



CEDP Attendance Benchmark Target Level = 90%

St Patrick's Current Attendance Level = 93.4%

***May the Irish hills caress you;
may her lakes and rivers bless you;
may the luck of the Irish enfold you;
may the blessings of Saint Patrick, behold you.***

Dear Parents

Tomorrow 17th, March we will celebrate the feast day of our school's Patron Saint, St Patrick. He is such an interesting man to learn about and his association with the Irish people, combined with the enormous contribution the Irish convicts and settlers had on the establishment of the first colony makes him particularly significant to us.

The Saint Patrick's Lorica is often associated with St Patrick's ministry in the 5th Century and is a Christian hymn incorporating old Irish Lyrics. "The Lorica is an ancient Gaelic prayer attributed to St. Patrick and is an invocation to the Holy Trinity, usually recited in the morning. In the early Irish Church, loricas were numerous; some were written in Gaelic and some in Latin. In fact, the word, Lorica, is Latin, meaning shield or breastplate." (Catholic tradition.org)

The verse below is particularly well known and it reminds us of the presence of Christ in every aspect of our existence. As we read this prayer and celebrate St Patrick's Day together let us remember to always rise to the challenge of being Christ-like people, with and for each other, and in this regard continue to demonstrate the qualities we wish our children to aspire to. Let us continue to remember to strive to be people of compassion, mercy, faith and love. People of courage, resilience and respect. People who stand up for the poor and marginalized, non judgemental and peace seeking. Let us try to be a school community that seeks to understand the other, with patience and care. To offer assistance to those in need and to demonstrate gratitude on a daily basis. Let us practise forgiveness with each other and avoid being drawn into gossip and innuendo which can be so damaging - not only to others but to ourselves. Let us work together - here at St Patrick's School Parramatta - to embody the words below.

*Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me,
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ on my right, Christ on my left,
Christ in breadth, Christ in length, Christ in height,
Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me,
Christ in the mouth of every man who speaks of me,
Christ in every eye that sees me,
Christ in every ear that hears me.*

God Bless you and your families
Bernadette Fabri

QUALITY CATHOLIC SCHOOLS SURVEY (QCS)

Next week sixty randomly selected parent surveys will be sent out to our school community. The Catholic Education Office selects the families and will provide them with a paper version of the survey or the facility to complete the survey on line if desired. The instructions on how to do this are included in the package.

I know that completing surveys can be time consuming but I do make a special appeal to any parents who receive a package next week to participate in this survey, as your contributions will help us identify areas of strength and also areas for improvement in the future. A summary of the results of the survey will be communicated to all parents when they are collated and analyzed. Thank you in anticipation.

Bernadette Fabri

St Patricks Day 2017– change of plans due to wet weather

11:30am Liturgy in the school hall (Parents Welcome)

After the Liturgy the children will be taking part in the St Patrick's Jig either in the hall or on the playground depending on the weather. Should we need to use the hall classes will be staggered so as to allow room for students and parents.

11:45am Games in the park **POSTPONED**

1:00pm Lunch at school—Parents are still welcome to come for lunch however arrangements will need to be made depending on the weather.



The children may wear green mufti for the day but must wear joggers.

Children can bring extra props to wear for the St Patrick's jig and will be free to go home once all the festivities are completed.

We look forward to seeing as many of you on the day for either part of the day or all the celebrations starting with the liturgy at 11.30am.

The St Patrick's Day Committee

DRIVE THRU—PICK UP

Dear Parents

My sincere thank you for you cooperation when picking up children from drive thru. From my observations I can see that we can improve this system further by all following the guidelines below:



- Please ensure that you have your family name clearly displayed. The teachers try to call as many parents as possible waiting on Trott Street however if the name is too small it cannot be read until cars are 2 away from the corner. Parents may not realise that it is virtually impossible to see who is behind the wheel due to glare so please have your sign ready.
- Please ensure that you DO NOT get out of your car. Children need to be getting in, bag and all. Children placing their bags in the boot is very dangerous.
- We have been given special permission to wait in Trott St from **3.00pm on ONLY**. This is to assist our neighbours to be able to enter and leave their premises before the 3pm rush.

As always thank you for your cooperation

Miss 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.

MON TUE WED THU FRI

HELP KIDS START OFF ON THE RIGHT TRACK

Poor attendance patterns can develop as early as Kindergarten and continue throughout school. Catch poor attendance early and educate parents about the importance of attendance every day.



every learner every day



Congratulations to the Bounassif Family on the birth of their baby girl, Mary-Jo, a new little sister for Angelina (KA)



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

Olivia Fayad, Isla Giron, Jayden Farah, Crystella Geagea, Jacob Semaan, Mikayla Saleh, Noah Reyes-Mangabat



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.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION, DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA (CEDP) PRIVACY STATEMENT

The Catholic Education, Diocese of Parramatta Privacy Statement sets out how the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP) collects, uses and discloses personal information through our schools, Catholic Early Learning Centres (CELCs), Catholic Out of School Hours Care services (COSHCs) and offices.

If you wish to view this statement please go to <http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/policy-central>

Hard copies are available at the School Office if you are unable to access this website.

