

Dear Parents and Caregivers

I wanted to share with you this week an interesting phenomenon that we have noticed at school since children's return to full time face to face learning. The teachers are noticing that for some children they are going through the process of learning to play together again.

The many weeks of isolation in their homes certainly required them to find creative ways to occupy themselves but for some children this was in a somewhat individualized way such as on devices. Playing with others at school requires children to learn to cooperate and negotiate with their peers. This is very different from playing with their siblings or adults who often will give way to the younger members to keep the peace or prevent conflict. Playing with peers is very different as children of younger years do not have the maturity to empathize or compromise with each other.

Understandably some of the concerns that parents have is how do their children manage the social and emotional aspects of school. These elements are part of the Personal Development section of the Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE) curriculum and include: making friends, learning how to work with others and knowing how to be more responsible for yourself. Other aspects include: how to manage feelings and get on with others. This kind of learning starts from a very early age; many years before children start school.

Teachers help children manage social and emotional skills at school on a daily basis. Much of Mrs Standring's role in student management is related to helping children develop the social skills necessary for them to be able to serve their needs, as well as consider the needs of others. As parents this is a key factor of your parenting and just like at school this happens on a daily basis. Based on the discussions I have had with parents some of the topics in this area include, coping with frustrations and worries, getting along with others, solving problems, learning how to play safely and appropriately and 'using their words not their hands'. Interestingly these skills are lifelong skills and are needed by people of any age. Research says that explicitly teaching these skills has a positive impact on wellbeing.

The kinds of social and emotional skills that are important for children to develop have been outlined in the Mental Health Initiative Publication, 'Mind Matters' These include;

Self Awareness – understanding feelings, self confidence

Social Awareness – respecting and understanding others, and appreciating differences between people

Self Management – managing, making friends and emotions, being able to set goals and stick to them

Responsible decision making – choosing wisely and thoughtfully and

Relationship skills – cooperating communicating, making friends and resolving conflict

Being able to manage feelings, getting on with others and solving problems, really helps children learn better and feel better. It is hoped that as the recent restrictions continue to ease, there will be an opportunity for your children to participate in 'play dates' and for them to continue to learn and practise the very important skills above.

God bless you and your family

Bernadette Fabri

You are invited to watch a livestream of Sunday Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta led by Fr Bob Bossini and Fr Christopher Del Rosario through the St. Patrick's Parramatta Cathedral facebook page:

Watch the Mass live on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).



PRAYERS NEEDED PLEASE

Prayers are needed for the Nikolakopoulos family (Ellen Yr 5) after mum, Louise, was involved in a serious health incident over the long weekend. Louise is currently in ICU in a very serious condition. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family during this difficult time. Thank you to those who have offered the family assistance. These have been communicated to the family and they are most grateful for your thoughts and prayers.



Art Exhibition

What do you think about when you hear the word '**Pentecost**'?

Here are some prompts to help guide your thinking;

Head - What happens in this story?

Heart - How does it make you feel?

Hand - What is God asking of us today?

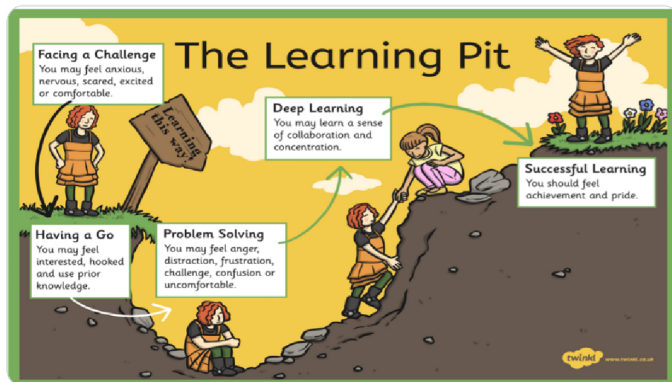
We invite you to express your ideas/ thoughts in a visual art form.

Guidelines

- No larger than A4 sheet
- Must include some tones of red
- Any medium

Due Date

- Friday 26 June



FROM THE LEARNING PIT

Learning is about progress and proficiency. Everyday children engage in tasks that help develop their problem solving skills and improve their learning. Teachers work tirelessly to prepare and present activities that will engage all learners and move them forward in their

learning. It is very important for children to seek opportunities where they can continue to build on their knowledge and understanding and also set achievable goals. During the learning process these goals are often referred to as 'Next Steps'. Children from Kindergarten to Year 6 work with their teacher to set 'Next Steps' which help them move forward in their learning. Setting goals may look different depending on the age of the child but is very important as it helps the students own their learning. Some next steps are achievable over a short period of time while others may take longer to master. Both types are important for learning at any age, as it guides the learner to enable them to connect, apply and transfer knowledge and skills in different situations.

The Semester One reports will include 'Next Steps' in the Key Learning Areas of Religion, English and Mathematics, and will be a wonderful way for you to engage in a conversation with your child about their learning at school.

Understanding School Talk ???

Surface, Deep and Transfer

Refers to the depth of complexity of the learning.

Surface - Understands single ideas or skills.

Deep - Relates ideas and/or skills.

Transfer - Applies ideas and/or skills in a different situation/context.



Happy Birthday to all the children who will celebrate their birthday in the coming week— Isabella Bousimon, Mateo Barroso, Joshua Jaitani, Liam Jocson, Raymond Wehbe, Clare Camenzuli, Makayla Abdou, Aiden Ebrahim, Thomas Aguilera, Remon Wehbe, Jacob Wehbe, Carmela Poblete, Benjamin Chu



Honour Award

The Honour Award is awarded to the child who demonstrates outstanding behaviour shown in the Student Charter

KA	Rebecca Black	Mitchell Daher
KM	Alessia Agostino	William Kerr
1C	Sebastian Vella	Daniella Fayad
1S	Charlie El Khoury	Victoria Adaymy
2M	Olivia Zhang	Michael Sunwar
2Y	Logan Munro	Dominic Rahme



st patrick's award

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

KA	Fareeda Daher	Sebastian Malek
KM	Juliana Angelo	Vittorio Lo Surdo
1C	Sophie Abraham	Zavier Skaf
1S	Melissa Black	Ava Khoury
2M	Sophia Khoury	Vincent Camenzuli
2Y	Mary Gilchrist	Samvruth Kuchipudi

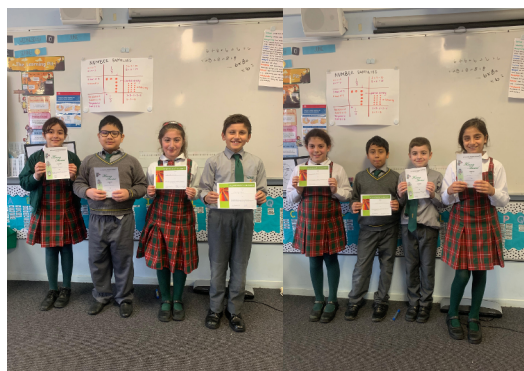




Honour Award

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3L	Panayioti Yannakis	Dominic Coles
3T	Isaac Wehbe	Lawrence Wahbe
4B	Joseph Maroon	Mia Whebe
4G	Germain Toledo	Maryam Thomas
5C	Alex El-Khoury	Isabella Bousimon
5T	Alexa Izmestyeva	Samuel Navasardyan
6P	Carl Cauan	Isobel Rahme
6W	Elisa Daher	Sienna Golossian



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3L	Angelique Saliba	Nicholas Reyes-Mangabat
3T	Juliette Khoury	Rose Rizk
4B	Stephanie Jabbour	Christian Donaldson
4G	Phillip Ayoub	Jacinta Azizi
5C	Amariah Tamaro	Noah Reyes-Mangabat
5T	Magda Gilchrist	Antonio Moussa
6P	Josh Blanquera-Pangan	Christine Kahwaji
6W	Finn Giron	Christian Sta Rosa



RESPONSES TO PARENT FEEDBACK - SKOOLBAG

Thank you to all the parents who managed to find some time to respond to the question -

What are some of your thoughts about your recent experience during the learning at home/school COVID 19 time? These can refer to you and/or your child(ren)?

Although the due by date is over please feel welcome to share any feedback with us at any time.



LOST PROPERTY

With the weather chilly in the mornings and heating up during the day children are taking their jackets and jumpers off and walking away. As per the picture we have NUMEROUS jackets/jumpers with no names in our lost property. As uniforms can be expensive if you need to keep replacing them, we cannot stress the importance of putting your child's name on their clothing, so it can be returned to them.

Mrs Jones



Join us on Facebook @stpatricksparramatta as we engage with our community and share our students' love for learning.

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.