



# Newsletter

## 28th November, 2019 Term 4 Week 7

### 2019 Dates to

#### Remember

#### Term 4

#### Week 8

#### **Monday 2nd December**

Year 2 & Year 5 - 1.45pm

Celebration of Learning

Year 3 – 2.15pm

Celebration of Learning

#### **Tuesday 3rd December**

Footsteps Dance

#### Week 9

#### **Tuesday 10th December**

Reports home to parents

Footsteps Dance

#### **Thursday 12th December**

Christmas Concert

Evening—6.30pm

OLMC Hall

#### **Friday 13th December**

Whole School Assembly—

2pm

#### Week 10

#### **Monday 16th December**

9.15am Year 6 Graduation &

Thanksgiving Mass—

St Patricks Cathedral

#### **Wednesday 18th Dec**

**LAST DAY FOR 2019**

The last day to make payments EFT & Cash at the school office will be Monday 16th December 2019.

Dear Parents

Last Tuesday night some of our students received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. A beautiful liturgy was held at the Cathedral after which all the children received this very special sacrament. Some of you may be familiar with another name for this sacrament, that of the Sacrament of Confession - this was certainly what it was called when I was a small child. I have very fond memories of walking down to our local parish church with my big sister to 'go to confession' on a Saturday afternoon. Surprisingly, our parents allowed us to walk down by ourselves at times; which is more difficult to do these days for safety reasons. I remember the feeling of great joy and a sense of peace and freedom as we journeyed back home, part of which was due to a special treat we were allowed to buy at the local store afterwards.

I could see last Tuesday night that this sacrament held as much importance to our little ones as it did for my sister and I. That same sense of joy and peace was reflected in their faces as they returned to their seats beside mum or dad. Father reminded the children that Jesus often preached about the importance of reconciliation, especially in stories such as that of the Forgiving Father. His simple message was that if we do something wrong and we are truly sorry then we show this by changing our behaviour the next time. Repeating the same wrong choice over and over again could mean that we are not sorry at all.

One way our mother helped us to develop a sense of self reflection and maturity was to use an examination of conscience as one of our nightly prayers. It taught us to think of the deeds of our week and to be mindful of when we may have done the wrong thing or hurt someone. To be able to admit that one has done something wrong and to work on ways to make amends or to apologize is a very healthy thing to do and is good for our well being as well as good for our society as a whole. Imagine if our world was filled with people who self reflected, owned their actions instead of blaming others and apologized when they had wronged others.

Below is a copy of the Examination of Conscience used on Tuesday night which you may wish to use with your children. Let me know how you go!

#### Examination of Conscience

Do I talk to God each day in prayer?

Do I join in the celebrations of the Mass on Sundays as well as I can?

Do I obey my parents and other grown ups who look after me?

Do I take care of beautiful things God has put in our world?

Am I kind to my parents, my brothers and sisters and my friends?

Am I kind to those who are unkind to me?

Do I fail to help people who may need my help?

Do I forgive people who hurt me?

Am I always truthful?

Do I keep only what is my own?

God Bless you and your family

Bernadette Fabri  
Principal

## SPECIAL MASS TO REMEMBER THE LIFE OF JUDITH SOSO

Dear Parents

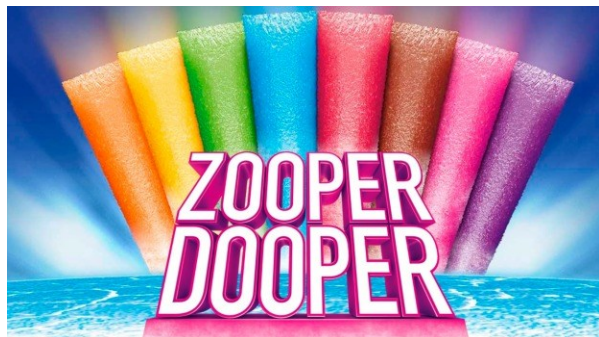
Next Wednesday 4 December at St Patrick's Cathedral the children in Years 5 and 6 will be attending the 9.30am parish mass. This mass will be dedicated to the memory of Judith Soso who died earlier this term. Judith was a wonderful volunteer at the school, was a member of the parish youth group and served at many masses with her brother Allen. I am sure the children in the older grades remember her and her family. Please feel very welcome to attend also.

Miss Fabri



## STUDENT LEADERSHIP - Leaders for 2020 Announced at Monday Morning Assembly

Last week the children in Year 5 commenced the process of thinking about putting themselves forward for Student Leadership. Mrs Benkovich and I are always so impressed with how many children wish to step forward for these positions of service. Students have already voted for their School Captains and Vice Captains and over the remainder of this week the Year 5 students will be voting for the Arts, STEM and PDHPE Leaders. **All the student leaders for 2020 will be announced at Monday morning assembly on 2 December**



### Iceblocks

We will be selling ice-blocks every Friday. The money raised will be used to support an outreach program for families who are less fortunate than ourselves in our surrounding community. Ice blocks will sell for **\$1 during Primary and Infants lunch times.**

Thank you for your generosity in helping to make this festive season extra special for families in need this Christmas!

## VISIT FROM EDUCATIONAL SPECIALIST MR MICHAEL MCDOWELL

This week the school had the pleasure of hosting a visit from Educational specialist and author Dr Michael McDowell. He is the Superintendent of the Ross School District in California and has worked as a principal and as an educational advisor and instructional coach for the New Tech Network supporting educators in designing, implementing, and enhancing innovative schools across the country. Michael worked with the leadership team for half a day and then visited many classrooms and talked with the children. He described them as exceptionally articulate and passionate about learning. We look forward to working with Dr McDowell in 2020.

### Its a Girl!!



Congratulations to the Nasr Family (Hannah KA) on the birth of their baby girl, Mary-Rose Faith

**St Patrick's Parramatta**  
**RETURN TO SCHOOL 2020 DATES**

<b>Week One 2020</b>	<b>Monday 27th January 2020</b>	<b>Tuesday 28th January 2020</b>	<b>Wednesday 29th January 2020</b>	<b>Thursday 30th January 2020</b>	<b>Friday 31st January 2020</b>	<b>Week 2 Monday 3rd February 2020</b>
	<b>Public Holiday</b>	<b>Staff Development Day –  Yrs K-6 Individual Maths Assessments</b>	<b>Staff Development Day –  Yrs K-6 Individual Maths Assessments</b>	<b>Years 1 to Year 6 Commence school</b>		<b>Kindergarten commence school (full day)</b>
		<b>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.</b>				
		<b>Kindergarten Parents will be asked to book their children into one session with their child's class teacher on any of these 4 days.</b>				



### Christmas Hampers

As the liturgical year draws to a close at the end of this month it seems appropriate to reflect back on the year past and rejoice in the many gifts our Lord has bestowed on us. As we head into Advent - a season of preparation, may we think of those in our local community that have not experienced joys this year but are suffering from financial difficulties and losing hope. This year we have an opportunity to be a shining light to these community members by donating to the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal.

The aim of the appeal is to share the love of Jesus and live our mission of being the hands of Jesus on earth. As John 15:11 states “ **that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete**”, donating to the appeal will model to our children the importance of sharing God’s love and living the Good News. What a great gift!, and an opportunity to show our children the importance of outreaching to others.

To make sure we receive a mixture of items we have suggested some items for each grade, a note will be coming home shortly. However, if you wish to donate an item not listed for your grade, please feel free to do so as long as they are non-perishable food items and preferably not baked beans or sardines. Items will be collected during **Week 8 - 2 to 12 November**.

### **SCHOOL REQUISITES**

A number of parents have mentioned to the school their interest in the school organising a bulk purchase of the school requisites for 2020 through an online distributor instead of the need to purchase individual items. Whilst the school is unable to organise this for next year we will seriously investigate how to make these requirements easier for families for next year. In the meantime we will endeavour to send out the requisite list as early as possible.

Thanking you for your understanding.

## Christmas Concert

Our school Christmas Concert this year will be held on **12 December** in the **Edith Angel Hall, OLMC**, arriving at 6.30pm for a 7:00pm start. This year we will be entertained by the students while they dance the night away showcasing **FOOTSTEPS** choreography.



The committee has discussed costumes and have decided on the following costume for each grade. There is no pressure to buy new items, a t-shirt with the majority of the nominated colour is a great choice.

**Dress:** Students are to wear **denim or black shorts/skirt** and white school sneakers. All students have been **allocated a colour t-shirt** to wear. We would like the shirt to be the majority of this colour. The tinsel can be worn in the hair (for girls) or around the head (all students). The students can also wear the tinsel around their wrists for added sparkle.

If you have any questions about costumes feel free to ask Mrs Standing and she will endeavour to clarify the information for you.

Grade	Colour T-shirt	Tinsel
Kindergarten	red	red
Year 1	red	red
Year 2	white	gold
Year 3	green	green
Year 4	green	green
Year 5	white	gold
Year 6	green	green

## Art Showcase

The SRC invite all students to participate in St Patrick's Art Showcase. Students can create an artistic piece around the theme - '*The Hope of Christmas*'. *Entries should be no larger than an A4 sized paper. We are asking for a gold coin donation for entry and all proceeds will go towards St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal. Entries close 8 December.*

All artwork will be displayed throughout the school and students will have the opportunity to vote for the 'People's choice award' on 11 December. Please see your teacher with your gold coin, if you are interested in participating.

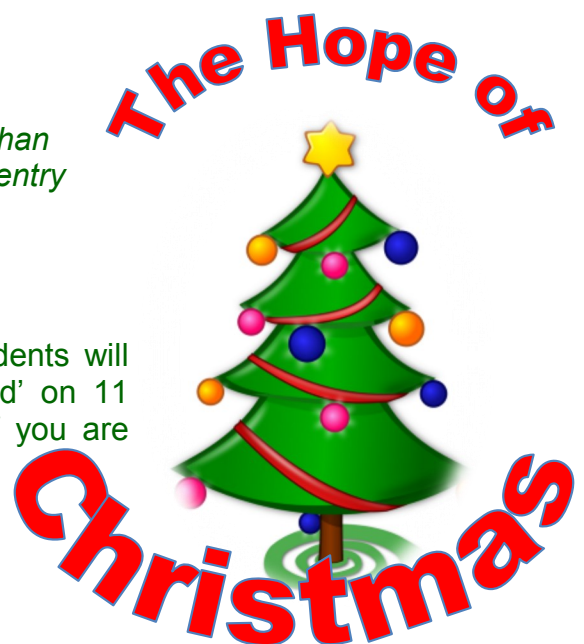
Please include the following information on the back of your entry:

**Name:**

**Class:**

**Title of the Entry:**

From the Year 5 SRC members



From the STEM Makerspace

We are inviting all classes to the STEM Marketplace in the Library on the 11th December to experience the creativity of the students at St Patricks. More details will be made available in week 8.



## Year 2 & 5 Celebration of Learning



Dear Parents,

You are cordially invited to attend the Year 5 and Year 2 Celebration of Learning Dance Event. The students have worked hard and have created and choreographed their own group dances, which they would like to perform for you. The event will be held on Monday 2nd December in the School Hall at 1:45pm

We hope to see you there.

Year 2 and Year 5 Teachers

## Year 3 Celebration of Learning

Dear Year 3 Parents/Carers

You are warmly invited to attend the Year Three open classroom afternoon next Monday from 2:15 pm. Students have worked very hard, creating a visual display and an explanation of "How day and night occurs".

We hope you can join us.

Year 3 Teachers



## IS YOUR CHILD NOT RETURNING TO ST PATRICK'S IN 2020?

If your child is not returning to St Patrick's in 2020 please send a letter to Ms Fabri stating the last day of attendance at St Patrick's and which school they will be moving onto in 2020. Please note that a term's notice in writing must be given to the Principal before the removal of a student or 10 week's fees will be payable. This does not apply to year 6 students

## 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.

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. Further details can be found in previous newsletters.



### NEXT LEVEL SPORTS SUMMER CLINIC DATES CONFIRMED:

Christmas Clinic  
- 2019: Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th of December  
(Christmas Eve pending numbers)

### January Clinic

- 2020: Wednesday 22nd, Thursday 23rd and Friday 24th of January.

Location: St Patrick's PS, Parramatta.

To book or for further enquiries: [nextlevelsports@live.com.au](mailto:nextlevelsports@live.com.au)



## Sun Safe: Hats Hats Hats

Just a reminder that all students should have a school hat at school every day. As the weather starts to warm up it is important for all students to wear their school hat when on the playground. Any student without a hat will be required to sit in the shade during times they are on the playground. The school hat is a compulsory component of the school uniform. Thank you for your support in this matter.



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

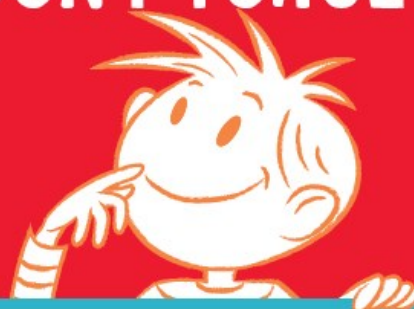
Ray Chen  
Sophie Abraham  
Edan-Grace El-Chaar  
Jessica Lim  
Magdalena Gilchrist  
Daniel Pinto

Dear Parents,

This is the last Book Club for 2019. Please make sure you have your orders in by the 29th November. If you wish for the books to be collected from the office please notify me and I can put them aside.

Thank you  
Mrs Jones

# DON'T FORGET!



**SCHOLASTIC**  
**Book Club**

orders are due:

**29th November**



## Spotlight on our Year 6 class Members

### Isabella Moses

What hobbies do you have?

My hobbies are swimming, writing and reading.

Favourite Movie?

My favourite movie is new Lion King.

What is your least favourite dish?

My least favourite dish is anything with vegemite.

Name 5 words describing you?

Determined, Kind, Selfless, Joyful and enthusiastic.

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

I would like to travel to Lebanon to see my family and see the sights.

### Sebastian Mayonado

Favourite celebrity/sport icon?

I don't have one.

If you could have any superpower what would it be?

I would have the power of phasing, having the power of going through any solid object.

What do in your spare time?

I play video games and sleep.

What is your favourite place in the world?

My favourite place in the world is my home.

Who is your biggest inspiration?

My biggest inspiration is myself.

### Brandon Roque

What are you most excited for currently?

I am excited about going to the Philippines.

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

I want to help by encouraging others to pick up rubbish.

What are you looking forward to most at high school?

I am looking forward to meeting new friends in high school.

What is your ideal job?

My ideal job is to be a chef.

What is your biggest fear?

My biggest fear is being alone in the dark.

### Julian Tanna

What is your favourite subject?

My favourite subject is P.E. I'm most well known as the Sports Captain.

What is your ideal job?

My ideal job would be a soccer player, because I love to do it and it pays well.

What is your biggest fear?

My biggest fear is not being who God wants me to be/doing the wrong things.

If you were an animal what would you be?

I would be a tiger, because they're mighty creatures.

Favourite Book?

My favourite book is "Diary of a Wimpy Kid," because it's funny and realistic.

# EXPLORING NUMERACY WITH YOUR CHILD

## YEAR 3 TO YEAR 6 – Handling Money

Encouraging your child to think about money, saving money, and considering how they spend money is very important. Here are some tips and activities:

- » Encourage your child to work out how much change you will get after buying something.
- » Investigate costs for family trips together. For example, a visit to a theme park may include the cost of transport, entry tickets, food and transport.
- » Discuss saving money for presents or something your child may want to buy. Work out how long it will take to save this much if they get a small amount of money each week.
- » Negotiate increases in pocket money as percentages. For example, a 5% increase would be how much money per week? Is this better than a monthly increase?
- » Encourage your child to save a percentage of their pocket money or birthday money and work out how much this would be. For example, how much money would you have if you saved 40% each week?
- » Calculate together how much a mobile phone costs per month. What percentage of total cost is spent on messages and what percentage on phone calls?
- » Read the newspaper or watch the news. Discuss what is happening with the stock market and why these changes may occur.

### Connecting online

Here are some other useful websites you can access from home or the local library. Some are also available to download as apps on various devices:

- » <https://fuse.education.vic.gov.au> (select Primary Students tab)
- » <https://education.abc.net.au>
- » <https://www.wolframalpha.com/> (start with the Elementary Maths link)
- » <http://www.ictgames.com/resources.html>
- » <https://www.scratchjr.org/>
- » <https://www.kodable.com/parents>

## St Patrick's Current Attendance Level = 86.4%

<b>K = 85.5%</b>	2 = 91.5%	4 = 90.3%	<b>6 = 85.1%</b>
<b>1 = 74.6%</b>	<b>3 = 88.1%</b>	<b>5 = 89.6%</b>	

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)



# Read & win

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

Win a  
**GOOGLE  
CHROMEBOOK**

Read as many books as you can, tell us why you love them, and you could win one of **two Google Chromebooks** or one of **thirty gift vouchers** valued at **\$30**.

The more books you read, the more chances you have to win.

Enter online  
[www.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au)

**Competition opens  
on 2 December 2019 and  
closes at 5pm on 2 February 2020**

Terms and conditions apply.

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Catholic Education  
Diocese of Parramatta

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## CHANGE IN SPEED LIMITS IN PARRAMATTA LOCAL AREA



**LOWER SPEED.  
SAFER  
COMMUNITY.**

City of Parramatta and Transport for NSW are introducing 40km/h speed limits on roads that have lots of pedestrians on and around them.



City of Parramatta and Transport for NSW are introducing 40km/h speed limits on roads that have lots of pedestrians on and around them. The maximum speed limit for these roads will be 40km/h at all times.

Lower travel speeds improve a driver's ability to stop quickly and react to the unexpected. A vehicle that hits a pedestrian at 50km/h is twice as likely to cause a fatality as the same vehicle travelling at 40km/h.

40km/h speed limits create a safer road environment for everyone, particularly vulnerable groups such as older road users and children.

### Where do the new speed limits apply?

The 40km/h speed limits will be signposted in locals streets in the Parramatta CBD area bounded by, but not including, O'Connell Street to the West, Wilde Avenue and Harris Street to the East, Victoria Road and the Parramatta River to the North, and the Great Western Highway, Parkes Street to the South.

Parramatta North includes local streets bounded by O'Connell Street to the West, Church Street to the East, Albert Street to the North and Victoria Road to the South. Westmead includes streets bounded by Hawkesbury Road to the West, Parramatta Park to the East, Hainsworth Street to the North and the railway line to the South.

Harris Park is bounded by the railway line to the West, Harris Street to the East, Parkes Street to the North and Les Burnett Lane to the South.

### Is the 40km/h speed limit enforceable?

The 40km/h speed limit is enforceable and normal enforcement procedures will apply.

To keep our community safe, look out for pedestrians and the 40km/h speed limit signs, and slow down.