

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Last week the children in Years 3 and 5 received their National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results for 2022. Children sat for these assessments earlier in the year, from Tuesday 10 May – Friday 20 May and elements of learning tested included: aspects of literacy such as; reading, spelling, grammar and punctuation and writing, as well as numeracy. Whilst we understand that these results are only indicators of how the students performed on the one day, it is always satisfying for the school to get some very good results; and this year was no exception. The online package that comes to schools to support the NAPLAN data is extensive and the teachers and teacher leaders are still analyzing where the school made significant gains and areas for further development. Some of the analysis so far is as follows:

YEAR 3

- 58 students sat for NAPLAN 2022
- An Average 100 185 students sat for NAPLAN in NSW
- School average is well above the State and CEDP average in all areas tested.
- The percentage of students in the **top two bands** ie Bands 5 and 6 was above the state in all areas and were particularly pleasing (Reading 74.1%, Writing 79.3%, Numeracy. 50%, Grammar & Punctuation 69%, and Spelling 72.4%)
- An area for focused further improvement is in the area of interpreting multi stage word problems Numeracy.
- Trend data shows an upward trend in all areas since 2021

YEAR 5

- 61 students sat for NAPLAN 2017
- An average 101 322 students sat for NAPLAN in NSW
- School average is above the State and CEDP average in all areas tested but particularly in Reading, Writing and Numeracy.
- The percentage of students in the **top two bands** ie Bands 7 and 8 was above the state in Numeracy and Reading. (Reading 52.5%, Writing 26.2%, Numeracy 34.4%, Grammar & Punctuation 34.4%, and Spelling 39.3%)
- An area for focused further improvement is in the area of Writing particularly spelling
- Trend data shows an upward trend in Reading, Writing and Numeracy since 2021
- No growth data was available this year as students did not partake in NAPLAN in 2020

Teachers will continue to use the NAPLAN results to assist them to; better understand the learning needs of individual students in their class, to observe patterns and trends in specific question items and to take further action to target specific literacy and numeracy skills.

NB: NAPLAN is moving to **Term 1**. In 2023, NAPLAN will be held from **Wednesday 15 March to Monday 27 March**.

God bless you and your family

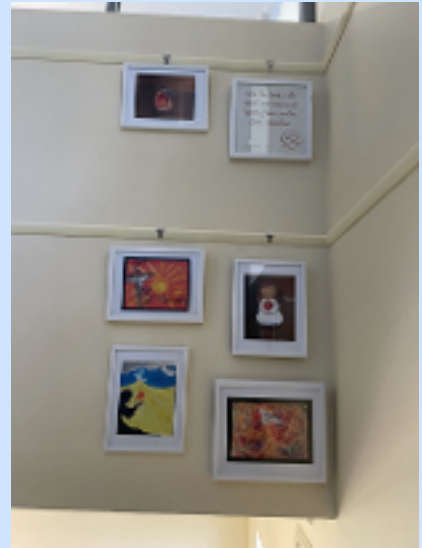
Bernadette Fabri

Principal



Art Showcase - 'My Baptismal Calling'

The Arts Leaders invite all students to participate in St Patrick's Art Showcase. Students can create an artistic piece around '**My Baptismal Calling**';



1 As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. 2 Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. 3 Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. 4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. (Ephesians 4:1-6)

Entries should be no larger than an **A4 sized paper**. **We are asking for a donation for entry and all proceeds will go towards St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal. Donations can be made on the QkR App, as we are a cashless school.**

Entries close Friday 14 October (Week 1, Term 4). All artwork will be displayed throughout the school and students will have the opportunity to vote for the 'People's choice award' on **Monday 17 December. People's choice awards will be framed and displayed on the Faith in Dialogue Gallery.**

Please include the following information on the back of your entry:

Name:

Class:

Title of the Entry:

Brief explanation of artwork.

If your child has achieved an amazing achievement at a state or national level, we would love to share their achievements with our school community. Please send through their name, photograph and a paragraph outlining their achievement. We will endeavour to add them to our weekly Newsletter.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday to all the children who will celebrate over the next week. We hope you have a great birthday - **Mario Kancijanac, Athena Valencia, Emily Lin, Elena Sunwar, Michael El-Khoury, Hannah Nasr, Aaliya Ebrahim, Daniel Lawrence, Phillip Said, Joanthony Tannous**

End of Term 3

Due to Thursday 22nd September being deemed a public holiday and Friday 23rd allocated as a Staff Development Day the last day for students will be Wednesday next week.

