

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Yesterday (17th March) we recalled the life of St Patrick, on the anniversary of his death in the year 387.

The life of the school's patron saint, St Patrick is such an interesting one and his association with the people of Ireland, combined with the enormous contribution the Irish convicts and settlers had on the establishment of the first colony, particularly Parramatta, makes him very significant to Catholics in Australia. Just like St Patrick, the early convicts and free men and women brought the Word of God to these early settlers. It is through these early Irish Catholics that the first Australian Church was established and from there the first Catholic Schools. St Patrick's School Parramatta is known to originate from the oldest Catholic School in Australia. What an honour to have such an illustrious history.

Did you know that the first Catholic school in Parramatta was on land owned by J.T. Campbell and was 25 Poles in size. The exact address is still unknown but we do know it existed in Parramatta. This is the location from which Catholic Education grew. (FYI: When used to measure area, a pole equals a square area 1 pole by 1 pole. When used to measure length, a pole equals 5.03 metres.

There are many St Patrick's Schools in Australia; in fact there are 28 St Patrick's Schools in New South Wales. Some of the suburbs which are served by a St Patrick's Schools include: Asquith, East Gosford, Port Kembla, Campbelltown, Strathfield, 2 in Sutherland, **Dundas**, Albury, Cooma, Bega, **Blacktown**, Brewarina, Cessnock, Griffith, **Guidford**, Gundagai, Holbrook, Lithgow, Lochinvar, Macksville, Swansea, Trundle, Walcha, Wallsend, Kogarah, Summer Hill, and **Parramatta**. The highlighted schools are in the Parramatta Diocese. Our school is part of the St Patrick's Cathedral Parish Community.

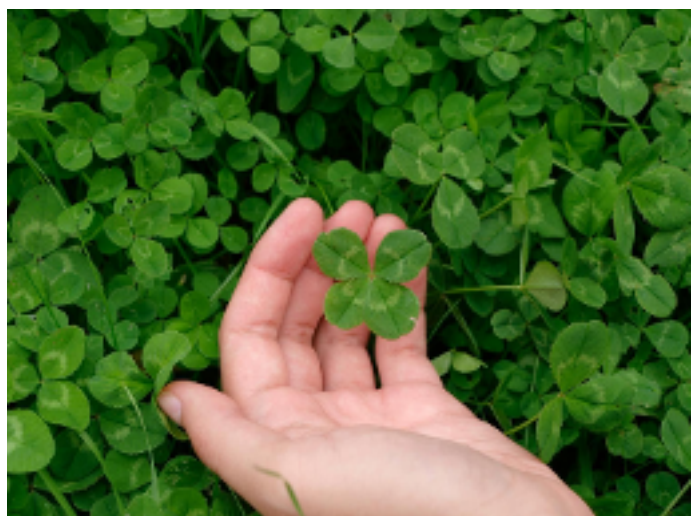
One of the most beautiful prayers known is called the St Patrick's Breastplate. It is also the inspiration for the Hymn - [A Deer's Cry](#)

The lyrics are on the next page.
Happy St Patrick's Day!

God Bless you and your family

Bernadette Fabri

Principal



A Prayer of St. Patrick

"As I arise today,
may the strength of God pilot me,
the power of God uphold me,
the wisdom of God guide me.
May the eye of God look before me,
the ear of God hear me,
the word of God speak for me.
May the hand of God protect me,
the way of God lie before me,
the shield of God defend me,
the host of God save me.
May Christ shield me today.
Christ with me, Christ before me,
Christ behind me,
Christ in me, Christ beneath me,
Christ above me,
Christ on my right, Christ on my left,
Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit,
Christ when I stand,
Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me,
Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me,
Christ in every eye that sees me,
Christ in every ear that hears me.

Amen.







St Patrick's Day Mass



ST PATRICK'S DAY EVENTS

Friday 19th March: Primary students will be taking part in Kicks Tenpin Bowling (Parramatta Leagues Club)

- Students wear sports uniform.
- **Bring a Rain coat or Umbrella**
- Normal School bag and lunch
- Children to take drink bottle only
- School lessons will still be taking place



TRAFFIC SURVEY

Thank you to all the parents and caregivers who completed the CEDP organised Traffic Survey. The survey is now closed but if you did not get a chance to complete it and would like to give some feedback you can still do so using the email below.

Thank you again!

*If you have transport feedback for our team, please contact
rebecca@frankturquoise.com.au*

St Patrick's Day & Welcome to Fr Robert - 21 March

DUST OFF YOUR COVID COATS - WE ARE HAVING A PARTY.

