Happy St Patrick’s Day tomorrow to all students and families at Mt St Patrick Primary School. St Patrick’s Day is a significant feast day for our school. We will be celebrating a liturgy in the Church at 9:15am followed by a visit to the Tweed Regional Aquatic Centre between 12:00 - 2:00pm. There will be no lunch orders available from our school canteen on this day. All students are to proudly dress up in their GREEN coloured clothes tomorrow.

**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK - 14th – 20th March**

‘Open Your Minds, Open Your Hearts’

The annual Catholic Schools Week event is being celebrated this week. The theme for this year is ‘Open Your Mind, Open Your Hearts’.

Important events during this week include:

**Tuesday 16th**

**ST PATRICK’S DAY CONCERT** - 700pm in Parish Hall

Thank you to those Middle School students who are performing tonight as our school choir. Thank you to Beth Brooks for conducting our Choir.

**Wednesday 17th**

**ST PATRICK’S DAY**

Liturgy & Tweed Regional Aquatic Centre.

**Thursday 18th**

Middle School students attending ‘Catholic Schools Week Mass’ held at St Joseph’s College Hall, Banora Point

**Friday 19th**

**OPEN DAY** – classrooms open for visits between 9:15am - 10:15am for parents, family & friends.

**TOURS OF THE SCHOOL** – available ALL DAY for new and prospective families.

**BUSH DANCE EVENING**

Our school family ‘Bush Dance’ evening will be held on:

Friday 19th March

5:30 – 8:00pm

in the School Basement & Grass Area

LIVE MUSIC – ‘Playing Possum’

- Drinks & BBQ available on the night
- Jumping Castle
- Dancing Demonstrations

Thank you to the Parent Reps from MS –S & MS-H for their assistance in coordinating this school event.

Enjoy Catholic Schools Week

Brendan Ryan

Acting Principal
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be held on Thursday 25th March at 7:00pm in the Sacred Heart Church.
A workshop day for those students receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be held on Wednesday 24th March.

SACRED HEART PARISH
WEEKDAY MASS TIMES
Wednesday 5.30pm Sacred Heart
Thursday 9.15am OLPS, St M'Bah
Friday 12.00 Sacred Heart

WEEKEND MASS TIMES
Saturday 6:00 pm Sacred Heart
Sunday 8:00 am Sacred Heart
1st 10:00am Uki
2nd & 4th 10:00am OLPS – St M’bah
3rd Burringbar

R.E. RESOURCE MAKING
Many thanks to Deanne Buch and the wonderful Parent Helpers who have assisted in making the Religious Education resources throughout the term. We are very excited to have these new resources within the school so the children are able to further explore the bible stories in a fun and creative way. Please accept our heartfelt thanks.

MINI VINNIES
On Friday 12th March our St Vincent de Paul representatives for 2010 were inducted at the Parish Mass.
Congratulations to those students in Middle School who have taken up the challenge. Our meetings are held fortnightly in Mr Houlahan’s classroom. We will be Organizing fundraisers and discovering ways to spread the charism of St Vincent de Paul and Blessed Fredric Ozanam around our school community.
Philomena Zambelli (Co-ord. Mini-Vinnies)

SR KARAN
Dear Parents,
A Moment with Jesus
Celebrating the Eucharist is one of the most powerful ways we are unified as Catholics.
Take a moment to thank Jesus for the gift of the Eucharist.
Ask him to deepen your desire to be one with him and with others.
God Bless,
Sr Karan

VIRTUE OF THE WEEK
SERVICE
What is Service?
Being service-oriented is wanting to make a difference in the lives of others. Helping other people is one of the very best ways to serve God. Having an attitude of service means looking for ways to be of help rather than waiting to be asked. The needs of others are as important to you as your own. When you work with a spirit of service, you give a job your very best effort. You don’t just do the least amount possible. You make a real contribution.

