**Prayer**

May 24th is the Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians  
Patroness of Australia

In the Opening Prayer for Our Lady Help of Christians Mass, the Church prays that through Our Lady’s intercession God will "grant wisdom to our leaders and integrity to our citizens", so that "under her protection Australia may be granted harmony, justice and peace".

**We pray:-**
Almighty God, deepen in our hearts our love of Mary Help of Christians.  
Through her prayers and under her protection, may the light of Christ shine over our land.  
May Australia be granted harmony, justice and peace.  
Grant wisdom to our leaders and integrity to our citizens.  
Bless especially the men and women of the Australian Defence Force and their families.  
We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

---

**Dates for Your Diary**

**Friday 29th May**  
MIA Deanery Athletics Carnival  
@ West End Oval Griffith

All Lamingtons orders and money due into school

**Monday 8th June**  
No School for Students  
Public Holiday – Queens Birthday

**Monday 15th June**  
Semester One Reports are distributed via Email

**Saturday 20th & Sunday 21st June**  
Sacrament of First Holy Communion  
@ Sacred Heart Parish Griffith

**Wed 17th – Wed 24th June**  
Student, Parent & Teacher interviews will be held before and after school hours

---

**Highlights of my Trip to Canberra with Year Six Students and Staff**

There were many highlights of the 2015 Canberra excursion. The success of the excursion is truly reflective of the fantastic organisation that went in behind the scenes. I wish to sincerely thank our year six teachers and staff (Emily, Dave, Craig, Daniela, Wendy and Nilva) who gave up their personal time to ensure our students benefitted from this amazing learning experience. I am sure these experiences will last a life time and will be fondly looked back on in the years to come. The highlight for me was certainly the Last Post Ceremony at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra. The students were very moved by the service which happened to be a very special event to remember the service and sacrifice of Corporal Cameron Stewart Baird. He was the 100th Victoria Cross recipient to be awarded to an Australian in any conflict. Cameron Baird died aged 32, killed fighting in Afghanistan in 2013. The Last Post Ceremony was delivered by Lieutenant General David Morrison in his last official role at the Memorial as Chief of Army. The Governor General, Prime Minister and other dignitaries were in attendance. Witnessing not only our students lay the wreath in a National and honourable ceremony as the only Catholic School in the Nation and one of two other schools representing New South Wales but to also hear the story of valour about Corporal Cameron Baird is a moment I will cherish. It was an honour to be surrounded by our students who really enjoyed themselves. They were truly fine ambassadors who had consolidated their learning which was topped off with plenty of fun and laughter. I encourage our families to visit the Facebook page highlighting all the events. Finally, I wish to acknowledge Alissa Woodhouse for uploading our photos so our families could be well informed at https://www.facebook.com/pages/St-Patricks-Primary-School-Griffith/359977407452954
State of Origin - Wednesday May 27th
Oh it is on again, and by the way the Queenslanders are playing, the stage is set for another blistering series of State of Origin. May the 27th is the first game of the three part series. In support for Griffith CanAssist our students are strongly encouraged to get behind their state by wearing “Blues memorabilia” to school. Students can wear over their uniform blue jersey’s, wear blues hats instead of the school hat on the day, scarves, and footy socks instead of school socks all for a gold coin donation. House Leaders with class teachers will be responsible for the collection and presentation of funds to CanAssist.

Enrolments 2016
The first round of our enrolment interviews will occur on Saturday, June 13th. With over 30 families being interviewed, we are encouraging families within the wider community to contact the office for an information package.

Update Information –Parent Records
Parents from time to time there have been a number of times where the school has tried to contact families in regards information that needs to be communicated. Parents, I encourage you to let the office know any personal information that may have changed in the last few months. Mobile phone and e-mail addresses are essential pieces of information for effective communication between the home and school. As we all strive to, “Do all things well” we will continue the journey together in order to make a difference in your son’s or daughter’s life at St Patrick’s Primary School

Principal’s Monthly Letter
Last week, families would have received my monthly communicate outlining updates on school events, the building project, and news from our Parents and Friends Association. The monthly communicate is an initiative developed to inform parents of events, activities and changes that occur throughout any given month. A copy of the letter is provided to the eldest child in each family. If for whatever reason you are not receiving the monthly letter, please let the office know so we can support you.

