



St Patrick's Primary School
Newsletter
24th November 2016
Term 4 Issue 7



Dear Parents

A few weeks ago I shared with you the process and details of student leadership at St Patrick's Parramatta. Students in Year 5 are currently getting ready to nominate some of their peers for the student leaders' positions.

This week my thoughts take me back to my visit to Rome in 2014, particularly the audience with the leader of our Catholic Church, our Holy Father, Pope Francis. For those who have not had the blessing of experiencing a visit to the Vatican it is truly one to look forward to. Keenly anticipated, our coach, filled with pilgrims, left our hotel very early in the morning. We were soon joined by thousands of pilgrims, young and old, from all over the world waving flags and streamers. Once past security we quickly found our seats in the booked area and settled in for a long, but worthwhile wait. There was something truly wonderful when you realize that you are indeed part of a world community of faithful people, a World Church, who share a belief like ours – our Catholic faith. The atmosphere was indescribable in that it was like a rock concert filled with the sounds of cheers and chants and that of pilgrims gathered saying the rosary. Ms Azar, on her recent visit to Poland for World Youth Day would have experienced this Universal Church. On the pope's arrival, the square lifted with the roar of elation, and it was at that point we realized that Pope Francis would be travelling around and amongst the people, on top of his 'Pope Mobile'. Now and then he would stop to speak to someone or to lift and bless a baby. People rushed to the barrier fences just to catch a closer glimpse of him, stretching out their hands and calling out his name. All the while he waved and smiled with an expression of genuine care and enjoyment at being amongst us.

By what is it about this leader that has renewed the Church in a way that has not been seen to this intensity before? What can we learn about leadership from him? I think the reason this man has had such an impact in such a relatively short time, is that Pope Francis seems to hold his love of people above and beyond all other things. Rules and systems in society are important because we all have a right to live in safety and dignity, but not when the makers of the rules lose sight of why the rules are there in the first place – people and the world we live in. Many stories are told of when Pope Francis has gone out of his way to ensure that others are treated with respect and dignity; the time he asked his driver to stop at the side of the road to give a blessing to a sick child on a bed which had been wheeled out by his family, is but one example of the way he shows God's love in a very human and real way. The saying, "Actions speak louder than words" is one of my favourite sayings and Pope Francis is a leader that epitomizes this sentiment. In striving to be like such a leader one may get the impression that it demands perfection, however perfection is both unrealistic and lacks humanness. I think it is authenticity that Pope Francis demonstrates, integrity in a very inclusive and compassionate way. After all we can only be ourselves and hopefully by the end of our lives – the best version of ourselves.

As we head toward the end of the year, let us think and pray for all who find themselves in leadership for 2017, especially for newly appointed Bishop of Parramatta, Bishop Vincent Long Van Ngyuen; that they may be wise and considerate of all people and that they may demonstrate the same love and dignity Our Lord Jesus Christ taught through His ministry. Please especially keep the students in Year 5 in your thoughts and prayers.

God Bless you and your family

Bernadette Fabri

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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 | Anthony Sassen | Malia-Rose Campbell |
| KM | Noah Younan | Julia Vytingco |
| 1C | Adam Jurisic | Alexandriya Izmestyeva |
| 1S | Oscar Morgan | Christopher Mekdessi |
| 2M | Oliver Kougelis | Andrew Doumit |
| 2Y | Joseph Sassen | Madison Younes |



Condolences

We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to the Wakim Family (Sara-Marie 5T & Angelina 3T) on the passing of their grandfather. Please keep the family in your prayers.

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.

st patrick's award



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

| | | |
|----|---------------------|--------------------|
| KA | Gabrielle Vella | Sienna Moussa |
| KM | Chloe Geagea | Joshua Manago |
| 1C | Noah Reyes-Mangabat | Tara DiChio |
| 1S | Weyata Lamin | Thomas Aguilera |
| 2M | Cedric Guino | Feima Koima |
| 2Y | Tyler Morson | Christian Sta Rosa |



SAVE THE DATE

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2016 Christmas Concert

This year the St Patrick's Christmas Concert will be on **Tuesday 13 December, beginning at 6.30pm in the OLMC hall.**

The evening will include a Nativity and a presentation by each Year group of their Footsteps dancing.

