Well, the last newsletter for the year. It has been a great year in so many ways. I would like to thank the wonderful staff who always gives so freely of their time and energy. This is not just the teachers, it’s also the Aides and the Administration staff who all work fairly seamlessly together. The rewards for their efforts can be found in the many smiling, happy faces that are dotted around the school every day.

There are always high levels of parent engagement at St Patrick’s school and the work of the Parents and Friends Association is second to none. They do an amazing job of fundraising every year but, even more importantly, they are the glue that holds together and builds our beautiful school community. I will be forever grateful for all the good works that they do.

The School Board have also had a very successful year. They “grind away” quietly ensuring that the school direction is compatible with the community’s expectations. They, too, do amazing work and I am thrilled to work alongside such committed individuals.

At the end of the day, any school will succeed or fail based on the levels of support from the parents. Thank you for your overwhelming support for the work we do here. We may not always agree on all points but where there is strong and open communication, there is certainly growth and mutual respect.

I’d like to also thank Father Mike Pullar for his Pastoral Guidance throughout the year. Fr Mike has been instrumental in introducing practices at the school designed to bring School and Parish communities together such as the Masses in our school Hall. With the departure of Fr Eugene, these had to be curtailed but, hopefully, we can restart them in 2016 as we also now have Fr Joseph and Fr Novelito Lim working in the Parish.

There is nothing left for me to do than to wish you all a holy, happy and safe Christmas and may we all greet the New Year with optimism and a sense of excitement for the year ahead.

Dear Parents,

I get to this, the last newsletter for the year, every year and I think to myself, “WOW” where did the time go? It has been a great year, filled with many good things. One of the greatest joys in my life is watching the students in our care grow and develop over the years. Tonight we celebrate our End of Year Mass and

THANK YOU TELSTRA STORE FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
give thanks for the year. After Mass, the Year Six students and their parents adjourn to St Patrick’s Parish Hall to acknowledge the Graduating Class of 2015. The vast majority of these students have travelled the last seven years through St Patrick’s School. It’s a time of celebration, of moving on and getting ready for the next stage in their young lives, of remembering the fun and the good times and stepping off into, what for them is, the unknown. They have been a wonderful group of students and I will watch with pride as they take their next steps to adulthood.

**Uncle Wally Cooper**

It is with great sadness that I inform parents that (Uncle) Wally Cooper passed away a few days ago. Uncle Wally was a great ambassador for Aboriginal people and for Reconciliation. Wally worked with the Catholic Schools of the Sandhurst Diocese where he has had a profound effect on leading a generation of students to a greater understanding of the Aboriginal Nation. He was a great friend to St Patrick’s School community where he readily imparted his wisdom and knowledge onto the students. It was only a fortnight ago that Uncle Wally was at school performing a “Smoking Ceremony” to induct our Year five students as our next group of FIRE carriers (Friends Igniting Reconciliation through Education). He has now joined the Dreaming where he is at peace. He was and is greatly loved by all.

**ON A HAPPIER note!**

I am pleased to announce that Amanda and Rohan Cassidy welcomed the newest addition to their family on the weekend. Welcome to the world “Eli Wayne Cassidy”. Mother and child are doing well (as is Dad no doubt – just going for a bit of gender equity there!). I look forward to meeting the newest edition to the Cassidy family sometime soon. A little brother for Cooper who begins Foundation at St Patrick’s in 2016.

**End of Year Mass – TONIGHT, 16th December**

We will be holding our End of Year Mass **TONIGHT,** 16th December commencing at 6.00pm in St Patrick’s Church. We would like to invite all members of the school community including extended families to join us to celebrate the year.

**Graduation Dinner**

Immediately following our End of Year Mass, the year six students and their parents will adjourn to St Pat’s Parish Hall for our Graduation Dinner.

**Thank You Ms Daglish**

As the year draws to a close, I would like to acknowledge and thank Ms Annee Daglish for all of her efforts throughout the year. Annee came to us on a twelve month contract to replace Liz Vaughan who was seconded to Tallangatta as Principal for this year.

