



SUB TUAUM
PRAESIDIUM

st patrick's primary school

Parramatta Patter

10.04.14

TERM ONE

No 11

Dear Parents

It is hard to believe that Term One is almost at an end. May I take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for anything you may have done to contribute to our St Patrick's School Community. Thank you to those of you who have: assisted at sporting events or grade excursions, helped with learning in the classrooms, assisted with the covering of readers or library books, organised morning teas or volunteered to be a part of an organising committee. Thank you for those who have attended masses and other school events or simply joined us for morning or Friday assemblies. Thank you to those who have generously donated goods and or prizes for fundraising. Thank you to those who have gifted us with their time and to those who have gifted us with their ideas. All these contributions are very much appreciated.

During the course of this term our teachers have received professional development in the area of Literacy. Topics included; the gathering of literacy data using a number of literacy tools, the importance of the To/With/By approach to the teaching of Literacy and the analysis of the most effective practices that make up a Literacy Block. Teachers have had an opportunity to visit other schools and reflect on their own practice.

In my work over the years, as Literacy Support Teacher, I am often asked by parents how they can assist their children become better readers. Besides regularly hearing children reading texts that are within their reading ability, especially in the early years, one of the most effective activities is to simply read to your children. It may be surprising to note that children of all ages enjoy being read to.

In an article presented by the 'Teachers College Reading and Writing Project' which is a research development association at Columbia University, it is maintained that children from Kindergarten to Year 8 can benefit from 'Read Alouds'. I believe parents can use this strategy to demonstrate to the children what good readers do when they read. It is recommended that the adult chooses books that they love and that they think children will love also. The books are read for pleasure by the adult to the child, however it is recommended that during the reading of the text the adult demonstrates their thinking process out loud as to how "readers predict, envision, question, develop theories about characters and monitor sense." This 'Think Aloud' process is extremely beneficial to all readers especially those children who find reading difficult in the middle and senior primary years. It assists them to interact with the story and visualise the storyline in a non-threatening way. It can also assist to develop the attitude that reading is a pleasurable pastime. Added to this children often enjoy spending this personal time with a parent. May I also encourage dads to get involved with the reading routine at home, especially if you have boys, so that they are not lead to believe that reading is a feminine activity. This can happen if they only see mum involved in reading. May I encourage all families to continue with the reading regime during the holidays especially for beginning readers.
Some food for thought!

Finally I would like to wish you and your families all of God's Blessings this Easter Season. Once again can I encourage you to attend the many Holy Week liturgies at St Patrick's Cathedral. See you all at the commencement of Term 2.

God bless you and your families

Bernadette Fabri
Principal



Happy Birthday to the following children who will celebrate their birthdays in the following week and during the school holidays:
Alan Mansour, Anthony Wehbe
Aaron Macadangdang,

Raymond Wehbe, Joseph Wehbe, Christian Golossian, Joshua Romanos, Cassandra Holdaway, Sophia Lorenzo, Joseph Romanos, Jack El Bayeh, Pauline Said, Ivanka Markovic, Sienna Volante, Crystal Makdissi, Antonia Behan, Mikaela Barrientos Salazar, Riona Pais, Daniel Sarkis, Jethro Cauan

SYMPATHY & PRAYERS to the Parkes family (Nicholas 5C & Lucy 1C) on the recent passing of their Poppy.



SYMPATHY & PRAYERS to the Faddoul family (Naomi 4B) on the recent passing of their grandfather.

WINTER UNIFORM CHANGEOVER

Parents, please note that the changeover date for winter uniform is officially **Monday 12th May, 2014 (Term 2 week 3)**

The correct uniform should be worn at ALL times, in order to maintain expectations.

