

# St Patrick's Primary School Newsletter

## 25th August 2016 Term 3 Issue 6



Dear Parents

This week is Book Week 2016 and the theme is Australia! Story Country. As the name suggests, this festival lasts a week, from Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> August to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> August. This year Book Week turns 71 years old and its aim is to celebrate Australian books, authors and illustrators.

For many children, books provide hours of delight, distraction and interest. In the early years children particularly enjoy being read to and when they learn that they too can interpret and comprehend texts, there is no stopping them. Over the past few years the teachers have been studying the importance of explicitly teaching comprehension. These include the skills of: activating prior knowledge, making connections, identifying the main idea, questioning, summarizing, visualizing, inferring, synthesizing and evaluating.

Parents can sometimes become confused when their child appears to be reading fluently however is not progressing with their reading. Often these children are able to decode the words however on further investigation they are simply 'barking' the text with no real understanding of the author's message. Reading without understanding is not reading. The purpose of reading is to interpret the author's message and then to interact with it in some way. This may be to increase our knowledge about a topic, elicit an emotional response, persuade us to act in a particular way, challenge our own thinking or even decide that we do not like the story for some reason. These are but a few examples. Reading is a key basic skill, not only for school, but for life.



The fact is, however, that not all children enjoy reading. From my experience these children often find the reading process difficult, vary rarely visualize as they read (make a movie in their mind) and avoid reading at all cost. This not only can impact their self esteem but can affect their learning in other subjects, even Maths. There are many ways parents can encourage their children to become effective readers, even older children. The ideas below can be found in the 'NSW Department of Education School a to z - Practical guide for Parents' website. For more information go to <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/home>

May I ask you to keep in your prayers, all the children who will be making the Sacrament of Confirmation tomorrow, at St Patrick's Cathedral.

God bless you and your family

Bernadette Fabri  
Principal



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## Ways to encourage effective reading in older children

- Ask your child what subjects they would like to read about.
- When reading with your child, limit reading time to 10 minutes of quality time – and make it fun.
- If reading together is traumatic in your house, do it in a café, or under a tree.
- Before reading aloud, orient your child to the text by talking about it beforehand. Look at unfamiliar words, for example.
- Encourage your child to predict what a word could be based on the meaning.
- Try 'echo reading'. Depending on the text, read a sentence, paragraph or page aloud first, and then get your child to read it.
- Try 'shared reading'. Take turns reading sentences or paragraphs. You read the first sentence and your child the next.
- Read aloud and encourage your child to mimic you by following along behind you. Trace your finger under the words in a fluent way to show where you are reading. Avoid reading word by word.
- Praise the reading, not the reader – say things such as, "I liked how you read on to find more information."
- Give older children opportunities to order from menus, read recipe books or select from the TV guide.
- Make the most of emails and the internet, which also require reading and writing.
- Take time to play word games such as *Scrabble* or *Pictionary*.
- Irrespective of a child's age, read to them regularly.
- Celebrate their successes.

## Book Week Celebrations

### Author/Illustrator visit K-2



On Monday Frane Lessac visited our school. She read some fun books to us. I loved the books because they were colourful. My favourite book is "A is for Australia".



Alicia Remaili KM

I like Frane's books because of the covers. My favourite book is *Midnight*—the story of a black horse in war.

Zavier Moujalli KA



Happy Birthday to the following children who will celebrate their birthdays in the following week:- Justin Makhoul, Shanelle Wambeek, Zara Diuco, Aidan Vancuylenberg, Isaac Loulach, Sophia Paguia, Malia-Rose Campbell, Alana Michael, Joshua Rizk, Emily Johnson

Please remember in your prayers our children who are being confirmed on Friday evening. You are welcome to join this celebration mass in the cathedral which begins at 7pm.

Alissa Banzato

Nikhil Sawant

Mark Sonido

Joanna Davino

Anna Janczewski

Valerie Liu

Annamika Sawant

Stacie Touche

Claire Guatlo

Matthew Liang



### Haircuts / Hairstyles

- Girls hair ribbons should be green.
- Girls long hair must be plaited or tied back.
- Boys are to have hair cut neatly, above the collar, and of an even and regular cut.
- The use of hair gel or hair dye is not permitted.



## Father's Day Celebrations

This year, St Patrick's will be celebrating **Father's Day** on **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2016**. As in previous years, we will be celebrating our wonderful fathers and grandfathers at **Mass in St Patrick's Cathedral at 9:15am**. Prior to the Mass the Year 4 parent members from the St Patrick's Parent Events Committee will be organising and preparing a **delicious breakfast** commencing at **7:30am** for our dads and granddads to enjoy. We believe it will be a great way to allow our fathers and grandfathers to catch up, bond and feel loved and appreciated by our school community.

In order to assist the Committee with preparing the Father's Day Breakfast and ensuring that we have an adequate amount of food and minimal wastage, could you **please fill in the RSVP** slip sent home earlier. Please indicate the amount of **family members (parents and children)** that will be attending.

We look forward to seeing as many of our fantastic dads and grandfathers attending the breakfast as possible.

### Father's Day Stall

The Father's Day stall will take place on **Tuesday 30th August**. The gifts have been chosen and organised by some of our Parent Event Committee members. The gifts will range from \$1.00 up to \$10.00. There is a lot of variety this year and I am sure there will be a gift especially for your Dad, Grandpa or the other special men in your life. Don't forget to bring your money on the day.



## CYBERSAFETY

Dear Parents

Please find below some very good resources on the very important topic of Cybersafety. This with increased use of technology by most children parents are required to become more 'tech savvy' and have in place the structures and routine to minimize risk at home. The following sites have been shared by Life Education Australia.

### **Information on our Parent Hub**

<http://www.lifeeducation.org.au/parents/cyber-safety>

### **And resources from the Office of the Children's safety Commissioner**

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/education-resources/iparent/staying-safe/photos-videos-and-social-media>

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## **Australian Bush Day – Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September**

You are invited to join us on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September for the following celebrations:

12.40pm – 1.10pm – Open classrooms

1.15pm – 2.45pm – Australian Bush Dances



- ◆ We ask that the students come dressed as a pioneering Australian.
- ◆ This could be a convict, explorer, drover, gold miner, stockman, bushranger, farmer, pioneering women, outback settlers or soldiers.
- ◆ These people within our Australian history are directly linked to student learning in the classrooms about Australia's past.
- ◆ Costumes could be made with your child from items around the home.

### **Book Donations for purchase for the Library**

The children and I have selected some books that we would like in our library collection. If you would like to purchase a book for our library, it would be greatly appreciated. From Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September to Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September the library will be open before and after school for you to visit and select a book with your child. They will be the first to borrow this book. Many thanks for your generosity.

Mrs O'Dwyer

Teacher / Librarian

## **School Fees**

Thank you to Parents who completed the 2016 school fee payments. If you have an arrangement please continue as per your agreement.

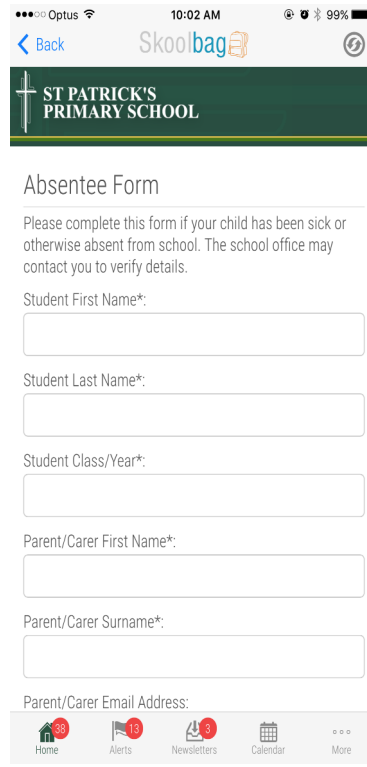
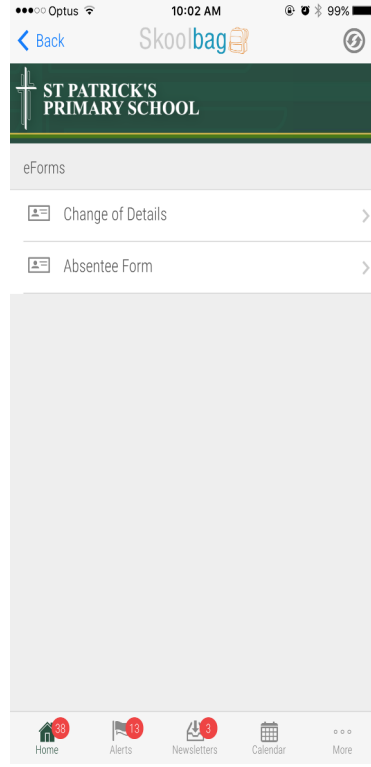
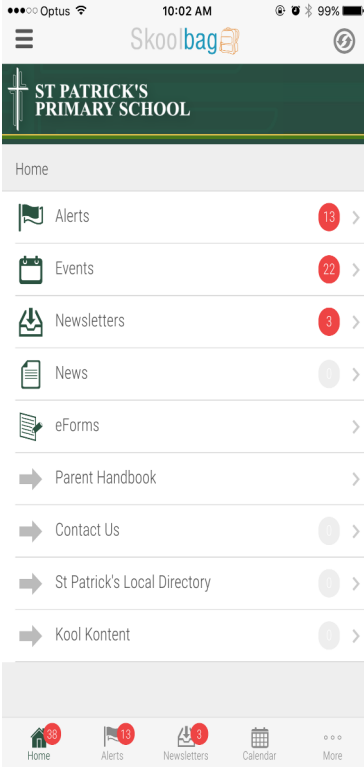
Term 3 payments are now due. If you have any queries regarding your account please contact Mrs Sharon Nutter on 9630 1421.

## ATTENDANCE/ABSENCES

Children are required by legislation to attend school each day, and we are required by law to keep records of each child's absences from school. For this reason if your child is unable to attend school, a note must be sent the day the child returns to school giving the reason for the absence. This can be done by letter or by using the school's Skoolbag App (please see instructions below).

**The absence needs to be explained within 7 days of the absence or it will be changed to unexplained and cannot be altered if the note is received after that time. All absences are shown on the child's report.**

**During the past 2 weeks we have had many children absent with sickness. We would very much appreciate if your child is still**



**Step 1**—Open your skoolbag app

**Step 2**—From home page (picture 1) select eforms

**Step 3**—Select Absentee form (picture 2)

**Step 4**—Complete the absentee form with your child's details. (picture 3)

**Step 5**—Submit the form which will then be emailed to St Patricks to enable the office to mark the absent as explained.

**NB:** The dates should show the first day of absent and the last day the child is absent.

**unwell they do not return to school until they are feeling much better. This will alleviate the passing on of illnesses to the other students.**

### 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



OUR LADY OF MERCY COLLEGE PARRAMATTA

**College Open  
Morning Tour  
Monday  
September 5, 2016**

# Pyjama Day—25th August



All funds raised go towards an organization 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.



# 2016 Important Dates

## Term 3

### Week 6

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

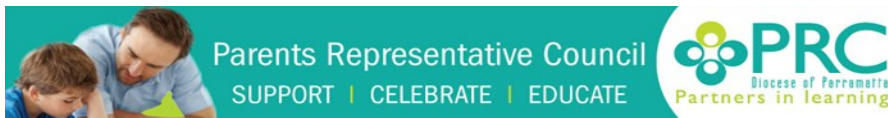
Wednesday 7th Sept Australia Story: Country Day— Please see details in this newsletter  
Friday 9th September Primary Assembly—Year 6—2.15pm

### 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



Term 4, 2016 General Meeting - Mon 14 Nov 2016: Topic Future Directions/Where we're heading in Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta

Diocesan Assembly Centre, Cnr Flushcombe Rd & Marian St, Blacktown



## Catherine McAuley Westmead Enrolments for Year 7 2018

There will be three Open Mornings specifically for Year 7 2018 enrolments on:

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September, Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October and  
Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2016  
9.15 – 11am**



*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)