National Reconciliation Week “kicks” off today. This is where we recognise the rights of the Aboriginal people and make efforts to build bridges in the spirit of Reconciliation. This is not only a beautiful thing to do (and the RIGHT thing!), it also sits well with my Christian belief that we need to respect all people, just the way Christ showed us all those centuries ago.

Now, to be honest, I haven’t always loved the Aboriginal people. As a boy growing up in Shepparton, I disliked them intensely. Why? Because whenever I saw a group of Aboriginal kids, the chances were they wanted to fight you and I wasn’t that tough (big and all as I was!). It’s only after I came to learn about the plight of the Aboriginal people that I have begun to fully appreciate, their way of life, family dynamic and their spirituality. I now understand that these kids felt so disempowered by the society in which they lived that their only form of empowerment was to be seen to be tough and gain some respect (albeit begrudgingly!).

I recently had the honour of listening to Dr Gary Foley at a Diocesan Aboriginal Day. Gary was one of the people who established the Tent Embassy in Canberra back in the 1970’s. He has devoted his life to Aboriginal rights. Gary grew up on the north coast of NSW. We often hear of the black movement in America, of African Americans being made to sit in “black” sections on public transport etc. Well it was no different when Gary was young. There were seats at the local picture theatre for Aboriginal kids (the worst seats—right at the front). For a white person, to travel the equivalent of here to Benalla simply meant a car ride. For an aboriginal, government permission had to be granted for such a trip. If he went with his white friends and they decided to stop at Glenrowan for a beer, he would have to sit outside because it was an offence for a black person to consume alcohol and an offence for a white person to supply a black person with alcohol. This wasn’t early 19th century; this was in place in the 1960’s. When I hear such stories of bigotry, my mind goes to the phrase, “Jesus wept”. To see such prejudice, ignorance and, at times, hatred is tiring to the soul to say the least. If Jesus were physically here today then these are exactly the marginalised people that he would defend and champion their cause. As we are supposed to be the hand of God in the world then that role falls to us. We don’t have to be “God like”; we just have to make a difference for the better, beginning with respect and understanding.

Gary was a very interesting person to listen and talk with even though I know that on a number of issues, we would differ greatly. It’s about respecting the difference and acknowledging the life journey of others. When we use a gift of wisdom with others, then it truly does become a gift from God.
Dear Parents,

This week is Catholic Education Week and National Reconciliation week (refer to the reflection). During Catholic Education Week, we celebrate all that Catholic Education has to offer. It’s also a week where we combine with the other Catholic School’s in the town for celebrations. Last Monday, some of our children travelled to the other Catholic Primary Schools for a special liturgy and an activities session. Our Foundation (Prep) to Year Two children stayed at St Patrick’s and were visited by the Junior School Children from St Bernard’s and Our Lady’s Schools. Our Years 3 and 4 students went to Our Lady’s with all the other 3/4 students and our seniors went to St Bernard’s. A great day was had by all. Special thanks to the teachers for the fantastic organisation.

I would especially like to thank the generous parents who cooked the BBQ for the “littlies” at St Patrick’s. It was great to have some Mums and Dads there to lend a hand.

**Eucharist and Confirmation**

Last weekend, and this coming weekend, children who are making their Eucharist and Confirmation, have been asked to attend Mass to receive their booklets for the home groups. Eucharist/Confirmation will be celebrated on the weekend of 22nd and 23rd August, 2015.

**Feast on Ovens (Ladies Luncheon) – SOLD OUT**

The “Feast on Ovens” Ladies Luncheon is officially sold out. Congratulations to the organisers for all their hard work up until now. I’m sure that this Saturday will be a huge success. They have attracted very good sponsorship which will make the day lots of fun.

**Catholic Education Week - 22nd to 29th May**

On top of the activities mentioned in the opening of the newsletter a number of other activities are happening. The Chronicle ran an article on Catholic Education in last Friday’s edition and in today’s Chronicle as well.

As part of our Catholic Education Week activities, we had Andrew Chinn visiting the school today. 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.

Yesterday, Helen Lyons conducted a Learning Walk where parents had the opportunity to observe the students in their regular learning environment and to discuss and discover their observations.

**School Closure – NEXT MONDAY**

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

**Aboriginal Reconciliation**

Today our Grade 5 students and our Fire Carriers travelled to Our Lady’s Church for the Reconciliation Mass. The children also participated in an Indigenous dance workshop.

