

**st patrick's
primary school
parramatta
patter**

12th March 2015 Term 1

No.6



Dear Parents,

This week, schools all around New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory celebrated Catholic Schools Week (CSW). The theme for 2015 is "Educating for Today and Tomorrow" and coincides with the 50th Anniversary of the Declaration on Christian Education, 'Gravissimum Educationis'.

This document recognized the continuing need for the Church to support parents in the education of their children. The partnership between the school, the home and the parish is such an important relationship as it acknowledges the common element – the child in the centre. People often speak about education starting in Kindergarten however it clearly starts before then; it begins as soon as the child is born. Children come to school with 4 to 5 years of experience. Not only have they already learned to walk, talk, eat and toilet by themselves but they arrive being able to learn, relate to others, understand boundaries, dance, use technology, sing, play and pray. Some children come to school even being able to read, play musical instruments, play sport and lead others. Some children have a developing understanding of the person of Jesus through the stories shared at home, times of prayer and their experience of going to Church. What a wonderful achievement and all of this before formal education. Congratulations parents!

On Tuesday 10th March the St Patrick's Community celebrated CSW with a liturgy in the amphitheatre and open classrooms. Parents were then invited to stay for morning tea. It was very pleasing to see so many visitors to the school and I know that the staff and students appreciated the time taken off work and home duties, to spend with them. Our school is blessed to have a very supportive school community of teachers, parents, carers, clergy, parishioners and support staff. Together we can work to focus on giving students the best education possible; encouraging success, promoting discipline, supporting creativity, modelling respect, developing resilience and instilling compassion. These are very ambitious goals, but so worth every effort.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for all your support of our school and look forward to continuing to strengthen our partnership. I would also like to thank Mrs Jude Kerr and the Catholic Schools Week Committee for their organization of the liturgy, the beautiful 'tree' background and for painting the banner.

God bless you and your family

**Bernadette Fabri
Principal**

Lost Property

Black sports watch found Tuesday afternoon at the Dentist in Villier's street. Please see the dentist.



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:

Joseph Pellew, Oisin Ryan, Elliana Coles, Elaine Wehbe, Charbel Wehbe, Isla Giron, Jayden Farah, Joseph Kalouche

KA	Clio Encarnacao
KM	Jacob Semaan
1C	Michael Aboumelhem
1S	James Fraser
2M	John Paul Wehbe
2Y	Lucy Parkes

KA	Elie Wehbe
KM	Jo Harb
1C	Jack Gittany
1S	Sophia Lorenzo
2M	Jeremy Saliba
2Y	Savannah Chiha



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

St Patrick's Day celebrations—17th March 2015

WEAR GREEN AND BRING A GOLD COIN—MUFTI DAY FOR WYD

We are looking forward to celebrating St Patrick's Day next Tuesday. We have a number of events organised for families to help us celebrate. Our St Patrick's Day Liturgy will be held in the amphitheatre at 9:00 am. At 11:15am all children will be heading down to King's Park oval, Parramatta Park, for some fun activities and a picnic lunch.

Children are reminder to bring their hat, sunscreen, lunch and lots of water. As there is limited shade at the park we are asking for your assistance in bringing shade covers if possible.

This will be a wonderful family event and we hope to see as many parents there as possible.

QUALITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL SURVEY

Last Monday 60 families received the invitation to be part of the Quality Catholic Schools Survey. The selection of these families was a random process managed by Catholic Education, Diocese of Parramatta. May I encourage all families selected to take the time to complete the survey, which can be done online or using the paper copy and placing it in the confidential envelope supplied in the package. It would be wonderful to have a 100% completion rate so as to provide a wide range in the feedback. We do appreciate all those who have already returned surveys or have completed the survey online. Parents have up to Friday 20th March to submit their responses. If you need any assistance please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

PARENT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

This term there will be a number of Parent Education Opportunities at the school. The education of your child is indeed a partnership and we welcome and encourage all parents to attend if interested in the topic presented.

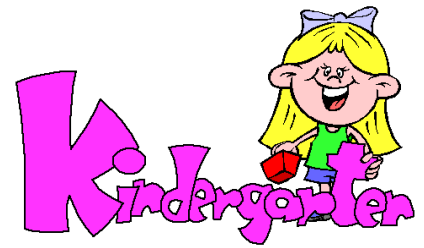
- *Helping your child to Read (Kindergarten to Year 2) Wednesday 18th March 7.00 for 7.15 start **(Please note change of date from the 11th March to 18th March)***
- *'Eat it to Beat it' Presentation 16th March 1.30pm to 3.00pm*
- *Student Management Forum for Parents 25th March 7.00pm*

ENROLMENTS FOR 2016 KINDERGARTEN ARE NOW OPEN

Enrolment packs for Kindergarten 2016 are available from the school between the hours of 9am -3pm Monday to Friday.

When you return the enrolment you will need to bring your child's original Birth Certificate, Baptismal Certificate, Passports (parent's and child's if born overseas), Immunization Certificates and proof of address (council rates, drivers licence). We will photo copy these and return them to you at this time.

Enrolment forms are required to be returned by 31st March 2015.



CHANGES TO ENROMENT CRITERIA

The Catholic Education Diocese Office has made changes to the enrolment criteria for all children applying for places in a Catholic school.

ENROLMENT CRITERIA

Who can enrol in a Catholic school?

Children whose fifth birthday occurs on or before 31 July are eligible for enrolment for Kindergarten that year. By law, all children must be enrolled in school by their sixth birthday.

A new Enrolment Policy for Parramatta Diocesan Catholic schools has been introduced which offers Catholic families greater choice by allowing them to apply for enrolment at a Catholic school anywhere in the Diocese. Where places are limited, priority will be given in order to:

- Catholic children who live in the local parish
- Catholic children from other parishes
- Children of families who actively participate in the life of the school and local parish community (e.g. siblings)
- Orthodox children
- Children from other Christian faiths
- Children of non-Christian faith

Catholic schools have a strong religious dimension and people of other faiths who wish to enrol in Catholic schools should be willing to participate in the religious activities of the school. Check with the principal of the school you are applying to.

Siblings

Siblings of children already enrolled in the school are considered by the same criteria above. However, within each of these categories, a sibling of a child already enrolled will have preference over an applicant who does not have a sibling enrolled in the school.

What if my child already attends a Catholic primary school in the Diocese?

A child who has completed primary education in a Catholic parish-based primary school will usually be offered continuity of enrolment in a Catholic secondary school. If no places exist at the chosen school, Catholic Education's Director System Performance will assist families to enrol in another Catholic secondary school in the Diocese.

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 needs 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>

Year 2 Excursion to Warragamba Dam

Last Thursday, the children and teachers of Year Two at St Patricks Primary School, travelled by bus to Warragamba Dam. We went on our excursion to the Dam to learn about how water gathers in a catchment and how the water is cleaned so we can use it. We felt excited and extremely happy to go to the dam because we are learning about the water in science.



Firstly, we separated into eight groups and we boarded the bus safely. The bus drove us to Warragamba Dam.

Next, we arrived at Warragamba Dam and we were welcomed by David and Rusty who were the teachers at the dam. We had our recess and we separated into our class groups to begin our tour of the dam.

After that, 2M went to the dam by bus and discovered the history of the dam and the way it operates. 2Y walked to the activity centre and completed some exciting, and interesting activities. Each class then swapped with each other, and completed the activities.

Finally, we gathered together and ate our lunch. We thanked David and Rusty and we boarded the bus to travel back to school.

Year 2 had a fantastic day of learning and we hope to visit Warragamba Dam again soon.

Bookclub Issue 2 2015—Closing Date 20/03/2015

New procedures for ordering books—please follow below instructions

- Log into www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP or download our new iPhone or iPad app from the App store.
- Select State: NSW
- Select School Name: St Patricks School : Parramatta
- Once you click on our school you will get the following message:
- St Patricks School : PARRAMATTA is now offering our Linked Online Ordering & Payments (LOOP) for Parents. You will be redirected to that web site where you can easily enter your order and pay via our secure Westpac payment gateway – no need to return anything to the school."
- You will then be redirected to the Scholastic Home Page
- Select Order
- Select state: NSW
- Select School Name: St Patricks School : Parramatta
- From the right side click on St Patricks School (Parramatta)
- The select "START ORDER"
- Select which issue we are ordering from ie "ISSUE 2, 2015"
- Select Children + and add your children's names/class
- Input which books you wish to order and follow the prompts for payment.
- No need to send anything back to the school as the order automatically comes into the office.



[PLAY TIME AT PARRAMATTA PARK](#)

Last Monday, some children in Year 2 were invited to the opening of the playground at Parramatta Park. The children played on a variety of exciting and innovative equipment. Squeals of delight were heard from the children on the trampolines, the elephant slide and the pendulum swing. The park provided for sensory experiences with sand and water play as well as a range of musical apparatus. Our day ended with a healthy snack followed by an appearance on Channel 7 News. Check out the link below!

<http://au.news.yahoo.com/video/watch/26564971/parramatta-park-s-newest-attraction/>





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 Seven

Friday 13th March Infants Assembly—Kindy 2.15pm

Week Eight

Monday 16th March Parent Workshop “Eat it to Beat it”
1.30pm—3.00pm.

Tuesday 17th March St Patrick’s Day celebrations
TBA

Wednesday 18th March Helping your child to Read
Kindy to Year 2—7pm

Friday 20th March Year 4 Excursion to Arabanoo
Primary Assembly—Yr 3 2.15pm

Week Nine

Tuesday 24th March WYD Ice blocks

Wednesday 25th March Year 5 Excursion to Mt Tomah
Parent Student Management Forum
7.00pm

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.



**WYD Fundraising
Ice Block Day**

A big thank you to all the students who bought ice blocks on Tuesday to support our teacher going to WYD.

A special thank you to the wonderful mothers who sell the ice blocks.

Our next ice block day will be Tuesday 24th March.

CAPTIVATE



Catholic Education
Diocese of Parramatta

St John Paul II Catholic College, Nirimba Campus

The **CAPTIVATE Masterclass - Dance Intensive** will take place at from **Friday 20th March to Sunday 22nd March** at St John Paul II Catholic College, Nirimba Campus.

Dance Intensive is a three day program run in Term 1 - Week 8 for Years 5 to 12 dance students of all abilities. Led by a number of professional dancers and choreographers, the workshop exposes students to a wide variety of dance styles including Classical Ballet, Cheerleading, Contemporary, Jazz, JFH, Lyrical, HipHop, Tap, Urban Jazz Fusion and more. Not to be missed, it is a great way to extend students technical skills and appreciation of dance, meet professional dancers and choreographers.

This is a user pays program and is:

- **Primary Students:** \$80 for the 2 day program (Sat, Sun)
- **Secondary Students:** \$120 for the full 3 day program (Fri, Sat, Sun)

Starting times each day are:

- **Friday:** Secondary Only 8:00am - 5:00pm
- **Saturday:** Secondary 8:15am - 5:00pm/ Primary 8:30am - 5:00pm
- **Sunday:** 8:45am - 5:50pm (primary and secondary)

Sunday Performance: 6:30am - 8:00pm

If you would like to be part of this program, students can enrol online. Please go to:

<http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/event-details/captivate-masterclass-dance-intensive>

Contact: CAPTIVATE Team

Tel: 9840 5649

Email: captivate@parra.catholic.edu.au

ENROLLING NOW FOR 2016



Catherine McAuley is a Catholic girls' secondary school, located at Westmead. Our broad curriculum encourages young women to pursue independent lifelong learning.

OPEN NIGHT Tuesday 17 March 2015
4.00 - 6.30pm

Tour our school grounds, visit classrooms and view displays. A Year 7 2016 Information Night will be held following at 7.00pm with presentations from the school leadership team.



CONTACT OUR SCHOOL
ON 9849 9100 FOR AN
ENROLMENT PACK.
APPLICATIONS CLOSE
27TH MARCH 2015



Catherine McAuley, 2 Darcy Road, Westmead | www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au



Nutrition Snippet

The simplest way

...to protect your skin

Have you been sunburnt this summer?

Too many Aussies are still getting sunburnt. On a fine summer day, sunburn can occur in as little as 10 minutes and cause permanent damage to your skin.

What you need to know:

- The more often you are burnt, combined with your accumulated lifetime exposure to UV radiation, the higher your risk will be for developing skin cancer.
- You can't see or feel UV radiation. It is present every day, can be high even if the temperature feels cool and can pass through clouds.
- Protect your skin in five simple steps! Slip on sun-safe clothing, slap on sunscreen, slap on a hat, seek shade and slide on your sunnies.



For information about SunSmart visit
sunsmartnsw.com.au

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



DISCOVER WHAT A MERCY EDUCATION CAN DO FOR YOUR DAUGHTER –

Year 7, 2017 Enrolment Information Evening

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta invites prospective families to the Year 7, 2017 Enrolment Information Evening at 4.45pm on **March 31**. Tour the College, collect an Enrolment pack, attend an information session, meet the College staff and enjoy a BBQ with the OLMC P&F. For enquiries, please contact the Registrar on 8838 1222 or email registrar@olmc.nsw.edu.au. Limited places available for Year 7 2016.

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.

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:

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT PROGRAM

The next Session of CCSS Solo Parent Services Bereavement Support Program for those whose spouse or long term partner has died is on **Tuesday 17th March**, Venue: 51-59 Allawah St, Blacktown, **from 10.00am – 12.00pm** Topic: *"The Social Effects of Grief"* Registration: Eileen or Rita Ph. 99330205 or soloparentservices@ccss.org.au

YOUNGER WIDOWED SUPPORT GROUP

CCSS Solo Parent Services' Younger Widowed Support Group is held on the 3rd Tuesday of this month. The Support Group is for men and women widowed at a younger age with or without children. **Next gathering: Tuesday 17th March**. Venue: CCSS Centre, 51-59 Allawah St Blacktown. **Time: 7pm – 9pm** Cost: \$5.00. Registration: Eileen or Rita Ph. 9933 0205 or Email: soloparentservices@ccss.org.au

Make your vote count – How does your party support Catholic education?

DID YOU KNOW? On average, it costs around \$13,000 per year to educate a child in a NSW school. In most Catholic schools, school fees cover less than a quarter of this cost. The rest comes from taxpayers like you! This is why funding support from Federal and State Governments must keep pace with rising education costs - to maintain education quality and to ensure a Catholic education remains affordable for all families.