



Newsletter

6th May, 2021 Term 2 Week 3

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

This week the school has been preparing for the celebration of Mother's Day this Sunday. Luckily this year we have been able to run the Mother's Day stall and as usual we could not have done this without the generous support of some mothers who were able to sort, count, pack and organise the gifts. I am always in awe of the love and generosity of mothers.

I have often said that it seems that to be a mother equates to learning all about sacrifice and often putting oneself last. Not only do mums 'suffer' the joys and tribulations of giving birth, but they seem to spend most of their lives caring for other human beings, day in day out - a true lesson in resilience. Even mothers of adult children with their own families seem to always wear the hat of 'mother'.

I think for many mothers, especially mothers of young children, the state of 'tiredness' is part of the job description. If they are not thinking of the evening meal they are working through lunch to make it to the school's parent teacher interviews or looking after sick members of the family. Seeing them putting on a brave face when their children hurt themselves or when their teens face challenges is a regular occurrence and I have heard many mothers say, "I would rather face the pain myself than watch my child go through it - but I know they must learn to manage."

I often think how hard it was for Mary the mother of Jesus to cope with what Christ had to face in his life. Mary is the greatest of all mothers and she shows us, through her life that motherhood is a sacred and noble vocation. Just like in the prayer, the Hail Mary, Our Lady is full of Grace which means that God lived within her. We can witness this grace in many mothers when they demonstrate to their children the qualities of compassion, courage, humility, kindness, forgiveness and mercy, wisdom and unconditional love. And these qualities are not demonstrated to their children only, but just like Mary, who supported her cousin Elizabeth, mothers have the ability to see the needs of other mothers, with extraordinary clarity and generosity.

In 2019, in one of his homilies, Pope Francis reminded us that,

'When [Our Lady] gazes upon us, she does not see sinners but children. It is said that the eyes are the mirror of the soul; the eyes of Mary, *full of grace*, reflect the beauty of God, they show us a reflection of heaven. Jesus himself said that the eye is "the lamp of the body" (Mt 6:22): the eyes of Our Lady are able to bring light to every dark corner; everywhere they rekindle hope. As she gazes upon us, she says: "Take heart, dear children; here I am, your Mother!"

Another aspect I have often noticed is that mothers are often the torch bearers of the faith. I know from my own experience, that although my father was an extremely kind and faith filled man, it was our mother that would gather us in the evening to say the rosary, help us say our evening prayers, teach us about Jesus through her ability to draw and take us to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturday afternoons. Perhaps this is your experience also.

This Sunday let us take some time to think and pray for our mothers and mothers all around the world. We especially remember mothers who are no longer with us. **God Bless them!** I would also like us to remember all the men in families who find themselves being mother and father to their children. May God Bless them for the nurturing they are providing their families.

God Bless you and your family
Bernadette Fabri

Prayer for the People of India and Sri Lanka

Dear Loving Father,

You are the loving God of all the nations and peoples on this earth. Please look with mercy and compassion on all you have created.

This day we ask for your help. Please deliver us from the coronavirus and limit its impact on India, Australia and the world.

In your mercy bring a swift end to this crisis. Please protect with your loving care those we love – our families, friends and neighbours; those who are near and those who are far away. Let your fatherly hand guide, shelter and strengthen them. Cast out all anxious fears and doubts.

Give us an increasing trust in you and fill our hearts and minds with your peace.

We pray for those around the world now struggling with COVID-19 and especially at this time for the nation of India. Heal and comfort those who are sick and suffering.

Protect and guide the health professionals who are at the front line.

Please give wisdom and courage to those who bear responsibility for confronting this challenge.

We ask these things through the powerful name of Jesus. Amen.

[Source](#)

Please see below our **Grade Mass** timetable for the term. Parents and visitors are welcome to join the students in mass at **12:30** at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta total numbers permitting. This is set by the Cathedral.



