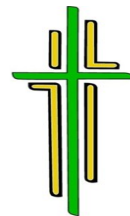




St Patrick's Primary School Newsletter



11th August 2016 Term 3 Issue 4

Dear Parents

Next Monday the Church will be celebrating the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. On this day we remember the person of Mary and the relationship we have developed with her through the many accounts of our Holy Mother through scripture. For many of us, our thoughts and devotion to Our Lady began very early in life, commencing with the Nativity Story. We learnt how brave and resilient Mary was as she travelled to Bethlehem with Joseph giving birth to Jesus in a stable. This connection continued as we heard of her relationship with Jesus in the story of Jesus at the temple, at the wedding at Cana and during Holy Week. Growing up, in my family, our Holy Mother always seemed so accessible to us, just like our own mother. Praying to her seemed very easy because we were taught that Mary is always there for us and that we could tell her anything. In a homily at Vatican City Pope Francis reminds us that Mary is, "an attentive and caring mother with whom we can entrust every desire or difficulty." Every day, at midday, all staff and students of schools in the Parramatta Diocese stop to say the Angelus. Often, the busiest part of the day, we all stop to pray to our Heavenly Mother, recalling her story and the critical role she played in the upbringing of Jesus. In this the year of Mercy we also pray the Hail Holy Queen which continues to remind us of her care and love for us. I encourage you all to say the Angelus or the Rosary with your family and to attend mass for the Feast of the Assumption. Times for masses at St Patrick's Cathedral are published in this newsletter. The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a Holy Day of Obligation.

God bless you and your family.
Bernadette Fabri
Principal

Let Us Pray

Holy God, through Mary you show your people that you do wonderful things, through ordinary human beings. With trusting hearts we call you in our need.

As Jesus' mother, Mary showed us the extent of human love, motherly nurturing and selfless service. May all people learn to embrace one another in love, compassion and service. Wondrous God, hear us.

All: Hear our prayer, O God.

As Jesus' disciple, Mary followed her son. May those in positions of leadership learn from her humble yet strong example of discipleship. Wondrous God, hear us.

All: Hear our prayer, O God.

As your servant, Mary listened. May we be open to your plans for us with a listening heart and respond with a generous spirit.

Wondrous God, hear us.

All: Hear our prayer, O God.

Mary was aware of Jesus' needs. Let us see and address the cries of help from those in our community who are weak and lost.

Wondrous God, hear
us.

All: Hear our prayer, O God.

Mary now rejoices in heaven. We remember and pray for all who are now rejoicing in eternal life with you.

Wondrous God, hear us.

All: Hear our prayer, O God.

God who hears our prayers, you understand every yearning of the human heart. Listen to the prayers we pray in the name of Jesus, son of Mary.

Amen



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Po Box 2308, North Parramatta NSW 1750

Office hours 8.30am—3.30pm

stpatricksparra@parra.catholic.edu.au

www.stpatsparra.catholic.edu.au



Honour Award

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

3L	Jazmyne Grech
3T	Scarlett Weaver
4B	Alana Medak
4G	Gabrielle Sabat
5C	Natalie Draybi
5T	Joya Barakat
6P	Kayla Teklic
6W	Isabella Loader



st patrick's award

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

3L	Jacob Tamaro
3T	Benjamin Aguilera
4B	Luke Takchi
4G	Syrus Dig
5C	Jonah Freifer
5T	Prince Gyan
6P	Emily-Rose Grech
6W	Simon Khalil

Staff Development Day—19th August 2016

Friday 19th August has been set as our Term Three Staff Development Day. There will be no school for children on this day. Please arrange for alternative care for your child.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Each term the children are involved in emergency drill procedures, so that they are prepared in the event of a critical incident e.g. fire, lock down. The safety of the children is enhanced if they learn to keep calm and follow procedures that have been repeatedly practised. Last Thursday, the children practiced the **LOCKDOWN** procedure, where they were required to go to the nearest classroom or stay in their classrooms. The children were well behaved and everything went to plan. We will continue to fine tune our procedures throughout the year.



