



St Patrick's Primary School Newsletter

11th March 2016

Term 1

Issue 6

This year, from 6 - 12 March 2016, all 78 Catholic schools in the Diocese of Parramatta will celebrate Catholic Schools Week (CSW). Dioceses across NSW and the ACT are joining together to celebrate the theme for CSW 2016 which is 'I Belong, You Belong. We Belong.' The theme reminds us of the many ways we are connected, our backgrounds, our families, our school, our parish, our faith our environment and the wider community. The theme also aligns with the Church's mission to support refugees and asylum seekers and the need to foster a more compassionate global community.

The CSW theme and our compassion for those seeking safety on our shores, also ties in with the global Catholic Church celebration of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy which centres on pardon, strength and love. In this Year of Mercy, Pope Francis is calling on all Catholic communities to extend mercy to those in need, particularly refugees. "Faced with the tragedy of tens of thousands of refugees fleeing death on account of war and hunger and who are travelling toward a hope of life, the Gospel calls us to be 'neighbours' to the smallest and abandoned and to give them a concrete hope," Pope Francis said.

Last Monday the school community commenced the day with a beautiful liturgy prepared by Mrs Kerr (Religious Education Coordinator) and the Catholic Schools' Week Committee of teachers. The liturgy reflected the theme of Belonging with a colourful display of national flags. It reminded children of our need to recognize how we are connected rather than what sets us apart. The children were extremely respectful and participated with lovely singing and suitable attention. After the liturgy those parents who were able to join us spent some time visiting the learning; looking at work and enjoying the open classrooms. The children really loved being with their visitors and spending morning tea with them on the playground.

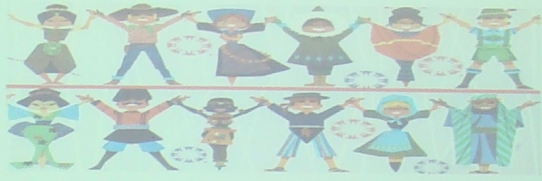
St Patrick's Parramatta belongs to the Diocese of Parramatta. The Diocese of Parramatta is located in one of the fastest growing areas of New South Wales. The diocese is west of Sydney and reaches from Dundas Valley, west to Katoomba, south to Luddenham, and north to Richmond. There are 56 primary, 22 secondary schools and four Catholic Early Learning Centres with a total student population of over 43,000 students. There are also six congregational (independent Catholic) schools in the diocese, OLMC being one of them.

Catholic Schools Week is a wonderful opportunity to strengthen the relationships between all those that have a stake in our schools – students, staff, families, priests, parishioners, and members of the wider community – by showcasing what happens in our schools every day. It is hoped that together we can continue to teach our children what it means to belong to a Catholic school, to be a Catholic in today's world, to be a member of our parish and to love our God with humility and faith in God's ever loving presence in our lives. As I reminded the children at the liturgy, they will always belong to our community - St Patrick's Parramatta, now and in the future.

God Bless you and your family

*Bernadette Fabri
Principal*

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK



I BELONG, YOU BELONG,
WE BELONG





Honour Award

The Honour Award is awarded to the child who demonstrates outstanding behaviour shown in the Student Charter

KA	Sebastian ElHani
KM	Joseph Maroon
1C	Nicholas Drosos
1S	Dylan Amaral
2M	James Fraser
2Y	Michael Ayoub



st patrick's award

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

KA	Christina Brown
KM	Laura Scanlon
1C	Amyllia Maneze
1S	Lucia El Hani
2M	Jack Gittany
2Y	Olivia Takchi

SCHOOL MAGAZINES FOR ALL PRIMARY STUDENTS

SCHOOL MAGAZINES

Dear Parents,

This year, as part of our aim to increase the reading frequency for students and thus reading outcomes, all children in Yrs 3 to 6 will be given their own series of school magazines.

Research informs us that:

"Good readers read considerably more than the poor readers both in and out of school, which appear[s] to contribute to the good readers' growth in some reading and writing skills. Poor readers tend to become poor writers. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2012 APA, all rights reserved)"

It is our aim that this format of reading ie School Magazines, will encourage even the most reluctant of readers, as well as excite those that love reading. They incorporate a wide mix of literary genres: poetry, plays, short stories and tales, as well as procedures, reports, features, profiles, book reviews and extracts, cartoons, comic strip serials, activities, puzzles and competitions, readers' letters and emails. There is something for everyone!

For your information there are 10 issues per year for every child and we have provided all children with a folder to keep the issues clean and organised. The cost of the magazines has been incurred by the school from funds raised and augmented with school funds. The students will use the magazines at school but they will also be able to take them home for their enjoyment. **Can you please support the teachers by ensuring that the children bring the magazines to school every day and look after them so that we do not have lost folders of magazines.** We are unable to replace lost magazines. As always the school is interested in your feedback once the children have started using this very valuable resource. Please find below some details of the issues.

Countdown: Meet the *Countdown* crew and read part one of an exciting new serial that sees our crew sailing into danger. Find out some interesting facts about parrots, perform a play with a cast of feathery characters and search for birds in this month's find-a-word. There's also some fantastic poetry and a magical story about kites. (7-9 yrs)

Blast Off: Jools and Vern share a hilarious story about a smelly dog, a poem about two orange cats as well as some fascinating facts about that very clever creature ... the dung beetle. Find out why our hands are so 'handy', learn how to draw, take a glimpse at a terrific new book all about bad guys, and sharpen up your rapping skills—there's a play to perform! (9-10yrs)

Orbit: The first issue of *Orbit* will have you hanging with flying foxes, searching for hidden words, reading about hungry washing machines and listening out for that master mimic—the spangled drongo! Take a sneak peek at this month's terrific Bookshelf title, and see if you can solve the mystery of the beeping at dawn. (10- 11yrs)

Touchdown: Ever wondered why diamonds sparkle? Find out the answer to this, and many other questions, in a fascinating article about these precious gems. Visit Neww York's Metropolitan Museum of Art, and help Pencils D Barrymore find hidden New York words. Read a touching story about a magical garden, perform a side-splitting play and immerse yourself in some beautiful poetry. (11+yrs)

The 24 Hours for the Lord

A report by members of the Religious Education Committee of St Patrick's Primary School.

On Friday 4 March, the Religious Education Committee went to our local Cathedral, St Patrick's for the beginning of the celebration of **24 Hours for the Lord**. We didn't stay for 24 hours. We were there about an hour. Students from St Paul's, Greystanes, Catherine McAuley and OLMC were also there.



When we first arrived we went into the main part of the Cathedral to pray in front of the Blessed Sacrament. After we had finished saying our prayers, we had to genuflect on two knees in front of the Monstrance. We then went into the Chapel to take part in the opening ceremony where Father Paul explained what would be happening for the next 24 hours.

Thanks to OLMC there was a liturgy, a talk and a choir singing beautiful hymns. There was time for silent prayer, an opportunity to write your own prayers and time to go to reconciliation with one of four priests.

Participating in **24 Hours for the Lord** was an invitation to spend time with God. I loved the prayer and felt inner peace as I walked into the Chapel.

Thank you for this religious opportunity

Alana, Chloe and Naomi.



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

Darcy Fraser, Catherine Said, Sienna Golossian, Joseph Pellew, Oisín Ryan, Elliana Coles, James Agostino, Elaine Wehbe, Charbel Wehbe

Woolworths Earn and Learn

Thank you to all the parents for the Woolworths Earn and Learn stickers collected in 2015. Our 31650 points were spent on a wonderful new range of Maths equipment.

Jenny Barclay

Numeracy Coordinator



St Patrick's Primary School, Parramatta **Enrolments for 2017 Kindergarten are now Open**

Enrolment packs for Kindergarten 2017 are available from the school between the hours of 9am -3pm Monday to Friday.

Enrolment forms are required to be returned by Thursday 31st March 2016. When you return the enrolment you will need to bring your child's original Birth Certificate, Baptismal Certificate, Passports (parents' and child's if born overseas), Immunization Certificates and proof of address (council rates, drivers licence). We will photocopy these and return them to you at this time. Our acceptances are in accordance with the Diocesan Guidelines for Enrolments. Please feel free to contact us on (02) 9630 1421.

SIBLING APPLICATIONS NEED TO BE RETURNED BY 31ST MARCH, 2016

AFTER SCHOOL CARE ARRANGEMENTS - BUS PICK UP

I am appealing for your patience with regard to the afternoon bus pick up for the North Parramatta Out of School Hours Care. By way of explanation, this valuable after school service cares for approximately 44 of our students daily. This is a very important facility that helps many of our families. Due to the fact that we have changed our afternoon drive through pick up to Ross Street, the bus that picks up these children is now required to find parking on Villiers Street. As you know this is a much busier road. The system the centre has adopted is for the bus driver to call the assistants when a short distance away and they in turn place witches hats temporarily on the road to enable the bus to safely park for these children. This is usually around 3.15 - 3.20pm. This procedure assists the bus to park without double parking or parking too far away for a safe pick up of the children in their care. The school greatly values the service of the North Parramatta Out of School Hours Care and in particular values their efforts to put in procedures to ensure the safe pick up of our children. The centre has tried to time this pick to cause the least amount of impact to an already congested traffic situation - all of which is appreciated by the school.