THE SCHOOL HAT IS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE SCHOOL UNIFORM. THE WEARING OF THE SCHOOL HAT IS COMPULSORY

WHITE JOGGERS

In keeping with our school uniform policy and code can I ask all parents to please ensure that their children wear predominantly white school joggers with their sports uniform and that this is in place by Term 2. Children will often try to pressure parents to buy them fluoro coloured joggers or laces for use at school, with the appeal that many other children are wearing them. Can I assure you that the uniform code will continue to be enforced by staff so as to maintain the high standard of uniform St Patricks is well known for.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION, DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA (CEDP) PRIVACY STATEMENT

The Catholic Education, Diocese of Parramatta Privacy Statement sets out how the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP) collects, uses and discloses personal information through our schools, Catholic Early Learning Centres (CELCs), Catholic Out of School Hours Care services (COSHCs) and offices.

If you wish to view this statement please go to <http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/policy-central>

Hard copies are available at the School Office if you are unable to access this website.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Do you have a child in Year 6 who has not received the sacraments of Penance, Eucharist and/or Confirmation? Sister Susan, the St Patrick's Parish Sacramental worker, is offering to prepare students so they are ready to receive these sacraments in August. They will then proceed to secondary school having received all the Sacraments of Initiation.

It does not matter if you are members of another parish.

Preparation will begin in the first week of next term. It will be on Tuesday afternoons from about 3.45 for an hour. The only condition is that an adult member (even a sibling) be present with the child so that there is the possibility of follow up discussion at home.

If you have any questions please contact Sr Susan at the Parish Office from Tues - Thurs or email her susan@stpatscathedral.com.au

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS

Term One	Friday, 11 th April (Last day of Term One)
Term Two	Friday, 6 th June (Queen's Birthday Holiday Weekend)
Term Three	Friday 19 th September (Last day of Term Three)
Term Four	Thursday 18 th and Friday 19 th of December (last 2 days of the school year)

Occasionally, due to unforeseen circumstances, the date for events will need to be changed. If this is ever the case we will try to give you plenty of notice.

PARKING FOR VOLUNTEERS AT ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL.

Once again I would like to thank Fr John McSweeney, Dean of St Patrick's Cathedral for allowing school volunteers to use the overflow. For those who intend to use the overflow in Term 2 can I remind you of some of the guidelines"

- *Please collect a notice from the school office and display on the dashboard when parking.*
- *Please remember to park on the tennis courts by reversing in.*
- *Parking notices need to be returned to the school office after use*
- *Parking notices are only to be used by school volunteers for use during volunteering activities.*

EASTER CLINIC 2014

Next Level Sports Clinic provides an active school holiday experience for primary school aged students (5-13 years), run by PE teacher Mr David Younis.

With the help of other qualified PE teachers, they make it a fun week with lots of activities, games and exercises for the kids.

After a successful introduction in January, Mr Younis will be running 2 more clinics in the Easter holidays.

Act now, as spots are limited! Are you ready for the Next Level experience?

Contact nextlevelsports@live.com.au for dates, locations and other enquiries.

"like us on Facebook! Next Level Sports Clinic"

FUND RAISING COMMITTEE

Thank you to all the parents who were able to make it to the fund raising committee meeting last Tuesday afternoon. The discussion was lively as parents sorted through the multitude of ideas submitted at the first parent meeting. The parents were able to narrow these down to a few for this year and these will be communicated to everyone in the next newsletter. A suggestion was also made that a survey for preferences regarding fundraising and social events be sent out next term in readiness for 2015.

ASSEMBLIES FOR TERM 2

The staff is currently endeavouring to continue to refine school procedures so as to optimize learning time in conjunction with the development a happy and thriving school community. As from Week One Term Two we will be trialling a change to our Friday school assemblies. These new ideas on trial will include:

