God of Love,
You are with us in every transition and change.
As we enter into this new school year with excitement and even some anxiety,
we recall your deep compassion, presence, and abounding love.
We thank you for the gifts, talents and skills with which you have blessed us.
We thank you for the experiences that have brought us to this moment.
We thank you for the work of others that gives breadth and depth to our own work.
We thank you for the families who entrust us with the education of their children.
Be with us as we move forward, rejoicing with you, supporting one another and sharing
the Good News in our communities.
We ask this in your name. Amen.

Dear Families,
Welcome back to our 2019 school year. A special welcome to our Foundation children; Mia, Harper, Ren, Noah, Jack, Nate, William, Zarli, Charli, Ethan, Vibeesh, Bonnie, Lily-Rose and our new families: Abigail, Jasmine and Santino. We hope you continue to enjoy being part of our wonderful community.

Opening School Mass
We would love our families to come and celebrate our Opening School Mass at St Patrick’s Church followed by a delicious Morning Tea at the school hall.
**When:** Friday 15th February
**Time:** 10:00 am
**Where:** St Patrick’s Catholic Church
Harmony Day

We are very excited to be celebrating Harmony Day on **Friday 15th March** this year. Our school is a hype of activity on this special occasion with open classrooms and children wearing national dress and colours from around the world.

It is one of our most popular days of the year, celebrating belonging and cultural diversity. This day brings our community together early in the year to share a meal, tell a holiday story, connect with each other and celebrate belonging to St Patrick’s Parish community.

Everyone is most welcome to our weekly School Assembly that is held in the School Hall every Friday at 2:50pm.

Our school leader badges will be presented at Assembly on **Friday 15th February**.

Staff Meetings

Teachers are happy to make appointments with parents at mutually convenient times. There may be times when teachers are unavailable and this particularly applies to Staff Meeting times. This year the staff meet on a Tuesday at 3:45pm and Thursday morning at 8:15am.

**The classrooms will be locked every Thursday morning until 8:45am due to a General Briefing for teachers in the staff room.**

Roadworks

During the holidays the Northern Grampians Shire completed the roadworks at the back gate. There is now a footpath and designated car parks which look fantastic and are a great improvement, providing a much safer pick up and drop off point for our families.

**For child safety please park in the car spaces provided on the school side of the road.**

Uniforms

Thank you to families for providing the children with the correct uniforms to begin the school year, including hats to comply with our Sun Smart Policy. Hats are to be worn until the end of April.
The Resilience Project

One of our priorities in 2019 is student health and wellbeing. We are very excited to join with The Northern Grampians Shire and the other educational organisations in Stawell and surrounding areas to be part of The Resilience Project. The Resilience Project aims to teach positive mental health strategies and to deliver practical strategies to build resilience. The three components of the program are Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness. The Resilience Project curriculum will be integrated throughout the school from Foundation to Grade 6, and all students will receive a workbook to assist with the program. Students will engage in a range of activities and evidence based approaches to build resilience, in order to develop mental health. More details about The Resilience Project are in this week’s newsletter.

Medical/Permission Forms

Please bring all the forms back ASAP so we are provided with current medical information.

Working with Children Check

Please ensure you have a current Working with Children Check if you are intending to help at the school in any capacity.

Thank you

Thank you to Andrew and Jo Hemley for looking after the chooks during the holidays. Thank you to Simon Jones for transporting the teacher’s furniture from Marian College to St Pat’s. Thank you also to Sue and Shaun for providing us with the beautiful, fresh clean classrooms for 2019.

Have a great weekend,

God Bless,
Liz
Specialist Classes for 2019

**FOUNDATION:**
Visual Art: Wednesday
Performing Arts: Friday
Sport: Tuesday
Chinese: Wednesday

**GRADE 1/2H**
Visual Arts: Wednesday
Performing Arts: Wednesday
Physical Education: Wednesday
Chinese: Wednesday

**GRADE 1/2G**
Visual Arts: Wednesday
Performing Arts: Wednesday
Physical Education: Wednesday
Chinese: Wednesday

**GRADE 3/4T**
Visual Arts: Thursday
Performing Arts: Monday
Physical Education: Tuesday
Chinese: Thursday

**GRADE 3/4S**
Visual Arts: Thursday
Performing Arts: Friday
Physical Education: Tuesday
Chinese: Thursday

**GRADE 5/6M**
Visual Arts: Thursday
Performing Arts: Tuesday
Physical Education: Friday
Chinese: Thursday

**GRADE 5/6C**
Visual Arts: Thursday
Performing Arts: Tuesday
Physical Education: Friday
Chinese: Thursday
2019 Staff

Principal: Liz McIntyre
Deputy Principal: Michelle Howard
Religious Education, Community Leader & Response to Intervention: Maryanne Comitti
Business Manager: Jill Croxford

Junior Professional Learning Community
Leader - Kerrie Ryan
Foundation - Fiona Horney /Maryanne Comitti (3 afternoons)
1/2H - Sarah Howard/Judy Giles (2 afternoons)
1/2G - Tracey Groves

Middle Professional Learning Community
Middle Learning Community
Leader - Michelle Howard
3/4T - Lauren Toomey
3/4S - Lauren Sharp

Senior Professional Learning Community
Senior Learning Community
Leader - Melissa Bonney
5/6M - Leon Moloney
5/6C - Lillie Comitti

eSmart Team
Lauren Toomey
Melissa Bonney

Specialist Teachers
Physical Education - Leon Moloney
Performing Arts - Melissa Bonney
Visual Arts - Lynette Cox-Hayward
Chinese - Mr Weiyu Dai (St Patrick’s Stawell & St Mary’s Ararat)

Learning Support Officers: Jo Gehan, Marnie Smith, Anne-thea Barber
Risk and Compliance Officer: Donna Wood (1 day a fortnight - Friday)
This year we will be celebrating our Harmony Day on Friday 15th March, 2019. Harmony Day is a day where we celebrate our cultural diversity, it is about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. We are thrilled to be planning some new learning experiences for our students and community on this day. We look forward to bringing you further details closer to the date.

Professional learning:

At St Patrick’s Primary School we are committed to Professional Development of our team. At various times staff members will be working off site which may result in classroom teachers being out of the classroom. This will be communicated through the newsletter.
In Term 4 of 2018 the Social Justice team co-ordinated our annual fundraising for St Vincent’s de Paul Sponsor A Student Program. Fundraising efforts included the 5c challenge from each classroom and icypole sales from pool day.

We are thrilled to announce we raised $269.85 and have been able to sponsor four children’s education through the Assist a student program.

The St Vincent de Paul Assist a Student program provides funding for an education sponsorship to train and educate a student in one of St Vincent de Paul’s partner countries for one year. Poverty is a vicious cycle. The education of a person develops self-esteem and skills and in turn has a positive effect on the whole community. Education is the key to enabling an individual to support themselves, their families and their communities independently in the future. (St Vincent de Paul)
Social Justice

Once again St Patrick’s Primary School will be running a Social Justice team. The social justice group is designed for students between Grades 4 - 6 to help those in need within our school, local or international community. The Social Justice group introduces children to social justice issues whilst being supported by myself and the St Patrick’s teaching community. Within this group students are able to meet once a week during lunch time to talk, share ideas and any social justice concerns they have.

The aim of the Social Justice group is about living out the Gospel values together with our school vision and mission statement. St Patrick’s school vision statement highlights that we are a school community which reflects and celebrates Christ as its centre, through this the social justice group is committed to valuing our whole community and coming together for a loving, just, compassionate and tolerant world.

Any students from Grades 4-6 who are interested in being part of the our Social Justice team will be able to meet with myself during Wednesday lunchtime from 1:20pm to 1:40pm (this date and time may change periodically dependent on other commitments).