Save this date: Friday
25th November, 2022

'Dancing Under the Stars Disco'
5.30pm to 9.00pm



More information to come!

Writer's Workshop with Sue Whiting

Last Monday, Sue Whiting, author, publisher and editor visited our school as part of our 2022 Book Week celebrations. All grades 4 - 6 were given a 1 hour presentation and some lucky students participated in a writing master class. In this workshop Sue Whiting took us on an adventure in the world of writing.

Sue Whiting educated us in how to write interesting stories that are very detailed and engaging. We had an amazing opportunity to learn, write and expand our imaginations. We each had pieces of paper that we could write our ideas on and we could share our creations afterwards. Sue helped us think outside the box and visualise what we see, feel, hear and smell to be able to write a descriptive story.

She taught us that our character needs a goal, a why and a struggle. She put our imaginations to the test by guiding us in a visualisation task and then we created our own stories based only on the information that she gave us. Sue Whiting shared how she wrote her books and how her ideas were based on years of research, true stories and her family history. She taught us about the story triangle. In the story triangle there are characters, places, problems and these are what make up a story.

Sue is such an inspiration and we are so grateful that she visited our school and demonstrated to us better ways to write. She has put so much effort and time into this visit to St Patricks. We appreciate all Mrs O'Dwyers hard work to make this happen because our writing skills have improved so much. St Patricks has enjoyed meeting Sue Whiting and we have learnt so much.

By Olivia Moussa, Josephine Behan, Sara Lorenzo and Celine Joachim, Year 5

Sue Whiting - Author Visit

On Monday this week, years 4, 5 and 6 had the opportunity to meet the fabulous author, editor and publisher, Sue Whiting. Sue explained where she gets her inspiration for writing from and her journey as an author. She allowed us to participate in a quiz about the setting of her latest book, Tilda.

Sue Whiting told us how to put the truth in a lie, she says a "good story is a good lie". A lie that puts you in a new world by using true facts and a sprinkling of lies. This makes the setting of the story authentic. She finds out facts by doing research on the topic of the story.

Sue Whiting's life isn't what you would expect from an author. She explains how she first wakes up and immediately goes to drink coffee, a rule in her house is that no words get written without drinking coffee. First she explained that without coffee she will have no energy to write. She also says that she takes out her writer's journal and writes whatever comes to her mind and that's how she got most of her ideas.

Sue Whiting gets her inspiration from research, speaking with friends or going to the place to see how the area is. She tries to find its activity, to get a better idea along with her other research. E.g. In "Missing" her book about a girl's mother (Mackenzie) who goes missing in Panama, Sue Whiting had to think outside of the box and got CCTV live footage of Panama making her story as authentic as possible.

Our year 5 group were very blessed to be able to meet Sue Whiting, an amazing author of many amazing books, one of which being, Tilda, her latest book. She hosted a quiz, teaching us all, not only the nominated students about significant events in 1901.

We appreciate her coming to our school and teaching us. We now know how much work Sue puts into her books. She has encouraged everyone in year 5 to read her amazing books. A big thank you to Mrs O'Dwyer and the office staff for organising this amazing and educational experience. Thank you Sue Whiting for coming to our school, we hope to see you again.

By Eva Jakopovic, Wren Chua, Zachary Aguilera, Ray Chen and Beth Roumanus in year 5

EDUCATION MASS

Last Thursday 8th September, our school leaders Mia, Christian, Alicia and Isaiah as well as altar servers; Christian, Stephanie, Sara, Paul, Joseph and Olivier attended the Education Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral. Most schools, both Primary and Secondary were represented by their school leaders and members of staff leadership.

As always the children were so beautifully behaved and were a credit to their school and families.



RE News....

