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Week 10 Term 4 Newsletter

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Carers,



We offer a huge thank you to **Tam Prime** and **Carmen Shoveller** for their dedication, commitment and overall coordination of the 2023 St Patrick's Christmas Festival held last Saturday. Thank you to the many parents who helped in the lead up to the day as well as setting up, manning stalls, and packing away. We also thank a team of students who were super helpful making the day a success, some in particular Jackson, Jacob, Toby, Finn, Ally, Sienna, Zoe, Thomas, Macey, Scarlett and Harvey. What a fabulous day we had. The weather treated us well. Santa made a happy visit. Lots of happy children and families enjoyed the food and festivities.

Congratulations to the Year 6 Award recipients.



### YEAR 6 AWARDS 2023

Award	Sponsor	Criteria	Student
Academic Excellence	Michael Holland	LOOK INTO THINKING	Imogen Murray
Academic Achievement	Michael Holland	LOOK INTO THINKING	Sophie Stroud
Academic Encouragement	Michael Holland	LOOK AHEAD TO THE FUTURE	Colin Dowd
Merit Award	St Patrick's School	LOOK INTO THINKING	Maya Koellner
Merit Award	RSL Sub-branch	LOOK AFTER EACH OTHER	Thomas Garner
Citizenship Award	Memorial Joe Caddley	CITIZENSHIP	Aodhan Nelligan
Citizenship Award	Kristy McBain	CITIZENSHIP	Chase Salway
Christian Living & Religious Education	Patsy Hart Memorial	LOOK AFTER EACH OTHER	Amber Phillips
SPORTING Excellence	Fr Greg Hannan Award	SPORTING SKILLS & ATTITUDE	Eva Ridley
SPORTING Representation	St Patrick's School	SPORTING ACHIEVEMENT	Drew Duncan
St Pat's School Spirit	RSL Sub-branch	SCHOOL SPIRIT	Izabella Palmer
Mumbulla Award	Mumbulla Foundation	MUMBULLA FOUNDATION	Colin Dowd Aodhan Nelligan

Congratulations to the students who have been named the 2024 St Patrick's School leaders.

#### St Patrick's School 2024

**School Captains** – Arly Schrader & Angus Fleming

**School Vice Captains** – Eleanor Wiley & Aidan Green

**Penola House Captains** – Rowan Leiper & Oliver Hayden

**Tenison House Captains** – Hannah Milligan & Alex Markwick

**MacKillop House Captains** – Alice Johnson & Luca Ahkin

#### Ministers

**Library** – Abbie Murray & Russell Ulibas & Sienna Taylor

**Peer Mediation** – Amelia Inwood

**Social Justice** – Ruby Edwards & Charlotte Hoskins

**Diversity & Inclusion** – Liane Perena

**Environment** – Flynn Snell & Elizabeth Attram & Zoe Sadler-Price

**Indigenous** – George Aldridge



As we approach the season of Christmas, we take time to reflect on the true meaning behind the festivities. As we know, Christmas isn't about presents, decorations, and indulgence – it's a celebration of hope, love, and the profound joy that comes from the birth of Jesus Christ. Amidst the busyness of the season, let us remember to take moments for reflection on gratitude and generosity.

This year, our school community has been blessed with countless moments of joy and growth. From the academic and sporting achievements of our students to the development of connections and friendships, we've witnessed the beauty of learning, nurturing, and supporting one another. As we conclude this year, let us carry this joy forward into the Christmas season and the upcoming year.

Let's also open our hearts and hands to those who may be in need, sharing the warmth of our care and the blessings we've received. May this Christmas be a time of unity, peace, and great joy for each and every one of us.

From our school family to yours, we wish you a Merry Christmas filled with the love and joy that this season brings.

Blessings,

Jo

Yesterday I sent a message on Compass regarding parent rescuing behaviours when children are having big emotions. This short article may be helpful.

