

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The theme of this year's Mission Week is 'We are Still Here'. This theme really resonated with me this year because during this time of great uncertainty still - people all around the world and in our immediate community, especially the poor and vulnerable, are experiencing isolation and disconnection from what was once predictable.

I am sure you would agree that even for us, in a country that has good living and health conditions, everything has changed; the way we work, pray, relax, shop, interact with schools, universities, doctors, family, how we attend mass, hospitals, funerals, celebrations and weddings is different. It has been very stressful and frustrating for people and from what I can hear and feel, all that people want, is to know that there is someone there to help them or to connect with them.

Since the beginning of the term I have enjoyed speaking with the parents of our new Kindergarten children 2021 and I will continue to do so for new and existing families. Although not the same as meeting in person, just spending some time speaking to these parents, left me with a wonderful feeling of connection to people I have not yet met. I was able to listen to them and answer their questions.

This led me to think about how sad it must be for those who are already disadvantaged and abandoned by society. COVID 19 must be one more complication that they possibly cannot bear.

Mission Week helps us focus our thoughts beyond ourselves - to others in need - and to imagine what reassurance is felt by the words, "we are still here", must feel like. Catholic Mission provides this help - when we cannot.

"Catholic Mission is the international mission agency of the Catholic Church in Australia. Locally and globally [they] answer the call to love God and to love our neighbour, and work to establish the reign of God."

<https://www.catholicmission.org.au/stories-from-around-the-world>

When I was younger, I used to worry about the thousands of people around the world suffering and feel disheartened with myself for my inability to leave my home and family to help them. I just did not have the courage. I came to understand that Mission can be demonstrated in 'one's own backyard' so to speak and that there are many ways we can assist those amazing human beings that possess those skills that I did not.

I am reminded, this Mission Week, to ensure that in my own way I can reach out to others with the words - I am still here! We are still here! I encourage you to join me in finding ways of noticing those who may be feeling this disconnection and to connect with them.

I also encourage you to support Catholic Mission in any way you can and to support the school's St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal.

The following Catholic Mission link is filled with wonderful stories of hope and ways people like you and I can assist. [Catholic Mission](#)

May God Bless you and your family
Bernadette Fabri
Principal

Mass Times

We are open for Mass with a congregation of 100 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](#)



Sacramental Program Update:

Sacraments of Initiation: Reconciliation and Eucharist 2020-2021

The next process of the Sacraments for Children already Baptised has now started and registrations for the upcoming sacramental program are now opened. The enrolment form can be found on the St Patrick's Cathedral Parish website www.stpatscathedral.com.au go to Sacraments/Holy Communion and click on the button Holy Communion Registration. To be eligible for preparation children should be 7 years or older. If you are interested in registering your child or for any other information regarding the Sacramental Process for Children already Baptised please contact Meg Gale: sacrament@stpatscathedral.com.au

Further to the above please note the dates for sessions of preparation for the sacrament of Reconciliation are as follows:

Sacrament of Penance 1: Tuesday 3rd November, 7:30 pm - Parent Session

Sacrament of Penance 2: Saturday 14th November, 4:30 pm - Parent and Children Session

Sacrament of Penance 3: Saturday 28th November, 4:30 pm - Parent and Children Session

Reception of the Sacrament of Penance: Tuesday 1st December, 7pm in St Patrick's Cathedral

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY - Friday 27th November 2020

Due to lockdown earlier this year the school had to postpone the scheduled Staff Development Day. This has now been rescheduled for Friday 27th November.

Children do not come to school on this day.

St Patrick's Parramatta RETURN TO SCHOOL 2021 DATES						
Week One 2021	Tuesday 26th January, 2021	Wednesday 27th January, 2021	Thursday 28th January, 2021	Friday 29th January, 2021	Monday 1st February, 2021	Tuesday 2nd February, 2021
	Public Holiday - Australia Day	Staff Development Day - Yrs K-6 Individual Maths Assessments	Staff Development Day - Yrs K-6 Individual Maths Assessments	Years 1 to Year 6 Commence School Kindy Individual Maths Assessments	Kindy Individual Maths Assessments	Kindergarten 2021 to commence school (full day)
		Kindergarten - 6 - Parents will be asked to book their children into one session with their child's class teacher.				

WORLD TEACHER'S DAY

Tomorrow is International World Teacher's Day. I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all our staff for the amazing job that they have done this year. This has been such a difficult year for everyone, especially our teachers, who at one time were front line workers when conditions in

our state caused people much concern and possible anxiety. They had to learn new skills in a very rapid manner and stepped up superbly. They have been steadfast in their approach to ensuring that the impact of COVID 19 on the children's learning was kept to a minimum and have remained positive and energetic. I am so proud of our staff! The professional of teaching requires highly skilled, passionate individuals whose desire to make a difference in the lives of children and families is uppermost in their approach.



Congratulations to the staff of St Patrick's Parramatta! Our school community is blessed to have such dedicated, faith-filled teachers.

Monash University

EMC3: Exploring Mathematical Sequences

All students in Kindergarten, Year 1 and 2 have been involved in sequences of mathematical learning experiences that are very challenging. Many of our students have shown great persistence in their mathematical learning.

The teachers will be showing some of our student's work samples to other schools and the team from Monash University as a part of our reflection on these learning sequences for 2020. We are excited to show all the amazing mathematical thinking and reasoning of our St Patrick's students to the Faculty of Education at Monash University.

Please complete the permission form attached to the letter from Monash University. The permission form was sent home with your child last week. If you did not receive one it is because you have completed one earlier.

Thank You,

Jenny Barclay

2021 PLANNING - IS YOUR CHILD RETURNING TO ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL PARRAMATTA IN 2021?

As we begin to make plans for 2021, we ask that if your child is not returning to St Patrick's Primary School Parramatta next year to please contact the school office. This does not apply to Year 6 students.

Water Bottles



Just a reminder to check every morning that your child has their water bottle. With the hot weather coming up and the children not being able to use the bubblers, we do not want to see children dehydrated.

Happy Birthday to all the children who celebrated their birthday this week and over the next week:- Emily Salloum, Jake Buxton, Jacob Manago, Alexandriya Izmostyeva, Makayla Kalouch, Cynthia Daher, Oliver Kougellis, Renee Kougellis, Weyata Lamin, Stephanie Jabbour, Alex El Khoury, Germain Toledo



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Due to COVID-19 restrictions St Patrick's will not be able to have a school swimming carnival this term. However we would like students that qualify for the Zone Carnival held in Term 1, 2021 to participate.



A letter will be sent home tomorrow to invite students that swim with a squad to submit their swim times for their preferred events. Students that do not attend a Swim Squad will be given the opportunity to participate in a swim time trial in Term 1, 2021. There will be more details regarding this in Term 1.

Yours Faithfully

Mrs Bernadette Carroll (Sports Coordinator)

2021 school travel applications are now open



Applications for student travel in 2021 opened on Monday 12 October 2020.

Students who require a School Opal card or travel pass for 2021 can now [apply](#) online. A new application should be submitted if a student is applying for a school travel pass for the first time or requesting an additional pass as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody).

Students who have changed school/campus, changed address, repeated a year or received an expiry notification from Transport for NSW for their school travel entitlement should [re-apply or update their details](#).

Where there is a change of distance eligibility based on a student's grade, the system will automatically update a student's entitlement if they meet the new criteria. If they do not meet the new [eligibility criteria](#), they will receive an expiry notification via email.

Applications need to be submitted before **31 December 2020** to ensure that current student entitlements are updated and their current entitlement/card remains valid. If their application is submitted after 31 December 2020, the system will automatically cancel an entitlement/card and a new one will need to be issued.

Students in the Opal network applying for a SSTS or Term Bus Pass entitlement for the first time will receive their card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out from January 2021.



Honour Award

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

KA	Evie Grohs	Mitchell Daher	KM	Alessia Agostino	George Kazzaz
1C	James Younis	Scarlett Eid	1S	Sophie Abraham	Charlie El Khoury
2M	Sofia Bousimon	Nour Kahwaji	2Y	Sara Jabbour	Jacinta Malkoun

ST PATRICK'S AWARD

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

KA	Jacob Assaf	Cienna Joachim	KM	Mahalia Jackson	John-Luke Rahme
1C	Sophia Khoury	Melissa Black	1S	Isla-Rose Eid	Quintus Feng
2M	Molly Moses	Johnnie Daher	2Y	Patrick Semaan	Jayden Blazek





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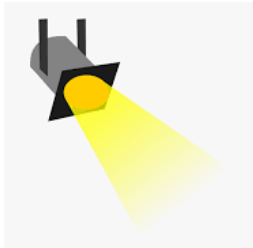
3L	Owen Abraham	Joshua Jaitani	3T	Rose Rizk	Daniel Semaan
4B	Benjamin Maroon	Roselle Ghostine	4G	Angelica Beame	James Morson
5C	Jacob Wehbe	Zara Diuco	5T	Adam Jurisic	Tony Thomas
6P	Christine Kahwaji	Malcolm Nasr	6W	Christian Sta Rosa	Talia Kalouche

ST PATRICK'S AWARD

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3L	Zachary Aguilera	Chloe Vella	3T	Michel Kazzaz	Wren Chua
4B	Phillip Boutros	Mia Wehbe	4G	Donnacha Ryan	Alicia Remaili
5C	Adrian Sicurella	Raymond Joe Khoury	5T	Sean Feng	Weyata Lamin
6P	Oliver Kougelis	Josh Blanquera-Pangan	6W	Liam Jocson	Sienna Golossian





Term 4 Week 2 Spotlights

This week our interviewed spotlights will be from
Wattle House

Year 6: Sharbel Georges:

If you had to change your name what would it be?

I would change my name to George because my dad's name is George and it is also a Saint's name.

If you could have any job (even impossible) what would it be?

I would like to be a mathematician because I like maths and because I can see myself doing maths related work in the future.

If you could buy anything you want what would it be?

I would buy a jetpack because I would really like to be able to fly.

What is your favourite movie or tv show? Why?

Jumanji because it is a creative movie and full of interesting and exciting action.

If you could go on a holiday where would you go?

I would go to Hawaii because I have never been there before and because I want to go to the beautiful beaches there.

Year 6 Jacob Manago:

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

Dylan Brown, Clint Gutherson and Cristiano Ronaldo as they are my favourite sport stars.

Who is your biggest inspiration?

My biggest inspiration is God because God made me and the world and everyone I know and love.

What's your favourite place in the world?

My favourite place is Queensland because I like the hotels and beaches and there are a lot of fun and exciting places to visit. I love to swim and there is lots of sun.

If you were an animal what would it be?

Cheetah because I want to be able to run really fast because I am usually not that fast.

What is your least favourite meal?

My least favourite food is seafood because when I eat it I feel sick and it tastes bad.

Year 6 Madison Younes:

If you could create something what would it be?

I would love to create a cure for a disease to help people who are sick get better.

What are you looking forward to the most at high school?

Finding new friends and learning lots of new things.

If you could name 5 words describing you, what would they be.

Funny, weird, smart, crazy, bookworm

What do you enjoy most about primary school?

Having great close friends and having nice teachers who help me learn

If you were to choose to speak another language what would it be?

I would love to speak Arabic because my family heritage is Lebanese and if I could speak Arabic I would be able to speak to my grandparents.

Year 6 Biaggio Volante:

How do you want to make the world a better place?

I would make people stop littering and using things that pollute our Earth.

What is one of your favourite hobbies?

Playing and watching soccer because it is my favourite sport and it keeps you fit and healthy. It is also a lot of fun to play.

If you could have any superpower what would it be?

I would love to have super speed so I can get things done quickly.

If you could be a celebrity for the day who would you pick?

Cristiano Ronaldo because he is very fast and an excellent soccer player.

If you had \$100 to spend in 5 minutes what would you spend it on?

I would buy a pair of shoes because I love shoes.

Year 6: Josh Blanquera-Pangan

Who is your biggest inspiration?

My biggest inspiration is Mike Tyson because he was one of the world's best boxers.

If you could be anyone for a week who would be?

I would love to be an animated character because they have cool super powers.

What is your favourite book series?

My favourite book series is Diary of a Wimpy Kid because it is also a movie series.

What is the most annoying thing you find most people do?

The most annoying thing I find people do is thinking they are better than others.

If you could do anything you want when you grow up what would you do?

I would become the Prime Minister so I can try to make the world a better place and create equality.

Understanding School Talk ???

Public Speaking and Communication

Ask The Questions Differently

Generally when children are asked about their day mum would ask "How was your Day?" and the child would typically answer "good", that's it no more. The key to getting a longer answer is asking the question differently. What was your favourite part about school today? Why?

Here is more details about conversation starters for kids.

FEEDBACK and COMPLAINTS

St Patrick's Parramatta staff always welcome feedback and ideas from the parent community. If you have any feedback, concerns or complaints please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher, Mrs Standing (behaviour) or Miss Fabri through the school office (8832 4600), school email address stpatsricksparra@parra.catholic.edu.au, or through Skoolbag App. The school follows the CEDP Complaints Handling Policy.

<https://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/About-Us/Policy-Central>

Celebration of Learning Kindergarten: Term 4 Week 1

This week, Kindergarten is celebrating their learning in Mathematics. For a **warm-up activity**, the students were working in groups of 5. They had to grab a handful of counters and estimate how many counters there were. Then they had to count the collection of counters and represent how many counters they had using a bead string.

For their **Rich Task** the students were presented with the following investigation:

Mr Pizza

'Mr Triangles makes triangle pizzas. He gave Ms S one half and Ms M one half. Look at the pizza. Do they have half each? Prove it and explain.'

We interviewed some students about their learning:

Olivia:

"We are learning how to cut shapes and make them equal. We are trying to make the two pizza pieces equal. I found it a little bit hard to make both halves the same shape and size because they have to be fair and exactly the same."

William:

"We are trying to make the same size halves. I am trying to cut the pizza in half to see if both pieces are the same size. It is hard to make them equal with one cut."

Sebastian:

"We are learning about halves. I am cutting up a pizza in half to prove I have two halves. It is not challenging for me because you can prove it by using the materials to cut and make halves."

Cienna:

"We have been learning about equal halves. I folded and cut a line in half but it wasn't equal so I had to try again to make two equal pieces. I finally got it right!"

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.

Parramatta Light
Rail Update

Celebration of Learning Year One: Term 4 Week 1

This week Year One is celebrating their learning in Mathematics. They are learning to recognise and describe one half as two equal parts. They are exploring to find one-half fractions.

We interviewed some of the students about their learning.

Espie Thompson:

"We are learning how to split objects into half. This is challenging because it is difficult to find new ways to cut the object or shape in half sometimes to get two equal halves. I have learnt how to find the halfway mark on different shapes."

Tony Karam:

"We are learning about halves (fractions). I've learnt that if we cut something in half we get two equal pieces. It is hard sometimes because this is something new for me but I am getting better."

Benjamin Chu:

"We are learning about fractions and how to make a whole and two halves. I have learnt that if you have two halves and put them together you will make one whole. This was easy learning for me because we used paper and shapes so I could easily see two halves. The paper helped me."

Mariette Wakim:

"We are learning to make equal halves. I have learnt how to cut shapes in half in different ways. It is fun folding and cutting paper to make halves in different ways. I have learnt a lot as I used to think there was only one way."

Celebration of Learning Year 2: Term 4 Week 1

This week, Year 2 is celebrating their learning in Visual Arts and Mathematics.

In 2M the students are learning about fractions and have been investigating halves, quarters, eighths and even sixteenths. They folded paper and used fraction cakes to help with their learning and understanding.

We interviewed some students about their learning:

Mariah:

"We are learning about fractions and to help us we are using fraction pizzas and folding paper. I like this task because if you go out and you order pizza with your family, you would know how much pizza you can eat and how to equally share it. This task was a bit hard because sometimes it's hard to work out the fraction straight away but my friends help me."

Ashton:

"We are learning about fractions and what they are and mean. This is an easy task because once I know what the fractions are it is easy to work out other fractions. I like this task because I love learning about fractions and I'm learning new things."

In 2Y the students were applying and transferring learning about the elements of art and transferring new skills and techniques to create their own artworks. This week they were asked to use dot painting techniques to create a painting of a dandelion.

We interviewed some students about their learning:

Anastasia:

"In Art this week we are drawing and painting a flower called a dandelion. The techniques and materials we are using in Art are dot painting and oil pastels. I love painting and really enjoy creating artworks."

Andrew:

"In Art we are painting a flower called a dandelion. To do this painting we use the dot painting technique passed on by our Indigenous Australians and also used oil pastels. I found this a little hard and challenging because sometimes I find it hard to draw and paint and get it to look the way I want it too. I need to work on improving my drawing skills."

Did you know

Your child's best learning time is the start of the school day just a little bit late doesn't seem much but

He/she just missing,

That equals ..

Which is ...

and over 13 years of schooling that's ...

10 minutes per day

50 minutes per week

Nearly 1.5 weeks per year

Nearly half a year

20 minutes per day

1 hour 40mins per week

Over 2.5 weeks per year

Nearly 1 year

Half an hour per day

Half a day per week

4 weeks per year

Nearly 1 and a half years

1 hour per day

1 day per week

8 weeks per year

Over 2 and a half years

every learner
every day



Coronavirus (COVID-19)

SIMPLE STEPS TO HELP STOP THE SPREAD.

Cough or sneeze into your arm



Use a tissue



Bin the tissue



Wash your hands



HELP STOP THE SPREAD



TOGETHER WE CAN HELP STOP THE SPREAD AND STAY HEALTHY.
For more information about **Coronavirus (COVID-19)** visit [health.gov.au](https://www.health.gov.au)


Australian Government