Happy Birthday to the following children who will celebrate their birthdays in the following week:- Mary Jo El-Sabbagh, Thomas Kougellis, Joshua Manago, Chiara Banzato, Joshua Santos, Wytke Lubbers, Crista-Nicole Gahdmar

Feast of the Assumption Mass

This Monday, 15th August, the Church celebrates Mary's Assumption into heaven. Mary who was born without sin, was taken body & soul into Heaven.

We will be celebrating this very special feast and Holy Day of Obligation with Mass at 9.30am at the Cathedral. Everyone is very welcome to join us.

On July 29th we began our official World Youth Day week with an Opening Mass celebrated with Cardinal Dziwisz at Blonia Park. The persistent rain wasn't enough to dampen our spirits as we joined approximately 500, 000 young people to officially open World Youth Day 2016. Cardinal Dziwisz welcomed all the youth from all "continents and nations, from the East and West, North and South of our globe". It began our week of communicating with people from all walks in the "language of the gospel" - a language of love, solidarity and peace. This week, was a week to share our faith, our experiences and our hopes with the many people we would cross paths with.



In the following days, we attended Catechesis, where a number of keynote speakers spoke including Cardinal Timothy Dolan from New York, USA. It was during Cardinal Dolan's speech that we were reminded of the importance of not 'procrastinating' when saying yes to God, something that we are all guilty of in one way or another in our busy lives. He also explained that it was a time to live through Mercy and the importance of praying to Mary as an intercessor for Jesus.



Our World Youth Day pilgrimage continued as we travelled to the John Paul II Sanctuary that houses relics of St John Paul II. We then visited the Divine Mercy Shrine and the Chapel of St Faustina Kowalska, where I was able to spend time in prayer and reflection at the place St Faustina worked and had her apparition of Jesus,

"For the sake of His sorrowful passion, have mercy on us and the whole world".

On the Pope's arrival, we celebrated Mass where Pope Francis invited us to enter the hearts and lives of the poor, to be in the lives of those who don't understand and those who may hurt us; to show Mercy to those around us to fulfil our lives.

We were joined by Pope Francis on Friday for an artistic rendition of the Stations of the Cross. The theme of the Way of the Cross for the World Youth Day pilgrimage was to display the path of Mercy. It was through this rendition that the works of Mercy within and around our world were symbolised at each station.



On Saturday 30th we set out on our 22km journey to Campus Misericordiae, following in the footsteps of Jesus. This was to be the beginning of the hardest yet most fulfilling part of my two week pilgrimage. During our journey my group of 10 joined by another group endured both the physical and emotional strain of the long journey. We were met by Polish locals who fed and watered us along the way showing us Mercy through their hospitality and compassion.

That evening at Campus Misericordiae, we were joined by Pope Francis, who led the pilgrims in a candlelight prayer vigil. The vigil was a solemn gathering where we heard from a young Syrian girl who shared moving words of her persevering faith despite her personal suffering and the suffering of her nation. This was followed by an hour of Adoration with the Blessed Sacrament. It was a truly special occasion to be praying with the Holy Father to Jesus.



After spending Saturday night on the Campus Misericordiae grounds we awoke on Sunday morning to participate in Mass celebrated by Pope Francis. Pope Francis reminded the many pilgrims that "God Loves us the way we are" and to not accept ourselves and to not live happily is like walking away from God. "God counts on you for what you are, not for what you possess". Pope Francis reminded us that it doesn't matter if you have the latest fashion trends, the latest smart phone, these things are not important. What is important is that Jesus loves YOU!

Our pilgrimage concluded on Monday with a diocesan retreat to Folwark Zalesie. This was an excellent opportunity for us to reflect on the experiences of the past two weeks. We celebrated mass and then went on for our final night in Warsaw. This was where our journey for our pilgrimage ended but this did not signify the end of this faith journey we find ourselves on.

This was a truly amazing experience and one I will never forget, especially the people I met and the places I went. World Youth Day week was an intense, spiritual and physically demanding experience. Although this meeting only lasted a few days, it was a time of decision making, a time to set new goals a time to deepen my faith and follow Jesus' way. I thank God for each and every grace he bestowed on me on my pilgrimage.

My challenge to you, how can you be the face of mercy to the people in your lives?

