

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Since the beginning of the term the teachers and I have been watching our youngest students develop their independence and problem solving abilities. Children showing an aptitude in this area appear to display a confidence and strength in managing a variety of different situations. Not only is this wonderful to see in their daily interaction with their peers but it also seems to have a positive impact on their learning progress.

Alternatively the staff also see the impact of what can happen when children lack confidence in giving things a go or who have become overly dependent on the adults around them. Teachers are well adept at encouraging and monitoring student independence and have the skills to know when to step back or intervene.

Many parents often make mention that their second eldest shows a greater propensity towards independence than their eldest because they are encouraged by the modelling of their bigger brothers and sisters. These children often demand that they be allowed to do things by themselves even when the adults feel they are too young to do so. They do not perceive it this way.

I can only imagine how difficult it must be for parents to watch their once 'little ones' grow up, knowing that high school feels just around the corner. In many respects they will need to trust their children to make some decisions without them and this can be a cause of anxiety. I think as adults, where we sometimes go wrong, is to wait too long to teach them to handle things without us. The reality is that many children can learn to solve problems at a very young age. The insight is to recognize which problems are for children to solve and which ones need to be solved by adults.

In answering the question, "How do I know when to let them ...?" I often recommend to parents that when you feel that the children have the necessary experience, knowledge and skills to solve the problem, then they are ready to give it a go. Part of the experience is also knowing that children will often make mistakes when trying to solve problems for the first time. This is not only reasonable but to be expected and that is why letting them manage safe 'stretch' situations is the best way to start.

Nobody wants to experience their earliest learning through high stakes problem solving when there is a lot to lose, and these usually happen later in life. Lots of practice with less problems which have high impact, would be the best idea.

In his article "How to encourage kids to be problem solvers" one of Australia's leading parenting educators Michael Grose identifies 6 key elements" please see segment on next page.

Adults that show confidence that their children can solve problems usually bring up confident children.

God Bless you and your families

Bernadette Fabri

Principal

Michael Grose identifies 6 key elements

- **Turn requests into problems the children can solve.** Don't rush in too quickly to give the solution. Let them know you trust them to be able to come up with a possible answer.
- **Ask good questions to prompt them into problem solving.** Children who learn to ask good questions will always find a way forward.
- **Coach them to work through problems and concerns.** By doing this you are respectfully recognizing that the problem belongs to the child and thus needs to be solved by them.
- **Prepare children for problems and contingencies.** Again the reality is that children will have to face many problems in their lives and the best thing we can do for them to develop a solution based mentality and not one of blame or failure.
- **Show a little faith.** Setting them up for success in the problem solving area is to determine when the problem is one that can be solved by a child and which one needs to be taken over by an adult
- The last one is probably the hardest of them all and that is to **celebrate the mistakes.** The dilemma here is to ensure that this is not just rhetoric. If we say to them it is ok to make a mistake then we overreact when they make one the child is going to get mixed messages. As we grow up we soon learn that some mistakes provide us with better learning opportunities than others, but that is fodder for another newsletter.



May- Month of Mary

To celebrate May being the **Month of Mary**, we are asking all students to bring in their Rosary Beads to school and place them on their classroom prayer space over the next coming week. Our Year 6 leaders will be leading children in prayer throughout this month.

Please note: If your child does not have Rosary Beads at home, we will have some for them at school.

Thank you for your encouragement and support.

Religious Education Committee.



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 ???**

ICT

Information and
Communication
Technology

St Patrick's Primary Athletics Carnival

Our Primary Athletics Carnival will be held on Wednesday 2nd June, 2021 at Barton Park, Parramatta. It is an enjoyable day for the children where they have the opportunity to experience teamwork, good sportsmanship and physical activities. All of the students from Years 3 to 6, and students in Year 2 who are already 8 years old or turning 8 years old **this year**, will be participating in the athletics carnival. The Carnival will commence at 9:30am and conclude at approximately 2:15pm. The children will be catching a bus to and from the carnival unless parents are taking them home from Barton Park **at the conclusion of the carnival**.

Field Events: There will be no official field events run at our School Athletics Carnival. Students must 'qualify' for selection in field events for Zone/Diocesan levels by providing evidence of their experience from their '**Little Athletics Record Book**' indicating their 'personal best' distances/records. If your child wishes to be considered for our Zone team in field events (long jump, high jump, shot put, discus) they will need to collect a form from the office. The entries will be evaluated and compared and children informed if they have made the School Zone team

Please return the Field Event records by Friday 21st May, 2021.

Thank you to all the parents who have already completed the online permission eform. As you can understand a lot of planning goes into running an event offsite and we would really appreciate if everyone could go onto the skoolbag app and complete the eform asap. Please refer to the Skoolbag app that was sent out on Monday 10th May, 2021.

Permission for the Primary Athletics Carnival is to be received NO later than Friday 21st May. Should you like a hard copy of the note to complete ask your child to collect the note from the office.

Primary Athletics Carnival Food Order Form

As a special treat, the children will be able to **pre-order their lunch**. The students will be able to select from the following two options.

Meal Deal: \$10

BBQ sausage in a roll (onion and sauce optional), bottle of water, packet of plain chips, small muffin and a fun-sized chocolate.



Sausage Sizzle Only: \$4

BBQ sausage in a roll (onion and sauce optional)

Additional bottles of water will be available for sale on the day for **\$2**.

An order form was sent home with the children on Tuesday, please complete order form and send in with payment no later than Friday 21st May 2021. As you can appreciate pre-ordering is essential as we need to know how many students to cater for when ordering food.

Yours Thankfully

Mrs Pope and Mrs Fardell

Primary Athletics Carnival Committee

St Patrick's Infants Carnival 2021

Our Infants Athletics Carnival will be held on Wednesday 23rd June, 2021 at Barton Park, Parramatta. It is an enjoyable day for the children where they have the opportunity to experience teamwork, good sportsmanship and physical activities. All of the students from Years K-2 will be participating in carnival activities. The Carnival will commence at 10:00am and conclude at approximately 2:15pm. The children will be catching a bus to and from the carnival unless parents are taking them home from Barton Park **at the conclusion of the carnival.**

Students in Yr 2 who will be turning 8 this year are invited to participate in the Primary Carnival, however it is **not compulsory** as Infants will be holding their own event. If you feel that your child is a competitive runner and would like to try out for the Zone Carnival they can be included as part of the Primary Athletics Carnival as well.

Thank you to all the parents who have already completed the online permission eform. As you can understand a lot of planning goes into running an event offsite and we would really appreciate if everyone could go onto the skoolbag app and complete the eform asap. Please refer to the Skoolbag app that was sent out on Monday 10th May, 2021.

Permission for the Infants Athletics Carnival is to be received NO later than Friday 28th May. Should you like a hard copy of the note to complete ask your child to collect the note from the office.

Please complete both skoolbag eforms to attend both carnivals.

Further Information will be shared shortly on food availability at the Infants Athletics Carnival.

Fact Sheet for Parents and Caregivers - Explanation of Absences

CEDP promotes daily school attendance. Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education.

If your child is sick or absent you are required to notify their school on the first day of absence if at all possible. All explanations to the school must be provided within **7 days** from the first day of any period of absence.

Absences can be explained using one of the following methods:

1. Online: log the absence directly using *Skool Bag App*
2. Email: the school at stpatricksparra@parra.catholic.edu.au
3. Telephone: the school office 8832 4600
4. Note sent with your child

Where an explanation has not been received within the 7 day timeframe or the explanation has not been accepted, the school will record the absence as unexplained or unjustified on the student's record. The school will not be able to accept explanations which are not received within the 7 day timeframe.

Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstances e.g. attending a funeral

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



Happy Birthday to all the children who will celebrate their birthday next week:

Louis Wehbe, John-Paul Wahbe, William Gebrael, Owen Abraham, Anyce Ibrahim, Olivier Touche, Chloe Vella

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.

eSafetyparents



 eSafety Commissioner

NOTES FROM THE E-SAFETY COMMISSIONER.

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

Encourage positive online behaviour

Encourage children to be kind and respectful online. With babies you can model basic online and offline social interactions, like saying please, thank you, hello and goodbye. With toddlers and preschoolers, you can model and praise good online social interactions. You can also explain that being kind online helps to ensure that everyone has a good time. Talk to preschoolers about the risks of cyberbullying as they get older and let them know you are there if someone is ever mean to them online.



In the Spotlight

Jacinta Malkoun 3T

If you were to change your name, what would you change your name to?

Lucy because it is a really pretty name.

What is your favourite outfit?

Denim pants and leggings and a t-shirt because it is casual, comfy but also stylish.

What is your favourite book?

Alice Miranda because it is a very engaging and cliffhanging book with lots of different books in the series.

What is your favourite flower?

Lavender because they are purple which is my favourite colour and really pretty.

What is your favourite thing to do in your free time?

I love doing art and craft and colouring because you can do anything you want and there are no such things as mistakes.

