

# st patrick's primary school parramatter patter



2nd April 2015 Term 1 No.10

Dear Parents

Today is the last day of Term One. Today is also Holy Thursday. Throughout the week the children have had the opportunity to become immersed in the spirit of the Lenten Journey as we head towards Holy Week. All around the school, special prayer focuses have been arranged symbolizing the events of Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, the Agony in the Garden and Good Friday. The children experienced the humility of a King entering Jerusalem on a donkey and the excitement of the people of his day. They sat at a table set for Christ and his apostles just like that on Holy Thursday when Jesus told his friends what was going to happen and the special gift he would leave them. They reflected with seriousness when Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane and the day that our Lord Jesus Christ was crucified on the cross on what we know as Good Friday.

All these events are commemorated by Christians all around the world in many and varied ways. During the time of Lent, we are encouraged to pause a little; to reflect on our lives. My parish priest one Sunday compared Lent to Jesus' time in the desert. Imagine being all alone, as in a desert; no noise, no distractions, no rush, no work, no time pressures, just time to think and be. Just like in a symbolic desert Lent provides us with the opportunity to keep our eyes fixed on God, to listen to God's word, to see the God in others, to find the God in unusual places, to Stop, Look and Listen in ways we rarely have time to do.. Lent is a time when we can free ourselves from our own distractions and wishes by attending to our spiritual needs. We can do this by attending mass regularly and praying often. I pray that you have been able to do this for yourselves and as a family this Lent.

May I encourage you to get involved in the Holy Week events in your local parish or at St Patrick's Cathedral. Please find the times below. I wish you and your family all the blessings of this very special Church season.

God Bless you and your family

Bernadette Fabri

Principal

## Holy Thursday, 2nd April

- 7:30 pm Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper, mandatum & Procession to Altar of Repose

## Good Friday, 3rd April

- 9.30am Sung Lauds (Morning Prayer) led by cantors.
- 10:00 am Stations of the Cross
- 3:00 pm Solemn Commemoration of the Lord's Passion
- 10.30pm 'WALK AND TALK WITH THE LORD' GOOD FRIDAY NIGHT WALK - from Blacktown to Parramatta.

## Holy Saturday, 4th April

- 7: 00 pm The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night

## Easter Sunday, 5th April

- Mass as usual at 8am, 9.30am, 6pm.11am — Solemn Mass of the Resurrection (Cathedral Choir)



O God,

grant that whatever good things I have, I may share generously with those who have not, and that whatever good things I do not have, I may request humbly from those who do. Plant deep in me, Lord, all the virtues, that I might be devout in divine matters, discerning in human affairs, and burdensome to no one in fulfilling my own needs. Order me inwardly through a good life that I might do what is right and what will be meritorious for me and a good example for others.

- St. Thomas Aquinas

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## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to four of our teachers; Ms Jemma Di Marco, Ms Tiffany Perry, Ms Alyssa Onorato and Mrs Jenny Warn who were inducted into Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta a few weeks ago. These staff members joined hundreds of teachers across the diocese to receive a special blessing from Diocesan Administrator, the Very Reverend Father Peter Williams, at the annual Education Mass. At this mass representative students from all schools processed in, carrying their school banner. This served to remind all teachers present that students are at the heart of our work and that in partnership with their families schools must always keep the best interest of our children at the centre. A special thank you is extended to one of our school captains Clarissa Guino for accepting the role of representing our student body. You certainly did us proud.



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## Holy Week

This week our students have had the opportunity to reflect on the events leading to the death and resurrection of Jesus. Using the Gospel readings they have been encouraged to wonder about the thoughts, feelings and motivations of the people involved. They will have left on Thursday afternoon having reflected on Christ's sacrifice of his life on Good Friday. How joyful will be their celebration of Easter Sunday!

On Monday 20th April Year 6 will present the culmination of Christ's life on Earth, the Resurrection, at the morning assembly.



## Student Management Update

Last week a parent meeting was held to explain the school's new Behaviour Management policy. Thank you to the 15 parents who attended. At this forum we explained some new procedures that we will be putting into place from early next term.

Towards the end of last year we introduced a Positive Incentive Reward system involving special tokens called Super Shamrocks. The children earn these shamrocks, as a grade when they display desirable behaviour; linked to our three core values of Respect, Compassion and Resilience. Students then negotiated a list of rewards with their teachers when certain tallies are earned. This has been very successful to date with many grades working towards their 4<sup>th</sup> reward.