FAREWELL
Mt St Patrick Primary School are sad to farewell the Van der Laan family who are moving to France.
We wish Cooper (MSH), Judd (Yr 2), Noah (KM) and their parents a safe journey to France and take this opportunity of wishing them well on this exciting adventure.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
Best wishes to the following students who are celebrating their birthdays over the coming weeks:
Milli Rainger, Lillyann Charman, Abigail Stratton, Malachy Wilkinson, Evie Falkner, Tom Boyd, Lauchlan Andrew, Matthew Mullington, Storm Haglund, Samuel Menin, Shelly Stanford, Alexander Flannery and Elise Lack
WORKING BEE

Despite a disappointing turn out of helpers for the afternoon, some much needed gardening around the school was completed. Thank you to these families who attended the Working Bee last Saturday:

- Ruth, Grace & Harrison Smith
- Liz & Callum Baker
- Sarah-Jane Guinea
- Megan, Tony & Lilli Oniper
- Scott Houlahan
- Leah Sheldon

NAPLAN – NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM - LITERACY & NUMERACY 2010

In May 2010 the National Assessment Program – Literacy & Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by all students in Years 3, 5, 7 & 9 in all government & non-government schools. NAPLAN has the support of all State & Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy learning of students in all Australian schools.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child’s level of achievement. Each student’s level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

Background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background & Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student’s right to privacy is maintained.

The tests will be conducted across Australia on the same days for all students according to the following timetable:

- **Tuesday 11th May**: Language Conventions (Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar)
  - Writing
- **Wednesday 12th May**: Reading
- **Thursday 13th May**: Numeracy (Number, Algebra, function & pattern, Measurement, Chance & Data; and Space)

Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at:

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Our school photos have been booked for **Friday 30th April** (Term 2; Week 2). Please mark this important date in your diary. Prepaid envelopes to purchase photos will be distributed next week.

SKILL A THON

As this is our major fundraiser for the year, your enthusiastic support would be appreciated. **The Skill A Thon will be held on Tuesday 30th March.**

The Skill A Thon involves all students participating in fun ‘sporting tabloid’ activities in the afternoon. Sponsorship cards were distributed to all students last week. Sponsorship cards are filled out prior to the Skill A Thon day. All money is collected after the child completes the Skill A Thon course. Donations are gratefully accepted. All money raised will be spent on the students this year. By raising money for the school you are assisting child’s education.

**Parent reps from MS-C will be responsible for assisting the coordination of this fundraising event.**

EASTER BONNET PARADE

On **Monday 29th March** (Week 10) we will be holding our annual Easter Bonnet Parade for our infant students. This will held on the School Oval at 9:00am. The whole school will be invited to watch the infants ‘show off’ their Easter Bonnets. All school parents, family and friends are welcome to attend.

The infants (Kinder – Year 2) children will need to design and make their own Easter hat/bonnet at home to ‘show off’ in front of the other classes on this day.

EASTER EGG RAFFLE

To coincide with our Easter Bonnet Parade the SRC are conducting an Easter Raffle. Tickets will be 50c or 3 for $1.00 and they will be sold **at school** by the SRC.

EASTER EGG DONATIONS

We are asking families if they wish to, they can donate an Easter Egg that can go towards some prizes on the Easter Bonnet Day. If possible could all donations of Easter Eggs please be made on or before Friday 26th March.
STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Well done to the following students gaining certificates in Mathletics!
Keep up the great work.


MOST IMPROVED

GOOD SPORT AWARDS

Madeleine Hill – Year 2
Montana Taylor – St2J
Rick Kelly - MSB

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE STUDENTS WHO HAVE RECEIVED AWARDS

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

MOST IMPROVED

GOOD SPORT AWARDS

NORCO – MILK CARTON TOPS

A reminder that we are continuing to collect Norco Milk Carton Tops this year. Each Milk Top is worth 10c for our school.

