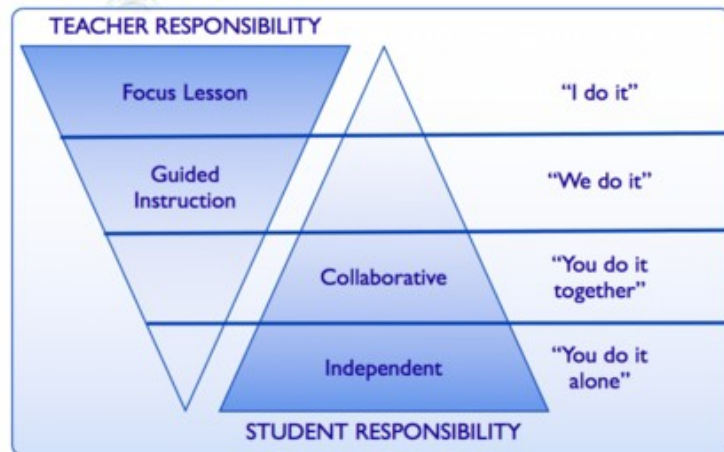


st patrick's primary  
school  
parramatter patter

11th June 2015 Term 2 No.8



Dear Parents

As part of the staffs' focus on Literacy we have been looking at the 'Gradual Release of Responsibility' Model. The Gradual Release of Responsibility is a research based model developed by Pearson and Gallagher (1993). In this optimal learning model, the responsibility for task completion shifts gradually over time from the teacher to the student. This Gradual Release of Responsibility is also present in many high functioning families. It is very easy to tell during the school day or especially on excursions when children have been exposed to this model at home. It is surprising and delightful to see even the very youngest of children showing confidence in being able to manage their belongings and tasks independently. I know when I speak with parents they often tell me stories of children helping around the home by doing little chores or taking on age appropriate responsibilities.

Adults who love to cook for example can relay stories of how they learned this very important skill. The process usually starts by watching an adult cook a meal or dessert. At this stage the learner is simply watching, similar to the 'Master Class' segment of the popular TV Program Master Chef, where the contestants watch and take notes. This is simply called I DO, YOU WATCH. Now depending on the age and ability of the child, this process progresses to the child actually helping out by stirring or sometimes measuring the ingredients, for example. This is called I DO, YOU HELP. Parents are very astute in working out when the young cook in this scenario is ready to cook something for themselves, still at this stage, with a little help from the adult. It is important that the adult is there close by in case they need some assistance. This stage is called YOU DO, I HELP. The final stage in this Gradual Release Model is independent practice where the cooking is done completely by the newly skilled cook. By now it is YOU DO, I WATCH. Interestingly this model is visible across many learning experiences including amongst high school students, apprentices and adults themselves.

We have all probably experienced this model of learning with great success and can describe how the very best of teachers knew exactly when to begin to let go the responsibility. It is also interesting to note that the process of learning does not need to commence at the beginning of the model as described here but anywhere along the continuum and that it in fact slides from one to the other depending on the need. We also recognize that it is highly likely that in the process of the learning the child will most probably make mistakes, experience frustration or fail in completing the task perfectly. This can be frustrating for parents who sometimes say to me, "It is much easier if I do it!" This is very true especially when you are rushing and are time poor. One element is clear however and that is for good learning to take place the doing needs to be done by the learner. If we as adults keep our children in the "I do you watch" stage they will less likely learn to their potential or benefit from the invaluable experience of a parent's expertise when problems arise. Keeping children in the 'I do you watch' stage can sometimes lead to learned helplessness where the child begins to depend on the adult to do 'the doing'. Children who demonstrate this default generally experience anxiety and stress as they do not perceive themselves as being generally 'capable'. Teachers sometimes hear this when a child says, "Mum did not put my homework in my bag." or mum forgot to ...." It is worth noting it is usually 'mum' in the sentence not 'dad' for some reason. Perhaps dads in general are better at the gradual release of responsibility. I would be very interested in your insights on this topic when you see me next.

God bless you and your family

Bernadette Fabri

Principal

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**SAFETY MESSAGE**

The staff have been increasingly concerned at the number of children having to place their bags in the boot of cars during afternoon pick up. This procedure is placing them in the dangerous position of being in between active cars. As recently seen on the news drivers can often be distracted for example to the point of leaving children in cars unattended. This distraction is not unheard of, so we caution parents that it is safer for children to nurse bags on legs than for them to be put in the position of being accidentally crushed by their car or the car behind. Children must never step on to the road but must enter the car from the footpath. We ask that all parents using drive through take serious consideration of this matter.



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

Christopher Alarcon, Sophie Morgan, Isabella Bousimon, Laurice Behan, Clara Glinski, Liam Jocson, Matthew Kahwaji, Jacob Wehbe, Remon Wehbe, Thomas Aguilera

# Lunch - ATHLETICS CARNIVAL & FUN DAY TOMORROW



The Parent Event Committee have organised for sausage sizzle, steak sandwiches, cakes, lolly bags, jelly cups and water to be sold at tomorrow's Athletics carnival.

**If children wish to purchase food from the stall, they will need to bring money with them, as this is not a prepaid event.**

Sausage Sizzle	\$3.00	Water	\$1.00
Steak Sandwich	\$3.00		
Lolly Bags	} From 50c to \$1.00		
Jelly Cups			
Cakes			

Children are not required to purchase their lunch if they wish to bring their own from home. Please remember even though we are not at school, the nut free policy still applies.

**As this is a normal school day children will not be dismissed until the carnival is deemed finished.**

### Semester 1—Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher Interviews will be in Week 9 and 10 for all children excluding Year 3 who have had their interviews this week.

To book an interview go to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and enter the following code for your child's year group. K to Yr 6 (excluding Yr 3) — FWRLS. All Bookings will close 10.00am tomorrow morning, Friday 12th June.

# Walkathon

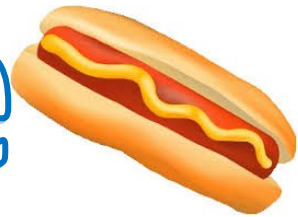
A huge thank you to the families who have already commenced bringing in their child's Walk-a-thon money. Just to bring to your attention that this is the school's Major Fundraiser and with money donated we are hoping to continue to equip our classes, especially Kindergarten, Grade One and Two with much needed technology. At this stage we do not have any laptops for the young ones to use and we are in need of more ipads across the school. These learning tools assist the teachers to develop higher order thinking skills and problem solving; essential skills for children of this generation and in their preparation for high school.

Money previously raised at the Walk-a-thon enabled the school to purchase a bank of ipads from K to Year 6, Apple TVs in every classroom and a small bank of laptops for Years 5 and 6. The Catholic Education Office, Diocese of Parramatta also donated 20 nearly new ipads for us to use with a special project being undertaken in Years 1 and 2. Teacher Educator Mrs Lisa Nash visits teachers and classrooms every fortnight to work with each grade in helping children explain their thinking and for teachers to give their students timely and purposeful feedback. Once again I cannot express how grateful the staff and I are in your generosity and commitment to supporting the school.

Regards  
Miss Fabri



## Lunch - 26th June



**Friday 26th June—ONLY 15 MORE SLEEPS!!**

**FUNDS RAISED FROM THE WALKATHON LUNCH WILL GO TOWARDS SUPPORTING THE DWF APPEAL**

To make this an extra special day, students will have the option of purchasing a hotdog and/or corn cob, which they will receive once they return to school for lunch. This must be pre-ordered and prepaid. The cost of the hotdog will be \$4 and the cost of the corn cob will be \$2. Students may like to opt for the meal deal of a hotdog and a corn cob for \$5. Please keep in mind that this is optional and students may opt to bring their own lunch from home.

Jelly cups will be sold during the students play time for 50cents. Students will be allowed to purchase one jelly cup each. Once all students have had a chance to purchase one then they will be allowed to go for a second one if there are leftovers. Ice blocks will be handed out to each child at the park at no cost once they have completed the walkathon.



