



30th January, 2020 Term 1 Week 1

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome to the new school year for 2020. I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable holiday break. Thank you to all the families who organised for the children to be brought to the school for their Mathematics interviews. From what I have observed the children really enjoyed spending some one on one time with their teachers. This initial connection is so important; not only because the teachers have received some very valuable data on the children's mathematical thinking but also because of the initial bonding that happens when the children meet their new teachers on an individual basis.

May I take this opportunity to welcome all our new families and children in Kindergarten and older classes. Welcome is extended to some of our new teachers; Ms Desiree Macaraeg, Ms Ivy Chan, Ms Stephanie Barton, Ms Yasmin Tabone, Mrs Eva Youssef and Mrs Angela Alison. Welcome also to all staff members! We will be welcoming all new families and staff at the Welcoming Ceremony on Monday 2nd March (To be confirmed)

From a school goal perspective our focus in 2020 will be working towards achieving learning growth for all students. Our professional learning will look at strategies that enable staff to gather data on student growth and performance and to categorize achievement in both these areas. Ideally all students will fall in the high performance and high growth category. Staff will be studying and analysing why some students fall in the High Performance and Low Growth quartile, the low performance and high growth quartile and the less desirable low performance and low growth quartile. Each type of learner requires a different approach and staff will be working on refining these high yield strategies. The staff are really looking forward to their professional learning this year.

With so much happening in our world recently; caused by the recent bushfires, drought and the coronavirus, especially the devastation to life, environment and country economies, let us keep all people affected in our prayers. Opportunities for our school to fundraise for the victims of the bushfires will be communicated soon.

God Bless you and your family
Bernadette Fabri
Principal

Dear Parents & Caregivers,

Updates on the Coronavirus will be sent to you via the Skoolbag app as they come to hand. Please ensure that you have downloaded the Skoolbag app. Instructions are enclosed in this newsletter.

2020 Dates to Remember

Monday 3rd February

First Day for 2020 Kindergarten

Welcome Cuppa for Kindy Parents

Friday 7th February

9.15am Opening School Mass St Patricks Cathedral

Monday 10th February

Triskills Commences

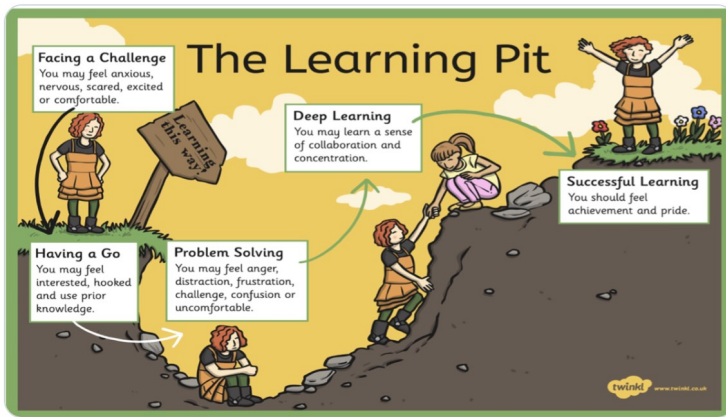
Tuesday 11th February

Triskills continues

Parent Teacher Information Nights

Year 4—Monday 10th Feb 7pm	Year 6—Monday 10th Feb 8pm
Year 1—Tuesday 11th Feb 7pm	Year 3—Tuesday 11th Feb 8pm
Year 2—Wed 12th Feb 7pm	Year 5—Wed 12th Feb 8pm
Kindy—Thursday 13th Feb 7pm	

FROM THE LEARNING PIT



As we start a new school year it is important for us to remember the importance of allowing our children to be drivers of their learning. At St Patrick's we have started the journey of empowering our students by allowing them to work through the different stages of learning.

Sometimes, as parents, we do not like to see our children struggle with tasks, whether it be school work or tasks at home, however current

research has shown that it through facing the challenge and having a go and trying to problem solve leads us to a deeper learning. This year the teachers will continue to be focusing on the language of the 'The Learning Pit' (as is seen in the diagram) to guide all students to a better understanding of what it means to be a good learner.

Each week I will be adding some food for thought about what it means to be a learner in today's world. I look forward to developing our children's understanding of what it means to be a learner together.

