Dear Parents and Guardians,

We had a wonderful celebration for St Patrick’s Day last week. Our whole school mass was a wash of green. I spoke to the students of the many other St Patrick’s schools and parishes in Western Australia and how we shared this very special day for our patron saint.

Our folk dancing was fantastic! A huge thank you to Miss Emma Ackland for her preparation of the children and for her participation in the dances as well. She had as much fun as the children did. It was a wonderful celebration and at the end all the staff, students and some parents joined in a free dance to keep the energy and fun alive.

At last week’s Board meeting we had a special guest presenter. Tracy Blaszkw spoke to the board about Nature play spaces. Tracy is the manager of the Playground Advisory Service of Kidsafe Western Australia. St Patrick’s is looking to develop some nature based play spaces within the school. Nature play involves the elements of a playground consisting of natural, non-manufactured items that are incorporated into the playground, including items such as logs, boulders, plant materials and surfaces, changes of level and other landscape elements.

The many benefits of nature based play include:
- Children who play regularly in natural settings are sick less often.
- Children who spend more time outside tend to be more physically active and less likely to be overweight.
- Children who play in natural settings are more resistant to stress; have lower incidence of behavioural disorders, anxiety and depression; and have a higher measure of self-worth.
- Children who play in natural settings play in more diverse, imaginative and creative ways and show improved language and collaboration skills.
- Bullying behaviour is greatly reduced where children have access to diverse nature-based play environments.
- Symptoms of Attention Deficit Disorder are reduced after contact with nature.
If parents are interested in learning more about nature play or being part of a school committee to develop our nature play spaces, can they please see Mr Smith or Ms Bearcroft.

This week is Holy Week and we will be having our Stations of the Cross at the church on Thursday starting at 11.00 am. I encourage you to attend and be part of the many parish celebrations of Holy Week and to celebrate Jesus’ resurrection on Easter Sunday.

A special note to parents about our Faction Swimming Carnival. We have postponed our faction carnival till **Wednesday March 30th**. This allowed for the Katanning pool to be repaired and functioning to capacity. The Interschool carnival will be the following week on **April 5th**. Thank you for your patience, and as you would realise, much of these incidents are out of our control.

Have a wonderful Easter and Holy Week, the best of luck to all of our football teams this season. Things can only get better at Tiger land! 😊

Peace to you and your family,

Christopher Smith
Principal

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**From the AP’s desk...**

ST PATRICK’S DAY:
I was blessed to celebrate my first St Patrick’s Day in a “St Pat’s “school and it was just a fantastic day!! The pictures above are just a few of the many images that were captured on St Patrick’s Day. What a wonderful day of celebration. Our day started with a sea of green in the church as we celebrated with Mass. The folk dancing was so entertaining; the classrooms were buzzing with St Pat’s day activities. The sausage sizzles were quickly eaten in time for the treasure hunt! A BIG thank you to all who contributed to a successful day.

HARMONY DAY:
Harmony Day was officially celebrated on the 21st of March. It is a great opportunity to celebrate our strength in diversity. The student of St Patrick’s contributed to the Katanning Harmony Festival by a “Harmony Tree” display in the corner shop window. It is important to remember that respect for the human dignity of all people is what Jesus modelled to us in his earthly ministry.

HOLY WEEK:
This week is the most significant week in the Christian calendar. ‘Holy Week’ is the week we walk with Jesus to Calvary, meditate on his absolute sacrifice, death on the cross and rejoice in his rising from the dead, ensuring a promise of Christian salvation to all believers. The students will be participating in Stations of the Cross at 11:00am in the church. Please feel free to participate in this important reflection and join the students and staff of St Patrick’s school as we walk with Jesus to his cross.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very happy and holy Easter.

God Bless
Debra Bearcroft
LEAD - Defining our Strategic Direction 2014-2016

**Learning** - This term, Year One students have been learning all the routines of the classroom, such as getting organised for the day, participating in ‘start of the day’ activities, and working in small groups for spelling, reading and writing. Learning these routines is helping us to become independent workers, and is setting us up for all the learning that is yet to come in Year One! *Miss Vartesi*

**Engagement** – On St Patrick’s Day the children in Pre Primary were involved in many different sensory play experiences such as green custard to put their feet in, slime to walk through, green spaghetti to touch, feel and pull apart. Oobleck made from cornflour and water which felt hard but when you run it through your hands it would go runny. These experiences were planned for the Pre Primary children from observations I had made during previous learning experiences.

We know that children learn best when they are interested and engaged. Using children’s interests as the basis for our curriculum decision making helps to ensure that learning is not only interesting but also meaningful and relevant to children. As the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) notes, being responsive to children’s strengths, abilities and interests helps to ‘ensure motivation and engagement in learning’ (DEEWR, 2009, p. 14). *Mrs Campbell*

**Accountability** – Since the beginning of the year, the Kindy students have been learning to take ownership of their actions and behaviours. They have been learning to integrate with the school community by joining in St Patrick’s day activities. The Kindy students have been developing their independence and becoming accountable for bringing their things to school and packing them away in the afternoon such as diaries, drink bottles and library books. *Miss Courtney.*

**Discipleship** – In working with the Year six students on the Stations of the Cross presentation we have reflected on the journey of Jesus to Calvary and to his death. The Easter story is the ultimate model of discipleship. Jesus following his Father’s will to ensure that all believers may rejoice in the Kingdom of God.