If any families are connected to workplaces where a lot of milk cartons are consumed, you may wish to consider collecting your caps and deliver them to our school.
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE STUDENTS WHO HAVE RECEIVED AWARDS

WEEK 7 AWARDS

STUDENT OF THE WEEK
KJ   - Sophie Grinham
KM   - Shayah Coyne
Yr 1 - Eva McDonald
Yr 1/2 - Therese Daley
Yr 2 - Elise Lack
St2A - Isaac Walford
St2J - Mark Jackson
St2M - Milli Rainger
MSB - Isla Walford
MSC - Sage Coleman
MSH - Grace Smith
MSS - Lilith Malcolm

MOST IMPROVED
KJ   - Isis Heterick
KM   - Isabella Sutton
Yr 1 - Areana Twohill
Yr 1/2 - Wraith Dare
Yr 2 - Phoebe Naoum
St2A - Bailey Hayes
St2J - Cooper Hardy
St2M - Tom Mumford
MSB - Jake Jackson
MSC - Aaron Turriff
MSH - Ebony Shields
MSS - Sarah Champley

PRINCIPAL’S AWARDS
St2M - Aidan McDonald

GOOD SPORT AWARDS
Nicholas Shields - KM
Phoebe Kirk – St2M
Reece Robson - MSC

PRINCIPAL’S AWARDS

CANTEEN ROSTER
Wed 17th March to Tuesday 30th March
Thursday 18th – Jodie Champley 
Thursday 25th – Lynne Eppelstun

UNIFORM SHOP
The Schools Uniform Shop, which has second hand uniforms for sale will be opened:
1st Thursday of each month
8:30 – 9:30am
The Uniform shop will next be opened on:
Thursday 1st April
The Uniform Shop will have: Shirts; dresses; jumpers etc for sale at reasonable prices.
THE AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM, ASSESSMENT & REPORTING AUTHORITY

On Monday 1st March, the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) published draft K-10 Australian Curriculum in English, Mathematics, Science and History for a period of national consultation. The consultation period closes on 23rd May 2010.

This is a significant event in Australian education.

The draft curriculum and all the resources required to provide feedback are published at: www.australiancurriculum.edu.au. At this address you will find the draft curriculum which you can comment on, a survey which you can complete and other resources such as videos, information sheets and frequently asked questions.

On visiting the website, you will need to register your details in a simple process that will provide you with an ongoing login and password and ensures you the opportunity to save and return to your feedback over time and as often as you wish.

This is a unique opportunity for you to express your views and comment on the draft curriculum materials. Take the opportunity over the next few months to contribute to making this the best possible curriculum for all teachers and students in Australia.

The draft curriculum in the same four learning areas, for the senior secondary years, will be published online and available for public consultation between April and June 2010. More details on consultation on the senior years’ curriculum will be provided in March. ACARA will refine the draft curriculum in response to the feedback from both the K-10 and senior years’ national consultation, and will publish a final version of the K-12 Australian Curriculum in English, Mathematics, Science and History in September 2010.

MIDDLE SCHOOL EXCURSION

Last Thursday Middle School attended the Tweed Regional Art Gallery and viewed Sidney Nolan’s ‘Gallipoli’ series as part of our work in Integrated Studies on significant Australians.

A wonderful experience was enjoyed by all.

Mrs. Carolyn Waugh

STAGE 2 EXCURSION

Last Tuesday Stage 2 students went on an excursion to the ‘David Fleay’s Wildlife Park’.

SPORT

The Mt St Patrick representatives in the Zone Swimming Team made a great contribution to the Tweed Zone retaining the Paddy Dent Shield at Kempsey last week. Many personal best times were swum against tough competition. All students should be proud of their achievements. Special congratulations go to Eva Kettle, 1st freestyle & 2nd freestyle, Grant Harris 2nd 50m freestyle & 3rd 100m freestyle, Dominic Morosini 3rd backstroke & Cooper van der Laan 2nd breaststroke, for qualifying for the Polding Carnival in Homebush next week.