On behalf of the staff and school community, I would like to wish Annee every success for the future.

**Term Four Ends**

The last day for students this year is Thursday, 17th December - on this day, school finishes at 3.30pm Students return to school on Thursday 28th January at 9.00am

**THANK YOU THE BEST CAR WASH FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL**
Awesome Effort

Well done to Bella Pasquali and Felicity Lincoln on their sporting achievements. Last weekend these girls competed in the State finals in the relay Bella came 1st in the Under 9 4 X 200 mixed relay and 3rd in the Under 9 to Under 11 4 X 400 medley relay and 4th in the Under 9 4 X 100 meters relay. Felicity was placed 3rd in the Under 9 to Under 11 medley relay. Both girls should feel enormously proud of their efforts. I’d like to say that I taught them everything they know…. but we all know different … don’t we!

Final Assembly

The last assembly for the year is tomorrow, Thursday at 9.00am. It will be relatively short assembly.

Christmas Pageant

Thank you to all the parents and grandparents who came along to watch our Nativity play last week. The children were fantastic. I discovered a few budding actors and lots of great singers. The students loved performing for their families and it really helped to put a focus on the true meaning of Christmas.

A BIG THANKYOU - CHRISTMAS Hampers for St Vincent De Paul

Thank you to all the families who contributed to the St Vincent De Paul Christmas hampers. We collected a mountain of Christmas food and decorations. Hopefully your generous actions will go a long way to making Christmas a little easier for those in need.

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 10.30am St Patrick’s
* Sunday 5.00pm Latin Mass at St Patrick's

Terry

FAMILY FUN DISCO

Come along to the first St. Pats event for 2016, a FAMILY FUN DISCO. Don't miss this great event to welcome new families to the school and get existing students back into the swing after the break. So get your groove on and come along. BYO everything, drinks, picnic rug, food and family (music supplied).

Where: St Patrick’s Primary School
When: Friday 19th February
Time: 6.00pm – 9.00pm
Cost: Free

THANK YOU THE COMPLETE GARDEN FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
Christmas Masses 2015

St Patricks:
Christmas Eve (Thursday) 7.00pm
10.30pm
Christmas Day (Friday) 9.30am

Our Lady's:
Christmas Eve 6.30pm
Christmas Day 9.00am

Moyhu: Christmas Eve Mass 7.00pm

Whitfield: Christmas Day 10.00am

New Year's Day
(Our Lady's) } 9.30am Mass
(St Patrick's) } 10.30am Mass

DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONTH</th>
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<th>EVENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DECEMBER</td>
<td>16th</td>
<td>6.00pm End of Year Mass</td>
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<td>16th</td>
<td>7.00pm Year 6 Graduation Dinner</td>
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<td></td>
<td>17th</td>
<td>3.30pm End of Term Four</td>
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<td>JANUARY</td>
<td>28th</td>
<td>9.00am School Resumes</td>
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<td>FEBRUARY</td>
<td>19th</td>
<td>6.00pm – Family Fun Disco</td>
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UNIFORM

We will be hoping to hold another 2nd hand uniform sale in the second week of Term one 2016. Any donations can be left at the office.

AFTER SCHOOL CARE 2016

Please let the office know what days you are wanting for ASC 2016. Places are limited, so please do this ASAP.

THANK YOU TURNERS FISHING SUPPLIES FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
PAT ON THE BACK

Foundation
Mrs Bray
A big pat on the back to **FOUNDATION BRAY** for all your wonderful work this year. Mrs Bray will miss you lots!

Foundation
Mrs Rizzo
A big pat on the back to **FOUNDATION RIZZO** for being an amazing class this year. I have loved teaching you. Thank you for a wonderful year!

Year 1
Ms Collins
Congratulations to **ADA OVERBERG & SUMMER SMITH** for creating a wonderful poster about the ‘Highlights of Grade 1’. A great effort girls!