Grade	Day/Date		Grade	Day/Date
Year 6	Friday 30.4.21		Year 2	Tuesday 1.6.21
Year 5	Friday 14.5.21		Year 6 and Kindy	Thursday 10.6.21
Year 4	Friday 21.5.21		Year 5 and Year 1	Thursday 17.6.21
Year 3	Monday 24.5.21		Year 4	Thursday 24.6.21

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 - [Parent Support Page](#)

During Week 4 & 5 (11-21 May), Year 3 and 5 will participate in NAPLAN online. Below is the scheduled timetable for the students.

	Week 1				
		Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	10/5	11/5	12/5	13/5	14/5
Morning Block 9:15am Year 5	No Testing Scheduled today	Writing (online - 42 mins)	Reading (online - 50 mins)	Language Conventions (online - 45 mins)	Numeracy (online - 50 mins)
Morning Block 10:00am Year 3	No Testing Scheduled today	Writing (paper - 40 mins)	Reading (online - 45 mins)	Language Conventions (online - 45 mins)	Numeracy (online - 45 mins)
	Week 2				
	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	17/5	18/5	19/5	20/5	21/5
	Catch up Sessions as needed				
	Catch up Sessions as needed				

Understanding School Talk ???

NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)



DIOCESAN CROSS COUNTRY

On Tuesday, 4th May, a group of students from St Patrick's competed in the Diocesan Cross Country at Eastern Creek. Although the day was rather miserable with all the rain, each of our competitors had a positive attitude and approached their event with enthusiasm, representing our school to the best of their ability in their individual runs.

Three students achieved outstanding results:

Jacob Semaan	7 of 127	14:17	11 yrs	3km
Rhys Bautista	9 of 140	08:53	10 yrs	2km
Alexander Markovic	10 of 73	14:32	12/13 yrs	3km

Jacob will go on to compete in the NSWCPSCCC round, and Rhys and Alexander are reserves for their age group events.

Congratulations to all our runners.

If you would like to check out the event results for the school, go to multisportaustralia.com.au.

Term Dates

Term 2 - Monday 19th April - Friday 25th June Term 3 - Monday 12th July - 17th September

Term 4 - Tuesday 5th Oct - Friday 17th Dec

** 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 - Children do not attend school on these days.

Term 2 - 11th June, 2021

Term 3 - 17th September, 2021

Term 4 - 16th & 17th December, 2021

TERM 2 2021 SCHOOL INVOICES

Term 2 2021 Statements have now been mailed to all families. Due date for payment of Term 2 fees is on or before **Wednesday 26th May 2021**.

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 next week:

Panayioti Yannakis, Marylyn Lahoud, Nadia Maroon

DONT FORGET!

SCHOLASTIC
Book Club
orders are due:
6th May

Mother's Day Mass

Our Mother's Day Mass will be held tomorrow 7th May, at 9:15am. We are still currently operating under COVID safe restrictions and as a consequence there are limited places for visitors.

Recent Restrictions for all attending

- No singing
- No choir
- All adults to wear masks

N.B Please do not attend if you have not sent an Expression of Interest due last Monday as we will breach number restrictions.

Thank you for your understanding.

eSafetyparents



 eSafety Commissioner

NOTES FROM THE E-SAFETY COMMISSIONER.

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

Teach your child about personal information

Make sure your child knows what their 'personal information' is. This includes their full name, date of birth, address, contact information and photos that identify them. Explain that personal information should not be shared with anyone they don't know. Talk with toddlers and preschoolers about what information and images are OK to share and what needs to be kept private.

Sports Days for Term 2

Children will be required to wear their sports on the following days for Term 2:-

Wednesday - KM, 1C, 2M & Year 5

Thursday - 1S, Year 3 & Year 4

Friday - KA, 2Y & Year 6



In the Spotlight

Leah Wahbe 2M

What do you want to be when you grow up?

I want to be an architect because my dad is a builder and I want to draw my house so my dad can build it.

What is your favourite book?

Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus Because it entertains me and makes you laugh

What would you do with \$1000000?

I would get a house with the pool and including a balcony as well

What is your favourite movie?