Food Bank

Thank you to those who have previously supported our Food Bank. We are hoping to get the Food Bank underway again this year and are seeking your support.

What:

The Food Bank consists of wonderful volunteers in our school community who have cooked meals that can be frozen. Containers will be available from the school office for the food that volunteers make. Meals will need to be nut free and have ingredients listed (for food allergies/ intolerance purposes) and the date the meal was prepared. Donations of soup/muffins/cake/slices are also welcome.

Who:

The meals will be distributed to families in our School Community at a time when they could benefit from a pre-prepared home cooked meal. It is a lovely way to help people who have just had a baby, had an illness or death in the family or just need a helping hand.

How:

If you know of any family who could benefit from a meal, you simply advise Mrs McIntyre or myself and we will ensure a meal(s) is sent home or delivered to the family home.

The aim will be to have a minimum supply of food in the food bank freezer, once a meal is used then we will contact our next volunteer on our list to prepare a meal for the freezer.

A letter will be sent out next week detailing the above. Please contact me if there are any queries.

Maryanne Comitti
Swimming Carnival

On the 22nd February 2019, our annual swimming carnival for Grades 3 to 6 will take place at the Stawell Leisure Complex beginning at 10:00am and concluding at approximately 2:00pm. Grade 3 to 6 students will travel down by bus to the pool around 9:45am. Students from Grades Foundation to 2 will travel down to the pool by bus at 11:45am to experience the carnival and support their particular Houses. Students in Foundation to Grade 2 will not be swimming on the day, their water awareness program is at the end of the year. A note will go home next week with more details.
Leon Moloney (Sports Coordinator)

Resilience Project

What a positive way to start our school year by being involved in The Resilience Project. Martin Heppell was an energetic and engaging presenter to say the least, presenting sessions to staff, the community and all of our students. In each session the common message was the teaching of positive mental health strategies to help people become happier. These strategies involve -

Gratitude, Empathy/kindness and Mindfulness

If you’d like more information about The Resilience Project, please visit the following website:

So where to next? All schools have access to The Resilience Project curriculum and teacher resources and as a team we will be discussing and implementing the program into our weekly learning. Many thanks to all the parents and friends who attended the community session and special thanks to the Northern Grampian Shire who provided this wonderful project to our community.
Grade 3/4T have had a great start to the year, in Reading they have started to work in their Reading Groups and are learning to work together effectively throughout the week. In Writing last week they had started to write about their School Holidays and this week they have started writing narratives. The kids are writing about an eager toe soldier who spent a week in an amusement park. In the Grade 4 Maths unit they have started to learn about 4 and 5 digit numbers and in the Grade 3 Maths unit they have been learning to count backwards by tens in the hundreds! In Religion Grade 3/4T have had a fantastic start in their new unit learning about the word “sacred” and what it means! Having a pass the parcel activity was a highlight on Tuesday.

In their Spelling unit they have been learning to break up words into syllables, onset and rime and phonemes. Last week when they went to the Resilience Project with the rest of the school, they had a lot of fun listening to the stories Martin told and they learned about gratitude, empathy and mindfulness! At the moment in Grade 3/4T they are learning about internet safety as this week included Safer Internet Day.
This year we have had an addition to the St Patrick’s school community with the new Foundation students! They have had a great start to the year and they have already learnt so much in these first few days. In their first leap of learning they have put their efforts into learning the alphabet. They have been learning how to write letters of the alphabet, they have started on the letter S. They have been learning to identify words and objects they know in the books they are reading.

Mrs. Harney’s Foundation class is having a great time starting to do meditation and learn about mindfulness! We are all very proud of their learning and their achievements in the first week of school.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bill Lasslett</td>
<td>for always helping others and for being a wonderful listener.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethan Pryderrch</td>
<td>for being so organised, listening to instructions and for great learning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abigail Adams</td>
<td>for the wonderful way you have settled in to our school and the great enthusiasm you have for learning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logan Piatkov</td>
<td>for the wonderful work you are doing with writing sentences using your STOP and GO pencils.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Callum Reading</td>
<td>for the wonderful start you have made to the year and for being so kind and helpful to your classmates and teacher!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ella Groves</td>
<td>for the excellent start you have made to Grade Two and for working hard and trying your best in all subject areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mia Pearce</td>
<td>for all your amazingly insightful discussions in class. You are adding so much to the class!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrei Calantog</td>
<td>for how well you have been helping other students and wanting them to feel comfortable and safe in the middle year's area of the school. A great sign of growing leadership skills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heidi Kane</td>
<td>for being a happy and helpful person in the classroom and always being a wonderful friend.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xavier Larkin</td>
<td>for making a brilliant start to the new school year and trying your hardest in all your work and activities. Keep up your fantastic learning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darcy Moloney</td>
<td>for his outstanding efforts throughout the single word spelling tests he did. Darcy displayed a positive mindset and never gave up.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alyra Murray</td>
<td>for starting the year off with a positive mindset.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angie Martin</td>
<td>for the positive attitude you have brought to Grade Five. Keep up the great work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bella Parker</td>
<td>for showing fantastic leadership qualities in the classroom.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TERM 1 DATES of IMPORTANCE

Please note: this calendar is a GUIDE only.

We will endeavour to keep the dates as stated below, however sometimes due to circumstances out of our control dates and times may need to be altered

Week 3
TUE 12th February Grade 3/4 & 5/6 Swimming
THUR 14th February Grade 3/4 & 5/6 Swimming
FRI 15th February 10am Opening school mass (at the church) and morning tea (school hall)

Week 4
Mon 18th February Grade 3/4 & 5/6 Swimming
TUE 19th February Grade 3/4 & 5/6 Swimming
WED 20th February Grade 3/4 & 5/6 Swimming
FRI 22nd February Swimming Carnival (Grades 3 to 6)

Week 5
Mon 25th February 9 am Experienced Classroom helpers start
THUR 28th February Whole School community conversation (time to be confirmed)

Week 6
TUE 5th March Shrove Tuesday
WED 6th March 8:45 am Literacy Helpers course

WEEK 7
MON 11th March Labour Day (No School)
TUE 12th March 8:45 am Literacy Helpers course
FRI 15th March Harmony Day (TBC)

WEEK 8
MON 18th March St Patricks Liturgy
TUE 19th March 8:45 am Literacy Helpers Course

WEEK 9
TUE 26th March 8:45 am Literacy Helpers Course
WED 27th March School closure Day
THUR 28th March Parent Teacher Interviews
FRI 29th March School cross country (TBC)

WEEK 10
TUE 2nd April 8:45am Literacy Helpers course
Wed 3 -5th April 5/6 Urban Camp
FRI 5th April Last Day of Term 1
Family Fee Assistance & Camp Sport Excursion Funding Assistance

Attention all Parents

If you are in receipt of a current Centrelink Health Care Card, you must provide St Pats school office with a copy NO LATER than the 20th Feb 2019,

To be eligible for the above assistance. Should you require further information please speak to Jill

Thank you
Navarre Football / Netball Club

Seeking....
Junior footballers and netballers and their families
2019 season

Navarre football/netball club has a rich history of over 100 years. We are a family focussed club and we are proud of the success we have achieved over the years from seeing players developed in juniors, who stay with us to play on through into senior grades. We welcome new players and their families and invite them to become part of our family club.

Junior players are provided with full uniform, excluding football boots or runners. No club affiliation fees.

Free football registration.

Accredited coaches, including ‘working with children’ checks.

Come for a season and stay for a lifetime.

Junior grades include:

U11.5 Football        U11 Netball
U14.5 Football        U13 Netball
U17.5 Football        U15 Netball
U17 Netball

Please contact:
Corey Hope: 0400941501  email: chope@mchapoutieraustralia.com
Luke Martin: 0438581276  : lukemartin1979@hotmail.com
Patricia Martin: 0411503376  : delisha73@yahoo.co.uk