

# St Patrick's Primary School

## Newsletter

19th December 2018 Term 4 Week 10



Dear Parents,

I would like to sincerely thank each and every one of you for all you have contributed to the school this year.

We have achieved much together and the staff really appreciate your support and assistance. As I said at the Christmas Concert last Monday it doesn't matter how you have helped at the school, for each gift you have shared is very much appreciated and valued. I know that you all do what you can and some years families find they have more spare time than other years. It all adds up in the long run. I know how difficult it is for working mums and dads but just knowing that you are interested and care is more than enough.

The staff would also like to thank all the parents and children for their expressions of gratitude over the last few weeks. May you all have a very safe and restful holiday away from the routines of school and may the joys, hopes, peace and blessings of the Christmas season be with you and your family in the weeks to come. May the New Year 2019 bring your good health and much happiness.

Kindest Regards

Bernadette Fabri

Principal

### St Patrick's Parramatta

#### RETURN TO SCHOOL 2019 DATES

Week One 2019	Monday 28th January 2019	Tuesday 29th January 2019	Wednesday 30th January 2019	Thursday 31st January 2019	Friday 1st February 2019
	Public Holiday	Staff Development Day –  Yrs K-6 Individual Maths Assessments	Staff Development Day –  Yrs K-6 Individual Maths Assessments	Years 1 to Year 6 Commence school	Kindergarten commence school (full day)
		Year 1 to 6—Parents will be asked to book their children into one session with their child's class teacher on any of these 2 days.			
		Kindergarten Parents will be asked to book their children into one session with their child's class teacher on any of these 3 days.			

### YEAR 6 GRADUATION MORNING TEA

I would like to sincerely thank and congratulate the many parents who helped organise the Year 6 Graduation morning tea last week. Once again - what a success!!! The organisation and coordination was a perfect example of how our community pulls together when needed and what high quality parents we have here at St Patrick's Parramatta. I would like to thank Mrs Michelle Tamaro and all the parents of Year 5 who either; came to help on the day before or on the day after, donated food, supplied party ware, organised printing of photos, cleaned and packed up at the end. The school was given a comprehensive list of the many many helpers including those that sent their apologies and we are extremely grateful as always. We hope you enjoy some lovely photos of the morning.

With much gratitude Year 5

Bernadette Fabri

## Joshua Lorenzo-End of Year Speech 2018

We're here after all this time. We made it! We've completed our seven years at St Patrick's Primary Parramatta. Congratulations to my fellow Year 6 peers who I can proudly call my friends. Together we have laughed, cried, played, learnt, overcome challenges and grown up.

But, it is also the end of an era. As renowned author Mitch Albom once said, *"Every ending is a beginning. We just don't know it at the time."*

This is important to remember. The end of our time at this wonderful school is just a disguise to the start of our journey into high school. It's scary, but exciting at the same time. It is around this age where we start making our own choices and our own decisions. During the Opening School Mass, which seems just like yesterday, Father Bob in his Homily said that like skyscrapers, we need to have solid foundations in our lives. These foundations help shape us as a person. These foundations are; Honesty, Compassion, Good Deeds, Resilience, Forgiveness, Justice, Tolerance and Respect. At home with our parents, and at school with our teachers, we have been instilled with these values. If we build on these foundations we bring out the best in ourselves. These foundations drive our decisions in everyday life. They are something to work towards-what we strive to be, just like our school mascots Ricky Respect, Coolio Compassion and Rocky Resilience.

Our time at St Patrick's has greatly focused on self-development, leadership and faith. We have been taught to be a leader rather than a follower. God has always been a central part of our lives and has influenced us in our everyday actions. In our time at this school, we have had many opportunities to express ourselves and to have a voice. I myself have had the honour to represent my class and the school multiple times as S.R.C and School Captain. These moments opened my eyes to an interest in leadership, not just for the title but so I could be a good role-model to those around me.

*"It is our choices, Harry, that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities". These iconic words of Albus Dumbledore from Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets really gives a deep message for us students.* It teaches us that our choices define us as a person and affect us much more deeply than our sheer abilities. We may have a special talent, but it is a choice that defines whether we use this talent for good or bad.

Without some very special people, we wouldn't be where we are today. Thank you to the teachers who taught us throughout the years; Mrs Salemi, Mrs Nubla, Mrs Masefield, Mrs Williams, Miss Dunseath, Miss Toman, Mrs Hagi, Mrs Carroll, Mrs Fardell, Mrs Dao and Mrs Rayess. Thank you to Mrs Kelly, Mrs Standring, Mrs Milic, Mrs Benkovich and Miss Alphonse for teaching Year 6 this year. You taught us to be the best version of ourselves and have prepared us for high school. Thank you to all the casual teachers who taught us when our teachers weren't available. Thank you to Mr Younis, Mrs Rodriks and Miss Issa, for teaching us weekly about sport and music. You introduced us to new passions that we will carry forever. Thank you to Mrs Yuen, Mr McIntosh, Mrs Barclay, Mrs O'Dwyer, Mrs Attard, for always supporting our school and the students. Thank you to Mrs Jones and Mrs Nutter, for always being there for when we were sick, injured, or when we needed help. Thank you Miss Fabri and Mrs Benkovich, for leading our school so well as our Principal and Vice-Principal, and always encouraging us to be the drivers of our learning. You always do what's best for the school and work tirelessly for both student and staff needs. Thank you Father Bob, for being such an inspirational Priest. You are always so involved with our school and go out of your way to strengthen our faith in many ways.

I would like to thank the Leadership Team of 2018. You have all such done an amazing job as leaders and have been positive role models for the younger students. I would also like to thank the House Captains and the Art, R.E and STEM Committees. I would like to thank on behalf of the students, our parents and guardians. Thank you for packing our lunches, and for your patience when helping us with our homework, speeches and assignments. Thank you for being our number one cheerleader at events. Thank you for always listening to our worries. For your our unconditional love, guidance and support from the very beginning. You always encouraged us to be the best we can be. You are the reason we are who we are today and we will strive to continue to make you proud each day.

To the Year 6 Class of 2018, you have all been inspiring leaders of our school - we have been through so much together but we must now go down different paths. While we may be going separate ways, we are still connected by the memories and relationships we've made together and I hope to keep those friendships alive.

One day we will meet again, and if we don't, we still have our memories.

I wish you all a bright future; never stop learning. Follow your passions and believe in yourself. I hope you make new friendships, and never forget our time at this school. May you continue to grow, develop and live through faith in action. Even if you make mistakes, that's okay-pick yourself up again.

*"But it ain't about how hard ya hit. It's about how hard you can get hit and keep moving forward."*

Listen to the words of Rocky Balboa, an iconic character created by Sylvester Stallone. It's not about how hard you fall or how big of a mistake you made; it's how you learn from your mistakes and pick yourself up. It has been an honour and a privilege to be your School Captain for 2018. I will miss you all at St Patrick's, and I will always have this school in a special place in my heart. I am ready to face tomorrow's challenges with the lessons I have learnt here.

I wish St Patrick's Primary Parramatta continued success and blessings.

Now I would like to leave you with an inspirational quote by the poet William Arthur Ward: *"If you can imagine it, you can achieve it; if you can dream it, you can become it."*

## **School Captain Speech 2018**

*'If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.'* - John Quincy Adams

As I stand here today, it is hard to believe that seven years at St Patrick's is coming to a close. What an amazing journey! It seemed like yesterday when I first walked into big school, with a giant school bag and a school dress that went halfway down my shins, hardly knowing any one and wondering why I had to keep coming back every day. Over the years there have been so many amazing experiences, challenges and memories that have helped me become stronger as a person and assisted me in achieving many things. There have been many highs and some lows on this journey, but I am grateful for every one of them, and I believe all have formed me into who I am today.

When we first came to St Patrick's, some of us could write our names and count to 20, but we all had a lot to learn. Looking back, now I realise how much this school has taught us, and how many different things we have learnt about Science, English, Maths, History, Religion and Geography since we started here back in 2012, helping us branch off into areas that interested and moved us into a growth mindset. We have had many amazing teachers along this learning journey and we owe a huge thanks to every one of them, because it was them who formed the roots of our schooling years, always helping us to learn and teaching us new things every single day, stabilizing and nourishing us, just like the roots of a tree.

In Kindergarten we had Mrs Salame and Mrs Nubla who helped start our learning by teaching and guiding us through simple maths tasks, writing tasks and group projects, until we got a clearer understanding of each subject. Helping us form friendships, tie laces and wiping away the tears, although most of them were from our mums.

In Year 1, Mrs Masefield and Mrs Williams were always there for us while we were trying our hardest to spell correctly, understand new words and get our reading level up to level 30. That year we went to an aquarium and a Wildlife Park on an excursion while we were studying information reports on animals. This helped us understand many new species of animals and how they survived, all the while making learning fun by their constant jokes and of course our Friday Zumba sessions.