We are looking forward to sharing an evening of Christmas entertainment and good wishes with you in air-conditioned comfort!

Information about what students are to wear will be provided in the next week or two.

Please note: this is a school function and all children are expected to attend.

Thank you,

The Christmas Concert Committee.



Happy Birthday to the following children who will celebrate their birthdays in the following week: Zavier Moujalli, Gabrielle Vella, Mikayla Shalala, Ethan Bechara, Savannah Chiha, Ethan Xue, Keenen Rosauo, Marvin Molina, Emily-Rose Grech, Kayleigh Figueredo

SCHOOL HOURS

Dear Parents

Can I remind you that school hours are from 8.50am to 3.00pm. Although school finishes at 3.00pm we have extended the pick up time to 3.30pm to allow for and to assist with the traffic congestion around the school. This is an extra half an hour.

We have noticed however that there are a growing number of children who are regularly not picked up before 3.30pm. This can often distress children and is putting extra strain on staff who have often arranged meetings, organised tasks and who have after work commitments. It is recommended that if you are having difficulty picking up children on time that you organise after school care. Thanking you for your consideration and cooperation with this matter.

Bernadette Fabri



A Very Special Baptism

I am now officially part of God's family because I was baptised last Friday.

This means a lot to me as I have joined the Catholic community which means I must always be merciful to those I meet and help the poor and those in need as Jesus did when he was on earth.

Jacky Zhao

Last Friday Year 6 gathered in the Chapel at St Patrick's Cathedral with Jacky, his parents and Godparents on the occasion of his Baptism. Father Bob led us through the ceremony, explaining each step to us.

Witnessing our fellow classmate be baptised was the best experience because we were a part of welcoming Jacky into God's family. It was a very special occasion and now Jacky is able to receive the sacraments of Penance, Eucharist and Confirmation.

After the Baptism, Jacky's parents and Godparents prepared a delicious morning tea for us all to share.

Alana and John

We ask everyone in our school community to pray for Jacky as he begins his journey as a Catholic.



St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Christmas Carols

Sunday 4 December after the 6pm Mass

Come and be a part of the Parish for their annual *Christmas Carols in the Cathedral Forecourt*. Join our own school choir, the youth group and others as they lead us in carol singing. Bring a rug, some chairs and a picnic tea OR buy a sausage sandwich and cold drink.

Kindergarten Camsley Farm Excursion

Last Thursday Kindergarten went on their first excursion to Camsley Farm. The children were excited to learn about all the animals at the farm and were even able to get up close and personal with the animals and even experience milking a cow. The students watched an experienced farmer do a whip cracking demonstration and a sheep sheering demonstration, and loved watching the sheep dogs round up a heard of sheep. With so much to do and see we saw many children have a snooze on the bus on the way home. It was a fabulous day of learning, enjoyed by all.



Surprise!—More Raffle Winners

Due to the fact that last Father's Day the school received 2 vouchers from Eastern Creek Raceway after the raffle had been drawn, we have 2 surprise winners. We are pleased to announce the following winners:-

Abbey Matta KM

Antonia Behan 6W

Please note that all tickets purchased were retained for this purpose.



OUR LADY OF MERCY COLLEGE PARRAMATTA

PARENT/ CARER INVITATION Tuesday 6th December 2016, 6.00pm

FREE

Helping your middle school teen become confident and capable

Clinical Psychologist Dr Judith Locke, is offering a 2-hour parenting session (plus 15 minutes of question time) to parents/ carers of students at OLMC Parramatta. Judith uses latest research and clinical experience to show positive and effective strategies parents/ carers can use to help their teens become more confident and capable at school and beyond.