I would like to thank the St Patrick's community for their support, well wishes and prayers along the way.

God bless you all.

Miss Azar.



St Mary of the Cross Mackillop



Last Monday, on the feast of St Mary of the Cross Mackillop our SRC and students from Years 5 & 6, represented St Patrick's at a special mass to celebrate the feast of St Mary of the Cross Mackillop. This mass also marked the launch of the Way of Mercy which culminated in a procession around Prince Alfred Park. Included in the procession were a 4m cross and relics of St Mary Mackillop & Blessed Teresa of Kolkata. On Nov 11, the cross and relics will be visiting our school when we highlight how our school is a Face of Mercy.



Thank you to the Catholic Education Office for the photography

Pyjama Day—25th August

On Thursday 25 August we are having a Gold Coin Pyjama Day to raise money for an Aboriginal group in Mt Druitt. The money we raise will help this group continue their day to day work. Last Wednesday, Aunty Jenny Ebbsworth, Sr Naomi rsj and Br Laurie mfc spoke to staff about the challenges facing Aboriginal families and how they work to support and encourage Aboriginal people.



The organization is called Baabayn and was established by four Aboriginal elders who live in Western Sydney and know all about the ups and downs of life for Aboriginal People in the Mount Druitt area. They say:

Our main purpose is to support our people in healing from the past and building towards the future. We work as a group to support individuals, we turn no-one away, and we seek to build our people's pride in who they are, their sense of belonging, and their sense of connectedness to community and culture.

Our Aims in a Nutshell

- Nurturing of local Aboriginal people's confidence, self-esteem, spirituality and knowledge of their culture
- A supportive, healing, low-stress environment for Aboriginal people
- Support for Aboriginal people who want to network and link up
- Lasting partnerships to help us support our people more effectively
- Assistance and advocacy for people who are struggling in their dealings with government departments, etc.
- Healing through art and crafts.

Things We Do

EVERYDAY SUPPORT BY MEANS OF:

- Family group meetings, with services and programs (e.g. counselling and falls prevention for seniors) provided by a range of government and other organisations
 - Homework club every Tuesday (run with the help of Kenthurst Parish's Social Justice Committee)
 - Being there for families when need arises (e.g. assistance with funerals)
- Supporting young mums and helping families to stay together.

BIG, ONE-OFF EVENTS, SUCH AS:

- Annual Christmas party at the Nurragingy reserve, with gifts for our communities' children
- Annual weekend at Gerringong for children and their families.

Judith Kerr

A sky full of prizes to be won.

The Dollarmites have discovered Prize Lights in the Outback sky and they want to share these spectacular prizes with School Bankers.

Keep saving to discover the Prize Lights

Simply make three or more School Banking deposits during Term 3 for a chance to win one of the Star Saver prizes, including camping kits, instant cameras and magazine packs.

What's more, if you complete the fun Stargazing online activity, along with making three or more School Banking deposits during Term 3, you'll also have a chance to win one of 50 Supernova prizes – PlayStation 4 packs.

To complete your Stargazing online activity, or to find out more, visit commbank.com.au/prizelights

50
Camping
Kits

90
Instant
Cameras

50
PlayStation 4
Packs

200
Magazine
Packs

St Patrick's Advertising—Local Directory

Dear Parents,

Please find uploaded with this newsletter the St Patrick's local directory. You will find the names & contact details of some companies associated with our community or local area that maybe of some service to you. May I take this opportunity to **sincerely thank these families for their support of the school** through their involvement in our advertising program. Monies from the advertising will go towards continuing to increase our bank of devices for learning, in particular K—4. If any family or friend is still interested in putting in an Expression of Interest please contact the office on 96301421.

Kindest Regards

Bernadette Fabri

Sick Children



We know that it can sometimes be difficult to determine whether your child is too sick to attend school. In the interests of the wellbeing of our whole school community we ask you to take a moment to review the "Too Sick To Go To School?" chart created by NSW Health which is accessible from the following webpage - <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/health/too-sick-to-go-to-school>

This chart reminds parents of the advisable periods of time children should be away from school during and after an illness. *When your child is sent to school unwell it is impossible for them to focus on their learning. If your child becomes distressed, due to being unwell, we will be making a phone call to ask you to collect your child.* We appreciate your co-operation with keeping our school healthy and happy.

Fed Up with Children's Behaviour

🕒 Wednesday, 24 August 2016 | 07:00 PM to 09:00 PM

Bestselling author Sue Dengate is coming to the Hills for one of her only NSW talks this year. Focusing on the effects of food chemicals on children's behaviour, health and learning ability including:

Tantrums, arguments, oppositional defiant behaviour

Asthma, itchy skin, rashes, migraines

Difficulty falling asleep, frequent night waking

Depression, unexplained tiredness, difficulty concentrating

Hidden and new food additives

Suitable for adults

Cost: \$15PP | Bookings essential online

When

24 August 2016 | 07:00 PM to 09:00 PM

Location

Vinegar Hill Memorial Library, 29 Main Street, Rouse Hill 2155 [View Map](#)

Add to calendar

Event Snapshot

Cost

\$15 per person

Contact

Vinegar Hill Memorial Library

8889 5200

[Bookings essential online](#)



THE HILLS
Sydney's Garden Shire

PRIVACY NOTICE

Information required to determine the *Index of Community Socio-educational Advantage (ICSEA)* for schools

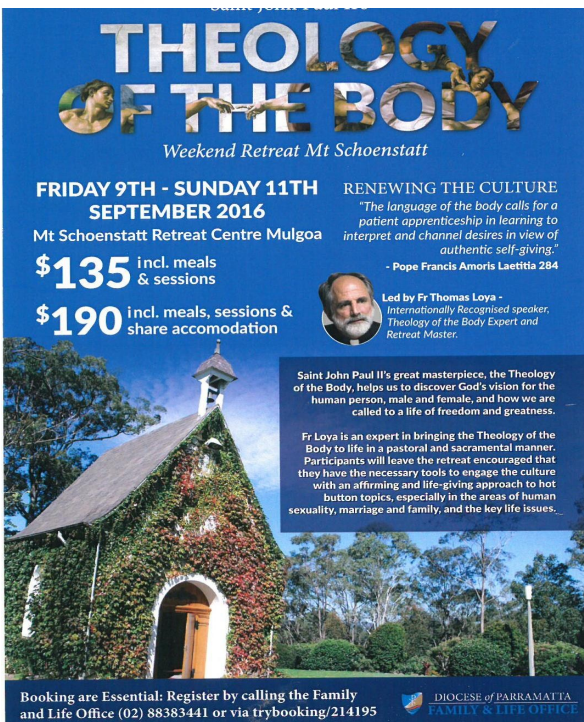
This notice is from the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA), to advise you that ACARA has requested your child's school to provide ACARA with information about you and your child. Your school may disclose to ACARA information such as your child's gender, date of birth, country of birth, background language, residential address, parental occupation and parental education.

This information is disclosed to ACARA under the *ACARA Act 2008* for one or both of the following purposes:

- formulating national reports consisting of aggregated data on school performance; and
- assisting government to formulate policies in relation to education matters.

ACARA will not disclose this personal information to any third party. If you do not want your school to provide this information to ACARA, please advise your school within seven (7) days of receiving this notice.

Further information about ACARA can be obtained from the ACARA website at www.acara.edu.au.



THEOLOGY OF THE BODY
Weekend Retreat Mt Schoenstatt

**FRIDAY 9TH - SUNDAY 11TH
SEPTEMBER 2016**
Mt Schoenstatt Retreat Centre Mulgoa

\$135 incl. meals & sessions
\$190 incl. meals, sessions & share accommodation

RENEWING THE CULTURE
"The language of the body calls for a patient apprenticeship in learning to interpret and channel desires in view of authentic self-giving."
- Pope Francis *Amoris Laetitia* 284

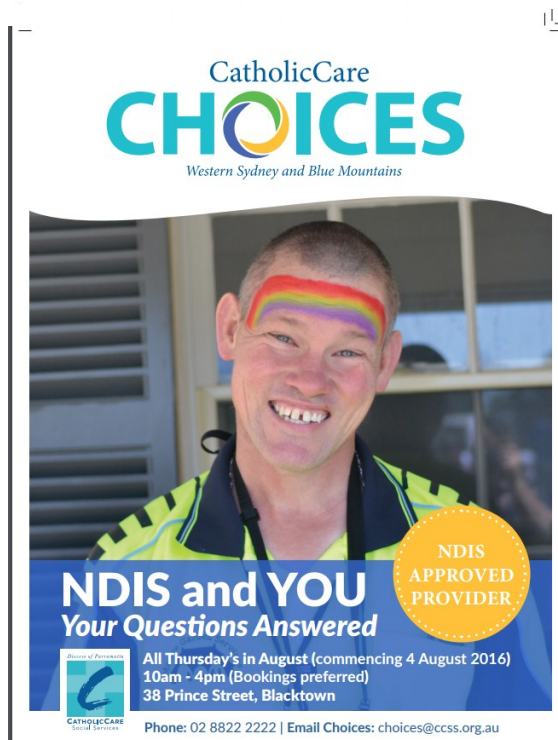
Led by Fr Thomas Loya -
Internationally Recognised speaker,
Theology of the Body Expert and
Retreat Master.

Saint John Paul II's great masterpiece, the Theology of the Body, helps us to discover God's vision for the human person, male and female, and how we are called to a life of freedom and greatness.

Fr Loya is an expert in bringing the Theology of the Body to life in a pastoral and sacramental manner. Participants will leave the retreat encouraged that they have the necessary tools to engage the culture with an affirming and life-giving approach to hot button topics, especially in the areas of human sexuality, marriage and family, and the key life issues.

Booking are Essential: Register by calling the Family and Life Office (02) 88383441 or via trybooking/214195

**DIOCESE of PARRAMATTA
FAMILY & LIFE OFFICE**



CatholicCare
CHOICES
Western Sydney and Blue Mountains

NDIS and YOU
Your Questions Answered

NDIS APPROVED PROVIDER

All Thursday's in August (commencing 4 August 2016)
10am - 4pm (Bookings preferred)
38 Prince Street, Blacktown

Phone: 02 8822 2222 | Email Choices: choices@ccss.org.au

2016 Important Dates

Term 3

Week 4

Friday 12th August Primary Assembly—Year 3—2.15pm

Week 5

Monday 15th August Feast of the Assumption Mass — 9.30am

St Patrick's Cathedral

Tuesday 16th August ICAS Maths Competition—7.40am

STEM Leaders & Committee—Hack Day

Friday 19th August Staff Development Day— No school for students

Week 6

Monday 22nd August Voice of Youth Cluster Final—Year 6 Marist

Author visit for K—Yr 2

Thursday 25th August Pyjama Day— Gold coin donation

Friday 26th August Author visit for Yr 3—Yr 6

NO ASSEMBLY

Week 7

Tuesday 30th August Father's Day stall

Friday 2nd September Father's Day Breakfast—School Hall 7.30am

Father's Day Mass—St Patrick's Cathedral—9.15am

Infants Assembly—Year 2—2.15pm

Week 8

Wednesday 7th Sept Australia Story: Country Day—More details to come

Friday 9th September Primary Assembly—Year 6—2.15pm

Week 9

Friday 16th September Stage 2 Boys & Girls Touch Gala Day

Infants Assembly—Year 1—2.15pm

Movie Night—More details to come

Week 10

Friday 23rd September Stage 3 Boys & Girls Touch Gala Day

Primary Assembly—Year 4—2.15pm

Last day of Term 3



Parents Representative Council
SUPPORT | CELEBRATE | EDUCATE



Term 3, 2016 General Meeting - Mon 22 Aug 2016: Topic Helping Your Child Manage Anxiety

College Library, Nagle Girls' Catholic College, 58A Orwell Street, Blacktown Sth



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

Bishop of Parramatta Most Rev.

Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM CONV

Very Rev Fr Robert Bossini

Rev Fr John Paul Escarlan

Rev Deacon Willy Limjap

Margaret Gale (Sacramental Coord)

Milli Lee (Parish Admin Asst)

Patricia Preca (Parish Secretary)