

Dear Parents and Caregivers

One of the most powerful tools to assist learners to achieve learning growth is the timely and quality feedback. Feedback at school happens so regularly it becomes part of the general running of the day and effective learners also learn how to give other students accurate feedback which includes learning how to check in that their feedback is accurate by using the data around the room. This week I have included an article from the founder of Parenting Ideas, Michael Grose. He talks about some key elements when giving feedback to children at home.

Interested in your thoughts.

God bless you and your family

Bernadette Fabri

Principal

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## 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.

## 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**

# How to give kids feedback for improvement

It can be tempting to allow children to continue to behave badly or to perform chores, homework or sports practice poorly when they argue or resist feedback. Parents need to be part coach, teacher and counsellor so that kids learn how to behave well, develop healthy attitudes to learning and know how to get the best out of themselves. Feedback is one of the most effective tools we have to achieve this. Give it poorly and it will at best be ignored and at worst, rupture relationships and damage self-worth. If you provide feedback effectively, you'll see improvement in behaviour, attitudes and learning, even among feedback resistant teens.

Here's how to deliver feedback to make sure it sticks.

## Make it specific

It's absolutely essential to give feedback about one behaviour, skill or attitude at a time, if you want improvement. "Jai, if you make eye contact with your brother when you talk to him, he's more likely to listen to you." The feedback needs to be specific rather than generalised so that a child or teen knows exactly how to do better. It also needs to be delivered in a non-judgemental way.

## Ensure it's descriptive

"That's not the way to behave inside" doesn't help much. "Use your quiet voice when you play inside the house" cues a child into how to behave. Use phrases and terms that have real meaning for kids rather than vague, non-descriptive language such as 'be a good girl', so kids not only know what's expected but they understand how to meet your expectations.

## It's got to be timely

Providing feedback to a toddler half an hour after they've thrown a tantrum in public will ensure there's no impact. On the other hand, providing behavioural feedback when a teenager is angry will ensure one thing – you'll have an argument on your hands. Feedback needs to be fairly immediate for young children and if possible, provided before an event or activity. "When you set the table put the fork on this side and the knife on the other." Choose the time and place to provide feedback to older children, remembering that angry tweens and teens generally don't listen.

## Give from a place of calm

Angry parents generally deliver feedback poorly to kids. Regardless of how well you choose your words and how accurate your feedback may be, feedback delivered angrily will prompt the flight/fight response from a child or young person. They will ignore you or start an argument, but they won't take your message on board when you're mad at them.

## Give sparingly

When children require approval for every scribble, homework problem and picture they draw, it's probably because they have always been offered feedback on every scribble, homework problem and picture they draw. It's vital that children develop their own internal sense of validation and honest self-assessment, because as they grow up and face hardship, they need to be able to look to themselves for strength and approval. If they can't, they will be much more vulnerable to superficial external approval

that comes their way in the form of peer pressure, bullying and the usual social jostling. As you wean them off of your feedback, turn their "Mummy, is this picture good?" or "Dad, did I do a good job?" back on them, and ask them how they feel about their work.

Feedback is a wonderful parenting tool that requires attention to detail, sensitivity and a willingness to respect the dignity of the child or young person who is receiving it. It's also most effective when given sparingly, rather than like a nervous tic, which keeps kids anchored to you for approval.

[Michael Grose - Parenting ideas](#)

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 2	Tuesday 1.6.21		Year 5 and Year 1	Thursday 17.6.21
Year 6 and Kindy	Thursday 10.6.21		Year 4	Thursday 24.6.21



### 200 YEARS OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION MASS

Last Monday 24th May 2021 the school Vice Captains and leaders of Religious Education, Alexa Izmestyeva and Dylan Amaral, attended a mass for the anniversary of 200 years of Catholic Education at St Patrick's Cathedral. The mass was attended by representatives from all schools in the Parramatta Diocese as well as system leaders from Catholic Education, Diocese of Parramatta. Alexa's mother, Mrs Stolbova and Mrs Amaral, Dylan's mother, were invited to attend. Bishop Vincent Long Van Ngyuen celebrated mass with priests from the diocese ably assisted by some of the St Patrick's servers. Thank you: Stephanie Jabbour, Ray J Wehbe, Anthony Malek, Anthony Bracks and Phillip Ayoub. After the mass the children were then treated to a lovely morning tea and got to meet Bishop and Executive Director Mr Greg Whitby. It was wonderful to be a part of this special celebration especially as the school is now well known to have originated from the very first Catholic School in Australia originally in Hunter Street.

### Soccer Gala Day- 2021

On Wednesday the 26th of May we were proud to be included in the Stage 3 Soccer Gala Day. This year our gala day was held at Jameson Park, Penrith. We had so much fun participating in a full game of soccer that was held 6 times throughout the day. All of us tried our best and did an amazing job at working as a team. Even though we didn't win all of our games, we gave it our best shot and that's all that matters.



~ Stage 3 soccer team of 2021

## **WORLD REFUGEE WEEK- BLANKET DRIVE**



In preparation for Refugee week in week 10 of this term, we are inviting children to contribute to the **Jesuit Refugee Services**. To do this, we are encouraging families to either purchase a new blanket to donate to JRS for distribution to families in need or make a financial contribution through our school office, which we will give to JRS to buy blankets.



As blankets can be quite expensive we encourage families to join together for the purchase of a blanket if willing. JRS have not specified any required size. Blankets can be dropped off at the school office. Stage 2 (yrs 3/4) this time will be doing the dropping off, with their teachers.

For monetary donations please send to the school office in an envelope/zip lock bag, with the child's name and title Blanket Appeal. Any amount would be greatly appreciated.

Donations will be collected throughout the remainder of this term until June 24.

**So as to try to highlight this appeal and by way of culmination a Pyjama Day will be organised for the children on **Friday 24th June** - the last day of term. On this day children can come to school wearing their pyjamas and dressing gowns. As donations have been already called for over these coming weeks there is no need to send a gold coin on this day.**

**Thank you as always for your compassion and generosity towards those in need in our local community.**

Together we can make a difference.

Religious Education Committee.

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### **Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation**

Registration for Confirmation through St Patrick's Cathedral Parish is now open for children 10 yrs or older who have made their Reconciliation and First Eucharist. While this is the minimum age for children to join in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation, it is important to note that there is no maximum age for children who have been baptised as infants to complete their Initiation into the Faith Community.

The online registration form can be found on St Patrick's Cathedral website <https://stpatscathedral.com.au>. Go to the "Sacraments" tab in the section titled "Confirmation". Alternatively, please contact St Patrick's sacramental coordinator Meg Gale at [sacrament@stpatscathedral.com.au](mailto:sacrament@stpatscathedral.com.au).

**The calendar of mandatory preparation sessions is as follows:**

**Confirmation 1: Tuesday 13 July, 7:30pm - Parent Session**

**Confirmation 2: Tuesday 27 July, 7:30pm - Parent Session**

**Confirmation 3: Saturday 7 August, 4:30pm - Parent and Children Session**

**Confirmation 4: Saturday 14 August, 4.30pm - Parent and Children Session**

**Practice for Confirmation: Saturday 21 August, 4:00pm followed by the 6:00pm Vigil Mass - Parents and Children**

**Ceremony for Confirmation: Saturday 28 August 3:00pm**

## St Patrick's Primary Athletics Carnival

Our Primary Athletics Carnival will be held next 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**.

**The buses will be leaving school at 9 am sharp.**

School Sport Uniform or t-shirt in their house colour may be worn.

Waratah - Red

Wattle - Yellow

Boronia - Green

Melaleuca - White or Blue

### 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.

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: \$5**

BBQ sausage in a roll (sauce optional), bottle of water and a snack size chip packet.

#### **Sausage Sizzle Only: \$4**

BBQ sausage in a roll (sauce optional)

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

Please complete the attached order form and send it in with payment no later than Friday 4 June 2021. As you can appreciate, pre-ordering is essential as we need to know how many students to cater for when ordering the food.

School Sport Uniform or t-shirt in their house colour may be worn.

Waratah - Red

Wattle - Yellow

Boronia - Green

Melaleuca - White or Blue

**The buses will be leaving school at 9 am sharp**

## ATTENDANCE LETTERS (< 90% attendance)

Dear Parents

As you are aware, every day of attendance at school adds to your child's chances of success and achievement from Kindergarten and through to high school. Parents play a key role in making sure their child attends school every day. As previously explained the school, through our system, Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP), is well equipped to track children's attendance and this data enables the school to alert parents to their child's attendance level. This information can sometimes be surprising to parents who may not realise that the attendance of their child is getting to an undesirable level. Even the odd day here and there eg a total of 10 days a term, is equal to a day a week. We fully understand that some absences are unavoidable due to health problems or other circumstances however we also know that when students miss too much school, no matter the reason, it can cause them to fall behind academically. **In an effort to keep parents informed of their child's attendance data, a letter will be sent home when a child's attendance percentage falls below 90%. This will include children whose absence is due to illness or leave for example. This information is for your attention as a way to assist you to monitor attendance levels. The only exceptions to this rule will be if there has been significant consultation with the school regarding attendance, be it health matters or other circumstances and in these circumstances other support or accommodations have been implemented.**

In this way not only is the school keeping open communication with families but the school is fulfilling the process of tracking attendance in accordance with CEDP policies. If you have any questions regarding attendance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards

Bernadette Fabri

eSafetyparents



eSafetyCommissioner

## NOTES FROM THE E-SAFETY COMMISSIONER.

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

**Model consent when taking and sharing photos of your child**  
Model consent when taking and sharing photos of your child. As often as you can, ask your child if they would like to be in a photo before you take it. Do the same before you share a photo, video or write something about them on social media. Let them know who will see it, why you want to share it and respect their decision if they don't want to share it. It may seem silly to do this with younger children, but the point is to model consent and respectful data sharing practices from an early age. This practice will come in handy when they start to share photos online. Be mindful of what you share online about your child, as this may form part of their lasting digital footprint.

## 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

## Medication and Medical Plans

**Dear Parents & Caregivers,**

We are strongly committed to the health, safety and wellbeing of the students at St Patrick's Primary School Parramatta. On reviewing the medical needs of our students it has been noted that we have quite a few expired medications at school. With the primary sports carnival coming up next week it is very important to have medications that are in date. I will be contacting you shortly via email or phone call, if you have expired medication/plans.

Anaphylaxis & Asthma plans are required to be updated EVERY 12 months.

Regards

Mrs Jones

### Understanding School Talk ???

#### Reading Recovery

A specialized Year 1 reading program implemented by a specialist Reading Recovery teacher.



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

Julia Vytingco, George Rizk,  
Nina Kancijanac, Sara Jabbour,  
Joseph Kalouch, Maroun  
Abraham, Angelique Saliba,  
Christabel Azzi, Riley Ramon,  
Zachary Aguilera, Jake Doueihy



### Gabriel Kalouche - 5C

**If you were to live anywhere in the world, where would you live?**

If I could live anywhere in the world, I would live in the Snowy Mountains because I can see all the beautiful views from the sky.

**What is your biggest fear?**

My biggest fear is the dark because I cannot see and there might be something dangerous lurking around.

**What is your favourite ice cream flavour?**

My favourite ice cream flavour is bubblegum because it is absolutely delicious in general.

**Do you prefer the city or the beach more?**

I prefer the beach more because you can watch the waves, swim, and explore more of the outside world.

**Do you have any pets?**

I used to have a Golden Labrador named Goldie who I absolutely adored because she was like my best friend.

### Gabriella Volante 5T

**What famous person can you relate to the most?**

I relate to Katie Ledecky because she is my favourite swimmer and I have a passion for swimming.

**What is your favourite movie?**

Hobbs and Shaw because I love the sound effects and I love Dwayne Johnson.

**What are you looking forward to most in high school?**

The thing that I am looking forward to is seeing my friends and participating in the sporting carnivals.

**If you could travel anywhere in the world where would you go?**

The place I would travel to is Paris because I would love to climb the Eiffel Tower. I would also travel to Italy because I love the food and I'm Italian.

**What hobbies do you have?**

The hobbies I have are swimming and running because I love being active.

### Alicia Remaili - 5C

**Who is your biggest inspiration?**

My biggest inspiration is my grandfather because he teaches me so much about my faith and is always a huge optimist.

**Do you prefer books or movies more? Why?**

I prefer books more because they give you a better description and are more detailed compared to movies.

**If you were an animal, what would you be?**

If I were to be an animal, I would be a giraffe because they are such amazing and positive animals like me.

**What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?**

I enjoy reading or doing art, or playing outside in my spare time because they are very enjoyable activities and develop my skills in multiple ways.

**If you were to invite 3 people to dinner who would you invite?**

If I were to invite 3 people ever to dinner, I would invite my auntie, so I can spend more time with her, Albert Einstein because he can teach me lots about STEM so I can be a genius, and my old friend from preschool so we can catch up.

### Joshua Nasr - 5T

**What famous person can you relate to the most?**

I would relate to Dwayne Johnson because he is my favourite actor and I want to be like him when I grow up.

**What is your favourite movie?**

My favourite movie is Hobbs and Shaw because I love the actors, sound effects and I love cars.

**What are you looking forward to most in high school?**

In high school I'm looking forward to seeing my friends at recess and lunch and interacting with fun teachers.

**If you could travel anywhere in the world where would you go?**

I would travel to Antarctica because I like the cold and love to see the animals such as penguins.

**What hobbies do you have?**

The hobbies I have are playing sports and being active with my friends, but I especially like to play soccer.



## Winter Uniform Changeover

All children should now be in winter uniform

All School Uniform Items available from

Oz Fashions

115-127 Parramatta Road, Granville NSW 2142

Phone: 9897 3121 [www.ozfashions.com.au](http://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**



# Honour Award

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

KA	Nicholas Chu	Audrey Abboud	KM	Alexandra Nasr	Pierre El Bayeh
1C	Lucy Reyes-Mangabat	Rosalia Daher	1S	Amelia Sivashanmugan	Saria-Jo Eid
2M	Edward McCloskey	Faith Daniel	2Y	Quintus Feng	Sophie Abraham



## ST PATRICK'S AWARD

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

KA	Anthony Youssef	Natalya Wakim	KM	Isabella Rizk	William Elias
1C	Jude Rahme	Jacob Assaf	1S	Abel Moses	Michael Roumanus
2M	Liam Makhoul	Zachary Tannous	2Y	Gabriella Norman	Hugh Perrett





# Honour Award

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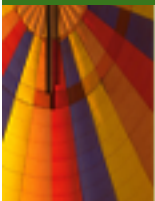
3L	Sara Jabbour	Mia Freifer	3T	Jayden Blazek	Sophia Khoury
4B	Sonia Sitoa	Panayioti Yannakis	4G	Antonia Romanos	Levi Jaitani
5C	Ava Lao	Germain Toledo	5T	Jacinta Azizi	Lara Samar
6P	James Kerr	Estelle Perrett	6W	Magdalena Gilchrist	Christopher Mekkessi



## ST PATRICK'S AWARD

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

3L	Patrick Semaan	Georgia-Rose Rizk	3T	Andrew Khalil	Johnnie Daher
4B	Hunter Morson	Fleur Perrett	4G	Erick Granados-Gavito	Annabelle Johnson
5C	Christian Jerij	Cynthia Daher	5T	Benjamin Maroon	Marie Rahme
6P	Amyllia Maneze	Daniel Saleh	6W	Lauren Politan	Nathan Romanos





*"We all have the duty to do good."*

*Pope Francis*

### **FEEDBACK and COMPLAINTS**

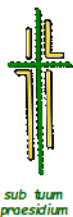
St Patrick's Parramatta staff always welcome feedback and ideas from the parent community. If you have any feedback, concerns or complaints please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher, Mrs Standing (behaviour) or Miss Fabri through the school office (8832 4600), school email address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

### **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