

# Newsletter

4th February, 2021 Term 1 Week 2

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Dear Parents and Caregivers,

This year I would like to start my series of Newsletters focusing on one very important aspect of the origins of our school St Patrick's Parramatta; the influence of Catherine McAuley - foundress of the Sisters of Mercy.

The Sisters of Mercy were integral in the establishment of St Patrick's Parramatta, Catherine McAuley Westmead and Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta as well as many other schools in our diocese.

Some people may not realise that Catherine McAuley was born in Dublin in 1778 into a comfortably wealthy home. Her father's family, the McAuleys, had ruled as lords for generations but they, like all Catholics, suffered the tyranny of the penal laws. Although they were wealthy her father James had a special love for the poor and he demonstrated a compassionate and generous spirit. Catherine learned much from her father and combined with the refinement, graciousness, independent mind and the personal charm she learned from her mother, she was well admired by others throughout her life. She lived a life that demonstrated Respect, Compassion and much Resilience from the many trials she faced in her life.

On December 12, 1831 Catherine McAuley professed her vows as one of the first Sisters of Mercy a community of sisters **"established for the visitation of the sick, poor, and protection and instruction of poor females"** (Sullivan, Correspondence, Letter 12)

*From 1874-1888 the Sisters of Mercy, Head House Monte St Angelo, North Sydney, were teaching at St Patrick's School, in a building which was standing in front of the present O.L.M.C. in Victoria Road, then known as Pennant Street. These sisters were replaced by the Sisters of Mercy from Callan, Ireland, by the invitation of Cardinal Moran*

***In 1926 that building was demolished and a new building was erected at the corner of Villiers Street and Ross Street, the current administration block and library.***

*In 1966 the senior girls moved to Westmead, to form **Catherine McAuley High School**. The primary school remains to this present day, continuing as St Patrick's Primary School Parramatta - Our school !!*

*In 1985 the Sisters of Mercy handed the responsibility for the School to the first lay Principal Ms Joan Coyle. Since then there have been 2 more lay principals, Mrs Gloria Bryant and myself. This year, let us continue to pray for the St Patrick's Parramatta community with due consideration of those who came before us in its establishment. Like Catherine McAuley let us pray that through our daily acts of Mercy we can be 'shining lamps, giving light to all around us'.*

*A quote by Catherine McAuley will be included in every newsletter this term, I invite you to ponder on them in prayer.*

*May God Bless you and your family*

*Bernadette Fabri*

*Principal*

# St Patrick's Parramatta

## STAFF 2021

### LEADERSHIP TEAM

Principal	Ms Bernadette Fabri
Assistant Principal	Mrs Leanda Standing
Religious Education Coordinator	Mrs Chantal Tuetue
Coordinator 2 (Mathematics/Science)	Mrs Jenny Barclay
Coordinator 2 (Diversity)	Ms Alyssa Onorato
Acting Coordinator 1	Mrs Viv Williams

### CLASS TEACHERS

K Matilda	Ms Desiree Macaraeg
K Alexander	Ms Claire Stephenson
1 Clancy	Mrs Eva Youssef
1 Sebastian	Mrs Jennifer Warn
2 Mackellar	Ms Julia Hagi (Tues - Fri)
	Mrs Sue Jadrabieb (Mon)
2 Young	Mrs Bernadette Stojanovski (Mon - Wed)
	Mrs Tanya Masefield (Thur/Fri)
3 Lindsay	Mrs Chantal Tuetue (Mrs Pope Fri/ weekly, Tues ft)
3 Thiele	Ms Ivy Chan
4 Brinsmead	Ms Steph Barton
4 Greenwood	Ms Alyssa Onorato (Mrs Sue Jadrabieb - Wed)
5 Coorong	Ms Yasmine Tabone
5 Timara	Mrs Viviana Williams (Mrs Pope -Tues fortnightly)
	Ms Kelly
6 Park	Mrs Anne Fardell
6 Wrightson	Mrs Bernadette Carroll (Sport Co -S Pope - Mon ft)

### SPECIALIST AND SUPPORT STAFF

Teacher Librarian	Mrs Debra O'Dwyer
Music Specialist	Mrs Venitia Rodricks
Physical Education Specialist	Mr David Younis
Reading Recovery	Mrs Lorraine Veljkovic
Numeracy Specialist and Lead Teacher	Mrs Jenny Barclay
Literacy/Learning support	Mrs Michelle Mannino
Literacy/Numeracy and Inquiry sup tch	Mrs Angela Alison (supplementary tch for K/1)
Leadership Team Release	Mrs Samantha Pope
Leadership Team Release.	Mrs Sue Jadrabieb
Teacher Assistant	Mrs Dianne Attard (Monday to Friday)
	Mrs Samantha Baaini (Mon-Wed)
	Mrs Chris Cadman (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday)
	Mrs Rachel Scuderi (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday)
	Mrs Genevieve Smith (Mon/T/W/Thurs)

