



St Patrick's Primary School Newsletter

3rd August 2017 Term 3 Week 3

CEDP Attendance Benchmark Target Level = 90%

St Patrick's Current Attendance Level = 88%

Dear Parents

Next Tuesday, the 8th of August, is the feast of St Mary Mackillop of the Cross. Many of you are very familiar with the story of Mary Mackillop and the amazing qualities she demonstrated to the people of her era. By the time of her death in 1909 she was renowned as a woman of great vision, of heroic character and outstanding holiness. What was so amazing about this woman? In an interesting article written by Mary Cresp rsj she described that it was **Mary's personal virtues that made her so special rather than her achievements**. This statement, I believe, is worth contemplating. In a world that focuses heavily on results, financial success and position in society, many people forget the importance of being a good and decent human being, willing to show generosity, service, compassion and forgiveness. The two categories are not necessarily mutually exclusive however and I know of people who have been highly successful and who embody the characteristics described. What I also notice is that their focus seems to be the personal fulfillment that comes from sharing one's gifts with others. These people seem to possess the secret to happiness.



Another significant feature of Mary's life is her belief in the **dignity of all humans**, especially through the provision of education. This belief is particularly interesting to me as I maintain that education; learning about God, oneself, the world and each other is such a powerful privilege and one that we can often take for granted in Australia. Providing quality learning experiences in the family and in the school can often help students to recognize their moral obligation to learn. This concept is described by Professor Therese D'Orsa, lecturer at the University of Newcastle, who says that learning is, "a responsibility to oneself, one's community, one's future and the relationships which circumscribe that future."

A well known saying by St Mary Mackillop reflects this moral obligation; **'Never see a need without doing something about it.'** Her dedication to the poor and marginalized was a key element of her ministry and one that we can emulate in our own way. Allowing our children to begin to take on small responsibilities around the home and the school begins to empower them to recognize that they CAN contribute, in very significant ways, to the family, the school and society. Sometimes parents can feel that children are too young to do chores, to look after their own possessions and to take on tasks to assist them. I can understand that at times it is in fact easier to do things for them, however, imagine the 'seeds for service' parents can sow and the sense of self efficacy, that can be developed in our children, through these experiences. Self efficacy is the strength of one's belief in one's own ability to complete tasks and reach goals.

The life of St Mary Mackillop is as significant today as it was to the people of her time. She taught us that life is precious and the impact we can have on our world, is in essence, only brief. Using her wise words, **'We are but travellers here'**. let us work together to make a positive impact on those around us each and every day.

God bless you and your family

Bernadette Fabri

Principal



Honour Award

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

KA	Callum Donaldson
KM	Joanthony Tannous
1C	Gabriella Volante
1S	Abbey Matta
2M	Noah Reyes-Mangabat
2Y	Adrian Sicurella



st patrick's award

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

KA	Josephine Behan
KM	Alessandra De Guzman
1C	Joshua Nasr
1S	Lachlan Moore
2M	Adam Jurisic
2Y	Amariah Tamaro

Did you know

Your child's best learning time is the start of the school day just a little bit late doesn't seem much but

He/she just missing,

That equals ..

Which is ...

and over 13 years of schooling that's ...

10 minutes per day

50 minutes per week

Nearly 1.5 weeks per year

Nearly half a year

20 minutes per day

1 hour 40mins per week

Over 2.5 weeks per year

Nearly 1 year

Half an hour per day

Half a day per week

4 weeks per year

Nearly 1 and a half years

1 hour per day

1 day per week

8 weeks per year

Over 2 and a half years

every learner
every day



CLOSING OF VILLIERS STREET GATE

Thank you to the parents who have volunteered feedback on the closing of the Villiers Street Gate. The results from the feedback was overwhelmingly in favour of keeping the gate closed so this will continue as our new procedure. We will however continue to think of ways that we can lessen the congestion in the Ross Street Gate entrance in the afternoon. Thank you!!!



New School Phone Number

Our school has been migrated to a new number. The new number is:

8832 4600

The old number still works and will be automatically diverted. If you receive an outbound call from our school then the new number will come up. Please save this number to your contacts.

OOSH BUS PICK UP

Thank you to all the drivers who have been considerate of the need for the OOSH bus to park to pick up our children safely. The OOSH staff and the parents of the children are very grateful. Thank you!

SHARE YOUR GIFT OF SONG AT THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION MASS

At the centre of our Catholic Faith is the call to reach out and share our gifts with others. One of the ways your child can partake in this call is to share their gift of singing at the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation on Friday, 25 August at the 7.30pm Mass.

Father Bob has invited our school to provide the choir to lead the congregation in singing at this special celebration. The students from Years Two to Year Six have been asked to accept this honour and privilege and join together sharing their gift to all.

We anticipate there will be before school practices in the lead up to the mass. More information will be sent home with choir members this week.

We encourage all choir members to participate in sharing this experience and joining as a community to celebrate the special occasion with members of our faith community.

