

Newsletter

31st March, 2022 Term 1 Week 10



Dear Parents and Caregivers

Yesterday the school was very pleased to be able to welcome visitors into the classroom for a meet and greet with their child's teacher and for parents to be able to see what the children have been learning this term.

Some of you may have noticed that displays in the classroom spaces are filled with co constructed work which where possible is at the student's height. The purpose of this is that the walls have become what contemporary theories and research call the 'third teacher' and it is informed by the Reggio Emilia approach.

The third teacher environment respects the children as collaborators and partners in their own learning and is central to learning success. Some of the features of the classroom spaces include learning intentions and success criteria. The theory behind this work and why it is so effective in improving learning outcomes is the idea that if the learner and teacher has a clear understanding of what they are trying to learn/teach and how this learning looks, they will be more likely to be engaged, take ownership, seek feedback and be able to assess how they are going. In fact when the staff go on learning walks we will often ask the children these questions which I encourage you to ask as home:

What are you learning?

How are you going?

How do you know?

How can you improve?

Where can you go for help?

Some other features which you may have noticed are there to encourage assessment capable learners and includes: bump it up walls, examples of mentor texts, examples of exemplars, vocabulary walls, knows and need to knows, anchor charts with some basic information that the students may need to reference, as well as displays of the children's efforts in areas such as art and science.

I speak about this concept often because over my years in education I notice that success seems to come for children when the learning becomes important to **them**. Sometimes this happens before high school but sometimes you see this after Year 7. Teachers have been working really hard to explain to the children why they are learning certain concepts and skills and how this learning will assist across key learning areas. Knowing what learning looks like, that is the success criteria, thus enables the children to know how they are going. The success criteria often begins with - I know I am successful when I can, know or understand... This success criteria is then often used for Assessment of and for learning.

I hope the children were able to guide you through the learning in their classrooms and that they may have even introduced you to the 'third teacher'.

God bless you and your family

Bernadette Fabri

Principal



Honour Award

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



KA	George Mourad	Jean Gilchrist
KM	Elijah-Michael Gebrael	Jordyn Dardas
1C	Francis Rahme	Caterina Boulos
1S	Adrian Jreij	Lara Alphonse
2M	John-Luke Rahme	Mila Moses
2Y	Emilie Blazek	Abel Moses

st patrick's award

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

KA	Luke Shaw	Isabelle Kazzi
KM	Adam Saman	Jacqueline Ndaira
1C	Gabriel Saba	Gabriel Higoy
1S	Bella Younis	Elena Sunwar
2M	Rosalia Daher	Elijah Baysari
2Y	Daniel Lawrence	Saria-Jo Eid





Honour Award

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



3L	Isla-Rose Eid	Leah Wahbe
3T	Jude Hudson	Joanna Angela Khoury
4B	Georgia-Rose Rizk	Joshua Day
4G	Ashton Grohs	Mariah Jreij
5C	Daniel Samaan	Hannah Scanlon
5T	Angelina Bounassif	Rose Rizk
6P	Gabriel Kalouche	Jazmyne Drosos
6W	Gabriella Volante	Phillip Ayoub



st patrick's award

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

3L	Hannah Nasr	Allen Elias
3T	Victoria Adaymy	Sebastian Vella
4B	Kayla Amaral	Ethan Sivashanmugam
4G	Jacinta Malkoun	Mika Liu
5C	Sarah Loader	Dominic Coles
5T	Joseph Norman	Hunter Morson
6P	Anthony Sassen	Abbey Matta
6W	Isabelle Tannous	Paul Khouri



Meet and Greet

Thank you to all the parents who came to Yesterday's Meet and Greet. It was very satisfying to see so many parents engaged in the learning of their children by taking the time to visit. It was also a good opportunity for us to show off our new learning spaces in Kindergarten to Year 4. We fully understand that some parents could not attend due to children being unwell or isolation requirements. If you would like to drop in to meet your child's teacher please contact the school office through the school email.

Absences from School

All absences from school are required to be explained within 7 days of the absence, as per CEDP guidelines.

The quickest and easiest way to do this is, is to reply to the text message sent to you at 9.45am via the Compass Parent Portal. If you are aware that you're child is going to be away you can enter it before 9.45 am by going into the Compass Parent Portal and add attendance. Alternatively an email to the school : stpatricksparra@parra.catholic.edu.au. or phoning 8832 4600 is acceptable.

When entering the reason for the absence if you can please detail their illness so that we can manage as a community any outbreaks of illnesses such as Gastro, Colds/Flu or Covid.

