



St Patrick's Primary School

Newsletter

29th March 2018 Term 1 Week 9

2018

Dates to Remember

March

Week 9

Friday 30th GOOD FRIDAY

April

Week 10

Monday 2nd EASTER MONDAY

Tuesday 3rd Triskills

Wednesday 4th Triskills

Thursday 5th Primary Choir
NSW Police Force
Year 5— 2pm—3pm
Celebration of Learning

Friday 6th School Disco

Week 11

Friday 13th LAST DAY OF TERM 1

Term 2

Week 1

Monday 30th STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

May

Tuesday 1st Term 2 commences
Diocesan Cross Country

Week 2

Tuesday 8th Mother's Day Stall
Friday 11th May Mother's Day Mass

Dear Parents,

One of our seven Key Learning Areas (KLA) is that of Creative Arts. The main components of the Creative Arts Syllabus are Visual Arts, Music, Dance and Drama. The temptation for schools to purely focus on the 'NAPLAN' associated subjects, is a strong one in many schools, but this would be at a huge disadvantage to the learners. Creative Arts are extremely important to the development of human beings especially children. We are blessed at St Patrick's Parramatta to have some of the most beautiful singers I have ever heard. There is something very special about our choir and very soon they will be singing the National Anthem at the NSW Police Force Forensic Services Group Award Ceremony - by invitation.

Visual Arts provides children with an opportunity to express their ideas, emotions, imagination and for some is a way for them to relax and find enjoyment. In a recent mathematics lecture from Dr Anne Gervasoni from Monash University the importance of 'imagining' in the development of mathematical thinking was emphasised. It is the bridge between concrete and abstract and is a very important skill. Visual arts assists children to imagine.

In a book entitled *Teach Your Children Well: A Teacher's Advice for Parents*. Author Jay Davidson warns schools not to see the Creative Arts as 'frills' in terms of importance and espouses the advantage of a sound Creative Arts Program.

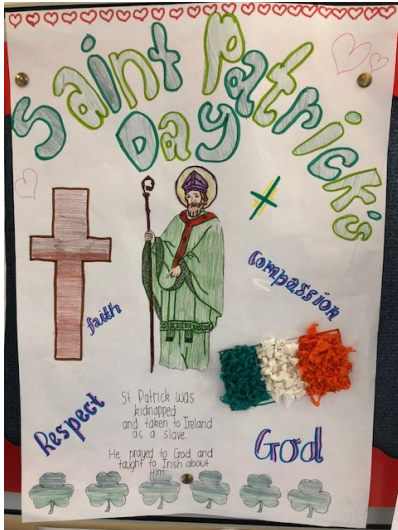
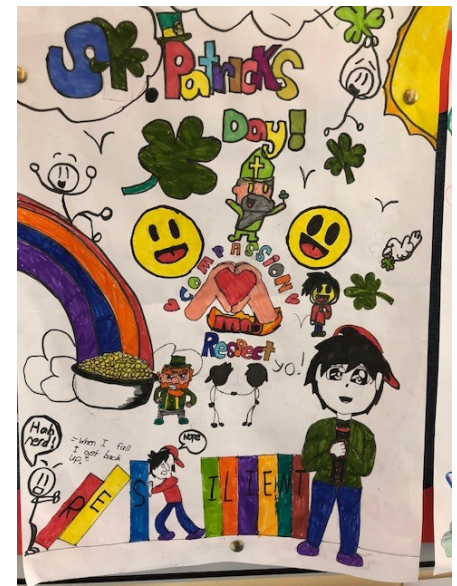
'Creating art is a fine way for children to make choices and solve problems. Every step involves making a decision: what color to use, how to make a line, what size to make something. With every choice the object becomes more and more their own.'

Everyone has an imagination. Art takes it a step further. Through art, children create something that, until that point, was only imagined. Thus, they create visual manifestations of abstract ideas.

