

Newsletter

23rd July, 2020 Term 3 Week 1



OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN THE DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome to Term 3! I am sorry that our first newsletter article has had to be focused on COVID 19 once more. Unfortunately our state of NSW sees itself on high alert again and we have been asked to follow further restrictions with the possibility of more to come. The recent positive case at Our Lady of Lebanon Co-Cathedral and another case in a Parramatta Restaurant is 'close to home', so to speak, and reminds us that the crisis is still well and truly not over.

Last term we received an increase in inquiries to access counselling services due to a rise in anxiety amongst children. Under the circumstances this is not unusual, as times - especially at the moment - are very unsettling. Adults have been impacted in extreme ways and the current infections have not helped.

There is much we can do to assist children with their worries and the ideas below have been sourced by our School Counsellor for your interest. More will be published in next week's newsletter. If there is anything the school can do to assist in anyway please let us know. We would like to assure you that the school continues to follow all NSW Health advice and is regularly advised and updated by the Catholic Education Office - Diocese of Parramatta to ensure that the school practices are COVID safe.

May God Bless you and your family

Bernadette Fabri

Principal

Below are some general strategies, adapted from kidshealth.org, highlighting that kids' worries are normal, and have an important function in life. Parents can support their children to cope with stress or worries:

1. Find out what's on their minds: Be available and take an interest in what's happening at school, on the team, and with your kids' friends. Take casual opportunities to ask how it's going. As you listen to stories of the day's events, be sure to ask about what your kids think and feel about what happened.

If your child seems to be worried about something, ask about it. Encourage kids to put what's bothering them into words. Ask for key details and listen. Sometimes just sharing the story with you can help lighten their load.

2. Show you care and understand. Being interested in your child's concerns shows they're important to you, too, and helps kids feel supported and understood. Reassuring comments can help — but usually only after you've heard your child out. Say that you understand your child's feelings and the problem.

3. Guide kids to solutions. You can help reduce worries by helping kids learn to deal with challenging situations. When your child tells you about a problem, offer to help come up with a solution together. If your son is worried about an upcoming math test, for example, offering to help him study will lessen his concern about it.

In most situations, resist the urge to jump in and fix a problem for your child — instead, think it through and come up with possible solutions together. Problem-solve with kids, rather than for them. By taking an active role, kids learn how to tackle a problem on their own.

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

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

Mass Times

We are open for Mass with a congregation of 50 people.

Entry is on a first come first serve basis. Mass is celebrated at the usual times :

Monday to Friday - 6.30 am and 12.30 pm Saturday - 8.00 am and 6.00 pm Vigil

Sunday - 8 am, 9.30 am, 11.00 am and 6pm

[Please click on link for the most up to date information](#)

[St Patrick's Cathedral](#)



Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to you out of concern for the safety of students when leaving the school grounds unaccompanied in the afternoon, at the dismissal of the school day. (2.40/3.00pm - 3.30pm) Students who have been permitted by their parents to meet them in nearby localities, to walk home or catch public transport, **are considered to be in the care of parents or carers**. We are aware that they are often required to cross at crossings or lights.

If this is the case please ensure that your child is fully aware and able to follow pedestrian and road safety guidelines and practices independently and is aware and able to manage matters pertaining to child protection.

Over the next week we will be undertaking an audit of who is leaving the school grounds without a parent/carer and checking whether we have written permission from you. Children are always monitored but this is an extra check. Students who have written permission from their parents/carers will receive a walker's pass which will be attached to their school bags, this will be shown to the teacher on gate duty.

As you know, the safety and wellbeing of students is our priority. There are many wonderful resources online that can assist parents to have discussions with children regarding keeping themselves safe. If you would like to discuss how the school can support you in this matter , please contact me through the school office.

Miss Fabri

Happy Birthday to all the children who celebrated their birthday over the past week and next week:-

Alexander Markovic, Jacinta Azizi, Chanel Wakim, Elijah Missak, Joshua Day, Zoe Samar, Biaggio Volante, Matthew Tocher, Olivia Takchi, John Bardetta , Matthew Draybi, Nardos Addisu, Lachlan Moore, Amelia Sivashanmugam, Liam Stojkovski



DROP OFF AND PICK UP PROCEDURES

Thank you to all the parents and caregivers for your cooperation regarding the early pick up in Term 2. Due to the current outbreaks in our local area this procedure will continue until further notice.

Drop off Reminders

A reminder that from Term 3 the front gate will close at 8.50am. Any child arriving at school after this time must be accompanied by an adult who will need to fill in a partial absence form. If this does not happen the partial absence will be recorded as 'unexplained'.

Pick up will continue at 2.40pm Week One Term 3 due to the tightening of the current restrictions. We would like to remind all the adults entering the school that Physical Distancing is expected and we ask you to respect the health and safety of others in our community. It is best practice at the moment that you do not enter the school grounds unless you are unable to physically distance outside. We will continue to keep you informed of any further changes.

SRC AND COLOUR CAPTAINS

Discussions are currently being had with the children regarding the possible extension of the changeover of SRCs and Colour Captains. We are very mindful that the COVID 19 restrictions have impacted on the unusual timing of roles and we will endeavour to schedule the installation of the new groups to allow for this impact. Both groups, i.e. Semester One and Two, will be given equal time. This year our children have had to certainly learn resilience, patience and a period of sacrifice.

We thank them for this.