What does discipleship mean for each of us? Discipleship is the ongoing lifelong process of discerning and living out God’s call to be the person God created you to be. *Ms Bearcroft.*

**Thursday Assembly!**

Happy Birthday to ......


Congratulations to the following students who will be receiving an award at this week’s assembly...

Ben Stade, Sharlotte Sutherland, Noelle Smith, Blair Ball, Wesley Farmer, Taylor Warren

Sports Awards –

Harry Harris, Tiffany Butterworth
**DATES TO REMEMBER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 21st March</td>
<td>P &amp; F Meeting – 7pm Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 22nd March</td>
<td>Kindy Paraliturgy</td>
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<td>Year 6 Class – Mass in Bunbury</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 24th March</td>
<td>Holy Thursday – Stations of the Cross 11am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 25th March</td>
<td>Good Friday – School Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 28th March</td>
<td>Easter Monday – School Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 29th March</td>
<td>Easter Tuesday – School Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 30th March</td>
<td>Faction Swimming Carnival – NO CANTEEN</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kindy Paraliturgy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 5th April</td>
<td>Interschool Swimming Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 6th April</td>
<td>Year 4 Class Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 8th April</td>
<td>Term 1 Ends!</td>
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The full term planner is available on the school website.

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**Year Six Camp Fundraiser!**

All orders are due back to the school by Wednesday 30th March with money included.

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**UPDATE - SWIMMING CARNIVAL DATES**

St Patrick’s Faction Swimming Carnival to be held on Wednesday 30th March (No canteen)

Interschool Swimming Carnival to be held on Tuesday 5th April.

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**St Patrick’s School Faction Swimming**

Parent, Teacher & Year 6 Relay  
(Last race of the day)

Please get your nominations in for the Parent, Teacher and Year 6 relay to Miss Ackland by Thursday 24th March.
ST PATRICK’S CHURCH
Celebrate Easter Masses with Fr Francis Constantino

Holy Thursday 24th March -
4.00pm Kojonup
7.00pm Katanning

Good Friday 25th March -
10.00 am Station of the Cross – Tambellup
11.00am Veneration of the Cross – Tambellup
2.00pm – Stations of the Cross – Katanning
3.00pm – Veneration of the Cross – Katanning
3.00pm – Stations of the Cross – Kojonup

Easter Vigil 26th March -
5.30pm – Tambellup
8.00pm – Katanning

Easter Sunday 27th March -
8.30am – Kojonup
10.30am - Katanning

2016 A YEAR OF MERCY

Mercy as a key word that indicates God’s action toward us.

As we can see in Sacred Scripture, mercy is a key word that indicates God's action towards us. He does not limit himself merely to affirming his love, but makes it visible and tangible. Love, after all, can never be just an abstraction. By its very nature, it indicates something concrete: intentions, attitudes, and behaviours that are shown in daily living. The mercy of 3/21/2016 Summary of the Papal Bull | The Divine Mercy Message from the Marians of the Immaculate Conception
God is his loving concern for each one of us. He feels responsible; that is, he desires our wellbeing and he wants to see us happy, full of joy, and peaceful. This is the path which the merciful love of Christians must also travel. As the Father loves, so do his children. Just as he is merciful, so we are called to be merciful to each other.

Evangelisation - The Good News -

He is Risen
While it was still dark, early on Sunday morning, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been taken away from the entrance. She ran to get Peter and John. “They have taken the Lord from the tomb!” she said. Peter and John ran to the tomb, saw the linen wrappings on the ground and believed.

The Easter Season begins!
The celebration of the resurrection of Jesus is the climax of the Church’s life marking Christ’s victory over sin and death. The season of Easter extends for 50 days after Easter Sunday, closing with Pentecost Sunday.

Alleluia Alleluia! Praise to Jesus Christ!
He has risen from the dead.
He has conquered sin and death. He will live forever!

Alleluia!
KNA Development Netball Training
for players in years 5 - 10 will commence on Wednesday the 27th of April from 4pm to 5pm, at the KLC. If you are interested in developing your netball and being part of an opportunity to represent KNA via trialling for Association Champs and also representing KNA within regional events throughout the netball season, you must attend development training.

The Netball Rules have changed!!
All umpires, players, coaches, scorers, parents and spectators need to have an understanding of the new netball rules....
There will be a Netball rules discussion day at Katanning Leisure Centre On Sunday 10th April, 2016 From 10am – 3.30pm
10am-12pm Rules Discussion (Focus on New Rules)
12-1pm Lunch
1-2pm Rules Discussion (Completion)
2.30-3.30pm Match Play
Everyone that is involved in Netball is urged to attend.

Broomehill Primary School P&C
MONSTER AUCTION & Market Day
2 April 2016
at Broomehill Primary School
Registration / lunch from 11am, auction start 1pm
Listing of items available at www.facebook.com/broomehillmonsterauction
Plant, Machinery, Sundries, Household items and much more, most items with no reserve!

BRAESIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL DISCO - YEAR 6 CAMP FUNDRAISER!
**NEW DATE & NEW VENUE**
Will be now on Friday 1st April at the Katanning Bowling Club.
For all students attending, KPS, St Pats & Braeside.
Juniors 5.00pm – 6.00pm
Seniors 7.00pm – 8.30pm
Glow sticks for sale on the night.
Tickets $6.00 includes sausage sizzle & LOL.
Tickets available from the front office – See Mrs Robinson.