



St Patrick's Primary School

Newsletter

1st March 2018 Term 1 Week 5

2018

Dates to Remember

February

March

Friday 2nd Primary Assembly—Yr 6
School Hall—2.15pm

Week 6

Monday 5th Triskills
Tuesday 6th Triskills
Friday 9th Riverside Theatre
Symphony—Yrs 3 & 4
Infants Assembly—Kindy
School Hall—2.15pm

Week 7

Monday 12th Welcoming Ceremony
Kindy Students & New families to the school
NO TRISKILLS

Tuesday 13th Triskills
Excursion Year 2
Rouse Hill Farm

Friday 16th St Patrick's Day
Celebrations

Week 8

Monday 19th Triskills
Tuesday 20th Triskills
Friday 23rd Primary Cross Country
(Runners only)

Dear Parents

Last Sunday I took the opportunity to read Pope Francis' Ash Wednesday homily. Once again his eloquent and sometimes poetic words struck a chord with me and connected me once again to Father Bob's challenge to be open to being transformed this Lent, through focussed reflection and action.

Our Holy Father spoke about allowing our hearts to 'beat once more in tune with the vibrant heart of Jesus' How beautiful! Perhaps you like me know when at times we feel out of sync with our Lord's vibrant heart; we know something is not quite right and we yearn to live in harmony again. Over the next few newsletters I would like to share some of his wise words with you and your family.

Pope Francis offers us an opportunity to rekindle our hearts through the focus on three words: Pause, See and Return. This week let us look at what he says about **PAUSE**.

Pause a little, leave behind the unrest and commotion that fill the soul with bitter feelings which never get us anywhere. Pause from this compulsion to a fast-paced life that scatters, divides and ultimately destroys time with family, with friends, with children, with grandparents, and time as a gift... time with God.

Pause for a little while, refrain from the need to show off and be seen by all, to continually appear on the "noticeboard" that makes us forget the value of intimacy and recollection.

Pause for a little while, refrain from haughty looks, from fleeting and pejorative comments that arise from forgetting tenderness, compassion and reverence for the encounter with others, particularly those who are vulnerable, hurt and even immersed in sin and error.

Pause for a little while, refrain from the urge to want to control everything, know everything, destroy everything; this comes from overlooking gratitude for the gift of life and all the good we receive.

Pause for a little while, refrain from the deafening noise that weakens and confuses our hearing, that makes us forget the fruitful and creative power of silence.

Pause for a little while, refrain from the attitude which promotes sterile and unproductive thoughts that arise from isolation and self-pity, and that cause us to forget going out to encounter others to share their burdens and suffering.

Pause for a little while, refrain from the emptiness of everything that is instantaneous, momentary and fleeting, that deprives us of our roots, our ties, of the value of continuity and the awareness of our ongoing journey.

Pause in order to look and contemplate!

God bless you and your family

Bernadette Fabri



Honour Award

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



3L	Jubran Sayegh	Tara DiChio
3T	Thomas Aguilera	Alexandriya Izmestyeva
4B	Jiajie Weng	Isobel Rahme
4G	Sharbel Georges	Talia Kalouch
5C	Aiden Kalathil	Ella Abdallah
5T	Joshua Ty	Isabella Moses
6P	Aidan Vancuylenberg	Elliana Coles
6W	Norm Shidiak	Elna Koikkara

St Patrick's Current Attendance Level = 88.9%

K = 91.2%

3 = 90.3%

1 = 89.7%

4 = 95.0%

2 = 92.9%

5 = 88.3%

6 = 75.4%



Happy Birthday to the following children who will celebrate their birthday in the coming week:

Cayenne Porshea Lleva, Kayla Amaral, Lacey Bond, Samuel Navasardyan, Sean Feng, Malcom Nasr, Tiffany McCloskey, Harrison Chidiac, Hunter Morson

st patrick's award

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

3L	Adam Jurisic	Meagan Erive
3T	Matthew Draybi	Daniella Gereige
4B	Tyler Morson	Elisa Daher
4G	Malcolm Nasr	Ruby Younan
5C	Justin Makhoul	Savannah Chiha
5T	Isaac Bechara	Dunya Grudic
6P	Matthew Khreich	Tharuki Randeniya
6W	Hamish McGlinn	Alana Medak

ICE BLOCKS



Nothing is more refreshing on a hot summer day than a icy cold ice-block! We will be selling ice-blocks every Friday until the end of term. They will cost \$1 and will be available every Friday during lunch.

The proceeds will go towards organising a wonderful St Patrick's Day celebration for your children, to be held later in the term.

We require 2 parents for tomorrow (2/3/2018).

If you are interested in helping sell the ice-blocks on Friday and can spare 1 hour between 1.00pm and 2pm please contact the office.

2018 School Fees

There has been a delay with Term 1 Statements being mailed out. We have been advised that they will start to be sent out tomorrow. Directions for direct debits or bpays will be included in the mailout, please take note of dates required to return forms. Please note all arrangements will need to be updated for 2018 as previous arrangements are void.

NO GLASS BOTTLES PLEASE

Parents are asked not to send glass items in any form to school. Glass drink bottles and lunch containers for example can easily be dropped resulting in a safety hazard for the children. Thank you.

From our Leaders ...

Student Leadership

Student Leadership and student voice are very important at St Patrick's so every Thursday the student representative council (SRC's) comes together for meetings to discuss what the student body wants. Every class in the school has 2 SRC members, one boy and one girl who were chosen to represent their class by their peers.



The SRC representatives are here to inform the teachers about what the students want in their classrooms and throughout the school. A great example of student voice is selling ice-blocks on Fridays, the birthday seat and the online tuckshop. As representatives children are taught from a young age how to be good leaders and work collaboratively to solve problems, which is a great preparation for their futures.

We value student voice and understand the importance of student leadership. We are looking forward to sharing the ideas generated by the team throughout the year. Maybe if you are talking about ways we can improve the learning and time together at St Patrick's, at home, you can suggest your child places their ideas in the 'Suggestion box' in their classrooms, then at the next SRC meeting I will discuss it and see what we can do.

Thankyou
Erica Jurisic

Writers Corner



Many thanks to those who submitted responses to last week's writing prompt! I am seeing some great writing devices such as similes and metaphors. I wonder if you can remember to use one in your submission this week!

Our writing prompt this week is: **You come home one day after school. Sitting on your kitchen table is a box addressed to you. You pick it up. You shake it. You have no idea what it is. What is in the box? Where did it come from?**



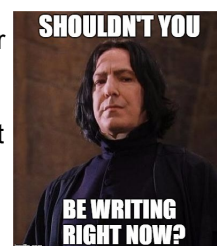
Will you write a newspaper article about the mystery? Or perhaps a narrative about what lay inside. You might write a procedure to warn people about opening strange boxes!

Remember that other students, teachers and parents will be reading your responses, so make sure your writing is easy to read or typed. **Parents, we'd love to read your contributions too!**

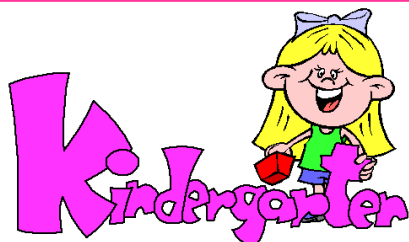
Submissions for this week will be due on **Tuesday**. Please hand them in to your teachers and I will have them displayed!

Would you like to submit a writing prompt for the Writer's Corner? Write your idea down and send it through to Mrs Stojanovski.

Happy Writing!
Mrs Stojanovski
Literacy Coordinator



ENROLMENTS FOR 2018 KINDERGARTEN ARE NOW OPEN



Enrolment packs for Kindergarten 2018 are available from the school between the hours of 9am -3pm Monday to Friday.

When you return the enrolment you will need to bring your child's original Birth Certificate, Baptismal Certificate, Passports (parent's and child's if born overseas), Immunization Certificates and proof of address (council rates, drivers licence). We will

photo copy these and return them to you at this time.

Enrolment forms are required to be returned by 31st March 2018.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

INCORPORATING

ST PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

'EVERY LEARNER, EVERY DAY: TRANSFORMING LEARNING'

This year St Patrick's will celebrate the wonderful opportunities that our school offers during Catholic Schools Week from 12-16 March. The theme of Catholic Schools Week is 'Every Learner, Every Day: Transforming Learning'. Catholic Schools Week is a great opportunity to highlight not only the best of what we do, but also what happens in our school every day that makes St Patrick's the terrific community to which we all belong.

For that reason, we invite you and your family to join us throughout the week during one of the organised events. This is the ideal opportunity to support our community and learn more about the great things that take place in Catholic schools every day. There will be many occasions throughout the week to join with your child and witness their enjoyment of school as well as their learning.

A summary of the activities are included on the timetable below:

Monday 12/3/2018	Thursday 15/03/2018	Friday 16/03/2018
9.15am Welcoming Ceremony	Green Mufti and ice-block Day - Gold Coin Donation.	Motiv8Sports
10.00am Morning Tea for parents in the hall		9.30 - 11.30am Kindy - Year 3
10.30am Open classrooms for Kindergarten to Year 2		12.00- 2.00pm Year 4-6
11.00am Open classrooms for Year 3- Year 6.		Art Competition

WELCOMING CEREMONY

The Staff and children of St Patrick's warmly invite all Kindergarten and new families to our official 'Welcoming Ceremony' on 12 March at 9.15 am. This special event will take place in the amphitheatre, outside the Year Six classrooms.

During the ceremony we welcome all our new kindergarten children and any children who have joined us in other grades throughout the school.

We look forward to welcoming you to our school community and being part of your child's school journey.

Mrs Standring
(Religious Education Coordinator)

ST PATRICK'S DAY OLYMPICS 2018 hosted by MOTIV8SPORTS

Dear Parents,

We are very excited to announce our grand St Patrick's Day event:

"Motiv8sports Olympics 2018"

OLYMPICS 2018 is an action packed event designed & performed by Motiv8sports for children at St Patrick's Primary School. On the 16th March 2018 Motiv8sports will work with the staff and students of St Patrick's to perform one of the most memorable events of the year. OLYMPICS 2018 is an event full of colour, culture & an amazing array of activities...Sport, Music, Leadership & team building activities. Every child who participates in OLYMPICS 2018 will be working towards a common goal throughout the day, that is to have an amazing level of fun and earn as many points as possible for their team. Motiv8sports Olympics 2018 is fully supervised by Motiv8sports Staff and St Patrick's Staff.

Date: Friday 16th February

Venue: Parramatta Park (The Picnic Ground)

Time: Children will be divided into 2 categories on the day.

MORNING SESSION 9.30am to 11.30am = JUNIOR OLYMPICS
Kindy / Year 1 / Year 2 / Year 3

AFTERNOON SESSION 12.00pm to 2.00pm = SENIOR OLYMPICS
Year 4 / Year 5 / Year 6

Uniform: Sports Uniform

Other requirements: children will need to wear a hat, carry a small backpack with a hand towel, a light sports drink bottle and a snack. Children might like to have a spare T- shirt. (Children may get lightly wet in the 'Sponge Get Wet' activity - weather permitting).

All children will be having lunch at school either before or after the OLYMPICS 2018.

Cost: No cost to parents.

Note Please: As this is a structured Physical Education Activity organised by an outsourced company (incursion) parents who wish to come and watch will be asked to stay within a designated Parent Area. All children will be required to return to school for other St Patrick's Day Activities. For organisational and safety purposes No dismissal will be allowed from the park.

ST PATRICK'S DAY ART COMPETITION

All classes will be participating in an art competition to celebrate the mission of St Patrick. A man of resilience, compassion and respect, we continue to be inspired by his example. The artworks will demonstrate how we show these same values at our school. Prizes will be awarded across each stage and the winning artworks displayed. All students will complete their artwork in class as part of their St Patrick's Day activities.

K-2 will be given a picture of St Patrick. They will be asked to draw all the ways we show resilience, compassion and respect at our school. Parents may want to talk about these three important values and how we can live the example of St Patrick in our classrooms and on the playground.

3-6 will complete their artwork using a medium of their choice. This may include charcoal, paint, oil pastels or collage. Their artwork will demonstrate ways in which their daily choices reflect respect, compassion and resilience.

We look forward to celebrating the legacy of St Patrick!

AFTERNOON PICK UP - NEW SIGNAGE

I am very pleased to report that the new signage on Trott Street has now been installed by Parramatta City Council. This means that our school community are now legally permitted to wait on Trott Street **from 3:00pm** as part of the school pick up procedure. I ask all drivers to adhere to all road rules and signage and to follow the guidelines below:

- Please follow all signage
- Please ensure all driveways are kept clear at all times to allow exit and entry to the school neighbours
- Family signs need to be large and clear so that the teachers on duty can call out names from a distance. Parents are asked to assist the teachers to keep the flow of traffic happening so as to prevent unnecessary delay. Clear signage is critical to enabling this flow.
- **Please do not line up in front of the school until the start of duty at 3pm.** All drivers must circle the block until this time. Failure to adhere to this rule may result in a fine.



I wish to thank parents for your cooperation and the Parramatta City Council for assisting the school in developing an effective and safe pick up procedure. Thank you to parents for your feedback.

I appeal to all drivers to continue to work together with the school staff on duty to ensure the safe dismissal of all students and to minimize the stress to the teachers who often sacrifice comfort to undertake this duty.

Project Compassion Lenten Appeal

During Lent we are encouraged to outwardly prepare for the Easter celebrations by participating in prayer, self-denial and helping others. Often, during this time the question on everyone's lips is 'What are you giving up for Lent?'

May we be encouraged to think about how we will use the time of Lent to walk closer with our Lord. The Lenten period is a time where we are asked to reflect on the changes we can make to help us be more like Jesus. I encourage you to guide your children to think of a small change they can also make that enables them to walk closer with our Lord. Although they are still young it is an important part of their Catholic life and a great way to reflect on the changes they can make that have a positive impact on their relationships. Maybe this year you can work together within your family unit, to make a change that will last longer than just the forty days of Lent. What a wonderful way to share and grow in your Catholic faith!

The school's Lenten Appeal is a way we can put our faith in action by supporting Caritas Australia end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. Each class has been allocated a Lenten Appeal's box and the children are encouraged to donate to it during the season of Lent. Our Vice captains suggested they donate any loose change or help with chores around the house.

You may notice in our church other signs that signify the change in the liturgical season, such as: the priest will now be wearing purple vestments, the 'Alleluia' will be replaced with a Lenten Acclamation and floral arrangements will be kept simple. May this Lenten season be a time where you feel closer to our Lord and bear witness to continual change and renewal.

God Bless,
Mrs Leanda Standring
Religious Education
Co-ordinator

PROJECT COMPASSION



FACES OF PROJECT COMPASSION 2018



Road Rules Awareness Week

----- 26 Feb - 4 March -----



coles
SPORTS for SCHOOLS™

SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL AND GET COLLECTING

Remind family and friends to share their vouchers with your school. The more you collect, the more sports gear your school will receive!



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

Fr George Azhakath

Rev Deacon Willy Limjap

Margaret Gale (Sacramental Coord)

Milli Lee (Parish Admin Asst)

Patricia Preca (Parish Secretary)

MON TUE WED THU FRI

every learner every day ✓

ABSENCES ADD UP!

FEBRUARY
2 DAYS
A MONTH

NOVEMBER
4 WEEKS
A YEAR

MISSING MORE THAN
1 YEAR OF LEARNING IN **12** YEARS

DID YOU KNOW

1 IN 6
PRIMARY STUDENTS ARE NOT
ATTENDING SCHOOL REGULARLY!

WHAT PARENTS CAN DO

- ✓ **BE FIRM.** Send your child to school every day unless they are sick
- ✓ Develop good sleep and morning routines
- ✓ Schedule appointments after school
- ✓ Avoid taking holidays during term time

EACH DAY MISSED:

- ▶ Puts your child behind and makes it harder for them to catch up
- ▶ Can lead to lower achievement in reading, writing and numeracy
- ▶ Can lead to gaps in learning and social connections

GOOD HABITS BEGIN EARLY

Good attendance starts in Kindergarten and sets students up for success in their school life

SCHOOLS ARE THERE TO HELP

If you're having attendance issues with your child, speak to your school about ways to address it.

every learner every day ✓ Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta



OUR LADY OF MERCY COLLEGE PARRAMATTA

Open Day

Sunday March 11, 2018

expanding beyond what we know we can be



OPEN NIGHT

Tuesday 13 March 2018 4.00pm - 7.00pm



OPEN DAY

Sunday, 11 March 2018

11.00am - 3.00pm

Inspiring students to aspire to greatness

Medical Bags for Anaphylaxis and Asthma Medication

My food allergy friends have sent St Patrick's an email introducing these fantastic bags for our students medication. They cost \$11.95 per bag plus postage. St Patrick's are happy to cover the costs of the postage if we get interested parties to purchase these bags. Please indicate by 16th March (Week 7) if you would like to purchase a bag. In an envelope mark your child's name, class, which bag you would like to order and include \$11.95 per bag. This is optional.



- Ideal for storing EpiPens, antihistamine and asthma medication.
- Customised insert allows staff to clearly identify the child, their allergies, medication details including expiry dates.
- Insulated and large enough for two EpiPens and antihistamine!