### ADMINISTRATION

Senior Finance Secretary	Mrs Fiona Mitterer
Administration Officer (Front Office)	Mrs Jenny Jones
Administration Officer	Mrs Samantha Baaini (Thurs/Fri)
Site Manager and Maintenance	Mr Sean McIntosh
IT Trainee	Mr Tony Chaiban

## Term Dates

Term 1 - Wednesday 27th January to Thursday 1st April

Term 2 - Monday 19th April - Friday 25th June

Term 3 - Monday 12th July - 17th September

Term 4 - Tuesday 5th October - Friday 17th December

\*\* Please note: Every year the NSW Government allocates 6 days to each school to be used for Staff Professional Development. These can be used for the gathering of essential data on students

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY DATES will be communicated to you as soon as possible when confirmed



## ST PATRICK'S IS A NUT AWARE SCHOOL

St Patrick's Parramatta regards student safety to be of utmost importance. As our school has a number of students with severe food allergies, which can be life-threatening, we have adopted a 'Nut Aware School' approach.

Some strategies we adopt include:

- Student Action Plans displayed in the First Aid room and in the classrooms for easy identification if needed.
- Yearly training for all staff in the management of allergies and anaphylaxis
- Regular communication with staff regarding students at risk.
- EpiPens are readily accessible from the classroom/s and playground and excursions that staff know where they are located.
- Awareness raising of students about signs of allergic reactions and anaphylaxis and the importance of always telling a teacher if students notice that a classmate is unwell.
- Risk Assessment completed for all excursions and significant school activities
- Students are encouraged
  - to wash their hands before and after they eat or handle food
  - Not to share food
  - Not to bring nut products to school especially if they have a class member with a serious allergy.

**Parents, you can support our endeavours by please avoiding sending foods that contain nuts to school. This includes peanut paste, nut spreads such as Nutella and fruit and nut bars. Some children are also allergic to sesame seeds.**

**We acknowledge that due to food processing practices it is impractical to eliminate nuts or nut products entirely from an environment where there is food. Many food packaging labels include the phrase 'may contain traces of nuts'. These foods are acceptable.**

If you are interested in discussing this topic with your child(ren) follow the [link](#) to a set of simple slides explaining Allergies and Anaphylaxis

Thank you for your understanding and support of our school policies and procedures.



**Happy Birthday to all the children who will celebrate their birthday over the next week:** Kenzie Murphy, Jaidyn Shehadie, Alicia Remaili, Fareeda Daher, Mia Wehbe



# Honour Award

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

KA	Marylyn Lahoud	Louie Dauwalder	KM	Zara Ciampi	Gabriel Higoy
1C	Emilie Blazek	Vittorio Lo Surdo	1S	Charlize Malkoun	Louis Webe
2M	Olivia Rizk	James Said	2Y	Oliver Jakopovic	Melissa Black



## ST PATRICK'S AWARD

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

KA	Hannah Wehbe	Joseph Kalouch	KM	Lara Alphonse	Liam Buenaventura
1C	Cienna Joachim	Xavier Abu-Ali	1S	Rebecca Black	Jamie Chiha
2M	Scarlett Eid	Noah Abu- Ali	2Y	Sophie Abraham	James Younis





# Honour Award

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

3L	Ava Boutros	Patrick Semaan	3T	Sofia Bousimon	Christian Chivers
4B	Hunter Morson	Chloe Vella	4G	Erick Granados-Gavito	Beth Roumanos
5C	Julia Vytingco	Isaiah Johnston	5T	Joel Lahoud	Mia Wehbe
6P	Alexandriya Izmestyeva	Daniel Saleh	6W	Adam Jurisic	Noah Reyes-Mangabat



## ST PATRICK'S AWARD

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



3L	Audrey El Bayeh	Vincent Camenzuli	3T	Isaiah Maroon	Anastasia Naudi
4B	Joanthony Tannous	Fleur Perrett	4G	Jonah Shehadie	Eva Jakopovic
5C	Donnacha Ryan	Liam Stojkovski	5T	Elio Layoun	Gabrielle Vella
6P	Remon Wehbe	Meagan Erive	6W	Isabella Bousimon	Christopher Mekdessi

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS WILL BE TAKEN ON:

**Wednesday 10 March 2021**

**ORDER NOW go to [www.advancedlife.com.au](http://www.advancedlife.com.au) and enter the code  
MKW J3F KMB**

Dear Parents,

School photographs are scheduled to be taken by **advancedlife**. Whilst an envelope and flyer will be distributed shortly, if possible it is our preference that ordering be completed online to reduce administration and potential security issues related to the return of cash and envelopes on photo day.