THANK YOU P & D OATS CARPET CLEANING FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
Feast of the Sacred Heart (12th June)

Friday the 12th June is the “Feast of the Sacred Heart” where we remember the love Jesus has for mankind. To celebrate this important feast, we will hold a “Mass for the Poor” where we collect blankets and non perishable food for the poor in our community.

Our Mass will take place on the Thursday, 11th June after which the food and blankets collected will be given to the St Vincent De Paul Society for distribution. Your support for this very worthy project is greatly appreciated.

Mother’s Day Stall – Outstanding “IOU’s”

Thank you to the parents who have addressed this in the last week. However, there are still a few outstanding “IOU’s” from the Mother’s Day stall. Can the payment be dropped off to the office as soon as possible, please?

SCHOOL BOARD – This Thursday

The next meeting of the School Board will be tomorrow (28th May) commencing at 5.30pm in the staffroom.

Mid Year Reports and Parent/Teacher Interviews

Teachers are busily compiling the mid year reports at the moment (on top of all the other great work that they do). These reports will be sent home on Friday 19th June. The following week from the 23rd June to 25th June (the last week of term two), we will be holding Parent/Teacher Interviews after school. I will let you know in coming weeks when we are taking bookings for the interviews.

Footy Trip – Richmond v Melbourne

The General consensus for the games was the Melbourne v Richmond game. This is a twilight game commencing at 4.35pm and possibly finishing around 7.15pm. The bus will depart from the school around 12.00 midday.

It should be a good family day. The cost is $25.00 Adult & $17.00 Children (return bus to Melbourne and entry into the ground) which represents excellent value. That figure relies on getting a full booking.

I will send home a form with today’s newsletter so that you can book your seats on the bus. Please return the form with payment. Seats will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Maximum number of seats available is 50.

Richmond v Melbourne

The ___________________ Family would like to purchase ______ adult and ______ children’s tickets for the Richmond/Melbourne game on Saturday 25th July, 2015. The cost being $25.00 per adult and $17.00 per child (14 years and under).

Signed ___________________________ Phone number ________________

THANK YOU NU-FRUIT WANGARATTA FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
Principal Appraisal

In the next month or so, I am required to undergo an “Appraisal process” as part of my contract at St Patrick’s. To this end parents will be invited to fill out a form on my performance. This will be sent out to parents for whom we have an email address. Hard copies are also available from the office. Please do not hesitate to ask any questions that you may have.

I am keen to have as many parents as possible to respond to the survey. Many thanks in anticipation.

20th May 2015

Summative Appraisal of Mr. Terry Corrigan

In accord with Sandhurst School Education Board (SSEB) Policy, Sandhurst Principals undertake a formal appraisal process at various stages of their leadership journey. As a professional and contractual requirement of employment and on behalf of the Parish Priest Fr. Mike Pullar, Mr Terry Corrigan is currently undertaking a Summative Appraisal managed by the Catholic Education Office. We are asking for constructive and confidential feedback based on the various dimensions of leadership at St Patrick’s School informed by Australian National Standards for Principals.

Staff, School Board members, members of the parent community and students are encouraged to provide this valuable feedback that will assist in developing the leadership of the school and school community.

A survey is available for you to complete either on-line or in paper copy from the school Office. This survey will be available from Wednesday 27th May until Wednesday 10th June 2015.

If you do not receive a copy and would like to respond could you please contact Maree Glen Catholic Education Office, Wangaratta mglen@ceosand.catholic.edu.au or 0357230000 who will ensure you receive the same.

With thanks in anticipation for your contribution to this process.

Helen Ramsdale
Educational Consultant Primary

THANK YOU SELWOOD ACKERLY ACCOUNTING FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
REALITY CHECK

I had heard the other day that a parent believed that all the catholic school enrolments for next year were closed. That is not the case at all. Our Lady’s and St Bernard’s are still accepting enrolment applications.

In the case of St Patrick’s, we currently have more enrolments for preps next year than we have places available. This is due to our need to ensure that we manage our facilities well and not grow beyond our capacity. We do not close our books. However, some families are on a waiting list should circumstances change and a position become available. That said we do have some spots available in a few classes throughout the school.

I just wanted to clear up this fact as I would be disappointed if students missed out on a Catholic Education based on poor or misleading information especially when there are places available at Our Lady’s and St Bernard’s.