On occasions this form of communication may not make it to us. In this instance the office will send home with your child an unexplained absence letter, as the absence remains unexplained. It would be greatly appreciated if you receive this letter that it is returned immediately.

Should you need any assistance with the Compass Parent Portal please contact me on 8832 4600.

Regards

Mrs Jones

TIPS FOR HOME READING



- The less you interrupt the 10 minutes of reading, the more you are supporting the readers independence, resilience and confidence. Zip your lips, monitor the miscues, and listen as your child reads.
- Avoid judging your child's reading with words such as: 'good', 'excellent' or 'getting better'. Instead say things about the strategies your child uses when reading such as: 'I like how you read on when you came to that difficult word.' 'I like how you changed your voice to be the voice of the character in the story'. 'I noticed that you reread the bit that did not make sense.'

NAPLAN NEWS

This year students in Year 3, 5 7 and 9 will participate in NAPLAN online. **Year 3** complete **Reading, Conventions of Language** and **Mathematics** online. Year 3 complete writing with pen and paper. **Year 5** complete **Writing, Reading, Conventions of Language** and **Mathematics** online. ***All students are required to use headphones during the test so they can hear verbal instructions without disrupting other students.***

During NAPLAN testing students will be organised into smaller groups and tests will take place either in the classroom, hall or library space. The smaller groups allow for less stress on the wifi access points within the spaces. Teachers will be allocated to each group and protocols for each group will remain the same.

NAPLAN CALENDAR

Week 1				
	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
Monday 9/5	Tuesday 10/5	Wednesday 11/5	Thursday 12/5	Friday 13/5
No Testing Scheduled today	Writing (online - 42 mins)	Reading (online - 50 mins)	Language Conventions (online - 45 mins)	Numeracy (online - 50 mins)
No Testing Scheduled today	Writing (paper - 40 mins)	Reading (online - 45 mins)	Language Conventions (online - 45 mins)	Numeracy (online - 45 mins)
		Catch Up for Writing as needed		
Week 2				
Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9
Monday 16/5	Tuesday 17/5	Wednesday 18/5	Thursday 19/5	Friday 20/5
Catch up Sessions for Reading, Conventions and Mathematics as needed				
Catch up Sessions for Reading, Conventions and Mathematics as needed				

Key features of NAPLAN online



Students receive a tailored assessment

Tailored testing adapts to student responses in real time, and gives them questions based on their achievement level. Receiving questions better suited to their ability will result in a more precise assessment.



Students receive an engaging assessment

Australian research and trials into online assessment show students engage well with electronic tests. The targeted questions of either higher or lower complexity, depending on the student's performance, will encourage students to stay engaged with the tests.

CONTACTING YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER AND OTHER SCHOOL STAFF

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

At **St Patrick's Primary School**, we value our strong relationship with families and welcome opportunities to communicate with parents and carers. We also recognise that email is a fast and convenient way to contact your child's teacher or other school staff.

Although staff will read their emails at various times throughout the school day, they are generally not expected to respond to emails outside of normal working hours. In the case of an emergency please contact the school office on **stpatricksparra@parra.catholic.edu.au** or phone **8832 4600**. Mrs Jones, Mrs Mitterer or Mrs Baaini will return your call or respond to your email as soon as possible.

If you wish to contact a staff member, please continue to send your emails to: **stpatricksparra@parra.catholic.edu.au** which will then be directed to your child's teacher or another relevant staff member. This helps us to have confidence that we are aware of any matters needing our attention as a team, and that you are connected to the person who can best help.

Thank you so much for your assistance and understanding.

If you have any questions about the above please contact **Miss Fabri** on **8832 4600**

Kind regards

Bernadette Fabri

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday to all the children who will celebrate over the next week, we hope you have a great birthday -
Olivia Sahyoun, Rebecca Black, Edward McCloskey, Joseph Wehbe, Mary Roumanus, Elizabeth Aitkins, Elise Dahrie, Andrew Batti



Congratulations to the Abboud Family (Marcella 3T & Antoun 1C) on the birth of their little girl, Adele

MOBILE PHONES

With the convenience of communication afforded to us by mobile phones and smart watches we understand the importance for some parents to issue their children these devices. From Term 2 children will be required to log their phones in the office, in the morning, and collect them in the afternoon.

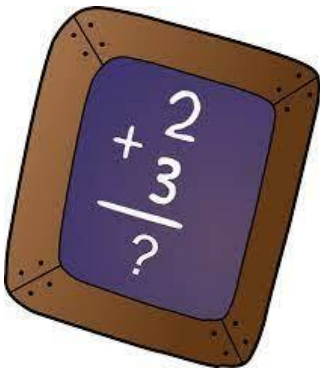
If children wear Smart watches to school they must have the access to phonecalls during school hours. It is critical that the one point of communication to parents comes from the school only. If this is breached the child will not be permitted to wear smart watches at school.

If your child is bringing a mobile phone to school I strongly recommend that you have a conversation with them with regard to cyber safety and the appropriate use of these smartphones. If you have the facility perhaps you can regularly check, through the history, what your children are viewing. May I suggest that at these young ages there is no place for privacy when it comes to what sites your children are accessing. Children often share their viewing with other children and so there is an added responsibility for them to do the right thing.

If you feel that your child is not able to manage this responsibility perhaps they are not ready to have a phone yet. Good training is essential and the best way to do this is by having clear guidelines and good role modelling.

Happy to hear your feedback as always.

Regards
Bernadette Fabri



Helping your Kindergarten child at home with Mathematics

This guide from the new K-2 Mathematics syllabus can help you support your Kindergarten children at home.

Measurement and space

Geometric measure

Geometric measure focuses on:

- position and direction
- measuring length.

You can help your Kindergarten child at home by:

- reading *Going on a bear Hunt* by Michael Rosen. Act out the positional language or sing the song using the actions
- playing time-measured or distance-measured races using toy cars, marbles or paper aeroplanes. Use the language of *1st*, *2nd* and *3rd* to describe their positions at the end of the race
- singing, dancing and playing left and right games and songs. For example, singing and dancing The Hokey Pokey
- comparing lengths of socks from toe to top while matching pairs from the washing pile.



This week through Project Compassion we learn about Shaniella who is attending a vocational school in the Solomon Islands supported by Caritas Australia Solomon Islands (CASI).

Not long after Shaniella started, the school was hit by a landslide, flooding, and a cyclone, all in quick succession.

With your kind support, CASI helped install water tanks, restoring clean water access to nearby schools, health centres and the wider community. Training was held in agricultural skills to help boost the school community's food security, as well as in environmental risk management and emergency responses.

Now, Shaniella can complete her skills training, with enough water and food to eat, and improved sanitation. She is improving her ability to earn an income, learning skills which will expand her job opportunities. Students are also better prepared to respond when disaster strikes.

Watch a short film about Shaniella's story [here](#).

Please support Project Compassion:

<https://fundraise.projectcompassion.org.au/stpatricksprimaryschoolparramatta>



Term Dates

Term 1 - Friday 28th January to Friday 8th April

Term 2 - Tuesday 26th April - Friday 1st July

Term 3 - Monday 18th July - Friday 23rd September

Term 4 - Monday 10th October - Tuesday 20th December

** 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 DATES

Day 1 Friday 28th January 2022

Day 2 Monday 30th January 2022

Day 3 Friday 10th June - Writing (Before the long weekend)

Day 4 Friday 23rd September - Formation (Last day of TM 3)

Day 5 TBC

Day 6 Tuesday 20th December 2022

SDD's will be communicated to you as soon as possible when confirmed

Lent for Families:

Jesus' response to those who accuse the woman is more than a caution to us about making judgement of others. It is a profound lesson in divine mercy and forgiveness. As sinners, we are all unworthy to judge the sins of others and we would stand convicted by God for our transgressions. Yet Jesus, the one without sin and thus our judge, offers us who are sinners his mercy and forgiveness. Redeemed by Jesus' compassion, we are sent to sin no more and to live in God's love and peace.



Lent Activity

Show a magnifying glass and ask the children to describe its uses. Allow the children to look at a number of items with the magnifying glass.

What happens when we use a magnifying glass? (Small things appear larger than they are.)

In the Gospel reading this week, a woman who has committed a terrible sin is brought to Jesus. Those who bring her to Jesus expect him to think that this sin is so big that it cannot be forgiven. They believe that this woman should be punished with death. We make good choices, and sometimes we make bad choices. No one is without sin. It is part of being human. God knows this. God sees all of us, and loves us. Sometimes when we look at other people, and sometimes even when we look at ourselves, we notice every fault, seeing others and ourselves as if through a magnifying glass. Yet Jesus shows us that God doesn't look at us as with a magnifying glass; God doesn't highlight our faults and our sins. God sees each of us completely and really, as we might see ourselves in a mirror. God forgives our sins so that we can become the people God wants us to be.