At times, however, students may display undesirable behaviour, either in the classroom, or on the playground. To help children modify these behaviours a system will be in place so that they have a clear and procedural fair process to rely on. The following steps will be taken:

- Step One: Investigation of the behaviour and a verbal formal warning is given.
- Step Two: If undesirable behaviour continues a time out is given. As a rule time out is usually the student's age in minutes.
- Step Three: If undesirable behaviour still continues a Classroom or Playground Notice will be issued and sent home. Classroom notice for classroom behaviours and Playground notice for playground behaviours.
- Step Four: If a child receives three Notices a meeting will be arranged with the parents and Assistant Principal. The consequence is that the child will miss out on the next whole class reward.

During the week all teachers have spoken to their classes about the new procedures. Children said that they thought it was a fair system and they had lots of questions. If your child brings this system up with you, please reassure them that if they are doing the right thing there is no need for them to be concerned. The reality is the majority of students will never even receive a formal warning let alone a notice. It is also worthy of note that children will make mistakes and a fair and consistent system can help them learn to curb what is often impulsive behaviour.

The Student Management presentation will be held again, during the day, early next term, for those parents who were unable to attend last week.

Looking forward to meeting with you

Mrs Benkovich

### Numeracy Workshop for Parents of K-2

Early next term the Numeracy Team would like to offer a Numeracy workshop for parents of K-2 students. This workshop will take the format of some input from the team around current practice for teaching mathematics and suggestions for homework followed by a variety of hands on activities. More details to follow next term.

Date: Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April  
Time: 7:00pm  
Venue: School Library



Happy Birthday to the following children who will celebrate their birthdays in the following week and during the school holidays:

Maria Khoury, Naomi Faddoul, Samuel Shalala, Ella Abdallah, Brian Chen, Alan Mansour, Anthony Wehbe, Aaron Macadangang, Raymond Wehbe, Christian Golossian, Joshua Romanos, Sophia Lorenzo, Tara DiChio



**WORKING BEE**

*Sean McIntosh is currently organizing our first working bee. This will take place in Term 2. Watch this Space!*

### SCHOOL PHOTOS

Date: 1st May, 2015  
Uniform: SUMMER UNIFORM  
Payment: Can now be done online, cash or cheque in envelope

Sibling photos can be ordered online or an envelope can be collected from the school office

School holidays have come so quickly this year, can you believe we are already one term down! NLSC has found a new home for the upcoming April school holidays (7<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>) and will be operating out of Christ the King Primary School in North Rocks 2151. If you are interested in booking your little superstars into our fun filled April clinic please contact us at [nextlevelsports@live.com.au](mailto:nextlevelsports@live.com.au) or you can contact David on 0423644260. Find us on Facebook for information about previous clinics. Happy Easter and enjoy the school holidays.

## CROSS COUNTRY

Thank you to Mr David Younis for organizing the school Cross Country last Friday and to the Cross Country Committee who committed much of their time to organizing the day. You did a fabulous job!



The staff and sports committee would like to give a big thank you to all the parents and students who helped out at the Cross Country last Friday. Whether it was supervising the course, timing our athletes or just lending a hand, the day would not have been as successful without all of our helpers. I would also like to thank Troy and the 'Sound Agents' team for donating the sound system to use on the day, as well as Mrs Carrol, Mrs Kelly and Mrs Fardell for helping to prepare the course on the day. The day itself was a success with 44 students making it through to the diocesan Cross Country which will be held on Tuesday 5th of May at Eastern Creek. I would also like to give a huge mention to all students who participated in the Cross Country, whether they completed the course or not. After speaking with your teachers, we are all extremely proud of our students and their efforts at the Cross Country. To have so many students cheer on and support their peers is fantastic. Thank you again to everybody involved. Have a safe and enjoyable Easter.

Mr David Younis  
Sport Coordinator.

# St Patrick's Parent Events Committee

Dear Families,

We are pleased to announce that this year, due to the overwhelming support from many of our families, we were able to form a St Patrick's Parent Event Committee. A representative from each class forms the committee.

After our first meeting on Tuesday, the committee decided that it would be far more practical to divide into sub-committees to organise, prepare and run special events.

**The following committee members will be coordinating events in Term Two:**



**Mother's Day Stall Preparation:** Mrs Denise Gebrael, Mrs Samia-Marie Baysari, Mrs Zana Rahme and Mrs Belinda Barakat

**Mother's Day Stall Sales:** Mrs Josephine Romanos, Mrs Rhonda El-Tobbagi and Mrs Claire Moujalli

**Mother's Day Raffle:** Mrs Zana Rahme and Mrs Belinda Barakat

**Mother's Day Morning Tea:** Mrs Annette Romanos, Mrs Maria Gittany and Mrs Margaret Abdallah

**Primary Athletics Carnival/Infants Fun Day BBQ:** Mrs Jossie Harb, Mrs Monique Wehbe and Mrs Maria Gittany

**Walk-A-Thon:** Mrs Elizabeth Johnson, Mrs Maria Gittany, Mrs Monique Wehbe and Mrs Claire Moujalli

Each sub-committee will be requesting volunteers to assist them in successfully carrying out the tasks required to ensure a successful event. A huge thank you to the parents who have already submitted their names as volunteers. The event coordinators will select helpers to assist their committee from the list of names that were provided at the parent information evenings or directly at the office. They will ensure that the process is fair and that as many different volunteers have the opportunity to contribute as possible at some stage throughout the year. The committee coordinators will soon be in contact to seek volunteer helpers for Term Two events.



The next parent event committee meeting will take place on Wednesday 17th June at 2.00pm.

Once again we would like to thank our St Patrick's families for your ongoing dedication and support. We would not be able to prepare and carry out such successful events without you. It is wonderful to have such a strong community.

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## Vanuatu Project Compassion Appeal

Vanuatu has been the destination for many holiday makers who have enjoyed the glorious weather and scenery and the hospitality of a warm and generous people. On Tuesday 21 April (T2 W1) we are having a Mufti Day and are selling ice blocks to raise money for Project Compassion to help with their work in Vanuatu and elsewhere. Because of the sunny Vanuatu people and climate and because we will still be in the Season of Easter, students will wear some yellow if possible.



Students are asked to make a gold coin donation for wearing mufti.

Ice blocks cost \$1/One per child.

# Read your way through the holidays!

With the beginning of the school holidays upon us, it is vital that all parents help their children to sustain and continue the wonderful progress made during Term One, by reading on a daily basis.

Quoting the famous words from Dr Seuss...

The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go. – Dr. Seuss

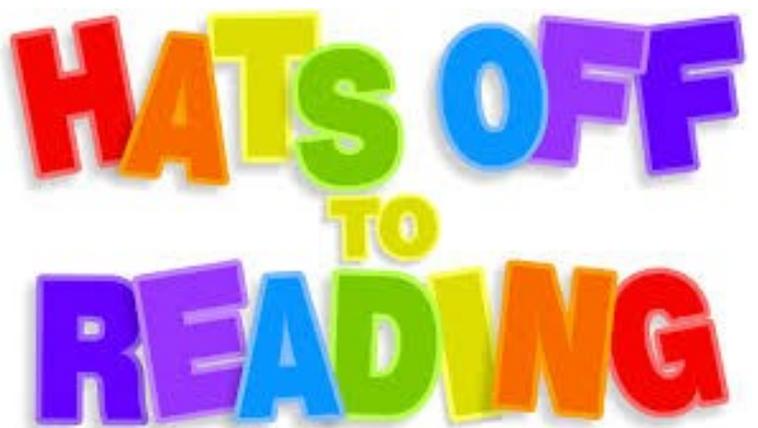
- **Reading is exercise for the brain.**
- **Reading teaches children about the world around them.**
- **Reading develops vital literacy skills.**
- **Reading develops imagination.**
- **Reading during the holidays reduces the risk of “slide”**
- **Reading is exciting and entertaining.**

Some helpful holiday reading tips;

- You may wish to join the local library / check local library for special events during the holidays
- Allow your children to select their own books of interest
- Enjoy reading your favourite family stories together.
- Include reading as part of your child's bedtime routine
- Encourage older children to read to / with younger siblings
- Make predictions about what might happen / talk about what happened in the story
- Create a special place for reading
- Read a variety of different reading material, eg eBooks, newspapers, magazines, catalogues
- Premier's Reading Challenge books

Happy Reading!!

Miss Sasha Nederpelt  
(Classroom Teacher / Literacy Coordinator)





*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**

Monday to Friday 6.45am, 12.30pm  
Public Holidays 8.00am

**Pastoral Team**

Fr Peter Williams elected Diocesan Administrator  
Very Rev Fr Robert Bossini  
Rev Fr John Paul Escarlan  
Rev Fr Steven Hyun  
Rev Fr Michael Gitau  
Rev Robertus Kim  
Sr Susan Ward rsj

**2015**

**TERM ONE – DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Week Ten**

Thursday 2nd April Good Friday Commemorations 2.15pm  
LAST DAY OF TERM

**TERM TWO – DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Week One**

Monday 20th April Return to school—1st day of Term 2  
Tuesday 21st April Year 6 Parent Farewell Meeting  
Friday 24th April Whole School Assembly—Yr 5 2.15pm  
Anzac Assembly

