Dear Parents and Guardians,

Mrs Marino, Mrs Bowen and I attended the Insight SRC School climate survey training in Bunbury yesterday. We learnt about different aspects of the survey that was completed by staff, students and parents at the beginning of the year. The survey is a valuable feedback tool for acknowledging the strengths and weaknesses of our school. Over the coming weeks I will be sharing the survey results with the staff, school board and P&F. Being transparent about the results will help the school put in place structures and strategies which will affirm our strengths and work toward resolving the issues that are highlighted in the survey. Thank you to the families who took part in the survey and provided the school with feedback for our future development.

Our school staff is very busy examining the various structures we have at St Patrick’s aligned to school improvement. We have different work parties specifically investigating our Quality Catholic Schools (QCS) plans, our National Quality Standards (NQS) and our overarching School Improvement Plan. These three main areas are interwoven together which allows for collaboration and good dialogue amongst the staff. Our improvement plan is always a work in progress and it is highly dynamic. There is always a need to be reflective about the practices in our wonderful school and how we can best engage our staff, students and parents.

It has been wonderful to see the rain – especially for all our farmers in the Great Southern Region. I remember Fr. Brian’s prayers toward the end of term one asking for the blessing of an abundance of rain. It obviously worked. Our prayers and hopes are with our families on their farms at this busy time of year and we look forward to a successful growing season.

Next Monday 2nd June is a public holiday – it is Western Australia Day. Foundation Day is a uniquely Western Australian public holiday. It commemorates the day that the first European settlers arrived in Western Australia to found the Swan River Colony on 1 June 1829. Foundation Day is held on the first Monday in June each year.

Have a wonderful long weekend and stay safe with your families.

Peace to you and your family,
Christopher Smith
Principal

LEAD - Defining our Strategic Direction 2014-2016

Learning - As a part of the Catholic Education Offices’ commitment to bridging the education gap and ‘Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures’ now being a part of the new Australian Curriculum, staff and students of St Patrick’s School this past week have embraced National Reconciliation Week, showing compassion and understanding.

Other ways we have engaged in are: the commencement of ‘Acknowledgement to Country’ at the school’s Friday assemblies which recognises the traditional owners of our country; the whole school participating in the ‘Sea of Hands’ activity with ‘The Follow the Dream’ students from the Katanning Senior High School last Thursday, and our National Sorry Day Paraliturgy on Monday lead by our Indigenous students, which saw the “hands” planted in front the lawn of the Library, as a sign of Reconciliation.

These experiences have bought new meaning and learning of Aboriginal culture and ‘can only enrich our Curriculum’.

Engagement - This week in the Pre-Primary class, we have been engaged in learning about prayer. We have been talking specifically about where we can pray, and how we don’t have to be in a church or at school to be in touch with Jesus. Our children have drawn delightful pictures of themselves praying in a variety of different locations, which we have displayed in the classroom to remind us that the solace of prayer is never far away.
Accountability - In Kindy the focus this term is we work in small groups by using a checklist so that all the children get equal and adequate instruction and verbal interaction from me. This also allows me to collect data through observation and communication. I then use this information when I review our progress collaboratively with my Kindy colleagues so we can use it to plan developmentally appropriate activities.

Discipleship - My work with children with special needs is one of the best jobs anyone could have. Some days are hard, some days we have tears but most days it is all smiles. Every child is born with a special gift, a gift that brings the best out in everyone, their teachers, friends and family. This gift motivates us to improve our teaching, learn more to help others, to respect and appreciate the talents of others. Every day I receive a gift, a gift of a smile, a hello or when someone wraps their arms around you, I am truly blessed.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Congratulations this week to all our students who successfully auditioned for the Kojonup Speech and Drama Festival. I have seen some great performance already and the festival is still several weeks away on Thursday, June 12th. Commiserations also to those students who auditioned but missed out - congratulations having a go and better luck next year.

Performing in something like the Speech and Drama Festival is a nerve-wracking experience at the best of times, and it is quite normal to experience some anxiety when taking part in something like this. In fact, anxiety is a normal part of life: without it, we might never get that extra kick we need to get going on things we find challenging or difficult. It is when the level of anxiety starts to be out of proportion to the event taking place that it becomes a problem. Below are my last three tips for dealing with an anxious child (they're great for dealing with anxiety as an adult as well). Please remember to see your classroom teacher if you have concerns for your child and the KidsMatter website is also a great resource at www.kidsmatter.edu.au.

- Tiredness exacerbates anxiety. Aim for early bedtimes and try to follow a calming bedtime routine to assist in this (eg: bath, story time, sleep).
- Keep extra-curricular activities to a minimum.
- Avoid over-questioning your child about their anxiety. This can increase the level of anxiety and children can sometimes find it hard to name a cause.
- Address HOW your child is dealing with anxiety, rather than WHY they are anxious.
- Be vigilant for deeper problems. Anxiety Disorder is where reactions and responses are beyond what would normally be expected, and more targeted interventions or professional help may be needed.

Enjoy the upcoming long weekend - God bless!

Mrs Marino.

Pre Primary Star Of The Week!

Will Collis

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

Isabelle Smith-Marciniak, Reagan Warren, Vincent Lin, Caris Rae, Siobhan Blackburne-Kane, Claudia Chaplin, Tom Coleman

Sport Awards: Sussan Ndonga

Happy Birthday to ....... Laycen Robinson, Brock McKinley,

DATES TO REMEMBER!

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<td>Friday 6th June</td>
<td>Year 3 Class Assembly</td>
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<td>Thursday 12th June</td>
<td>Kojonup Speech &amp; Drama Festival (Selected Yrs4-7)</td>
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<td>Year 3 Family Mass</td>
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<td>Wednesday 18th June</td>
<td>Enrichment Program KSHS – Selected Year 6/7 students</td>
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<td>School Board Meeting 6.30pm</td>
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<td>Friday 20th June</td>
<td>Year 7 Class Assembly</td>
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<td>Wednesday 25th June</td>
<td>Year 5/7 Class Mass</td>
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<td>Friday 27th June</td>
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Evangelisation (The Good News)
The eleven disciples went to the hill in Galilee to meet Jesus. He said, "I have been given all authority on heaven and on earth. GO then, to all peoples everywhere and make them my disciples: Baptise them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. And I will be with your always, to the end of the age."

Go make disciples. Jesus gave his followers an important last message: GO! Make disciples! A lot of people think that this call to mission is only for religious brothers, sisters and priests. But Jesus calls us all to be missionaries. He wants all of his followers to share his message of love with others.

Lord Jesus, give us the courage to go out into the world and share your love with everyone we meet. Amen.
St Patrick's School P & F

Quiz Night

Friday the 27th of June, 2014
6.30pm, for a 7.00pm Start.
In the Pioneer Room,
at Katanning Leisure Centre

Bar Facilities Available
BYO Nibblies

Tables of 10 max
$10 per person.

Games, Raffle, Prizes.........

Tickets available from
Mensworld Katanning,
JB's Quality Meats
& St Patrick's School Office
**ST LUKE’S FAMILY PRACTICE**

Raise your cup – Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea

Friday 30th May 2014 10.00am – 11.30am

St Luke’s Family Practice - 7 Elizabeth Street

Gold coin donation.

**PIANO LESSONS**

Expression of Interest is being sought for the commencement of piano lessons at St Patrick’s in the hall Monday afternoons. Renowned local piano teacher, Audrey Jessop, has over 40 years’ experience in teaching piano, specialising in children from beginners to the aspiring concert pianists!

Lessons will start at 2.30pm and will be half an hour ($30) for 8yrs and over and 20 minutes ($20) for 8yrs and under, including theory.

Places are limited so register your interest and preferred lesson time ASAP by emailing Kristy Rae familyrae@bigpond.com or 0488 212493

**KATANNING COUGARS HOCKEY CLUB – MINKEY HOCKEY**

Minkey Hockey for kids aged between Kindy and Yr3 will commence on Thursday 1st May at 4pm,

At the hockey grounds at the rec centre.

If your kids are interested in Hockey this is a great way to get them started.

Registration is $10

**Katanning Dental Therapy Centre** will be open during term two. - The DTC is CLOSED on Fridays.

**HOURS:** Monday to Thursday 8.15am to 4.30pm

Closed for lunch between 12 noon and 1 pm.

Contact- 98211734 or 0400612364

**KATANNING JUNIOR SQUASH**

Tuesday Nights - 4pm to 5pm

Girls and Boys Years 4 to 7.

Cost $40.00 Term 2 (Kidsport is available for children who are eligible)

Registration 13th May 2014 at 4pm. Equipment Supplied.

The club has racquets and glasses for people to use. For Further enquiries please speak to Ashley Clarke on 0421974350

**2015 Early Years Conference Albany**

The Great Southern Early Years (0 to 8) Network (GSEYN) is planning an Early Years Conference to be held on Sunday July 19th and Monday July 20th in Albany in 2015. The theme of the conference is ‘Building Capacity ….Growing our children together’ and will provide for the interests of professionals and practitioners (education, health, industry), community organisations and parents and families.

To provide subjects of relevance for parents and families, we are seeking feedback through a simple survey to be found on two local facebook pages.

Rainbow Coast Neighbourhood Centre  

If you scroll down to the shared link for the Great Southern Early Years Network and click on the link to the survey below ‘SEE MORE’, you will go to the survey.

Amity Health  
https://www.facebook.com/pages/Amity-Health-Albany/392576264151803

If you scroll down to the shared link for the Great Southern Early Years Network and click on the link to the survey below ‘SEE MORE’, you will go to the survey.

**LA SALLE COLLEGE, MIDDLE SWAN – MEMORABILIA FOR 60th ANNIVERSARY**

La Salle College’s 60th Anniversary Community Mass and Open Day will be held on Sunday 22 June from 10am to 3pm. As part of this event the College would like to display significant items of memorabilia from over the years (photographs, publications, anniversary items, uniforms of De La Salle College). If you are able to assist with the use of these items, please call the Community Relations Department on 9449 0635 or email communityrelations@lasalle.wa.edu.au