Year 4 & 5 Jollybops Chemical Science Incursion



The Today Show comes to St Patrick's

On Wednesday 8th March the film crew from Channel Nine's Today Show came to our school to film a segment on Famous Faces with presenter Tim Gilbert. The Art's Leaders and their committee were invited to watch Ben and Chris set up the lighting and sound control. Here is our learning.



On Wednesday last week the Arts Leaders and the Arts Committee went to the library to see how to set up a video and all techniques of how to get a good shot. We learnt all about photography and all the different ways of shooting a video. We learnt that the lighting and volume are particularly important when shooting a video. We were very grateful to have Ben and Chris to share their knowledge with us. I am really proud that I was apart of this amazing event. (Elise Sassen)

I am very thankful for the amazing experience, I learnt how the lighting can change everything in a film and how much time and effort it takes to make movies and tv shows. I also learnt how when the cameras are in lots of different places you get all different points of view, after the experience I gained a lot of knowledge that I hope to pass down to all my family and friends so they will have the same knowledge too. (Pauline Said)

On Wednesday I was lucky enough to see professional photographers and reporters do their daily job. I learnt how to shoot a video and I learnt all about the different types of lighting and change of sound . We also found out how much every single piece of equipment cost and the price was approximately \$150000. I am so grateful that I got to see and experience all those things on that day. (Adrian Pangan)



Last Wednesday I was lucky enough to see a filming crew in the library and how they all have a job to do when filming for T.V. In the library we all got to see 2 camera men and 1 sound man undertake their roles. These jobs were very interesting and I got to learn much about filming, video shooting and voice recording when someone speaks. When watching all the elements put together, I knew that they were going to be very important when filming others. I was very thankful to see these film crew for showing us how to film. (Natalie Draybi)

Last week I was lucky enough to see the filming of a Today Show segment with my own eyes. It was very exciting seeing this. It was shocking how much equipment they have. This is the finished product. <https://www.9now.com.au/today/2017/clip-cj02wq2qg008m0gpmqdz5ctg9> (Joshua Romanos)

Sadly I was unable to view this exciting presentation but I am certain that this educational experience was extremely interesting to be a part of. I hope next time I will be able to join in on this experience as well as other important and crucial meetings run by our amazing arts leaders, Jonah and Elise. As for filming, I know that the more camera angles, the more interesting the film or show can get. (Alanah Issa)

On that day I felt amazed. I was interested in how, if you get one thing wrong than it can destroy the lighting and everything. It was amazing to have Ben and Chris come to our school to film primary school children, I am very grateful that the Arts Committee and the Arts Leaders got to join in the fun of how to set up film. (Jonah Freifer)

On Wednesday the arts committee were able to ask Ben and Chris about filming ,sound control and lighting. (Siwoo Kim)

This experience was amazing and we hope to be a part of many other educational experiences like this one. We hope you have enjoyed learning something new about photography. (Elise Sassen)



2017 School Calendar

Term 1

Week 8

Friday 17th March	St Patricks Day 11.30am Liturgy in the school hall followed by St Patrick's jig 1.00pm preordered lunch/picnic at school
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Week 9

Monday 20th March	Tri-skills—Gymnastics Captivate Rehearsal for Choir children only
Tuesday 21st March	Tri-skills—Gymnastics
Friday 24th March	Year 2 Excursion to Elizabeth Farm Infants Assembly—2.15pm—Year 1

Week 10

Monday 27th March	Tri-skills—Gymnastics
Tuesday 28th March	Tri-skills—Gymnastics
Wednesday 29th March	Primary Cross Country Runners only
Friday 31st March	Primary Assembly—2.15pm—Year 3
Tuesday 4th April	Tri-skills—Gymnastics
Friday 7th April	Infants Assembly—2.15pm—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
Friday 28th April	Primary Assembly—2.15pm—Year 4



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)



Come along and join the Credo family for a great afternoon full of fun games, activities and songs.



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
 Viola - AMEB Grade 1-3
 Cello - AMEB Grade 1-4
 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

Enquiries: music@olmc.nsw.edu.au or 02 8838 1288



W www.olmc.nsw.edu.au/TheAcademy P 02 8838 1288



Year 7, 2019 Enrolment Information Evening

Year 7, 2019 families are invited to collect an enrolment pack, enjoy a tour of the College and meet the Leadership Team and staff at the Enrolment Information Evening.

Tuesday March 21, 2017

- College Tours (Optional) 5.30pm
- P&F Afternoon Tea 5.30pm
- Registration 5.45pm
- Information Session 6.30pm

Enquiries: Rosalba Sorgiovanni Yee, Registrar **T** 8838 1222 **E** registrar@olmc.nsw.edu.au

expanding beyond what we know we can be



OUR LADY OF MERCY COLLEGE PARRAMATTA

MERCY

COMPASSION

JUSTICE

DIGNITY

EXCELLENCE

HOSPITALITY

STEWARDSHIP

SERVICE

JUNIOR SCIENCE ACADEMY



SCHOOL HOLIDAY COURSE AT MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY - 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.



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

