane O’Connor, Fearless by Colin Thompson, Clancy the Courageous Cow by Lachie Hume, Suddenly by Colin McNaughton, The terrible plop by Ursula Dubosarsky, The three little bush pigs by Paul Dallimore, Giraffes can’t dance by Giles Andreae & Guy Parker-Rees, Herman and Rosie by Gus Gordon, Window by Jeannie Baker (You will have to make up the sentences for this one!)


DATES TO REMEMBER

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THANK YOU ANYTIME FITNESS FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
A big pat on the back to **HANNAH CARROLL** for the wonderful way she has been practicing with her writing. We have enjoyed seeing all your hard work!

A big pat on the back to **CORDELIA PORTA** for her determination and persistence in overcoming challenges out in the playground. I am so proud of you Cordi! Well done!

Congratulations to **EMILY BEVAN** for working hard to finish all her work on time and for displaying great listening skills. Keep up the wonderful work Emily!

A big pat on the back to **MARSHALL SEMMENS** for his wonderful participation in getting ready for assembly. Great job Marshall, keep up the good work!

Well done to **JAXON AUGER** for his excellent listening and enthusiastic participation during the First Aid sessions with Helen Berry.

A big pat on the back to **MILLA SCHUBERT** for always demonstrating great listening, particularly during the First Aid sessions. Well done Milla!

A big pat on the back to **BAILEY LEAVETT-BROWN** for demonstrating excellent leadership skills in the classroom and for being very considerate of her peers. You’re a star!

Congratulations to **SIENNA LAWLESS** for being a thoughtful class member, showing great care for her classmates and uses her initiative in sensing their needs!

Congratulations to **FLETCHER BEDFORD** for the creative way in which he used autumn leaves to create an autumn scene in art.

A hug pat on the back to **TALEAHA CARMODY** for the magnificent writing she did, about how she spent Mother’s Day. Fantastic effort Taleaha, keep up the great work!

Congratulations to **CHARLEY HALL** for always putting up her hand to help and support her classmates.

Congratulations to **FRASER LANDGREN** for working hard to concentrate on his work which helps him to give his best effort.

Congratulations to **MEG BEDENDO** for being a kind, caring and supportive team mate at Friday’s inter-school sports netball match. It was lovely to hear about her wonderful sportsmanship!

Congratulations to **MATTHEW STONE** for flying high in his Maths 50’s Club in class. Keep up the great work Matt, with your times tables!
WHAT’S HAPPENING IN THE CLASSROOM

FOUNDATION – Karen & Karen

We hope all our Mums had a lovely Mother’s Day and enjoyed their surprise bag! You certainly deserve it!

Some important reminders:

• **Assembly** is tomorrow, Thursday 14th May (as photos are in the hall on Friday)
• **Photos are this Friday, 15th May:** children must wear school uniform (not sports uniform). Preps are to bring their runners to change into for Blueearth.
• **Please complete and return the School Nursing Program forms as soon as possible.**
• Monday, 25th May is CREW day involving all Catholic primary schools in Wangaratta. Preps to Year 2 are at St. Patrick’s Primary School.
• Andrew Chinn visiting Wednesday 27th May. Families are invited to a concert after lunch.
• Parents are invited to **read** with the children **Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday** mornings 9:00am – 9:15am.
• With the cooler weather upon us, please ensure your child’s **vests/jumpers/jackets** are **labelled**.

This week in:

**Religion** – we are discussing our favourite colours and where we see them in God’s world. This leads onto: What messages/meanings do colours give us? Why is colour so important?

**Literacy** – we begin to learn about digraphs (two consonants together) such as ‘sh’ as in shop and ‘ch’ as in chocolate. This week’s books are “Oliver’s Vegetables” and “Handa’s Surprise” which encourage the children to explore skills that assist them with the reading process such as identifying a letter, word, and sentence; rhyming words; and decoding tools such as little words inside words e.g. that – at, hat. We are also revising the alphabet and known high frequency words each day through games such as “I have …, who has…” or “Oh no”; and writing on our whiteboards. In writing, **We Are Learning To (WALT)** put finger spaces between words; start a sentence with a capital letter and end it with a full stop; and most importantly ‘have a go’ at known and unknown words. The children are doing a great job!

