



# St Patrick's Primary School Newsletter

20th September 2018 Term 3 Week 9

**2018**

## Dates to Remember

### Term 3

### September

#### Week 9

Friday 21st            Stage 3 Boys &  
                                 Girls Touch  
                                 Football Gala Day

#### Week 10

Thursday 27th        World Rosary Day  
Friday 28th            LAST DAY OF  
                                 TERM 3

School resumes for Term 4 on the  
15th October

Happy Holidays!!!!

#### Upcoming Term 4 events

- Footsteps Dance
- Family Fun Night
- 2019 Kindy Orientation
- Swimming Carnival
- 2018 Year 6 Graduation

Dear Parents

This week I would like to share with you some of the thinking of our Executive Director of Catholic Schools in the Parramatta Diocese, Mr Greg Whitby. The title of his article is 'School Racking Season Begins' and explains the importance of keeping NAPLAN results in balance with the totality of what learners can do with consideration to what NAPLAN does not assess. I fully understand that all parents would like to see their children attaining top bands in the NAPLAN tests however top bands in themselves does not equate to success, either at school or in life. Some children hit their stride later on in life, when they begin to understand themselves as learners and feel a sense of greater control. Some of you may relate to this in your own experience and I encourage you to think of how you found satisfaction and success. It certainly was not to do with results in themselves but rather what you thought about yourself as a learner, how you managed challenges, your ability to overcome setbacks and your ability to collaborate and negotiate. In a world where memory such as for spelling and computing is being taken over by devices, let us look at how we are encouraging our children to think and solve complex problems in creative and imaginative ways. NAPLAN does not assess these important learning qualities so let us not reduce our children to bands; they are so very much more.

*God bless you and your family  
Bernadette Fabri*

*Principal*

### **School Racking Season Begins**

*We are heading into what I refer to as the 'ranking season' beginning with the release of NAPLAN results in the next few weeks. In mid-December, there are the HSC results followed up in the media with the top 100 performing high schools. Although I'm no fortune teller, I'm pretty confident of naming most of the top 10 schools in that list because not much has changed over the last decade.*

*If anything underscores the problems of publishing this kind of data, it is the fact that parents use this information to make decisions about which school is the best one for their son or daughter. I've had parents show me their top 3 school list based on NAPLAN and HSC results with little consideration of other factors such as location, cost, the school's learning and pastoral care programs, extracurricular offerings etc. Despite many attempts to explain that NAPLAN is not a school ranking tool, the HSC is not marked out of hundred and the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) is not a measure of student intelligence, too many people still see these things as the only measure of success for a school. Unfortunately, using test scores as the only goal distorts the work of schools. **Every child needs to leave school with high levels of literacy and numeracy but schools should also be about developing the whole child - physically, emotionally, intellectually and creatively.***

*As I've written many times before, NAPLAN data was designed to give teachers a greater understanding of how each child is progressing and which areas require more focus. The HSC, is a product of last century. It was designed to sort out the students were going to university and those who weren't. Neither of these test instruments was ever meant to become a decision-making tool for parents.*

*How do we stop schools being reduced to a number on a list? To begin with, we need to find better ways of sharing information about student achievement with parents. Standardised test scores do not and should not define what a young person is capable or what they have learned at school. No matter what school a child attends, they should know, every day, that they are valued for who they are. They should also be guaranteed the best learning opportunities the school can provide.*

*The question we need to ask ourselves is whether we are happy to allow a spot on a graph or a place on a ranking table be representative of a child's achievement? I know how I would answer. What about you?*

**Posted By Greg Whitby for News Local at 30/08/2018 7:37:13 AM**



## Condolences

We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to the Takchi Family (Olivia 4B) on the passing of her Father.

We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to the Wehbe Family (Olivia 4G) on the passing of her Grandfather.

We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to the Achie Family (Sheridan 5C) on the passing of her Grandfather.

**Please keep all families in your prayers.**

**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.**

**May they rest in peace.**

**Amen**

## New afternoon procedure

Dear Parents

Next term we will be trialling a change to the afternoon pick up for parents collecting children by walk. This is in response to feedback that the amphitheatre area is too congested after school. Guidelines are as follows:

- From Term 4 children waiting for parents who are picking up by walk will be seated under the COLA in their class lines. This is the same lining up position as for morning assembly.
- We ask all parents to try to **remain on the outside of the COLA** - similar to morning assembly so that careful supervision can still take place. Children will walk to you.
- **Year Six will stay in their classrooms.**
- Supervision by a teacher on the gate or on the street will still be happening to ensure extra safety.
- Please note that the amphitheatre may still need to be used in wet weather

This is a trial so we shall see how it goes.

## **Sacraments of Initiation Information Evening - Reconciliation and First Eucharist**

The next program for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist for children already Baptised will commence in School Term 4. There will be an **INFORMATION evening on Tuesday 25th September at 7.30pm in the Cathedral hall** for parents who are interested in registering their child/ren for the upcoming program and would like to learn more about the process in St Patrick's Cathedral parish. Please note that children must be 7 years or older to be eligible for the program at this time. For more information regarding the upcoming program for Reconciliation and Eucharist or any other enquires about the Sacraments of Initiation at St Patrick's Cathedral please contact Meg Gale:

[sacrament@stpatscathedral.com.au](mailto:sacrament@stpatscathedral.com.au)

If you are interested, a letter is available at the front office with further information.

## St Patrick's Current Attendance Level = 90.3%

**K = 86.0%**

2 = 91.1%

**4 = 86.7%**

**6 = 85.0%**

1 = 96.6%

3 = 91.9%

5 = 95.1%



**DIOCESE of PARRAMATTA**  
**FUNDRAISING RAFFLE FOR WYD 2019**

**TICKETS \$2ea**

**1st Prize:** Mazda2, 5 Door Automatic, Registered  
 Supplied by Penrith Mazdas (02) 4752 2777

**2nd Prize:** COSMOS \$2000 Gift Card  
 Donated by Cosmos - can be used on any Cosmos coach tour for travel in 2019. This value prize cannot be used towards any WYD 2019 pilgrimage. The value cannot be transferred to cash.

**3rd Prize:** New iPhone X  
**4th Prize:** New iPhone X  
**5th Prize:** New iPhone X  
 Donated by Secure Agility

**6th Prize:** Apple iPad Mini  
 Donated by Campion College Australia

**7th Prize:** Cash Prize of \$500  
 Donated by Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu

**8th Prize:** \$500 Westfield Gift Card  
 Donated by Automated Control Solutions

**9th Prize:** Apple Watch  
 Donated by Catholic Church Insurance

**10th Prize:** \$100 Event Cinemas Gift Card  
 Donated by The Catholic Foundation

**DRAWN at LIFTED LIVE on 27th October 2018**

For tickets and further information please contact Michael Mendieta:MMendieta@parra.catholic.org.au  
 Privacy: All information collected will be securely stored and protected by the Diocesan Fundraising Office. Visit www.parra.catholic.org.au for the full disclaimer.

## World Youth Day 2019 - Our Very Own Pilgrim

Dear Parents,

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.

Thank you to the parents who have returned their sold tickets, **all tickets sold or unsold need to be returned to the school by 21st September, 2018.**

**If you may have lost or misplaced your tickets can you please notify the office so the tickets can be marked as lost/misplaced.**

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



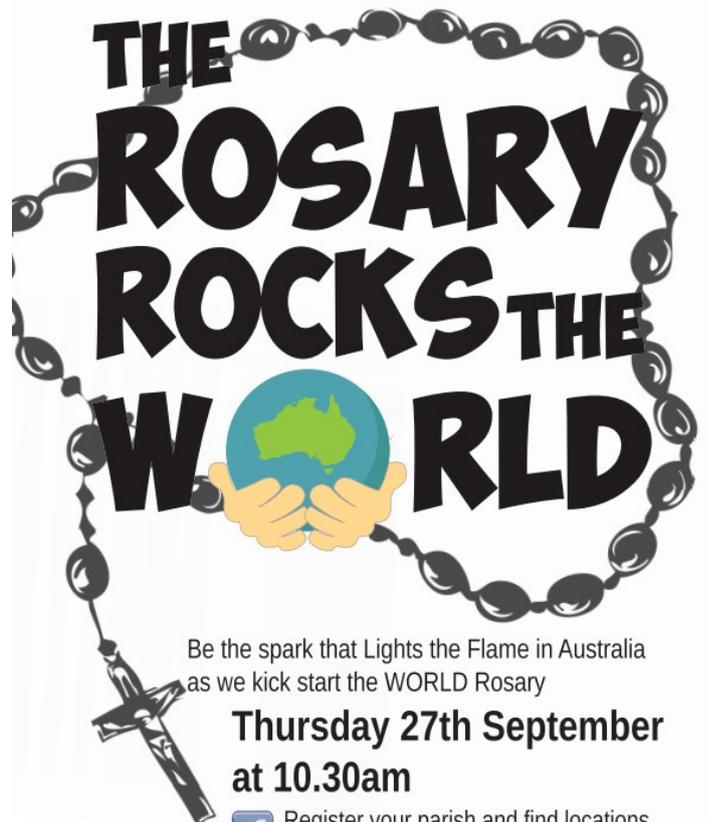
**Happy Birthday to the following children who will celebrate their birthday in the coming week:**

Joanthony Tannous, Phillip Said, Lauren Polintan, Olivia Zhang, Sheridan Achie, Jayden Blazek, Ethan-Jordan Firmeza.



**Its a Boy!!**

Congratulations to the Kazzaz Family (Michel 1S) on the birth of their baby boy, Anthony.



**THE ROSARY ROCKS THE WORLD**

Be the spark that Lights the Flame in Australia as we kick start the WORLD Rosary

**Thursday 27th September at 10.30am**

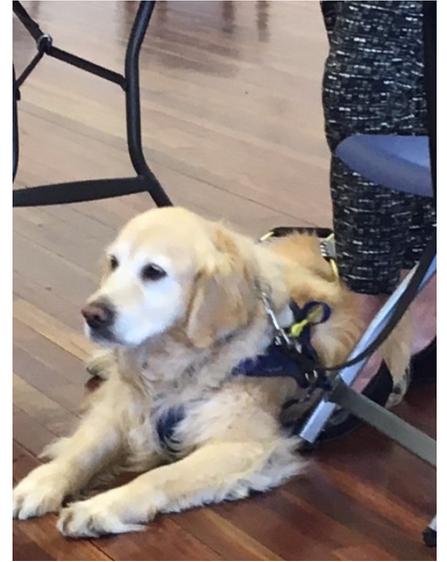
Register your parish and find locations via Facebook. Search 'Oz Rosary #53'

Visit [ozrosary.wixsite.com/ozrosary53](http://ozrosary.wixsite.com/ozrosary53) for more details

# Vision Australia visit

The Vision Australia visit on Tuesday was an amazing experience for me and all students. I learnt that when you are blind you still see the world as if you still have sight, a wonderful world. We met Jenny who has a disability of blindness as she has a seeing dog called Goldie. Jenny talked to us about her life and about how blind people live their daily life. She told us about how Vision Australia helped her with her disability and how that changed her life. She talked to us about the gadgets and technology she uses. She also told us that having a seeing dog is much easier to have than a cane. There are 2 canes one to help you walk and one to help you be identified at places like a bus stop. You simply hold it on your waist and it informs the bus driver of the blindness disability. She said that Goldie and other seeing dogs can help more for instance if she is at a crossing the dog will stop at the kerb and wait for the lights to turn green and she will even show Jenny where the button is to press. As you can see I learnt a lot from this and it was fun doing the interactive activities at the end of the session. We sure enjoyed their company and I enjoyed the cool new facts that I now know and I really enjoyed this. So did you learn anything, well I know for a fact I learnt a mountain load.

Sienna Volante 6W



I learnt that, disabled people are not alone and seek help from other companies that can help them. Like Jenny, she was blind, but when she came to Sydney, she went to Vision Australia for help. Vision Australia not only taught her braille, but also gave her a trained dog that is incredibly smart. For example, if Jenny went to the bank, she would tap the wall and say bank 12 times or so to the dog. She would go away from the bank and then say Goldie, which was the dogs name, find bank. Then Goldie would actually go to the bank. She would do that for many things too. I also learnt how not everyone blind can see nothing, at the end they gave us glasses of how it would like to have a particular blindness diagnosis. They were different glasses for different diagnosis.

Clyde Guatlo 6P



Vision Australia was a great learning experience for all students. We learned all about guide dogs and how important they are. We learnt that guide dogs can remember certain things. We learned that Vision Australia is in Sydney and Canberra. There are still some questions like how do you write in braille? Jenny and Kim taught us about the signals and gadgets they used.

Written by Year 2 SRCs

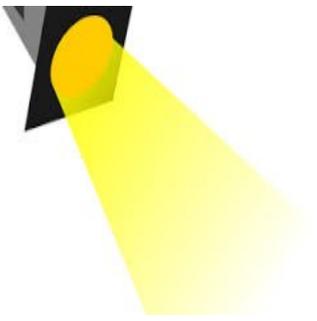
I learnt the hardship of being faced with such a difficult task. Imagine waking up everyday not seeing anything around you. It's scary isn't it? I learnt about braille and all the devices a blind person has to use almost every day, a cane/white cane, a device that prints braille and a device that speaks the colour out for you. Jenny was the unfortunate blind person that we got to meet, she almost completely lost her eye sight at the age of twelve. Jenny told us of the cruelty her education was, she wasn't allowed to get up and look at the board but only learn from what she could hear. As we all walked in we could clearly see an eye seeing dog (not a guide dog because that is a different company) lying just beneath Jenny's feet, her name was Goldie. Jenny told us the tricks that she would use to help Goldie. She would walk up to the bank and repeat bank 12 times then she would go away and say to Goldie "Find the bank" Goldie instantly remembered. Jenny explained to us that at first she didn't want Goldie, she didn't like the idea of having a big, smelly dog in her house but the Vision Australia people insisted she have a 1 day trial. Jenny fell in love, Goldie was not only her eyes, but her friend. Jenny kept Goldie and everyone got to pat her at the end of the session. At the end of the session we got to test the products I mentioned before, there was even special glasses that re-enacted the eye sight of some almost blind people. Overall our school really enjoyed have Jenny Abela's visit and we are so thankful that there are organisations like Vision Australia that can help people just like Jenny.

Isla Giron 6W

When we came in everyone was excited about seeing Jenny Abela and her dog, Goldie. She explained that before she had a dog she used a cane and how Vision Australia taught her braille. She said that when she was little she could see more things than she can see now. Her problems with her eyes became worse. She showed us how to use the white cane. After her talk she let the dog loose and we got to pat it. The best part was when we got to wear glasses to put ourselves in their (sight impaired people) shoes. When the patting was finished Jenny called Goldie back by blowing her whistle three times. Goldie cost \$50000. Because Jenny was a client of Vision Australia she was given Goldie for free. We also got to read a book of braille and had a paper to tell what the symbols mean. I enjoyed the visit a lot."

Carl Cavan 4G





# Spotlight on... Joseph Romanos, Keenen Rosauo and JJ Rizk

## Joseph Romanos

What is your favorite car?

My favorite car would be a nissan gtr

If you could go to one place in the world where would it be?

If I could go anywhere I would probably go to Tonga

If you could meet one celebrity alive or dead who would it be?

I would love to meet James Harden because I would love to touch his beard

If you had 1 million dollars what would you do with it?

I would give about 500 thousand dollars to my family and then I would spend it on an elite gaming room and I would put the rest in my bank account.

If you could have one superpower what would it be?

I would want spider man's powers because he can jump off buildings and not break his legs or die and because I can swing from building to building which is so cool and I guess I would love to be as smart as him as well.

## Keenen Rosauo

If you could meet one celebrity (alive or dead) who would it be?

Bruce Lee, I would like to meet him because he is great at martial arts and he has very inspiring quotes.

Tell us Five words that describe you.

Weird, annoying, curious, funny and adventurous.

Which celebrity would you like to live with?

1. Usain Bolt
2. Will Smith
3. Michael Jackson

If you could live anywhere in the world where would it be and why?

In Sydney because I know the area and that is where all my friends live and I get to be surrounded in a familiar place.

What would you do with 1 million dollars?

Give some to my family, buy a house, adopt a dog, buy furniture, buy food and go to comic con and cosplay.

## JJ Rizk

Who is your biggest inspiration?

Probably my Peter Griffin because he is very funny.

What is your biggest fear?

Furry spiders and heights.

If you had 1 million dollars what would you spend it on?

I would get a gaming set, give money to my family and donate the rest to charity.

If you could swap lives with a celebrity who would it be?

1. Drake
2. Michael Jordan
3. Cardi B

If you could have one superpower what would it be?

To fly so I can pass all the traffic and get to places faster.

# NEXT LEVEL SPORTS CLINIC



**OCTOBER SCHOOL HOLIDAYS! REGISTER NOW!**

[nextlevelsports@live.com.au](mailto:nextlevelsports@live.com.au)

**Why Choose Us?**

Next Level Sports Clinic will be running a clinic in the second week of the upcoming October school holidays. Join us for two days of fun with plenty of activities, games, exercises & a free lunch on Friday!

Please note that the upcoming clinic will be held at St Margaret Mary's, Merrylands.

**DATES**

**Thursday 11th – Friday 12th October.**

Students are welcome to attend both days or selected days.

**Act now**, as spots are limited!

**For more information and other enquiries please contact us!**

Contact David Younis at:

[nextlevelsports@live.com.au](mailto:nextlevelsports@live.com.au)

(Emails returned promptly)

Like us or contact us on Facebook!

Search for "Next Level Sports Clinic"

## PCYC Parramatta October Holiday Camps 2018

**Week 1**

10 days of fun Activities

**Boxing/Taekwondo** **Mon 1/10**

- Program runs from 9am - 4pm
- \$28 per child

**Brazilian Jiu Jitsu/Multi Sport** **Tue 2/10**

- Program runs from 9am - 4pm
- \$28 per child

**Bollywood/Kick Boxing/ Arts and Craft** **Wed 3/10**

- Program starts from 9am - 4pm
- \$28 per child

**Cricket/ Table Tennis/Cooking Class** **Thurs 4/10**

- Program starts from 9am - 4pm
- \$28 per child

**Soccer World Cup/ Dodgeball** **Fri 5/10**

- Program starts from 9am - 4pm
- \$28 per child

**Bookings Required: [parramatta@pcycnsw.org.au](mailto:parramatta@pcycnsw.org.au)**

- Children to bring water bottle, Morning tea, Lunch & Afternoon Tea
- Programs starts from 9am to 4pm
- \$28 per child
- PCYC Membership required. \$10 for Juniors

Find us on Facebook & Instagram: PCYC Parramatta



Call 02 9635 8242 to register or  
Email us on [Parramatta@pcycnsw.org.au](mailto:Parramatta@pcycnsw.org.au)  
Junior PCYC Club membership costs \$10



## PCYC Parramatta October Holiday Camps 2018

**Week 2**

10 days of fun Activities

**Boxing/Taekwondo** **Mon 8/10**

- Program runs from 9am - 4pm
- \$28 per child

**Brazilian Jiu Jitsu/Cricket** **Tue 9/10**

- Program runs from 9am - 4pm
- \$28 per child

**Bollywood/ Kicking Boxing/ Arts and Craft** **Wed 10/10**

- Program runs from 9am - 4pm
- \$28 per child

**Kids Fitness/Table Tennis/ Cooking** **Thurs 11/10**

- Program starts from 9am - 4pm
- \$28 per child
- Dress up as your Favorite SUPERHERO

**Touch Footy/ Soccer World Cup** **Fri 12/10**

- Program starts from 9am - 4pm
- \$28 per child

**Bookings Required: [parramatta@pcycnsw.org.au](mailto:parramatta@pcycnsw.org.au)**

- Children to bring water bottle Morning tea, Lunch & Afternoon Tea
- Programs starts from 9am to 4pm
- \$28 per child
- PCYC Membership required. \$10 for Juniors

Find us on Facebook & Instagram: PCYC Parramatta



Call 02 9635 8242 to register or  
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Junior PCYC Club membership costs \$10





*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	6.30am, 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 Michael Gitau

Rev Deacon Willy Limjap

Margaret Gale ( Sacramental Coord)

Milli Lee (Parish Admin Asst)

Patricia Preca (Parish Secretary)

Donna Missio (Receptionist)

## Sick Children



We know that it can sometimes be difficult to determine whether your child is too sick to attend school. In the interests of the wellbeing of our whole school community we ask you to take a moment to review the

"Too Sick To Go To School?" chart created by NSW Health which is accessible from the following webpage -

<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/health/too-sick-to-go-to-school>

This chart reminds parents of the advisable periods of time children should be away from school during and after an illness. *When your child is sent to school unwell it is impossible for them to focus on their learning. If your child becomes distressed, due to being unwell, we will be making a phone call to ask you to collect your child. We appreciate your co-operation with keeping our school healthy and happy.*

## Parish Youth Group Junior Credo: EDGE

- for children in Yrs 4-6

**Fortnightly on Fridays - 5pm-6pm (school terms only) at**

**St Patrick's Cathedral Cloister Hall.**

**Email Mindy for more info: [credo@stpatscathedral.com.au](mailto:credo@stpatscathedral.com.au)**

**Junior Credo Edge is a Parish based Ministry run by**

**St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta**