

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Over the last month I have had the pleasure of conducting zoom interviews for Kindergarten for 2022. It was wonderful meeting so many new families who will soon become members of our community here at St Patrick's Primary School Parramatta.

The process of finding the 'right' school for a family can be very stressful from what I understand. I have a few young friends whose children are only 3 and they are already thinking about their options and they are asking questions about their local schools. When I ask them what is the important criteria for them the common responses are: that it is a Catholic School first and foremost and then the quality of education provided and as importantly, the nurturing the children will receive i.e. caring teachers.

When speaking to our new parents they expressed how lucky they felt to be able to enrol their little boy or girls. They asked about religious education, sacramental and liturgical opportunities and how Catholic Values are very important to them.

Other commonly articulated reasons for wishing to enrol their child at St Patrick's Parramatta included; the outstanding reputation the school holds amongst the local and extended communities, the high standard of education, the good behaviour expected from and displayed by the students, the valued history and connection they may have had with the school and the friendly, hospitable and close community the school is renowned for. The comment was often, "We hear so many good things about the school and we want our child to be part of a school such as this." As principal it was gratifying to hear all these positives associated with the school from new and existing parents and for this I thank the staff, children and you the parents who have always been extremely supportive, give valuable feedback and suggestions and value education.

What I particularly enjoyed throughout the interviews was meeting some of the little ones who delighted me with their individual responses and how they managed the zoom experience. I am reminded about how unique each little one is and I could see, on the parents' faces, how watching their child interact gave them such joy and filled them with wonderment. This was later supported by actually being able to meet them at their orientation session. It was so impressive seeing them accompany the teachers up to the library to have a play. Many of them looked so comfortable with the whole experience and some even delighted us by playing a running game with their newly found friends.

Please keep all families, who have children commencing Kindergarten, in your thoughts and prayers as they prepare for 2022.

God bless you and your family

Bernadette Fabri

Principal

### Upcoming Events -

**Refer to our Compass Parent Portal - School Calendar for up to date events, sports days and special events.**

**Wednesday 1st December - Kindy 2022 Orientation Day**

**Tuesday 7th December - Christmas Dance Concert (Students only)**

**Friday 10th December - Meet the Teacher Afternoon (K - Year 5)**

**\*\* Please refer to later in this newsletter for events related to Year 6 only.**

## Last Day of Term 4





**The last of Term 4 2021 will be Wednesday 15th December, 2021**

### RECESS TIMES FOR TERM 4

K,1,2 Fruit Break 10.10 am Recess 11.10 am Lunch 1.30pm

3,4 Recess 10.00 am Lunch 12.20 pm

5,6 Recess 10.35 am Lunch 12.55 pm

<u>2022</u>	<u>Monday</u> 24/1/22	<u>Tuesday</u> 25/1/22	<u>Wednesday</u> 26/1/22	<u>Thursday</u> 27/1/22	<u>Friday</u> 28/1/22
Week 1	<b>SCHOOL HOLIDAYS</b>				STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY  Years K to 6 Individual Maths Assessments
	<u>Monday</u> 31/1/22	<u>Tuesday</u> 1/2/22	<u>Wednesday</u> 2/2/22	<u>Thursday</u> 3/2/22	<u>Friday</u> 4/2/22
Week 2	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 	   

**NOTE PLEASE:** On-Site Kindergarten Orientation is to be held on Wednesday 1st December. Children will only be required to attend one Orientation session and one Maths session.

Please refer to email sent 11/11/2021 for Kindergarten Orientation. More information will be communicated for Individual Maths Assessments at a later time.

# Timeline for Student Leader Process

Date	Day	Process
17 Nov	Wed	Ms Fabri & Mrs Standing to talk to Year 5
17 Nov	Wed	Current Student Leaders to talk to Year 5 According to COVID Safe practices this will occur outside with one Year 6 leader at a time speaking while socially distanced
22 - 23 Nov	Mon Tues	School Captain Nominations to be lodged at the office.
25 Nov	Thurs	4 top nominees announced (Ms Fabri to announce)
30 Nov	Tues	4 Nominees present speeches to 5 in COLA. Yr 4 will watch a recording of the speeches
		Yr 5 & teachers vote
1-2 Dec		Nominations for Portfolios of Arts, STEM & PDHPE
3 Dec	Fri	Top 6 (3 boys & 3 girls) for each portfolio are announced and voted for by Yr 5 students & teachers
6 Dec	Mon	School Leaders for 2021 announced.

eSafetyparents



 eSafety Commissioner

**NOTES FROM THE E-SAFETY COMMISSIONER.**

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

**Quality content means different things to different people, so decide what is important to you and your family and try to inject a little more of this into your child's screen time**

## YEAR 6 CELEBRATIONS WEEK 10

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The school is very conscious that over the last few years families have been unable to celebrate Christmas with their family in the usual ways. This has been largely due to restrictions in place by NSW health and possible isolation requirements because of exposure to positive cases of COVID 19.

With this utmost in our minds all graduation and farewell events will be held on or before December 10th.

In order to make the end of year as special as possible for the Year 6 students the following events will take place in Week 10.

As always I appreciate that you know that all decisions made in the school are driven by the importance the school places on the health and wellbeing of students and staff.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me through the school office.

Thank you so much for your continued support and cooperation.

Bernadette Fabri

Monday 6th December:	Year 6 Reflection Day (onsite - MUFTI for Year 6 students)
Tuesday 7th December	Christmas Dance Concert
Wednesday 8th December	Year 6 Pizza Lunch
Thursday 9th December	Year 6 STEM Day
Friday 10th December:	<p>The events below will all be taking place <b>on Friday 10th December.</b></p> <p><u>GRADUATION MASS</u>, will be held outside in the school COLA for Year 6 students. Father Robert will be presiding. Certificates and candles to be presented.</p> <p><b>NB: By this date, the school will be able to invite one fully vaccinated Year 6 family member or friend onsite to participate in the Graduation Mass. Registration will be compulsory. Schools are required to see the Vaccination status of all visitors. Details to come.</b></p> <p><b>The school is committed to support all families by making accommodations for unvaccinated parents by live streaming the event if possible.</b></p> <p><u>YEAR 6 PRESENTATION OF GIFT TO THE SCHOOL</u> will be held in front of Kindergarten to Year 5 students. Students in K-5 will be seated in their cohorts and socially distanced according to guidelines provided by NSW Health and CSNSW.</p> <p><u>FAREWELL CEREMONY FOR YEAR 6</u>, including the final bell and traditional throwing of school hats, will take place at the end of the presentation of the gift, in front of the whole school and parent visitors. This will <b>replace</b> the last day of school celebrations (15th December) to minimize risk for all families.</p> <p>Dismissal as usual with no visitors on site will take place on December 15th.</p> <p>Students and their siblings will be permitted to leave to continue their celebrations in a hospitality venue of their choice. (This is optional as school is opened)</p>

## **COVID SAFE REMINDERS**

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Our sincere gratitude for your continued support and cooperation.

Just a few reminders to continue to keep the children and staff safe whilst at school.

- Please do not send children to school if they are exhibiting any flu-like symptoms. They must stay home and get tested immediately.
- The purpose of the staggered finish at 2.40pm is to avoid the overcrowding on the footpath outside the school grounds. If possible can you please keep to your scheduled time and if not possible remember to physically distance from other parents.

Car Pick Up Time	Alphabetical
2:40 - 2:45	A - D
2:45 - 2:50	E - K
2:50 - 2:55	L - R
2:55 - 3:00	S - Z
3:00 - 3:30	Normal Procedure

- Thank you for your cooperation by not entering the school grounds
- NSW Health highly recommends that primary aged students wear masks when at school.

*Masks are required indoors for all staff, visitors and students in Year 7 or above, and strongly recommended indoors for primary students.*

*(Catholic Schools NSW, CSNSW)*

### **Sacraments of Initiation Information Evening - Reconciliation and First Eucharist**

Unfortunately, due to the most recent COVID lockdown, the regular schedule for the sacramental program at St Patrick's Cathedral had to be postponed but we are pleased to inform everyone that a new calendar has now been formulated and the next program for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist for children already baptised will commence in Term 1, 2022.

In preparation for this, there will be an **INFORMATION EVENING on Tuesday 07 December at 7:30pm in the Cathedral hall** for parents who are interested in registering their child/ren for the upcoming program and would like to learn more about the process. Please note that children must be 7 years of age or older to be eligible for the program. For more information regarding the upcoming program for Reconciliation and Eucharist or any other enquires about the Sacraments of Initiation at St Patrick's Cathedral please contact Meg Gale: [sacrament@stpatscathedral.com.au](mailto:sacrament@stpatscathedral.com.au)



## Christmas Dance Display 2021



Our Annual Christmas Concert for the year will be held in week 10, on Tuesday 7 December at 9am.

Students are encouraged to come to school dressed in Christmas colours.

A video will be shared with all parents, capturing this beautiful celebration.

Thank you for your support.

Religious Education Committee



Congratulations to the Younis Family (James 2Y & Bella KA) on the birth of their baby boy, Leon.



DATES 

Christmas clinic:

Monday 20th to Friday 24th December

January Clinic:

Monday 17th to Friday 21st January

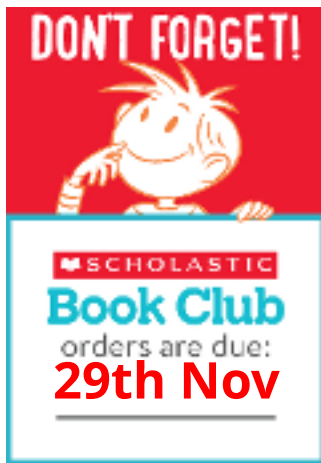
Location: St Patrick's Primary School, Parramatta.

Email [nextlevelsports@live.com.au](mailto:nextlevelsports@live.com.au)

If you are interested in sending your child to the school holiday clinic send us an email or contact us on Facebook.

Happy Holidays.

Mr Younis 🍷



## Last Bookclub for the Year

We have one last bookclub for the year, Issue 8 !!!

Please click on the link below to view the Issue 8 catalogue. If you wish for the order to be collected in the office as it is a gift do not forget to click on the "gift" option when ordering.

### [Book Club Issue 8](#)

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

Ethan Xue, Ray Chen, Sophie Abraham, Nicholas Chu, Edan-Grace El-Chaar



### Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge



**Please following the link for Terms & Conditions**

[Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge](#)



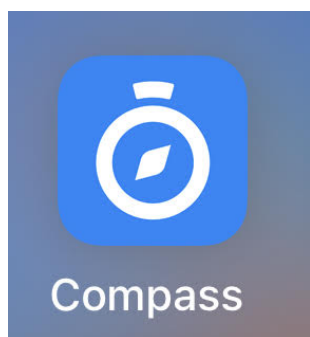
## Heading back to school?

Don't take COVID-19 with you.

If your child is feeling unwell, keep them at home. It'll keep them and their classmates safe.

Get tested immediately and isolate until they get a negative result.





## Compass Parent Portal

### Have you had a chance to download our new Compass Parent Portal App?

Thank you to the many parents who have logged onto our new Compass Parent Portal. **For the parents who have not logged on yet an email was sent from St Patrick's Primary School on the 17th November with your username and password.**

## Downloading the Compass App

### iOS

For iPhone and iPad users

Click on the "Download on the App Store, search for "Compass School Manager" and download the free Compass app. Search for **St Patrick's Primary - Parramatta** and you're ready to go!



### Android

For Google Android users

Click on the "Get it on Google play" button, or go to the Google Play Store, search for "Compass School Manager" and download the free Compass app. Search for **St Patrick's Primary - Parramatta** and you're ready to go!



## Dashboard

## Logging An Attendance Note

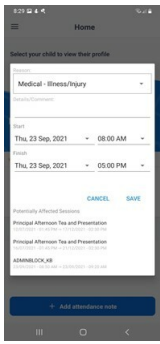
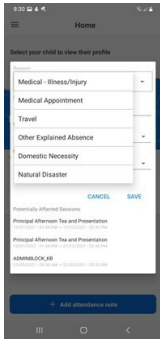
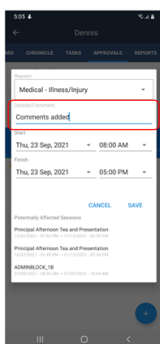

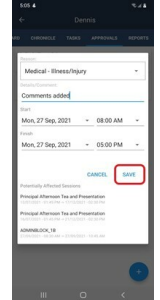
- 1 From Your Dashboard, tap on the "+ Add attendance note" button in order to submit an attendance note for your child.

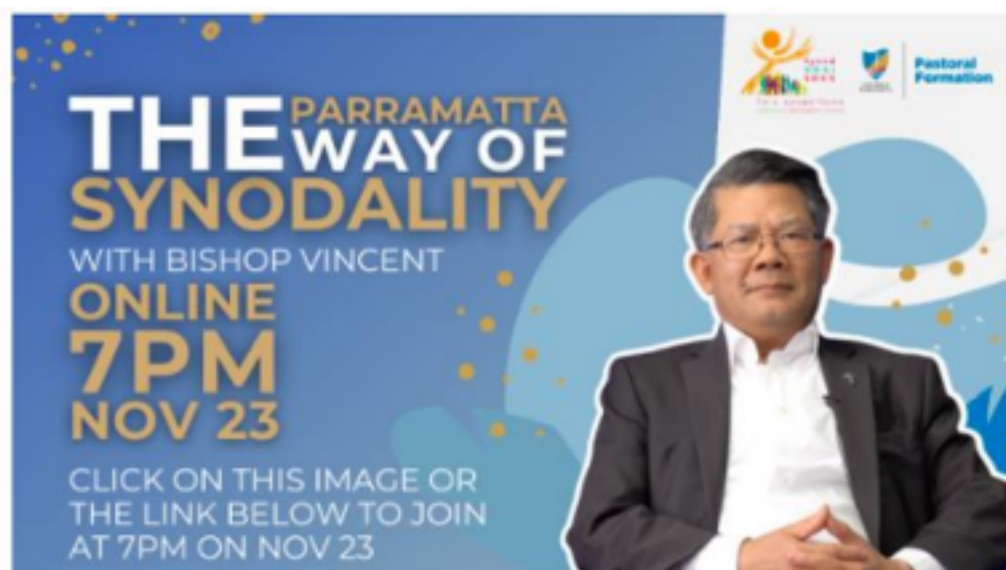


- 2 If you have more than one child at the school, you will be prompted to select the child you will be submitting the attendance note for. Tap on the child.





3	<p>You will be presented with the following screen.</p> <p>From here you can select the Reason, add the Details/Comment for the request, and add the Start/Finish dates of the Attendance Note.</p> <p>By default, the Start/Finish dates will display today's date.</p>	
4	<p>Tap on one of the Reasons to select it for the Attendance Note.</p>	
5	<p>Now enter the Details/Comments for the Attendance Note. This is a mandatory field, with a minimum of 10 characters required.</p> <p>If there is no need to adjust the dates/times of the Attendance Note, you can click 'Save'. The Attendance Note will be added to your child's profile.</p>	
6	<p>If you need to change the dates for the Attendance Note, tap on the Start date..</p> <p>If required, tap on the left &lt; or right &gt; arrows to move between months.</p> <p>Once the date has been chosen, tap OK.</p> <p>Repeat this process to select the Finish date.</p> <p><i>Note: You can only add an Attendance note for up to 7 days in the past, and leave applications greater than 5 teaching days cannot be added via the App. Please contact the school in these instances.</i></p>	
7	<p>Once finished updating the dates/times you can click 'Save'. The Attendance Note will be added to your child's profile.</p>	



Dear friends in faith,

On this third of three workshops on synodality, Bishop Vincent shares  
on

"The Parramatta Way of Synodality" - his hopes for the diocese that  
echo Pope Francis' vision for a more synodal Church.

Please join us on Tuesday, 23 November for this FREE LIVE  
SESSION by clicking on the link below

<https://dioceseofparramatta.zoom.us/j/99536498434>



Are you a fan of the JUST! series by Andy Griffiths & Terry Denton? Why not try your hand at writing a similar short story!

# JUST write!

## Writing Competition

Write a short story and win a BIG\* prize.

For more details and to enter visit:  
<https://para.city/justwritecompetition>

\*Prize is subject to the rules



CITY OF PARRAMATTA LIBRARIES





## MERCY SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications are now open for Year 7, 2023 Mercy Scholarships for:

- Academic Excellence
- Music Excellence
- OLMC Parramatta Alumnae

[www.olmc.nsw.edu.au](https://olmc.nsw.edu.au)

Currently seeking Year 7, 2023

PRAY • COMPASSION • JUSTICE • FAITH • EXCELLENCE • HOSPITALITY • SCHOLARSHIP • SERVICE

Dear young people, do not be afraid of making decisive choices in life. Have faith; the Lord will not abandon you!"

*Pope Francis*



### **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.

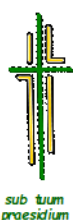
### **FEEDBACK and COMPLAINTS**

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>

For the telecast of Weekend mass follow this link:

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



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