Dear Parents and Guardians,

**Assembly:** St Patrick’s Day was beautifully celebrated by 4W at assembly this morning as they told us about St Patrick and his time in Ireland. I wish a Happy St Patrick’s Day to all for whom this day is one of particular celebration.

**Student Absence:** Parents have been asked to advise the school if their child is going to be absent on any given day. Most families advise the school by phone, while others advise us ahead of time in writing if their child is going to be away due to holiday, dentist or other planned event. We now have a dedicated mobile phone for absences, so you can send a text message to 0458 558 780 (please make sure you have child’s name and class in the message) or you may continue to phone the school as you have done in the past. From April, if you have not advised us of your child’s absence by 9.00am on any given day, you will receive a text message (or phone call if you do not have a mobile registered with us) advising you that your child is not at school. You will still need to provide a note on your child’s return, indicating the reason for the absence.

**Newsletter:** Many families are not reading the newsletter online, as evidenced by the number of children who arrived at school on our recent pupil free day. From this week, the newsletter link will be emailed to all families that have an email address registered with the school. Please make sure you update your family information whenever it changes.

**Child Safety:** We have received advice that a white van, without number plates has been circulating around schools in the northern suburbs so this is a timely reminder about child safety en route to and from school. Please talk with your children things they can do to make sure they stay safe in public places.

God bless you
Eileen Climo
Principal

**NOTES SENT HOME THIS WEEK**
Cancer Council of WA Morning Tea
Sacramental Parent Information Meeting – Additional Meeting
Year 6 Zoo Camp – Final Details
Netball Reminder

**VISION STATEMENT**
St Andrew’s CPS offers an education that acknowledges, respects and nurtures the uniqueness of each person.
Within a framework of Catholic values and teamwork, the students will be challenged and supported to recognise their gifts and develop their potential as they learn and contribute to their community.
DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 18 March</td>
<td>Uniform Shop Open 8.15am – 9.00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>World of Maths Yrs 1, 2, 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 21 March</td>
<td>School Banking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>World of Maths Yrs 4, 5 &amp; 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 22 March</td>
<td>Uniform Shop Open 2.30pm – 3.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sacramental Parent Information Meeting – 7pm Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 22 March</td>
<td>Merit Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 6W Zoo Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 25 March</td>
<td>Uniform Shop Open 8.15am – 9.00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Edgym PP-2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SCHOOL MATTERS

**Congratulations to those children who have celebrated their birthdays recently.**

Ben Ciappara, Charlotte Donovan, Madison Rae Larkin-Campbell, Oliver Richards, Chevi Brammall, Revis Ryder, Alyssa Iuliana, Byron Reid

School fees
Many families have made a payment or payment in full to their school fee account and I thank them for their diligence in meeting their commitment to the education of their children. A number of families have indicated that how they are going to make their payments, but have not made an initial payment which was due in February. Others have not indicated how they intend to meet their commitment to the school and have not made initial payment. Letters have gone out to these families today. It is important that when your Health Care Card expires, you bring in your new card, otherwise your account does not receive the HCC credit.

Cancer Council of Western Australia
We are promoting a fundraiser for the Cancer Council and a notice regarding this was sent home today. You may purchase an official 2011 Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea cup for $10.00. All funds raised go to the Cancer Council for research into treatments for this disease. We will also be having a fundraiser morning tea on 26th May at the school.

1st Week of Lent

**Project Compassion**, Week 1, brings you the story of Kaluram.

Kaluram is 33 and lives with his wife and three children in the hot plains of Western Nepal. He is one of more than 12,000 farmers who have benefited from participating in Farmer Field Schools to improve their food production and livelihoods.

Your donation to Caritas Australia’s Project Compassion provides farmers like Kaluram with the opportunity to learn new skills, enables them to move away from dependence and debt and assists them to become self-supporting.

[www.caritas.org.au](http://www.caritas.org.au)
March the 17th is Saint Patrick’s Day! Saint Patrick was the Patron Saint of Ireland. Year 4 White has researched some interesting facts about Saint Patrick and the beautiful country of Ireland.

It is thought that Saint Patrick was born in Scotland around 387AD. (Declan Russell)

When Saint Patrick was a teenager, he was captured by Irish slave traders and taken to Ireland where he was sold as a slave! He escaped after 6 years and returned to Britain. (Jaden Coley)

While he was back in Britain, Saint Patrick became a priest and then a Bishop. (Zayde Bertei)

Saint Patrick dreamt of an angel telling him to return to Ireland and become a missionary to the people there. He returned in 432 AD. (Louis Phiri)

Saint Patrick told the people of Ireland about Jesus Christ and His teachings. (Ethan Orr-Young)

There is a legend that Saint Patrick charmed the snakes of Ireland into the sea so they drowned. (Mikayla Fernandez)

Ireland’s state colour is emerald green. (Samuel Berry)

There is a stone at a castle in Ireland called the Blarney Stone. It is believed that it is good luck to kiss this stone. (Atieng Maker-Riak)

Irish people enjoy Irish dancing and playing Gaelic Football. (Keely Gillingham)

Many Irish family names begin with ‘Mac’ or ‘O’. (Jake Stefanetti)

A traditional Irish saying is “Top o’ the mornin’ to you!” This means good morning. (Sebastian Riviere)

Ireland is famous for its beautiful green countryside. (Jaylon Eades)

Irish people believe there are Irish fairies called leprechauns who make shoes. (Kiera Manuel)

If you see a leprechaun on Saint Patrick’s Day they must grant you a wish and they might also tell you where to find a pot of gold. But Leprechauns are unfriendly and will try to trick you! (Mikayla Adams)

The Irish flag is green, white and orange. The green symbolises the people of the South, the orange symbolises the people of the North and the white represents the peace that brings them together as a nation. (Caleb Whiting)

Saint Patrick used a shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity to the people of Ireland. This is The Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit. (Tea Truran)

Lots of Cathedrals all over the world are named after Saint Patrick. (Hannah Jacob)

Saint Patrick’s Day is a public holiday in Ireland. People around the world wear green clothing on this day and some wear a green shamrock on their clothing. (Kaelena Smith)

In American cities with a large Irish population, Saint Patrick’s Day is a very big deal. (Mackenzie O’ Sullivan)

Famous symbols of Ireland are the shamrock, the harp and the Celtic Cross. (Trent Knight)

The people of Ireland believe that a shamrock, also known as a clover, brings good luck. If you find a four leaf clover on Saint Patrick’s Day it is twice as lucky as it normally is. (Claudia Arto)

Ireland is also known as ‘The Emerald Isle’. On Saint Patrick’s Day, people traditionally wear a small bunch of shamrocks on their jacket or caps. Children wear orange, white or green badges and women and girls wear green ribbons in their hair. (Molly Sloan)

Ireland is a country in Europe. The capital city is Dublin and the Liffey River runs through Dublin. (Taylor Lord)

Irish people are known to be friendly and kind. (Miguel DaCunha)

About 80% of the Irish population is Catholic. (Emily Englebert)

The weather in Ireland is mild and wet. (Georgia Bresser)

Saint Patrick’s great faith and courage brought many people to know and love God. (Axl Stroh)