



Newsletter

8th August, 2019 Term 3 Week 3

2019 Dates to

Remember

Term 3

Week 3

Friday 9th August

Infants Assembly—
Year 1 at 2.15pm

Week 4

Wednesday 14th August

Year 5 PD Night—
6.30pm School Hall

Thursday 15th August

Feast of the Assumption:
Whole School to attend
Mass at 12.30pm

Friday 16th August

Primary Assembly—
Year 5 at 2.15pm

Week 5

Wednesday 21st August

Book Week
celebrations—see note
included in newsletter

Friday 23rd August

Diocesan Athletics
Carnival

Infants Assembly—
Year 2 at 2.15pm

Week 6

Tuesday 27th August

Fathers Day Stall

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a successful and smooth start to the term. As previously advertised I have been on some leave and it is good to be back with you all. On my return I went around the school to say hello to all the children and it was so good to see that many of them have grown and matured and that they seem ready for another semester of great learning. My congratulations go to all the boys and girls who have been selected for leadership positions this semester as Student Representative Council members or Colour Captains. I also have it on good authority that the Grandparents celebrations were full of joy and welcome and I sincerely thank all the parents who contributed to making this so. I would also like to thank Mrs Benkovich, Mrs Standring, Mrs Barclay and staff for stepping in during my absence. I really appreciate their dedication and professionalism. During my leave I took the opportunity to read all the newsletters and to keep abreast of school events. Absolutely fabulous!

STAFF - PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

With the continuing rate of change in education and with research driven recommendations on how children learn best, teachers are continually required to keep up a high level of Professional Learning. Just like all professionals, it is an expectation that teachers undertake a significant number of hours learning about strategies that both engage learners and optimize learning growth. Although some professional learning takes place during the holidays and on the weekends most learning opportunities are only available during the school term. This Saturday, for example a number of teachers will be attending an inservice on the importance of increasing student talk to improve comprehension. This is totally voluntary and I really appreciate the staff giving up their precious weekend time with family and friends to attend this workshop.

In light of this information you will find on occasions that our teachers are absent from school. This week for example we have had a number of teachers attending a 3 day conference on Inquiry Based Learning with an educationalist from Texas, Steve Zipkes. Many schools in our diocese have teachers attending this very interesting and worthwhile course and I believe that our teachers have already created a very exciting and engaging unit of work for their students' next learning cycle based on this work. Also this week another group of teachers have attended the third of a series of workshops on Best Practices in Literacy. Again these teachers have already implemented some of these widely researched strategies to improve learning outcomes for the children in their class after attending this course.

The school is also required to send teachers to supervise any sporting events that children enter. Without their cooperation in attending we will be unable to participate.

This may help to explain why teachers in school are absent at times.

Again I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our staff for their enthusiasm and willingness to keep learning and refining their craft so as to increase their effectiveness as teachers. Children benefit from passionate and interested teachers who are great learners themselves!

God Bless you and your family
Bernadette Fabri
Principal

st patrick's award



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

KA	Samson Sayegh	Miami Calumpiano
KM	Sophia Zhang	Faith Daniel
1C	Caroline Youssef	Frances Thomas
1S	Mia Daher	Mia Golossian
2M	Kenzie Murphy	Juliette Khoury
2Y	Josephine Behan	Wren Chua



Honour Award

The Honour Award is awarded to the child who demonstrates outstanding behaviour

KA	Sofia Barroso	Christopher Hanna
KM	Elias Kazzaz	Ian Mason
1C	Elijah Vella	Anastasia Naudi
1S	Kayla Amaral	Jayden Blazek
2M	Sarah Loader	Hunter Morson
2Y	Bailey Grohs	Marcus Moses

PRAYERS FOR CHLOE



Last week our school community was saddened by the news of Chloe Abou-Hamad, an ex-student of St Patrick's Parramatta, who has recently been diagnosed with cancer. As she undergoes treatment, we ask all members of our school community to pray for her. May our intercessions give her and her family the strength needed during this difficult time.

Kindergarten 2020—SAVE THE DATE

Dear Parents of Kindergarten children for 2020 here are some dates for your diary. Although they are in November we thought it would be helpful to have these dates early for your convenience. A notice will be sent to you this term to ask you to select one of the 3 Orientation mornings on which to bring your child. The Parent Information Evening is for all parents of Kindergarten children for 2020. New families will be contacted also.

The Kindergarten orientation days for our students commencing in 2020 will be on Tuesday 5th November to Thursday 7th November. The Kindergarten 2020 parent information night will be on the 13th November at 7.30pm.

FOR YOUR DIARY: STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY - 6th September.

The next Staff Development Day will take place on **Friday 6th September**. The staff will be working with Mr Scott Carrol (Teacher Educator in Religious Education) and exploring the new Religious Education Framework by preparing learning cycles for the students in their class. It is a great opportunity for the staff to build on the work we have been participating in throughout this year as part of the curriculum development team.



Happy Birthday to the following children who will celebrate their birthday in the coming week: Lawrence Wahbe, Levi Jaitani, Marie Rahme, Raymond Joe Khoury, Mary-Jo El-Sabbagh, Thomas Kougellis, Allen Elias, Joshua Manago, Miami Calumpiano, Olivia Moussa, Daniel Jurisic, Maximillian Markovic

St Patrick's Current Attendance Level = 85.9%

K = 87.1%

2 = 90.0%

4 = 90.3%

6 = 90.0%

1 = 70.2%

3 = 84.9%

5 = 87.7%

Stage 2 Soccer Gala Day

Last Tuesday the year three boys went to the Soccer Gala Day. We had so much fun. We had a team of 10 boys and the team players had even turns on the field. Each game went for 10 minutes, so we had plenty of time to practice our shots in between games. We played 7 games and although we didn't win, we had a really good time. We enjoyed our day and hope to go to another soccer gala day.

By Christian Jreij



Last Tuesday the Stage 2 Boys Soccer Gala Day was held at Jamison Park in Penrith. The Year 4 boys versed 7 different schools and won every game!! The other teams did not score one goal against us. All the Year 4 boys had a wonderful time watching, playing and eating.

The teachers were pleased with our good behaviour. Thank you to the parents who gave up their time to manage our team and referee some games. We all played as a team and with that we won the tournament!!

On Thursday 1st August we received our winning medals and participation certificates.

By James Kerr and Raymond Joe Khoury

Boys Winter Uniform

We have noticed that many boys are wearing their winter uniform without the tie. Our Student Charter states that children have the right to **'feel proud of our school'**. In turn they also have the responsibility to **'wear their uniform with pride'**.

Can all parents please ensure that children are wearing their full school uniform and for the boys that means their tie and for girls their bow.

Boy's Winter Uniform

Grey Long Trousers
Grey Long Sleeve Shirt
Green tie
Grey above ankle socks
Black Shoes
Grey Woolen Jumper
Green Jacket with Emblem

DON'T FORGET!

SCHOLASTIC

Book Club

orders are due:

12th August

CHOIR FOR CONFIRMATION

Father Bob has invited our school to provide the choir to lead the congregation in singing at the Confirmation Liturgy. Choir students from Year Two to Six are asked to consider accepting this honour and privilege by sharing their gift of singing to all. Thank you to the students who have already volunteered their time and will be supporting our school and parish community by attending this important liturgy.

We understand it is difficult to balance family commitments however if your child is able to or is attending the liturgy we encourage them to sit with the choir and add volume to the beautiful voices. This year, Confirmation will be held on 30 August at 7.00pm.

We anticipate there will be **4** practices beginning at 8.20am on the following Wednesday and Fridays, 14, 21, 23 and 28 August.

Thank you for your continued support of our school and its mission.
Mrs Standing and Mrs Rodricks

Zone Athletics Carnival 2019

On Tuesday 6th August 2019 a group of students from St Patrick's had the honour and privilege of competing at the Cumberland Zone Athletics Carnival. We had the opportunity to represent ourselves as well as our school against other Catholic schools in our Zone in a range of track and field events.

We were all loud and excited, competitive, yet displayed great sportsmanship and respect towards other competitors from our school and others. We were grateful for the experience, especially those of us in Year 6 who were experiencing this opportunity for the first and/or last time.

While we were not competing in an event we spent our time cheering on others as well as visiting the canteen for yummy treats. After all we did have to keep up our energy levels and what better way to do this than by eating hot chips, lollies and ice cream. Yummmmmmm!!!!!!

We were lucky to have Mrs Carroll and Mrs Williams as well as some parents supporting and supervising us on the day. Without our teachers and parents the day would not have run as smoothly or safely.

All competitors performed to the best of their ability on the day and some of us were fortunate enough to make it to the next level, The Diocesan Athletics Carnival, in a few weeks time. Congratulations to our Junior Girls Relay Team (Elisa Daher, Christina Elzahoul, Sienna Khattar, Amyllia Maneze) and Senior Boys Relay Team (Charlie Romanos, Zachery Khattar, Camran Nasrulla, Lorenzo De Guzman). Nyagua Koima and Lorenzo De Guzman also progressed onto the next level in individual events.

Look out for these students in the future Commonwealth and Olympic Games.

Charlie Romanos, Scarlett Khoury, Crista-Nicole Gahdmar

SCHOOL WELL-BEING COUNSELLING SERVICE

The wellbeing of children and young people in Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta schools is of paramount importance. A sense of well-being and connectedness in schools promotes optimal development of the person and contributes to academic success.

Our school's wellbeing counsellor is Mrs Trudy Ricketts, a Psychologist who is based at St Patrick's Primary 3 days per fortnight. Mrs Ricketts works with students, families and staff to assist in the emotional and psychological wellbeing of students, and is part of the whole-school pastoral care and wellbeing approach at our school.

Counselling services may include:

- Individual and family counselling
- Liaison with community agencies and other professionals
- Consultancy in relation to mental health issues
- Consultancy regarding Risk of Significant Harm concerns
- Group based interventions to promote social skills, resilience and support anxiety
- Teacher and parent education
- Response to critical incidents
- Assessment of behavioural, social and emotional wellbeing

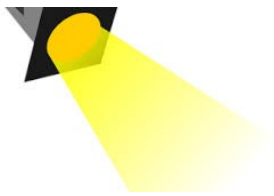
Access to counselling services can be made by contacting your child's classroom teacher or Ms Fabri, who will then put forward a referral. Mrs Ricketts will then contact you for further information.

NUMERACY TIPS TO HELP YOUR CHILD EVERY DAY K to Yr 2

3. COUNTING EVERYDAY

You can incorporate counting into everyday activities such as:

- » Cut fruit into six pieces and ask your child to count the pieces.
- » Count the pieces of toast you cooked at breakfast.
- » Add the total number of cutlery items at the table.
- » Count the number of people travelling in the car or on the bus.
- » Count the number of houses as you walk along the street.
- » Count how many steps it takes to walk from the kitchen to the bathroom.
- » Practise counting when grocery shopping with your child (for example, counting the number of apples you put into the bag).
- » Encourage your child to talk about the number of things in the pictures they draw.



Spotlight on... Year 5 Src's

Over the next few instalments you will have an opportunity to hear from our Semester 2—School Leaders for 2019. Today we are focusing on our Year 5 SRC's- 5C—Shanelle Wambeek and Frank Agostino, 5T—Renee Kougellis and Andrew Doumit.

Shanelle Wambeek

If you have one million dollars to spend in one day what would you spend it on?

If I had one million dollars I would buy a dog, donate to charity and give some of the money to my family.

If you could ask anyone one question and they must answer, who would you ask and what would you ask?

Ask Scott Morrison what he wants to happen over the next 4 years in Australia.

Which famous person can you relate to the most?

My grandfather who in Sri Lanka is famous for playing cricket.

What are you most excited for currently?

My role as SRC and being a role model for my class.

5 words describing you?

Creative, Talented, Friendly, Social, Compassionate

Frank Agostino

Favourite celebrity/sport icon?

My favourite celebrity is Marshmello as he is an awesome DJ and he is a very good gamer.

What is your favourite place in the world?

Italy because part of my background is Italian and Italy is world known for its amazing food.

What is your favourite subject?

Science, because I am good at it and it is fun to experiment with different chemicals.

Favourite Movie?

Fast and Furious 7, as that was the last movie Paul Walker was in before he died.

What hobbies do you have?

Go karting, gaming and playing soccer. These are things I enjoy doing during my spare time.

Renee Kougellis

Your least favourite dish?

Barbequed Brocollini, because it is tasteless.

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

Flight, because if you were in a bad situation you would be able to easily fly away.

Who is your biggest inspiration?

My dad, because he is really good at art and I hope to reach his level of expertise one day.

How do you want to help the world become a better place?

Donate to help save endangered species of animals and help stop poverty.

What one country would you like to travel to and why?

Greece, because my family heritage is over there and I would like to learn more about my culture.

Andrew Doumit

Favourite celebrity/sport icon?

My favourite sport icon is Manuel Neuer (Germany Goalkeeper) because he is a goalkeeper that inspires me.

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

Manuel Neuer, Chris Hemsworth because I like his acting and he is Australian and my grandfather because I would love to see him again.

If you could have any superpower what would it be?

My superpower would be invisibility because no one can see you and you can surprise them.

What sport (s) or music do you play?

I play soccer and I used to play piano.

If there was an emergency, apart from being with your family, what would be the thing you grab first?

I would get the phone so I can call the police.