Orders for packages and sibling photographs can be placed securely online at [www.advancedlife.com.au](http://www.advancedlife.com.au) using our school's unique 9 digit **advancedorder** code. Portrait and group package orders are due by photography day.

Should you wish to purchase a sibling photograph online, the order must be placed no later than the day before photography day. Sibling photographs will only be taken if an order has been placed.

Should you have any queries concerning school photographs or online ordering, please contact us at [www.advancedlife.com.au/contact](http://www.advancedlife.com.au/contact)

### Notes sent home this week

- Shrove Tuesday Pancake treat - please return order by Thursday 11th February.
- Quick reference guide - please refer to this for sports day, how to order book club and closing dates, school banking, Skoolbag instructions and lunch order menu.
- 2021 Travel arrangements - please complete form asap to allow smooth running of the afternoon dismissal.

\*\* Notes can be found on our website - please click on the following link to view or print.

[School Notes](#)

Congratulations to the El Bayeh Family (Audrey 3L and Pierre KM) on the birth of their baby boy, Sebastian.

Congratulations to the Khouri Family (Paul 5T and Ava 2Y) on the birth of their baby boy, Victor.

Congratulations to the Remaili Family (Alicia 5C, Annabella 4B, Michael 2Y) on the birth of their baby boy, Joseph.

Congratulations to the Khama Family (Karabo 4B) on the birth of their baby boy, Lereko.

Congratulations to the Tony Family (Irene 1C) on the birth of their baby girl, Emalene.



### Opening School Liturgy

We will be celebrating and congratulating our Student Leadership Team on Friday 5 February at our school liturgy. **Due to the current restrictions visitors will be restricted to the parents of the Year 6 leaders only.**

Photographs and videos will be taken and shared.

Thank you for your support and understanding.



Trudy Ricketts is our school-based counsellor available for students and their families on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. With a Masters and Post-Graduate Diploma in Educational Psychology, Trudy is a registered psychologist who specialises in collaborative and solution-focused approaches to help children and their families build on strengths to manage a range of difficulties. This is a confidential service and is part of our whole school pastoral care approach to assist the emotional wellbeing of students.

Trudy has been consulting in the Parramatta Diocese since 2006, and in other health/education settings prior to that, including the Diocese of Broken Bay, and the Starship Children's Hospital in Auckland, NZ. She is married with two children (one in primary and one in high school), and her family includes a Labrador and two Guinea Pigs.

If you would like further information about student counselling, please contact Miss Fabri, Mrs Standring, or your classroom teacher.

#### Acceptable Haircuts / Hairstyles

Boys haircuts are to be neat and simple. No undercuts, no lines, no Mohawks and no rats tails.

Hair cuts are to be of consistent length ie **Not longer on the top and shaved no 1 sides.**

Girls shoulder length or longer is required to be tied back with either hair ribbons or "scrunchies" in school colours.

The use of excessive hair gel is not permitted.

No coloured hair is permitted

Thanking you as always for your cooperation

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### **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 Standring (behaviour) or Miss Fabri through the school office (8832 4600), school email address [stpatsricksparra@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto: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>

## Absences from School

All absences from school are required to be explained within 7 days of the absence, as per CEDP guidelines.

The quickest and easiest way to do this is, is to complete an online absence form through the Skoolbag app or alternatively an email to the school : stpatricksparra@parra.catholic.edu.au.

On occasions this form of communication may not make it to us. In this instance the office will send home with your child an unexplained absence letter, as the absence remains unexplained. It would be greatly appreciated if you receive this letter that it is returned immediately.

Safety is always paramount here at St Patricks and children that are dropped at school after 8.50am are required to be walked into the office and signed in by a parent or carer. Unfortunately we cannot see what is happening out on the street and do not know that your child has been dropped off. If they do come in unaccompanied after 8.50am this is also recorded as an unexplained partial attendance.

Mrs Jones

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*"Love one another as I have loved you." This was the special command of Jesus Christ .... which as a most valuable legacy, He bequeathed to all His followers...*

## **Catherine McAuley**



sub tuum  
praesidium

Our **VISION** is to be a child centred faith community within an innovative, interactive learning environment.

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 CATHEDRALPARRAMATTA**

### **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**

#### **Dean & Administrator:**

Very Rev Fr Peter Williams

#### **Assistant Priests:**

Rev Chris del Rosario, Rev Chadi Ibrahim SDB

#### **Parish Secretary:**

Pat Preca

#### **Sacramental Coordinator:**

Meg Gale

Office Hours: 9.00am to 4.00pm