### Parent Math's Forum

Mrs Barclay and Mrs Benkovich will be holding the next afternoon Math's session on Thursday 25 June from 2.30 – 3.00pm. At this session we will be using playing cards to assist your children in their math's learning. The session will be very informal and interactive, where you can ask the questions as we go.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Elly Benkovich - On behalf of the Numeracy Team

## Attention All Artists

There has been many great suggestions coming through the SRC Suggestion Boxes.

One popular suggestion being an Art Expo. So Artists get your paint brushes ready! The Theme for our Art Expo is **FATHERS**.

You can submit a creative response to any of the following statements:

I love my dad because.....

Fathers brighten our lives.....

Fathers show us the way.....

Fathers inspire us.....

Fathers provide wisdom.....



You can use Crayons, charcoal, paint, photography, Clay or recycled materials.

All Artists must have their name and Class clearly marked on their masterpieces. Artists are asked to have their artworks ready by Monday 31st of September, Week Eight of Term Three. Please do not bring your priceless pieces in until this date, as the St Patrick's Art Gallery will not be ready until Week Eight.

Enjoy creating Artists, we eagerly await your masterpieces!

Mrs Pope & Mrs Jadrabieb



**Tickets are on SALE now**

St Patricks Primary School performance dates are:

Monday 15th June at Nagle College, Blacktown South

Wednesday 17th June at Nagle College, Blacktown South

Please follow the link to purchase your tickets:

**<http://www.trybooking.com/Booking/BookingEventSummary.aspx?eid=132311>**



OUR LADY OF MERCY COLLEGE PARRAMATTA

**College Open  
Morning Tour  
Monday  
June 15, 2015**

OLMC Parramatta Open Morning Tour

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta invites you to attend our Open Morning Tour on June 15, 2015.

Discover how our rich tradition and cutting edge approach makes a Mercy Education at OLMC Parramatta treasured for life. Tour the College and enjoy a 'comfortable cup of tea' with the College Leadership Team.

The College is now enrolling for 2016 and 2017.

Visit [www.olmc.nsw.edu.au](http://www.olmc.nsw.edu.au) or phone 8838 1222 to reserve your place or obtain further information.



*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 TWO – DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Week Eight**

Friday 12th June Athletics Carnival & Infants Fun day  
NO Assembly

**Week Nine**

Monday 15th June Reports sent home to parents  
**Parent Teacher Interviews begin through to Friday 26th June**

Friday 19th June Infants Assembly—Kindy 2.15pm

**Week Ten**

Thursday 25th June Maths session with Mrs Benkovich and Mrs Barclay 2.30pm—3.00pm

Friday 26th June Walkathon “ I’m a Celebrity”

LAST DAY OF TERM

**TERM THREE – DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Week One**

Monday 13th July 1st day of Term 3

Friday 17th July Primary Assembly—Choir 2.15pm

**Week Two**

Thursday 23rd July Grandparent’s Day (more details to come)

Friday 24th July Primary Assembly—Yr 4 2.15pm

**Week Three**

Tuesday 28th July ICAS—English—7.50am

Friday 31st July Infants Assembly—Yr 1 2.15pm

**Week Four**

Tuesday 4th August Cumberland Zone Athletics Carnival

Friday 7th August Whole School 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.



## EXTRA CURRICULA ACTIVITIES

### NOTRE DAME FOLK CHOIR

On Friday 29th May Years 3 and 4 had the wonderful opportunity to go down to St Patrick's Cathedral to watch the world renown Notre Dame Choir from the United States of America.

The choir comprised of fifty vocalists and instrumentalists and usually serves the community of the University of Notre Dame du Lac in Indiana, singing during Mass each Sunday and during the academic year in the university's Basilica of the Sacred Heart. The children really enjoyed the beautiful harmonies and upbeat tunes and they were encouraged by the choir to clap move to the joyous beats. The choir master made special mention afterwards on what beautiful listeners our students were and how disciplined their behaviour was. I can confirm this with much pride in our children. Congratulations Years 3 and 4 and teachers!



### **PARISH BASED CONFIRMATION**

If your child has received First Eucharist and turns 10 by the end of June, he/she is able to prepare to receive the sacrament of Confirmation. Children who have participated in the St Patrick's Parish based program for First Eucharist need only to notify the Parish Office as their paperwork is up to date.

If your child has prepared for First Eucharist in another parish, you will need to collect the form from the Parish office and return it to Sr Susan at the Parish office.

If you have any questions please contact Sr Susan on **8839 8460**

***ALL ENROLMENTS CLOSE ON JUNE 30, 2015.***

# Year 5 excursion to Bathurst Goldfields

Last Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> June, Year 5 went to experience what life was like the goldfields during Gold Rush era in Australia. It was unusual to be at school at 6am but we needed an early start as the drive to Bathurst was about 3 and ½ hours long!

We stopped to stretch our legs and take in the beautiful view of the Three sisters at Eco Point, Katoomba. We arrived at 10:30am, as scheduled, and were greeted by our tour guide Trevor who led us to a pretend underground gold mine. While he was talking about the conditions in the dimly lit mine, we were all eating our morning tea!

We walked on to see how gold was mined with different mining techniques like the cradle, windlass, puddling and panning. Panning was the most fun even though it was quite cold and some of us got wet it didn't stop us as we had Gold fever! We were shown what a Chinese Joss house looked like on the goldfield and then Trevor and his wife Molly shared their experiences about their life on the goldfields after which we all helped Molly make some damper. We all got to cook the damper by an open fire and eventually eat it, which was quite tasty!

After lunch it was time to play and work. We all played games, children on the goldfields would've played like quoits and ninepins and worked hard erecting canvas tents and making mud bricks. Unfortunately we had to get back on the bus at 3pm to get back home in time for dinner! We had such a memorable day and some of us really want to go back to the goldfields soon with our families!

Year 5





Nutrition Snippet

# The simplest way

...to eat well.

Did you know that eating the right amount of fruit and veg can lower your risk of cancer by 5-12 percent? Yet most adults don't eat enough of either, particularly veg.



Try to add fruit and veg to every meal:

- Add chopped bananas or strawberries to your brekky cereal
- Add some sliced tomato on your toast
- Munch on some carrot or cucumber sticks at morning tea
- Add legumes like kidney beans or chickpeas to your salad at lunch
- Reduce meat in your stir-fries, curries and pasta sauces – and add more vegies.

For more information visit [www.eatittobeatit.com.au](http://www.eatittobeatit.com.au) or join us at [facebook.com/eatittobeatit](https://www.facebook.com/eatittobeatit)

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



## Seminar - Dealing With The Legal System

CCSS Solo Parent Services is holding an Information night for anyone interested in gaining a greater understanding on how to choose the best lawyer for your situation, how best to deal with Lawyers to minimize your legal fees, protecting your rights regarding family assets and other topics. This night will be held on Wednesday 24th June from 7.30pm-9.30pm at CCSS, 2A Villiers St, Parramatta. Registration essential: Eileen or Rita Ph.9933 0205 email: [soloparentservices@ccss.org.au](mailto:soloparentservices@ccss.org.au)

## YOUNGER WIDOWED SUPPORT GROUP

CCSS Solo Parent Services' Younger Widowed Support Group is held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month. The Support group is for men and women widowed at a younger age with or without children. **Next gathering:** Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June. **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](mailto:soloparentservices@ccss.org.au)



## Two-Day Workshops 2015

### Strings Two-Day Workshop:

**All about the Bow** Ages: 9-14 years

Violin, Viola, Cello or Double Bass players of all ability levels are invited to join this workshop. Students will experience performances in large and small ensembles.

Date: August 15 and 22, 2015

Time: 9am – 12pm

Venue: Christina Creede Music Centre,  
Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta

Cost: \$150\* (includes a light Morning Tea)

### Percussion Two-Day Workshop:

**Timing, Timbre and Tins** Ages: 9-14 years

Are you interested in playing a percussion instrument or are you already taking percussion or drum lessons? Come along to the percussion workshop and experience performances in large and small ensembles.

Date: August 15 and 22, 2015

Time: 1pm – 4pm

Venue: Christina Creede Music Centre,  
Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta

Cost: \$150\* (includes a light Afternoon Tea)

\*Please note these prices are not inclusive of GST

