I am so pleased with the way the celebration of the Sacraments has evolved over the years. It not only mirrors the traditions of the early Church, it also challenges our families to be a part of their child’s journey of faith.

When I received these sacraments many years ago, it was largely the responsibility of the school to prepare the students. School-based Sacramental Programs in those days were a bit like a sheep dip. Everyone got “done” and that was it. End of story! Parents, as the primary educators of their children need to take a lead role in the formation of faith and so they do with Parish-based Sacramental Programs. They accompany the child on their faith journey, leading them to discoveries of God present in their lives. Sometimes these experiences are accidental and, at other times, planned. All the while though, the journey continues with those that love them the most. Don’t forget….. where there’s LOVE, there’s God.

The other misconception from my day (the olden days) was that once you were Confirmed then that was it. All done! Game over! I’ve always joked that it was a bit like “dunking something in lacquer”. It’s what you do when you want to preserve things and not want them to change. The reality is that our Confirmation grows with us. My perceptions of God as a ten year old are “light years” away from my view of God as an adult. Confirmation marks a stage in our faith journey, not a destination.

My prayer is that the children who received the Sacraments of Confirmation/Eucharist on the weekend continue to be open to the love of God and share that love with those whom they meet on their life journey. This truly is God at work.

Dear Parents,

Last weekend, a number of our Year Four students celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation/Eucharist. The three celebrations over the weekend went very well and I was so proud of the achievements of our students, ably supported by the parents and teachers. The large numbers of staff that came along speaks volumes to me of their commitment to the students and to each other. Not all schools enjoy such a strong bond and I’m so privileged to work in a school that celebrates and supports each other’s achievements. A special thank you to Fr Mike, who has such a wonderful, “no fuss” attitude! He works closely with the schools and his stewardship is valued. His support for the work carried out at school is greatly appreciated. Thank you also to Bishop Leslie Tomlinson for leading us in the celebration of these Sacraments.

THANK YOU STEER CLOTHING FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
**Fathers Day Stall**

The Parents & Friends Association are running a Fathers’ Day stall, this Thursday in the school Hall after the Book Parade. Each item will cost no more than $4.00. It’s a great opportunity for the children to do something for their Dad. It is not obligatory to be involved as parents can decide whether their child participates. Some of you, for example, may prefer to buy their dads a Lamborghini or a world cruise (in which case a small present from the school could be a bit “lame”!). The P&F provide this as a service to our students and families. It is run at a loss. It’s more to do with allowing our children to think of their Dads and do something special for them on their special day as well as fostering a bit of independence.

**Fathers’ Day Assembly**

On Friday week, 4th September, we will be holding a Father’s day Assembly at school commencing at 9.00am. All DADS are most welcome to join us. For those who can’t attend, we’ll try to upload a bit of the Assembly to Facebook so people don’t miss out altogether (I hope we can do that!).

**Book Week – Next Week**

Next week, St Pat’s School will be celebrating Book Week. There are a number of activities planned. On the Monday, from 9.00am to 11.00am, students will work in family groupings on a number of literacy based activities. Parents are welcome to join us for this session.

On the Thursday from 9.00am to 10.00am, we will hold our Book Parade. Students and staff can come along dressed up as their favourite book character. Parents and friends of St Pat’s school are most welcome to join us (you could also come along in costume, if that’s what “floats your boat”!). Keep an eye out on Facebook for other activities.

**Beauty and the Beast**

Yesterday, all of the students attended a performance of “Beauty and the Beast”. The Alpha Troupe did a wonderful job of presenting this play to our children who always draw great benefit from being exposed to the arts. The cost of this event was funded from the child levy that parents paid at the start of the year. For those who have yet to pay the child levy, now would be a good time to get that job done.

**P&F Chocolates**

There are a number of families (about 15 in all) yet to return chocolate money or chocolates. Could those families please attend to this immediately! Within the next few days Annette or a member of the Parents & Friends Financial Committee will contact those families yet to respond. Please avoid the embarrassment of this occurring by returning chocolates or money as soon as possible.

**EARN & LEARN Stickers**

Thanks to all of the avid collectors for the WOOLWORTHS EARN and LEARN promotion. Your efforts are appreciated. Stickers collected allow us to purchase some great resources for the school.

THANK YOU RINALDOS’ CASA CUCINA FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
Life Relationships – Reminder

The “Life Relationships” program for the years 5 and 6 students will be held on Wednesday, 9th September at 6.30pm.

