



2018

Dates to Remember

Term 2

June

Week 5

Friday 1st Year 5 excursion—
The Rocks
Infants Assembly—Year 2

Week 6

Friday 8th Primary Assembly—Yr 3
2.15pm—School Hall

Week 7

Monday 11th **NO SCHOOL—
PUBLIC HOLIDAY**

Thursday 14th School Photos

Friday 15th Athletics Carnival

Week 8

Tuesday 19th Stage 3 Boys Soccer
Gala Day

Friday 22nd Year 3 incursion—'What's
Hot & What's Cold?'

Week 9

Tuesday 26th Parent Teacher Interviews
Commence
Stage 2 Boys & Girls
Soccer Gala Day

Week 10

Friday 6th LAST DAY OF TERM 2

Students will return to school for Term 3 on
the Monday 23rd July.

St Patrick's Primary School Newsletter

31st May 2018 Term 2 Week 5

Dear Parents,

Last Thursday we held our inaugural 'Family Day'. All schools in the Diocese of Parramatta celebrated this event in different ways over recent weeks. The reason for this day was to acknowledge the importance of family and raise funds for CatholicCare.

Family has different meanings for different people. There are many different types of families in the 21st century. There are two parent families, single parent families, blended families, families with children and families without, families where the grandparents play a very important role in rearing the children and also adoptive families. Whatever the makeup of our immediate family: Family is what you make it and is something that influences each and every one of us.

It was wonderful to see so many family members at our 'Family Day' celebration last week. We had the babies, toddlers, school students, cousins, aunts and uncles, mums and dads and lots of grandparents. Many families welcomed extra students to join them for lunch and play games if their own families were unable to be present. For the working parents be assured that your children had just as much fun as those whose parents were fortunate enough to be able to join us.

Each week our staff join together for prayer. The focus last Friday was also family. I would like to share an excerpt:

Reflection on Family:

Think about the many families we belong to and how we impact on these families.

- Do you impact in a positive way showing love, kindness, compassion and generosity?
- Are you encouraging, sincere and respectful?
- What do you bring to your family to speak God's message and share your gifts?

If we can make some time for ourselves to reflect on these questions we may find that we are able to deal with stressful situations in a more positive way. It will never hurt us to try!

God bless you and your family
Elly Benkovich
Acting Principal

St Patrick's Current Attendance Level = 94.8%

K = 91.2%	2 = 92.0%	4 = 95.0%	6 = 91.7%
1 = 98.3%	3 = 96.8%	5 = 98.3%	

2018 Family Day



Stage 3 Soccer Gala Day

By Mikaela B. Salazar & Alana Medak

On Tuesday 29th of May, the 2018 Girls Stage 3 Soccer Team represented St Patrick's Primary, Parramatta at the Diocesan Girls Stage 3 Soccer Gala Day located at Jamison Park, Penrith. We had the honour of competing in Field 7/Pool G with over 10 teams participating, and over 60 teams in the entire competition. During the somewhat exhausting day we had the opportunity to play against 6 different schools. The matches each lasted 10 minutes and 11 girls were on the field at a time. Each game was exhilarating and tiresome but everyone put in an amazing effort that earned us 1st place, undefeated, with no goals conceded. In the end, everyone definitely enjoyed their day and we all congratulated the teams for the effort & the energy they put in their soccer games.

"It was an amazing opportunity for everyone to get out of their shell and play soccer as many cherished memories were made that will surely last forever." -Stephanie Saab 6P

"I thought it was a great and fun day for me and the girls who participated in the competition. It really gave me confidence."
-Christiana Kalouche 5T

Many thanks to Mrs Milic, all the mums and dads that came on the day and helped out with coaching the team, taking care of the students and cheering us on during games. We really appreciate your time and effort.





Honour Award

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

KA	Patrick Saab	Mary Gilchrist
KM	Lourdes Saleh	Sofia Bousimon
1C	Jonah Shedadie	Bailey Grohs
1S	Hunter Morson	Eimear Mitchell
2M	Lachlan Moore	Sophie Salloum
2Y	Gabriel Kalouche	Cynthia Daher



st patrick's award

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

KA	Elijah Vella	Molly Moses
KM	Jimmy Sahyoun	Mia Daher
1C	Joanthony Tannous	Gabriella Sta Rosa
1S	Anthony Malek	Josephine Behan
2M	Abbey Matta	Alicia Remaili
2Y	Joshua Manago	Barbie Koima

URGENT "Drive Through" Considerations

Last week an alert was sent out asking parents to be a little more patient when using our Drive through service. We understand the difficulties around parking however our goal as a Catholic community is to work in partnership with our community members.

We ask you to respect the local businesses and keep driveways clear during pick up time.

On Friday afternoon the police observed our procedures and were very concerned about parents blocking the streets all around the school before 3pm. Until the cars start moving we have been asked not to block **Trott St and Grose St**. At 3pm we ask that you begin lining up in Trott St. While we understand that it is not ideal the police have asked that you continue to drive around until there is room in Trott St to join the queue. They request that there is **NO lining up in Grose St at any time** as this street is a busy through road from Church St to O'Connell St. When we block Grose St cars have no alternative but to drive up the wrong side of the road.

Please consider coming after 3.10pm, as it is impossible for us to have all children in cars at 3 o'clock. We offer this service for 30 mins after school so coming a little later will be in the best interests of all concerned. The other alternative is to park and enjoy a lovely, brisk afternoon walk. I have noticed that more families are taking up this option.

Thanking you for your understanding regarding this matter.
Mrs Benkovich

Birthdays at St Patrick's



Happy Birthday to the following children who will celebrate their birthday in the coming week: Isobel Rahme, Angelique Saliba, Zachary Aguilera, Jake Doueihy, Christian Donaldson, Elias Nakhle, Laura Scanlon, Lara Samar, Hamish McGlinn

Each day any student who has a birthday will be entitled to sit on a special birthday bench for morning assembly. Mr Macintosh has painted one of our benches a different colour just for this purpose. Once 'birthday children' are seated on the bench our student leaders will present them with their birthday sticker.

Every Friday morning assembly the children that had a birthday that week will have the birthday song sung to them. Birthdays are also acknowledged in the weekly newsletter for the coming week.

Parents are reminded that we **do not** allow birthday treats or birthday cakes at school due to the fact that we have a large number of students with anaphylaxis and allergies. In this way we can be confident that all our children remain safe while at school. We appreciate your support in this matter.

Tell Them From Me Survey

This week students from Year 4 to Year 6 and teachers provided feedback on their experience of our school using the online survey. The surveys are an important part of our whole school evaluation and planning process. This survey is coordinated by the Parramatta Diocese and replaces the Quality School Survey of previous years.

We would encourage our parent body to complete the ***Tell Them From Me (TTFM) Partners in Learning*** survey. *As we value the role of parents and carers within our school community we would greatly appreciate your feedback. We have around 250 families in the school and the more parents that complete the survey the more valuable our data will be. The information you provide will be used to maintain our commitment to working together in partnership to further improve student learning and wellbeing here at St Patrick's Primary School.*

The survey is anonymous and will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. You are able to access the parent survey on your computer or mobile device by using the URL below:

www.tellthemfromme.com/stpats1924

If you have any issues accessing the survey please do not hesitate to call the school office.

Leanda Standing
TTFM Survey Coordinator

World Youth Day 2019 - Our Very Own Pilgrim

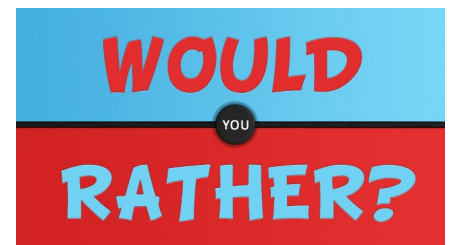
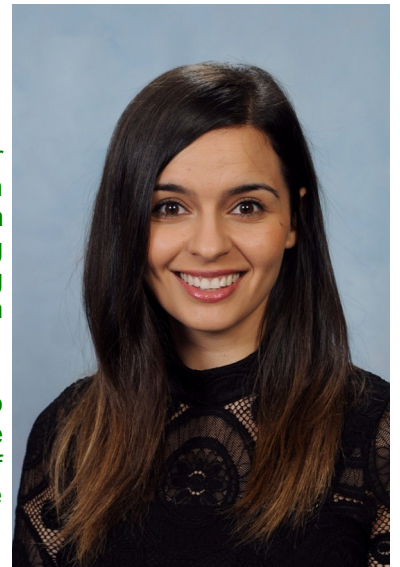
To all the families at St Patrick's,

My name is Mrs Louisa Daou (nee: Takchi) and I have been a teacher at St Patrick's for four years. I am currently teaching Year One with Miss Azar. Next year, I have been given the opportunity to represent St Patrick's Parramatta at World Youth Day (WYD) in Panama, Central America. I am very honoured and humbled to represent such a loving community. I feel this opportunity will be a life changing experience for me that I can bring back to our school community. I look forward to sharing my experience and journey with you all.

