



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Tomorrow is the last day of Term One and I would like to thank you once again for all that you have done to support the school and the children's learning. They have all settled in well so far this year, especially our little ones in Kindergarten. Parents of Kindergarten children may have noticed an increased sense of confidence and self efficacy; a state we would like to keep encouraging them to develop throughout the year.

On behalf of the staff I would like to sincerely thank you all for your generous expressions of gratitude through your words or gestures. I know that the staff appreciates these acts of kindness and thanks and the treats often makes their day. Thank you so much!

During his holiday break may I encourage you to go with the family to celebrate the beautiful liturgies of Holy Week at the Cathedral or your local parish. Please keep yourselves well and safe until we return to be together again in Term 2, Tuesday 26th April, 2022.

God Bless you and your family

Bernadette Fabri

Principal

Let Us Pray this Easter

We pray for the world-wide church, our local diocese and our parish. May the church at every level be a vibrant community of the Holy Spirit. Lord, hear us.

We pray for all who looked forward to being baptised at the Easter Vigil this year. May they await their full initiation with patience, faith and hope. Lord, hear us.

We pray for leaders guiding their nations throughout the world. May they chart the way forward with peace, wisdom, justice and courage. Lord, hear us.

We renew our thanks for the dedicated workers and volunteers maintaining essential community services, especially at this time. May they enjoy our full and lasting appreciation. Lord, hear us.

We pray for the needy and vulnerable in our midst. May welfare agencies and the whole community come to their aid. Lord, hear us.

We pray for teachers and support staff throughout the school system. May they enjoy the blessings of a well earned rest. Lord, hear us.

We pray for all whose diversity of culture enriches the life of the nation. May their contribution to the vitality of society be valued and welcomed. Lord, hear us.

We pray for our families, friends and fellow parishioners. May our sharing in this Easter Season deepen our desire to live the gospel ever more fully. Lord, hear us.

We pray for the recently deceased and for those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time. May they see the face of God and live. Lord, hear us.



Honour Award

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



| | | |
|----|-------------------|----------------|
| KA | Braulio Solis | Elias Saab |
| KM | Zachariah Abu-Ali | Lourdes Malek |
| 1C | Antoun Abboud | Maddy Cruz |
| 1S | Marcus Wijesuriya | Nicholas Chu |
| 2M | Sienna Sousou | Mitchell Daher |
| 2Y | Evie Grohs | Louis Wehbe |

st patrick's award

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



| | | |
|----|-----------------|-------------------|
| KA | Tia Bayssari | Theodore Stonham |
| KM | Sofia Wehbe | Peter Kahwaji |
| 1C | Natalya Wakim | William Elias |
| 1S | John-Paul Wahbe | Hannah Wehbe |
| 2M | Juana Boby | Vittorio Lo Surdo |
| 2Y | Irene Tony | Luke Lahood |





Honour Award

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

| | | |
|----|----------------------|------------------|
| 3L | Esperanza Thompson | Edward McCloskey |
| 3T | Sophia Zhang | Jessica Lim |
| 4B | Benji Kalouche | Mia Daher |
| 4G | Jacinta Malkoun | Elaine Xue |
| 5C | Sara Lorenzo | Levi Jaitani |
| 5T | Alessandra De Guzman | Olivia Fayad |
| 6P | Gabrielle Vella | Joel Lahoud |
| 6W | Mia Wehbe | Germain Toledo |



st patrick's award

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| | | |
|----|---------------------|-----------------|
| 3L | Olivia Rizk | George Rizk |
| 3T | Samson Sayegh | Liam Makhoul |
| 4B | Christian Chivers | Charbela Chedid |
| 4G | Scarlett Jaitani | Michael Sunwar |
| 5C | Bailey Grohs | Antonia Romanos |
| 5T | Wren Chua | Isaiah Abu-Ali |
| 6P | Makayla Kalouch | Richard Do |
| 6W | Christian Donaldson | Steven Abraham |



Mother's Day Activities

Mother's Day Stall - Tuesday 3rd March

- If you are able to assist in Week 1 of Term 2 with wrapping our "packs" please email the school.
- Helpers and payments for the Mother's Day stall will be requested at a later time.

