



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

In 2017 I wrote a newsletter article on All Soul's Day which this year was last Monday the 2nd November. Considering the many loved ones in our school community we have lost, since then, I would like to share some of my thoughts with you again.

Last Monday was All Soul's Day and is a day where we are encouraged to think of and pray for our dearly departed. On this day, people all around the world take time to attend mass and cemeteries to spend time with members of their family, who have passed on. Having lost both my father and my mother it is fair to say that there is not a single day that goes past where I do not think of both of these amazingly special people. I imagine there are many of you who know exactly what I am speaking about and although it has been many years now since their passing, when I hear their favourite song or someone mentions their name I am reminded about all they have contributed to my life and that of my family and how much we miss them. We speak about them often and we are now at a stage when we laugh with much joy at the memories we have of them.

I think it is when you lose someone close and dear to you that you realize how special our Catholic faith is. Our church traditions are such that they assist people through their grief and the signs and symbolic actions within the requiem mass, guide and lead us to a sense of hope in our sadness. The thought that they are still with us, in heaven; someone we can pray for and pray to, can sometimes leave us with comfort and a feeling of being loved. Pope Francis shared some very welcoming thoughts about All Souls Day in his homily this year.

I would like to share with you some of his words

- We believe that we will one day see God when we pass. This certainty is Christian Hope. "A hope that is a gift.: We cannot have it. It is a gift that we must ask: "Lord, give me hope".
- This certainty is a gift from God, because we can never have hope with our own strength. We have to ask for it. Hope is a free gift that we never deserve: it is given, it is given. It is grace.
- "Hope does not disappoint" (Rom 5 : 5), Paul told us. Hope attracts us and gives meaning to our life. I do not see the afterlife, but hope is the gift of God that draws us towards life, towards eternal joy.
- Today, in the thoughts of so many brothers and sisters who have gone, it will do us good to look at the cemeteries and look up. And repeat, like Job: "I know that my Redeemer is alive, and I will see him, myself, my eyes will contemplate him and not another". And this is the strength that gives us hope, this free gift which is the virtue of hope. May the Lord give it to all of us.

Beautiful words of HOPE.

[HOMILY OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS](#)

Today let us all think and pray for all those people who are dear to us and to our community at St Patrick's Parramatta and who are no longer with us. I invite you and your family to pray the following prayer.

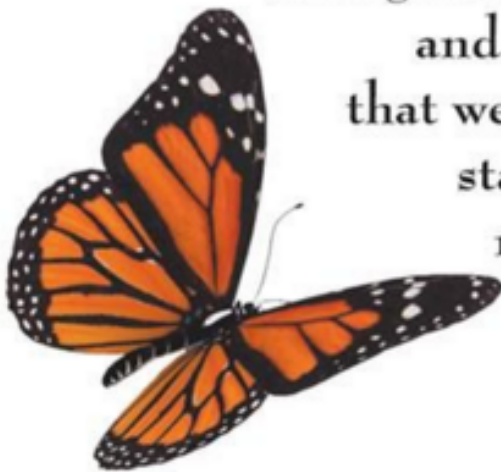
May God Bless you and your Families
Bernadette Fabri

All Souls' Day

November 2

*J*esus, dear Savior,
on this day we prayerfully remember
all our loved ones who have died.
Please give them comfort and hope
and may they be at peace,
knowing that they will
rest in God's arms eternally.
Thank You for our memories of them
and for the good times we shared.
We ask You, please,
through their intercession,
to deepen our faith,
strengthen our hope
and increase our love
that we, too, may someday
stand before You,
ready to enter Your
Holy Kingdom.

Amen.



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](#)



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.				

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 Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal



Vinnies

This year we have an opportunity to be a shining light to 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 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. 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 next week during **Week 5 (9 to 12 November)**.

Kindergarten: pasta, rice, noodles, sauces (non glass containers),

Year One: tinned vegetables (peas, carrots, beetroot, corn etc), gravy mix, jelly, tuna, pasta sauce

Year Two: tinned fruit, chips, lollies, twisties, lunchbox snacks (rollups, muesli bars, LCM)

Year Three: jam, vegemite, honey, cheese spread (NO peanut butter please), laundry products

Year Four: tea, coffee, cereal, long life milk, sugar, toppings for ice cream, milo

Year Five: cordial, poppers, fruit juice, soft drinks, custard powder, pudding

Year Six: biscuits, (plain, savoury, chocolate), cake mix, fruit cups, toiletries

Thank you for your contribution.