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

THANK YOU MONROES HAIR DESIGN FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
DATES TO REMEMBER

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<tr>
<th>JUNE</th>
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<tr>
<td>1st</td>
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<td>Karen Starkiss - PUPIL FREE DAY</td>
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<td>4th</td>
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<td>P &amp; F Meeting</td>
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<td>5th</td>
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<td>District Cross Country</td>
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<td>QUEEN’S BIRTHDAY HOLIDAY</td>
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<td>Mass “Feast of the Sacred”</td>
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CHATTER MATTERS

As you read a story with your child, practice breaking up sentences into words. Say a sentence, and encourage your child to repeat it out loud. Then, ask your child to tap, jump or count on his/her fingers the number of words in the sentence. This is important to help your child hear and discriminate word boundaries. For example, tap for each word you hear in this sentence: “It is racing after me”. (5 taps).

For older kids, say a sentence out of their reader/book and see if you can reorder the words to make new sentences. For example, the sentence “I can run fast and swim far” can be reordered to make: “I can run far and swim fast” or “can I run fast and swim far?"

Here are some sentences to start you off (remember to chose sentences from your child’s book/reader):

a. Mike has a red lolly and Sarah has a blue ball.
b. She went to the shops after she went to the pool.
c. Please move quickly to the door.
d. Lucy painted a picture of Mike while he rode his bike.

WANGARTTAA HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY PROJECT

Our names are Kaylee and Emily and we are from the Wangaratta High School. We are currently working on a Community Project and the one we have chosen is to help collect football boots to send to Indigenous kids near Darwin. We have placed a collection bin at your school office for you to place any boots you do not need any more. The first 10 people to bring them in before the end of May will get a prize.

Thanks in anticipation for your kind donations.

THANK YOU PARK LANE NURSERY FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
A big pat on the back to **BRAYDEN LINCOLN & GEORGINA BLAKE** for the wonderful way they care for their classmates. Thanks for looking after us all!

A big pat on the back to **HAYLEY NESBITT** for taking pride in the presentation of her work and always making interesting contributions to class discussions. Keep it up Hayley!

Congratulations to **JESSICA ARBUTHNOT & JACOB FRIGERIO** for always settling down to their work quickly and quietly and for great participation in class discussions!

A big pat on the back to **ZARA HUGHES** for the wonderful presentation she applies to her writing, producing wonderful work and beautiful handwriting. Well done!

Well done to **LAUREN STONE** for her outstanding reading at last week’s assembly and showing initiative by going home and practising her part so that she was ready. Well done Lauren!

A big pat on the back to **EMMA DUFFY** for her fabulous organisational skills and for always being on task during work time. Emma sets a great example to others!

A big pat on the back to **TASMYN PUAA** for the wonderful effort she puts into her Mathematical activities. Keep it up Tasmyn!

A big pat on the back to **OLIVER SHARP** for his good behaviour and being respectful during Mass and setting a good example to others.

Congratulations to **TAYLOR BOMAN** for his enthusiasm and participation during the Andrew Chinn performance.

A big pat on the back to **ALICE O’CONNOR** for her fantastic home-work efforts and really caring about her learning. Great work Alice!

Congratulations to **ANGUS COTTON** for showing an eagerness to learn and always approaches new and unfamiliar tasks with a positive attitude. Way to go Angus!

Congratulations to **LIAM SEMMENS** for taking time and care with the presentation of his work.

Congratulations to **GEMMA CASAGRANDA** for her eager and positive attitude during Maths and for going the extra mile to extend her thinking.

Congratulations to **ZAC ESSEX** for being a very organised and responsible student in class who always manages his time effectively to ensure all set tasks are completed. Well done Zac!
WHAT’S HAPPENING IN THE CLASSROOM

FOUNDATION – Karen & Karen

This week has been s-o-o busy! Both prep grades had a wonderful time visiting Wangaratta Hospital, dispersing any fears the children may have had about going to hospital. The CAT scan (or the big donut) was definitely a B-I-G hit. Prep Rizzo thoroughly enjoyed the Cross Country last Thursday, mud and all! Last Monday, the Preps participated in a variety of activities with St. Bernard’s and Our Lady’s P – 2 grades and had fun catching up with old kindy friends.

Some important reminders:

• Next Monday 1st June is a pupil free day.
• Monday 8th June is the Queen’s Birthday Holiday weekend.
• Parents please keep coming to hear the children read on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings 9:00am – 9:15am. The children love it!
• Please ensure your child’s food containers/ vests/ jumpers/ jackets are labelled.

This week in:

Religion – the children start a new unit called “Our Church”. They are looking at, listing and discussing groups that we can belong to and drawing, creating a word web and writing acrostic poems about these groups and their families.

Literacy – this week’s digraphs (two consonants together) are ‘wh’ as in whale and ‘th’ as in three. We continue reading a variety of stories about our health and discussing ‘what is a character’ and ‘who’ the characters are in the stories. Each day we revise the alphabet and known high frequency words through games (such as “Bingo” or “Oh no”), literacy groups and writing on our whiteboards. In writing, we are learning to (WALT) plan and write a thank you letter and write two or more good sentences about photos of our hospital visit.

Mathematics – we are answering and creating yes/no questions to collect information about our class. The children are also exploring and comparing how much different size containers hold using a variety of materials and language such as empty, full, half empty, half full, nearly full, nearly empty.

Inquiry – This week we continue discussing and exploring dental hygiene. The children also begin learning about germs and personal hygiene through stories, rhymes/poems and experiments. Did you know the tiny hairs in your nose help to stop dirt and germs getting in? When the hairs get tickled, we sneeze. Achoo!! It has also been suggested that when you sneeze/cough, do it towards the bend in your arm and not the hands!

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

YEAR 1

Well done to our Year One children for their participation in the ‘Cross Country Fun Run’ - we are so proud of your efforts. Thank you to Anna Pasquali for helping the older children in getting ready for the event.

THANK YOU PARTYLITE FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
We had a fantastic day on Monday for our Crew Day. It was great for the children to be able to see and mingle with other children from St Bernard’s and Our Lady’s. The children participated in a sporting and craft experience. Thank you to the parents who were able to attend to cook the barbeque.

Our Special Visitor ‘Andrew Chinn’

This week on Wednesday the 27th May we have a special visitor coming to our School, Andrew Chinn. We listen to a lot of Andrew Chinn’s music in classrooms and use them at Masses and liturgies. The children will attend a 45 minute session learning a song with Andrew, then in the afternoon the children will participate in Andrew’s concert. Parents and friends are welcome to attend the concert in the afternoon, which will start at 2:10pm.

Literacy:

This week we are starting our new focus in writing, which is Procedure. The children will read about how to create a sock puppet. The children will focus this week on the structure and purpose of procedural writing. Our spelling focus this week is ‘h’ sound as in ham and our blend is ‘fr’ for frame. We encourage discussions of our blend and sound focus at home and maybe play games that assist with your child’s spelling. These games can include hangman.

Numeracy:

We are still finishing last week’s focus, which was 3D shapes, and then we are going on to creating patterns. The children will learn about patterns in objects but also number patterns. We will be going into skip counting towards the end of the week.

Inquiry:

Last week we discussed the importance of brushing our teeth and how we can keep them healthy. The children came up with fantastic ideas such as brushing your teeth twice a day, making sure that ‘sometimes food’ stays ‘sometimes food’, so you don’t get holes in your teeth. We also discussed how we only get one set of real grown up teeth, so it is vital to look after them now. This week we will follow up on that theme and discuss hygiene. Children will be asked to define what they know about hygiene and also what they think of when they hear this word. They will be discussing the importance of bathing and washing hands.

YEAR 2

We are so proud of how the students presented themselves at last week’s assembly. Thank you to all our families and friends who came along to watch us.

We were also very impressed with the way in which students participated in last week’s School Cross Country. We had lots of fun whilst getting fit and healthy at the same time. What really impressed us was the sportsmanship shown by the Year 2’s.

Today we were fortunate to have Andrew Chinn visit our school. Andrew is a recording Christian music artist. His music is used for Religious Education and liturgy in schools. The Year 2’s participated in a session in the morning and then presented their performance to the rest of the school in the afternoon.

THANK YOU PICTURES OF YOU PHOTOGRAPHY FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
Maths

In Maths this week we are continuing to look at strategies to use when solving subtraction problems. We have been looking at counting back and counting on to find the difference between 2 numbers. We have also been thinking about which strategy is best to use e.g. 12-3 (it would be best to count back) whereas 17-13 (it would be best to count on). We have also been using our knowledge of addition to help us check our answers.

Inquiry

This week in our inquiry we are looking at GERMS!!! We are looking at how we can best wash our hands to stop the spread of germs. We have organised a visit from a dentist, hygienist and nurse from Goodison’s Dental Clinic on the 18th June. In preparation for this visit, we will be focusing on dental health in the coming weeks.