We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to the Younis Family (James 3L & Bella 1S) on the passing of their Grandmother.

Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

CONVERSATION STARTERS ABOUT CYBER SAFETY (link)

These questions are designed to be used in a family to start everyday conversations about online safety. The questions cover topics such as identifying online risks, using technology safely and reporting unsafe behaviour. Use them together with the information at eSafety kids, and empower kids to take control of their online experiences.

Who would you go to if something negative happened online?

Not everyone online is who they say they are

Most people who contact you online just want to be friends or chat.

The problem is that not everyone is like this. People can also pretend to be someone else online.

Someone could pretend to be a kid your own age, then harm you by tricking you into doing something rude or sexual online.

It could be a stranger, or it could be someone you know. It can be hard to know what to look out for.

Things to watch out for

- You feel that something is not right — trust your feelings.
- Things don't add up — their online profile does not match what you see and hear when you talk or chat with them.
- They tell you their webcam is broken — sometimes people who want to harm you pretend to be a boy or girl your own age and say their webcam is broken so you can't see them.
- They contact you all the time and in different ways — you meet in an online game and they ask you to start texting them.
- They ask you who else uses your computer or tablet — or even which room of your house you are in.
- They ask you for favours and do things in return — people who want to harm you often use promises and favours to gain your trust.
- They say nice things about the way you are dressed or your body — or ask things like 'have you ever been kissed'?
- They insist on meeting — they keep talking about meeting in person or try to make you feel bad if you say no.
- They ask you to keep your relationship secret — people who want to harm you often try to keep their relationships private from the beginning..



School holiday announcement:

Next Level Sports Clinic is happy to announce that we have been approved to go ahead and we will be back in action this coming school holidays! To make a booking please email nextlevelsports@live.com.au or contact Mr Younis.

Holiday Clinic dates:

Clinic 1: 13th & 14th April.

Clinic 2: 20th, 21st & 22nd April.

More exciting news:

Spartans is back!

Sessions will recommence on the 3rd of May Term 2, every Tuesday of the school term from 3:30pm to 4:30pm. All existing Spartans and anyone new who would like to join our Tuesday afternoon class to please contact Mr Younis.

Thank you and welcome back!

Mr David Younis

nextlevelsports@live.com.au

EASTER SCHOOL HOLIDAYS			APRIL 2022	
COST: \$40 per day/ \$180 for 5 days / Aftercare 3-5 pm \$15 AGES: 5 - 13 years WHAT TO BRING: MORNING TEA, LUNCH, WATER BOTTLE & HAT				
MON 11 APR 9AM-3PM	Basketball Soccer Jiu-Jitsu Advertising	WEEK 1		
TUE 12 APR 9AM-3PM	Boxing Handball AcroSport Clay/Pottery			
WED 13 APR 9AM-3PM	Oztag Table Tennis Boxing Block Master			
THU 14 APR 9AM-3PM	Martial Art Dodge Ball Laser Tag Art & Crafts			
<i>CLOSED EASTER LONG WEEKEND FRIDAY 15TH - MONDAY 18TH APRIL</i>			WEEK 2	
TUE 19 APR 9AM-3PM	Lacross Hockey Martial Arts Drawing & Costume Competition			
WED 20 APR 9AM-3PM	Soccer Boxing AcroSport Clay/ Pottery			
THU 21 APR 9AM-3PM	Laser Tag Archery Bollywood Dance Sketching			
FRI 22 APR 9AM-3PM	Basketball Cricket Fitness Art & Craft			
 LIFE CHANGING	 BOOKINGS: (02) 9635 824 pccnsw.org.au/parramatta/school-holidays	BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL, SPOTS LIMITED!		

FESTIVAL OF DEMOCRACY

FREE
EVENT

MAKE

Festival of Democracy at the Parliament of NSW

Friday 22 April
9am - 3pm

Celebrate democracy at Australia's oldest Parliament with free, fun activities for children from four to 12 years, and their families.

- Give a speech in the Parliamentary chambers
 - Make craft animals and objects
 - Learn how to vote
 - Visit our heritage rooms
 - Participate in a committee role play
 - Purchase a Democracy sausage
- and more...*



FREE ENTRY

Activities 9am to 3pm

LOCATION

Parliament of New South Wales,
6 Macquarie Street
Opposite Martin Place

The public café will be open.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL



P: (02) 9230 2047 or

E: communityengagement@parliament.nsw.gov.au



We must dream of a society that “can jealously preserve its overwhelming and the superabundant life teeming in its rivers and forests”

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 Standring (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>

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