**Mathematics** – we continue learning about mass (heavy & light) through practical activities such as finding items in the classroom that are heavier than a shoe/book; and using language such as hefting, lighter, heavier, balanced. The children are also focusing on numbers 11-20 and counting forwards and backwards to 20 through a variety of number games and activities, such as making a class number book and learning how to use a calculator for counting.

**Inquiry** – This week we are learning about eating healthy through stories, using the IWB and art/craft sorting activities. We are also investigating how certain foods help our body e.g. foods that give us energy, foods for our bones, muscles... Next **Thursday, 21st May and Friday, 22nd May**, the children will be visiting **North East Health (Wangaratta Hospital)** as part of looking after ourselves. A permission note will be sent home this week.

YEAR ONE/TWO – Gen, Janina, Sarah, Amanda & Nara

**YEAR 1**

We hope all our Grade One Mums had a wonderful Mother’s Day and that our Grade One children spoilt you. Could all our parents please ensure that you are labelling all items, as we are finding many containers and jumpers without names?

THANK YOU BEAUTY BY COURTNEY FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
Photo Day:

On Friday the 15th May is our photo day. Could you please make sure that all forms are returned to the office or to Annette or Rosie? We would hate you to miss out. For photos your child must be in winter uniform with black shoes. We understand that both Grades have sport, so you can either pack their sports shoes or they can wear their black shoes for sport. Mr Corrigan has said there is no need to go buy new uniforms for the photos; you can continue to wear the old uniforms until next year.

Assembly:

This week we have assembly. Our Assembly time has changed due to photos being on a Friday, so it is now Thursday the 14th May at 9.00am. If you can attend we would love your support.

Literacy:

This week we are focusing on Mem Fox books for our Narrative writing. Throughout the week we will be reading a different Mem Fox book focusing primarily on the problem and resolution. Our spelling focus this week is the ‘c’ sound and our blend is ‘dr’ as in dragon. It would be great if you could discuss with your child the sounds and blends for the week and try to come up with as many words as you can. This could be done whilst driving to school or eating tea.

Numeracy:

This week in Numeracy we are looking at two and three digit numbers and the place value system. We will be using number lines and ten frames to identify where the number belongs and how many tens and ones it is worth.

Inquiry: Healthy You, Healthy Me

This week children will complete a journal piece requiring them to finish the sentence ‘I like to keep healthy by…..’ Children will then refer to their healthy eating pyramid and cut and paste a meal that is healthy that people could eat for tea.

YEAR 2

We hope all our families had a lovely Mother’s Day on Sunday. In class we are beginning to start practicing for our upcoming assembly and we will be going over to Merriwa Park early next week in preparation for our school cross country.

Samples of Mother’s Day writing:

I love my mum because she is excellent and she is very talented – Emily Y

I love my mum because she gives me big kisses and she cooks me yummy teas – Isaac

I love my mum because she is very intelligent and very pretty. I love you Mum and I always will – Ryan D

I love my mum because she tucks me into bed and reads to me. My mum is awesome when she plays down ball outside. She is awesome at it - Tom

THANK YOU BLADES TRANSPORT FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
Important dates to remember:

**Year 2 Assembly** – Friday 22nd May  
**School Cross Country** – Thursday 21st May

**Maths**

In Maths this week we are revising concepts learnt thus far this year. We are continuing our focus on place value and will begin to look at strategies for subtraction, linking this to what we have learnt whilst working through our addition units.

**Inquiry**

Once again we had Helen Berry visit this week. We revised what we had learnt last week including having students remember their addresses in case they needed to call an ambulance. Helen spoke to us about what to do if bitten by a snake and we practiced bandaging our wounds. She also spoke about how to stop bleeding, allergies (including how people who have allergies need an Epipen) and burns. Next week we are very excited to have Helen visiting us in her ambulance!!

**Lunches**

To link in with our current Inquiry unit, ‘Healthy Me, Healthy You’, we strongly encourage our students to bring along a healthy lunch box. Lollies and other unhealthy food choices are discouraged and best saved for a special occasion. Remember we have brain food each morning, which consists of one piece of fruit or vegetable that is already prepared (e.g. peeled if need be), so that students can eat whilst they are working.

**Tackling**

We have been having many problems out in the yard with our Year 2 students tackling, particularly when playing football. We have a NO tackling rule at school. Please talk to your child about this at home.

**Literacy**

This week we will be revisiting our high frequency words. Please come in and see us if you have misplaced the list of words your child is currently working on.

