

Dear Parents and Caregivers

It is hard to believe that it has been a whole term since we were together as a school community. I want to sincerely thank each and every one of you for all you have done during this period of Learning from Home. I know it has been challenging in so many ways. I know that we have all been stretched in unbelievable and unexpected ways but be assured that the teachers and I are most grateful for all your amazing efforts and support. Whether you have been trying to navigate how to manage the children's learning from home or if you have had to send the children to school, you should be very pleased with what you have accomplished so far.

To our children - we miss you all very much - especially the children who have been supervised at school who cannot wait till all their friends return to be with them.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank and congratulate our staff for working so hard to manage the complexities in delivering learning experiences from their homes and working on site under the current restrictions such as wearing masks all day. It would be fair to say that not a single day went by when they were not learning and changing practice to adapt to the needs of the students. Even school routines and decision making needed to be flexible and adaptable to the current context. Thank you so much St Patrick's Parramatta Staff!









Although the details of next term are still being finalised by NSW Health and Catholic Schools NSW, you can all be confident that the school will follow all the guidelines and requirements mandated to schools. The safety and wellbeing of the children and staff is always our highest priority.

I would like to wish all families a well deserved break during these school holidays and pray that all of you are able to have some rest.

God bless you and your family

Bernadette Fabri

Principal

<u>2022</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
	24/1/22	25/1/22	26/1/22	27/1/22	28/1/22
<b>Week 1</b>	<b>SCHOOL HOLIDAYS</b>				STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY  Years K to 6 Individual Maths Assessments
	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
	31/1/22	1/2/22	2/2/22	3/2/22	4/2/22
<b>Week 2</b>	STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY  Years K to 6 Individual Maths Assessments	Kindergarten Individual Maths Assessments  Years 1 to Years 6 commence the 2022 school year	Kindergarten Individual Maths Assessments	Kindergarten commence the 2022 school year	
					
					
<p><b>NOTE PLEASE: If On-Site Kindergarten Orientation is unable to be held this year due to restrictions, we will schedule them from Friday 28/1/22 to Wednesday 2/2/22. Children will only be required to attend one Orientation session and one Maths session.</b></p> <p><b>More information will be communicated when the situation becomes clearer next term.</b></p>					

### Refurbishment of Kindergarten to Year 4 Classrooms

Over the next few months, the Kindergarten to Year 4 classrooms will be undergoing some minor refurbishment. This will include the covering of all walls with felt board panels, the relocation of TVs and installation of new whiteboards, the replacement of concertina walls with glass walls and doors, the installation of joinery and painting of some surfaces.

Once the work commences the learning spaces being worked on will be completely isolated from the students and staff so that there is no interaction or cross over of workers or personnel. The builders engaged follow a strict COVID Safety plan.

The staff are really looking forward to the brightening up of these learning spaces and the changes to be made which assist children to be more active in their own assessment of their learning and the 'next steps' required for improvement.

We look forward to sharing these spaces with the school community in the future.

Thank you to Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta for their financial contribution to this project.

## Staff Development Day

Every year the NSW Government allocates 6 days to each school to be used for Staff Professional Development. Schools are required by the staff Enterprise Agreement to provide this Professional Learning.

**The Staff Development Day scheduled for tomorrow, the 17th September will still be going ahead.**

The decision to go ahead has been made in preference to postponing this day for next term when the children are scheduled to be on site as most of the children are learning from home at the moment. Children will not be expected to do any learning on this day but optional activities will be available.

As always school is opened on this day for those families where supervision is unavailable

## Solidarity with Afghanistan: How you can help Jesuit Refugee Services

To support families seeking asylum and refugees; feel free to visit this website for more information.

<https://aus.jrs.net/en/news/solidarity-with-afghanistan-how-you-can-help/>



**We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to the Zaiter Family (Isaiah 2Y & Ethan 3L) on the passing of their Grandfather.**

**Please keep the Zaiter Family in your prayers.**

For the telecast of Weekend mass follow this link:

**[St. Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta - Facebook](#)**

"It is impossible for peace to exist without dialogue. All the wars, all the strife, all the unsolved problems over which we clash are due to a lack of dialogue. When there is a problem, talk: this makes peace."

*Pope Francis*



# Compass Parent Portal

Early in Term 4 will be transitioning to Compass Parent Portal.