As part of the WYD 2019 initiative the Diocese holds a number of Fundraising events to support the pilgrims. The main one being the Diocesan Raffle. Early Term 3 we will be sending home one book of raffle tickets per family. I understand that this is a 'big' ask but if you or your family could purchase a couple of tickets or invite your extended family or place of work to help, it would really be appreciated.

I would like to take this opportunity to express how grateful I am for the support of the St Patrick's community in this Diocesan Fundraiser for World Youth Day in 2019.

Mrs Louisa Daou
Year 1 Teacher



'Would you rather' questions are often funny or silly and explore two options where the writer has to decide what they would rather do and explain why. You can present your writing in any form; a short response, an essay, a poem or any other type of text you can imagine.

This week's topic is: "Would you rather drive a racecar or fly an aeroplane?"

Don't forget to explain your choice! Remember that these will be displayed, so ensure they are typed or written clearly! **All submissions are due on Wednesday, June 6th.**

Happy Writing!



SPOTLIGHT ON

Today we are shining a spotlight on the STEM leaders:

Stephanie:

If you had \$1,000,000 to spend in a day what would you spend it on?

I would give 70% of the money to my parents to thank them for everything they have given me and spend the rest on my siblings and I.

What country would you want to travel to and why?

I would travel to Italy because I find that there are many things to see and do there, such as, viewing the Vatican, eat traditional pasta and seeing the leaning tower of Pisa. I would buy souvenirs to remember my trip.

If you had to spend a day with someone who would it be ?

1. Selena Gomez
2. Ed Sheeran
3. Coco Chanel

I would pick Coco Chanel because she is famous and makes lots of beautiful products.

If you had a superpower what would it be?

I have the superpower of mindreading so I can know what people are thinking and if they are being unkind or rude to others.

If you were stranded on an island what would you bring with you?

1. Magazines and Video Games
2. Survival book
3. Food

I would bring a survival book because it will teach me how to live off the land and help me survive.

Liam:

If you had a super power what would it be?

To fly because it would be easier to get around and wouldn't have to use muscles.

If you had \$1,000,000 to spend in a day, what would you spend it on?

Buy a lot of cats, gemstones, a black hole generator and 30 tonnes of titanium.

What are you most excited for currently?

To see my cousins on Sunday.

What is your ideal job?

To be a robotics engineer because I get to build with electronics and to add art to my creations.

What sport(s) or music do you play?

I play the piano because I like the sounds of piano and I play soccer because I like hammering the ball into the goal.

Throughout the year parents are asked to volunteer for excursions, special events, reading and many other school activities. To enable you to participate as a volunteer you are required to complete the online training following the link [Once the paperwork has been received by St Patrick's](#) we add you to a database that is accessed by the teachers/admin staff to request helpers.

Building Child Safe Communities – New procedures reminder for volunteers

Volunteers make a significant contribution to students and our community. As part of our new 'Building Child Safe Communities' initiatives, we request the following from volunteers:

Step 1: Complete the 'Building Child Safe Communities - Undertaking for Volunteers' Form for each volunteer location

[VOLUNTEER FORM](#)

Step 2: Complete the online training module – required every second year.

[TRAINING MODULE](#)

These can be accessed by visiting the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta homepage <http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au> then scrolling down to 'Volunteers and Contractors – click here'.

Please contact your school if you require any assistance. We thank all volunteers for their continued support.

SEMINAR - DEALING WITH THE LEGAL SYSTEM

Each year Solo Parent Services offer a Seminar for anyone interested in gaining a greater understanding on how the Legal system works. Questions addressed on the night include: How to choose the best lawyer for your situation, how best to deal with Lawyers so as to minimize your legal fees, how to protect your rights regarding family assets and Estates/Wills. **This seminar will be held on Tuesday 05th June. Venue:** 13 Buller St, North Parramatta **Presenter:** Mr Richard Brading, (Solicitor) **Time:** 6.45pm for a 7pm Start to 9pm. **Registration Essential:** Contact Rita Ph. 8843 2575 or email: soloparentservices@ccss.org.au

STEPPING BEYOND SUPPORT GROUP – This group is open to men and women who would like support as they navigate their way through the breakdown of their marriage. **Next gathering:** Tuesday 29th May **Venue:** 13 Buller St, North Parramatta **Time:** 7pm -9pm – Registration essential: Contact Rita Ph: 8843 2575 or email: soloparentservices@ccss.org.au



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)



As part of St Patrick's subscription to parenting ideas website we have been gifted the opportunity to attend a webinar 'Understanding Anxiety' at **no cost**. Please use the following link and the voucher listed below for access to the free webinar.

<https://www.parentingideas.com.au/product/understanding-anxiety-webinar?>

Understanding Anxiety: How it impacts kids and the important role of parents

Tuesday 5 June 2018 7:30pm – 8:30pm AEST

In this webinar, Dr Jodi Richardson helps parents to recognise and understand anxiety, how it affects learning and happiness and practical steps to lessen the impact of anxiety on the child's and the family's quality of life.

Listeners will also learn:

- The origins of anxiety
- signs and symptoms of anxiety
- practical strategies to help anxious kids
- the importance of validation when and where to seek help

Speakers

This webinar will be hosted by Michael Grose with guest presenter Dr Jodi Richardson.

Dr Jodi Richardson

Parenting Ideas expert
Wellbeing and mental health

Jodi is a mental health, wellbeing and happiness science speaker and educator. She is a mother of two primary-school-aged children and is the founder and director of Happier on Purpose, the mental health and wellbeing expert for Parenting Ideas and writer for both print and online publications.

Jodi has developed her expertise over two decades of professional work in teaching, wellbeing, clinical practice and elite sport, including working for beyondblue on the national schools-based initiative for the prevention of depression.

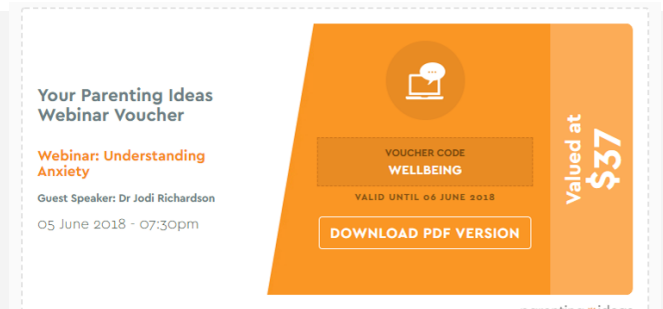
Integral to Jodi's work is helping parents and teachers to nurture resilient, relaxed, playful kids who develop lifelong habits of happiness and flourishing mental health.

Michael Grose

Author, Speaker, Founder Parenting Ideas

Michael has an education background and holds a Master of Educational Studies, with research into what makes healthy families tick. He has conducted over 1500 parenting seminars over the last two decades and is the author of ten parenting books, including *Spoonfed Generation*, *Thriving!* and the best-selling *Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It*. His popular parenting columns appear in newspapers and magazines across Australia.

Michael appears regularly on television, including Channel Ten's *The Project*, and is a popular and entertaining speaker. He is married and has three adult children who have all successfully flown the parent nest.



The School Dentist

Brought to you by Future Care Mobile Dental Services

The School Dentist will be visiting
St Patricks Primary School during
the week commencing
6th-10th August 2018

Our innovative mobile dental service was created to meet the needs of the fast paced/time poor lifestyles of many parents. We are changing the game by bringing our dental team and equipment to **St Patricks Primary School** to provide our onsite dental services to students.



Service snapshot:



Children from families eligible for Family Tax Benefit A may be eligible for up to \$1000 of free dental over a 2-calendar year period.

Not eligible for Family Tax Benefit A? Your child can be seen in the clinic for an examination/clean/scale/fluoride at the heavily discounted price of \$99