Can I ask that you continue to assist in the effective running of our afternoon pick up by keeping this in mind when picking up your children. As always I am very grateful for your efforts, ideas and generous cooperation.

Bernadette Fabri

Update from Recent Alert

AFTERNOON PICK UP UPDATE

Dear Parents

Once again thank you for your patience and cooperation regarding the drive through pick up in the afternoons. Last Thursday I met with members of the Highway Patrol, Parramatta Council and OLMC regarding trying to come to an effective solution re the pick up situation. **I am happy to report that as soon as the signage has been changed our parents will be able to stop and wait on Trott Street.** Please read the following guidelines:

- Trott Street is now a **'one way'** street from Ross Street to Grose Street. There is now a 'no right hand turn' into Trott Street.
- Drivers waiting to join the 'pick up' need to be on the left side of the road as usual.
- The signage will be changed from "No Stopping" to "No parking from 3.00 to 3.30pm" It will still be 'no stopping' outside these hours. This change will enable drivers to stop and wait on Trott Street.
- Drivers will not be permitted to leave their cars unattended. This will incur a hefty fine.
- Parents wishing to join the 'pick up' line will be able to stop and wait, however we have been asked not to wait directly on the corner. Drivers will need to wait on the other side of the signage following the arrows, and then to come around into Ross Street when there is room. (As soon as this is done a map with directions will be sent to you to assist)
- Teachers will then be able to call the names displayed on cars in Trott Street so please have your family name clearly visible on the dashboard. The larger the better! In this way the children will be called early and will be there for you when you come around.
- A yellow line will be painted on the corner of Ross and Trott St to show drivers where they are unable to stop. I am sure this will be clearer to you when it is completed.
- Please note: The signage on Ross Street remains the same, that is, No Parking 8am to 9.30am and 2.30 to 4pm school days.

No Parking

- **You must not stop for more than two minutes in a No Parking area. You must remain in or within three metres of the vehicle. Hours of operations may apply to some signs. This means restrictions apply for those times only. Mobility Parking Permit holders are allowed to park for up to five minutes** <http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/roads/safety-rules/road-rules/parking.html>

Parramatta Council has made this traffic signage change, a matter of priority and I have been assured this will not be long in coming. Thank you to all the parents who offered their assistance in sorting out this situation; your support is greatly appreciated.

Can you also assist in the following matter. It is important in the afternoon and in the mornings that we do not block driveways. Our neighbours must be able to enter and exit their properties, private or business, when they wish.

Thank you sincerely for all your patience and cooperation. Thank you also to Parramatta Council, members of the Highway Patrol and Mr Stephen Walsh Principal of OLMC. Thank you is also expressed to my staff who have been trying to ensure that the pick up system is working to the optimum, under sometimes very trying conditions. I am hoping that this soon to be implemented system will benefit our children, staff and drivers.

Speech therapy help for your child- at school!

Does your child call a snake a *thnake*? Is a rabbit a *wabbit*? Are other speech sounds unclear?

Is he slow learning to read, or has trouble spelling?

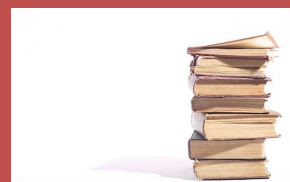
Does she have trouble expressing herself, following instructions or keeping up with the class?

Don't leave it any longer— help is at hand!

What can you do?

- a) Call Belinda to discuss your child
- b) Talk to your classroom teacher, or
- c) Talk to Ms Fabri about organising an assessment and therapy if needed.

Your child may be eligible for Medicare and private health fund rebates.



Belinda Drewitt Smith

0422 926 724

beesnees23s@hotmail.com

www.CommunicArtspeechpathology.com

Belinda is a qualified private Speech Pathologist and visits your school weekly.

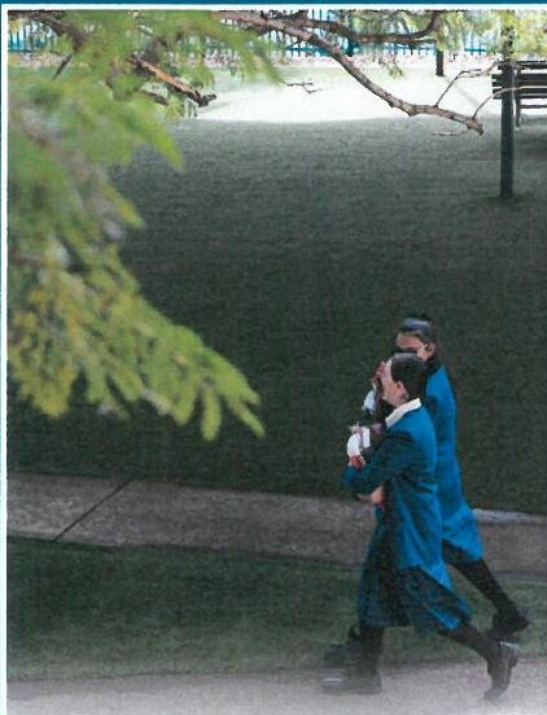


CommunicArt

SPEECH PATHOLOGY

ENROLLING NOW FOR 2017

Catherine McAuley



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 15 March 2016 4.00pm - 7.00pm

This school open event will give visitors the opportunity to tour the school and view facilities as well as meet our School Principal and School Leadership Team

CONTACT OUR SCHOOL ON 9849 9100 FOR AN ENROLMENT PACK. APPLICATIONS CLOSE 1ST APRIL 2016

Catherine McAuley, 2 Darcy Road, Westmead

www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT PROGRAM

CCSS Solo Parent Services is commencing a Bereavement Support Program for men or women who have suffered the death of their spouse or partner. It will be held on Tuesday fortnights commencing on 05th April, with an Information session and Overview of the Program. The Program will run fortnightly until Tuesday 12th July. Time: 10.30am - 12.30pm. Venue: CCSS 38 Prince St, Blacktown. Cost: \$5.00 per session.

For further information / Registration Essential: Call Rita on 8822 2222 or Email: soloparentservices@ccss.org.au

Enrolling
now for
2017 &
2018



OUR LADY OF MERCY COLLEGE PARRAMATTA

Discover

Year 7, 2018 Enrolment Information Evening

Tuesday March 15, 5.15pm

*A Mercy Education is
treasured for life*

Enquiries: 8838 1222 or registrar@olmc.nsw.edu.au

www.olmc.nsw.edu.au

MERCY

COMPASSION

JUSTICE

DIGNITY

EXCELLENCE

HOSPITALITY

STEWARDSHIP

SERVICE



Nutrition Snippet

The simplest way

...to create yummy sandwiches.

Wholegrain breads and cereals - the foundation of a healthy lunch box, and great base for yummy fillings.

Cancer Council's *Eat It To Beat It* program recommends limiting or avoiding processed meats (sausages, frankfurts, bacon, ham) because of their link with increasing the risk of bowel cancer.



Try some of these great ideas:

- Roast pumpkin with salad (grated carrot + lettuce, pesto + baby spinach) on multigrain, wholemeal or white high-fibre bread.
- Leftover cottage pie or spaghetti bolognese, with lettuce and grated carrot on a wholegrain bread roll.
- Tinned salmon/tuna and canned sweet corn on crispbread.
- Chopped egg and lettuce in a pita pocket.
- Tabouli salad and feta cheese on a wrap.
- Mashed banana and sultanas on sourdough.

For more information visit www.eatittobeatit.com.au
or join us at facebook.com/eatittobeatit

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



2016 Term 1

Important Dates

Week 7

Friday 11th March **Infants Assembly 2.15pm—Kindergarten**

Week 8

Thursday 17th March Combined St Patrick's Day Celebrations & Cross Country

Friday 18th March St Patrick's Day Liturgy—2.15pm

Week 9

Friday 25th March Good Friday—NO SCHOOL

Week 10

Monday 28th March Easter Monday—NO SCHOOL

Tuesday 29th March Life Education Van commences

Wednesday 30th March Life Education Van continues

Thursday 31st March Life Education Van continues

Friday 1st April Life Education Van continues

Primary Assembly 2.15-Year 3

Week 11

Monday 4th April Life Education Van continues

Tuesday 5th April Life Education Van continues

Friday 8th April **Infants Assembly 2.15-Choir**

LAST DAY OF TERM

A Year of Mercy with Pope Francis

The Security of the Shore

The Gospel offers us the chance to live life on a higher plane, but with no less intensity: "Life grows by being given away, and it weakens in isolation and comfort. Indeed, those who enjoy life most are those who leave security on the shore and become excited by the mission of communicating life to others."

When the Church summons Christians to take up the task of evangelization, she is simply pointing to the source of authentic personal fulfilment. For "here we discover a profound law of reality: that life is attained and matures in the measure that it is offered up in order to give life to others. This is certainly what mission means."

-Evangelii Gaudium



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

Mon to Fri 6.45am, 12.30pm
Public Hol 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 Deacon Willy Limjap
Margaret Gale (Sacramental Coord)