ABOUT DR JUDITH LOCKE Dr Judith Locke, the founder of Confident and Capable, is a clinical psychologist, and former school counsellor, teacher and workplace trainer. Judith is the author of "The Bonsai Child" which details modern parenting changes and practical strategies to help children develop confidence and resilience.

Judith trains throughout Australia and internationally on topics related to parenting, education and personal well-being. She also provides psychological commentary on current issues to local and national media, including TV and radio.

Judith believes providing useful information to parents early on will ensure a long-term positive impact on children and families and assist students to achieve their potential.

*"I loved this workshop... it told me the things I was doing right!"
"Very enjoyable and informative" - Feedback from Judith's previous sessions*

ABOUT THE PRESENTATION

Assists parents help their teen experience happy, fulfilling years at school, and build their resilience and confidence in a range of areas

Gives parents strategies they can use to improve their relationship with their teen through, what can be, tricky adolescent years

Teaches parent how to encourage their teens to be responsible, contributing members of the family

Helps parents assist their teen start to become ready for the demands of the young adult years, particularly if they'll remain under your roof!

Tuesday 6th December

Tea & Coffee: 5.30pm

Presentation: 6.00pm - 8.15pm

OLMC Parramatta, Edith Angel Hall
Enter via Ross Street

RSVP 1 December via link
Limited seats so please RSVP promptly

RSVP: Judith Locke Parent/Carer Presentation



ORDER OF MALTA
NSW

If you would like to be informed of the upcoming events of the Order of Malta and our charitable works, please email your postal address to info@smom.org.au to receive a copy of our newsletter

The Order of Malta invites you to

Lourdes Day Mass 2016

The Order of Malta NSW invites you to the Lourdes Day Mass, a mass for the sick and fragile in our community. A blessing of the sick will follow the celebration of the Liturgy with water brought from the spring at the shrine of Lourdes.

It is a manifestation of the Order's commitment to fulfill their mission to nurture, witness and protect the faith and serve the Lord's sick and poor.

Date: Saturday, 3 December 2016

Time: 10am

Location: St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney

Accessibility details:

Wheelchair access is by the side pedestrian gate in St Mary's Road (near College St corner)

Parking access:

Paid, secure parking is available at the Cook and Phillip Park Aquatic & Fitness Centre carpark (entrance from Cathedral Street).



ORDER OF MALTA
NSW

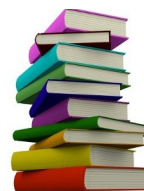
Year 6 Farewell Dinner

On behalf of all the Year 6 parents and their families I would like to sincerely thank Mrs Paula Michael and her committee of parents for organising the Year 6 farewell dinner last Friday night. This parent function enabled the children to enjoy a night where they could enjoy each other's company with much dancing and celebration as well as beautiful food. The children are now getting ready for their Graduation Mass and ceremony later this term.

With Appreciation
Bernadette Fabri

OZ Fashions opening & closing times during the Christmas period.

Our last trading day for this year will be Saturday, 24th December (9am – 4pm) and we will re-open on Thursday, 5th January (9am-5:30pm). I strongly recommend parents purchase their uniform early January to avoid lengthy queues.



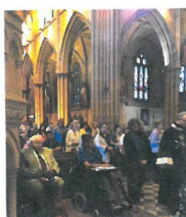
Bookclub Issue 8 2016—

Closing Date 25/11/2016

**Please follow below instructions to order online
LAST ISSUE FOR THE YEAR**

- 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.



ICE BLOCKS !!

From this Friday the money raised from ice block's will support the Vinnies Christmas Appeal.

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

Christmas Carols at the Shrine

The Schoenstatt Sisters would like to invite you to join them for an evening of carol singing at the Shrine.

Please bring a blanket or chairs and some snacks if you wish.

Children are encouraged to come dressed as angels and shepherds.

**Where: Mount Schoenstatt Shrine
230 Fairlight Rd Mulgoa**
**When: Saturday 17th December
7.30pm-8.30pm**

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.



If you would like to submit an expression of interest please see Mr Younis.



Catholic Education
Diocese of Parramatta

2017 Parramatta Diocesan Team Sport Trials

Any Primary students enrolled in Parramatta Diocesan Schools in Year 5 and 6 in 2017 are invited to participate in the Parramatta Diocesan Team Sport Trials during Term One/Two in 2017 (Winter Sports - AFL, Football, Hockey, Netball, Rugby League League, Rugby Union & Touch).

It is important to note that these trials are generally for those children who display an above average ability and/or have representative experience in their chosen sport. While teams are open in age it is **strongly recommended that only children of a representative standard in Years 5 & 6 in 2017 be invited to attend.**

Parramatta Diocesan trials in 2017 will be held in the following sports:

*AFL (boys), Diving (B&G), Hockey (B&G), Football (B&G), Golf (B&G), Hockey (B&G), Netball (girls), Rugby League (11yrs & Opens), Rugby Union (boys), & Touch(B&G).

To be eligible for selection for these trials an Online Team Registration Form must be completed that can be accessed via the website

www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au. This online form is an **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST** for the 2017 Parramatta Diocesan Primary Sport Team trials. You may complete this form to attend a selection trial or if you have been selected in a representative squad or team. One form is to be completed per child, per individual sport. Each sport has its own criteria therefore, it is imperative that the correct form is completed.

Please note that your online registration is an **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST ONLY** and **MUST be approved by your child's school**. In order for your child to attend the nominated trial or event this may come down to the discretion of your school as to who is selected to attend the trial. In some sports only 2 students per school can be nominated. **Please complete all fields and especially "Representative Experience"**.

Please ensure that the SUBMIT button has been pressed upon completing the form and notification email will be sent to the parent/guardian listed on the form confirming this expression of interest has been received.

Your child's school will notify you one week prior to the trial date if your child is to attend to the Parramatta Diocesan trial for their selected sport by providing a trial information sheet.

Under no circumstances will a child be eligible to trial if the Online Registration Form has not been completed and approved by the school by the closing date.

Winter Sports Registrations close Friday 3rd February 5pm.

Please contact your school sports coordinator for any further information.

Yours In Sport,

Margaret Thornton

Teaching Educator – Primary Sport

Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta

2016 Important Dates

Term 4

Week 7

Friday 25th November **Whole School Assembly—Choir—2.00pm**

Week 8

Tuesday 29th November Footsteps Dance continues

Friday 2nd December Primary Assembly—Year 4—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

Monday 12th December Meet the Teacher Afternoon

Tuesday 13th December Footsteps Dance continues

Concert Evening — 6.30pm OLMC Concert Hall

Wed 14th December Swimming Carnival—Yr 2 to Yr 6

Thurs 15th December Year 6 Fun Day

Friday 16th December Thanksgiving Mass

Whole School Farewell Assembly

LAST DAY OF 2016 FOR STUDENTS

2017 Start Dates

27/01/2017 SDD (Children booked in for MAI Assessments TBA)

30/1/2017 SDD (Children booked in for MAI Assessments TBA)

31/01/2017 Years 1– 6 return

02/02/2017 Kindergarten Commence

2016 Swimming Carnival

This year our St Patrick's Swimming Carnival will be held on **Wednesday 14th December 2016 at Parramatta Swimming Pool**. All students in **Years 2 to 6** will be expected to attend the Carnival and participate in either race events or novelty activities.

For your child to compete in race events they **MUST BE A COMPETENT AND CONFIDENT SWIMMER ABLE TO SWIM 50m WITHOUT STOPPING**. Students competing in race events will be given novelty time at the end of the Carnival in the 50m pool if time permits. If your child is not a confident and competent 50m swimmer please indicate that they will participate in the novelty events in the smaller pool. They will be under the supervision of teachers and time permitting will receive a couple of sessions. **STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN NOVELTY ACTIVITIES ONLY WILL NOT BE PERMITTED IN THE 50m RACE POOL AT ANY TIME OF THE DAY**. The safety of students is paramount and therefore we rely on parents and students to demonstrate their full cooperation.



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)