Our Vegetable Garden Project
Have you seen our vegetable garden lately? Throughout last week, the vegetable garden area has been re-designed and set up for the students to use. This year, as one of the P&F Projects, the focus is on redeveloping our outdoor learning space. A large paved area has been concluded, the beds have been set up with new soil, new bunkers have been set up with the donated sleepers. The next stage of the project is to set up a watering system. The P&F two goals are:

• Provide resources for outdoor learning
• Beautification project

The P&F will purchase two stainless steel tables that will enable the students to pot various plants, or prepare food etc. The new BBQ area with a pizza oven will be built alongside the vegetable garden area overlooking our beautiful grounds. The final addition will be some outdoor table setting and chairs that will conclude the two major goals for this year. This project seeks to individualize, real life learning for our students. Our well designed project will generate deeper understanding, encourage critical thinking skills, problem-solving and most importantly motivation becomes intrinsic to the student and teacher. Hence, outdoor learning spaces need to reflect the way students are learning today-for example, connecting the curriculum in the key area of science is one such instance. I encourage families to wonder over and have a look at our new outdoor learning space.

Assembly
It was an exciting time last week seeing our students receive awards at assembly for giving their best! Witnessing our students doing their best is a key to success. Acknowledging our students for doing their best, helps them understand the virtue of excellence. Through excellence they discover something no one has ever thought of before and that they learn they can make a difference in the world they live in. Congratulations to all our students who received awards this week and for making a difference! Parents you can see photos of our students receiving their awards on the website and on the school Facebook page.

https://www.facebook.com/pages/St-Patricks-Primary-School-Griffith/359977407452954
**Staff Away in Canberra at The International Council for Educational Facilities and Planning Conference**

This week Sandra Campbell, Christine Culla and Luke Testoni (Chair of the Building Committee) will be attending The International Council for Educational Facilities and Planning International Conference in Canberra on *School Designs for the 21st Century*. Whilst at the conference, we will be visiting schools and meet with other colleagues who have been recognised worldwide in educational circles in reference to contemporary learning. Mr Wedesweiler is Acting Principal in my absence. Thanks for reading and “Go the Maroons!”

*May God be with you always!*

---

David Adams-Jones
Principal

### Merit Awards at Assembly

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year One</th>
<th>Year Two</th>
<th>Year Three</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jamie Sinclair</td>
<td>Ayushi Ghosh</td>
<td>Jake Calabria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maddison Armanini</td>
<td>Tajveer Gill</td>
<td>Fabien Davidge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooper Savage</td>
<td>Meia Peters</td>
<td>Alainna Dhillon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rocco Sergi</td>
<td>Angad Brar</td>
<td>Jeriah DalBroi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isaiah DalBroi</td>
<td>Emily Laurent</td>
<td>Kasti Surana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nish Patel</td>
<td>Madeline Dickie</td>
<td>Mischia Northeast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tahli Connor</td>
<td>Alana Restagno</td>
<td>Dahlia Abbas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gurjot Kali Rai</td>
<td>Urvil Patel</td>
<td>Savannah Vecchio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexander Douglas</td>
<td>Shirine Nehme</td>
<td>Lucy Slater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicholas Sergi</td>
<td>Renee Collis</td>
<td>Lochlan Painting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jaskiret Brar</td>
<td>Yugam Gupta</td>
<td>Blake Aloisi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily Rossetto</td>
<td>Chiara Dalo</td>
<td>Mason Salvestro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathaniel Nikola</td>
<td>Imogen Bonny</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navdeep Kaur</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Four</th>
<th>Year Five</th>
<th>Year Six</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alana Davies</td>
<td>Allira Bugge</td>
<td>Madeline Proud</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlee King</td>
<td>Fergus Shelton</td>
<td>Alexis McMaster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Sinclair</td>
<td>Bryan Flores</td>
<td>Alyssa Quinn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jess Moraschi</td>
<td>Alice Macrae</td>
<td>Jashan Toor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taksvier Chughia</td>
<td>Varun Locham</td>
<td>Ahmed Raza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rajveer Singh</td>
<td>James Uoifalelahi</td>
<td>Anjni Chauhan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chrysa Velis</td>
<td>Sophie Calabria</td>
<td>Emma Curran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brody Vecchio</td>
<td>Jayden Skirving</td>
<td>Elizabeth Napoli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claudia Wedesweiler</td>
<td>Bohdy Martyn</td>
<td>Luke Armanini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jhaanu Karanupalan</td>
<td>Ava Kelly</td>
<td>Bret Sibanda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ben Devery</td>
<td>Isaac Railo</td>
<td>Nicholas Cacopardo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlie O’Sullivan</td>
<td>Cella Keenan</td>
<td>Jashan Toor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Role Potgeiter</td>
<td>Palakha Bhargo</td>
<td>James Tran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lachlan Chant</td>
<td>Ryan Zanatta</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Terese Sergi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MJR Awards:**

**Manpreet Rehal** for Making Jesus Real by being a kind and thoughtful student when helping an injured person in the playground.

**Mia Sergi** for Making Jesus Real by helping a fellow student in class to complete his work.

**Kaleb Serafin** for making Jesus Real by being a real gentleman and helping his classmate to get her jacket that was stuck on a chair with another chair on top of it! Very kind and gentlemanly.

**Rajveer Singh** for making Jesus Real by being a true gentleman. On a day it was raining he picked up an umbrella opened it up and held it over Mrs Catanzaritis head walking beside her and protecting her from the rain.

**Well done to you all!**
Staff Movements
It is with sadness for us that I have accepted the resignation of Mr. Craig Brown (Year Six, 101 room) who will be moving to Sydney at the end of Term Two. We have been fortunate to have Mr. Brown’s genuine love of teaching, his wealth of knowledge and years of experience to guide our students and staff for the last 2 years and previously and we wish him all the very best of successes as he embarks on this new stage of his life. St. Patrick’s will commence the process of advertising for a replacement teacher this week. I will keep the community informed of all developments.

Prepare for the new school day routine
As part of our ongoing discussion and assistance for parents and students starting school, we here at St. Patrick’s provide the following tips to assist you, as we know it has been of use to other parents and is featured on the KidsMatter website (www.kidsmatter.edu.au)

Plan ahead for changes
Starting school is a big change for your child that can lead to a range of emotions. You may find your child is excited but they may also be exhausted and tired, even if they are used to long hours at their preschool or early childhood education and care (ECEC) setting. Take the time to notice their mood, and think about how you will support your child to manage these feelings and reduce their stress or anxiety. Every family’s strategies are different, so it can be helpful to reflect on what has helped your child manage and adapt to change in the past.

- Consider what sorts of after school activities might be helpful for your child. For some children, minimising after school activities or waiting until your child is settled into school before introducing new activities is helpful. The school day can be quite long for your child and they may not have the energy to engage in other activities. They can begin after school activities once they have adjusted into the new routine.
- Plan some relaxing time after school. Depending on your child’s interests, this may consist of quiet play or jumping on the trampoline. Follow your child’s lead on what works best for them.
- Help your child to get a good night’s sleep. Having a regular routine such as taking a bath before bedtime or reading a book may help your child to relax.

Help manage separation distress
In the lead up to starting school, you may be concerned about how your child will cope with being separated from you. Perhaps they took a long time to adjust to being without you when they started attending preschool or day care. You might feel a bit unsure of how they will cope in their new school environment. In your planning for school, you might like to consider:

- What will help my child separate comfortably from me in the morning?
- What has helped my child in the past?
- Would my child benefit from taking a picture or special object from home?
- What will I do to help myself cope? (eg catch up with a friend, exercise)

It will also help to:

- Talk to your child’s early childhood educator and new school teacher – they can help to put some ideas in place to support your child to separate from you.
- Develop a positive goodbye routine together (eg sharing a ‘high five’, special goodbye hug or a funny or loving gesture like a bear hug).
- Always say goodbye and reassure your child of when you will collect them (eg that you will be back at home time to pick them up, or what the arrangements are for after school care). This helps build their trust and sense of security.
- Avoid lengthy goodbyes as they may increase separation distress.
- Talk positively and enthusiastically about what your child will be doing when they are away from you (eg “you will have a story”, “you’re going to have fun meeting new children”). Children will pick up on your cues if you are feeling nervous so try to be mindful of what you communicate about your own emotions.
- Take care of your own emotions in managing the separation.

New Learning Environments
Our new learning environment, (formerly the school library) is ready for Kindergarten to move into. Over the next week the Kindergarten teachers and teacher’s aides will be packing items to move. Our new Kindergarten furniture arrives tomorrow, and will be installed into the new learning environment. On Friday 5th June, Kindergarten Students and their Teachers will be exploring the new space and establishing routines. Parents are invited on the Friday from 2.15pm till 3.15pm to walk through and explore as well. From Tuesday 9th June, Kindergarten will formally begin lessons in the fantastic new learning areas.
Virtue of the Fortnight
Practice the virtue of gentleness every day in these various ways:

- Develop your empathy, your deep appreciation for another’s situation and point of view.
- Learn to recognize violence in all its forms. Pause, reflect, reconsider and find another way in every instance where you are tempted to use violence. Learn to “stare back” your thoughts of violence and choose a gentle and effective alternatives.
- Learn to recognize feeling of hatred in all its forms. Pause and replace those thoughts with kindness. It may be helpful to focus on grateful thoughts as an inoculation against the hate.
- Learn to summon your gentleness and enjoy inner peace at will. Master a technique such as square breathing, heart rhythm meditation, or centering that works best for you. Summon your gentleness to prevent inflicting harm.
- Your daily practice of the virtues of generosity, compassion, mercy, gratitude, humility, and tolerance prepare you for gentleness.

Maintain & share your awesomeness,
Alan Wedesweiler
Assistant Principal

Please Pray for

We pray for all the members in our school community who are sick and for all families who have lost loved ones. If you have any special intentions for prayers that you would like us to include in this section, please email Alissa in the office on woodhousea@ww.catholic.edu.au.

Book Club

Book Club Issue 4, 2015.
Book Club now offer a LOOP ordering system which means you don’t have to return the book ordering forms to the school. This would be the preferred mode of ordering. Please visit scholastic.com.au or download the app for android or apple at scholastic.com.au/LOOP. The school has opted in to LOOP. You will automatically be redirected to the school new LOOP site for ordering and payment. However you can still pay with cash/cheque by filling out the order form with your child’s name and room number and return it to the school office with payment by Friday 29th May.
Thank you,
Book Club Organisers.

P&F News

A friendly reminder to families that all lamington order forms and money are due into the school office this Friday 29th May. If you require an additional order form please contact the Administration Office and they can email one to you, or send them home with your child. Lamingtons are homemade and cost $15 per dozen. The collection days you can choose from are Friday 19th June or Monday 22nd June.
Thank you for your support
The 2015 P&F Committee
Athletics
Thanks go to the parents and family members who came along and supported our event in many ways. Congratulations go to all students who competed on the day – it was a great atmosphere. We have nearly 80 students representing our school at the MIA Deanery Carnival at West End Oval this Friday – could those selected send in their notes if they have not already done so. Well done Patrick (Green) House for gaining enough points to take out the Father Beltrame Shield. Brendan (Red) were second followed by McAuley (Yellow) and Marcellin (Blue).

Our Age Champions were:-
Junior Boys – Hayden Forner; Junior Girls – Alex Parisotto and Allira Aventi (tied).
The 11 Year Champions Ryan Zanatta and Ava Kelly
The Senior Champions – Nicholas Zanatta and Felicity Bonny

Thanks go the Griffith Little Athletics and Griffith City Council for their co-operation and help to make the day a success.

Representative Sport
At Representative Sport we have: Neil Dunn, Patrick Star, Lachlan Waide, Nate McGregor and Fergus Shelton participating in the MacKillop Rugby trial at Forbes at the end of the term.

Elizabeth Napoli heads to Sydney for the NSWPSSA Girls Football Carnival next week as a member of the MacKillop Girls Football team.

Mr Moraschi will Coach/Manage the MacKillop 11 Year Rugby League Team at the NSWPSSA Carnival in Tamworth next week.

Our Cross Country team will head to Eastern Creek in three weeks. We will have more details soon.

Bill Ross
Sport Coordinator
MARIAN CATHOLIC COLLEGE
GRIFFITH

YEAR 7 2016
ENROLMENT INTERVIEWS ARE IN PROGRESS NOW!

Applications for enrolment are to be submitted to the College office. Appointments will then be scheduled.

Applications Close:
Friday 29 May 2015.

All enquiries can be made to the College Office on:
02 69692400

MARIAN CLUB

CABARET

Presents
A night of Movie Music, Motown and Mayhem

WHEN
Thursday June 18th
Friday June 19th
7pm for 7:30pm

WHERE
Marcellin Hall
Marian Catholic College

TICKETS
THURS - $20 per ticket
Non-Alcoholic drinks
BYO Nibbles Only
FRIDAY - $30 A, $25 C
$100 Family (2A, 2C)
Platter included
Drinks available

TICKETS SALES CLOSE 12 JUNE 4PM FROM SCHOOL OFFICE
PH 69692400
Year 6 – Canberra Excursion

Students from our school recently undertook their annual education tour of the national capital, Canberra. Students were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia’s history, culture, heritage and democracy.

Upon our arrival in Canberra we started at the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS). Students walked around the Institute looking at the state of the art facilities including; the swimming pool, gym, volleyball courts and GIO Stadium. Students then had an opportunity to test their skills in the educational centre. Who knows if one of our students will end up training at the AIS and representing Australia?

We were fortunate to attend the War Memorial where students toured around the different parts of the War Memorial looking at different memorabilia and hearing amazing survival stories. During the visit students watched and participated in the Last Post and wreath laying ceremony, which commemorated Corporal Cameron Stewart Baird, the 100th Victorian Cross recipient.

We were even fortunate enough to see The Governor General, Prime Minister and other dignitaries.

At the CSIRO Discovery Centre students participated in a broad range of engaging science activities including learning about the latest technology that is being used in our oceans and how to determine how old a bank note is. Students were very enthusiastic to become scientists and engage with a range of hands on activities, even looking at their nails under a microscope, yuk!

On our visit to the High Court we were privileged to be able to sit in on a case being heard by five judges. The matter being heard was about a fair procedure of distributions on medicines. The St Pat’s students followed all court protocol, bowing when entering and leaving the chamber and sitting quietly and attentively at all times.

Our visits to New Parliament House and Old Parliament House were very exciting, especially being the week the budget was released. Parliament House was abuzz with discussions and question time was very interesting. Students participated in educational programs at both New and Old Parliament House, even getting to meet our local member, Michael McCormack.

Our visit to the Electoral Commission provided our students with an understanding of how democracy in our country works, its origins and what that means to each of us. The students also took part in an activity that introduced them to our preferential voting system.

And finally our visit to Questacon, always such as highlight of the trip. Students engaged in a large range of amazing science based interactive activities. Congratulations to all those students who braved the vertical drop.

A big thanks to: Canberra Carotel for our rooms and meals. Lunch on the Run for our sausage sizzle and pizza lunches. Gary, Patti and MIA coaches for getting us around and home safely. Mrs Armanini, Mrs Close and Mrs Piva for giving up their time to look after us. Mr Adams-Jones for braving the Canberra weather and accompanying us. Miss Graham, Mr Curry and Mr Brown for accompanying us as well and organising the excursion.

All Year 6 students would like to thank their parents for making the trip possible we appreciate your support, we all had a fantastic time!!

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of $20 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards the costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.
Year 3 - Term 2

We have discovered a lot about The First Fleet in HSIE and then followed this through in Visual Arts where we stepped into the shoes of Joseph Banks and sketched native Australian plants. We then sketched first fleet ships, using charcoal to add character.

As a tribute to the 100 year anniversary of ANZAC we used a variety of media to produce a commemorative piece of artwork that looked very effective.

We have been very busy preparing for our First Holy Communion that takes place in 4 weeks and thank everybody who is praying for us.