Miss Dunseath and Miss Toman made learning in Year Two interesting as we investigated Thailand. They engaged us in interactive activities that included asking questions to help us understand the culture and other interesting facts. A highlight of my time in Year 2 was when I was selected by my peers as SRC member for the first time. This brought me pride, challenges and developed my skills regarding independent decision making. It also helped spark my interest in leadership and develop my qualities.

Going into Year 3 meant we were now the youngest members of Primary, with Mrs Carroll and Miss Hagi as our teachers. We learnt about culture-filled Korea, especially the different regions, clothing, sports and symbols associated with the country. Mrs Carroll helped me learn about this culture in a way I wouldn't have been able to without her.

In Year 4 we had Mrs Fardell and Miss Takchi (Mrs Daou). We had so much fun, and they always made you laugh and told jokes and stories. They taught us about different explorers throughout the centuries and how they made an impact in our world, including Christopher Columbus, Captain Cook, and Abel Tasman.

Year 5 meant Mrs Carroll again and Mrs Rayess, except this time I was a more aware, experienced student with more knowledge than before, which I shared with other classmates. I was voted SRC again, using my leadership qualities to put our faith into action and model our three mascots' values.

- Respect
- Resilience
- Compassion

so others would understand the importance of using them as a way to live.

At the end of the year, we started to talk about leadership, and how to be a leader of our school community. This was when I started thinking about whether I was good enough to be a leader. That year my classmates voted me for school captain and I was shocked, proud and of course overjoyed that they believed I had the potential to lead the school.

In Year 6 I was now proudly the School Captain for 2018. This role brought many challenges and hard work but I wouldn't change it for the world. As captain of the school I had many responsibilities, the most important one being a positive role model to the younger students. At times I found it easy to do what I knew was right, at other times I had to dig deep and stand my ground, being confident in my decisions, even when others may have wanted a different outcome.

Yes there were disagreements, yes there was homework, and yes many different and challenging topics such as algebraic expressions, International trade, Federation, Circuits and Switches but each topic inspired us to be the drivers of our learning. Working collaboratively with all the Year Six teachers as we entered the 'Learning Pit' and struggled together as we moved beyond the surface into the deep and finally were able to transfer our learning to other tasks.

Thank you to Miss Fabri for being a great principal and being fair, respectful and always teaching us how to lead the St Patrick's community in faith, respect and hope. You taught us how to view the world with a positive and growth mindset, and to always be proud of our school. Thank you to all the other teachers who have always been there for us. You have guided us through music, sport, reading and helped us on the playground solve issues between our friends.

The biggest 'Thank you' needs to be shouted out to our parents, who have been there every step of the way, guiding us through our schooling, passing on their faith and leading us forward into our future. You made sure we enjoyed events such as school discos, sports days, walk-a-thons and movie nights as well as being proud of us for every achievement, no matter how small.

Lastly Thank you to my classmates for believing in me through tough times, helping me and working with me in class time and when we did PBL, and even just being the great friends you are. And even though I may never see some of you again, I sincerely hope all of you start your next chapter in life with a smile on your face and great friends by your side. And if you are upset about leaving friends behind, think about how lucky you are to have found someone who makes saying goodbye so hard to say.

Remember, don't cry because it is over, smile because it happened.







## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING NAPLAN ONLINE 2019

Dear Parents of Year 2 and Year 4 students,

Next year 2019 your child will be sitting for the NAPLAN Online. Children at St Patrick's Parramatta will be joining other students in Australia in doing NAPLAN online. Up to this point students in Year 3 and 5 have completed NAPLAN testing using paper tests.

To optimize success it is suggested that all parents visit the NAPLAN link below and allow their child to 'play' using the practice tests. You do not need a code but only to follow the link provided.

<http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site>

Whilst the teachers will be spending a short time familiarizing them to the formatting of these tests the more comfortable the children are in using arrows, tabs, drop down menu for example the more relaxed and confident they will be.

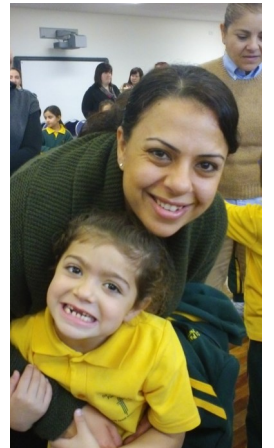
What children will need:

- **Devices:** (All children will be using school provided chromebooks)
- **Headphones:** (Each child will need to bring their own headphone. It is recommended that they have headphones with soft caps covering the ear rather than earbuds ones. See table below. Perhaps Santa can bring them a set for Christmas.
- **Practice:** It is recommended that all students practice using the format provided in the tests by completing the practice tests especially numeracy. This test requires the students to use a digital ruler (found on the upper right hand corner, click once and drag) for example. It is important that children know how to use this feature.

NB: Yr 3 will not be doing the writing assessment online.

Store	Picture	Style/Colour	Price
K-Mart		Colour: Grey and aqua	Approx \$6
Target	 Blue Pink	blue and pink available ITEM CODE 59743637	Approx \$10
Big W		multiple colours available	Approx \$13

# Farewell Class of 2018









## NOTIFICATION OF SPECIAL EVENT CHURCH STREET & PRINCE ALFRED SQUARE

# SYDFEST 19

Sydney Festival, with generous support from both the State Government and the Parramatta City Council, will present Circus Comes to Town at Prince Alfred Square from **Friday 11 January 2019 – Sunday 13 January 2019**.

You are invited to attend free workshops on the 10 and 11 January to transform your bike into a flying machine using recycled materials. On **Friday 11 January 2019**, jump on to your flying machine and join in the opening night of Fly me to the Moon Parade. The Parade will also feature the Heliosphere traveling down Church street ending in Prince Alfred Square.

Join us for a weekend of Circus Fun from the 11 – 13 January in Prince Alfred Square! See incredible free performances including Mallakhambindia, where extraordinary artists eloquently perform feats of strength, poise and dexterity, or marvel at *Heliosphere*, a giant lunar balloon filled with helium suspending a aerialist 20 meters from the ground. *Aerialize* are also back with affordable circus skills workshops for all ages and abilities, along with our outdoor *Flying Trapeze* workshops.

Local residents are advised to expect larger than normal crowds in the area for the 3 day duration of the Festival. Set-up will take place in Prince Alfred Square from **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019 and will be packed down by Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> January**.

The Parramatta program is both an opportunity to imagine all that our city can be and extend a warm welcome to visitors from all over Australia and the world. We hope you can join us.

### No BYO alcohol. No glass in the Park

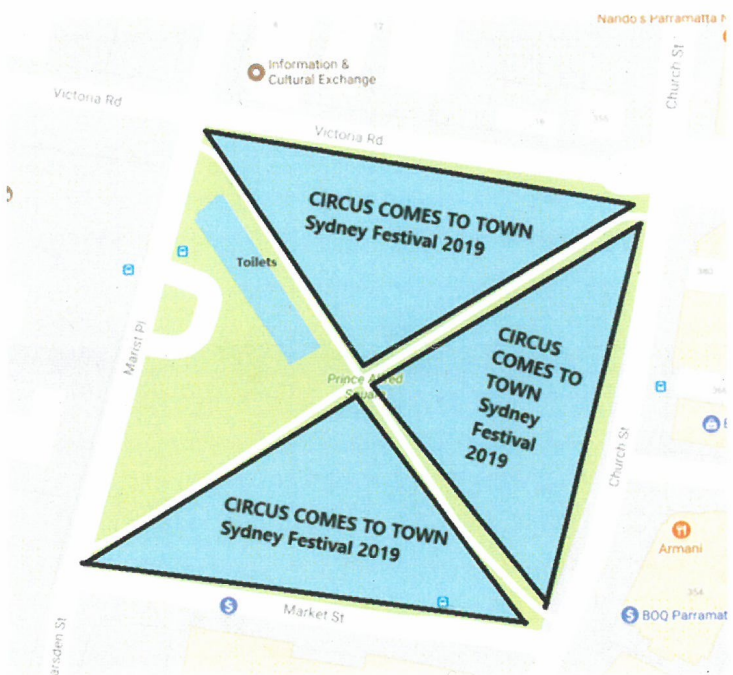
If you're planning to attend the Parramatta program, leave the car at home and consider walking, riding a bike or taking a bus or train.

To plan your trip, use the Trip Planner at [www.131500.com.au](http://www.131500.com.au).

For more information about the festival, visit <https://www.sydneyfestival.org.au/circus-comes-to-town>

Email: [mail@sydneyfesitval.org.au](mailto:mail@sydneyfesitval.org.au)

Call: 02 8248 6500







## ST PATRICK'S GIFT SHOP

Murphy House, 1 Marist Place, Parramatta.

### OPENING TIMES

Monday: CLOSED

Tuesday: 10am - 2pm

Wednesday: 10am - 3pm

Thursday: 10am - 3pm

Friday: 10am - 3pm

Saturday: CLOSED

Sunday: 9am - 2pm

Email [giftshop@stpatscathedral.com.au](mailto:giftshop@stpatscathedral.com.au)



### SCHOOL HOLIDAYS! REGISTER NOW!

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

Next Level Sports Clinic will be running sports clinics on the following dates:

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> of December 2018 'Christmas Theme' Clinic (St Patrick's Parramatta)**

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> of January to Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> of January**

Head teachers present at both clinic will be Mr Younis (of St Patrick's) and Mr Maunick (of St Margaret Mary's)

Join us for fun with plenty of activities, games, exercises & a free lunch on Thursday!

Students are welcome to attend all week or selected days.

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

### For more information (dates, location and other enquiries)

Contact David Younis at:

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

(Emails returned promptly)

### 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

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**



*sub tuum praesidium*

### 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)

## 2019 Diocesan School Fees

13 December 2018

Dear parents and carers

Please find below the Annual Diocesan fees schedule for 2019. The new schedule includes a very modest 2.7% increase on the fees from 2018.

School-based fees will also be limited to a 2.7% increase. School-based fees cover the costs of important things such as technology and school administration.

School fees are generally billed in instalments during Terms 1, 2 and 3. The fee is made up of three main parts:

### 1. Diocesan tuition fee

These are set by Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta and are the same for every school. There are **significant sibling discounts** for families with more than one child at a Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta school (it does not have to be the same school).

Those discounts and a list of the annual Diocesan tuition fees for 2019 are outlined below.

#### 2019 Diocesan tuition fee schedule (per year)

	1 <sup>st</sup> child (100%)	2 <sup>nd</sup> child (75%)	3 <sup>rd</sup> child (50%)	4 <sup>th</sup> Child (0%)
Kindergarten	\$1,206	\$903	\$603	No fee
Years 1 – 6	\$1,557	\$1,167	\$780	No fee
Years 7 – 8	\$2,157	\$1,617	\$1,080	No fee
Years 9 – 10	\$2,394	\$1,794	\$1,197	No fee
Years 11 – 12	\$3,057	\$2,292	\$1,530	No fee

### 2. Diocesan Building Levy

This fee is set by Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta and is the same for every school. The annual Diocesan building levy for 2019 is \$804. **There is only one Diocesan building levy per family with one or more children in a Parramatta Diocesan school or at St Dominic's College, Kingswood** and it is billed in instalments over the first 3 terms of the year. A sibling discount of 50% is granted to families with children within the bordering Archdiocese of Sydney and Dioceses of Wollongong and Broken Bay.

### 3. School-based fees

These are determined by the school according to the needs of that school and billable for each child. School-based fees are often called 'resource fees' or 'activity fees'. These fees help schools cover the costs of things like teaching resources, technology, excursions etc.



This fee varies between schools. Please contact the school to find out more about their school-based fees.

*As a guide, the Diocesan tuition fee represents roughly half the overall fee per year.*

### Here's how we can help

We appreciate that from time to time, some families experience financial challenges. As well as sibling discounts, confidential fee support is available through the following means:

- **Flexible payment options**

Families enrolled in CEDP schools are offered flexible payment options at the start of each year. These options provide opportunities to select a payment plan that best suits you. Payments can be made by direct debit or BPay on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis at no additional charge.

- **Fee assistance**

We understand financial circumstances can change and that these changes can impact on families. Please speak with your school principal confidentially if your family experiences financial difficulty or hardship so an appropriate arrangement can be made.

- **Bishop Manning Scholarship Fund**

In addition to fee assistance programs, the Bishop Manning Scholarship Fund is available to families who experience difficulty meeting the cost of school fees due to financial hardship. Part or full scholarships are also available to students enrolling in Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta schools. Further information is available on our website [www.scholarshipparra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.scholarshipparra.catholic.edu.au).

- **Byallawa co-contribution scheme**

The Byallawa co-contribution scheme provides assistance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families to ensure a quality Catholic education is affordable and accessible\*. Further information is available at [www.scholarshipparra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.scholarshipparra.catholic.edu.au).

Thank you for your ongoing support of our Catholic schools.

Yours sincerely



**Gregory B Whitby AM KSG**  
Executive Director  
Catholic Education  
Parramatta of Diocese



**Catholic Education**  
Diocese of Parramatta