



St Patrick's Primary School Newsletter

27th October 2016 Term 4 Issue 3

Dear Parents,

Tomorrow is World Teacher's Day. It is an opportunity for students and families to acknowledge the wonderful work teachers do all around the world. Most people I know have been influenced by a teacher at some stage in their lives. They may have been a teacher in primary school, high school, technical college or university. They may be teachers in a sporting or leisure context or life skills. For some of us our favourite teacher is our parish priest or pastor who demonstrates for us how to be wise, patient and compassionate.



One year we asked the children what makes a good teacher. None of their responses surprised us, however what did surprise us, was the maturity and wisdom expressed by the children – even the young ones. They commented that a good teacher is kind. That quality seemed to be the most popular. Good teachers, they said, are those that help them to learn. They appreciated teachers that knew their topics and were organized and prepared. Children liked teachers who let them make mistakes without getting 'cranky' and they especially liked teachers who could take a joke now and then. From what I gained from their responses they didn't mind firmness, but appreciated fairness also. They said that a good teacher is one that listens to children. All the children's responses were quite insightful and their pictures of teachers were equally delightful. The answer I like the most however, was a little girl who said ' a good teacher is one that teaches from her heart not her head only. Very special indeed!

The importance of relationships, as part of the learning process, cannot be underestimated. This relational trust assists students to 'get out of their comfort zone' and try new things. All children want to feel liked by their teacher and as teachers we aim at ensuring that all children in our classes feel this way.

When I ask teachers why they became teachers, the most common reason is that they wanted to make a difference in the lives of children. Teachers understand the importance of learning and how good learning can change people's lives. Surprisingly many teachers do not forget their students over time. The names may get a little blurry but most of us remember the precious individuals that crossed our path.

May I take this opportunity to thank the wonderful teachers at St Patrick's. Their dedication and interest in your children is obvious in the many ways they go that extra step to assist them to be happy and fulfilled at school. They are creative and enthusiastic and demonstrate to the children the importance of teamwork and commitment on a daily basis. Their love for their faith is one of their greatest assets, each bringing their own unique gifts to our community.



Lastly, may I wholeheartedly recommend the profession of teaching. The future of our world needs intelligent and faith filled people, who are willing to share their minds and hearts as teachers in our Catholic Schools.

God bless you and your families.

Bernadette Fabri

PRINCIPAL

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Office hours 8.30am—3.30pm

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www.stpatsparra.catholic.edu.au



Honour Award

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

KA	Germain Toledo
KM	Paul Khouri
1C	Magdalena Gilchrist
1S	Ysabel Daelo
2M	Isabella Kozlowska
2Y	Sheoni Perera



st patrick's award

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

KA	Benjamin Maroon
KM	Troy Daniel
1C	Elie Wehbe
1S	James Sitoa
2M	Ethan Bechara
2Y	Anthony Nakhoul



Happy Birthday to the following children who will celebrate their birthdays in the following week: Annette Francis, Alex El Khoury, Germain Toledo, Scarlett Khoury, Ethan Lao, Zara Fong, Nicole Aboumelhem, Rafael Buitizon

GOODBYE & GOOD LUCK FR JOHN PAUL

On behalf of the St Patrick's Parramatta community I would like to wish Fr John Paul all the very best. Fr John Paul has been appointed to the Parish of Richmond as Assistant Priest. We thank Father for all of his contribution to our school and community.



Condolences



We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to the Banzato family (Chiara 3T & Alissa 5C) on the passing of their Grandfather. Please keep the family in your prayers.



St. Patrick's Dance Group

The Mercy Music and Performance Academy and St. Patrick's Primary School would like to start an **Extracurricular Dance Group** in 2017.

Rehearsals would be held before school on a Monday morning on the grounds of Our Lady of Mercy College. Parents would drop students off at the gates of Our Lady of Mercy College for their group rehearsal. Students would then walk to St. Patrick's under the supervision of their dance teacher.

We are seeking expressions of interest from families whose children will be in years 4-6 in 2017.

We would kindly ask for all families to complete a short survey by following the link below.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/H8F8VHH>

St. Patrick's Music Ensemble

Do you learn a Concert band instrument?

Would you like to join the St. Pat's Music Ensemble?

The Mercy Music and Performance Academy and St. Patrick's Primary School are starting a Music Ensemble that rehearse every Tuesday on the grounds of Our Lady of Mercy College. Rehearsals are from 8am – 8:35. At the conclusion of the rehearsal, students are then taken across to St. Patrick's, under the supervision of the Ensemble Conductor.

Any students who are currently learning a Concert Band instrument are welcome.

For more information please email music@olmc.nsw.edu.au or call: 02 8838 1226 during school hours.

CAPTIVATE Showcase 2016 Videos On SALE Now

We are pleased to announce that access to download and /or stream the videos of ALL 7 showcases 2016 performances is available to purchase now. You can go straight to the booking site at <https://www.trybooking.com/MWPJ> or see some preview videos and get other information on our website. Video access cost \$10.00 and lets you view and download any (or all) of the Showcase videos.