SEMESTER ONE REPORT REMINDER

Dear Parents

Just a reminder that Semester One reports will be issued on Friday. It is highly recommended that parents who wish to speak to their child's teacher, regarding their progress over the phone, wait until these reports go out, so that you will have a document to refer to. At this stage, due to the restrictions inhibiting visitors from attending the school, Parent/ Teacher interviews will not be taking place in person. **As always if you have a matter that is regarding safety or concern please contact the school through the office.**

Thanking you in advance

Bernadette Fabri



Honour Award

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

KA	Louis Wehbe	Jacob Assaf	KM	George Dardas	Angela Bracks
1C	Jaidyn Shehadie	Esperanza Thompson	1S	Leah Wahbe	Benjamin Chu
2M	Joshua Day	Michael Sunwar	2Y	Christian Chivers	Caroline Youssef

ST PATRICK'S AWARD

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

KA	Daniel Lawrence	Genevieve Tannous	KM	Elijah Baysari	Makayla Abdou
1C	Jessica Lim	Alyssa Vella	1S	Olivia Pijaca	Hugh Perrett
2M	Daniel Jurisic	Olivia Zhang	2Y	Ava Boutros	Frank Malkoun





Honour Award

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

3L	Sonia Sitoa	Benjamin Aitkins	3T	Karabo Khama	Levi Jaitani
4B	Marcelino El Halabi	Anabelle Tudberry	4G	Nardos Addisu	Joel Lahood
5C	Aurora Broadbridge	Max Barakat	5T	Lauren Polintan	Olivia Saab
6P	Anthony Nakhoul	Emily Johnson	6W	Liam Jocson	Sophia Lorenzo

ST PATRICK'S AWARD

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3L	Gabriella Sta Rosa	Joanthony Tannous	3T	Eva Jakopovic	Kenzie Murphy
4B	Sophie Salloum	Joseph Maroon	4G	Jacinta Azizi	Joshua Manago
5C	Nathan Romanos	Oscar Morgan	5T	Emma Barrientos Salazar	Alexander Markovich
6P	Aoife Mitchell	Michael Ayoub	6W	Tyler Morson	Maria Wahbe



Changes to Bus Routes

Due to Parramatta Light Rail construction, Route 600, 601, 603, 604, 606, 609, 625, 706 will operate through O'Connell St. This may affect the travel of your students from Term 3, 2020.

We remind students they must have a valid Opal card to travel on school buses, and must tap on and off morning and afternoon.

As some of the bus stops have been moved, some students are required to now cross the road at the end of Trott Street. Please be mindful around our school environment of students crossing roads and ensure you are alert and aware of your surroundings.

2020 SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS -

Monday 10th August, 2020

School Photographs will be taken on **Monday 10th August 2020**. Please ensure that your child is neatly dressed in **full Winter School Uniform** on that day.



If you wish to purchase photos, **we are asking that you pay online for both individual photos and sibling photos. This is a COVID safe practice as it limits the handling of goods.** This can be done in the convenience of your home and an email receipt will be mailed to you as confirmation. You can pay for all children or sibling photos in 1 easy payment. **The online code for our school St Patrick's Primary, Parramatta is MKW J3F KMB. This needs to be completed at least 48hrs prior to photo day.**

[Please click on the link below to order](#)

[Advanced Images](#)

The following packages are available for purchase

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (A) Deluxe Package @ \$53.00 | (B) Value Package @ \$50.00 |
| (C) Fun Package @ \$48.00 | (D) Regular Package @ \$45.00 |
| (E) Basic Package @ \$42.00 | (F) Group only @ \$29.00 |
| (G) Portrait Only @ \$27.00 | |

If you are having trouble ordering photos online please contact the school office on 8832 4600.

Advanced Life school photography have supplied St Patrick's with their COVID 19 safe plan.

NEW REQUIREMENTS TO VOLUNTEER AT ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY, PARRAMATTA

Building Child Safe Communities - Volunteer Undertaking

Dear Parents/Carers

In Catholic Education Diocese Parramatta (CEDP), we see parents and carers as partners in your child's learning journey. Parents and carers are encouraged to become involved in our schools in many important ways such as supporting classroom learning, being part of advisory groups, mentoring programs, coaching sporting teams and supporting other extra-curricular activities, canteen support and other kinds of help.

A range of checks and undertakings are required for people who work for or provide services to CEDP. These checks reduce potential risk and form part of our strategy to build child safe communities.

CEDP has launched a new *Building Child Safe Communities* form and online training module that **all volunteers** are required to complete. The purpose of this training is to inform you of the standards of behaviour and other requirements that must be adhered to when volunteering for CEDP.

The undertaking should take no more than 5 minutes to complete and the training module approximately 10 minutes. Once the form and training modules are submitted, an automated email will be sent to you within two business days to confirm the status of your submission.

The undertaking form will expire within two years or when your Working With Children Check expires (if applicable), whichever is sooner. At that time you will need to complete the undertaking form and training module again. You will receive an automatic reminder email when this occurs.

Further information on the new online form and training module can be found at www.parra.catholic.edu.au and clicking on *about us/building child safe communities*. Within the form you will also find help sheets and a video tutorial to assist you.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Bernadette Fabri

Understanding School Talk ???

Student Learning Goals:

Achievable goals set by the student, either independently or with teacher guidance, that help the child progress in their learning.

Sports Days for Term 3

Children will be required to wear their sports on the following days for Term 3:-

Wednesday - Year 6, Year 2, 1S

Thursday - Year 4, Year 3, 1C

Friday - Year 5, Kindergarten

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.