Robotics

Year 6 Cornish will hold a Robotics exhibition tomorrow, Thursday 27th August, from 3.00pm until 4.00pm in the classroom to celebrate and showcase the construction and ICT programming of the student’s individual robots from the TAFE program. Everyone is most welcome to attend.

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://www3.spwangaratta.catholic.edu.au/
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

CHATTER MATTERS

While playing with your child and their toys, have your child describe specific toys by choosing describing words that describe the size, colour, shape and texture of the chosen object e.g. the stuffed bear: Size – small/tiny/big/large. Colour - can be different colours though usually brown. Shape – round head and belly, long arms and legs. Texture – soft, fluffy, furry.

DATES TO REMEMBER

| AUGUST | 22nd – 28th | BOOK WEEK |
| SEPTEMBER | 3rd | Fathers’ Day Stall |
| | 3rd | Book Week Parade (Dress Up) |
| | 4th | Father’s Day Assembly |
| | 18th | 2.30pm TERM 3 ends |
| OCTOBER | 5th | PUPIL FREE DAY |
| | 6th | TERM 4 BEGINS |

THANK YOU SHANE’S COUNTRY PUB TOURS FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
PAT ON THE BACK

Foundation
Mrs Bray
A big pat on the back to **REMY LLOYD** for her wonderful listening and always achieving her best. Keep it up “Superstar”!

Foundation
Mrs Rizzo
A big pat on the back to **OLIVIA SMITH** for the clever strategies she uses in numeracy and the wonderful way she accepts challenges in all areas of her learning. Fantastic Olivia! Keep it up!

Year 1
Ms Collins
Congratulations to **COOPER BOMAN** for working hard to further develop his writing skills and for always displaying interest in his learning. Well done Cooper!

Year 1
Miss Smith
A big pat on the back to **OLIVIA FAHEY-PYLE** for persisting with her reading at home. Keep up the great reading, Olivia; you are making me very proud!

Year 2
Mrs Cassidy
Congratulations to **TOM PAYDON** for the way he has been settling down to complete his work and for the way he includes others in games and activities!

Year 2
Ms Rinaldi
A big pat on the back to **HUDSON LLOYD** for confidently engaging in classroom discussion. I am so proud of you, Hudson!

Year 3
Ms Daglish
A big pat on the back to **ISAAC STEADMAN** for having such beautiful manners. It is fantastic when he uses the ‘3 Magical Phrases – Please, Thank you and Excuse Me’. Well done on being such a gentleman!

Year 3
Mrs Vincent
A big pat on the back to **KAITLYN BUTERA** for putting in an extra effort to “Fill People’s Buckets” by writing kind notes, sharing her smile and being considerate.

Year 4
Miss Gaston
Congratulations to **GRANT BUTLER** for supporting his fellow classmates who completed their Sacrament of Confirmation/First Eucharist at St. Patrick’s Church.

Year 4
Mrs Shaw
Congratulations to **ETHAN MENNIE** for the fantastic effort he has put into his learning this term. Ethan is really striving to do his best at all times. Well done, Ethan!

Year 5
Miss Sartori
Congratulations to **ANGUS COTTON** for demonstrating enthusiasm in all classroom tasks as well as being a wonderful friend to many members within our school.

Year 5
Mr Levesque
Congratulations to **JOEL STEEGSTRA** for working to consistently give his best effort with each task in class.

Year 6
Mrs Cornish
Congratulations to **DARBY WEST** for his improved resilience and communication. Keep it up Darb, I’m really proud of the effort you’re making!

Year 6
Mrs Rickard
Congratulations to **GRiffin frAser** for the mature way he has been approaching his work this term. This will be a wonderful asset as he begins to prepare himself for Secondary School.

ICT AWARD
Mr Fram
Congratulations to **LIAM SIMONETTI & JOEL SMITH** for their expert help updating the Year 5 Macbooks quickly and responsibly.
WHAT’S HAPPENING IN THE CLASSROOM

FOUNDATION – Karen & Karen

Welcome to week seven in the Foundation area. Hopefully it will be a little less hectic than last week!

Just a few reminders:
- It is Foundation’s Assembly this Friday, 28th August.
- Book Week 24th – 28th August
- Book Week Parade – 3rd September (Dress-up as your favourite book character)
- Father’s Day Stall – 3rd September

This week in:

Religion – This is the last week in which the children listen and respond to bible stories about Jesus, including ‘the Good Samaritan’ and ‘Jesus and the Children’. The children will reflect on what they already know and what they have learnt about Jesus during this unit and record this in their books. Next week we start a new unit, “I Can Talk to God”.

Literacy - the children continue revising letters/sounds and High Frequency words through games, whiteboard activities, LSCWC, word shapes and little words in words. As an extension to word shapes, the children pick a HF word and build a shape from Duplo bricks/unifix blocks then write it on their whiteboard/literacy book
The children are having so much fun with the class Post Office and writing letters, cards, etc… to everyone. Thank you to the parents, family and friends who are writing to their child and mailing it through the class letterbox. The children really get kick out of it!! So please keep writing and mailing!

Mathematics – we are continuing to expand the children’s mathematical knowledge of place value through revision, stories, games and exploration activities. This week the children are extending their understanding of numbers to 10 by exploring number facts to 10 using concrete materials and number games e.g. 1 and 9 makes 10; 2 and 8 makes 10...

Inquiry – Last week was very exciting with the publishing of our very own newspaper and going on Regional Nine News visiting the Wangaratta Council Chambers. That’s hard to beat!! However we must carry on! So this week, we continue exploring signs and signals and their importance in the community. We look at sign language and Braille and attempt to make our names in both styles.

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

YEAR 1

Literacy

On Monday, the children wrote interesting recounts about the most exciting or enjoyable thing that happened on their LONG weekend. After watching our special performance of Beauty and the Beast, the children wrote about this and illustrated their response. We are continuing work on Explanation text type, and focusing on the key words - how or why something happens. We will be learning about how bees make honey which will be interesting.
As it is Book Week, we are reading some of the short listed picture storybooks.
Our sound for the week is ‘ell’ and our blend is ‘st’.
Numeracy

We finished off our unit on Collecting Data at the beginning of the week, and then started work on revising place value. The children are working with craft sticks and estimating, then checking, numbers larger than fifty. They are also participating in activities involving 3 digit numbers as well as 2 digit.

Religious Education

This week we are starting a new unit called We Can Pray in Different Ways. We will be looking at why prayer is important and all the different ways in which we can pray.

Special Events and Dates

Coming up soon, we have an excursion to the Wangaratta Chronicle, and next week, our dress up day to celebrate Book Week is Thursday 3rd September.
Our Father’s Day assembly is Friday 4th September.

YEAR 2

Numeracy

In mathematics this week, we have continued focusing on our unit of multiplication. Students have been revising strategies they can use to assist with solving multiplication problems and have been identifying the various ways in which multiplication number problems can be presented. In Measurement and Geometry, the students have commenced a new unit - Area.

Literacy

This week our focus for spelling is ‘scr’ as in ‘scrape’. Encourage your child to identify ‘scr’ in words around the home or as you are driving in the car. As a further challenge, ask them to identify the blend ‘scr’ in the middle of a word, as opposed to the beginning.

Religious Education

In RE this week, we have continued with our new unit, ‘We Can Pray In Different Ways’. In the coming weeks, students will have an opportunity to explore their relationship with God and examine the nature of prayer. This unit will cover various types of prayer, allowing the students to develop their personal communication with God.

School Uniform

A reminder that students are to be in correct school uniform, including socks, on both sports and non-sports days. We are seeing an increasing number of students wearing fluoro coloured socks, as opposed to grey or white. Additionally, some students have been wearing runners on non-sport days. Please encourage your child to make correct uniform choices, in alignment with our school uniform policy.

Inquiry

As part of our inquiry unit, ‘Communicate With Me’, our Year 2 students will be visiting The Wangaratta Chronicle tomorrow (Thursday). Students will be walking to the Chronicle in the afternoon to understand the process of printing and distributing our local paper, and, as a mode of communication, how it keeps people in the local community informed. Thank you to those parents who have offered to assist us on this excursion.

THANK YOU SPORTSMANS WAREHOUSE WANGARATTA FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
Term 3 Dates

Book Week Parade: Thursday 3rd September
Father’s Day Stall: Thursday 3rd September
Year 2 Assembly (Father’s Day Assembly): Friday 4th September
Last day of term: Friday 18th September (2.30 finish)

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

A very big CONGRATULATIONS to the children who received their Confirmation/Eucharist Sacraments on the weekend. Thank you also to all the parents who have supported their children on this journey. Congratulations to everyone involved.

Maths

We are continuing to look at word problems and what skills we need to work out such problems and looking for key words in the written problem etc. We are using division and multiplication to solve problems.
Year 3’s are now moving onto multiplication in Maths. The children are continuing to learn their times tables to assist them in theses areas.

Literacy

Many interesting and varying informational reports are being produced in all classes. They are using different ways to present their reports. Spelling as usual is practiced throughout the week daily. The children are doing a fabulous job with their reports. The children look for meaning in their words and search for definitions of words they are unfamiliar with. They also research the origin of the word - where it originated from - this often gives clues in the spelling of an unfamiliar word. Please ask your child what is their spelling focus for the week.

Religious Education

The area is now starting to look at ‘Followers of Jesus’, unit where the children will examine parables that invited people to think about the way they live.

Inquiry

Earn and Learn continues to be our main focus during Inquiry. This program displays beautifully the many influences money has on our daily lives. The children have been amazing with their enthusiasm in the participation of Earn and Learn. There have been some big learning curves for the children regarding how they spend their money. From the teacher’s perspectives it has been very interesting. We are hoping the children will learn by the end of the unit just how much money does influence our lives!

Reminders

* Book week parade is next week on Thursday the 3rd September at approximately 9.15am. Don’t forget to get those costumes happening! Looking forward to seeing some great book characters!

THANK YOU STOCKDALE & LEGGO FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
* Please ensure your children are reading regularly and completing any given homework.

* Year 4 Shaw, Gaston, Daglish and Vincent have reading diaries that are to be filled out please; this helps us to record children’s active home reading.

Thanks for your continued support in your child's learning.

Stay warm and have a wonderful week!

**YEAR FIVE/SIX – Helen, Lean, Jim & Catherine**

Religion:

This week we start our new topic "Life Relationships" which also relates to our Inquiry topic. The major topics we will be covering in this RE unit are how we respond to God’s commandments by treating each other with respect, love and compassion. This week we will be developing a class agreement to establish a respectful and positive group environment when completing this unit. We will also explore the necessary ingredients for keeping relationships going. Some questions we will explore are: What does relationship mean? Who do we have relationships with? How do we feel when we are in a 'good relationship'? How can we make others feel good about themselves? What do we mean by communication? What do we mean when we say someone is a good listener?

Literacy:

Reading:

Our focus this week is summarising non fiction texts. We will learn the importance of summarising using the following questions as prompts: What is summarising? - Why do we summarise? When do we do it? How can we do it properly/better?

Writing:

We are planning an information report based on Healthy Eating, Active Lifestyle or Mindfulness. The children will be involved in planning using a graphic organiser, drafting their report, editing and publishing their report to share with others.

Maths:

This week we are solving worded problems involving addition and subtraction. This involves reading a problem carefully, locating the key information and using this information to help us to understand what we need to solve the problem. We have been using a website called Maths Antics which has short movies explaining and demonstrating a variety of maths topics. The topics on addition, subtraction, multiplication and division have been very helpful.

Inquiry:

As part of the senior unit Term Three Inquiry focus - Mind, Body and Soul, the Year 5/6 students have been invited to attend an Aboriginal Spiritual Connection session with Lou Levy and Fabian. Students will be learning about how the Aboriginal People connect with the land and how we can make connections with the land.

THANK YOU **MCDONALD’S WANGARATTA** FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
When: Friday the 28th August
Time: 2.15pm - 3.15pm
Where: Kaluna Park (behind Merriwa Park)
Cost: N/A

Please return permission forms ASAP.

Life Relationships Unit - This unit is a requirement for all Victorian Schools to address aspects of personal development within their core curriculum provision. Next week our Year 5/6 students will begin the Life Relationships Program, which has been developed in the Sandhurst Diocese and includes a unit of work for Year 5/6 students, and a parent/student evening. The program offers a holistic approach within the context of Catholic teaching to topics such as:

- relationships
- family
- adolescence and puberty
- reproduction

The children have taken a note home explaining the unit. More information regarding the parent/student night will be sent home shortly.

Year 6 into Year 7 Galen Testing
Just a reminder to parents and students that the Year 6 into Year 7 testing morning at Galen will be this Wednesday 26th August. Students are to make their own way to Galen for the testing. Please let your classroom teacher know if you will be returning to school at the conclusion of the testing.

** 6 CORNISH ROBOTICS EXHIBITION***
When: This Thursday, 27th August.
Where: Year 6 Cornish's classroom
Time: 3.00pm – 4.00pm
Why: To celebrate and showcase the construction and ICT programming of the students individual robots from the TAFE program.

LITERACY AND NUMERACY WEEK CELEBRATION:
Monday 24th August
Come and join the St Pat's kids for a fun day of rotational activities based on engaging literacy and numeracy games. More info to come at assembly this week.

Wangaratta Magpies Cricket Club
JUNIOR MUSTER Saturday August 29th at 10.00am at the Showground (Norm Minns oval) nets. This muster is for Under 12 and Under 14 Teams. For more Information contact Darren GRANT - 0427978485

THANK YOU PORTER’S WANGARATTA NEWSAGENCY FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL