

St Patrick's Primary School

Newsletter



7th December 2018 Term 4 Week 9

Dear Parents,

Last Sunday was the first Sunday of the season of Advent, a time of preparation for the birth of our Lord Jesus, on Christmas Day. Every weekend, from now until the end of Advent, churches all over the world will light one of the Advent candles and say prayers remembering this special time of preparation in the Church's calendar. There are five candles on the Advent Wreath, three purple, one rose and the last candle, white. The purple candles are symbols of hope peace and love and the rose candle represents joy. The final white candle, in the centre of the wreath, is always lit on Christmas Day as a symbol of Christ.

*Jesus' message of hope, peace, love and joy are as relevant to our world today as they were over two thousand years ago, at the time of his birth. The challenge for each one of us is how to live this message in our own lives. Are we people of **hope**? Do we see and proclaim to our family a positive outlook for the future or do we get caught up in the 'doom and gloom' often portrayed in the evening media. Are we a people of **peace**? Do we promote compassion and forgiveness in our lives? Do we encourage our children to forgive when they are wronged by other children and do we demonstrate forgiveness to those who disappoint or hurt us? Are we people of **love**? Is love the flavor of our intentions, our driver when making decisions? Are we people of **Joy**? Are we beacons of light for others to see? Is the joy we feel in loving the life that Jesus died on the cross to give us, evident in the language we use and the attitudes that we portray.*

It is so easy in the hustle and the bustle of Christmas to get caught up in the busyness and the stress often associated with this time of year. In Mark's Gospel last Sunday we heard a calling to 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come.' The true meaning of this celebration is often lost in the commercialism and consumerism so prevalent in society today and we forget to be alert and vigilant.

The season of Advent provides each one of us with the opportunity to stop, reflect and discuss with our children the true meaning of this joyful celebration which should have far more to do with giving of ourselves than receiving gifts.

Please find below some thoughts Pope Francis shared with his congregation last Sunday:

- "Jesus exhorts us to pay attention and to watch, to be ready to welcome him at the moment of his return."*
- "The person who pays attention, is the one who, in the noise of the world, does not let him or herself be overwhelmed by distraction or superficiality, but lives in a full and conscious way, with a concern directed above all to others."*
- "The attentive person tries to counter the indifference and cruelty in the world and rejoices in the treasures of beauty that also exist in it."*

God bless you and your family
Bernadette Fabri
Principal

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IMPORTANT DATES FOR WEEK 10

MONDAY 11th December School Concert 'The Magical Christmas Box'

VENUE: OLMC Hall
TIME: 1.30pm start

Students to wear their costume to school and bring any accessories with them

TUESDAY 12th December Swimming Carnival Trophy Presentation

VENUE: School Cola
TIME: 8.50am at Morning assembly

Footsteps Dance Performance

VENUE: School Cola (*weather permitting*)
TIME: 1.45pm start
Students to wear their sport uniform to school

FRIDAY 15th December Thanksgiving Mass


VENUE: St Patrick's Cathedral
TIME: 9.15am (*bell to ring at 8.45am*)



Honour Award

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

KA	Panayioti Yannakis
KM	Olivia Moussa
1C	Mia Wehbe
1S	Cynthia Daher
2M	Sean Feng
2Y	Raymond Joe Khoury



st patrick's award

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

KA	Angelina Bounassif
KM	Joseph Norman
1C	Christian Jreij
1S	Steven Abraham
2M	Antonio Moussa
2Y	Jake Doueihy



Happy Birthday to the following children who will celebrate their birthdays in the coming week:
Mark Sonido, Joseph Norman, Frank Agostino, Jonah Freifer, Lucas Lathouras-Beacroft, Christian Barakat, Jacob Sayegh, Syrus Dig, John Paul Wehbe

St Patrick's Parramatta
RETURN TO SCHOOL 2018 DATES

Week One 2018	Monday 29th January 2018	Tuesday 30th January 2018	Wednesday 31st January 2018	Thursday 1st February 2018	Friday 2nd February 2018
	Staff Development Day – Yrs K-6 Individual Maths Assessments	Staff Development Day – Yrs K-6 Individual Maths Assessments	All students commence the 2018 school year. Kindergarten to Year 6		
	Parents will be asked to book their children into one session with their child's class teacher on any of these 2 days.				



THE EASY WAY TO BOOK
SCHOOL INTERVIEWS

Individual Maths Assessment Interviews

To assist us in providing teaching and learning experiences that are specific to your child's needs in numeracy the teachers will be conducting Individual Math Assessments on the following Staff Development Days:

Monday 29th January 2018 & Tuesday 30th January 2018

Please go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and enter the following codes to book your spot:

Kindergarten tkdwh
Years 1—6 fp8zr

Children are asked to be brought to and picked up from the classrooms at their scheduled time. At drop off parents may then leave and make use of their free time.

Thank you for your support and understanding as we conduct these assessments as early as possible to minimize disruption to the first few weeks of school.

<u>Scholastic Year</u>	<u>Sch Yr Attendance Level %</u>
K	98.3%
01	87.2%
02	86.9%
03	93.1%
04	89.7%
05	88.8%
06	87.3%

CEDP Attendance Benchmark Target Level = 90%

St Patrick's Current Attendance

Level = 90.2%

Not Returning to St Patrick's in 2018

Thank you to the parents who have informed the office that their child will not be returning to St Patrick's in 2018. If your child is not returning to St Patrick's in 2018 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 2018. This does not apply to year 6 students.

GRADUATION MORNING TEA

All parents, family and friends of Year 6 students are welcome to join them in celebrating a special Graduation Morning Tea, after Graduation Mass, tomorrow **Friday, 8th December, 2017**. This will take place in the Cathedral Hall. Thank you to the parents of the newly elected 2018 school leaders for organising this event. If any other Year 5 parent is happy to help in any way please call the school office (8832 4600) Any Assistance will be greatly appreciated.

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Preparation is well underway for this year's **Christmas Concert**. It will be held in the Edith Angel Hall on **Monday 11 December**.

There will be a whole school practise on Monday morning so all students are asked to wear the nominated Christmas concert costume all day. Information regarding the costumes is outlined below. If your child has a speaking or walk on role we ask they bring their costume and wear appropriate mufti clothing on Monday. They will be given time to change into their costume prior to the concert.

Kindy – Christmas or red, green or white t-shirt with shorts, skirt or jeans. (Santa hats optional)

Year 1 – Students who are playing snowflakes may want to wear all white, whilst elves may want to wear green and red clothing, with elf ears or a festive headband. All other children wear Christmas themed clothing

Year 2 – Green tops and brown/ black pants to resemble Christmas trees. Crackers - blue, Yellow, Red and Purple - one colour for each child.

Year 3 – Gingerbread people - orange, yellow or brown T-shirts and dark shorts. Accessories as directed by class letter sent home.

Year 4 – White t-shirt and white shorts/pants/skirt (students are asked to also bring – gloves/mittens, scarf, hat/beanie.

Year 5 - green, red or white T-shirt and dark coloured shirt. We would also like them to purchase an 'elf' from the Reject Shop and bow tie or braces.

Year 6 - Christmas or red, green or white t-shirt with shorts, skirt or jeans (Santa hats or hair decorations (for girls) – optional.

We are looking forward to sharing our gift of song and dance with you on Monday.

Leanda Standing

NAME THE CRANE UNVEILING



FOOTSTEPS DANCE CONCERT - UNDER THE COLA (Weather permitting)

All parents and friends are welcome to see a special presentation and celebration of the dance moves the children have been learning during their Footsteps Dance classes this term.

Hoping to see you there! **12TH DECEMBER at 2.00pm**



Dear Parents/Guardians,

OZ FASHIONS your uniform supplier is now selling all uniforms required for 2018. We are open 6 days a week Monday-Friday 9.00-5.30pm Saturday 9.00-4.00pm.

Please purchase your uniforms before the new year to avoid long queues and to guarantee we have all the sizes you require.

We also sell CLARKS black leather school shoes and CLARKS white leather sports shoes at very competitive prices.

Thank you

Oz Fashions



SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS AT MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY – mq.edu.au/about/holidays

- Children are introduced to science concepts and skills in a safe and supervised environment.
- Courses teach the concepts through experiments, art, drama, physical activity, craft and other hands-on activities.
- Students are provided with experiences and activities that help them to understand a concept or gain knowledge in an active way.
- Courses are added and rotated each school holidays, and drop off and pick-up times are designed for the working parent.
- The Junior Science Academy is for children in Years K-6 in primary school.



Drop off	8.30am – 9.30am
Activities	9.30am – 4.30pm
Pick-up	4.30pm – 5.30pm
Cost	\$122