Children who may be having difficulties in other parts of the school curriculum may find an expressive outlet through art. It's a way to uncover talent that may not be seen otherwise. Art is a means of communicating ideas, feelings, and solutions in a way other than verbally or written.

I would like to invite you to notice the outstanding examples of Creative Arts next time you visit the school.

God bless you and your family
Bernadette Fabri
Principal



EASTER BLESSINGS

Today is the last day of Term 1 and we will be ceasing school for a time for the Easter holidays. I know for many children it is a time for easter eggs and the Easter Show however amongst all the celebrations let us remember the importance of attending the Holy Week Celebrations. St Patrick's Cathedral have a number of celebrations. Let us show what we truly value by ensuring our spiritual needs and that of our children are met and strengthened by spending some time in prayer this Holy Week. Can I also take this opportunity to thanks all the children and parents for their generous expressions of good wishes for Easter. Bernadette Fabri

Almighty and Everlasting God,
You have given the human race
Jesus Christ our Savior as a model of humility.
He fulfilled Your Will by becoming Man
And giving His life on the Cross.
Help us to bear witness to You
By following His example of suffering
And make us worthy to share in His Resurrection.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son

Condolences

We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to the Rosauro Family (Keenen 6W) on the passing of his Grandmother. Please keep the family in your prayers.

We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to the Shehadie Family (Jonah 1C) on the passing of his Great Grandmother. Please keep the family in your prayers.



EASTER CELEBRATIONS

This week the students in Kinder, Four, Two, Three and Five have led us in prayer and highlighted the sorrowful and solemn events that lead to the crucifixion and death of Jesus. Whilst Holy week prayer has been solemn and sorrowful, it also anticipates the joy of Easter through the recognition of God's goodness in sending His Son to die for us. There is no greater love.

Next week, the community of St Patrick's will join together to recall the foundation stone of our faith the 'Resurrection of our Lord' by participating in morning prayer on Tuesday and Wednesday morning at 9.15, in the amphitheatre. We look forward to joyfully proclaiming His resurrection next week. The following timetable indicates what each grade will be focussing on

Day	Grade	Focus
Tuesday	Part 1 - Year 1	The Resurrection of Jesus
Wednesday	Part 2 - Year 6	Jesus is with us today



ICE BLOCKS

Next week will be our last week to sell ice blocks. Thank you to all the parents that volunteered their time and thank you to the RE Team who gave up their lunch times to support this drive.

St Patrick's Current Attendance Level = 94.2%

K = 96.5%	3 = 95.2%
1 = 94.9%	4 = 96.7%
2 = 92.5%	5 = 95.0%
	6 = 88.5%

Staff Development Day

Term 2 Staff development day will be on the 30th April. This means children will not return from school holidays until Tuesday 1st May.



Happy Birthday to the following children who will celebrate their birthday in the coming week: Danielle Tannous, Logan Munro, Lucy Parkes, Maria Khoury

From our Leaders ...

Becoming Drivers of Our Learning

Over the last year, Stage Three students have continued their learning through many different ways, such as 'Project Based Learning' (PBL) and 'Google classroom' with our new chromebooks. Both help us to us expand our minds and thinking. Introducing one to one technology to the school has helped us have fun along with teaching us to be independent learners, whilst still having the ability to check with friends or teachers when needed. It is also an efficient way to turn in homework, receive constructive feedback or to work with friends on the same piece of work without being in the same place. (if needed or directed)

I have interviewed two Year Six students on their opinions on of PBL and Google classroom.

Jethro, how do you think 'PBL' and 'Google classroom' help us become drivers of our learning?

Jethro:

Our PBL lessons can help us be drivers of our learning by teaching us to use our minds and expand our learning. Google classroom also help us by giving us important information about our task or subject and allowing us to work at our own rate or attend 'Master classes' (which are small group input sessions run by the teachers) if we need clarification or support to complete our Benchmarks. Working in teams on an end product is also a great way to build on other's ideas and challenge our thinking.

Deo, how has the learning experience changed throughout this time?

Deo:

The learning experience has changed very dramatically over the course of the past 1 year and 3 months in many different ways, such as the introduction of new technology (chromebooks for every student in Stage 3) and P.B.L. These two new ways of learning allow to assist each other. P.B.L is also a very efficient way to challenge, but also at the same time teach us new skills. It has also helped us work on becoming independent learners.

Thank you Deo and Jethro for your answer.

Now to conclude, PBL, 'Google classroom' and chromebooks have helped us improve our education and become drivers of our learning. Thank you.

By Liam A, Jethro C and Deo C



CAR SEAT CHECKS



Precious cargo alert !!!! Nothing is more precious than our children. Blacktown Council is going to be at The Ponds Shopping Centre on Tuesday 10th April from 8:30am - 1:30pm offering Car Seat Checks, No booking required.

On Thursday 5th April, at 2.00pm, we would like to invite the Year 5 parents to our **Celebration of Learning** which is centred around our science unit 'Earth's place in Space'.

We will be presenting their work on the History of Space Technologies in the school hall. Come and visit our Space Museum.

Cross Country

Last Friday we had our cross country. Everyone was so well behaved and you all were amazing runners. We would like to thank the parent helpers, Mrs Jones, Mrs Barclay, the colour captains. The children running were cooperative and they listened to the instructions. Congratulations to all the students who did extremely well and are going to participate in Diocesan. As you might know we had some rain difficulties and we had to delay the first race. You all cooperated so well and we really appreciated that. Thank you to all the parent helpers and house captains for motivating all the runners. Thank you Mr Younis and Miss Azar for helping us continue on with cross country even after the rain. For those people who did not make it or did not run don't forget you have a year to practise and good luck to all the participants who made it to Diocesan don't forget to give yourself a pat on the back.

From your PDHPE leaders Luke and Isla.



Next Level Sports clinic April school holiday dates.

Hello parents, please find below the dates for the upcoming clinic:

Tues 24th - Fri 27th April (Wk2 holidays)

The clinic will be held at St Patrick's Primary school in Parramatta, rain hail or shine. Please message or contact nextlevelsports@live.com.au

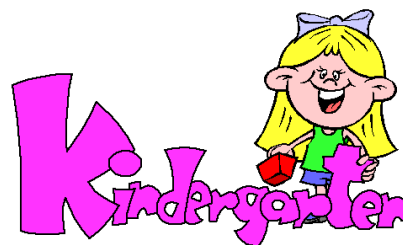


CONGRATULATIONS FINN!

I have been playing hockey with Wentworth Hockey and the University of Technology for over three years and I love playing it. I wanted to trial and see if I could make the Parramatta Diocese representative team, so I was really excited when I got to show off my skills at the Nepean Hockey Centre at Western Sydney University earlier this month. I was very nervous as I was the youngest there, but I tried my best and was very happy when I was selected for the team. I now get to go to Canberra in May to represent the Parramatta Diocese which is really exciting for me and my family. I can't wait to become a representative player!



Finn Giron 4B



ENROLMENTS FOR 2019 KINDERGARTEN

Sibling enrolments forms are due back no later than 6th April, 2018.

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 photocopy these and return them to you at this time.



Footsteps Dance Presents Family Disco 'Dancing Under the Stars'



On **Friday 6th April, 2018** St Patrick's will be holding our '**Dancing under the Stars**' Family Disco, weather permitting. It is a great opportunity to meet all new families who have joined St Patrick's this year. The evening will be led by one of the FOOTSTEPS Dance Instructors who worked with the students last year, teaching them dance and movement throughout Term 4. The disco will begin at 6pm and conclude at 9pm. Gates will be open from 5pm.

Why not have a night off cooking and grab dinner at the disco? Food will be available from 5pm. We will have **kebabs, sausages, corn on the cob, ice-creams, tea, coffee, water and drinks for sale on the night**. Parents are more than welcome to bring their own picnic supper. Students will also be able to purchase glo-sticks from the canteen to help light up the dance floor.

As this is one of our school Fundraising events we would like to ask any family who is in a position to **donate drinks** (water bottles, poppas, soft drink cans) for this event, to drop them in at the school office by Wednesday 4th April. Any donations will be gratefully accepted.

Please remember that **no alcohol is to be consumed on the premises, the school site is a smoke free zone and parents are required to supervise their children for the duration of the event**. N.B The children do not need to know the dance steps to come along.

SAVE THE DATE!!!! SAVE THE DATE!!!!

We have a very special event for the Mums/Carers of our school community planned. The event will take place on the 11th May from 7pm.

Please mark this in your calendar, more details to come.



CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Laurice Behan on being successfully placed as a semi-finalist in the Moran Photographic Prize - Primary School Section. The winners will be announced at an evening event at Juniper Hall on 8 May 2018 at 6pm. Primary School Student Category, Kindergarten to Year 6 - A digital camera will be awarded to 25 selected winners plus a certificate of merit. Best of Luck Laurice!



Laurice - From Behind The Lenz

Photography the ability to create a photo using, special effects and settings to make the photos unique, interesting and appealing to the eye. I was lucky enough to be chosen to take part in the Moran Photography Workshop. This was an amazing opportunity where the workshop inspired you to think outside the box. After learning new photography techniques I was able to submit four of my favourite photos into the Moran photography competition.

My photo titled 'Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow' was inspired by; 'Yesterday', a pair sitting at their old table enjoying a warm cup of tea. 'Today', this once precious place lies empty. 'Tomorrow', yet to know what happens in the future and who may sit in these once loved chairs. As a semifinalist I am thrilled to be representing St Patrick's Primary Parramatta and I encourage you all to think outside the box, beyond the lenz if the opportunity comes your way.

Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

MOTIV8SPORTS BBQ WINNERS

Please find below the message from David Hemmings regarding the St Patrick's Day Fun Day and the grade selection for Motiv8Sports BBQ.

Date: 11/4/18

More information to come.

Just wanted to say thank you for an amazing day at your school. The respect we received from the children was brilliant and the energy they brought to the day made it so enjoyable for myself and the entire coaching team.

*Our coaches voted on our favourite groups we had across the day to receive the BBQ. We came to a final decision that from the morning the **KINDY** group was our favourites because they were so switched on considering they are so new to school and from our Senior Olympics we picked the **YEAR 4** group as they were very respectful and had a healthy understanding of the competitive spirit. We would love to provide this BBQ on the last Thursday of Term the 11th of April.*

Once again thank you so much for a awesome day!

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ST PATRICK'S PARRAMATTA SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

Thank you to all the companies that are supporting the St Patrick's Parramatta Sponsorship Program. These companies can be found in the St Patrick's Parramatta Local Directory published weekly with the newsletter on Skoolbag. We are now opening this service to 'Non for Profit' Organisations for a reduced amount. If you know of any junior sporting organisation or club that would like to contribute to the sponsorship program please contact the school office. Funds from the program thus far have gone towards the purchase of Chromebooks, enabling a one to one device in Stage 3 (Years 5 & 6).

Our next sponsorship project will be the provision of devices for Yrs 1 and Kindergarten, the updating of readers across the school and possibly the establishment of a 'Makeit' Centre if significant sponsorship is made available. All contributions are very much appreciated.

ENHANCING CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IDENTITY PILOT (ECSI)

Date Due: 13th April 2019 - End of Term 1

Dear Parents,

The school has been asked by Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta to be part of the 'Enhancing Catholic Schools Identity' Project. We are one of five schools piloting this project throughout the Diocese.

It involves gathering data on how Catholic Identity is expressed in work and practice at St Patrick's Primary, Parramatta. This data is collected from the students -Yrs 5/6, staff and parents. Can I please ask you to read the letters sent home yesterday with your eldest child or attached in the newsletter last week, for your convenience, and spend some time completing and putting forward this very valuable information. Please note all responses are anonymous and highly confidential. To assist any parents who would like to complete the survey at school using a school laptop, support will be provided on Thursday and Friday mornings in the library until the end of term.

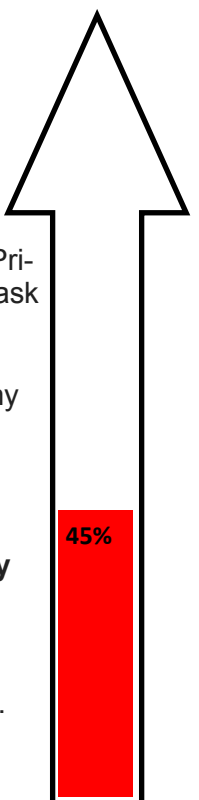
Thank you to the 25 families who have commenced and or finished the survey. As explained the school has the numbers completed only. Our target need to be over 55 so we would really appreciate your serious consideration in completing it.

NB: If you have started but not yet finished the survey we encourage you to do so.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me or the numbers provided in the letter.

Kind Regards

Bernadette Fabri



A SPECIAL DAY FOR PARENTS
ACROSS PARRAMATTA CATHOLIC
SCHOOLS

LAUGH
PRAY
REFLECT

FREE
DAY SPA
FOR THE
SOUL

Bring a friend!

TAKE TIME
OUT FOR
YOURSELF

**BOOK NOW!
LIMITED SPACES
AVAILABLE**

Thursday 3rd May
9:30am-2 pm

MORNING TEA AND
LUNCH INCLUDED

Enquire and register
by 12 April with Tania
Melki via email:
tmelki@parra.catholic.edu.au
Ph:0429375226

The Franciscan Shrine of
The Holy Innocents
8 Greyfriar Place Kellyville

SPONSORED BY THE
CATHOLIC EDUCATION DIOCESE PARRAMATTA (CEDP)

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!



Dear Parents/ Guardians

Oz Fashions, your uniform supplier is now selling all WINTER 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 holidays 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.



Floral Expressions, a local, Sydney florist at Northmead Shopping Centre 7/2 Campbell Street, Northmead (ph 02 9683 1116) has offered us an opportunity to participate in their Floral Fundraising Programme developed especially for schools.

The way it works is simple: every time a staff member or a parent (as well as extended family members) from our school community purchases flowers from Floral Expressions, they will donate 10% of your purchase back to our school. All you need to do is tell them you are part of the St Patrick's Primary School Community at the time of purchase or if ordering online please use the code **SPPSP**.

How easy is that!!

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you give of your time and money to help people who had nothing and I learned that those who have something should give to those who don't.



Build your own iPhone app these school holidays!

More than 30,000 Australian kids have loved Code Camp

Been before?
Try our new camp
Blast 3D



Camps we offer at Code Camp

Sponsored by **Westpac** Powered by **hp**

Little League

Ages 5-6

2 days of fun where our littlest coders make the first small, but important steps to becoming creators of technology, not just consumers.

Spark

Ages 7-12

3-4 days of creativity, design, fun and coding. Our most popular Code Camp where every child aged 7 and above starts their coding journey.

Ignite

Ages 7-12

Ignite is for those who have conquered Spark or who already have a coding experience elsewhere. They'll build their own top-down adventure game!

Blast 3D **New!**

Ages 8-13

Brand new for 2018, your kids will immerse themselves in a 3D world of their creation! Unlock the next level of their coding adventure at Code Camp Blast 3D.

24-27 April
8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Our Lady of Mercy College

\$349 for 3 days
BYO Laptop or Hire

www.codecamp.com.au/OLMC

Alternate dates and locations available (no camps on public holidays)



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)