Literacy

This week in spelling we are focusing on the ‘aw’ sound as in ‘paw’. As mentioned last week, students are responding really well to consistently practicing their spelling words each day and are beginning to apply these words correctly in their own writing. Just remember that our library day is Tuesday and we strongly encourage all students to be borrowing on this day.

PBIS

This week we discussed our school PBIS posters, which go through Problem Solving Steps and how we can use our words to solve problems. We also went through another poster, which detailed the steps we can use for tricky times.
Step 1: Stop – Is there a problem?
Step 2: Look – Stand back and take a look at the problem from both sides.
Step 3: Listen – Listen to my feelings. What messages are they giving me?
Step 4: Think and Plan – What do I feel like doing? Is this a good idea?
Step 5: Decide and Do – Talk to someone who may be able to help.
Step 6: Consider – What worked well? What didn’t? What could I have done differently?

Religion

We are starting our new unit on Sacraments and Special Celebrations. We will be discussing why we have Sacraments and how the Sacraments can influence our lives. For one of our learning experiences, we would like to ask students to please bring in a photo of a celebration they have participated in e.g. Birthday, Baptism, Christmas etc. Thanking you in anticipation.

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

CROSS COUNTRY:

Congratulations to all students who participated in Cross Country last Thursday. Darcy Wilson, Ned Turner, Spencer Jones, Lauren McInnes and Eva Kelly will be going to District Cross Country next Friday to represent St Patrick’s Primary School. They will be practicing with Anna Pasquali over the next two Wednesdays in preparation. We wish these students all the very best in the next stage.

THANK YOU PITARIS CAFE FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
CREW LITURGY:
This week we celebrate Catholic Education Week, as part of Catholic Education Week, on Monday the Grade 3 and 4 students went to Our Lady’s Church for a liturgy, followed by games with other Grade 3 and 4 students from Our Lady’s Primary School and St Bernard’s Primary School. The students then enjoyed a sausage sizzle and icy pole before returning to school. It’s a wonderful opportunity for the students to make connections with students from the other catholic schools.

ANDREW CHINN:
Today Andrew Chinn visited the students. Andrew Chinn records Christian music for children (and some for adults too) for use in Religious Education and liturgy. Throughout the day the students participated in a workshop with Andrew and presented this in a whole school concert at the end of the day. We thank Ms. Gen Collins for organising to have Andrew visit our school. The students thoroughly enjoyed the high-energy singing and performance.

STUDENT FREE DAY:
Monday 1st June is a student free day. The teachers have a special guest, Ms. Karen Starkiss visiting the school for a whole school professional development day. Karen is an expert in the areas of dyslexia/dysgraphia. We hope Karen will fill the teachers with lots of information to help us better support our students who have dyslexia/dysgraphia.

YEAR FIVE/SIX – James, Catherine, Helen & Leah
What's Been Happening In The Senior Unit:
We have been FLAT OUT this week! Students have been busy gathering factual information about Natural disaster, to help prepare for our ICT project "Creating iBook's On Natural Disaster's.”

CREW Liturgy: A big thankyou to St Bernard's for hostng this years Senior Liturgy. The students enjoyed a day celebrating Pentecost and participating in rotational activities based on leadership skills.

Interschool Sports: Good luck to our teams this week, our draw is: St Pat's Yellow playing Wangaratta Primary at Barr St Pat's Green playing Our Lady's at Our Lady's.

National Reconciliation Week: Students in Miss Sartori's class and all Grade Six fire carriers are attending the Reconciliation Liturgy at Our Lady's Church followed by traditional Aboriginal dancing performance. This will be from 10:30am - 1:30pm

Andrew Chin Performance: To celebrate Catholic Education Week, the school welcomes Andrew for the day. He will be hosting workshop sessions for all year levels followed by a whole school performance at 2.00pm.

SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY
Last week we held our School Cross Country. The weather was kind to us and all students should be really proud of the way in which they all tried their best and the sportsmanship they showed. We would like to say a huge thank you to Anna Pasquali for running the training sessions and organising such a fantastic run. Also it was great to see many families down there supporting us and helping out. 22 students made it through to the Districts Cross Country which is to be held on Friday 5th June at the Barr Reserve. Students have been given their permission forms and these need to be brought back to Mrs Cassidy ASAP. Today we will run another training session over at Merriwa Park for those students making it through.

THANK YOU REES STOCKDALE AND LEGGO FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
SCHOOL LEADERS

MUSIC TEAM
Griffin Fraser and Luke Lindsay

THANK YOU RINALDOS CASA CUCINA FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL