

ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL PARRAMATTER PATER



16th July 2015 Term 3 No.1

Dear Parents

*This week I commenced reading Pope Francis' encyclical letter on the "care for our common home" – entitled *Laudato Si'* - Praise be to you. An encyclical is an important letter from the pope designed to help everyone better understand how to apply the teachings of sacred scripture and Catholic Tradition to a particular topic, in this case the environment. This beautifully inspired piece of writing is well worth reading; written in relatively easy to read language and touches on some very important issues of our time. As noted by Catholic Earthcare Australia, the key to this encyclical is the question our Holy Father poses, "What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?" (Paragraph 160) Throughout the paper he explores the theme of connection; connection between the poor and the environment, the connection between each and every creature, the connection between human activity and the demise of both fauna and flora on our earth. I was struck by how eloquently Pope Francis describes the state of our precious Mother Earth and brings focus on what science is saying about the planet's capacity to cope with our contemporary lifestyle. He comments on topics such as; waste, extinction of species, on God's love, climate change, consumerism, abortion, embryo experimentation, gender ideology, progress and the need for action.*

*In *Laudato Si'* Pope Francis highlights the important role that education plays:*

*There is **a nobility in the duty to care for creation through little daily actions** and it is wonderful how education can bring about real changes in lifestyle. Education in environmental responsibility can encourage ways of acting which directly and significantly affect the world around us, such as avoiding the use of plastic and paper, reducing water consumption, separating refuse, cooking only what can reasonably be consumed, showing care for other living beings, using public transport or car pooling, planting trees, turning off unnecessary lights, or any number of other practices. **All of these reflect a generous and worthy creativity which brings out the best in human beings.** Reusing something instead of immediately discarding it, when done for the right reasons, can be an act of love which expresses our own dignity (Paragraph 211)*

What a wonderful perspective! Pope Francis encourages us to see even the very smallest of actions as being capable of changing the world – a goodness that can spread without us even noticing it. This call to 'action' he maintains is vastly more important than mere knowledge or understandings. This is particularly important when we feel ourselves question, "What can I possibly do?"

Within the National Curriculum, there are many units of work which present environmental education to children across various Key Learning Areas. This topic can be covered through a number of types of text including; non-fiction, fiction and through scripture. Kindergarten and Year 6 are currently studying units on environmental topics.

*May I encourage you all to read *Laudato Si'*, even in part. Some of the key messages will be published in each newsletter this term. http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.pdf*

God Bless you and your family

Bernadette Fabri



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

3L	Jessica Bechara
3T	Aaron Neroy
4B	Nikhil Sawant
4G	Arwen-Cady Firmeza
5C	Brailey Qumi
5T	Nicole Romanos
6P	Louis Takchi
6W	Meanelli Erive

3L	Harrison Chidiac
3T	Andre Elzahoul
4B	Isabella Maaraoui
4G	Adrian Pangan
5C	Joseph Kalouche
5T	Kayleigh Figueredo
6P	Ashleigh Grubba
6W	Veronica Takchi

GRANDPARENTS' DAY Thursday 23 July 2015

Please come and join with the St Patrick's school community in thanking God for the gift of grandparents.

Our celebration will begin at 9.15 with Mass in St Patrick's Cathedral.

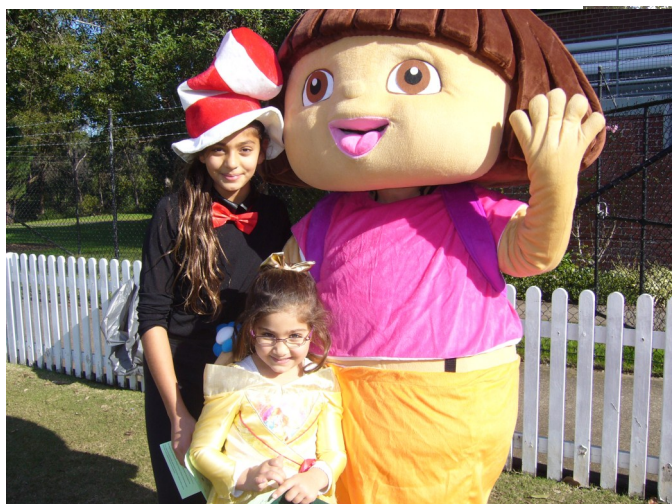
This will be followed by morning tea in the school hall and open classrooms from 11.00-11.30am.

We looking forward to sharing this special occasion with you.



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

Caitlin Maroun, Brooklyn Munro, Mylan Do, Harrie Chisttopher Anthony, Biaggio Volante, Olivia Takchi, Matthew Draybi, Matthew Tocher



Sports Day for Term 3

This term the children will be required to wear their sports uniforms on the following days:-

KA	Mon & Wed	KM	Tues & Thurs
1C	Tues & Thurs	1S	Mon & Wed
2M	Mon & Fri	2Y	Mon & Fri
3L	Mon & Fri	3T	Tues & Fri
4B	Tues & Thurs	4G	Tues & Thurs
5C	Mon & Thurs	5T	Mon & Wed
6P	Tues & Wed	6W	Tues & Wed



Woolworths Earn & Learn

Woolworths Earn & Learn is back and it is now easier than ever to earn valuable resources for our school. Last year more than 14,500 schools and Early Learning Centres benefited from the program, boosting supplies in classrooms, libraries, music rooms, gymnasiums and science labs.

It's simple to participate. From Wednesday 15th July to Tuesday 8th September 2015, when you shop at Woolworths you can collect Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers from the checkout operator or through an online order and place them on a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet.

There'll be one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every \$10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco, and gift cards).

Once completed, simply place the Sticker Sheet in the Collection Box, either at your local school or at your local Woolworths.

The school can then redeem the Woolworths Earn & Learn stickers for valuable education resources.

The Catholic Diocese of Parramatta wants to hear from you

If you or someone close to you has suffered **ANY** abuse by a representative of the Catholic Church (school, parish, other Catholic group) in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains we invite you to contact us. Our professional staff will listen to your experience, respect your confidentiality and discuss all available options.

You can contact us on:
 Phone: (02) 9933 0233
 Web: www.parra.catholic.org.au/safeguarding
 Email: safeguarding@parra.catholic.org.au
 Mail: PO BOX 3066 North Parramatta, NSW, 1750

For any complaints that may relate to criminal conduct we encourage you to contact **NSW Police on 1800 333 000**



2015

Progress Chart

Look out for some photos
from the Walk-a-thon in
next week's newsletter

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.

Once again I cannot express how grateful the staff and I are in your generosity and commitment to supporting the school.

Regards
Miss Fabri

2014 Total
\$16,800



\$10,018.15

22/07/2015





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 THREE – DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Week Two

Thursday 23rd July

Grandparent's Day

Mass 9.15am St Patrick's Cathedral followed by morning tea in the hall and open classrooms

Friday 24th July

Primary Assembly—Yr 4 2.15pm

Week Three

Tuesday 28th July

ICAS—English—7.50am

Friday 31st July

Voice of Youth—Year 6

Infants Assembly—Yr 1 2.15pm

Week Four

Tuesday 4th August

Cumberland Zone Athletics Carnival

Friday 7th August

Excursion Year 4—Government House

Whole School Assembly—Yr 6 2.15pm

Week Five

Tuesday 11th August

ICAS—Mathematics—7.50am

Friday 14th August

Infants Assembly—Yr 2 2.15pm

Week Six

Friday 21st August

Diocesan Athletics

Week Seven

BOOK WEEK

Monday 24th August

Art Expo commences

Friday 28th August

Excursion Year 3—Maritime Museum

Primary Assembly—Yr 5 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.

