



CEDP Attendance Benchmark Target Level = 90%

**St Patrick's Current Attendance Level = 93.4%**

*Dear Parents*

*You will find in this newsletter information regarding this year's National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) for Years 3 and 5 in all schools across Australia. These assessments will take place on **Tuesday 9 May (Language Conventions [Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar] Writing test) Wednesday 10 May (Reading test) and Thursday 11 May (Numeracy test)** with FRIDAY 12th May a catch-up day for children who were absent on any of the other days. In high schools students in year 7 and 9 undertake this test also.*

*For your information regarding the process, the test booklets and materials arrive at least ten days before the testing date so that schools can check that there are enough booklets and other testing material for every student in the relevant grades. These packages are in tamper proof wrapping and are counted and checked by two members of staff through this wrapping. The test material cannot be viewed by anyone at this time and as soon as the counting is completed the boxes are resealed, signed and not opened again until the morning of the first test, when they given to the grade three and five teachers. This procedure is followed for each subsequent test.*

*At St Patrick's Parramatta **all** students in grades three and five sit the tests, as we include students with a variety of learning difficulties such as mild intellectual disabilities, specific learning difficulties, Attention Deficit Disorder and Anxiety Disorders for example. In some instances a parent may decide to request their child not to sit the test.*

*All completed test booklets are returned to the principal's office and stored securely until they are collected to be taken to the marking centre at the completion of all tests. The classroom teachers and learning support teachers remove any wall charts or material that could be copied during the test and seat the children so that they are unable to copy from each other. During the testing period the principal or the assistant principal is asked to make random visits to the testing areas to ensure that all correct protocols are being observed.*

*Teachers also make a point of carefully observing the children throughout the test, noting those who finish very quickly or those who do not finish in the required time frame, as all this can provide valuable feedback after all tests are submitted, not only to individual students but parents as well.*

***It is important to remember that children will be sitting a number of formal assessments throughout their school lives and that many of the skills they possess are not always assessed in these types of tests. Children who have artistic or sporting ability, problem solvers and those possessing interpersonal skills, those able to synthesize information and creative thinkers for example are not able to demonstrate their talent in Literacy and Numeracy assessments. We encourage our students to do their very best on the day of the tests while being aware that results can vary and a student who may in fact be quite a good writer, for example, may not produce their best piece of writing on that particular day. The data that all schools receive from these assessments combined with school based assessments help teachers plan programs to meet the variety of learning needs of our students.***

*God bless you and your family*  
**Bernadette Fabri**  
**Principal**

# National Assessment Program– Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) Equating Study

**This year St Patrick’s Parramatta has been selected to be part of the NAPLAN Equating Study.**

As part of the National Assessment Program — Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN), the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) will administer paper equating tests to students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 from a representative national sample of schools. The purpose of the equating tests is to enable the results for the 2017 NAPLAN tests to be reported comparably with tests from previous years, on the same measurement scales.

Individual student and school results are not reported or published, and any identifying student information is destroyed. Although individual school and student results are not reported, it is essential that all students attempt the equating tests seriously. Trained administrators will be employed to administer the tests by ACARA. The selection of the students and the type of test is made by ACARA and we have been informed that it will be a **sample of Year 3 and Year 5 students in the area of Reading** We have been informed that this will take place on **Thursday 4th May**.

If you have any questions please contact Mr Baird through the school office.



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## National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) 2017 LETTER TO PARENTS

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In May 2017 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy skills of students across 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.

Student background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and 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 NAPLAN tests will be conducted from 9-11 May 2017.

TUESDAY 9 MAY	WEDNESDAY 10 MAY	THURSDAY 11 MAY
<b>Language Conventions</b> (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)	<b>Reading test</b>	<b>Numeracy test</b>
<b>Writing test</b>		

In the numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. In Years 7 and 9 there will be one numeracy test with two parts: Part A calculator is allowed and Part B where calculators are not to be used. For the calculator test, the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school.

**Friday 12 May** – A ‘catch-up’ day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day. Students may be considered for exemption from the tests if they:

- are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, **or**
- have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests. Disability adjustments which reflect the student’s normal level of support in the classroom may be provided. Large print, braille, coloured paper versions and electronic tests are available to meet the needs of individual students.

Access to disability adjustments or exemption from the tests must be discussed with the school principal and a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents in consultation with the school principal. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests, a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Please make an appointment with the principal of the school your child attends if you would like to discuss your child’s participation in NAPLAN.

Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at <http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support>



## Honour Award

The Honour Award is awarded to the child who demonstrates outstanding behaviour shown in the Student Charter

3L	Nyah Khalil
3T	Jerome Santos
4B	Alani Grohs
4G	Scarlett Khoury
5C	Julian Camenzuli
5T	Jethro Cauan
6P	Jarrod Kassis
6W	Alexander Sicurella

## st patrick's award



The St Patrick's award is given to the child who lives their life through Faith in Action

3L	Jack Gittany
3T	Madison Younes
4B	Mark Abraham
4G	Ryan Day
5C	Elaria Fayad
5T	Caitlin Maroun
6P	Cyarra Fernandez
6W	Gabriella Cruz

MON TUE WED THU FRI

# EVERY DAY MATTERS

Missing just two days a month from school amounts to four weeks of lost learning a year. That's a whole year of lost learning from Kindergarten to Year 10. Monitor attendance trends regularly to make sure absences aren't adding up.

MTWTF



every learner every day



**Happy Birthday to the following children who will celebrate their birthdays in the following week:**

Luke Maroun, Alanah Issa, Danielle Tannous, Isabella Maaraoui, Lucy Parkes, Maria Khoury, Ella Abdallah



### Condolences

We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to the Kalathil Family (Aiden 4B) on the passing of Aiden's Uncle. Please keep the family in your prayers.

# SAFETY ALERT-AFTER SCHOOL PICK UP

Dear Parents

In the interest of the children's safety can I ask you to always cross at the crossing. We have of late received a number of phone calls from concerned parents from both schools regarding parents crossing their children across busy roads in what they perceived were under very dangerous conditions. The question one might need to ask is , "if you child found themselves by themselves on the street and needed to cross the road, what do you think they would do - based on your role modelling for them?" Children are often unable to discriminate the difference between, this is what I do with mummy or daddy but if on my own I will do this. Teach them right the first way is my best advice.



Thanking you as always for your consideration of this important message.

Bernadette Fabri

## 2017 School Terms

Term 1 30th January to 7th April

**Term 2 24th April—Staff Development Day—No school for students**

**Term 2 will commence on the 26th April for students and conclude on the 30th June**

Term 3 17th July to 22nd September

Term 4 9th October to 15th December

\*\* Please note Staff Development days may affect commencement & concluding dates. Please refer to our weekly newsletter in 2017.



**ICE BLOCKS !!** We are selling ice blocks every Friday until the end of term. Each child may buy ONE ice block at \$1.00 each.

In the last week of term the ice blocks will be sold on Wednesday 5th April, instead of Friday.

## Footsteps Dance Presents



**Family Disco 'Dancing Under the Stars'**

**Friday 5 May 6-9pm (gates opening at 5pm)**



Why not have a night off cooking and grab dinner at the disco?

Food will be available from 5pm.

**Outback Steakhouse Steak & Chicken Burgers, hotdogs, corn on the cob, ice-creams, tea, coffee, water and drinks**

**Glo-sticks on sale to help light up the dance floor.**

We are asking for for any drink donations to be dropped off at the office prior to the night. Any donations will be gratefully accepted.

Tickets on sale **NOW** through the office at \$3 per person (pre schoolers free)

## Recount - Our Year 2 Excursion to Elizabeth Farm

Last Friday, Year 2 went to Elizabeth Farm in Parramatta. We travelled there by bus. We went to Elizabeth Farm because we were learning about Elizabeth Macarthur and the history of Parramatta. Firstly, when we arrived at Elizabeth Farm we ate our recess in our groups. Then, we packed our bags away in storage boxes.

Next, we met our Museum Tour Guides. They showed us around Elizabeth Farm. We visited Elizabeth Macarthur's Drawing Room. The Drawing Room was filled with artefacts from the past. We saw an old piano, lounge, newspaper, letters, drawing book and a game of Jacks. After that, we visited Elizabeth Macarthur's garden. It was filled with herbs and vegetables. We picked some herbs and enjoyed smelling them. Soon after, we went to the backyard to play some games that were played by Elizabeth Macarthur's children. The games were Skittles, Hoop and Stick, Cup and Ball and Coits. The games were fun!

Then, we visited Elizabeth Macarthur's bedroom. The bed was made by four different mattresses. The layers were made of horse hair, straw, feathers and wool. They used a chamber pot to go to the toilet. Finally, we visited Elizabeth Macarthur's kitchen. The kitchen was dark, so it was lit up by candlelight. The kitchen was filled with old pots and an old fire stove. Before we went home, we had a turn at washing clothes on a washing board with soap. We also had a go at writing our names with a quill and ink. At the end of the day, we thanked our tour guides and boarded the bus to return to school.

We had a wonderful time touring around Elizabeth Farm!

By Year 2.