Mrs Standing

100% Yearly Attendance

Congratulations to the following boys and girls who were able to achieve 100% attendance in 2019. Whilst sometimes attendance is often out of the control of children as they do get sick and need to stay at home we still feel that this is an enormous achievement and worth recognising.

100% attendance means that the student had no absences or partial absences for the entire year. Looking forward to presenting these students with a special medallion at the first assembly next year.



Congratulations to: Phillip Ayoub, Rafaella Bautista, Melissa Black, Angelina Bounassif, Isabella Bousimon, Sofia Bousimon, Jake Buxton, Sienna Golossian, Esperanza Thompson.

Condolences



We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to the Barakat family (Christian 6P) on the passing of his Grandfather.

We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to the Khouri family (Paul 4B & Ava 1C) on the passing of their Grandfather.

We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to the Chedid family (Charbela 2M) on the passing of her Grandmother.

We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to the Arida family (Joe—OZ Fashions) on the passing of his brother.

Please keep these families in your prayers.

Sports Days for Term 1

Children will be participating in Gymnastics in Term 1, so will be required to wear their sports on the following days for Term 1:-

KA	Monday & Wednesday	KM	Tuesday & Friday
1C	Monday & Thursday	1S	Tuesday & Wednesday
2M	Tuesday & Friday	2Y	Monday & Thursday
3L	Tuesday & Wednesday	3T	Monday & Wednesday
4B	Monday & Thursday	4G	Tuesday & Thursday
5C	Monday & Wednesday	5T	Tuesday & Thursday
6P	Monday & Friday	6W	Tuesday & Friday

Opening School Mass

On Friday 7 February you are invited to join us as celebrate Eucharist and ask God's blessing for the school's year. Mass will begin at 9:15am and is a wonderful way to welcome back returning students, parents, staff and especially our new Kindy students. **During the Mass the 2020 school leaders will receive their badges and will pledge to work together to share God's love in word and deed.**

OZ Fashions your uniform supplier is now selling all uniforms required for 2020. OZ Fashions are open 6 days a week Monday-Friday 9.00-5.30pm and Saturday 9.00-4.00pm. We do not trade on Public holidays nor Sundays. We also sell CLARKS black leather school shoes and CLARKS white leather sports shoes at very competitive prices.



Congratulations to Mrs Masefield and Family on the birth of their baby boy, James.

Congratulations to the Munro Family (Logan 2Y) on the birth of their baby girl, Heidi.

Happy Birthday to all the children who will celebrate their birthday in the coming week — Jo Harb, Finn Giron, Trey St John Tannous, Aoife Mitchell, Rosemary Gonsalves, Nour Kahwaji, Mia Freifer, Olivia Gebrael, Jiajie Weng, Olivia Wehbe, Isabella Chivers, Kenzie Murphy



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.

2020 School Banking Day is TUESDAYS

Should your child wish to start the school banking program please open a Dollarmite account and bring into the office with your BSB and account no and I will provide the folder and deposit book.

Thank you Mrs Jones

School Banking newsletter.

Term 1 update.

CommBank Bushfire Support

In light of the recent devastating bushfires, we want to share how we can help. Applications are now open for Bushfire Recovery Grants to help rebuild community facilities, schools, fire brigades and replace lost or damaged equipment. Please encourage your local community groups to apply by 31 March 2020, for grants of up to \$50,000. If you're a CommBank customer and you've been affected, we can also give you a hand with your finances.

commbank.com.au/bushfirerecovery



2020 Treetop Savers Adventure.

This year, the Dollarmites (Pru, Addy, Spen, Lucas and Pat) are ready to take children on a Treetop Savers adventure to the enchanted Treehouse of Savings. Here they'll discover lots of fun financial activities and rewards for saving.

Many surveyed parents think it's important to make learning about money engaging and to reward good saving behaviour*. And this year, we're changing our School Banking rewards for the better. We're introducing new eco-friendly and reusable rewards, alongside other rewards that encourage creativity, as well as indoor and outdoor play.

Activity 1: Add up Addy's pocket money

Addy gets \$2 pocket money every time she does a job in the Treehouse of Savings. If she does 9 jobs, how much will she have earned?

A: \$_____.