**Week Two**

Friday 1st May School Photos  
No assembly

**Week Three**

Monday 4th May Winter Uniform changeover  
Tuesday 5th May Diocesan Cross Country  
Wednesday 6th May Nursing Home visit—Year 4  
Thursday 7th May Mother's Day Mass & Morning Tea  
(Details to be confirmed)  
Friday 8th May Infants Assembly—Yr 1 2.15pm

**Week Four**

Tuesday 12th May Naplan—Language/writing  
Wednesday 13th May Naplan—Reading  
Thursday 14th May Naplan—Numeracy  
Friday 15th May Primary Assembly—Yr 6 2.15pm

The Parent Calendar is now available under events on the Skoolbag app. From the home screen go into events and all Term 1 events are available to view. Should you have any issues please contact the office who can guide you through it.

**Staff Development Day Term 2**

Term 2—Staff development day will be on Tuesday 9th June. Children do not attend school on this day.

## WORLD YOUTH DAY (WYD) 2016 Krakow Poland

Last Sunday, Palm Sunday, a procession led by Father Paul Roberts, travelled from the Town Hall, Parramatta to St Patrick's Cathedral. The processors, many of whom were students from our diocesan high schools, then participated in a beautiful youth mass together. After mass, World Youth Day 2016 was launched by Mr James Camden Director, Catholic Youth Parramatta in the cloister. The three themes for WYD as announced by Pope Francis are:

### 29<sup>th</sup> World Youth Day, 2014

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (Mt 5:3).

### 30<sup>th</sup> World Youth Day, 2015

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God" (Mt 5:8)

### 31<sup>st</sup> World Youth Day, 2016 (Krakow)

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy" (Mt 5:7)

These mark a three-year itinerary of spiritual preparation that will culminate with the international WYD with the Successor of Peter scheduled for Krakow in Poland in July 2016.

## ROAD SAFETY GUIDELINES

- Please advise your child how they will be getting home so as to minimise their distress. If you are unsure, remind them to stay in their classrooms.
- Cars are not permitted to stop at anytime in the red "No Stopping Zone"
- Please ensure that you cross at the safety crossing (yellow lines). It is very dangerous to cross busy Villiers Street in between cars.
- Please be careful when driving near the crossing as we have had some concerns from pedestrians placed in potentially dangerous situations with cars not stopping.
- Please do not drop off and pick up from the Ross Street driveway. Reversing back is very dangerous with so many children about.
- Parents must display on the dash board of their car, a large sign clearly marked with the student's family name and christian name to avoid delays
- Drivers are not permitted to leave the car while in the restricted parking zone
- Cars are not to block traffic on the round-about
- Parents are requested to proceed in the queue to the teacher on duty who will direct your child/children to your car
- For safety reasons the child/children should enter the car from the footpath side. Entry into the car should not be obscured by any items including infants car seat/baby capsule.
- Take care when stopping for your children by ensuring their seatbelt is done up carefully before leaving the curb after pick up
- Please notify the school if you are running late to pick up your child. Children become distressed if they think they have been forgotten.
- To try to alleviate congestion the pick up time from school is between 3.00pm to 3.30pm. Please try to stagger your arrival. The children are fully supervised.

**To assist in the smooth running of the pick up routine, police and parking rangers patrol regularly to monitor drivers and will fine those who are breaching road rules.**

### POST SEPARATION RECOVERY PROGRAM- SPRINGWOOD

CCSS Solo Parent Services is offering its seven week Post Separation Recovery Program for the first time at Springwood, commencing on **Wed 6<sup>th</sup> May**. **Time:** 7.30pm – 9.45pm. **Venue:** Presbyterian Church Hall, 150 Macquarie Rd, Springwood. **Registration essential.** For further details contact Eileen or Rita on 9933 0205 or email [soloparentservices@ccss.org.au](mailto:soloparentservices@ccss.org.au)

### MARRIAGE ANNULMENT INFORMATION NIGHT

Each year CCSS Solo Parent Services present an Information Session to help people understand the process of Marriage Annulments in the Catholic Church. The evening is open to anyone who is interested. **Venue:** Mamre House, 181 Mamre Rd Orchard Hills **Date:** Tues 5<sup>th</sup> May **Time:** 7.30pm – 9.30pm. **Cost:** \$5.00. **Registration:** Rita or Eileen. PH: 9933 0205 or Email: [soloparentservices@ccss.org.au](mailto:soloparentservices@ccss.org.au)