Elijah Vella 3T

What is your most prized possession?

My most prized possession is my favourite soccer jersey which is from the wanderers team.

What is your favourite thing to have for lunch?

My favourite thing to have for lunch is chicken caesar salad because it is delicious and is my favourite food ever.

What is your best memory?

My best memory was when I won a very important soccer game and my whole team got big and shiny trophies.

What is your favourite subject in school?

My favourite subject is religion because we learn about God and it teaches us how to live our life .

What is your favourite drink?

My favourite drink is slushies and black current juice because they are sweet and tasty.

Patrick Semaan 3L

What hobbies do you have?

The hobbies I play are soccer, swimming and tennis

What is your favourite subject?

My favourite subjects are English, Art and Handwriting because I love to learn about those things

What is your favourite movie?

My favourite movie is Ratatouille because I get to learn how to cook

What is your favourite book?

Because in one of their books they fly to the moon and I always wanted to do that.

What are you most excited for?

I'm most excited to see my grandparents today

Lourdes Saleh 3L

What hobbies do you have?

Karate and soccer

What is your favourite subject?

My favourite subject is literacy groups because it is fun

What is your favourite movie?

My favourite movie is Harry Potter because I like spells

What are you most excited for?

I'm most excited for lunch

What is your favourite Book?

My favourite book is World's Worst Children because it is very funny



Honour Award

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

KA	Grace Wehbe	Elena Sunwar	KM	Charbel Elia	Bianca Abdou
1C	Emily Salloum	William Kerr	1S	Angela Bracks	Louis Wehbe
2M	Benjamin Chu	Noah Abu Ali	2Y	Marcella Abboud	Erika Talbot



ST PATRICK'S AWARD

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

KA	Charles Nasr	Elizabeth Aitkins	KM	Milan Kishore	Natasha Khoury
1C	Elijah Missak	Cienna Joachim	1S	Mitchell Daher	Nathanael Jaitani
2M	Aaliya Ebrahim	Max Markovic	2Y	Ava Khouri	James Younis





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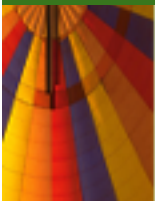
3L	Charbela Chedid	Ava Boutros	3T	Mia Gebrael	Andrew Batti
4B	Mateo Barroso	Rose Rizk	4G	Anthony Bracks	Olivia Fayad
5C	Lucas Pavlovic	Angelica Beame	5T	Zavier Moujalli	Joshua Nasr
6P	Sam Abu-Ali	Nicholas Drosos	6W	Alex ElKhoury	Sean Feng



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3L	Lourdes Saleh	Mariah Jreij	3T	Mika Liu	Patrick Katar
4B	Juliette Houry	Michel Kazzaz	4G	Antonia Romanos	Nathan Nguyen
5C	Liam Stojkovski	Sophie Salloum	5T	Mary Thomas	Makayla Kalouch
6P	Samuel Navasardyan	Justin Mawad	6W	Thomas Aguilera	Sophie Gadmar



Winter Uniform Changeover

The children will be changing to winter uniform next
Monday 24th May, (Week 6)

All School Uniform Items available from

Oz Fashions

115-127 Parramatta Road, Granville NSW 2142

Phone: 9897 3121 www.ozfashions.com.au

Girls' Winter Uniform

Tartan Pinafore

White Long Sleeve Blouse (Peter Pan collar)

Tartan School Tie

Green above ankle socks or Green Tights

Black Shoes

Green Woolen Jumper

Green Jacket with Emblem

Girls' Sports Uniform

Track Suit with School Emblem

Sport Shirt with School Emblem

White Above ankle socks

White Sports Shoes

Boy's Winter Uniform

Grey Long Trousers

Grey Long Sleeve Shirt

Green tie

Grey above ankle socks

Black Shoes

Grey Woolen Jumper

Green Jacket with Emblem

Boy's Sports Uniform

Track Suit with School Emblem

Sport Shirt with School Emblem

White Above ankle socks

White Sports Shoes

All children are required to have a Green School Hat with Emblem and Green School Bag with Emblem

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.

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](#)



"Let us care for one another and let us be loving custodians of creation." (2nd Tweet as Pope)

Pope Francis

FEEDBACK and COMPLAINTS

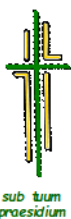
St Patrick's Parramatta staff always welcome feedback and ideas from the parent community. If you have any feedback, concerns or complaints please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher, Mrs Standring (behaviour) or Miss Fabri through the school office (8832 4600), school email address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

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