Activity 2: Find and count how many frogs and butterflies you can see

A: _____ Frogs and _____ Butterflies.



Term 1 Treetop Savers rewards

When your child makes 10 deposits with School Banking, they can redeem one of our Treetop Savers rewards. Term 1 rewards are available now, while stocks last.



Terry Denton's
Activity Book



Mini
Soccer Ball

Any questions about the School Banking program? Ask your School Banking Co-ordinator for a parent's pack or visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking

*Parents of Australian primary school children, School Banking Research, conducted by Fiftyfive5, May-June 2018.
Commonwealth Bank of Australia ABN 48 123 123 124

5 Easy Steps to Staying Informed

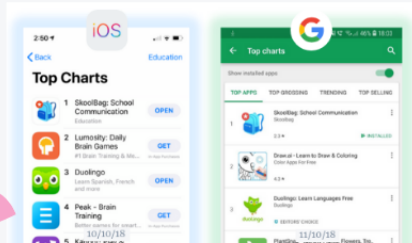


SkoolBag is the easiest way to stay up-to-date with school events, last minute notices, newsletters and all your school's communications.

1. Download SkoolBag

Search SkoolBag in the Apple App or Google Play Store, download the FREE app:

SkoolBag: School Communication



2. Create an Account

Follow the prompts to create your account in seconds.

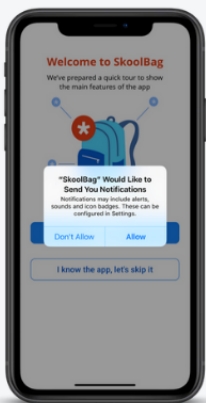
3. Add your School

Type your school's name and press enter. Tap the plus icon to add.



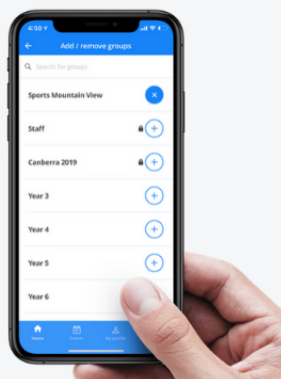
4. Allow Notifications

Ensure you Allow SkoolBag to send you push notifications when prompted.



5. Subscribe to Groups

Select Year Groups / Sports Teams to appear in your feed.



Skoolbag App

Please find to the left the instructions on how to download our Skoolbag app.

The Skoolbag app is used for all communication including the weekly newsletter. We do not provide hard copies however there are a small number available in the foyer of the school office.

Please ensure you subscribe to both your child's year group and all school, so you get the targeted messages from your child's teacher. If you have already subscribed to a year group please update to your new grade.

You can use the app for change of addresses, sending the school an email or sending an absentee form.

The permission notes for excursions are also completed online.

If you require any assistance in downloading the app or how it works please come into the school office where I can help.

Mrs Jones



ANAPHYLAXIS & ALLERGIES

Several children at our school suffer from food allergies – **some very severe**. Action plans are currently in place to administer medication to these children if it is required. To assist the staff and to help safeguard the health of these children I ask that you impress upon your own children the dangers of sharing their lunches with other students. In line with this policy we ask that you do not send birthday gift items such as lollies, cakes, easter eggs, etc for your child to give to other students. At times, teachers may give food treats to the children but they always check the suitability of these treats with the parents of allergy sufferers. **St Patrick’s follows “nut aware” guidelines, due to the number of children who are allergic to nut products. We ask for your co-operation in not sending nut products (especially Nutella , peanut butter and foods containing sesame seeds).** We will continue to educate the children in the classroom about only eating their own lunches and I will keep you informed of any other protocols we may need to put in place. Thank you for your co operation.

If you wish to find out more information on Allergies and Anaphylaxis please follow this <https://allergyfacts.org.au/resources/videos-from-aa/children-food-allergy-management-and-risk-of-anaphylaxis>

Consent form: Photography, Video, Audio and Works

From time to time children will be photographed for special occasions or during learning.

On your enrolment form consent was sought for the use of photography, video, audio and works.

If you wish to change consent for the use of students' images and/ or works, please contact the office.

If a parent/student changes their consent, it will not be retrospective e.g. already published photos and works will be unable to be taken down/ destroyed.



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)