This year, St Patrick's Day celebrations will be held on Sunday 21 March after the 11:00am Mass.

We will also incorporate a special welcome to Fr Robert Riedling, our new Dean and Administrator. Entertainment will include water slide, rides (cup & saucer) obstacle course, jumping castle and lots of games. A barbecue will also be on the boil.

MARK THE CALENDAR. Please come prepared to join in this LONG, OVERDUE wonderful celebration.

Free of charge but donation points will be around if you care to subsidise the parish.



Thank you.

Pat Preca

Secretary

St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta



Congratulations to the Kishmore Family (Milan KM) on the birth of their baby boy called Chris.

Happy Birthday to all the children who will celebrate their birthday over the next week: Olivia Fayad, Lara Alphonse, Gabriel Saba, Jacob Semaan, Audrey Perram, Angela Bracks, Sebastian Vella, Noah Reyes-Mangabat, Anthony Bracks.



NOTES FROM THE E-SAFETY COMMISSIONER.

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents>

How to help your child manage their online time**Reducing your own screen time also sets a positive example.**

- You could also consider formalising your plan into a signed written agreement — a family online safety contract. Our advice in online safety basics has some tips on this.
- There should be clear consequences for not sticking to the agreement and it is important to follow through with these.



City of Parramatta has installed 5 minute parking (8am-9:30am & 2:30pm-4pm School Days) these restriction are on the west side of Villiers Street between Victoria Road and Ross Street, Parramatta. The purpose of the proposal is to provide additional set-down and pick-up area for the nearby schools and thereby to reduce traffic congestion in the area during school peak hours.

'No Parking' (2:30pm-4pm School Days) restriction have also been applied on the south side of Grose Street between Villiers Street and Trott Street, Parramatta



Understanding School Talk

Excursions

Opportunities for learning outside the school site Eg: zoo



Cross Country Reminder

There will be No Cross Country training this afternoon for students.

Event Date for Cross Country has changed.

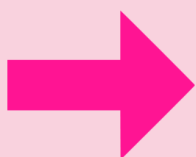
Date Friday 26th of March, 2021

Time: 9.30am – 11.00am Cross Country for RUNNERS ONLY

Venue: Cattle Paddock, Parramatta Park

Wear: School sports uniform, running shoes, water bottle and hat

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 , 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.

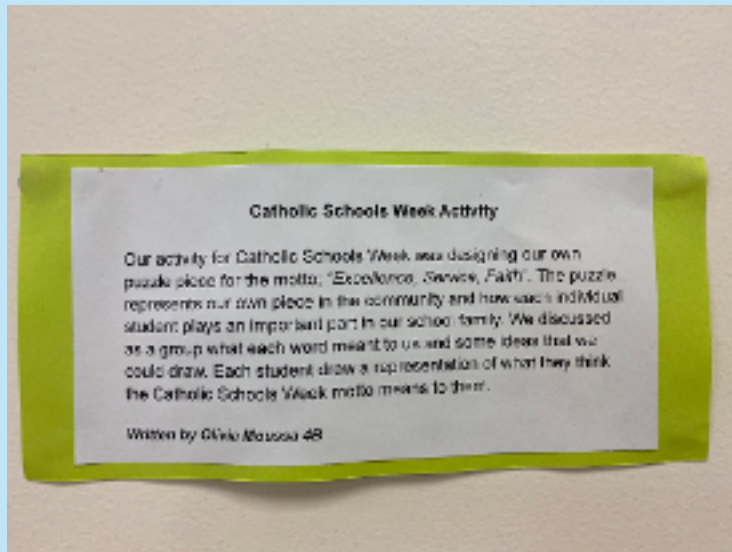
NAPLAN

This year students in Year 3, 5 7 and 9 will participate in NAPLAN online. The following pdf outlines important information regarding NAPLAN. More information can be found at the NAPLAN Parent support page - <https://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support>

TERM 1 2021 SCHOOL INVOICES

Term 1 2021 Statements have now been mailed to all families. Due date for payment of Term 1 fees is on or before **Wednesday 17th March 2021.**

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



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Following up from our Catholic Schools Week celebrations in week 7, classes were asked to buddy up with a grade to create a visual representation on the theme 'Faith, Excellence and Service'. These are displayed in the hall and classes have been participating in a gallery walk throughout the week to celebrate their great creativity.