Thank you for your continued support of our school and its mission.

Leanda Standring
Religious Education

Venitia Rodricks
Coordinator Music Coordinator

SCHOOL UNIFORM - APPEAL FOR ASSISTANCE

Dear Parents

In an effort to keep up the school's good reputation regarding school uniform, can I please ask you to be vigilant about the way the boys and girls wear their ties. I have noticed for quite a while now that many boys are looking quite dishevelled with their ties either undone and hanging loose or not worn. Some girls are wearing ties where the elastic has become loose, hanging down. Ties for both boys and girls need to be secured as close to the collar as possible. It is very important that children follow the uniform code; an area that is key to the Student Charter. This charter reminds children that they have a RIGHT to be proud of their school and thus they have the RESPONSIBILITY to wear their uniform with pride. Mr Joe Arida from Oz Fashions confirmed that while the tie says 'Dry Clean Only' ties may be washed but need to be placed in a laundry bag, to prevent tangling and possible ripping. He also confirmed that he is more than happy to assist parents if the tie is damaged for some reason eg if the stitching has come undone. Please contact Oz Fashions if this is the case. The maintenance of the standard of school uniform is best achieved if it is a team effort; student, school and family. We ask your assistance in this matter.

Thank you
Miss Fabri

Grandparents Day



GRANDPARENTS MORNING TEA

Sincere gratitude is extended to morning tea coordinator Mrs Elizabeth Johnson for the outstanding job her and committee of helpers Michelyn Wehbe, Marie Bechara, Frances Wehbe, Zana Rahme, Diane Jaitani did in preparing the beautiful Grandparents Morning Tea. The food was plentiful and delicious and I could tell from walking around the room that the visitors enjoyed sitting in small groups around tables rather than having to balance hot tea and a plate of food on their laps. Thank you so much everyone.



GRANDPARENT'S MASS THANK YOU.

We would like to offer a heartfelt thank you to the wonderful Grandparents who joined us last week and added to our celebration. Thank you to Serge Morson (Grandfather of Tyler 3T, James 1C and Hunter KA) and Mary Johnson (Grandmother of Emily 3T and Annabelle KM). It was wonderful to hear about the great gift of grand parenting from you. Our thank you is also extended to Sandra Chiha (Grandmother of Chanel Nader 6W). We appreciate the time you spent sharing your inspirational stories and life experiences.



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

Jim Rizk, Daniel Semaan,
Anthony Nakhoul, Evelyn
Gereige, Christina Brown

Date to remember

Staff Development Day for Term 3 will be Monday 21st August. No children will attend school on this day.



Condolences

We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to Mrs Warn (KA) on the passing of her grandmother.

Please keep the family in your prayers.

Walkathon — ‘Sports Star’

Reminder to keep getting those sponsors for the Walkathon next Friday 11/8/2017.

We ask that all cards are sent to school by Wednesday so that teachers can ensure the students have their cards with them on Friday when they walk.

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL - THANK YOU

Our gratitude is extended to all the parents who were able to assist at last Friday's Athletics Carnival. As you can imagine it is very difficult to run an event such as this without the generosity of parents doing some of the administrative and running tasks. Thank you to the OLMC girls who assisted the teachers with the running of events. Their assistance was very much appreciated. Thank you to Mr and Mrs Tannous from Sound Agents for the loan of the sound equipment for the day.

Lastly thank you to Mrs Milic, Mrs Benkovich and Mr Younis for the organisation and coordination. Champions and Runners up will be announced once trophies have arrived.



food allergy AWARENESS

Foods that most often cause an allergic reaction:
**peanuts, tree nuts, milk, eggs, fish,
shellfish, sesame, soy.**



However, other less common foods can also cause anaphylactic reactions.

Anaphylaxis is a sudden, severe allergic reaction that involves various areas of the body simultaneously. Food allergies, insect stings, medications (most commonly penicillin), and latex can cause an anaphylactic reaction.

Warning signs and symptoms of an allergic reaction:

- Complaint of tingling in the mouth
- Hives, body rash, itching
- Vomiting
- Swelling of lips, eyes and face



Warning signs and symptoms of a SEVERE allergic reaction (ANAPHYLAXIS)

- Difficulty and/or noisy breathing
- Wheeze or persistent cough
- Difficulty talking or hoarse voice
- Swelling of the tongue
- Swelling/tightness of throat
- Loss of consciousness and/or collapse
- Pale and floppy (in young children)



If you see someone showing any of these symptoms, **ACT FAST. Call 000.**



**Allergy & Anaphylaxis
Australia**
Your trusted charity for allergy support

8-20 AUG 2017
**SYDNEY
SCIENCE
FESTIVAL**

OVER 150 EVENTS THAT BRING SCIENCE TO LIFE

SEE SCIENCE WITH THAT SPECIAL SOMEONE
AT SYDNEY SCIENCE FESTIVAL 2017

'National Science Week' is coming up in August for all schools. To celebrate this time the Sydney Science Festival is hosting endless science activities for all ages. Please refer to <https://ydneyscience.com.au/2017> which has detailed information on all these exciting events!