Mrs Tuetue

Religious Education Coordinator

AFTERNOON PICK UP - UPDATE

Thank you to all the parents and caregivers for your patience and cooperation in trying to manage afternoon pick up. It is the school's responsibility to assist parents, where possible, to manage the physical distancing required and as you can see we are trialling a few new procedures.

I fully understand how frustrating changes can be for you and what may seem a very simple solution is often way more complex than people recognize. I welcome your feedback at all times which you can give to us by contacting the school through the usual modes.

Can I appeal to you however to please avoid directing frustrations to our staff who are all on duty in the afternoons and who are mandated to follow what the school has asked them to do.

For your information also I have contacted Parramatta Light Rail Authorities to discuss the negative impact of all the road closures of late on the afternoon pick up and have spoken to one of the Counsellors from Parramatta Council, to appeal for support regarding the increased traffic congestion.

The best outcomes can be achieved if we work together for the common good - which is the safety of your children and the community as a whole.

So once again I ask for your patience.

Miss Fabri

CATHOLIC MISSION - ICE BLOCKS - REMINDER



Ice-blocks will continue to be sold every **Friday** at \$1 each. The money raised will be used to donate to the families in need through **Catholic Mission**. The students were very giving and enjoyed being part of this great contribution last week. Thank you for your generosity. Together we can make a difference.

We raised \$400 last week, that's alot of ice-blocks !!!

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.

YEAR 6 GRADUATION MASS UPDATE

With the current COVID 19 restrictions the school is still awaiting clarity on the Year 6 Graduation Ceremony/Mass. Whether we will be allowed to hold a mass at the Cathedral or a ceremony or mass at school, the proposed date is **14 December at 9:15am**.

We will notify you on any updates once we receive further information on this.



SCHOOL FEES

Term 4 2020 Statements have now been mailed to all families with balances. Due date for payment of Term 4 fees is on or before **Wednesday 18th December 2020**.

If you have not received your invoice, please email pats-parrfees@parra.catholic.edu.au to request a copy be emailed to you.



Happy Birthday to all the children who will celebrate their birthday over the next week:- Isaiah Zaiter, Christine Kahwaji, Maria Wahbe, Daniel Saleh, Patrick Semaan, Olivia Rizk, Michael Aboumelhem, Eimear Mitchell, Michel Kazzaz, Andrew Doumit, Ellen Nikolakopoulos



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.



Honour Award

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

KA	Charlize Malkoun	Daniel Lawrence	KM	George Nassif	Lucia Reyes-Mangabat
1C	Esperanza Thompson	Tony Karam	1S	Zavier Skaf	Zachary Tannous
2M	Ethan Sivashanmugam	Isaiah Maroon	2Y	Caroline Youssef	Andrew Batti

ST PATRICK'S AWARD

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

KA	Gabriella Semaan	Christian Jaitani	KM	Julian Badr	Rosalia Daher
1C	Jessica Lim	Daniella Fayad	1S	Sophia Zhang	Victoria Adaymy
2M	Audrey El Bayeh	Vincent Camenzuli	2Y	Zachariah McPherson	Mia Golossian





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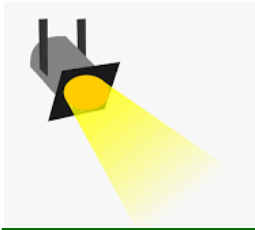
3L	Shaneli Perera	Sarah Loader	3T	Beth Roumanus	Victoria Nassif
4B	Makayla Kalouch	Joshua Nasr	4G	Lachlan Moore	Gabrielle Vella
5C	Rafaella Bautista	Alisha Katafono	5T	Samuel Navasardyan	Meagan Erive
6P	Carl Cauan	Olivia Gebrael	6W	Rosemary Gonsalves	Gabriel Rahme

ST PATRICK'S AWARD

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

3L	Angelina Bounassif	Mateo Barroso	3T	Kenzie Murphy	Josephine Behan
4B	Marie Rahme	Zavier Moujalli	4G	Barbie Koima	Anthony Sassen
5C	Max Barakat	Amariah Tamaro	5T	Camela Poblete	Lauren Polintan
6P	Olivia Wehbe	Andrew Doumit	6W	Christina Elzahoul	James Loader





Term 4 Week 4 Spotlights

This week our interviewed spotlights will be from
Waratah House

Year 6: Liam Jocson:

If you could be an animal, which animal would you be and why?

I would like to be a lion so that I could be the King of the Jungle and be feared by all other animals.

What would your ideal career be?

My ideal career would be to be a professional athlete in Tennis. My role model is Dominic Thiem.

If you had \$1000 to spend in 10 minutes, what would you buy?

I would go to Woolworths and raid all of the lollies, chocolate and icecream I could possibly buy with \$1000.

If you could invite any 3 people to dinner, who would you invite and why?

1. Dominic Thiem to talk to him about tennis and get some tips.
2. My favourite basketball player Kevin Durant
3. A soccer player named Kylian Mbappe
4. As you can see, I love sports.

What is your favourite meal and least favourite meal?

My favourite meal is eel from a Japanese restaurant. It sounds weird but it is actually delicious. My least favourite meal would be a soup that my mum makes. It is a recipe from the Philippines. I refuse to eat this soup.

Year 6 Christian Sta Rosa:

If you could become a famous person, who would you like to be?

I would like to be Tom Holland, a famous actor. He is well known for Spiderman. I would like to be him because he is my favourite actor and I would love to be him so I could play the role of Spiderman.

What is your ideal career?

My ideal career would be to be an actor. I have already enrolled in an agency and am waiting for my first role opportunity.

What is your least favourite food?

My least favourite food is hotdogs. I don't know why but I don't like the taste or the sliminess of the red skin of the hotdog.

If you could be an animal, what would you like to be and why?

I would like to be a dog because they are very loyal and well respected. They live life to the best of their ability and go on many adventures as well as play and eat a lot.

If you could spend \$1000 in 5 minutes, what would you buy?

I would buy personal needs like hygiene products and lots of diecast cars which are tiny cars as I like playing with them.

Year 6 Aoife Mitchell:

If you could have any job, what would it be? Why?

I would like to be an actress because I like to entertain people and love performing.

If there was an emergency, apart from your family, what would be the thing you grab first to save?

I would grab my cat and all of my cookbooks because they are precious to me as I love cooking.

If you had \$1,000,000 to spend in a day, what would you spend it on?

I would donate a lot to charity and use the rest to buy a new guitar.

If you could have any superpower what would it be?

Telekinesis- the ability to move things with my mind. I would like this superpower because it seems cool and interesting and it would be fun to prank my sister a lot by moving things around.

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

I would like to try and get rid of poverty so that all people were equal and human dignity was shown to all people so everyone had the same opportunities. I would also like to try and achieve world peace between countries to stop people dying from wars.

Year 6 Sophia Paguia:

What is your favourite movie and why?

My favourite movie is Jumanji because it is funny and had great adventures that are interesting to watch.

What is your biggest fear?

My biggest fear is heights.

What are you looking forward to most in high school?

I am most looking forward to meeting new friends and participating in different subjects like cooking to learn new things. There are many more interesting subjects in High School.

Which 3 people would you invite to dinner and why?

1. My mum because she always cooks dinner for me so I would like to take her out.
2. My Grandpa because he doesn't know how to cook very well so it would be a nice treat to take him out to dinner so he didn't have to worry about cooking for himself
3. My friend Zoe because we have fun together and laugh a lot.

If you could have a superpower, what would you want and why?

I would like to be able to fly so then I can escape from people chasing me and I wouldn't have to climb up stairs because I could just fly up.

Year 6 Elisa Daher:

If you could be an animal, what would you like to be and why?

I would like to be a cheetah because they are extremely fast and I too am a fast runner.

If you could spend \$1 000 000, what would you buy?

I would buy a holiday ticket for me and my family to Lebanon to visit family and sight see. I have been once when I was very young so I would like to go back now that I am older and explore my family heritage. I would also give money to various charity organisations to help those in need. Anything left I would save it for my future.

What would your ideal job be?

My ideal job would be to be an architect because I like designing buildings and like drawing and being creative.

Who is your most inspirational person and why?

My most inspirational people are my parents because they both work really hard to support me and my siblings and always make sure we have what we need and have lots of love and fun. They know me and my siblings each individually and know what we like to do.

If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go and why?

Besides Lebanon, I would love to go to Paris because I would love to see the Eiffel Tower and taste the food, especially the delicious pastries.

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.

Celebration of Learning Kindergarten: Term 4 Week 3

This week, Kindergarten is celebrating their learning in Mathematics. They are learning about how different objects move.

We interviewed some of the students about their learning.

Maroun Abraham:

"I'm learning how objects move. For example I have learnt that a cylinder can roll. I like learning about this because it is interesting to investigate and learn about how different objects can move compared to other objects."

Monica Gould:

"We are learning about how objects move. This is fun because we find out about how objects move in different ways. I played with a car and it could slide and the wheels rolled really well. It is easy learning because we get to hold the objects and play with them to see how they can move."

Louis Wehbe:

"We are learning about how objects move and how some move fast and some move slowly. I played with a train and dice to see how they move. The train can slide really well because it has wheels that turn easily because they are a circle shape. The dice can spin really well but the train can't. It is fun looking at how different objects move."

Sierra Usman:

"I am learning about how objects move. I learnt how a snowman and a balloon move and how things can roll and spin. I like this learning in Maths because we get to play with different things to help us."

Celebration of Learning Year One: Term 4 Week 3

This week, Year One is celebrating their learning in Creative Arts: Visual Art. They are learning about different paint techniques such as paint smudging and straw blowing.

We interviewed some students about their learning:

Olivia. P:

"In art, we are learning about different art techniques and we're painting a flower in different ways. This way of creating art is kind of easy because I like art and I think I am good at it. I love doing this art task because I love using different colours."

Ava:

"In art, we are learning about different art techniques and creating a flower with paint. This task is pretty easy because I like doing art and I am good at it. Art is fun and I like learning new things and new ways of painting."

Michael:

"In art, we are learning about different painting skills and we are using contrasting colours to create artworks. We are also using different techniques like straw blowing. We also drew a creature then painted it using contrasting colours. I enjoy art because I like how each time we do art, we have a new fun thing to try."

Scarlett:

"In art, we are learning to use different techniques to paint things. We have tried and learnt about straw blowing and smudging techniques. I am enjoying this task because it seems easy to me and I like using different techniques and painting things."

Celebration of Learning Year Two: Term 4 Week 3

This week, Year Two is celebrating their learning in History.

We interviewed some of the students about their learning:

Andrew Batti:

"In History, I am learning about technology and communication from the past and how it is different from the present day. I have learnt that you can use a lot more communication devices today than in the past because in the past they didn't have ipads and mobile phones. Technology makes communication much faster in the present."

Catherine Kwa:

"In History, we are learning about comparing technology from the past to present. I have learnt that people now use email to communicate with others."

Araminta Jackson:

"We are learning about how technology has changed and is more advanced from past to present day. I have learnt about different forms of technology that were used in the past to help people communicate and that computers were big and heavy."

Ethan Siva:

"We are learning about technology and how it has changed. I have learnt that a long time ago planes didn't exist and people travelled far places by ship. I also learnt that cars didn't exist and that computers changed from being big, heavy and box-like to thin and lightweight devices."

Understanding School Talk ???

Public Speaking and Communication

Make Connections & Exude Confidence

From a young age we have encouraged our children to speak with confidence. To lift their head, speak loud and clearly so others can understand them. If they are nervous the assurance they show through good communication assists them in these circumstances. If they appear confident others will be confident in them.

For example, When they started a new school and met a new child instead of sitting to the side and waiting for someone to show them around; they went and introduced themselves with a clear voice and made a connection.

While I understand every child is different and not all of them will have the confidence to do this straight away; start with a family friend that you haven't seen for a while and go from there.

2021 Parramatta Diocesan Team Sport Trials are OPEN!

ALL 2021 Team Sport Trials are OPEN, however, the Summer Sports of **BASKETBALL & TENNIS** registrations close for these sports only on Monday 23rd November as these trials are planned for November & December 2020. This will be confirmed closer to the date due to COVID-19 restrictions and venue availability.

All other sports trials will be held in Term One & Two in 2021.

Primary students enrolled in Year 5 and 6 in 2021 are invited to participate in the Parramatta Diocesan Team Sport Trials. It is important to note that these trials are generally for those children who **display an above-average ability and/or have representative experience in their chosen sport**. While teams are open in age it is strongly recommended that only children of a representative standard in Years 5 & 6 in 2021 be invited to attend.