Year 1
Miss Smith
Well done to **SOPHIA PASQUALI & MATILDA O’BRIEN** for their wonderful leadership skills in and outside the classroom. Well done to **HELAINA MARTINO** for the enthusiasm she displayed towards the Christmas activities we have completed. Thank you for getting into the Christmas Spirit Helaina!

Year 2
Mrs Nicoll
Congratulations to **DARCY MENNIE** for always approaching his work in a conscientious manner. Keep believing in yourself Darcy!

Year 2
Ms Rinaldi
A big pat on the back to **TAHLIA POOL** for always showing care and concern for others. Your maturity is a wonderful quality, Tahlia!

Year 3
Ms Daglish
A big pat on the back to **ALEXANDRA TISO & ANGUS MCCLEN** for a fantastic year’s work. You are champions!

Year 3
Mrs Vincent
Congratulations to **JESSE HUGHES** for completing the DISTAR program with Mrs Cameron. Jesse has done a great job!

Year 4
Miss Gaston
Congratulations to **SHAELLA HURLEY** for always being an active participant in classroom activities.

Year 4
Mrs Shaw
Congratulations to **SAMUAL PHILLIPS** for being such a thoughtful and inclusive class member. Well done Sam, you are a great friend! Congratulations to **AUSTIN HARRIS** for being a thoughtful and kind class member. Great work Austin! Well done to **SIENNA FRASER** on a wonderful year of work. You have really worked hard and applied yourself beautifully. Keep up the great work in Year 5!

Year 5
Mrs Kittelty
Congratulations to **YEAR 5 KITTELTY** for being the most awesome class ever. Thank you for being such wonderful students – I just loved seeing you develop over the year and wish you all the very best for Year 6 in 2016!

Year 5
Mr Levesque
Congratulations to **SKYE FULTON** for her fantastic approach to her learning which helps her to persist and always gives her best effort.

Year 6
Mrs Cornish
Congratulations to **YEAR 6 CORNISH** for being amazing kids all year! I have had such a great time teaching you all; loved your company and how far you have all grown as individuals. I will miss you all!

Year 6
Mrs Rickard
Congratulations to **YEAR 6 RICKARD**! It has been a pleasure getting to know you all and teaching you this year. I wish you all the best for your Secondary School journey!
WHAT’S HAPPENING IN THE CLASSROOM

FOUNDATION – Karen & Karen

Our last newsletter for the year! Again we would like to thank all our families for their wonderful support this year. We have had lots of laughs and fun with an amazing group of children. We are very proud of them!!

Some reminders:

• **School Mass tonight 16th December at St Patrick’s Church, 6.00pm.** The preps will be performing the “Blessing Song” with their Year 6 buddy. We would love to see as many preps there as possible. It is a St. Patrick’s tradition and very moving!! Children wear school uniform.

• **Tomorrow, 17th December School finishes at 3:30pm**

• **School resumes Thursday 28th January 9.00am**

HELP!! We are seeking parents, grandparents and friends who would be able to overlock the edges of some cut up towels for next year’s Foundation, Year 1’s and Year 2’s. They will be used for cleaning the children’s mini whiteboards. Preps would also appreciate magazines for next year – Woman’s Day; Women’s Weekly; RACV; Old Australian Geographics … Thankyou!

We wish all our Foundation families a Merry Christmas and a safe, relaxing holiday! Take care and we will see you in 2016!!

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

What a wonderful year it has been in the Year One and Two areas! As we reflect on the year that was, we are grateful for the time spent with your beautiful children and the opportunities they have embraced and enjoyed.

It has been a year of ups and downs; yet, the students handled themselves with confidence and took it all in their stride. During these times, we have also been most grateful for the teachers that have assisted in our area, keeping everything running smoothly.

Above all, we are grateful to you, our parents, who have been supportive throughout the year and helped encourage your child to be the best they can possibly be. Without this support, the students wouldn’t be half the wonderful people they are today.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a happy and holy Christmas and wish you all a wonderful and well-earned break!

Merry Christmas!

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

The year has come to end. What a fantastic year it has been. So many exciting and interesting things have been achieved.

Thank you to all the parents and friends of the school for your wonderful support throughout the year. We are very grateful to have such a fantastic group of parents within our school community.

THANK YOU WANGARATTA JEWELLERY & TROPHIES FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
This year we say goodbye to a few students: Kayla Essex, Eden Yelland, and Taleaha Carmody. We wish them all the best at their new schools in 2016.

We must congratulate Bella Pasquali and Felicity Lincoln for their efforts in the State Relay’s. Bella was placed 1st in the U9 4x200 metres mixed relay, 3rd in the U9 - U11 medley relay and 4th in the U9 4x100 mixed relay. Felicity placed 3rd in U9-U11 medley relay. A big congratulation to both girls for their amazing efforts.

We would like to wish everybody a Merry Christmas and a fantastic New Year. Be safe and enjoy the holidays.

Term 4 Dates:

December 16th: End of Year Mass, 6.00pm at St Patrick’s Church. It would be wonderful to see as many families there as possible.
December 17th: Students last day. Student’s finish at 3.30pm.

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

As we finish the year with the Year 5 & 6's we wish all the families a wonderful festive season and relaxing holidays together.

A reminder, that, the End of Year Mass will begin at 6.00pm at St Patrick’s Church. We would love for families and friends to join with the school community to celebrate the end of the school year.

All the Year 6's and their parents will then proceed to St Patrick's Parish Hall for Graduation Dinner and a celebration of their child's journey at St Patrick's.

School will finish for the year on Thursday with the bell ringing at 3:30pm

Thanks for a wonderful year.

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Thank you Wangaratta Saw & Lawnmowers for supporting our school.
P&F - Minutes
St Patrick’s Primary School  Wednesday 9th December, 2015

Present: Terry Corrigan, Ange Reynolds, Anna Pasquali, Erin O’Connor, Karen Bray, Annette Beitzel, Bec Watson, Kelly Smith, Jodie Hughes, Kristy Lloyd, Mandy McClounan, Marg Anderson, Tennille Hall

Apologies: Sandra Duffy, Alison Simonetti, Stacey Clayton, Kate Bevan, Bec Dalton, Paula Henry.

Business arising from Minutes:
• Shipping container: Paula has purchased & will be delivered at the end of the year. No crane will be required. Paula to check on sleepers for underneath.
• P&F financial planning working party - to revitalise in 2016: Erin O’Connor to liaise with Ange regarding this.
• 2nd Hand uniforms: Marie Kucera has kindly offered to take over this role from Leeanne Carmody.

Correspondence:
Complete Garden fundraiser: $436. Thanks to all who helped out and purchased items and to Ben Dalton for hosting this.

Reports:
- Treasurers Report: Incomings: Craft at night market ($1326), Trivia night ($947).
Books have been purchased.
Agreed to leave $20K in working account and put remainder (approx $20K) in term deposit. Motioned: Bec Watson, 2nd: Mandy McClounan.
- Principals Report: Christmas concert Thursday 10th Dec, End of year Mass and Graduation Wednesday 16th Dec. Reports come out Friday 11th Dec. Talk to teachers regarding reports if parents want to.

General Business:
Presents for teachers leaving: Ms Daglish (Annette to purchase present and Anna P to present at last assembly - Thursday 17th Dec). Sympathy present for James Levesque (Terry to buy). Get well present for Bec Dalton (Kristy Lloyd to purchase).

Planning for P&F activities in 2016:

**Term 1:**
Morning tea for prep parents Thursday 28th January (Mandy/Tennille to do tea/coffee. Terry/Annette to organise coffee/hot choc/milk).
Family outdoor karaoke disco: To welcome new families. Friday 12th February. 6.00pm-9.00pm. BYO everything
Bulb drive (Alison/Leeanne Carmody), Ange to confirm their interest to run this.

**Term 2:**
Ladies Lunch (Saturday 28th May)
Mayfair

**Term 3:**
Trivia night
Chocolates (decided to go ahead with this again. Erin/Jodie).

**Term 4:**
Twilight sports
Grandparent’s morning tea

Next meeting:
TBC February 2016