

st patrick's primary school parramatta patter



12th February 2015 Term 1 No.2

Dear Parents

Yesterday was Ash Wednesday and this day marks the beginning of the Church season of Lent. For some of our Maronite community the commencement of Lent is celebrated on Ash Monday. The school began their preparations with a burning of the palms ceremony in the playground with Father Bob Bossini and Sr Susan. He reminded us that on Ash Wednesday the blessed ashes will be placed on our foreheads, as a sign of God's unconditional love for us. On Ash Wednesday Fr Bob reminded us that during Lent we should pray faithfully, deeply and often, to fast, to think of others less fortunate and to help them by showing charity.

This same message was emphasized in **Pope Francis' Lenten Message 2015** where our Holy Father asks us to think of others by not being indifferent to what is going on around us. He urges us not to be self-consumed, only worrying about our lives, but to consider that we are part of a 'bigger picture' – a community, a global community. This Lent let us be mindful of the continual need for people all around the world to see that we are connected by virtue of our humanity. Although we are all different, and may have varying ideas, let us work towards solving our differences with peace and love.

Below is a section of text of Pope Francis' Lenten Message for 2015, which reflects on the theme: "Make your hearts firm" (James 5:8)

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Lent is a time of renewal for the whole Church, for each communities and every believer. Above all it is a "time of grace" (2Cor 6:2). God does not ask of us anything that he himself has not first given us. "We love because he first has loved us" (1Jn 4:19). He is not aloof from us. Each one of us has a place in his heart. He knows us by name, he cares for us and he seeks us out whenever we turn away from him. He is interested in each of us; his love does not allow him to be indifferent to what happens to us. Usually, when we are healthy and comfortable, we forget about others (something God the Father never does): we are unconcerned with their problems, their sufferings and the injustices they endure... Our heart grows cold. As long as I am relatively healthy and comfortable, I don't think about those less well off. Today, this selfish attitude of indifference has taken on global proportions, to the extent that we can speak of a globalization of indifference. It is a problem which we, as Christians, need to confront. When the people of God are converted to his love, they find answers to the questions that history continually raises. One of the most urgent challenges which I would like to address in this Message is precisely the globalization of indifference.

Indifference to our neighbour and to God also represents a real temptation for us Christians. Each year during Lent we need to hear once more the voice of the prophets who cry out and trouble our conscience.

God is not indifferent to our world; he so loves it that he gave his Son for our salvation. In the Incarnation, in the earthly life, death, and resurrection of the Son of God, the gate between God and man, between heaven and earth, opens once for all. The Church is like the hand holding open this gate, thanks to her proclamation of God's word, her celebration of the sacraments and her witness of the faith which works through love (cf. Gal 5:6). But the world tends to withdraw into itself and shut that door through which God comes into the world and the world comes to him. Hence the hand, which is the Church, must never be surprised if it is rejected, crushed and wounded...

<http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en.html>

God Bless you and your family

Bernadette Fabri
Principal

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2015 Parent Event Committee

Thank you to all the parents who have volunteered to be part of St Patrick's Parent Event Committee for 2015. A full list will be published in next week's newsletter.



Student of the week is awarded to the child who demonstrates outstanding application across any Key Learning area



st patrick's award

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

Faith in Action



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

Monica Giurgius, Dante Dagostino, Diana Granados Gavito, Josh Pangan, John Boutros, Christian Stojkovski, Ysabel Daelo, Estelle Perrett, Rachel Mekari, Jasmine Nasr

3L	Hamish McGlinn
3T	Isabella Younes
4B	Jarrod Kassis
4G	Luke Maroun
5C	Diederick Lubbers
5T	Jake El-Sabbagh
6P	Harrie Christopher
6W	Clark Guatlo

3L	Elna Sojan
3T	Liam Abdallah
4B	Joseph Chiha
4G	Alexander Sicurella
5C	Emmaline Didic
5T	Naomi Faddoul
6P	Jasmine Ortiz-Paredes
6W	Kasey Lao



OPENING SCHOOL MASS and COMMISSIONING CEREMONY

On Friday 6th February Fr Bob celebrated our Opening School Mass and commissioned new members of staff and student leaders. He reminded us all that we should act like Jesus and look for opportunities to be kind to each other.

Our student leaders committed to a ministry of service to our school, solemnly promising to uphold the school rules and to be a positive influence on others. The occasion ended with the invitation from Miss Fabri to attend a celebratory morning tea for the new student leaders, parents and staff.



School Based Fees for 2015

As you are aware we have decreased our resource fee from \$250 to \$200 dollars this year. The **Resource Fee - Year K-6** is charged in Term 1 with the **Resource Fee – Specialist Programs Yr K – 6** charged over 3 terms

ITEM	AMOUNT
Resource Fee – Year K-6	\$116.00 per child
Resource Fee – Specialist Programs Yr K-6	\$ 84.00 per child
TOTAL	\$200.00 per child

SCHOOL RESOURCE FEES

The fee covers a range of activities and resources such as a Report and Portfolio Folder, folders, exercise books, Library & computers, class reading books and some craft materials.

SCHOOL SPECIALIST PROGRAMS FEES

The fee covers a range of activities and resources such as Life Education, TriSkills (Gymnastics), Dance and local excursions (Parramatta Park, Swimming Pool)

Please note Kindergarten have paid the Resource Fee when they accepted their enrolment in 2014 and it will not be listed on their statements. School fees have been mailed out this week, due date is the 6th March. If you are having any difficulty in making the payments please contact the school office to arrange an appointment with Mrs Nutter.

Cumberland Zone Swimming Carnival

On Tuesday the 17th of February 21 of our students attended the Cumberland Zone Swimming Carnival at Parramatta Pools to represent St Patrick's. They all tried their best and represented our school with great pride. All of the students had an enjoyable day and displayed respect and excellent sportsmanship towards one another. Mrs Salame and I were extremely proud of our St Patrick's team and their tremendous effort and the way they supported each other all day. I would like to congratulate all of the Zone Swimming Team on a fantastic day and thank them for their hard work and dedication to swimming to the best of their ability.

The following students have been selected to represent St Patrick's at the **Parramatta Diocesan Swimming Carnival on Friday the 27th February:**

- **Annie Gittany** **12yrs 50m Freestyle**
- **Ashleigh Grubba** **12yrs 50m Freestyle, 50m Backstroke, 50m Breaststroke, 50m Butterfly**
- **Mikayla Saleh** **8yrs 50m Freestyle, 50m Butterfly**
- **Daniel Takchi** **10yrs 200m Individual Medley**
- **Junior Relay Team** **4 x 50m Freestyle** **Andre Eltakchi, Raymond Wehbe, Luke Maroun & John Boutros**

I would like to give a big thank you to Mrs Monique Wehbe and Mrs Mouna Saleh who volunteered all day with the running of the Zone Swimming Carnival. Their skills and valuable time were greatly appreciated. Thank you also to Mrs Salame and the parents who helped to supervise the students. It helped the day run smoothly and assisted in ensuring the safety of our students. I would also like to say a big thank you to all those parents who supported out little athletes on the day. We are honoured to have such helpful and supportive parents as part of our school community.

Thank you once again to all of the students who participated at the Zone Swimming Carnival and good luck to our St Patrick's Diocesan Team for next Friday the 27th February. We wish you all the best and our prayers will be with you on the day. We know you will do St Patrick's proud.

Mr Younis

Sport Coordinator

Shrove Tuesday

Our morning assembly was extra special on Tuesday when we were visited by Fr Bob who showed us where the ashes that we use on Ash Wednesday, come from. We all saw the dried palms, left over from last year's Palm Sunday, consumed by flames. When the fire had died away and the ashes had cooled Crystal, Francesca and Mark from Year 6 gathered the ashes and helped grind them into dust. These ashes were added to the ashes used at Mass and in the liturgy with Kindergarten.

A special thank you to Father Bob for helping to make our Faith come alive.



At recess children waited excitedly to buy the traditional St Patrick's Shrove Tuesday treat of pikelets. Not only did they enjoy a tasty treat but we raised \$445.80 towards sending a teacher to World Youth Day. None of this would have been possible without the wonderful assistance of Josephine Romanos, Margaret Abdullah, Dianne Ayoub, Julia Gittany, Rola Kahwaji, Elizabeth Johnson, Zana Rahme, Marietta Maroun and Pauline Tanna.

A special thank you to you all.



ICE BLOCK DAY

Our first ice block fund raiser was a huge success. Not only did we raise \$323.70 towards WYD but everyone who bought an ice block really enjoyed the treat. The children's enjoyment was infectious and even though the wonderful people who sold the ice blocks were pretty sticky, they enjoyed their work! A big St Patrick's thank you to these people who have committed to sell ice blocks this term: Zana Rahme, Maria Gittany, Dianne Sabat, Kristina Medak and Aivy Macadangdang.

Ice blocks will be for sale next Tuesday . \$1 per ice block ONE ice block per child



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 Four

Friday 20th Feb

Primary Assembly—Yr 5 2.15pm

Week Five

Friday 27th Feb

Diocesan Swimming Carnival

Year 6 Excursion to Canberra

Infants Assembly—Yr 1 2.15pm

Week Six

Friday 6th March

Primary Assembly—Yr 4 2.15pm

Week Seven

Friday 13th March

Infants Assembly—Kindy 2.15pm

Week Eight

Monday 16th March

Parent Workshop “Eat it to Beat it”
1.30pm .

Tuesday 17th March

St Patrick’s Day celebrations
TBA

Friday 20th March

Year 4 Excursion to Arabanoo
Primary Assembly—Yr 3 2.15pm

Week Nine

Thursday 26th March

Life Education van commences

Friday 27th March

Primary Cross Country

Whole School Assembly

Choir 2.15pm

Week Ten

Wednesday 1st April

Yr 6 Nursing home visit

Thursday 2nd April

LAST DAY OF TERM

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.

Attention Volunteers: Please note that both requirements below need to be completed.

CHILD PROTECTION FOR VOLUNTEERS– WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK

All volunteers must register for a Working with Children Check. Please see link below for instructions.

<http://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/working-with-children/working-with-children-check>

Child Protection Module For Volunteers

Parent helpers in a school are a vital resource. Any parent interested in assisting in reading groups, excursions etc need to complete the 'child protection briefing for Volunteers' found by following the website link below. Parents and other family members are unable to assist if this module is not completed and submitted. Parents only need to complete this module once every two years. Looking forward to welcoming you as volunteers as you share your gifts with our school community.

It is a system requirement that child protection training be completed by all volunteers commencing work in our school and a briefing every second year for existing volunteers.

An online training module for use by volunteers is available. To use the module:

1. Open the module by clicking the **Start** link below.
2. Read through the presentation.
3. Complete and submit quiz questions. This will take approximately 45 minutes.
4. After successful completion of the module, fill out the form by typing your name, email address, contact number, contact address and the school you intend to volunteer at.
5. A notification of your successful completion of the module will be sent via e-mail to the school and also to your email address.

<http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au/training>



**Cancer Council
NSW**

The simplest way

to improve the health of your family and save money

Come to our FREE Fruit & Veg Sense Workshop

Date: Monday, 16 March 2015
Time: 1:30pm until 3pm
Venue: St Patrick's Primary School Parramatta



Did you know that eating enough fruit and vegetables all their lives can help protect children against diseases, including some forms of cancer? This **free workshop** run by Cancer Council NSW will show you how you can easily:

-  **Save time and money making healthy meals**
-  **Learn clever ways to entice fussy eaters**
-  **Get a free recipe book simply by attending**

The Eat It To Beat It program is supported by the Western Sydney Local Health District Live Life Well @ School Program.



Health
Western Sydney
Local Health District



Don't miss out – registration is essential. To book your place please register no later than 12/3/15 by:

Completing and returning this slip to the school front office.

Your name:
Your contact number or email:

2015 School Terms

Term 1

29th January to 2nd April

Term 2

20th April to 26th June

Term 3

13th July to 18th September

Term 4

6th October to 16th December

** Please note Staff Development days may affect commencement & concluding dates. Please refer to our weekly newsletter in 2015.

Reminders

Please be reminded that the following notes need to be returned to school within the next 7 days.

- Technology Code of Use
- Consent to sell raffle tickets (per family)
- Consent to use students image or work
- 2015 Medical Information Alert
- 2015 School Travel arrangements

Should you require copies of any of the above notes please contact the office.



OUR LADY OF MERCY COLLEGE PARRAMATTA

Open Day

Discover what a Mercy Education can do for your daughter at the OLMC Parramatta Open Day on

Sunday March 1, 2015 10am – 2pm

Principal's Welcome at 10.00am and 12.00pm

A Mercy Education is treasured for life

To reserve your place or obtain further information visit www.olmc.nsw.edu.au or phone 9663 3300.



Catherine McAuley Westmead

Enrolments for Year 7 2016

Closing Date for Year 7 2016 Applications 1st Round Offers is Friday 27th March 2015.

There will be two Open Mornings specifically for Year 7 2016 enrolments on:

**Wednesday 5th March 2015
9.15 – 11am**

FRUIT & VEG

KIDS ARE **NOT**
EATING ENOUGH

HERE'S WHAT
KIDS ARE EATING
EVERYDAY

HERE'S WHAT THEY
SHOULD BE EATING
EACH DAY

YOUNG KIDS (AGE 4 – 6)



KIDS (AGE 9 – 13)



BIG KIDS (AGE 14 – 16)



ONLY 6% OF AUSTRALIAN ADULTS EAT THE RECOMMENDED SERVES OF BOTH FRUIT & VEG



www.healthy-kids.com.au

EATING FRUIT & VEG IS VERY IMPORTANT! **KEEP IT UP!**

Intake figures have been approximated from the 2007 Children's Nutrition and Physical Activity Survey. Recommended intakes have also been rounded. The point is, we need to eat more!