<https://community.today.com/parentingteam/post/why-parental-rescuing-behavior-harms-kids-and-how-to-avoid-it>

## FROM THE REC

### Mini Vinnies 2023 Wrap up

On Tuesday, we celebrated our Thanksgiving Mass. During the Mass, our Mini Vinnies presented Danni from the St Vincent De Paul Society baskets of donated goods to go towards making hampers for their Christmas appeal. The Mini Vinnies students did a wonderful job at our Mass as readers and Altar servers, demonstrating reverence throughout. Thankyou to all who generously made donations during the appeal and to those who attended Mass on Tuesday. Through continued fundraising efforts with Socktober and Friday iceblock sales, St Pat's Mini Vinnies have raised \$331 for Caritas Australia. We are looking forward to our Mini Vinnies group working together next year to continue to raise awareness of social issues faced around the globe and in our community and continue their fundraising efforts for organisations like Caritas Australia and the St Vincent De Paul Society. Early in the new year, Mrs Ferris will be asking students to volunteer to become a Mini Vinnies member, making a commitment to spreading kindness and generosity across our school and local community.



### 2024 Sacraments

Our Sacraments during 2024 will be First Reconciliation on 26th May and First Communion on 25th August. Please follow the link below or scan the QR code to enrol your child.

Here are the links to the enrolment form.

link <https://forms.gle/BNbWYy1s4xEZ71VY7>



### Merry Christmas to everyone!

What a wonderful time of year this is as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

This is a perfect time to revisit the story of Jesus' birth with your children. Below is a reading that you may wish to share as a family, as you prepare to celebrate Christmas.

### Luke 2:8-14 NKJV

Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger." And

suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!"

## UNIFORM SHOP



Uniform dates for January 2024 TBC - Notice will be sent out via Compass

## FROM THE SCHOOL COUNSELLOR

Talking with children about school

It's not unusual to hear parents exclaiming that their kids tell them nothing about school.

In fact, a common reply when asked about what they did at school today might be "Nothing!" or "I can't remember".

This can leave parents feeling out of the loop and even worried about how their child is doing at school, both emotionally and academically.

However, these replies are often born not from boredom, having a bad day or not learning anything. Often children and teens may find the question too broad, leaving them not knowing how to respond.

Here are some tips and ideas for how to talk with your child(ren) about school:

1. Try leaving the questions when they first get home from school; giving them some space to decompress from the day's events, have a snack and recharge first.
2. When we ask questions of our child(ren) it is important that we are fully engaged and ready to listen without distractions like mobile phones. Therefore, it's best to ask questions when we are ready to listen to the answers. After all, we also need some time to decompress and recharge when we walk through the door or when our children return home
3. Try asking about school whilst engaging in another task together such as preparing dinner, attending to family pets, or playing a game. This can take the pressure off and allow space for more tricky subjects to be discussed if needed

4. Try asking a specific question such as "What was the best thing about school today?" or "Can you tell me one new thing you learnt today?"
5. Try making it into a family game eg. "Tell me 2 true things that happened today, and one make believe!" Then everyone guesses which is the made-up tale
6. Remember - As a parent you know your child best. Sometimes it may not be the right time for your child to talk about school. At times they may need time to process their day and work out what they want to share with you, especially as they grow older. Use your judgement and simply be there when they are ready

Thanks for reading – Sam, school counsellor

## COMMUNITY NEWS

Shoalcoast Community Legal Centre is coming to Bega, Eden & Cobargo to provide legal appointments.

Bega Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023, 10:30am – 1:15pm

Eden Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023, 10am – 1pm

Cobargo Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2023, 10:15am – 12:30pm

[https://stpatsbega.schoolzineplus.com/\\_file/media/4833/19\\_dec.pdf](https://stpatsbega.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/4833/19_dec.pdf)



TWO SHEDS WOODWORK

2024 AFTER SCHOOL CLASSES NOW OPEN FOR BOOKING  
SCHOOL HOLIDAY KIDS WORKSHOPS

Come and build some awesome projects with Two Sheds Workshop, Bega

Workshops for kids 7yrs+, no experience needed. Holiday classes and weekly

Afterschool classes booking now. Late Start class at 4 pm Wednesday

Creative Kids vouchers accepted

Check out the range here: <https://enrolmy.com/two-sheds-workshop#>