My favourite movies Finding Nemo because I like the movie

What is your favourite subject?

My favourite subject is religion because I like learning about Jesus and God

Sebastian Vella 2M

What do you want to be when you grow up?

I want to be a fisherman because i can catch sharks.

What is your favourite book ?

I like Harry Potter because it is interesting and I've read the whole book

What is your favourite subject ?

My favourite subject is science because I can experiment with things and it is very fun.

What would you do with \$1000000

I would buy a Toyota and a tall house

What is your favourite movie

It Is Harry Potter because I like it and I love magic.

Tony Karam 2Y

Who is your biggest inspiration in life?

My biggest inspiration is my dad because he is a hard worker and he helps me when i can't do something. I love him so much

What is your ideal job?

My ideal job is to be a car salesman because i would get paid a lot and i get to see all the new cars and test them out.

What hobbies do you have?

My hobbies include painting and coloring because you can express yourself in different ways and you can paint anything you want.

What sport (s) or music do you play?

I play soccer in my free time because it is my favourite sport and i really enjoy it.

Favourite celebrity/ sport icon?

My favourite celebrity is Justin Beiber because he is a good singer and I like his Music.

Isla-Rose Eid 2Y

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

I would support all of those who are homeless and help others to make a difference too.

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

My best friend and my two sisters.

If there was an emergency, what would be the thing you grab first?

I would take my iPad, because it contains my parent's details. This means that with my trusty iPad, I will never lose my parents.

Name five words describing you.

I would describe myself as being kind, loving, caring, funny and flexible.

What do you do in your spare time?

In my free time, I love to watch Youtube, drawing and playing with slime.



Honour Award

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

KA	William Bazouni	Aidan Murphy	KM	Riley Ramon	John-Paul Wahbe
1C	Charlie Chu	Vittorio Lo Surdo	1S	John-Luke Rahme	George Kazzaz
2M	Aaliya Ebrahim	Sebastian Vella	2Y	Alyssa Vella	Nina Kancijanac



ST PATRICK'S AWARD

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

KA	Joseph Kalouch	Ariana Bousimon	KM	Maddy Cruz	Oscar Do
1C	Irene Tony	Jude Rahme	1S	George Bazouni	Fareeda Daher
2M	Samson Sayegh	Xavier Baysari	2Y	Jaidyn Shehadie	Tony Karam





Honour Award

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

3L	Logan Munro	Dominic Rahme	3T	Sofia Bousimon	Jasmine Rizk
4B	Isaiah Abu-Ali	Josephine Behan	4G	Luke Wehbe	Kaylani Elphinstone
5C	Donnacha Ryan	Isaac Loulach	5T	Barbie Koima	James Morson
6P	Meagan Erive	Rafaella Bautista	6W	Emmanuel Missak	Clio Encarnacao



ST PATRICK'S AWARD

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

3L	Catherine Kwa	Olivier Touche	3T	Isaiah Maroon	Benjamin Kalouche
4B	Sara Lorenzo	Elijah Skaf	4G	Beth Roumanos	Dominic Coles
5C	Jazmyne Drosos	Christian Donaldson	5T	Sophia Semaan	Leon Sampaio
6P	Raymond Joe Khoury	Ysabel Daelo	6W	Jo Harb	Noah Reyes Mangabat



Building Child Safe Communities - Volunteer Undertaking

Dear Parents/Carers ,

As we start to allow more parental involvement within our school community it is a timely reminder that all parents need to complete the *Building Child Safe Communities* form and online training module.

In Catholic Education Diocese Parramatta (CEDP), we see parents and carers as partners in your child's learning journey. Parents and carers are encouraged to become involved in our schools in many important ways such as supporting classroom learning, being part of advisory groups, mentoring programs, coaching sporting teams and supporting other extra-curricular activities, canteen support and other kinds of help.

A range of checks and undertakings are required for people who work for or provide services to CEDP. These checks reduce potential risk and form part of our strategy to build child safe communities.

The purpose of this training is to inform you of the standards of behaviour and other requirements that must be adhered to when volunteering for CEDP.

The undertaking should take no more than 5 minutes to complete and the training module approximately 10 minutes. Once the form and training modules are submitted, an automated email will be sent to you within two business days to confirm the status of your submission.

The undertaking form will expire within two years or when your Working With Children Check expires (if applicable), whichever is sooner. At that time you will need to complete the undertaking form and training module again. You will receive an automatic reminder email when this occurs.

Further information on the new online form and training module can be found at www.parra.catholic.edu.au and clicking on *about us/building child safe communities*. Within the form you will also find help sheets and a video tutorial to assist you.

Thank you in advance for your support.

INFORMATION FROM TRAFFIC SURVEY From TERM 1 2021

How we Travel to School survey – your feedback

Walking and cycling are potential options for students who live closer to school. We heard that these items are key for helping students be able to walk and cycle more:

- Back up options in case of inclement weather (152, 25%)
- More weather protection (e.g. covered walkways) (128, 21%)
- Information on safe routes (119, 19%)

We are working with Parramatta council, the light rail project and TfNSW to make it easier to walk and cycle to school. We are currently working on putting together a Travel Access Guide for the school which will provide parents and students with better information on their transport options for getting to school.

If you have transport concerns but don't know where to report these, please use the Send Snap Solve website or app for a quick response.





"Too often we participate in the globalization of indifference. May we strive instead to live global solidarity."

Pope Francis

FEEDBACK and COMPLAINTS

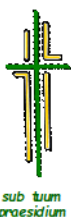
St Patrick's Parramatta staff always welcome feedback and ideas from the parent community. If you have any feedback, concerns or complaints please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher, Mrs Standing (behaviour) or Miss Fabri through the school office (8832 4600), school email address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

YOUR CHILD'S NDIS PLAN



You are invited to a free info session on how to implement your child's NDIS Plan

Designed for parents and guardians of children 0-12 with disability or developmental delay who are looking for support with starting or using their child's existing NDIS plan more effectively.

Session topics include:

- Understanding your child's NDIS plan
- How to make changes to the plan
- Plan management
- Self-management tips
- NDIS plan reviews
- Early childhood Intervention best practice
- Finding and choosing service providers

If you would like to attend but cannot, please let us know. This will help us to plan future sessions.

2021 EVENTS INFORMATION :

WHEN :

- 17th February: 10.30am -12pm
- 23rd February: 12pm-1.30pm
- 10th March: 10.30am - 12pm
- 25th March: 12pm - 1.30pm
- 9th April: 10.30am - 12pm
- 20th April: 12pm - 1.30pm
- 5th May: 10.30am - 12pm
- 20th May: 12pm - 1.30pm
- 4th June: 10.30am - 12pm
- 15th June: 12pm - 1.30pm

WHERE: Online via Zoom

REGISTER:

<https://analytics-au.clickdimensions.com/cn/aosfc/ndisinfo>

CONTACT US: 02 9280 4744
betterstart@carersnsw.org.au

CARING FOR A CHILD WITH DISABILITY?



Would you like information about the supports available to your child?

Carers NSW is inviting you to a free 'Meet and Greet' workshop for parents and guardians of children with disability or developmental delay aged up to 12 years old.

These workshops provide the opportunity for you to access information about supports for you and your child from a range of local speakers, including:

- ECEI partners (0-6 age group NDIS)
- Local Area Coordinators (7+ age group NDIS)
- Disability Advocacy agency
- NSW Department of Education

You will also have the opportunity to have any NDIS questions answered and to meet other families and share experiences.

EVENT INFORMATION (2021):

WHERE:

Gymea - 15 April
Liverpool - 27 April
Ryde - 6 May
South Coast - 11 May (Online)
Campbelltown - 25 May
Grafton - 8 June

RSVP:

Registration is essential.
To register [click here](#).
Venue details will be provided on confirmation of registration.

A light lunch will be provided.

ENQUIRIES:

P: 02 9280 4744
E: education@carersnsw.org.au