Gospel Reading *Luke 16:1-13* Jesus tells a parable about a dishonest steward who is commended for his prudence; one cannot serve both God and money.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Jesus' instruction to use money to win welcome in the 'tents of eternity' is really an encouragement for us to be good stewards who are more concerned with the future than finances. After all, he makes this point after describing a wasteful steward who, for personal gain, dishonestly writes off chunks of money owed to his master – hardly a model citizen. Money is tainted, Jesus says, and it will inevitably fail us. Only the bigger picture and set of relationships we build with it really matters.

So, this Season of Creation we would do well to reflect on how we use both money and the earth's resources. Do we cut corners for our own selfish aspirations, like the dishonest steward? Do we trample the needy for our own gain and comfort, like the contemporaries of Amos? Or might we cooperate with God in lifting the lowly and raising the poor from trash piles and dung heaps? Do we recycle the world's resources, or throw away our unwanted things to accumulate and afflict the poorest? Do we pray with St Paul for those in authority to make right decisions, or do we vote for unjust policies which make the rich richer, the poor poorer, and the earth dirtier?

Jesus tells us that trust is based on performance. If you have shown yourself to be responsible in small things, then you will be trusted with larger things. If you have shown yourself to be careless or dishonest, even in a small matter, you will not be trusted in a more important matter.

Jesus trusts us and wants us to be honest and choose the right path. How do we show we are honest? When can things stop us from choosing the way of Jesus? What can we do?

SEASON OF CREATION by Nick Brodie Taken from Liturgy Help



School holiday announcement:

Next Level Sports is happy to announce that our school holiday clinic is back again! Keep your kids busy, active and away from those screens these holidays.

(and more importantly parents, enjoy the peace and quiet!)

Holiday Clinic dates:

Clinic 1: Wednesday 28th, Thursday 29th & Friday 30th September.

Clinic 2: Wednesday 5th, Thursday 6th & Friday 7th October.

As always, we are limited in numbers so to make a booking or find out more, please email nextlevelsports@live.com.au or contact Mr Younis.

Literacy: Poem Forest

This term, many of the students at St Patrick's have been busy composing poems for the Poem Forest initiative. For every poem submitted, Red Room Poetry will be planting a tree in Mount Annan Botanical Gardens. Every week we will be highlighting some of the wonderful poems submitted by our students:

Year 5	
Angelina Bounassif	<p>In the forest surrounded by a dappled light, I hear the vibration of the bees and the cicadas on the trees, the chirping of the birds, The scuttling of the insects on the grass.</p> <p>I feel a breeze, I search for the sun, drenched, wattled Gum trees, The crystal silvern leaves</p>
Olivia Fayad	<p>Loving a summer day, A season of melting ice creams. Of salty skin and hair, A place where the sunbeams</p> <p>I love her sandy beaches, I love her golden sun, Blissful days living in my memory.</p>
Angelique Saliba	<p>The shimmering sky, Met my eyes. Dappled light, rustling leaves, Sun rise in my sight.</p> <p>Soft palate of colours, Spread across the sky. Long plains of land, Before it was converted to sand.</p> <p>Feeling enclosed, I could stay here all day. Under this tree, Hard sticks lay.</p> <p>June winter breeze, Hit my face. Feathers fall down majestically, Failing to catch them, I wait.</p> <p>Ears start to tingle, Birds crying out. Knocking out all the trees, My phone alarm dings, time to go...</p>

Student Charter Focus

Each week our student leaders are choosing an area from our St Patrick's Student Charter. Our leaders reinforce the students' rights and the responsibilities as part of our morning routine. Throughout the breaks the teachers on duty are looking for students who are modelling the positive behaviours on our playground. These children will receive a super shamrock, in line with our Behaviour Management Policy.

To help the students recall our charter, two large posters have been added to our playground.

This week we are focusing on the **purple** right: As a member of our school community, we have the **right** to...be treated fairly

Therefore we have the **responsibility** to

- **Be fair to others**
- **Be welcoming of others**
- **Be positive**

You may wish to highlight our focus area at home this week as we work together to reinforce safe and appropriate behaviour at St Patrick's Parramatta Primary School.



As a member of our school community, I have the **RIGHT** and **RESPONSIBILITY** to ...