**RASCALS MUSICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS**  
**Seussical JR.**

THE INDEPENDENT THEATRE, NORTH SYDNEY

APRIL 2017

THU 13TH @ 2PM  
SAT 15TH @ 2PM  
SAT 15TH @ 7PM

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM  
[WWW.THEINDEPENDENT.ORG.AU](http://WWW.THEINDEPENDENT.ORG.AU)

[RASCALSMUSICALSOCIETY.COM.AU](http://RASCALSMUSICALSOCIETY.COM.AU)

We have one of our very own students in this production and it would be great if you got along to support Aoife Mitchell (3T) in the school holidays. Good luck Aoife!!!



# AURORA

## Art Competition 2017

for Australian Primary School students

### Take your art to the world!

Eight winning artworks will be donated to the International Museum of Children's Art (Barnekunstmuseet) in Oslo, Norway for permanent exhibition. Established in 1986, the world's first full-scale Museum of Child Art contains works by children from more than 180 countries. [www.barnekunst.no](http://www.barnekunst.no)

The competition is open to students enrolled in Primary School (K-6) in Australia in 2017

Entries to be submitted in two sections  
Years K-2 and Years 3-6  
in four categories

**Portrait (or People), Landscape (or Cityscape),  
Still Life and Open**

*Entry is Free*

**Artworks are to have an Australian theme or influence**

**Artworks must have been created during 2017**

Entries must be received by 5pm on Friday 12 May 2017  
Winners will be announced on Friday 19 May.  
Original artworks by winners must be received by Friday 2 June 2017

# AURORA

## Art Competition 2017

for Australian Primary School students

### Take your art to the world!

Entry Form

Name of artist \_\_\_\_\_

School Year in 2017 \_\_\_\_\_ Section (Years K-2 or 3-6) \_\_\_\_\_

Title of artwork \_\_\_\_\_

Category (Portrait/Landscape/Still Life/Open) \_\_\_\_\_

Medium / materials used \_\_\_\_\_

Name and address of school \_\_\_\_\_

School telephone \_\_\_\_\_ School email \_\_\_\_\_

School contact person \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile phone number \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to send the student's artwork if it is chosen as a winner. I understand the artwork will not be returned. I declare that the artwork submitted is entirely the student's own work and was created in 2017. I have read and agree to the entry terms and conditions (school contact to sign):

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parental permission:

Name of parent \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile phone number \_\_\_\_\_

I give permission for my child \_\_\_\_\_

to enter the Aurora Australian Primary School Art Award 2017. I have read and agree to the entry terms and conditions.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Come and see an  
Exact Full Sized  
copy of the famous cloth

## The Shroud of Turin



Date Sun 2 April to Sat 8 April  
Time Open daily 10.00am - 5.00pm  
Venue St Patrick's Cathedral Hall  
(1 Marist Pl. Parramatta)  
Entry Free



### 1-DAY POP-UP WORKSHOPS - APRIL 2017

#### *Big Sing* Thursday April 20, 2017 - 9am-3pm

Attention all singers! If you love singing, would like to try singing, or would like to improve your singing, then this is the workshop for you. The Big Sing will explore vocal skills and refresh singing techniques through a range of exercises and songs which are designed to explore and develop vocal production, breathing, pitch and tone. **Bookings are essential - bookings close Wednesday March 29, 2017.**

#### *Big Bash* Friday April 21, 2017 - 9am-3pm

Attention drummers and percussionists! If you're a young and inspired drummer/percussionist, then this workshop is not to be missed. Students will learn about origins of drumming, technique, reading, hand drumming, the drum kit, orchestral percussion and even create their very own original piece of music. The 1-day course caters for the beginner to intermediate skill levels so if you're interested please get in contact to book your place! **Bookings are essential - bookings close Wednesday March 29, 2017.**

#### *Autumn Strings* Friday April 21, 2017 - 9.30am-3.30pm

Join leading instrumental practitioners in this 1-day workshop for student musicians who play Orchestral String instruments at the following approximate levels:

Violin - AMEB Grade 1-5  
Cello - AMEB Grade 1-4  
Viola - AMEB Grade 1-3  
Double Bass - AMEB Grade 1-3

The focus of the workshop will be ensemble technique, small ensembles and performance technique, culminating in a short concert showcasing the pieces that have been developed throughout the day. **Bookings are essential - bookings close Wednesday April 5, 2017.**

Venue: Christina Creede Music Centre, Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta, Ross St, North Parramatta (Enter via Gate 3)

Ages: Year 3 - Year 12

Cost: \$75 per workshop (current OLMC students) or \$75 plus GST per workshop (non OLMC students)

Bookings: Bookings are essential. Book online at: [olmc.nsw.edu.au/the-academy/apply-now](http://olmc.nsw.edu.au/the-academy/apply-now)

Enquiries: [music@olmc.nsw.edu.au](mailto:music@olmc.nsw.edu.au) or 02 8838 1288



W [www.olmc.nsw.edu.au/TheAcademy](http://www.olmc.nsw.edu.au/TheAcademy) P 02 8838 1288

