



SUB TUAM
PRAESIDIUM

st patrick's primary school
Parramatta Patter

06.02.14

TERM ONE

No 2

Dear Parents

Once again thank you for your warm hospitality over the last week. I have had the pleasure of meeting many of the children who are both friendly and polite. Children, I thank you for displaying these outstanding qualities.

Last Monday it was my pleasure to welcome our new Kindergarten children and their families to St Patrick's school. I believe they did remarkably well and by the third day seemed to be already keen to line up like the older children.

During the week it has been so satisfying to see how gentle and attentive to the young ones the Year 6 buddies have been. They have had the opportunity to experience combined play times so that they could spend a little time together. The buddies program is a very positive way for the older children to act as role models for other children in the school. For some boys and girls who do not have siblings it is a chance to practice nurturing, compassion and patience. I know for many Year 6 students this program is one of the highlights of their final year of Primary School and the bond they often make with their buddies is remembered for a long time to come.

I would like to say thank you to the following mothers who helped serve refreshments to the Kindy parents after dropping the children off at the classrooms on the first day of school. Thank you to Mrs Gereige, Mrs Moussa, Mrs Romanos and Miss Mendoza. This simple welcome was so successful that we will continue it next year and I will be asking for volunteers from the current Kindergarten parent body to assist in the same way.

May I also take this opportunity to welcome to the staff two new members Mrs Juantia Gray, whom some of you have already met in the office, will be working on some Mondays and Tuesdays and our new school counsellor, Mrs Tracey Ricketts, will commence next Wednesday. I know you join me in wishing them all the very best as they join our school community.

Over the next few weeks the teachers will be conducting Parent/Teacher Information Nights. Involvement in school activities sends a clear message to your children that you are interested in what they do and learn at school. The teachers also appreciate your commitment to your child's education. If at any time you have concerns or worries about what is happening at school, please make an appointment to speak to your child's teacher/s.

Mrs Benkovich and I are always happy to meet with parents. As Assistant Principal, Mrs Benkovich is responsible for student management and is available to discuss any serious playground issues or concerns. We do ask however that you ring first and arrange a suitable time for the meeting.

God Bless you and your families

*Bernadette Fabri
(Principal)*

AFTERNOON PICK UP

With the school year well and truly underway many parents are once again opting to join the pick up routine on Villiers Street. Thank you to all the parents who have remembered to follow the guidelines below:

- Family names clearly displayed for teachers to read
- Driving up as far forward as possible to avoid creating unnecessary congestion.
- Not blocking the round about by being observant of the traffic flow ahead
- Not parking in the 'no parking' zone on Villiers St adjacent to the school.

Please remember parents that parking rangers regularly patrol this area and that fines will be issued to drivers not obeying road rules. Can I also ask you to take care when stopping for your children by ensuring their seat belt is done up before carefully leaving the curb after pick up. The safety of our children is always paramount followed by courtesy to other drivers.

Please note that if you wish to park and enter the school the main gates will now be open at 2.50pm. Parents are more than welcome to come in and have a chat for 10mins but we ask that you do not take your child before the dismissal time of 3.00pm Your cooperation is very much appreciated by others in our community and members of the general public.

2014 SCHOOL FEES Term 1 School Fee accounts have been sent out by the Catholic Education office. The due date for payment is Friday 7th March, 2014. Arrangements made in 2013 are now finished and any family having difficulty completing term payments on time and wish to make payments by instalments using cash, Centrelink or Bpay etc please contact the School Office for an appointment with Mrs Nutter to set up a new arrangement. Catholic Education Office is also offering a Flexible Payment Plan (FPP) for your 2014 School Fees details are included with your school fee statement. Please ensure you return the included forms by the due date 21st February.

HONOUR AWARDS

Acknowledging children's achievement, efforts and positive work habits is critical to the development and encouragement of desirable behaviours and attitudes to learning. Over this first term the staff will be reviewing the award system currently present in the school. Keeping this in mind the St Patrick's Honour Award will be awarded to the **student of the week** who demonstrates outstanding application across any Key Learning Area. Award recipients will be given specific feedback regarding this achievement. At this stage Honour Award recipients will still be published in the school newsletter. We look forward to keeping you updated on any new awards introduced. The Student of the Week will commence next week in conjunction with the 1st Assembly.

OPENING SCHOOL MASS

Due to unforeseen circumstances at the Cathedral the time and venue for the Opening School mass has been changed to **Wednesday, 19th February at OLMC School Hall commencing at 9.30am** May I ask all parents to be seated by this time to avoid unnecessary distraction to the liturgy. We thank OLMC principal Mr Stephen Walsh and staff for allowing us to use this facility.

FRIDAY ASSEMBLIES

Last year, a new time was trialled for Friday Assemblies (Friday pm) This time seemed to be favoured by the teaching staff as it enabled the protection of prime teaching time in the morning and allowed for the continuation of literacy and numeracy blocks. From all accounts this afternoon timeslot seemed to suit many parents as well who were then able to take the children home at the end of the school day at 3.00pm. In light of this response School Assemblies will now be held at 2.20pm in the school hall. You are all very welcome. The first school assembly will be on Friday 14th February.

Birthday Treats

After much thought regarding the safety of our precious children at St Patrick's we ask that NO food treats including ice blocks, cupcakes, lollies etc are brought to the school. We will however be acknowledging students birthday's by placing their name in the newsletter and at Friday's assembly.



Happy Birthday to the following children who celebrated their birthday's
January: Stacie Touche, Veronica Takchi, Ellah Lahood, Janika Fernando, Marcus-Adam El-Char, Cedric Guino,

Chanel Chidiac, Nayden Tarabay, Jeremy Saliba, Angel Arida, Lily Tambrchi, Benjamin Aguilera, Talia Lahoud, Arabella Gittany, Luke Mawad, Norm Shidiak, Elise Sassen, Mia Kerr, Lam Nguyen, Madison Younes, Jack Pellew, Charlie Romanos, Tayla Vancuylenberg, Liam Abdallah, Tyler Morson, Isabella Moses, Finn Giron, Isabella Loader, Sara-Marie Wakim, Oscar Gray, Aoife Mitchell

Up to February 6th: Emile Saab, Andrew Barakat, Jennifer Mekdessi, Jacob Takchi, Prince Gyan, Jiajie Weng, Vesna Villamar Lee, Shannon Sison, Luke Takchi, Elaria Fayad, Olivia Wehbe, Trinity Eltakchi

Library Borrowing Days

Monday KM, 1C, 1S, 2Y, 3T
 Tuesday 2M, 4B, 4G
 Wednesday KA, 3L
 Thursday 6P, 6W
 Friday 5C, 5T

Term 1 PE & Music Lessons

Wednesday 3L, 3T, 4B, 4G, 6P, 6W
 Thursday KA, KM, 1C, 1S, 2M, 2Y, 5C, 5T

LETTERS HOME THIS WEEK

All Years - Information Nights
 Validation Forms
 Yr 3 - Excursion to Featherdale Farm

NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE ONLINE

For the next 2 weeks the eldest child will receive a copy of the newsletter, after this date (20/2/14) the newsletter will be available online.

To subscribe to the newsletter follow the instructions provided below:

Log onto www.stpatsparra.catholic.edu.au

On the right hand side click on the heading subscribe to our newsletter online. Please complete the pop up screen and submit.

Our newsletter will be emailed to you approx. 3pm every Thursday. Occasionally it may be Friday morning if trouble arises.

CONGRATULATIONS

to Makhoul family Justin (1C) the birth of their 3rd son Liam who was born on 23rd January.



School Terms for 2014

Term 1 Concludes: Friday 11th April
Term 2 Commences: Monday, 28th April
Concludes: Friday, 27th June
Term 3 Commences: Monday, 14th July
Concludes: Friday, 19th Sept
Term 4 Commences: Tuesday, 7th Oct
Concludes: Friday, 19th Dec

Please note Staff Development Days may affect commencement and concluding dates. Please refer to our weekly Newsletter in 2014.

Bus Passes

The grace period for free travel is up to Friday 14th February. Should your child need a bus or rail pass please come to the office **urgently** to complete a form.

BOOKCLUB ISSUE 1-2014

Due Friday 21st February, 2014

NO LATE ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED

The preferred method of payment is to make the payment online directly to scholastic. If paying by cheque please make the **CHEQUE** out to **Scholastic Australia**.

Remember to fill out Order Forms correctly and place in a **sealed** envelope clearly marked with

NAME - CLASS - BOOKCLUB
CORRECT MONEY (no change given)

School Banking News

School banking has commenced for the year and will take place every Tuesday. For new banking students I need either your



Dollarmite deposit book or place the money in an envelope with your name, class, bsb/acct no and the amount. I will then issue you with a student number and issue you with a Dollarmite deposit book, should you need one. There are eight exciting new rewards this year!



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

COMING EVENTS 2014

TERM ONE - DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Week Two

Friday 7th February

No Assembly

Week Three

Tuesday 11th February

Yr 4 Parent / Teacher Information Night 7pm

Friday 14th February

Assembly Yr 6 School Hall 2.20pm

Week Four

Monday 17th February

Yr 1 Parent / Teacher Information Night 7pm

Tuesday 18th February

Yr 3 Parent / Teacher Information Night 8pm

Wednesday 19th February

Yr 2 Parent / Teacher Information Night 7pm

Cumberland Zone Swimming Carnival

Opening School Mass 9.30am at OLMC Hall

Yr 5 Parent / Teacher Information Night 7pm

Yr 6 Parent / Teacher Information Night 8pm

Thursday 20th February

Kindy Parent / Teacher Information Night 7pm

Friday 21st February

Assembly Yr 5 School Hall 2.20pm

Week Five

Friday 28th February

Diocesan Swimming Carnival

Assembly Yr 4 School Hall 2.20pm

Week Six

Tuesday 4th March

Shrove Tuesday Pikelets

Wednesday 5th March

Ash Wednesday

Mass 9.30am Yrs 3 -6

Liturgy Kinder, Yr 1 and Yr 2 Time TBA

Friday 7th March

Assembly Yr 3 School Hall 2.20pm

Week Seven

Friday 14th March

Assembly Yr 2 School Hall 2.20pm

Week Eight

Friday 21st March

Assembly Yr 1 School Hall 2.20pm

Yr 4 Excursion to Arabanoo

Week Nine

Friday 28th March

Assembly Kinder School Hall 2.20pm

Week Ten

Friday 4th April

NO Assembly

School Photos

Week Eleven

Friday 11th April

NO Assembly

Last Day of Term

MASS TIMETABLE FOR ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL, PARRAMATTA

Priests: The Most Rev Bishop Anthony Fisher, The Very Rev Father John McSweeney, Rev Father Suresh & Rev Father Andrew Bass

MASSES

Saturday Vigil 6.00 p.m.

Sunday 8.00 a.m., 9.30 a.m., 11.00 a.m. & 6.00 p.m.

Children's Liturgy 9.30 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASS

Monday to Friday

6.45am, 12.30 p.m.

Saturday

8.00am

Public Holidays

8.00am

RECONCILIATION

Monday to Friday

11.45am to 12.30pm

Saturday

8.30 to 9.00am & 5.15 to 6.00pm