- practise safe and appropriate behaviour
- practise safe and appropriate Internet use
- listen to the teachers who will guide me to be safe
- follow school and class rules
- keep our classroom and playground clean
- pay attention when a teacher or my peers are helping me to learn
- follow and listen to instructions or rules
- take ownership of my learning
- respect other people's opinions
- treat others the way I want to be treated
- speak clearly and use appropriate words
- show courtesy and respect when listening and speaking to others
- be fair to others
- be welcoming of others
- be positive
- use equipment in a safe and appropriate way, including technology
- be respectful of the school and personal property
- use only what resources I need
- ensure that my words and actions do not discredit the school
- wear my uniform with pride

RESPONSIBILITIES

St Patrick's Award

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

Honour Award

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

KA	Vivienne Yuen	Luke Shaw
KM	Peter Kahwaji	Elaine Tony
1C	Flynn Davis	Natasha Khoury
1S	Pierre El Bayeh	Bianca Abdou
2M	Elijah Missak	Mila Moses
2Y	Cienna Joachim	Noah Naudi

KA	Rachel Roumanus	Xavier Broadbridge
KM	Amelia Daher	Elijah-Michael Gebrael
1C	Natalya Wakim	Elsa Shaw
1S	John-Paul Wahbe	Athena Valencia
2M	John-Luke Rahme	Genevieve Tannous
2Y	Amelia Sivashanmugam	Sebastian Malek



St Patrick's Award

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



3L	Leah Wahbe	Hannah Nasr
3T	Deon Don	Joanna Angela Khoury
4B	Benji Kalouche	Mia Golossian
4G	Sofia Bousimon	Logan Munro
5C	Timana Gutierrez Caceres	Fleur Perrett
5T	Hunter Morson	Olivia Moussa
6P	Lara Samar	Tiffany McCloskey
6W	Christian Kalouche	Sienna Khattar

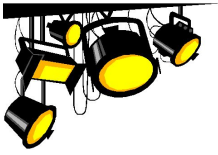


Honour Award

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3L	Ava Khouri	Isaiah Zaiter
3T	Tony Karam	Faith Daniel
4B	Catherine Kwa	Ethan Sivashanmugam
4G	Caroline Youssef	Lourdes Saleh
5C	Eimear Mitchell	Dominic Coles
5T	Isaiah Abu-Ali	Lawson Li
6P	Ava Lao	Alicia Remaili
6W	Isaiah Johnston	Zavier Moujalli





Term 3 Week 9

Spotlight - Year 1

Nicholas Nassif:

Who is your favourite superhero and why?

My favourite superhero is **Spiderman** because he can swing with spider webs and save many people.

What is your favourite sport to play and why?

My favourite sport is **soccer (football)** because it is very fun, you can score goals and it really challenges your athletic ability. I love kicking the ball into the goal and scoring goals with my friends!

If you could eat anything for dinner, what would you choose to eat and why?

I would choose to eat **pasta** because it is long and makes me feel full and it is covered in an absolutely delicious sauce. It's a delicious dish in general.

What do you want to be when you grow up?

I want to be a **soccer coach** because I love soccer and I have played it so I would know the best strategies to use and how to train my players.

What is your favourite subject at school and why?

My favourite subject is **Mathematics** because you can learn many interesting things such as number sentences, addition and subtraction, and it really challenges me to be the best I can be.

Adrian Jreij:

Who is your favourite superhero and why?

My favourite superhero is **Spider Man** because he fights very bad people to save good people and he is super strong.

What is your favourite sport to play and why?

My favourite sport is **footy/nrl** because it has lots of my favourite teams and I like tackling.

If you could eat anything for dinner, what would you choose to eat and why?

If I could eat anything for dinner, I would eat **2minute noodles** because I love the noodle juice.

What do you want to be when you grow up?

When I grow up, I would want to be a **nrl player** because I like to tackle people and run the ball.

What is your favourite subject at school and why?

My favourite subject at school is **writing** because you use your imagination most of the time and I like making up stories using my imagination.

Natalya Wakim:

What is your favourite food to eat? Why?

My favourite food is **chicken nuggets** because they are tasty.

Who is your favourite character in a movie or book and why?

My favourite character is **Elsa from Frozen** because she sings nice songs and has cool powers.

Where has been the best place you have travelled to or visited in the holidays or on a weekend?

My favourite place that I have travelled to in the holidays is **Magenta Shores** because I had so much fun with my sister and brothers.

If you could have any animal as a pet, what animal would you choose and why?

I would choose **a horse** because you can ride them and because they are beautiful and cute.

What is the most special thing in your life and why?

The most special thing in my life would have to be **my family** because they are special to me and love me no matter what. My family is always there for me and I love them so much.

Natalie Kahwaji:

What is your favourite food to eat? Why?

My favourite food to eat is **spaghetti bolognese** because it has meat in it and has my favourite sauce. It is very tasty.

Who is your favourite character in a movie or book and why?

My favourite character in movies and books is **Alice from Alice in Wonderland** because she's pretty, she goes on cool adventures and it's funny when she changes sizes.

Where has been the best place you have travelled to or visited in the holidays or on a weekend?

The best place that I have travelled to in the holidays was **the Hunter Valley** because it has a water park, pizza and is a really fun place to be.

If you could have any animal as a pet, what animal would you choose and why?

If I could have any pet in the world I would choose a **puppy** because they are cute and play with you all the time.

What is the most special thing in your life and why?

The most special thing in my life would be **my favourite pencil and pencil case** because it has a wonderful smell, like a sweet watermelon juice.

Reminder - No Hats, No Play (Walk and talk in the amphitheatre)

Now the weather is getting warmer we are reminding the students of the importance of wearing a hat during break times. Even on cloudy days the sun UV rays can have a detrimental effect on the skin of children, so children without a hat will be directed to use the shade of the amphitheatre during their break. If you could also label your child's hat and ensure they have their own hat.

This year an extra Staff Development Day has been provided for primary school to focus on the new NSW K-2 and 3-6 English and Mathematics curriculum. The date is listed below.

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 Oct - Tuesday 20th 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 DATES

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

Additional Staff Development Day Monday 10th October (1st day of Term 4)

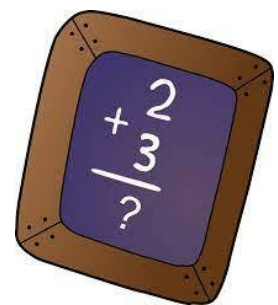
Day 5 Monday 19th December 2022

Day 6 Tuesday 20th December 2022

Helping your child feel good about Maths

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/parents-and-carers>

Maths expert and parent, Associate Professor Janette Bobis from the University of Sydney, gives her top tips on how young kids can become confident in maths.



Get your child to work things out in their head

Kids are encouraged to work things out in their mind in the early years of school rather than using pen and pencil to work out number problems, because it leads to a deeper understanding of the maths involved.

'That deeper understanding builds confidence, and makes it easier to solve more difficult problems because they understand the fundamentals,' Janette says. 'Maths is about building upon foundations. The more complex maths kids learn later on is made easier if they've got solid foundations in those early years. That's why it's so crucial for children in the younger grades to understand those foundational concepts of maths: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division'.

[CONVERSATION STARTERS ABOUT CYBER SAFETY \(link\)](#)

These tips 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.

[Getting started with parental controls in social media, games and apps](#)

Facebook Messenger for Kids Messenger Kids is a free video calling and messaging app owned by Facebook. Parents can monitor their child's activity and control their contact list using a Parent Dashboard. Parents can sign up on behalf of their child, and it doesn't require the child to have Facebook account. Messenger Kids does not show advertising or offer in-app purchases. Find out more about Facebook Messenger for Kids in The eSafety guide or Messenger Kids.

Registrations open for Term 4!

Go4Fun is a FREE program for children 7-13 years old who are above a healthy weight range and their families.



Be More Active



Healthier



Happier!

Visit go4fun.com.au or call 1800 780 900



Go4Fun





Do what you can with the means at your disposal and leave all the rest calmly to God.

Mary MacKillop

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, or through Skoolbag App. The school follows the CEDP Complaints Handling Policy.

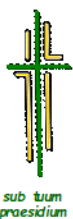
<https://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/About-Us/Policy-Central>

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 McGrath will then contact you for further information. Further details can be found in previous newsletters.

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

Parish Secretary:

Pat Preca

Office Hours: 9.00am to 4.00pm