- Alternate assemblies ie Primary/Infants on Fridays with a new commencement time of at 2.15pm. eg Wk 1 Yr 6, Week 2 Yr 2 etc
- The inclusion of any Key Learning Area in grade items so as to showcase the Creative Arts, English, Human Society and its Environment, Science, Maths for example.
- The rostering of Religious Education Prayer items so as not to lose the Catholicity of our community gatherings.
- The continuation of Honour Awards for Academic excellence and a new St Patrick's Award for 'Faith in Action"
- Birthdays to be celebrated every fortnight but will still be printed in newsletter weekly.
- Opportunities for certain grades to attend other assemblies by invitation eg Buddies at the Kindergarten assembly.
- The presentation of children who have accomplished out of school awards every fortnight.
- Parents to be seated at the back for better viewing, with Year 6 seated at the side at Primary Assemblies.
- Year 6 leaders to still be rostered for both Infants and Primary Assemblies

We are hoping that these changes to our school gatherings will give us an opportunity to display other aspects of the children's learning, as well as making for a more comfortable assembly for all. If the assembly finishes earlier than 3.00pm children will return to their classrooms for dismissal and come out to their lines with their teachers as per other days.

NB Parents are most welcome to come to all weekly assemblies

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy 2014

LETTER TO PARENTS

In May 2014 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy skills of students across Australian schools.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child's level of achievement. Each student's level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

Background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student's right to privacy is maintained.

The NAPLAN tests will be conducted from 13 - 15 May 2014.

TUESDAY 13 MAY	WEDNESDAY 14 MAY	THURSDAY 15 MAY
Language Conventions (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) Writing	Reading	Numeracy (Number, Algebra, function and pattern; Chance and data; Measurement and Space)

In the Numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. In Years 7 and 9 there will be two Numeracy tests: one where a calculator is allowed and one where calculators are not to be used. For the calculator test, the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school.

Friday 16 May – A 'catch-up' day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day.

Students may be considered for exemption from the tests if:

- they are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, or
- they have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests. Disability adjustments which reflect the student's normal level of support in the classroom may be provided. Large print, Braille, coloured paper versions and electronic tests are available to meet the needs of individual students.

Access to disability adjustment or exemption from the tests must be discussed with the school Principal and a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents in consultation with the Principal. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests, a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Please make an appointment with the Principal of the school your child attends if you would like to discuss your child's participation in NAPLAN.

Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at www.nap.edu.au/NAPLAN/Parent_Carer_support/index.html.

Year 6 excursion to Canberra

On Monday, Year 6 went to Canberra to visit Parliament House, the Electoral Education office and the War Memorial. It was a very interesting experience that we all enjoyed.

The day started at 6am when we left the school on our double decker bus. It took us four hours and twenty minutes. We got to see many animals and watched a few movies.

At 10.20am we finally made reached our first destination Parliament house. We were able to go through the process of creating a law and went inside the House of Reps and the Senate. While we were there they taught us a lot about voting and what goes on during a debate.

Arriving at our second destination, the Electoral Education office we watched a film on the development of our democracy. We then went into an activity room where we learnt about voting in private, enrolling to vote, voting in certain circumstances and much more. We all got to experience how to vote and how they choose the leader according to the votes.

We then went to the War memorial where we saw many models of airplanes, cars and many diaries, notes and badges from the soldiers.

When we were finished we all got back onto the bus for a three and half hour bus drive home. The day was exhausting and many people were asleep by the time we arrived back at school at 8pm.

Overall Canberra was an amazing experience that everyone and enjoyed. Thank you to our Teachers and parent helpers for giving us this opportunity.

Josie Wehbe 6P



Students from our school have recently undertaken an education tour of the national capital. Students were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government will contribute funding of \$20.00 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion and will now go towards subsidising the next year 6 excursion.

