Dear Members of our Community of Faith,

Yesterday we celebrated St Patrick’s Feast Day, a very important day within our Church where we remember the impact St Patrick was able to have in the country of Ireland and how the Irish Missionaries were able to then spread the faith to other parts of the world. The children were looking a bit green yesterday morning, but thankfully not due to being ill! The variety of costumes was very impressive, so well done to those who made the effort. Just like St Patrick, we too have a missionary role in sharing our faith with others.

As Pope Francis writes in his encyclical Evangelii Gaudium: “The joy of the gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus. Those who accept his offer of salvation are set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness. With Christ joy is constantly born anew.” Let’s see what we can do to bring this joy to others.

Thank you to the SRC who were so responsible in ensuring cupcakes were made and brought to school for St Patrick’s Day. These cupcakes raised around $110 for the SRC, which is a terrific effort. We also had Hot Dogs on green buns and green cordial for lunch, so it was a child’s dream day at school really! A huge thank you to Miss Nuttall who worked tirelessly in and out of school hours to ensure all this was possible and thank you to the SRC and other students and staff who chipped in and assisted in any way.

Parent Evening
Thank you to those who were able to make it to our first Parent Evening on Wednesday night. Fr Joe Pich presented the many challenges Christian Marriage is facing, but assured us of God’s big picture plan for humanity and emphasised the importance of being a positive witness to the world. So let’s keep fighting the good fight in among the vast and varied challenges that are thrown our way. Truth, Beauty and Goodness are what underpin all we are trying to achieve at our school and are, in the end, what will win through.

Hot Cross Buns – Thank you to everyone who ordered Hot Cross Buns through the school to help raise some funds. The orders will be available to pick up after school next Tuesday 22nd March. Enjoy!

International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) - A reminder that ICAS registration forms are due back by Tuesday 5th April. Please consider if your child would be interested in sitting any of these assessments and get the forms back to us soon.

SMMC Legion of Mary - Meets every Tuesday at 3:30pm. Thank you to the volunteers who are here to run this each week.

Mother’s Day Raffle & Cake Stall
YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!
The Parents and Friends are running a Mother’s Day Raffle and Cake Stall to raise funds to put towards school improvements. Raffle Tickets will go out early next week. Thank you to the Saliba family for their generous meal voucher donation – it is much appreciated. On Saturday 7th May, a Cake Stall will be run in Jindera. Your baking skills will be needed to help supply treats we can sell at this stall, so warm those ovens up for early May. Thank you in advance for your support!

Please note that next Friday is Good Friday and the following Monday is Easter Monday, so you can enjoy a four-day weekend with your families.

God Bless

Luke Burton
Principal
Yr.7/8 Technological and Applied Studies (TAS)

Our TAS unit this Term is called ‘Taking Care of Business’. The students have been looking at the process of designing, creating and then evaluating a product. We looked at Principles of Graphic Design and then applied these principles to create our own business cards. Some of the finished products are below and a full listing will be in a future newsletter to help advertise the businesses. Mr Phil Murphy kindly gave up his time to impart his knowledge and skills in Graphic Design, which was most helpful.

The students are also creating a flyer to advertise their businesses and will then run their business at a ‘Market Day’ in the last week of term. Please get along on the day and support the students in their ventures if you can. They have done a great job!

Mr Burton

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name/s</th>
<th>Business and Products</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anna Bell</td>
<td>‘The Ice Age’ - icy poles.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joseph Chandrasegaran and Tim Mott</td>
<td>‘Amazing Aussie Ice-creams’ – three flavours of ice cream in cones.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mikhail Firmager and Tom Woods</td>
<td>‘Sugar Bombs’ – cup cakes, spiders and ice blocks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isabel Perry</td>
<td>‘Izzy’s Fizzys’ – three flavours of soft drinks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alice Stewart</td>
<td>‘Splat’ - Face Painting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joshua Wright</td>
<td>‘Ballistic Bats’ - Mini Wooden Cricket Bats</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daniel Buchanan and Matthew Woods</td>
<td>‘Mackillops Cheapest Chips’ – Hot Chips</td>
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<tr>
<td>Xavier Evans</td>
<td>‘Lolly World’ – lolly bags</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Galvin</td>
<td>‘Lucky Dip’ – various dips, vegetable sticks and biscuits</td>
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<tr>
<td>Niamh Horsfall and Rachel Perry</td>
<td>‘Funky Frog Pond’ – jelly cup and ice cream with lolly frog</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tom Irwin</td>
<td>‘The Milkshake Man’ – a variety of flavoursome milkshakes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Claire McCrohan and Lauchlan Morris</td>
<td>‘Fabulous Fries’ – fries at their best</td>
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Dates for your diary…