Please be aware that these videos are being sold for private use only.

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLkewtc7y7Gnfbsh0304TKD7n3G7pNSYp>

St Patrick's Sponsors—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 sponsorship program. Monies from the sponsorship 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



TUCKSHOP 2U
will now be serving
HOT FOOD
on Tuesday and Thursday ONLY.

Please visit
tuckshop2u.com.au
to view our
updated menu.

Please note that our Banana Bread and Choc Vanilla
Blueberry Slice are no longer gluten free.

Not Returning to St Patrick's in 2017

Thank you to the parents who have informed the office that their child will not be returning to St Patrick's in 2017. If your child is not returning to St Patrick's in 2017 please send a letter to Ms Fabri stating the last day of attendance at St Patrick's and which school they will be moving onto in 2017.



ICE BLOCKS !!

It's Term 4 and we are selling ice blocks again every Friday. The money raised will help the people of Haiti whose country has been devastated by Cyclone Matthew. Some will also go to Catholic Mission to help children in Cambodia.

Each child may buy **ONE** ice at \$1.00.



Bookclub Issue 7 2016—Closing Date 28/10/2016 Please follow below instructions to order online

- Log into www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP or download our new iPhone or iPad app from the App store.
- Follow the online prompts to place order
- No need to send anything back to the school as the order automatically comes into the office.

Should you have any problems ordering online please call Mrs Jones in the office on 9630 1421.

REMINDER—
SPARTAN'S AFTERNOON PROGRAMS
 will resume Week 6 of Term 4

<u>2016 School Terms</u>	
Term 4	10th October to 16th December
<u>2017 Start Dates</u>	
27/01/2017	SDD (Children booked in for MAI Assessments TBA)
30/01/2017	SDD (Children booked in for MAI Assessments TBA)
31/01/2017	Years 1– 6 return
02/02/2017	Kindergarten Commence
Term 1 2017	31/01/2017—07/04/2017

Acceptable Haircuts / Hairstyles

- Boys haircuts are to be neat and simple. No undercuts, no lines, no Mohawks and no rats tails.
- Hair cuts are to be of consistent length ie **Not longer on the top and shaved no 1 sides.**
- Girls shoulder length or longer is required to be tied back with either hair ribbons or “scrunchie’s” in school colours.
- The use of hair gel is not permitted.



BACK TO
McAuley
DAY

SUNDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 2016,
12 NOON – 4.30PM

All past students, staff, parents and friends of Catherine McAuley Westmead (formerly known as Catherine McAuley Girls High) are invited to return to school to celebrate our 50th anniversary.



Golden Jubilee Mass to commence at 12 noon, Morley Centre, Catherine McAuley Westmead
Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv DD, Bishop of Parramatta

Following Mass enjoy a ‘trip down memory lane’ with memorabilia, displays, hospitality and performances.

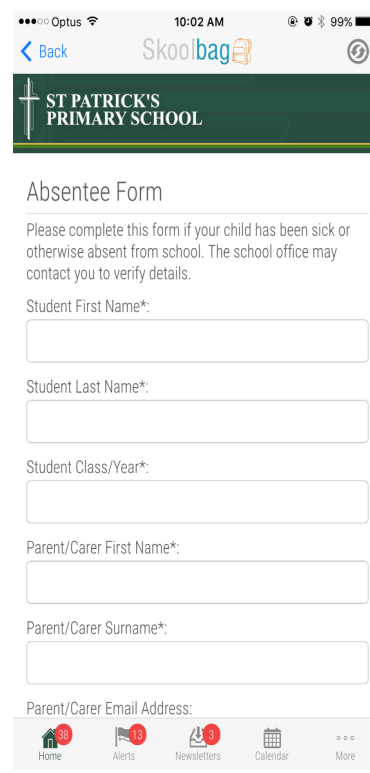
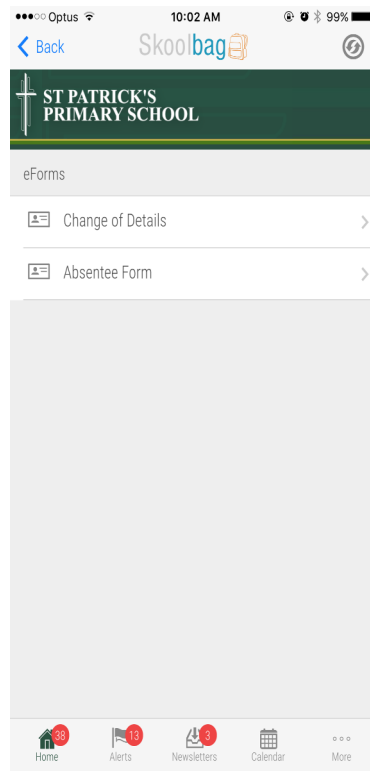
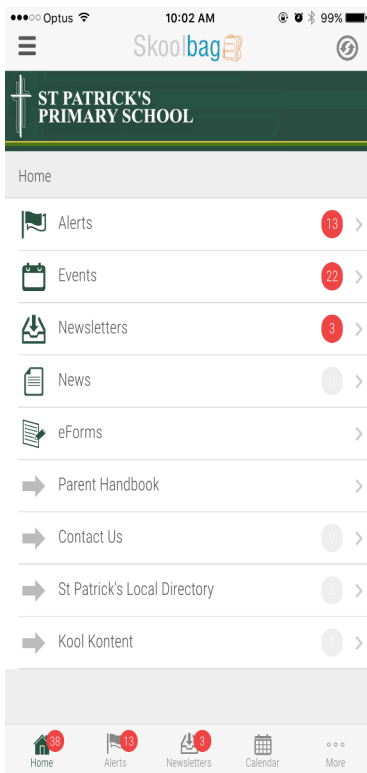
Further information please contact School Reception: 9849 9100 or mcauleywestmead@parra.catholic.edu.au
Catherine McAuley Westmead
 2 Darcy Road, Westmead
www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au

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.



Catherine McAuley Westmead Enrolments for Year 7 2018

There are two Open Mornings remaining specifically for Year 7 2018 enrolments on:

Wednesday 19th October and Thursday 17th November 2016 9.15 – 11am

Catherine McAuley is now accepting enrolments for Year 7 2018. Each year the demand for places at Catherine McAuley exceeds what is available. Join us on one of our two upcoming school tours especially for Year 7 2018 applicants but open to any year group.

These mornings will give interested parents and students the opportunity to tour our school on a normal school day. You will be able to view our school grounds and facilities, go into classrooms and meet our students and teachers. Enrolment packs will be available on the day.

To book places for a school tour on one of these tour mornings please contact our School Reception on 9849 9100.



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.

KEEP THESE TWO DATES

FRIDAY 11 November 9.15 am WAY of MERCY CELEBRATION

Friday 11 November is a sacred day for St Patrick's. The 4 metre tall Cross of Mercy and relics of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and St Teresa of Kalcatta which have been visiting schools and parishes in the Dioceses for the past three months make their final visit ... to our school.

We will process behind the cross, symbolically walking with all people, identifying with their joys and hopes, their griefs and their anxieties and praying for the strength to follow Christ. We will gather to pray and then people will have the opportunity to venerate the relics and cross.

Members of our school and Parish community are warmly invited to join us in this unique celebration.

SUNDAY 13 November 4.30 PM PARISH CELEBRATION of WAY of MERCY

The Cathedral Parish of St Patrick's Parramatta and several other parishes are gathering for the final 'hub' celebration of the *Way of the Mercy*.

The celebration begins at the Old Kings Oval at 4.15 pm with a procession to the forecourt of St Patrick's Cathedral. A liturgy and World Youth Day testimonial will follow and then adoration of the cross and relics.

Evening mass, which begins at 6pm, will be followed by the Closing of the Door of Mercy and a **fund-raising barbeque** for Arrupe Place. This is the Jesuit initiative to support refugees and asylum seekers in our community.

Please let me know ASAP how many people in your family will be staying for the barbeque.

Thank you for your ongoing support

Jude Kerr

Religious Education Coordinator.



2016 Important Dates

Term 4

Week 3

Friday 28th October Infants Assembly—Year 1—2.15pm

Week 4

Tuesday 1st November Footsteps Dance continues

Friday 4th November Primary Assembly—Year 6—2.15pm

Week 5

Monday 7th November Kinder 2017 Orientation

Tuesday 8th November Footsteps Dance continues

Wednesday 9th November Kinder 2017 Orientation

Thursday 10th November Kinder 2017 Orientation

Friday 11th November Remembrance Day
Way of Mercy Celebrations—9.15am

Week 6

Tuesday 15th November Footsteps Dance continues

Wednesday 16th Nov Kinder 2017 Parent Information Night

Friday 18th November Primary Assembly—Year 4—2.15pm

Week 7

Tuesday 22nd November Footsteps Dance continues

Friday 25th November Infants Assembly—Choir—2.15pm

Week 8

Tuesday 29th November Footsteps Dance continues

Friday 2nd December Primary Assembly—Year 5—2.15pm

Week 9

Tuesday 6th December Footsteps Dance continues

Friday 9th December Year 6 Graduation Mass—9.15am
Infants Assembly—Kinder—2.15pm

Week 10

Tuesday 13th December Footsteps Dance continues
Concert Evening—More details to come

Wed 14th December Swimming Carnival



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

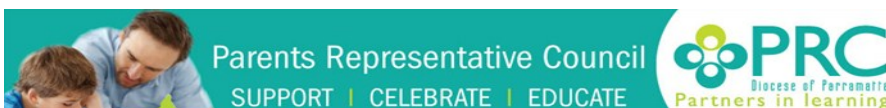
Weekday Masses

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)



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