Honour Award

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

KA	Jeremiah Khoudeir	Bella Younis	KM	Natasha Khoury	Milan Kishore
1C	George Dardas	Luke Lahoud	1S	Makayla Abdou	Abel Moses
2M	Espi Thompson	Daniella Fayad	2Y	Isaiah Zaiter	Gabriella Norman



ST PATRICK'S AWARD

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

KA	Doris Hanna	Flynn Davis	KM	Natasha Khoury	Milan Kishore
1C	Emily Salloum	Jacob Assaf	1S	Jared Cauan	Genevieve Tannous
2M	Jessica Lim	Sophia Khoury	2Y	Erika Talbot	Michael Agostino





Honour Award

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

3L	Olivia Zhang	Elaine Xue	3T	Frances Thomas	Benjamin Kalouche
4B	Angelina Bounassif	Kenzie Murphy	4G	Madeleine Talbot	Daniel Semaan
5C	Sophie Salloum	Gabriel Kalouche	5T	Troy Daniel	Lachlan Moore
6P	Weyata Lamin	Takeshi Liu	6W	Maria Khoury	Max Barakat



ST PATRICK'S AWARD

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

3L	Olivier Touche	Charlene Wambeck	3T	Mia Daher	Andrew Khalil
4B	Joshua Jaitani	Gabriella Sta Rosa	4G	Ben Aitkins	Levi Jaitani
5C	Phillip Boutros	Isaiah Johnsto	5T	Paul Khouri	Joshua Nasr
6P	Jacob Wehbe	Ellen Nikolakopoulos	6W	Aireen Kwa	Christopher Mekdessi





Free webinars to help you protect children online

In partnership with the [eSafety Commissioner](#), the Council of Catholic School Parents will be holding two free webinars to provide parents and carers with strategies to establish a safe online environment for their children.

The sessions will be presented by Greg Gebhart, one of Australia's leading online safety presenters. Greg has provided presentations to more than 800,000 participants at state, national and international events.

Tech, teens and time online

One hour webinar suitable for parents and carers of young people aged 12-18 years old.

The session will cover:

- ideas to start the chat about harmful content, relationships and online harassment
- strategies for addressing common digital parenting challenges
- online wellbeing strategies for teens
- how to get help if things go wrong.

7.30 – 8.30 pm Tuesday 23 March 2021

Register at ccsp.catholic.edu.au/webinar

Helping kids thrive online

One hour webinar suitable for parents and carers of children aged 5-12 years old.

This session will cover:

- ideas to start the chat about harmful content, contact with strangers and online bullying
- strategies for addressing common digital parenting challenges
- skills that young people need to protect themselves online
- how to get help if things go wrong.

12.30 – 1.30 pm Thursday 25 March 2021

Register at ccsp.catholic.edu.au/webinar

For more information contact Clare Dunstan clare.dunstan@ccsp.catholic.edu.au

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The Council of Catholic School Parents (CCSP) is the peak representative body for parents with children in Catholic schools in NSW and ACT.
Level 12, 133 Liverpool Street, Sydney NSW 2000 • T: (02) 9267 1514 • E: office@ccsp.catholic.edu.au • W: www.ccsp.catholic.edu.au

Supporting Diverse Learning in Catholic Schools – NSW/ACT

Please click on link below.

https://ccsp.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/636/a6_access_flyer.pdf

When we give ourselves entirely into the hands of God He will so sweetly ordain all things for our greater comfort, even in this life.



Catherine McAuley



We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to the Mitchell Family (Eimear 4G) on the passing of their grandfather.

Please keep the family in your prayers.

FEEDBACK and COMPLAINTS

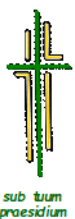
St Patrick's Parramatta staff always welcome feedback and ideas from the parent community. If you have any feedback, concerns or complaints please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher, Mrs Standing (behaviour) or Miss Fabri through the school office (8832 4600), school email address 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>

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.



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 CATHEDRAL PARRAMATTA

Weekend Masses

Saturday 8.00am, 6.00pm (Vigil)

Sunday 8.00am, 9.30am (Family), 11.00am (Solemn), 6.00pm, 7.15pm (Arabic)

Weekday Masses

Mon to Fri 6.30am, 12.30pm Public Hol 8.00am

Pastoral Team

Dean & Administrator:

Very Rev Fr Robert Riedling

Assistant Priests:

Rev Chris del Rosario, Rev Chadi Ibrahim SDB

Parish Secretary:

Pat Preca

Sacramental Coordinator:

Meg Gale