Bath Caviar \$2.00



Grandmother Plaque \$5.00



Shower Cap & Glove Set \$5.00



Mum Plaque \$4.50



Grandmother Mug & Coaster \$5.00



Bear Trinket Box \$5.00



Mum Pink Candle Set \$3.50



Magnetic Menu Planner \$4.00



Kitchen Utensil Set \$5.00



Metal Blackboard \$6.00



Bear Glitter Globe \$5.00



Calculator Compendium \$6.00



Best MumPhoto Frame
\$5.00



Shopping List & Pen Set
\$4.00



Macaron Bath



Sticky Note Set \$3.00



**Plush Animal Computer
Buddy \$5.50**



Cat / Dog Ring Holder \$7.00



Candle Lantern \$6.00



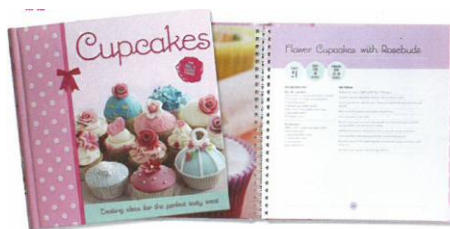
Porcelain Dome Tealight \$7.00



Cupcake Timer \$6.00



Cupcake Recipe Book \$7.00



Windchime \$5.50



Beaded Bracelet \$4.50



Stainless Steel Travel Mug \$4.00



Scented Candles \$3.00



Apron & Mittens \$6.50



Bling Mirror \$3.50



Cosmetic Brush Set \$4.00



LED Love Torch \$3.00



**Mother's Day raffle
tickets will be on sale
before and after school
from the 28th April in
front on the canteen. The
tickets are 50cents each
or 3 for \$1.00. Some
prizes include a silver
watch, handbag, hair care
hamper and much more**

Mother's Day 2014



sub tuum praesidium

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

COMING EVENTS 2014

TERM ONE – DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Week Eleven

Thursday 10th April
Friday 11th April

Last Day for Students
Pupil Free Day

TERM TWO – DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Week One

Monday 28th April

1st Day of Term 2

Selling of raffle tickets for Mother's day begins

Tuesday 29th April

Life Education – Year 3

Wednesday 30th April

Life Education – Year 2

Thursday 1st May

Life Education – Year 6

Friday 2nd May

Assembly Yr 6 School Hall 2.15pm

Week Two

Monday 5th May

Life Education – Year 4

Tuesday 6th May

Life Education – Year 1

Diocesan Cross Country

Wednesday 7th May

Setting up gifts for Mother's day stall

Life Education – Kindergarten

Mother's Day Stall

Nursing Home visit – Year 4

Friday 9th May

Mother's Day Mass 9.30am

Assembly Yr 2 School Hall 2.15pm

Week Three

Monday 12th May

Life Education – Year 5

Tuesday 13th May

NAPLAN – Yrs 3 & 5

Wednesday 14th May

NAPLAN – Yrs 3 & 5

Thursday 15th May

NAPLAN – Yrs 3 & 5

Friday 16th May

Assembly Yr 5 School Hall 2.15pm

Week Four

Tuesday 20th May

ICAS Computer skills – 7.50am

Friday 23rd May

Assembly Yr 1 School Hall 2.15pm

Week Five

Friday 30th May

Assembly Yr 4 School Hall 2.15pm

Week Six

Wednesday 4th June

ICAS Science skills – 7.50am

Friday 6th June

Pupil Free day – **NO school for students**

Week Seven

Monday 9th June

Queen's Birthday – Public Holiday NO SCHOOL

Friday 13th June

Primary Athletics carnival

Infants Fun day

No assembly

Week Eight

Monday 16th June

Reports home to parents

Friday 20th June

Assembly Kinder School Hall 2.15pm

Week Nine

Friday 27th June

Last day of Term 2

MASS TIMETABLE FOR ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL, PARRAMATTA

Priests: The Most Rev Bishop Anthony Fisher, The Very Rev Father John McSweeney, Rev Father Suresh & Rev Father Andrew Bass

MASSES

Saturday Vigil 6.00 p.m.

WEEKDAY MASS

Monday to Friday

6.45am, 12.30 p.m.

RECONCILIATION

Monday to Friday 11.45am to 12.30pm

Sunday

8.00 a.m., 9.30 a.m., 11.00 a.m. & 6.00 p.m.
Children's Liturgy 9.30 a.m.

Saturday

Public Holidays

8.00am
8.00am

Saturday

8.30 to 9.00am & 5.15 to 6.00pm