- Saturday 19th March - St Joseph’s Feast Day
- Friday 1st April – School Assembly after morning Mass
- Saturday 2nd April - Rev Reece Beltrame Ordination, St Michael’s Cathedral Wagga Wagga. An invite is extended to all the SMMC Community (see Week 2 Newsletter)
- Tuesday 5th April – ICAS Registrations due
- Wednesday 6th April - Athletics Carnival at Alexandra Park 9:00am – 3:30pm
- Saturday 7th May – Mother's Day Cake Stall in Jindera
- Thursday 7th April – Year 7/8 TAS Class ‘Market Day’ for their unit ‘Taking Care of Business’. Bring along some money to spend. All welcome. Details will be in subsequent newsletters.
- Friday 8th April - Term One finishes
- Saturday 30th April – SMMC Working Bee, 9:00am – 1:00pm
- May 10, 11 and 12 – NAPLAN for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.
- Thursday 12th May 7:30pm – Parents and Friends Meeting
- Sunday 22nd May – Lavington Parish Confirmation with Bishop Hanna
- Tuesday 24th May – Our Lady Help of Christians Feast Day
- Friday 12th August 7:30pm – Parent Evening with Dr Gerard O’Shea
- Saturday 22nd October – SMMC Fete
- Friday 11th November – Sunday 13th November - Father/Son Camp
Saint Patrick’s Day Concert

We held a small concert for Saint Patrick’s Day yesterday. Thank you to those classes who presented an item. There is such a variety of talent within our school and it was great to celebrate that yesterday and honour Saint Patrick. Yr.1/2 recited ‘Simple Simon’, Yr.3/4 recited a poem and some Yr.5/6 students read out some Limerick Poems they had created. Mr Williams pulled out his best Irish accent to narrate the life (and death) of St Patrick while his drama students very ably acted out the story. All this was rounded out with some great Irish Dancing. Thanks to all involved.

PLEASE TAKE US HOME! We have been at school since the Mother/Daughter Camp and are desperately missing our owners. Pick us up from outside the Office. Thank you!

We have been holding up the Bike Stand for a long time now. If you own either of us, please come and get us. If we are not picked up by the end of the term, we will be offered to someone who needs a bike or taken to St Vincent de Paul!
LIVING OUT THE FAITH IN FAMILY LIFE

Developing Moral Judgement in your Children

People go through stages of moral development as they go through life. Some do not develop very much along the road whilst others shoot ahead. This is independent of age.

The first stage of moral development depends upon your wants. A person thinks an action is good or bad only depending upon the response they receive from others, usually those in authority positions. So for them, enjoyment is good and punishment is bad. Many adults remain in this stage all their lives. Their thinking is, “If I can get away with something that is wrong then it is OK”. The second stage of moral development qualifies behaviour by the consequences for oneself. The sort of reasoning is that if I do this for someone they will give me a reward or what I want. This is like the child who mows the lawn so they can have a reward like going to the movies. The thinking then is that obtaining rewards is good and missing out on them is bad. Many adults think like this.

The third stage of moral development is the beginnings of the awareness that they should be doing the right thing. At this stage though, the motivating intention is for acceptance or approval of oneself. Trying hard to achieve so that you receive approval or be thought of as “cool”. This stage is typified by the thinking that esteem is good and non-recognition is bad. In the fourth stage of development, rules and regulations become the criteria for how to behave. Rules are not violated but the people involved do not question whether or not the law is a good one. The thinking is, “If it is legal, it is OK.” At this stage the thinking is that “Order is good, chaos is bad.” Many teenagers and adults are at these stages of development.

The fifth and sixth stages of moral development are very close and the aim is toward perfection and uniting one’s will with the will of God. The mature person aligns their thinking and judgement with an internalised set of rules. Even some people who are not fully Christian can align their will in this direction without fully understanding. For the Christian who truly knows God, the only evil is to go in opposition to God. This is the ideal - a conscience founded on God's laws and acting in accordance with that. These are the stages of moral development we need to strive for ourselves and to encourage our children to strive for.

Think about what stages of development your children are in and encourage them to rise above it. Make comments to them such as, “What do you think God wants you to do?” Recognise times when they may be choosing to do the right thing and use it as an opportunity to not only do the right thing, but to do it for the right reason. To do the right thing out of love for God. (from “Raise Happy Children, Teach Them Joy”. M. Budnik)

VIRTUE FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH

Hope

“Do not allow yourself to be disheartened by any failure as long as you have done your best.”

Mother Teresa