Chanel and Xavier S.T.E.M Leaders

NEW FINANCE SYSTEM — Email Address

Starting from Term 3 all receipts will be emailed to families. To enable us to update your records with your email address we are asking that you follow the below instructions. For each email address ie where Mum and Dad have separate email address please complete steps for each parent.

- Go to your Skoolbag App
- From the main menu select eforms
- Select change of details
- Complete your details including your name, address details, email address and child's name.
- Submit

Once the office has received your updated details our system will be updated.

As this is a completely new system and very different to our previous eSchool Finance System we ask for your patience when you come to the office to pay over the counter.

DON'T FORGET!



SCHOLASTIC
Book Club
orders are due:

4th August 2017



Parents Representative Council
SUPPORT | CELEBRATE | EDUCATE

PRC
Diocese of Parramatta
Partners in learning

PRC INFORMATION

The Term 3 PRC Meeting will be between 7-9pm on Monday 21 August at St Patrick's Catholic Primary School - Villiers St, Parramatta.

The PRC meets once a term providing an opportunity for all caregivers (parents, guardians, grandparents) to attend, network and contribute to discussions of interest. Meetings also assist parents to develop as educators through discussion and training, often delivered by guest speakers. Guest speakers present on a range of educational, parental and spiritual topics.

Attendance - Every Learner Every Day (Paul Eston, Director Performance CEDP)

For further information contact the PRC at the details below.

Contact: Wayne Davie

Tel: 0404 924 166

Email: prcparrasecretary@gmail.com

Recount - Year 2 Excursion to Warragamba Dam 26.7.17

Last Wednesday, on the 26th July 2017, Year Two went on an excursion to Warragamba Dam. We visited Warragamba Dam because we are learning about water in Science.

First, we went on the bus and we travelled to Warragamba Dam. When we arrived, we ate our recess on the soft grass.

Next, we met our instructors, their names were Rusty and Helen. Then we gathered together to watch a film about the water system. It was very educational!

After that, we separated into our classes. 2Y went on the bus and travelled down to the dam. 2M stayed in the centre to do fun activities. The activities were looking at water insects found in the Dam and the other activity was making a model of a catchment area. We also drew a sketch of the Dam. The view was amazing! Then we swapped activities.

Finally, we gathered together to eat our lunch around the picnic benches. After we ate our lunch, we played on the grass. We enjoyed playing on the grass because we don't get to do it at school.

Then we boarded the bus to return to school.

It was a very informative day and we all had fun!



2017 Census Day



Dear Parents & Carers,

Tomorrow Friday 4th August (Week 3) is the annual Census Day. This forms a very important part of our funding and audit procedures. All children are required to be in attendance at school or written explanation be received. Can we please ask all parents to send either a skoolbag app or an email to the school explaining your child's absence on the 4th August, 2017. The earlier this is sent in the day would be greatly appreciated.



Woolworths Earn & Learn 2017

Dear Parents,

This year we will be participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. Through this program we will be able to get new educational resources for our school/early learning centre – and all we need you to do is shop for your groceries at Woolworths.

From Wednesday 26th July to Tuesday 19th September or while stock lasts, we are collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers. You will get one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every \$10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco and gift cards). Place the Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet and when it's complete, the Sticker Sheet can be dropped into the Collection Box here at the school or at your local Woolworths.

At the end of the promotion, we'll be able to get some great new equipment. The range is extensive and offers lots of items ideal for our students – including resources for Maths, English, Science and some fantastic fun supplies for Arts & Craft, Sport and for our library. If you'd like to know more visit woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn

2017 School Calendar

Term 3

Week 3

Friday 4th August

School Census Day

Assembly—Choir—2.15pm

Week 4

Tuesday 8th August

Cumberland Zone Athletic carnival

Wednesday 9th August

Voice of Youth—Year 6—School Final

Thursday 10th August

Year 1—Wildlife World excursion

Friday 11th August

Walkathon—Sports stars

Primary Assembly—Year 6—2.15pm

Week 5

Tuesday 15th August

ICAS Mathematics—7.40am Year 6 classrooms

Friday 18th August

Infants Assembly—Kinder – 2.15pm

Week 6

Monday 21st August

Staff Development Day—no children to attend school

Thursday 24th August

Year 3—Featherdale Farm excursion

Friday 25th August

Diocesan Athletics Carnival

Primary Assembly—Year 3—2.15pm

Week 7

Book Week

Many exciting Activities—More details to come

Tuesday 29th August

Fathers day Stall

Author Visit

Wednesday 30th August

Year 5 Personal Development Night 7pm

Friday 1st September

Father's Day Mass and Breakfast

Infants Assembly—Year 2—2.15pm

Week 8

Wednesday 6th September

Voice of Youth Eastern Semi Final —Year 6

Friday 8th September

Primary Assembly—Year 4—2.15pm



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)