Dear Friends

This coming Sunday is Pentecost Sunday. For Christians, Pentecost is when we commemorate the coming of the Holy Spirit on the early followers of Jesus. Before the events of the first Pentecost, which came a few weeks after Jesus’ death and resurrection, there were followers of Jesus, but no movement that could be meaningfully called “the church.” Thus, from an historical point of view, Pentecost is the day on which the church was started. This is also true from a spiritual perspective, since the Spirit brings the church into existence and enlivens it. Thus Pentecost is the church’s birthday.

A Litany to the Holy Spirit

- Spirit of Wisdom
- Make us wise
- Spirit of courage
- Strengthen us
- Spirit of council
- Guide our thoughts
- Spirit of understanding
- Enlighten us
- Spirit of goodness
- Teach us reverence
- Spirit of Knowledge
- Inspire us
- Spirit of unity
- Make us one

The feast day of our school’s patron saint, St Columba is 9th June. Due to Monday being a public holiday, we will celebrate St Columba’s Day this coming Tuesday 10th June. The day will commence with Mass at 9am. Following Mass there will be a morning tea at school and a variety of fun activities. Students will be given a sausage sizzle lunch on Tuesday. Students may wear casual clothes on Tuesday.

About St Columba

It is believed that Columba was born on 7 December 521 in Donegal, Ireland. He was born of royal Irish blood and could well have been King of Ireland if he had not made the Church his vocation.

At the time of Columba's birth, Ireland was famous for its learning and Columba was lucky enough to gain a fine education. He attended a monastic school at Moville where he was taught by learned churchmen.

From the age of about twenty five until he was forty he spent time travelling around Ireland, teaching and setting up monasteries and churches.

The many miracles attributed to him included the killing of a dangerous wild boar by the power of his word, and driving a terrible monster away from Loch Ness by the efficacy of his prayers.

Columba chose eleven disciples to accompany him when he set up the community on Iona. Iona (Holy Island) is a sacred place permeated with prayers and hopes of so many through the centuries; a place of holiness and healing, but also one of challenge and new beginnings; a place where all may feel at home and accepted in God’s love.
Many thanks to the energetic helpers who gave their time on Saturday at the “Greenvale” Clearing Sale. It was a productive day and a great chance to catch up in the busyness of everyday life.

**Bathurst Goldfields Excursion**
This coming Friday St Columba’s will travel to the Bathurst Goldfields which are located at Mount Panorama. All students are very excited about the day. Students will need to have a packed recess and lunch for the day. Students will need to wear warm casual clothes and have a jacket. We will still participate in the day even if it is wet as the activities can be conducted under shelter. We will depart St Columba’s at 7.30am and return by 4.30pm.

**Student of the Week**

![Toby Brown](image)

**Toby Brown**
for a settled approach to his school work

**Merit Awards**
Congratulations to the following students who received merit awards this week:

**Primary**: Milo Hunter, Sara Kiel

**Infants**: Dakota, Patrick

**Mathletics Certificates**
Congratulations to the following students who have received certificates for their efforts in Mathletics:
Tyrone Antaw, Dominic Antaw & Jorja Lees.

**Spelling Bee**

- Phoebe Englert (12)
- Nick Goard (6)

Last Thursday Teji & Amelia competed in the Diocesan Spelling Bee at St Mary’s School Wellington. Both students performed well and I was very proud of their efforts.

**Sharing Culture Show**
The Infants Class will attend Yeoval Pre-School at 1.30pm next Wednesday 11th June for a visiting performance. The performer will use dance, story, artefacts & language to share with students her unique & rich Aboriginal culture.

**P&F Mini-Meeting**
St Columba’s P&F will be catering for The Church of Our Lady’s 40th Celebrations on Sunday 22nd June. Following Mass at 10am there will be a luncheon at the Yeoval Bowling Club. There will be a mini-meeting on Wednesday 11th June at 3.30pm to finalise catering requirements for the Sunday.

**CWA Country of Study – Botswana**
The Primary students have been given their project requirements for this year’s CWA Country of Study, Botswana. These projects are due on the first week next term. Students are encouraged to make use of the school’s computers to access their required information, pictures etc.

Enjoy your long weekend,

Glen Brown
Principal