



Newsletter

28th March, 2019 Term 1 Week 9

2019 Dates to Remember

Term 1

Week 9

Friday 29th March

School Photos—Summer Uniform

Week 10

Monday 1st April

Triskills

Tuesday 2nd April

Triskills

Thursday 4th April

Year 1 Celebration of Learning

2.15pm

Friday 5th April

St Patricks Day Celebration

Motiv8

Week 11

Monday 8th April

Triskills

Thursday 11th April

Year 4 Celebration of Learning

2.15pm

Friday 12th April

Infants Assembly—Kinder 2.15pm

LAST DAY OF TERM

Term 2

Week 1

Monday 29th April

Return to school for Term 2

Friday 3rd May

Year 5 Excursion— 'The Rocks'

Dear Parents,

Over recent months the staff and I have had an increasing number of parents and children complaining about other children swearing. I believe that swearing, especially at school, is unacceptable and offensive and children who swear are undermining their characters and presenting themselves as being uneducated and lacking self discipline, even if they do not generally display these negatives.

Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, and one of Australia's leading parenting educators says that swearing 'shows [a] lack of respect for others, and also a lack of awareness for their surroundings.' In a recent article he describes that whilst standards in society may have changed the role of parents has not, that is, to teach children to use language that is appropriate.

It is no longer surprising to hear the 'f' word in songs and movies and when listening to teenagers or youth speak with each other. The use of swear words seems to be just like any other word. Some of the key headings/topics addressed in his article include the following:

- **Socially smart kids alter their language**
- **They didn't hear that from me!**
- **When swearing becomes a habit**
- **Take a long, hard look at, er ... yourself!**
- **Things to remember when kids swear:**

There is often the case where parents do not even know their children are using swear words at school especially if the motivation is to 'show off' or 'to gain attention'. To assist parents to gain information about their children's language habits at school we will be sending home a note when or if your child is reported to have used a swear word. If required, in order for you to assist your child/ren please read the attached article which gives parents some ideas on helping them not to swear. Repeated swearing will result in a playground notice.

God bless you and your family
Bernadette Fabri
Principal

CHANGE TO MORNING GATE OPENING TIMES - 8.20am

TO BEGIN FROM MONDAY 29TH APRIL

Dear Parents and Carers,

The school has undertaken an internal compliance safety audit for before school procedures and as a result from **Term 2 the school gate will be opened at 8.20 am** when teacher supervision commences. As expressed in previous newsletters we have noticed an increase in the number of students arriving at school before 8.20 am and it has become more difficult to ensure the safety of these students (We now have between 70 to 90 students arriving before 8.20am) We understand that many families work but we hope that you can understand our position in this matter. We also acknowledge that many of our families organise before school care or make arrangements with other family members.

The school is affiliated with a very good OOSH - North Parramatta - and they have assured me that they have before school vacancies for both regular and casual placements. (details below)

To support schools to keep children safe at all times the Catholic Education Office has made banners for it's schools to remind parents and carers that the parking outside the school in the morning and afternoon is only for **drop off and pick up** so as to enable effective systems to run. You can assist by not leaving your car or staying longer than **2 minutes**. New signs have also been attached to the signage in front of the school.

Parents we do apologise if this change in procedures causes you inconvenience however SAFETY is always a priority. We appreciate your cooperation and support in this matter.

Kindest Regards
Bernadette Fabri

North Parramatta Outside of School Hours Care is a registered early learnings service and currently has availability within their before school care session. They open at 7:00am and offer breakfast along with a wide range of child-led experiences that support individual children's needs and interests. For more information please visit their website: <https://www.ooshnp.com/> or we welcome you to email the acting coordinator, Sarah Sloan at atooshnp@bigpond.net.au

**NORTH PARRAMATTA OOSH
PH NUMBER: 9683 3009**

2019 SCHOOL FEE STATEMENTS

Term 1 2019 statements are now due. If you have any concerns with school fee payment please contact the School Finance Secretary Mrs Fiona Mitterer.

St Patrick's Current Attendance Level = 89.5%

K = 90.3%	2 = 93.3%	4 = 90.3%	6 = 88.3%
1 = 87.7%	3 = 85.2%	5 = 91.1%	

Your child is required to be neatly dressed in full Summer School Uniform tomorrow.



School Photos – Friday 29th March—Tomorrow

We encourage you to pay online for both individual photos and sibling photos. The website for ordering photos is www.advancedlife.com.au This can be done in the convenience of your home. An email receipt will be mailed to you as confirmation and you can pay for all children or sibling photos in 1 easy payment. The online code for our school St Patricks Primary, Parramatta is **MKW J3F KMB**.

Every child received a separate school photograph envelope, which if paying by cash or cheque must be returned to school with the correct payment (no change is able to be given). Please ensure that you read the instructions on the envelope carefully and complete the envelope in full.

Literacy Update

My Name is Mrs Jenny Warn and I am the classroom teacher for 3L and I am currently the Acting Leader of Learning for Literacy here at St Patrick's. Every year teachers are asked many important questions about reading and how parents can support their child's reading at home. This article will answer some of these questions.

Should I cover the illustrations when my child reads?



Is my child really reading if he is looking at the pictures?

Did you know:

- The illustrations assist children to understand what the book is about. Understanding what the book is about lays the foundation for questions like, "Does what I read make sense?"
- Illustrations can assist your child in decoding unknown words.
- Illustrations allow your child to infer meaning.
- Illustrations add a point of interest to young readers.

Just remember:

Using pictures as a context cue is just one small strategy involved in learning to read.



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

Christina Elzahoul,
Logan Munro, Danielle Tannous,
Lucy Parkes, Edward McCloskey,
Mary Roumanus, Maria Khoury



ENROLMENTS FOR 2020 **KINDERGARTEN**

Enrolments forms are due back no later than tomorrow, Friday 29th of March 2019.

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).

ST PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATIONS 2019 hosted by MOTIV8SPORTS

NEW DATE FRIDAY 5TH APRIL (weather permitting)

Date: Friday 5th April 2019

Venue: St Patrick's College Dundas. Please note parking is restricted to street parking (eg., Kirby Street)

Cost: Covered in resource fee and augmented with school funds

Time: Children will participate in 2 sessions on the day. There will be a recess break and a lunch break. The timetable is as follows:

Buses leave St Patrick's Parramatta : 9:00 am

OPENING CEREMONY: 9:45 am to 10:00 am

MORNING SESSION 10:00 am to 11.10 am

Recess: 11:10 am to 11:40 am

AFTERNOON SESSION 11.50 pm to 1.10 pm

Lunch: 1:10 pm to 1:40pm

CLOSING CEREMONY and AWARDS 1:40 pm to 1:50 pm

Buses Depart to return to school: 2:00pm

Uniform: Sports uniform and school hat

Please note: An alert was sent out last week regarding permission for your child to attend the St Patrick's Day Celebrations. We are trialling a new permission process, where money is not required, to eliminate lost notes and what we hope will be more convenient for parents/carers.

As you would fill out an absentee form on the Skoolbag app, the permission note is a similar process. Please go into eforms and complete the Motiv8 permission slip by Wednesday 13th March.

You are able to list all the siblings on the one form. If you need any assistance please contact Mrs Jones.

THANK YOU FROM ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

Dear Ms Fabri and the St Patrick's Primary Community,

I write to you on behalf of Fr Bob and the Cathedral parish community to thank you for your wonderful support of the St Patrick's Day Festival last Sunday.

Please pass on our gratitude to the families who donated to the cake stall, bought raffle tickets and who also brave the weather and joined in with other parishioners on the days festivity. May God bless their generosity.

Our thanks also to the teachers and the office staff who are always ready to support the parish. Thank you to Leanda for bringing the raffle tickets across and for the office staff for promoting the event.

Our parish is enriched by your support. May the generosity you share be returned to you manifold.

Kind Regards
Mili Lee
Parish Administration Assistant

NAPLAN ONLINE

14/5/2019 to 24/5/2019

NAPLAN Online

extended test window

The test window for NAPLAN Online is nine days, compared to three days for paper-based NAPLAN. This extended test window allows schools more flexibility in scheduling and accommodates schools that have fewer devices than students.

NAPLAN Online tests will need to be taken in a specific order. This increases the security of the writing prompt and is required for some test linkages. For instance, students must complete the reading test before accessing the conventions of language test, so that the results of the reading test can be used to determine the level of difficulty of the conventions of language test items (tailored test design).

All students in a school must complete one domain before moving onto the next (other than catch-ups).



MAY 2019

WEEK ONE				WEEK TWO				
TUE. 14	WED. 15	THU. 16	FRI. 17	MON. 20	TUE. 21	WED. 22	THU. 23	FRI. 24
Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9

MON. 13
Prep. day

WRITING TEST
The writing test must be completed any time within the first two days only of NAPLAN Online for Years 5, 7 and 9. Year 3 students do a paper-based writing test and this is to be completed on day 1 only.

READING TEST
The reading test can be completed any time AFTER the writing test, but must be completed BEFORE the conventions of language test.

CONVENTIONS OF LANGUAGE
The conventions of language test can be completed any time AFTER the reading test, but must be completed BEFORE the numeracy test.

NUMERACY TEST
The numeracy test can be completed any time AFTER the conventions of language test.

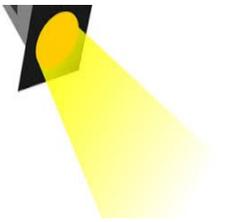



Term 2 Week 3

Start Time	Tuesday 14/5	Wednesday 15/5	Thursday 16/5	Friday 17/5
Year 5 9.00am	Year 5 Writing	Year 5 Reading	Year 5 Language	Year 5 Maths
Year 3 10.00am	Year 3 Writing	Year 3 Reading	Year 3 Language	Year 3 Maths

Term 2 Week 4

Start Time	Tuesday 21/5	Wednesday 22/5	Thursday 23/5	Friday 24/5
Year 5 9.00am	Catch up Naplan Tests for children who are absent			
Year 3 10.00am	Catch up Naplan Tests for children who are absent			



Spotlight on...

Today we are focusing on our Kindergarten SRC members -

1C - Vincent Camenzuli and Lourdes Saleh

1S - Zachariah McPherson and Georgia-Rose Rizk

Lourdes Saleh

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

If I had a thousand dollars I would buy a slide for my house nothing else.

Name 5 words that describe you.

Funny, cheeky, naughty, bubbly and excited.

What's your favorite place in the world?

My favourite place in the world would be Lebanon because my grandma lives there.

What's your ideal job?

I want to be a candle maker because I like to make things like candles.

If you could have a super power what would it be?

Invisibility because in the night I could watch on my ipad and no one could see me.

Zachariah McPherson

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

If I had a million dollars I'd spend it on a mansion with one billion cars.

What are you most looking forward to in high school?

I'm looking forward to math and science because they are my favourite subjects.

What is your biggest fear?

My biggest fears are clowns and snakes.

5 words to describe yourself.

Kind, helpful, funny, a Jesus person and an inventor!

What is your least favourite food?

My least favourite food is avocado.

Georgia-Rose Rizk

If you were an animal, what animal would you be?

If I were an animal, I would be a tiger!

If you could have any super power, what would it be?

If I could have any super power, I would want to have laser eyes so I can break through walls.

Which three people in the whole world would you invite to dinner and why?

I would invite my friend Lourdes, Jocinta and my sister Carmella because they are my best friends in the whole wide world.

5 words to describe yourself

Kind, helpful, caring, compassionate, and I'm funny.

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

I would buy a cool car that has drinks, phone charger, a fridge for food, and I would also buy a new house so homeless people could live there.

Vincent Camenzuli

If you were an animal what would it be?

I would be a dog.

Who is your biggest inspiration in life?

My mum because she helps me everyday.

Which three people in (in the whole world) would you invite to dinner?

I would invite my aunty, my uncle and my grandma.

Favorite movie?

My favorite movie is Captain Underpants.

What's your ideal job?

I want to be a train driver when I grow up because I like trains.

Cross country

On the 27/3/2019 St Patrick's had their annual cross country. There were so many brave contestants and they all tried their very best. Some came first and some came last but at the end of day they were all winners. There were also many parent helpers who gave up their day to encourage the children running and cheer them on. Mr Younis and Mr Baird timed the children and got them ready for their big run with the help of Mrs Carroll and Mrs Fardell. I loved seeing the runner's faces when they had completed their run, they looked like they accomplished something but also looked very tired. Over all I would say that the St Patrick's annual cross country of 2019 was a big success.

Written by Mary-Jo El-sabbagh in Year Six



SRC news

This term the Student Representative Council have been collaborating on a grand idea put forward by one of the Kindergarten parents. Starting school is an exciting time for children and parents but it can also be a time that causes some stress. Just simple things like finding friends in the playground can be a challenge. The SRC have created posters to help children find each other on the playground.

The students composed short introductions to the new posters with some words of wisdom about the different values and virtues we can display in these areas. I hope they help all our students continue to build friendships and wear the cloak of Jesus in our daily interactions.



Hang Out With Me!

Hangout together in the 'Bat Cave'! You will always have fun chatting away in the cave. There are so many things to do like:

- Read a book
- Catch up on the student's noticeboard.
- Play quiet games.

Being patient and respectful to all by including everyone in our conversations and using kind words is how we wear the cloak of Jesus at St Patrick's Parramatta.

Let's Play Here!

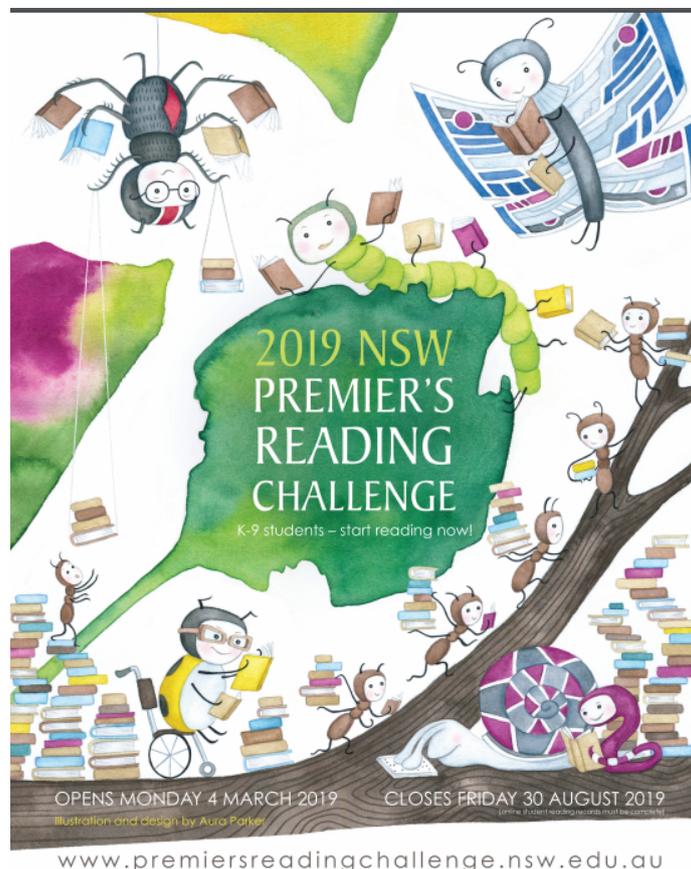
Flocking together and meeting your friends in the Harmony Area is where you can learn to build the skills needed for teamwork. It is a great place to model Jesus' message of love and gentleness by working together and sharing the equipment as we build lego models and play simple games.



Play with Me! Let's Play Together! Join the Parade of Echidnas as they join together and share their love of soccer. You can develop your kicking skills as you play with friends.



Remembering the importance of playing fairly, obey the rules while be nice to your friends. Have fun as you practice the virtue of tolerance when others don't have the same view as you and resilience when the other team wins. Seats are nearby if you prefer to cheer on your team or chat with friends.



[Parramatta St Pat's Playgroup: A year in review](#)

Each Wednesday the grounds of St Patrick's Cathedral hear the hustle and bustle of toddlers, preschoolers and prams rolling towards the cathedral hall for what will be another fun playgroup session.

The sessions are filled with no less than eight families, the sounds of children's laughter (and often cries) and parents chatting among themselves.

Cars and figurines thrown across the floor, preschoolers rummaging the boxes for that last block to help them build their 'humongous tower', babies attempting to crawl, our playgroup has become a great place to let the kids enjoy free play time or craft time while you as an adult can enjoy some adult conversation (or try to!).

We were saddened to say goodbye to Elissa and the Gorham family in 2018. Elissa's youngest started kindergarten this year and her family's time with us came to an end.

Elissa and Diane started playgroup together here at St Patrick's and continued to run it together until the end of 2018. She will be missed.

This year sees many new families joining our playgroup, and one family in particular, the Kazzaz family.

2019 brings us a blessing in Mirna Kazzaz who has helped take over the activities in our playgroup. With her childcare background, she has become an indispensable resource in our community. We thank Mirna who makes time every week to come in early, set up and organise activities for the children. On top of being a mum to four young children!

Today Mirna organised for our children to make their Easter hats in preparation for our last session of the term next week, where we will be celebrating with an Easter party.

Adults and children alike really enjoyed the creative activity.

We welcome all families to join us Wednesday mornings inside the St Patrick's Cathedral hall from 9.30-11.30am. We are open during school term week's only.

Please join our Facebook page for weekly updates: Parramatta St Pats Playgroup

- Diane Jaitani

insights

How to stop your children from swearing

by Michael Grose



If you're like me, you feel decidedly uncomfortable when kids of any age turn the air blue with profanities. Swearing shows lack of respect for others, and also a lack of awareness for their surroundings.

Teaching kids to use appropriate language is trickier now than in the past. For a start, standards have changed where many words – such as the 'F' word – that were deemed inappropriate in the past are often heard on radio and seen in mainstream newspapers. Words that everyone agrees are inappropriate are frequently used in public forums, to the point that the boundaries of appropriateness have become blurred.

Standards may change, but the job of parents hasn't altered. That is, **to teach kids to use language that doesn't offend others**. Whether it's teasing or swearing – it's all the same. If a word or words are offensive, then choose other words or say nothing at all. That is the message to get across to the next generation.

Socially smart kids alter their language

Socially skilled kids of all ages will adjust their language to suit the situation they are in. They may speak one way with their friends but use a completely different vocabulary when they are with adults. They are aware that what works with their best friend just won't cut it when they are in Grandma's company. This awareness shows social acuity and the flexibility to adjust to different environments. It needs to be extended to all sorts of situations including where adults and younger children are present. Kids who constantly swear limit their social possibilities.

They didn't hear that from me!

What do you do when you know your children swear despite your best intentions? Don't over react. Try to work out its purpose. Children swear for many reasons, including: to experiment with language; to attract your attention; to make themselves appear bigger or older than they are; and even as a challenge or expression of personal power.

Inappropriate language can also simply be a reflection of your children's peer groups. *"Everyone else swears so there's nothing wrong with it"* is a common attitude of many children and young people.

Teach them that while swearing may be appropriate in one context or be accepted by one group, it is not acceptable in every situation. While not condoning swearing, get across to children that they need to learn to control their use of language and adjust it to suit the situation they are in.

When swearing becomes a habit

If swearing has become a habit for kids, make up alternative words to replace the swear words. One family I know

had replaced certain words with fruit. They had a fruit for every situation!

Alternatively, use a penalty or fine system to make kids aware of their poor language. When you hear a family member swear, fine them an agree amount. At the end of the week or month give the money collected to a worthy cause. Of course, this strategy is easier to implement when parents join in as well.

Take a long, hard look at, er ... yourself!

It's also helpful to examine your own choice of language to judge if it is an acceptable model for your children. Yep, sometimes kids will pick up their parents' language and repeat it at the worst possible time, such as when relatives are over.

The job of adults is to develop a sense of social awareness in the next generation so they can easily navigate a variety of different groups and social situations. Teaching appropriate language use is at the very heart of teaching kids to be socially skilled. That's something we all should swear by!

Things to remember when kids swear:

1. Avoid over-reacting when your kids swear. Look for the reason.
2. Discuss with older children the concept of matching their language with the audience.
3. Nip it in the bud before it becomes habit forming.
4. Use a penalty or fine system when kids swear in front of you.
5. Model the language you want your kids to use.

A last word

Standards may change, but the job of parents hasn't altered. That is, to teach kids to use language that doesn't offend others. If it's offensive then encourage them to choose other words, or say nothing at all. That's the approach that socially smart kids follow.



Michael Grose

Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's the author of 10 books for parents including *Thriving!* and the best-selling *Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It*, and his latest release *Spoonfed Generation: How to raise independent children*.

St Patrick's Primary School Parramatta

Villiers Street Parramatta 2150
PO Box 2308 North Parramatta NSW 1750
Telephone: 8832 4600



INAPPROPRIATE LANGUAGE NOTICE

Please sign and return to the classroom teacher

Dear _____

Your child _____ in class _____ has been reported for swearing / inappropriate language / inappropriate manner.

Can you please discuss this matter with him/her.

Regards

_____ Date: _____

INAPPROPRIATE LANGUAGE NOTICE RETURN SLIP

I have read and discussed the Inappropriate Language Notice with my child _____ in class _____.

I would/would not like to arrange a meeting with the teacher who issued the notice.

Signed: _____ (Parent/Carer)

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 Christopher Del Rosario Rev Deacon Willy Limjap

Meg Gale (Sacramental Coord)

Milli Lee (Parish Admin Asst) Mindy Mercado (Youth Co-ord)

Patricia Preca (Parish Secretary) Donna Missio (Receptionist)