Compass will be our primary communication tool that will facilitate effective communication between home and school. A letter will soon be sent via email to all enrolled families with your login details for Compass. It is most important to keep your Username and Password secure, just like your bank account details, they should not be shared with anyone, including your children.

Using the Compass Parent Portal you will be able to:

- Be informed of important updates, events and reminders
- View your child's timetable
- Review your child's attendance
- Provide explanations for periods of absence
- Update your contact details
- Book Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences
- Download Semester Reports



## **Happy Birthday to all the children who will celebrate their birthday's over the next week and school holidays:**

Olivia Saab (6W), Elena Sunwar, Jubran Sayegh, Aaliya Ebrahim, Hannah Nasr, Daniel Lawrence, Phillip Said, Joanthony Tannous, Zoe Aguilera, Milan Kishore, Lauren Polintan, Ava Takchi, Nathanael Jaitani, Olivia Zhang, Jeremiah Khoudeir, Samson Sayegh, Jayden Blazek, Leah Wahbe, Joseph Maroon, Angelina Bounassif, Elio Layoun, Daniella Gereige, Gabriella Volante, Juliana Angelo, Elijah Baysari, Tony Karam, Aidan Murphy, Joshua Nasr



**Do you need food support?**  
Mobile Community Pantry - Operated by Anglicare

Locations across Western Sydney:

- Blacktown
- Laler Park
- Whalan
- Ropes Crossing
- Granville
- Merrylands
- Baulkham Hills
- Dundas

For location, dates & times:  
8664 8600 (translation available)  
[www.anglicare.org.au/mobile-community-pantry](http://www.anglicare.org.au/mobile-community-pantry)

Fill a bag with groceries of your choice!

NSW Health  
Western Sydney Local Health District

Many people have lost their income due to COVID-19 and need support to get meals for their family.

There are a number of local food support services available that provide food at little or no cost including Anglicare -<https://www.anglicare.org.au/mobile-community-pantry>

For a list of more local services:

<https://tinyurl.com/support-food>

eSafetyparents



eSafetyCommissioner

## NOTES FROM THE E-SAFETY COMMISSIONER.

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

**Good screen practices are important for the overall health and wellbeing of young children.**

Good screen practices for young children centre on the quality and nature of their activity online, as well as parents and carers modelling good screen habits and being actively engaged in their child's screen time.

### SCHOOL SPEAK

#### TERM

A period of learning which is usually 10 weeks but is sometimes a period of 11 weeks. Terms are determined by the NSW Department of Education.



**Free family fun with the Parliament of NSW**

**ONLINE**

**and School Holidays Colouring-in Competition**

**Monday - Storytelling session**  
27 September 9:00am - 9:45am

**Wednesday - Virtual tour of the Parliament of NSW**  
29 September 9:00am - 9:45am

**Friday - Mirri Mirri cultural education session**  
1 October 10:00am - 10:45am

**Visit Australia's oldest Parliament via ZOOM during the school holiday for free fun, educational activities for children and families.**

Join us for three fun-filled online sessions including storytelling, a virtual guided tour through the chambers and a special Indigenous cultural session with Mirri Mirri.

Enter our colouring-in competition. Four (4) lucky winners will each win a Parliament of NSW Gift Box filled with goodies including parliamentary stationery, water bottle, delicious treats and lots more, valued at \$100.

For details on how to enter visit [www.education.parliament.nsw.gov.au/blog](http://www.education.parliament.nsw.gov.au/blog)

**BOOK NOW**

WHERE  
Online Event

REGISTER TO PARTICIPATE ONLINE

MORE INFORMATION  
[www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/events](http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/events)

### **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.

NEW TESTING CLINIC



Health  
Western Sydney  
Local Health District

# COVID-19 Drive-through Testing Clinic at

## Bankwest Stadium

🕒 **Time: 8am - 6pm daily (9am start on 11 August)**

📅 **When: 7 days a week until further notice**

📍 **Where: Northern carpark, Enter at Gate 2  
O'Connell Street, Parramatta, NSW, 2150**

**Testing is FREE. All ages welcome.  
No booking or GP referral required.**

**Check when you're eligible for COVID-19 vaccination using the  
Australian Government Vaccine Eligibility Checker**



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proesidium

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