Parramatta Diocesan trials will be held in the following sports **AFL, Basketball, Cricket, Hockey, Football, Hockey, Netball, Rugby League (11yrs & Opens), Rugby Union, Softball, Tennis & Touch football**. The sports of Diving & Golf will be held at the MacKillop level.

To be eligible for selection for these trials the **2021 CEDP Primary Sport TEAM Registration Form** must be completed. Please visit the Parramatta Diocesan Primary Sport website or Facebook for the link and information.

WEBSITE:www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au

FACEBOOK:[Primary Sport Parramatta Diocese](#)

This online form is an **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST** for 2021 Parramatta Diocesan Primary Sport Team trials. Parents may complete this form to attend a selection trial. One form is to be completed per child, per individual sport. Each sport has its own criteria therefore, it is imperative that the correct form is completed.

Please note that your online registration is an **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST ONLY** and MUST be approved by the child's school. For the child to attend the nominated trial or event, the school approves students based on playing history and selection criteria. All fields and especially "Representative Experience" if applicable to the sport MUST be completed. Under no circumstances will a child be eligible to trial if the **2021 CEDP Primary Sport TEAM Registration Form** has not been completed and approved by the school by the closing date.

More detailed information can be located in the **2021 CEDP Parra Primary Sport Rep Team Trials Info for Parents COVID19 information sheet**

2021 Primary Sport Trials COVID-19 Information as of 3rd November

- The prevailing COVID Safe restrictions regarding school sport events and public gatherings will be observed at the Parramatta Diocesan Team Sport Trials
- Parents will be advised of the protocols to be followed according to the public health orders in force at that time of the trial.
- It is possible that this will restrict parent/spectator access to the venues as currently parents/spectators are not permitted at school events. Participating students will then remain in the care of the nominated Parramatta team managers for the duration of the trials.
- Parents/carers will be required to provide a mobile phone number that they will be able to be contacted on should they be required to return to the venue at any time.

Current CEDP Guide for Sport and Physical Activity guidelines that the following advice applies to all CEDP school sport and should be read in conjunction with the current NSW Health guidelines, NSW public health order, venue protocols and CEDP and school specific directives.

- The number of participants including staff and parents/guardians (if permitted) attending a facility must be limited to ensure compliance with external venue restrictions (one person per 4 square metres of space, 1.5m distancing and to a maximum of 500 people).
- Even if sporting competition occur in an external venue, if the sporting activity is held 'non-essential' adults should not attend.
- The use of public change rooms should be avoided wherever possible. Students should come to school wearing their sport uniform and appropriate footwear where possible.
- Shared travel arrangements such as car-pooling should be avoided where possible.
- All sports or physical activities conducted must meet all recommendations listed in the [DoE Sport Safety Guidelines](#) including teacher/student ratios.
- Compliance with general COVID-19 restrictions concerning capacity / hygiene etc.
- Currently, NO parents / spectators are permitted to attend school sport events. More detailed information will be provided for each individual sport trial via the Team Sport Trial Information sheet provided to approved students.**

COVID-19 Safety and Hygiene

The following hygiene measures will continue to apply to all sport and physical activities in schools:

- Practise good hygiene
- Staff and students are required to wash their hands prior to and at the conclusion of sport and physical activities. Encourage hand hygiene practices at regular intervals as required.
- Maintain good respiratory hygiene.
- Always discourage spitting or clearing of nasal or respiratory secretions.
- No shining of a cricket ball with sweat/saliva.
- Do not undertake physical exercise if unwell - students should not attend school if they are unwell. If they become unwell during the day, they should be collected by a parent/carer.
- Do not share items such as drink bottles or towels - Students should provide their own personal items such as water bottles, towels, clothing, etc as required for physical activities.
- Implement cleaning protocols - All sport and physical activity equipment (including shared equipment and clothing such as school sporting singlets and bibs) must be cleaned at the end of each session. Equipment and/or clothing that cannot be cleaned after each use must not be shared.
- Cleaning environments - Standard daily cleans as well as the cleaning of high touch areas should occur within sporting facilities, such as change rooms and in accordance with COVID-19 cleaning and sanitation requirements.
- Infection control - Apply standard precautions for infection control.
- Regular protocols for spills of blood and other bodily substances must be followed where any clothing, equipment and surfaces are contaminated by blood or other bodily fluid.
- Physical contact - shaking hands, high fives and hugging are to be avoided. Students must minimise any physical contact with others for the duration of a sport activity.

Regards,

Margaret Thornton