The school cross country is on Tuesday 30th March. Students keen to be selected for the school team should be training – weather permitting. Primary 8yr, 9yr & 10yr 2000m and 11yr, 12yr & 13yr 3000m. We also require parent helpers on the morning. Please indicate if you are available to assist.

CROSS COUNTRY

Dear Agnes,

I am able to assist as [ ] course marshall [ ] judge at the school cross country on 30th March.

Signed________________________________________ Name________________________________________

PLEASE COMPLETE & RETURN..................................................................................................
ST PATRICK’S DAY CONCERT: Don’t forget the Irish Concert being held tonight, 16th March at 7:00pm in the Catholic Hall. Some of our Middle School children will be performing during the evening. This is a wonderful family evening. If you would like to attend, entry is $5 per person or $10 per family. Children performing are free.

FOR SALE: A clarinet. Great for beginner/intermediate. V.G.C. paid $120 will sell for $100. If interested please phone Angela on 0755245757.

EASTER WEEKEND 2010: Inter-Action Experiential Learning are holding a fantastic, affordable fully catered Easter Weekend 2010 offer for you! Bookings are now being taken for this relaxing, stress free weekend. Call on 66797395 or 0429872386 or email familyfun@interactional.com.au to make a booking. Weekend includes camping fees, all meals from Good Friday lunch to breakfast on Easter Monday, fully supervised adventure activities, bush dance, etc.

TWEED SHIRE VACATION CARE: Bookings for April holidays are now being accepted. Programs are available for download at www.tweedshirevacationcare.com.au or from the School Office. For bookings phone Sue on 0755233708.

KIDS ART CLASSES: Fun, Fun, fun. Creative Play! Finger Painting! Musical Painting! Face painting! Tuesdays @ Links For Life Murwillumbah (Next to Community PrintMakers) $15 per class (includes materials) Ph: 0418191190

SCHOOL SPONSORSHIP
New advertising spaces will commence at the beginning of Term 2, 2010 and run up to the last week of Term 1, 2011. How does it work?
• Each fortnight an insert is included within the newsletter that will advertise your business
• Submit a business card/business details or word your own add
• The add will run for one full year at a cost of $220 per year
• The school will invoice the business allowing for taxation concessions
Your business will receive great advertising and exposure within the school community, it is tax deductible, you will help raise money for the school and your business will be marketed as:

SUPPORT THE BUSINESS
THAT SUPPORTS OUR SCHOOL
If you are interested in promoting your business / or would like to renew your 2009/2010 sponsorship arrangements could you please contact the School Office.

PLEASE COMPLETE & RETURN

SCHOOL SPONSORSHIP
________________________________________ (Name) _____________________________ (Contact Phone Number)

BUSINESS DETAILS (Please attach a Business Card)

The school will contact you as to determine exactly what you would like to have on your add / set up etc.

Invoice will be sent you on final approval of the add

Authorisation by: ____________________________ Signature: ____________________________

Position within the business: ____________________________________________

NEW CHILD RESTRAINT LAWS
New national child restraint laws commenced on 1st March. The RTA is conducting a comprehensive media and public education campaign to assist parents and carers to become familiar with the new requirements. The new laws will improve child road safety and state that all children under 7 years of age must be secured in an approved child restraint when traveling in a vehicle. More specifically:
• Children up to 6 months of age must be restrained in an approved rearward facing child restraint.
• Children from 6 months to under 4 years of age must be restrained in an approved rearward or forward facing child restraint.
• Children from 4 years to under 7 years of age must be restrained in an approved rearward or forward facing or booster seat.
• Children under 4 years of age must not be in the front row of a vehicle that has two or more rows.
• Children from 4 years to under 7 years of age can only sit in the front row of a vehicle with two or more rows when all other seats are occupied by children under 7 years of age in approved child restraints or booster seats.

Further information regarding the new child restraint laws, including frequently asked questions, can be found on the RTA’s website www.rta.nsw.gov.au.
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