**PBIS**

Every day we refer to our Positive Behaviours of - respect for self, others, environment and property. Last week we completed a “Random Acts of Kindness” rubric, in which the students then tried to complete by acting out kind gestures to others. This week we have been talking about “A Classroom Filling Bucket”. When we do kind things for others their bucket fills up and when we do something to hurt others the bucket will empty. We want to try and keep our ‘buckets’ nice and full. We discussed what “A Classroom Filling Bucket in Year 2”, looks like, sounds like and feels like.

**Boris**

Thank you to all those families who have already had Boris the Bear visit them at home. We appreciate

THANK YOU BROWN BROS WINERY FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
all the time and effort you have put into helping your child complete his journal. We love hearing about all his adventures each week. He is a very lucky bear!!

YEARS THREE/FOUR – Trudi/Paul, Michelle, Trish & Annee

NIGHTLY READING:

Congratulations to all the students who are continuing to maintain a high standard of nightly reading. Nightly reading is essential to assist your child in developing reading strategies, becoming a confident reader and to support their learning. Book discussion is also important. Before opening the book you may like to ask, ‘What do you think this book is about?’ ‘Have you read a book like this before?’ ‘Can you make any connections with the book?’ Sharing a book with your child is a great bonding session. Our lives can get very busy and so it is important to take the time to schedule in this important reading.

CROSS COUNTRY:

Students are currently training for Cross Country. Anna Pasquali is conducting a couple of practise sessions - Wednesday 13th May and Wednesday 20th May at Merriwa Park. This is in preparation for the official run on Thursday 21st May. Students can complete extra practise at home, whether it be at a local park/oval or even around their local block. We have encouraged the students to do as much practise as they can, as we know that the more we practise and the fitter we become, the easier it will be on the day. Students are running a 2km track. Students are allowed to wear their runners each day leading up to Cross Country, but they are to be reminded that Friday is school photos, which means they may have to put their runners in their bag on Friday.

SCHOOL PHOTOS:

School photos are on Friday 15th May, please have all forms and payment returned to either the office or classroom teacher prior to this date. Students are to wear their winter uniform and black school shoes.

NAPLAN:

Grade 3 students are currently completing NAPLAN, which is being held on Tuesday 12th May, Wednesday 13th May and Thursday 14th May. We know that they will do their very best and we are proud of everyone of you.

YEAR FIVE/SIX – James, Catherine, Helen & Leah

This week is NAPLAN for the Grade 5 students with Language Conventions and Reading on Tuesday, Writing on Wednesday and Numeracy on Thursday. Well done to all the students for working really hard during these tests.

Religion: We have begun our new unit Pentecost - Celebrating the spirit. The children have been exploring wonderings related to Pentecost including symbols of fire, wind and tongues related to Pentecost. They have been sharing what we mean by SPIRIT - team spirit, school spirit.

Literacy: We are continuing to work on our comprehension topic of Inferring. We are learning to read between the lines, using clues as well as body language and facial expressions. In writing we are continuing to develop our skills to help write persuasive pieces. We have used many topics to show how the structure of an argument can persuade the reader to follow a point of view.

THANK YOU CAFÉ CUCCI FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
Maths: This week the focus has been on multiplication and division facts including worded problems and stories.

Interschool Sports: This week in Interschool Sports Yellow play Wangaratta West. The netballers will be at Wang West and the Footballers will play at Wareena. St Pat's Green have an official bye but we will all be participating in some fun games here at school for the afternoon.

Congratulations: Well done and congratulations to Kelsie Wilson and Thomas Johnstone for making it to the final selection process in Melbourne for the State teams for Netball and Football. Good luck in Melbourne.

School Photos: Just a reminder that school photos are on this Friday morning. Please wear your school uniform and pack your sports gear in your bag to get changed into at recess or lunchtime. Grade 6 students are to wear their blue Grade 6 top for photos. Please return all photo envelopes by Friday to Annette in the office.

A3 Visit: A3 will be visiting St Patrick’s again to work with the Grade 5/6’s on Monday 18th May in readiness for our A3 festival on Wednesday 24th May.

School Cross Country: Permission notes have been sent home for our school Cross Country on Thursday 21st May at Merriwa Park. Please ensure these notes are returned promptly to your classroom teacher.

SCHOOL LEADERS

GOLD SPORTS CAPTAINS

Meg Bedendo, Dom Walker and Kane Shepherd

THANK YOU CHRISMONT WINES FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL