



Dear Parents

As we head toward the last few weeks of Term 1 it is timely for us to review with our children their learning journey so far. On my visits around the classrooms I have noticed the teachers and children embracing the concept of taking 'ownership of the learning'; a concept introduced last year. It is wonderful to hear the children speaking about being the 'driver or the passenger' of the learning. I encourage you to revisit this idea with your children by asking them, "how much effort have you put into your learning this term?"

By way of reviewing this concept sometimes children get the idea that their learning and behaviour is the responsibility of someone other than themselves. For example, when questioned by the teacher about homework, children can take to shifting the responsibility of this task to their parents; complaints such as "mum or dad forgot to put it in my bag" are quite common. They are also tempted to blame their peers and in these cases responding with "I couldn't finish my work because he or she was disturbing me." Whilst this is sometimes the case it is important that we encourage students to take an active role in solving this problem by bringing it to the attention of the teacher.

Of course, it is not only children who are guilty of shifting responsibility; we can all do it. Statements such as "I did it because everyone does it!" or "He or she didn't warn me" are classic examples of excuses for failing to accept responsibility for our own actions. A wise colleague once compared the responsibility for learning, to trying to lose weight. A person may have access to a skilled dietician, a gym membership and books full of healthy recipes but until that person realizes that they have to take responsibility for implementing their weight loss program, not a kilo will be lost. Likewise, once children realize that they have a responsibility to contribute to their own learning and behaviour, great results can be achieved!

Reflective Questions that may be helpful to encourage your children to think about their learning include:

What did I learn this term?

How did I go?

How do I assess if I am going OK?"

How do I learn best?

What questions do I have about my learning?

What can I do with this learning?

Where do I go now with this learning?"

In what new contexts can my learning be applied?

It is well worth remembering that some of our most significant learning experiences can take place in the context of errors and mistakes. Learning to persist even though something may be hard and what to never do again are as valuable as learning what to do. Keeping this in mind helps us to try to value all life experiences as learning opportunities

God Bless You and Your family

Bernadette Fabri

Principal



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:

Mark Sassine, Jeremy Moussa, Michelle Joseph, Christina Elzahoul, Serene Mawad, Mikayla Urizar, Luke Maroun, Alanah Issa, Danielle Tannous, Isabella Maaraoui, Lucy Parkes

KA	Noah Romanos
KM	James Sitoa
1C	Zoe Samar
1S	Anthony Wehbe
2M	Ryan Day
2Y	Anthony Maaraoui

KA	Emma Barrientos Salazar
KM	Lucia El Hani
1C	Christian Sta Rosa
1S	Isabella Kozlowska
2M	Gabrielle Murphy
2Y	Brooklyn Munro



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

Holy Week

Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem signals the beginning of Holy Week including the Last Supper, the Agony in the Garden and the events leading to Jesus' Crucifixion.

This year students at St Patrick's will be provided with the opportunity to reflect on these events in specially arranged sacred spaces. On Thursday afternoon families are invited to join us at 2.15pm as we gather as a whole school to commemorate Good Friday.

The culmination of Holy Week, the Resurrection will be celebrated at morning assembly on the 1st day of next Term.

WINTER UNIFORM CHANGE OVER

Parents, please note that the change over date for winter uniform is officially **Monday 4th May, 2015 (Term 2 week 3)**

ST PATRICK'S PARENTS EVENTS COMMITTEE MEETING

The first St Patrick's Parents Events Committee Meeting is being held next Tuesday 31st March at 2pm. I look forward to meeting with the 14 class representatives to make some decisions regarding social and fundraising events for the year. Can I ask all representatives to contact the school to indicate their availability to come to the meeting.

EXTENSION OF DATE FOR QUALITY CATHOLIC SCHOOLS SURVEY

Thank you to all the parents who completed the Quality Catholic School's Survey. The school really appreciates the time taken to put forward your responses. Due to technical difficulties the completion date has been extended to tomorrow and at this stage 63% of parents have responded. We look forward to sharing the information with you all when the data is collated. All responses are kept strictly confidential and anonymous to the school. Once again thank you!