Keep this date free - Friday 6th May

- Mother's Day Mass morning
- Mother's Picnic on the playground (More details to come)
- Mother's Day Assembly (2 sessions to allow for suitable seating and room - more information to come)

CHECKING CLOTHING FOR NAMES

Holidays are a great time to check school items and clothing for correct labels. It is always recommended to label all items of clothing with your child's name and class so they can be returned to you if they are lost.

Please spend some time during the break to check any items of clothing as we have had a few reports of lost items , especially from Kindergarten students. Any items with incorrect labelling can be sent to the school office and we will ensure they are returned to their rightful owners.

NB: If you are seeking a spare piece of uniform and are happy with a second hand item please email the office, as the school has a surplus of spare uniforms donated for use in case of emergencies. Especially jackets/jumpers.

Thanks for your help with this

PLEASE HAVE YOUR SAY! PROPOSED SCHOOL TIME CHANGE

All parents are encouraged to give feedback with regard to the proposed change in school start and finishing times. This is just an idea worth investigating so please share your thoughts with us by completing the survey sent last Monday.

<https://forms.gle/Aaj68TR7BjprvdiMA>

Thank you to all the parents who have already filled it in. Close of survey: Sunday 24th April, 2022.

TIPS FOR HOME READING

If your child is reading independently and has reached the level of chapter books, it is not necessary for you to read aloud together any more. Your job is done. That is not to say, you cannot continue to share reading time because it is what you love to do as a family or that you sit and read silently together or that you talk about the books your child is reading because you are interested in his reading choices. Readers read differently in their heads as compared to reading aloud.



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.

St Patrick's Primary School NAPLAN Schedule:

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 | | | | |

Kindergarten 2023



A Letter of Offer has been sent out to siblings for a place in Kindergarten 2023. The Agreement Acceptance form need to be signed and returned to the office by the 29th April, with a \$100 deposit. The deposit can be paid by QKR or EFTPOS over the phone or in the office.

All other First Round Letters of Offer will be going out shortly.

Tailored testing

Key benefits of tailored testing



Adaptive tests are more engaging for students, which may encourage them to remain focused till the end.



Difficulty of questions changes based on student achievement, testing a wider range of skills without increasing test length.

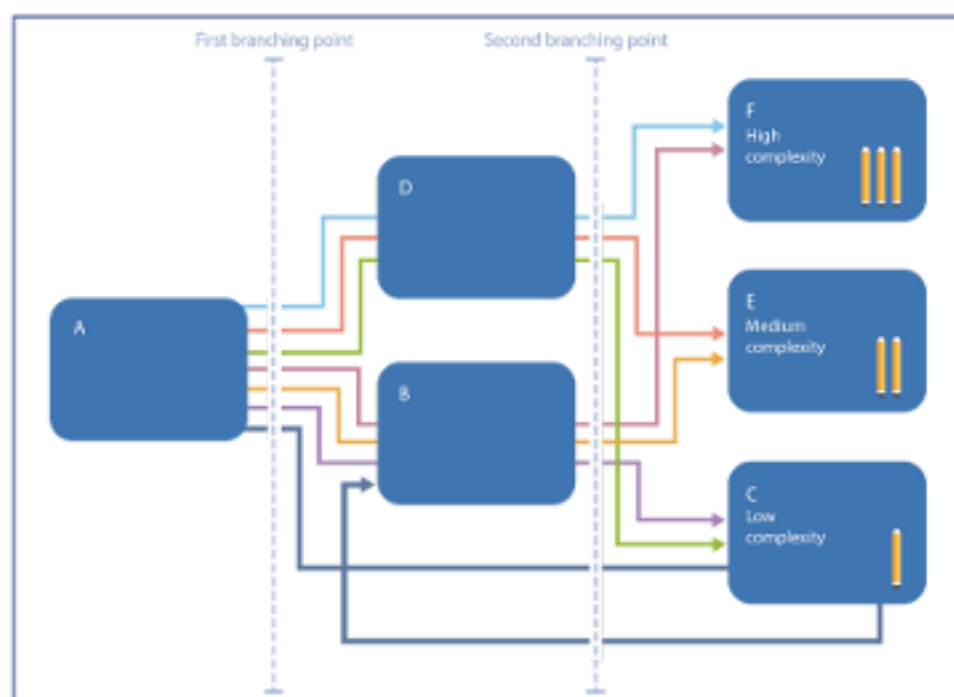


Measures student achievement more precisely than the paper tests.