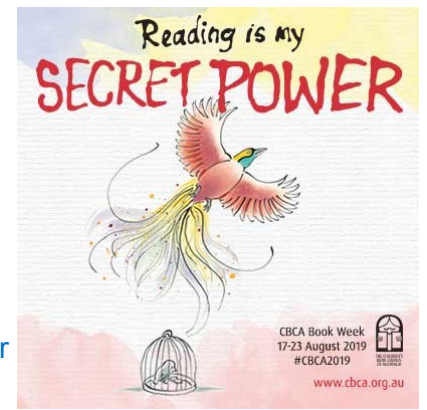
BOOK WEEK 2019

'Reading is my Secret Power'

During Week 5 (19th-23rd August) our students will be celebrating Book Week. This year's theme is

'READING IS MY SECRET POWER'.

We will be celebrating this week with special activities, a book character parade, a book dedication fair and an author visit.



Author visit for students: Wednesday: 21st August K-6 (no extra cost, included in Activity Fee)

Jess Black is an award winning author of children's books who has written a number of junior fiction and middle grade chapter books, the Little Paws and The Keeper of the Crystals series. Jess is also the co-author of the hugely successful Bindi Wildlife series, the Kaboom Kid series and the RSPCA Animal Tales Series.

Book Character Parade: Wednesday 21st August, 2019 from 9:00 am

Parents, carers and friends are invited to attend the parade on Wednesday 21st August @ **9:00am** in the school playground. We ask that children come dressed representing this year's theme 'Reading is my Secret Power'. Examples of these include; a literary character from a book they find powerful or a powerful character such as a superhero. They should carry a sign noting the title of the book and the name of the character they are depicting and ideally know a little about their character.

Book Fair: Wednesday 21st August, 2019 from 10:00 am

This year, we are inviting and parents, carers and friends to purchase a book and dedicate it to our classroom libraries. Teachers and students have created a wish list of books they would like to read in their class for pleasure. We would be grateful if you would be able to make a dedication on the day. We are incredibly lucky to welcome staff from The Children's Bookshop in Beecroft to host this initiative. Books will range in price from \$6-\$30

Each book will be given a special book plate in your child's name in honor of your dedication.

The Premier's Reading Challenge:

The challenge closes on 30th August. Students are encouraged to finalise entries and upload books onto their Student Reading Records by this date. Thank you to parents for your kind assistance with this matter.

Yours Faithfully
Mrs Debra O'Dwyer
Teacher/Librarian

Mrs Viviana Williams
Year 5 Teacher

Absences from School

All absences from school are required to be explained within 7 days of the absence, as per CEDP guidelines.

The quickest and easiest way to do this is, is to complete an online absence form through the Skoolbag app or alternatively an email to the school : stpatricksparra@parra.catholic.edu.au.

On occasions this form of communication may not make it to us. In this instance the office will send home with your child an unexplained absence letter, as the absence remains unexplained. It would be greatly appreciated if you receive this letter that it is returned immediately.

Safety is always paramount here at St Patricks and children that are dropped at school after 8.50am are required to be walked into the office and signed in by a parent or carer. Unfortunately we cannot see what is going on in the street and do not know that your child has been dropped off. If they do come in unaccompanied after 8.50am this is also recorded as an unexplained partial attendance.

Mrs Jones



Junior Credo, part of Credo Youth Ministries, is a youth group for **primary school students**. The group aims to bring young people closer to their **Catholic faith**.

TERM 3 SESSIONS

FRIDAY 2ND AUG
FRIDAY 16TH AUG
FRIDAY 6TH SEPT
FRIDAY 20TH SEPT

ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL HALL
5PM - 6PM

FUN EXPERIENCES GAMES PRAYER MUSIC

credo@stpatscathedral.com.au Credo St Pats credo_youth_parramatta



SACRAMENTS OF CONFIRMATION

Sacraments of Initiation program continues with the preparation of our students for the Sacrament of Confirmation. The dates for session times are below. If you are interested in your child preparing for this Sacrament and have yet to register your interest, please contact Margaret Gale through the St Patrick's Parish Office. The Parish Office is open from 9.00am to 4.30 daily.

Confirmation 2019

Confirmation 3	4:30pm Saturday 10 August	Parents & children
Confirmation 4	4:30pm Saturday 17 August	Parents & children
Practice for Confirmation	4:00pm Saturday 24 August followed by 6:00pm Mass	Parents & children
Order of Confirmation	7:00pm Friday 30 August	

C.A.R.E.S OPEN DAY



AUTO PLACE X PETER BROCK DR, PROSPECT

1st October 2019 - 10am to 2pm

Come along during the school holidays and ride in a safe environment with real traffic lights.



- Bring your own bike and helmet, a picnic (sausage sizzle and drinks)
 - Kids activities on the day with information and displays by community organisations
 - FREE Parking is on site
- Adult Supervision required



Blacktown City Council



BLACKTOWN RSL

BUNNINGS warehouse



Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv DD STL
Bishop of Parramatta

Level 2, 12 Victoria Rd, Parramatta NSW 2150
PO Box 3066, North Parramatta, NSW 1750

☎ 02 8838 3400 📠 02 9630 4813

✉ bishop@parracatholic.org

🌐 parracatholic.org

7 August 2019

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

We believe that all human beings are made in the image of God and that all human beings matter.

The Church maintains the vigorous defence of the dignity of the human person. This includes the protection of life from conception to natural death.

I have been closely following this abortion debate as it has unfolded in our parliament and across the public sphere. I join my voice with my brother bishops and many people of goodwill across many faiths who are alarmed at the newly-proposed NSW abortion legislation.

It is not enough to argue that this legislation is simply about “decriminalising abortion.” What’s at stake is far more complex and goes to the heart of a healthy society. As human beings, we all have a responsibility to care for each other.

Pope Francis reminds us bluntly: “It is not right to kill a human being, regardless of how small it is, to solve a problem.”

Whilst we affirm the sacredness of all life, the Church as a community of faith, hope and love stands by pregnant women to offer them support. That is why, closely linked to protection of the unborn is the ongoing care of women who are pregnant, especially those in difficult personal circumstances.

Our legislators and community need to provide more practical care and compassion to women facing these decisions.

In our diocese, our CatholicCare services offers a comprehensive pregnancy-related service for women and families that are expecting a baby. We want to help women in these complex situations.

Being born into this wondrous planet of ours is a blessing. May each of us, given this precious gift, never forget to pray with the Psalmist: *“You created my inmost self, knit me together in my mother's womb. For so many marvels I thank you; a wonder am I, and all your works are wonders.”* Psalms 139.

This is an ongoing critical issue where the Church will continue to speak prophetically.

Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv
Bishop of Parramatta



1-2-3 MAGIC® & EMOTION COACHING PARENT COURSE

*Learn to manage difficult behavior in children
2-12 years old*

A three-session program for parents and carers.

Venue: St Monica's Catholic Primary School, North Parramatta
10 Daking St, North Parramatta. Tel: 8832 4100

Learn:

- ✓ How to discipline without arguing, yelling or smacking
- ✓ How to sort behaviour
- ✓ How to handle challenging and testing behaviours
- ✓ Choosing your strategy, the three choices
- ✓ Using emotion coaching to encourage good behaviour
- ✓ 7 tactics for encouraging good behaviour

Parents will receive:

- A 1-2-3 Magic & Emotion Coaching Parent Workbook

Registration Fee?

The course costs \$10 (per parent or per couple) which covers the cost of the Parent workbook
Register for this course contacting St Monica's School Office on 8832 4100

What people are saying...

What a relief to come across a program that preserves the dignity of the child, maintains the self control of both the parent and the child and is actually easy to remember when memory is the first thing to go!

I realized quickly that the 1-2-3 Magic can be a magnificent preventative measure that any parent can use to avoid raising a child, who later down the line, needs excessive discipline or grows out of control

Who is running it?

- An end to the arguing and yelling! • It saved our lives • Simple, sane, effective

This course is being run by a Parentshop® licensed practitioner. www.parentshop.com.au



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The Catholic Education Office Diocese of Parramatta together with St Monica's Catholic Primary at North Parramatta, are pleased to offer parents and carers in our Diocese, the 1 2 3 Magic and Emotion Coaching course.

The course is 3 sessions and will be run on the following dates:

Session 1	6pm – 8pm	Wednesday 14 th August 2019
Session 2	6pm – 8pm	Wednesday 21 st August 2019
Session 3	6pm – 8pm	Wednesday 28 th August 2019

Course Facilitators: Madeline Patrick & Anoushka Houseman

Cost is \$10 per parent/couple/carer(s) to cover the cost of the parent workbook (only one required per family). This can be brought on the night

Register by calling St Monica's school office on 8832 4100

- An end to the arguing and yelling! • It saved our lives • Simple, sane, effective

This course is being run by a Parentshop® licensed practitioner. www.parentshop.com.au

Our **VISION** is to be a child centred faith community within an innovative, interactive learning environment.



*sub tuum
praesidium*

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 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)