Term 1 School Fees

Thank you to all the parents who have paid their Term 1 school fees. Fees are now overdue, should you be having any difficulties please contact Sharon Nutter in the office on 9630 1421.

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

FIRST RECONCILIATION



Over the past two Wednesdays children from Our Lady of Lebanon parish have made their first Confession. Then on Tuesday evening 35 children gathered with their families at St Patrick's Cathedral to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance for the first time. Father Bob, Father John-Paul and Deacon Willy led us through the evening. It was beautiful to see how reverently the children approached the sacrament and their delight after receiving God's grace through the Sacrament.

We continue to remember all these children in our prayers as they prepare to receive First Eucharist.

St Patricks Cathedral

Erica Jurisic	Isla Giron
Stephanie Saab	Julian Camenzuli
Oisin Ryan	Hamish McGlinn
Zoe Borger	Clyde Guatlo
Elna Sojan	Jethro Cauan
Darcy Fraser	Claire Guatlo
Matthew Laing	Lucienne Tolentino
Cyarra Fernandez	Kalysta Livia Maharani
Isabeli Rosal	Christian Stojkovski
Liam Abdallah	Mia Kerr
Isabella Younes	Christian Golossian
Elliana Coles	

Our Lady of Lebanon

Laurice Behan	Aidan Vancuylenberg
Harrison Chidiac	Christian Moujalli
Jesse Sabat	Elaria Fayad
Josef Chedid	Arabella Gittany
Gabriella Sabat	Eddie Batti
Kyah Rahme	Nicholas Rahme
Jim Rizk	Jayda Tarabay
Noah Gebrael	Jade Takchi
Luke Takchi	Matthew Khreich
Joseph Romanos	Andre Elzahoul
Norm Shidiak	

CROSS COUNTRY REMINDERS

Timetable (approximate times)

9.45am	12/13 yr old boys	10.05	12/13 yr old girls
10.30am	11 yr old boys	10.50	11 yr old girls
11.15	10 yr old boys	11.35	10 yr old girls
11.55am	8/9 yr old boys	12.15	8/9 yr old girls



Some important reminders for tomorrow's cross country.

- All parents helpers are to meet at the park no later than 9.15am.
- All students are to dress appropriately for the event—Students should be wearing summer sports uniform, sensible running shoes and students should not be wearing long sleeve shirts. Please consider children will get hot either walking or running so under clothing should not be worn.
- Children are to bring a bottle of water.
- There is no access to toilets at the park, so please discuss with your child about going to the toilet prior to them running.
- Students with medical conditions will not be allowed to run/walk unless they carry their medication on them. Please ensure all Asthma puffers and Epipens are with the children.
- All Year 2 will be attending the park however only the 8 year old will be allowed to participate.

YEAR 5 LEARN ABOUT PHOTOGRAPHY – MORAN PHOTOGRAPHIC WORKSHOP



Today some Year 5 students participated in a Photography Workshop and I had a breathtaking experience. I loved being able to take photos and learn about different techniques while expressing my creativity through the images I've taken. Louise Whelan, the professional photographer who led us, helped me capture images like when a person is jumping in mid-air and creating images from different angles.

Kayleigh Figueredo 5T

Today some Year 5 students had a great learning experience in photography. We went to Prince Alfred Park to take photos as well as the school grounds. It was a wonderful experience to learn about this and even try it out. There wasn't one part I disliked about today!

Sophie El Bayeh 5C

What I enjoyed was that we got to take photos and enter a photographic competition! It was so much fun trying to find different angles and trying to capture the light in some shots. We learnt so many interesting facts, like the rule of thirds. I liked that we got to frame our favourite photo and keep them! It was such a fun day!

Christina Batti 5T

I had a lot of fun today because I got to do what I normally don't do. I hope that we can do more stuff like this!

Marvin Molina 5C

Today Year 5 went on a workshop with Mrs Tondini and a professional photographer, Louise Whelan. What I liked most was how Louise gave us lots of tips on taking photos. After taking lots of photos in the playground and at the park we got to print five of our favourite photos. After this experience, I want to be a photographer when I grow up.

Brailey 5C

Today we learnt all about photography. I learnt a lot of new things, like the background and the subject of a photo. I really liked having and using my very own camera for the day. This was a great experience for me and I would love to do it again!

Elaine Wehbe 5T

Arabadoo- Year 4 Excursion

On Friday the 20th of March 2015 Year Four students, teachers and parent helpers went on an excursion to Sydney National Park- Arabadoo. We went there to make connections with what we are learning about in our HSIE State and National Parks Unit. We travelled to Arabadoo on a bus and it was a long, but enjoyable trip because we got to observe new places along the way.

When we arrived we had a quick morning tea break under the shade of some tall Gum trees. Thank goodness for those trees because it was very hot!

We were then lucky enough to meet Ranger Guy and Ranger Wendy who were full of knowledge about the area, native flora and fauna and how to protect them. During our discussion some students got to dress up as the different types of workers involved in maintaining and protecting National Parks. Gee there are a lot of different occupations!

After our interesting discussion we were ready to begin our adventurous bush walk. Going down we saw a range of native flora and some fauna including big spiders, lizards, water dragons and various species of birdlife. Finally we reached the bottom of the track and arrived at a beautiful, calm secluded beach where we got to relax and eat lunch. After eating we were allowed to explore the beach. Some children built sandcastles and others explored the rocks and found crabs.

Unfortunately it was now time to climb back up the steep bush track. It was exhausting, so we got to stop at the lookout halfway up where we were able to see amazing views of Sydney. We finally reached the top and have never been happier to see a bus. Our trip home was very quiet as many of us were sleeping and recuperating after our fun, but tiring trek through the bush.

Overall, we had an educational and enjoyable hands-on experience which allowed us to learn something new and better understand what we are learning about at school. We recommend you all go and visit Sydney National Park and experience it for yourself.





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 Nine

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 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
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

Staff Development Day Term 2

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

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.

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, slop 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.

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

DID YOU KNOW? To keep up with demand for Catholic schooling in the next two years, the Diocese of Parramatta will need at least \$19.3 million to build new schools and learning spaces in the Norwest sector. The Diocese will need an additional \$7.1 million to upgrade schools in other areas. Catholic schools need certainty from State and Federal Governments in capital works funding to effectively and efficiently respond to demand for Catholic schools changes.

DID YOU KNOW? Local Council infrastructure charges are placing an unfair burden on Catholic schools, incurring substantial additional costs. Over the past three years, the Sydney-based dioceses paid \$18.5 million in levies and bonds - almost cancelling out the entire capital funding provided by the NSW Government for all Catholic schools. In the Parramatta Diocese, developments at Westmead incurred an additional \$464,000 in local council infrastructure charges. This is money that could have been invested in the schools themselves, to benefit students – the cost of five teachers.



What a positive response we had to our Cyclone Appeal for the Catholic School communities of the Rockhampton Diocese. The combined total from the sale of ice blocks and donations was about \$320. A huge thank you to everyone who reached out to help. Of course there would be no ice blocks without the generous support of the ladies who come every fortnight to sell them. A big St Patrick's *Thank You* to you all.

Parramatta Marist High School Year 7, 2016 enrolments close on Thursday, 2 April 2015. Applications received after the closing date will be placed on a waiting list.

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 6th 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

MARRIAGE ANNULMENT INFORMATION NIGHT

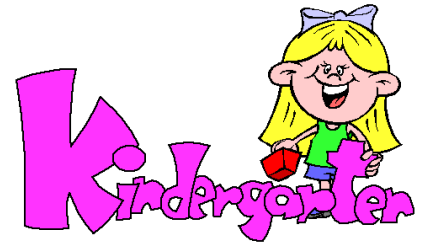
Each year CCSS Solo Parent Services present an Information Session to help people understand the process of Marriage Annulments in the Catholic Church. The evening is open to anyone who is interested. **Venue:** Mamre House, 181 Mamre Rd Orchard Hills **Date:** Tues 5th May **Time:** 7.30pm – 9.30pm.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

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.