# 2017 School Calendar

## Term 1

### Week 10

Friday 31st March Primary Assembly—2.15pm—Year 3

### Week 11

Monday 3rd April Tri-skills—Gymnastics

Tuesday 4th April Tri-skills—Gymnastics

Wednesday 5th April Year 5 Nursing Home visit

Friday 7th April Pre Easter Whole School Assembly—2.00pm—Kinder

LAST DAY FOR TERM 1

## Term 2

### Week 1

Monday 24th April **Staff Development Day—No students**

Tuesday 25th April ANZAC DAY—No students

Wednesday 26th April Students returned to school for Term 2

Post Easter Liturgy—9am

Friday 28th April Primary Assembly—2.15pm—Year 4

### Week 2

Tuesday 2nd May Diocesan Cross Country

Friday 5th May Year 5 Excursion to Hyde Park Barracks

Infants Assembly—2.15pm—Year 1

School Disco— 6pm—9pm (Gates open 5pm)

### Week 3

Tuesday 9th May NAPLAN—Language/Writing—Years 3 & 5 only

Mother's Day Stall

Wednesday 10th May NAPLAN—Reading—Years 3 & 5 only

Thursday 11th May NAPLAN—Numeracy—Years 3 & 5 only

Friday 12th May Mother's Day Mass and Morning Tea

More details to follow

NO ASSEMBLY

### Week 4

Friday 19th May Primary Assembly—2.15pm—Year 5



*sub tuum praesidium*

Our **VISION** is to be a child centred faith community within an innovative, interactive learning environment.

Our **MISSION** is to –  
Live out the Gospel Values in a visibly Catholic tradition

Nurture students for Christian Leadership

Create a range of learning experiences which allow children to progress at their own level

Assist our students to develop into independent thinkers with a deep sense of responsibility and justice

Lead each individual towards reaching his/her potential

Generate a sense of community and compassion in which all Experience belonging.

***Opportunity for all***

#### **MASS TIMETABLE FOR ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL PARRAMATTA**

##### **Weekend Masses**

Saturday 8.00am, 6.00pm (Vigil)  
Sunday 8.00am, 9.30am (Family)  
11.00am (Solemn), 6.00pm

##### **Weekday Masses**

Mon to Fri 6.45am, 12.30pm  
Public Hol 8.00am

##### **Pastoral Team**

**Bishop of Parramatta Most Rev.  
Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM CONV**

Very Rev Fr Robert Bossini

Fr George Azhakath

Rev Deacon Willy Limjap

Margaret Gale ( Sacramental Coord)

Milli Lee (Parish Admin Asst)

Patricia Preca (Parish Secretary)

Information for Newsletter  
**MindQuest 2017**  
 Glenwood HS  
 Cnr Forman Ave and Glenwood Park Ave  
 Glenwood 2768  
 Saturday 20 & Sunday 21 May 2017 9.30am-3.30pm

The 83rd *MindQuest* program will be held for gifted and talented primary students from Years 1-6 at Glenwood HS. These include gifted and talented students, gifted underachievers and students with well above average ability with a special interest. Students will have an opportunity to participate in over 36 exciting, fast paced courses in the two day program. They include courses in chemistry, earth sciences, drama, lego robotics, chemistry and much more. Most of these highly successful courses have been run in the past and students' evaluations suggest that they have been challenged and enriched by the experience. The cost of the weekend is \$195 (including GST). Send your applications in early to avoid disappointment.

Glenwood HS is in the Baulkham Hills area close to the M7 and is easy to get to from most parts of Sydney. It is 20 mins Beecroft, 35 mins North Sydney, 25mins Strathfield, 30 mins from Richmond, Penrith and Hornsby.

Contact your school for a brochure or call Shelagh 02 4232 2494  
 Closing Date: Last day of Term1 Friday 7 April 2017

Applications for MindQuest can be picked up from the office



**SCHOOL HOLIDAY COURSE AT MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY - [juniorscienceacademy.com.au](http://juniorscienceacademy.com.au)**

At the Junior Science Academy, children are introduced to science concepts and skills in a safe and supervised environment at Macquarie University.

The courses aim to teach the concepts through experiments, art, drama, physical activity, craft and other hands-on activities.

We provide students with experiences and activities that help them to understand a concept or gain knowledge in an active way.

We add and rotate courses each school holidays and drop off and pick up times are designed for the working parent. The Junior Science Academy is for children in years 1-6 in primary school.



<b>Drop Off</b>	8:30am-9:30 am
<b>Activities</b>	9:30am-4:30pm
<b>Pick-Up</b>	4:30pm-5:30pm
<b>Cost</b>	\$120