How does tailored testing work?

The NAPLAN tailored tests:

- automatically adapt to a student's test performance and asks questions that match the student's achievement level
- allow all students to demonstrate their knowledge, thereby encouraging the students to stay engaged with the tests
- provide students with a message on-screen to advise that they have reached the end of a testlet and are now at a branching point in the test.



Visit the ACARA website to learn more about [tailored testing](#) and view a [brief explanatory video](#).

How can results be comparable?

Results are based on both the number and difficulty of the questions the student answered correctly. A student who completes a more complex set of questions is more likely to achieve a higher score, while a student who answers the same number of questions correctly, but follows a less complex pathway, will achieve a lower score.

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 and school holidays. We hope you have a great birthday -



Emily Tejada, Joanna Angela Khoury, Madeleine Talbot, Christian Jaitani, Frank Hunter, Jordyn Dardas, Natalie Kahwaji, Luke Wehbe, Christopher Hanna, Shavene Perera, Pierre El Bayeh, George Nassif, Patrick Saab, Isaac Wehbe, Marcelino El Halabi, Sophia Khoury, Celine Joachim, Gabriella Semaan, Sierra Usman, Isaiah Johnston, James Singh, Maroun Mourad, John-Luke Rahme, April Soh, Sebastian Malek, Ava Khouri, Marcella Abboud, Troy Daniel, Jean Gilchrist, Charlie Chua, Jacqueline Ndaira, Frank Malkoun, Elijah-Michael Gebrael, Alexandra Nasr. Albie Soh, Michael Agostino, Fleur Perrett, Jonah Khoury

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.

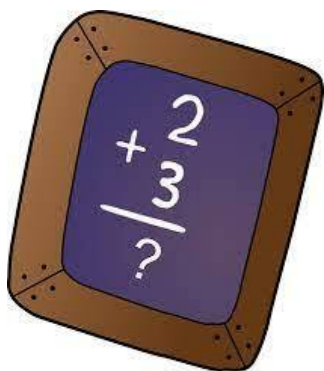
If children wear Smart watches to school they must have the access to phonecalls during school hours. It is critical that the one point of communication to parents comes from the school only. If this is breached the child will not be permitted to wear smart watches at school.

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

Two-dimensional spatial structure

2D spatial structure focuses on:

- recognising, representing and describing common 2D shapes
- describing and comparing area.

You can help your Kindergarten child at home by:

- identifying shapes such as circles, triangles, rectangles and squares around your home
- using digital technology and word-processing applications to make a variety of 2D shapes on the computer
- using pop sticks to make a variety of 2D shapes on flat surfaces
- using flattened playdough with cookie cutters in a variety of 2D shapes
- designing 2D shape picture collages
- collecting a variety of leaves and comparing their area by placing one on top of the other to see which takes up the more/less surface space
- investigating a collection of different coins to see which uses the greatest/smallest area by stacking them.

As we enter Holy Week, we continue to reflect on the lives of people vulnerable to extreme poverty and injustice and how we can respond through supporting Caritas Australia's Project Compassion appeal.

Your generosity is the pebble that allows Caritas Australia to create the ripples that will improve the livelihoods of vulnerable communities, supporting them to flourish and create opportunities for future generations to live to their full potential and thrive.

Thank you!

The School is cashless so please support through these links. Please do not send money to school. So far we have raised \$268 through the website. Thank you to many of you who have donated! Your generosity is appreciated.

Please support Project Compassion: Please donate using this link or the QR code below:

<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



A big thank you to all who have donated and contributed the most gorgeous flowers and vines. You are so generous and may God bless you all!

