

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Over the last few weeks the children from Kindergarten to Year 5 had the opportunity to vote for the Student Representative Council members (SRC) for their class, for Semester 2. This is an opportunity for children to nominate and then vote for children, from their class, they wish to represent their class this semester. On some occasions I am asked about the equity of children being selected a number of times or the selection of those that are new members to our community. Over the years we have refined the process to allow a greater number of students to attain the position, whilst still ensuring that we are respectful of student voice and choice.

The children decide as to whom they wish to represent their class and no adult makes any contribution to this process besides the organisation and counting of votes. (the only exception to this is Semester One Kindergarten) We trust them to choose children that they are confident in and those they believe will represent them proudly and respectfully. Of course we encourage children to look at others through the lense that everyone has the potential to lead and we do this in the spirit of encouraging and supporting the strengths of others. It is wonderful to see how keen children are in recognising the gifts of others and in encouraging leadership in their classmates.

Student Voice is very important at St Patrick's Parramatta and we are continuing to work towards more student involvement as the years progress. Some of the principles guiding our work in this area include:

- A belief that **All** children have a right to have a voice
- Children can learn to work together to improve school life and contribute student ideas
- All children can develop their individual capacity to lead and influence others in a responsible manner.
- Leadership is about service to the community
- Children can learn to make a positive difference in their community but there is a difference between popularity and effective leadership.
- A good student leadership program begins in Kindergarten

Children who have a desire for leadership and who have not yet had the opportunity must not lose heart. This desire will most likely be fulfilled some time in their lives. It just may not be their time yet. I encourage them to look to other children and to learn from them. I encourage them to continue to support them and to recognise that they too have a very important part to play by virtue of being part of our school community. I encourage them to know that they are valued and that their voice will be heard through the children they have chosen, especially through the use of the suggestion box made available in their classrooms. There are many of you - leaders in your workplaces and in your own communities - that did not take on leadership positions as young boys or girls. This did not mean that leadership skills were not fostered in other ways and that leadership was not to be part of your lives.

In saying this the school is committed to being fair and to demonstrate best practice and will continue to monitor and review our processes each semester.

The badges for Semester 1 Student Representatives will be presented tomorrow, commencing at 2.00pm, Unfortunately due to COVID restrictions still impacting schools we are unable to invite visitors. Photos and video will be taken and shared with the school community

As always I thank you for your continued interest and support  
God bless you and your family  
Bernadette Fabri

## **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL**

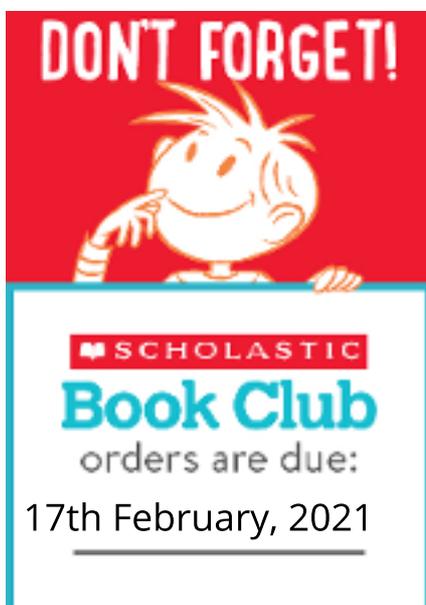
*Congratulations to all the boys and girls who were chosen by their peers as Student Representatives. Each semester the children in each class vote for a boy and girl whom they believe would make a worthy SRC member for their class. These children undertake particular jobs in the classroom, meet regularly as a team with Mrs Tuetue to discuss student suggestions from the suggestion box in each class and participate in morning prayer. We wish them well as they undertake their new roles.*

<b>Class</b>	<b>SRC Names</b>
KM	Boy: Marcus Wijesuriya Girl: Audrey Perram
KA	Boy: Danny Fayad Girl: Elena Sunwar
IC	Boy: Vittorio Lo Surdo Girl: Emily Salloum
1S	Boy: William Gebrael Girl: Jessica Izmestyeva
2Y	Boy: Tony Karam Girl: Isla-Rose Eid
2M	Boy: Sebastian Vella Girl: Leah Wahbe

3L	Boy: Patrick Saab Girl: Lourdes Saleh
3T	Boy: Elijah Vella Girl: Jacinta Malkoun
4B	Boy: Isaiah Abu-Ali Girl: Juliette Khoury
4G	Boy: Luke Wehbe Girl: Angelique Saliba
5C	Boy: Gabriel Kalouche Girl: Alicia Remaili
5T	Boy: Joshua Nasr Girl: Gabriella Volante



***“If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, YOU are a leader”- John Quincy Adams.***



### Notes sent home this week

- 2021 Year 6 Polo Shirt order
- 2021 Responsible Use of ICT Year 1 - 3
- 2021 Responsible Use of ICT Year 4 - 6

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

[School Notes](#)

## WELCOME

On behalf of the St Patrick's Parramatta community I would like to welcome the newly appointed principal of Our Lady Of Mercy College Parramatta, Ms Lucie Farrugia. Ms Farrugia came to visit St Patrick's Parramatta for morning tea today and will return to take a walk around the school and meet some of the children at a later date.

*Ms Farrugia has more than 35 years experience in Catholic education and was previously the Acting Principal of Christian Brothers' High School Lewisham. She has also held leadership positions in curriculum, pastoral care, communications and development, and identity and mission at St Patrick's College in Campbelltown and MLC Sydney.*

*She holds a Master of Educational Leadership, a Bachelor of Education, a Diploma of Teaching and Certificate of Religious Education from the Australian Catholic University. She also holds a Certificate in School Management and Leadership from the Harvard Business School.*

WELCOME!

Adapted from [OLMC Website](#)



Congratulations to the Grohs Family (Evie 1S, Ashton 3L, Bailey 4B) on the birth of their baby boy, Max.

Congratulations to the Youssef Family (Anthony KA) on the birth of their baby boy, Charbel.

Congratulations to the Nehme Family (Sandra 2M) on the birth of their baby girl, Mila.

## **ENROLMENTS FOR 2022 KINDERGARTEN ARE NOW OPEN**

Enrolment packs for Kindergarten 2022 are available from the school between the hours of 9am -3pm Monday to Friday or alternatively the enrolment forms can be downloaded from our website

<https://www.stpatsparra.catholic.edu.au>

As we are still working under COVID restrictions you are able to email the application through to us at [stpatriksparra@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stpatriksparra@parra.catholic.edu.au), along with any supporting documents. Please retain the original application form as you will be required to submit that at a later date.

**Enrolment forms are required to be returned by 31st March 2021.**





On Monday and Wednesday this week the students in Year 4-6 participated in a webinar focusing on 'Fake News'. If you are looking for information on how you can improve your understanding of how to make the internet safer follow the link to the ['Safer Internet Day'](#) website.

### **E-safety Webinar**

The e-safety webinar helped me to understand how to be safe online but it can also teach people different things. I think the webinar helped me understand that people can do things on the internet to trick people and they can use real scenarios to make fake news and try to persuade people to believe them. E-safety is a safe online way to teach you about dangerous things.

By Christian Jreij 5C

What I liked about the E-safety webinar was the fact that it showed you how to identify what's fake and what's real on the internet. When I watched the webinar, I clearly understood it and I learned from it. I would recommend it for children my age and I will use the webinar's facts to identify real and fake websites on the internet so I can keep myself safe. The webinar is made so kids and adults know how to stay safe on the internet and social media. For example if there is a website that ends in .gov.au, I know the website is safe.

By Maryam Thomas 5T

While using technology we need to make sure we are internet safe. Rumours and misinformation online can spread really quickly so we need to make sure we are being careful on devices. We can be safe on technology by reading trustworthy information and staying away from strangers online. When reading information it is not always the truth, it can be hard to decide which information to trust online. Fake news is often made up to try and change your opinion and click bait is when something encourages you to click on something else. This is why we need to stay safe while being on technology.

By Sophie Salloum 5C

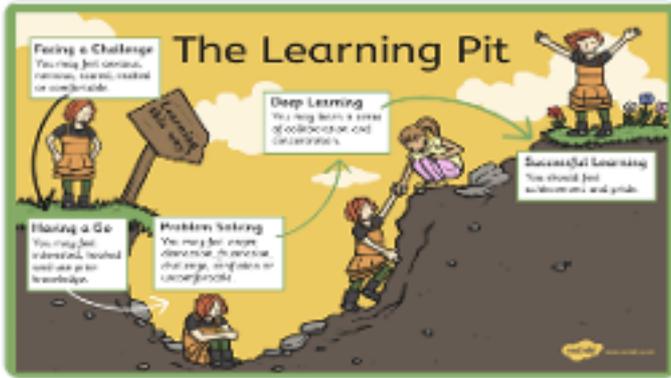
The webinar about: "Fake news, and real Harms" was about us identifying and spotting fake news and identifying things that are fake in general and this taught me how to spot the sites that are the odd one out. This was important because from personal experience I have been tricked into many scams before, and I now know how to not get tricked again. So stay safe, and watch out for scams!

By Elio Layoun 5T



**Happy Birthday to all the children who will celebrate their birthday over the next week:** Angelica Beame, Amelia Coles, Mika Liu, Paul Khouri, Jonah Shehadie, Adrian Sicurella, Anastasia Naudi, Jazmyne Drosos, Victoria Adaymy, Olivia Pijaca

## From 'The Learning Pit'



Recently I heard a discussion on the Today show around parents not commenting to their little girls about being 'pretty' or 'beautiful'. All the people involved in the discussion disagreed with the points presented and expressed how they regularly refer to their children as beautiful and do not see any harm in such comments. It caused me to pause and reflect on how as a parent and educator I have developed my own appreciation and understanding of the different types of compliments given to children as they grow.

The research and teachings from Carol Dweck regarding Growth Mindset has helped my understanding evolve and has highlighted the importance of guiding all children to focus on how they are improving. This also helps students build resilience which is vital for all people so they can cope with difficult times and see how they can learn and grow through these times.

Mary Kay Ricci author of *Mindsets in the Classroom: Building a Culture of Success and Student Achievement in Schools* suggests the following:

- **Use growth mindset praises.** Praise the willingness to try, effort, patience and practice. Do not attribute success to "being smart" or "being the best."
- **Model flexibility.** Children aren't born thinking flexibly. Try modelling how to handle challenging situations by keeping calm and not becoming frustrated.
- **Adopt a "glass half full" mentality at home.** Model a positive attitude when facing challenges as this shows your child that setbacks or mistakes help us grow.
- **Help children find topics or areas they enjoy.** Encourage your child to try new things as this will help them find areas they thrive in.

(Adapted from *A Parent Guide About Growth Mindset* p.5)

As Carol Dweck says, "If parents want to give their children a gift, the best thing they can do is to teach their children to love challenges, be intrigued by mistakes, enjoy effort, and keep on learning. That way, their children don't have to be slaves of praise. They will have a lifelong way to build and repair their own confidence".

At times I still say to my own children they are 'beautiful' but also balance it with compliments about their learning and how proud I am about the effort they put into different tasks.

Let's work together this year and help all the students at St Patrick's to become lifelong learners who see the importance of making mistakes and learning from them.

(Leanda Standing - Assistant Principal)

### **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 [stpatricksparra@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stpatricksparra@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>



# Honour Award

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

KA	Athena Valencia	William Bazouni	KM	Angelina Moujalli	William Elias
1C	Trey St John Tannous	Irene Tony	1S	Saria-Jo Eid	Noah Naudi
2M	Xavier Baysari	Sandra Nehme	2Y	Nadia Maroon	Elias Kazzaz



## ST PATRICK'S AWARD

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

KA	Antoun Abboud	Natalie Kahwaji	KM	Bianca Abdou	Mario Kancijanac
1C	Juana Boby	Christian Jaitani	1S	Juliana Angelo	Natanem Addisu
2M	Esperanza Thompson	Edward McCloskey	2Y	Michael Remaili	Alyssa Vella





# Honour Award

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

3L	Joshua Day	Kayla Amaral	3T	Elijah Vella	Johnnie Daher
4B	Olivia Moussa	Mateo Barroso	4G	Celine Joachim	Lawrence Wahbe
5C	Jazmyne Drosos	Sienna Khattar	5T	Anthony Sassen	Makayla Kalouch
6P	Samuel Navasardyan	Justin Mawad	6W	Magdalena Gilchrist	Jacob Semaan



## ST PATRICK'S AWARD

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

3L	Sara Jabbour	Ashton Grohs	3T	Araminta Jackson	Michael Sunwar
4B	Isaiah Abu-Ali	Angelina Bounassif	4G	Luke Wehbe	Victoria Nassif
5C	Christian Kalouche	Sophie Salloum	5T	Zavier Moujalli	Jacinta Azizi
6P	Rafaella Bautista	Matthew Draybi	6W	Amelia Coles	Alex El Khoury



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.

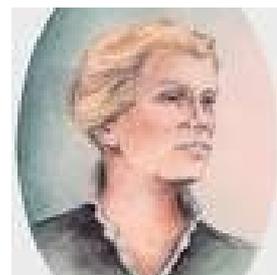
Should you wish to purchase a sibling photograph online, the order must be placed no later than the day before photography day. Sibling photographs will only be taken if an order has been placed.

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)

**Sibling order envelopes can be collected from the school office**

*Mercy not only bestows benefits, but receives us anew and  
pardons again and again.*

**Catherine McAuley**



sub tunc  
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