Lent for Families:

3-Minute Retreat.

Palm Sunday, also called Passion Sunday, marks the beginning of Holy Week. During this week, Christians prepare themselves for Easter by prayerful reflection upon the events of Jesus' passion and death. During this week, your family might display a crucifix in a prominent place as reminder of salvation Christ for us. This can also serve as the focal point for family prayer during Holy Week.



Even as he is suffering, Jesus remains loving and forgiving. He asks God to forgive the people who crucify him. When the criminal asks Jesus to remember him, Jesus tells the criminal that he will be with him in heaven.

If we have faith in Jesus and follow his way of love, we too will be with him in heaven one day. We might feel sad hearing about Jesus' death, but we can celebrate because Jesus died for our sins. He prepared the way for us to share eternal life with God in heaven.

Jesus, we thank and praise you for saving us from our sins. We will follow your way of love and forgiveness, today and every day. Amen.

The Symbols of Holy Week

The liturgies of Holy Week are filled with some of the richest and most ancient symbols of the Catholic faith. **The waving of palms** on Passion (Palm) Sunday reminds Christians they are called to be followers of Jesus, not just fans who cheer from a distance. **The washing of feet on Holy Thursday** speaks to Christians of the selfless love who are called to practise in imitation of Jesus. **The veneration of the cross on Good Friday** reminds Christians, that through Jesus anything can be overcome, even death. **The lighting of the Easter fire** in a darkened church and the celebration of baptisms on **Holy Saturday** speak to Christians of the new life because of Jesus' triumph over the darkness of sin and death through his resurrection.

International Dance Day

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Friday 29 April (Friday Week 1 Term 2) is International Dance Day. International Dance Day is a celebration of the art of dance, but it's also so much more than that. It is a time where the students and staff can celebrate being together.

The Year 6 Arts Committee invites all interested students to prepare their dancing shoes and share their love of dance with the St Patrick's Community. If your child is interested, please help them fill in the slip below with the name of the group and the number of participants. Each dance should not exceed 3 minutes in length. Please note each child can only belong to one group so they have time to learn one dance.

We ask parents to tick the box to signify you have checked the chosen music to ensure the words are appropriate for a school audience. Practice will be done in your child's free time, so maybe they can organise time during recess or lunch breaks. Small electronic devices (ipods, or phones with access to music apps) can be signed into the office and signed out during recess/lunch breaks if music is needed for practice. If you normally arrange holiday playdates you may wish to spend some time together working on the dance. As it is a day of celebration students can also wear mufti clothes. Gold coin donations will be collected to go towards some large lego pieces for creative outdoor play. This will be done through QKR or by phone, as we are cashless.

Closer to the date Mrs Standring will organise a schedule of performances.

We can't wait to celebrate this wonderful day together and look forward to seeing your child's creativity and the outstanding performances.

Mrs Standring and the Arts Committee

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My child/ren In class , would like to participate in International Dance Day. They will be part of the Group. There are members of the group.

I have listened to the words and they are appropriate for a school audience.

Parents signature

[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.

More tips on online safety

1. If you see something online you don't like — show your mum, dad, carer or a trusted adult immediately. [Find out more.](#)
2. If someone you don't know sends you a message or you receive a message that makes you feel uncomfortable or unsafe — tell your mum, dad, carer or an adult you trust straight away. [Find out more.](#)
3. Only 'friend' or add people you know in real life — remember that not everyone online is who they say they are, so don't accept friend requests or followers you don't know.
4. Don't meet up with online friends — It is best to keep 'online friends' online, so if you do chat to other kids in online games don't meet up with them in person.



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



We must dream of a society that welcomes the message of the Gospel, that is, the proclamation of "a God who infinitely loves every man and woman and has revealed this love fully in Jesus Christ, crucified for us and risen in our lives"

[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.

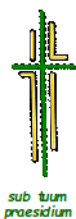
Access to counselling services can be made by contacting your child's classroom teacher or Ms Fabri, who will then put forward a referral. Mrs Ricketts will then contact you for further information. Further details can be found in previous newsletters.

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 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>

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