

st patrick's primary school parramatta patter



5th March 2015 Term 1 No.5

Dear Parents

QUALITY CATHOLIC SCHOOLS SURVEY—9th March to Friday 20th March

Over the next 2 weeks all students in Years 5 and 6 and 60 parents from Kindergarten to Year 6 will be invited to give the school feedback through the **Quality Catholic School's (QCS) Survey**. The selection of students and staff is organised randomly and decided by the Catholic Education Office and given to the school for distribution. These families will be given a paper version of the survey as well as the facility to complete the survey online if desired. The instructions to the survey is included in the package which will be sent home on Monday 9th March with the children. The children will be completing their survey at school online. Staff responses also form part of the data and when compiled gives the school an indication on how various members of our community think about aspects of:

- cultural behaviour
- relationships
- learning community

The topics within these aspects include;

- Social Justice
- Homework
- General Satisfaction
- School Improvement
- Approachability
- Teacher Morale
- Parent Input
- Stimulating Learning
- Behaviour Management
- Reporting
- Transitions
- Student Safety
- Classroom Behaviour
- Connectedness to Peers
- Student Motivation
- Social Skills
- Connectedness to School
- Opportunity for Parents
- Behaviour of Staff
- Catholic Parish Involvement Learning Focus,
- Extra-Curricular activities such as Triskills, involvement of the choir in CAPTIVATE, Footsteps dance, Life Education, Moran Photographic Workshop for Primary Students etc
- The extent to which parents believe their children are developing effective social skills.
- The extent to which parents believe their children have positive relationships with other students.
- The extent to which parents see their children wanting to be at school.

As you can imagine obtaining information/feedback on all of these topics is of great interest to the staff at St Patrick's as it can indicate to us what we are doing well and what areas of development need to have greater focus. **It is also important to reinforce that all responses are completely confidential and that individual responses will never be released to the school, CEDP or any other third party.**

I know that completing surveys can be time consuming but I do make a special appeal to any parents who receive a package next week to participate in this survey, as your contributions are very important to us and are used to represent the wider parent community. A summary of the results of the survey will be communicated to all parents when they are collated and analyzed. All schools in the Parramatta Diocese are involved in the QCS Survey which will take place from Monday 9th March to Friday 20th March

Thank you in anticipation.

God bless you and your family

Bernadette Fabri

Principal



Student of the week is awarded to the child who demonstrates outstanding application across any Key Learning area



st patrick's award

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

Faith in Action



Happy Birthday to the following children who will celebrate their birthdays in the following week:

Malcolm Nasr, Sean Feng, Harrison Chidiac, Caitlin Vilches, Alexander Sicurella, Marybeth Abraham, Ashley Younis, Darcy Fraser, Catherine Said, Sienna Golossian



PEDICULOSIS - HEAD LICE

To avoid incidences of head lice in the school we ask that you regularly check your child's hair, taking particular care in children from K-2. Various treatments are available from the Chemist. Covering the hair with a thick layer of conditioner and leaving for approximately 5 minutes then combing out the lice can also be effective. Wash hair after combing.

If your child has contracted Head Lice please inform the teacher and commence treatment immediately. Please do not send your child to school with **live head lice** as this will increase the chances of other children contracting them. Your help in this matter is greatly appreciated.

3L	Mikayla Saleh
3T	Jade Takchi
4B	Mylan Do
4G	Pierre Onano
5C	Jacky Zhao
5T	Grace Doumit
6P	Zachary Bond
6W	Mehaara Joseph

3L	Darcy Fraser
3T	Jayda Tarabay
4B	Prince Gyan
4G	Natalie Draybi
5C	Zach Gebrael
5T	Arthur Constantone
6P	Marybeth Abraham
6W	Lily Rodzen



PARENT HELPERS MEETING Kindergarten to Year 2

Parents play a crucial role in both the home and school environments. In general, parental involvement is associated with children's higher achievements in language and mathematics, enrolment in more challenging programs, greater academic persistence, better behavior, better social skills and adaptation to school, better attendance and lower drop-out rates (Henderson & Mapp, 2002).

Last Wednesday morning Ms Sasha Nederpelt ran a parent workshop for parent volunteers. She covered topics such as; What research says regarding the importance of parent involvement, what a classroom helper does, parent helper requirements, ways you may help in the classroom, helpful hints and the importance of confidentiality. As part of this workshop parents were given a confidentiality agreement to read. The meeting was very well attended and the names of all the parents who attended will be passed on to the teachers for their information. **Please note that whilst we recognize the value parents can provide as helpers in the classrooms the engagement of parent helpers is totally at the discretion of the class teacher.** Although not all teachers may be looking for parent helpers for the classrooms, at this stage they will be looking for assistance from parents for excursions, sporting events, assistance when walking classes outside the school, for example, throughout the year.

Teachers will inform the parents in their class if they require helpers in the classroom through a note. Parents who were unable to attend the meeting will be given the confidentiality agreement before they commence assisting students.

Thank you Ms Nederpelt for her presentation and to the parents who were able to attend.



WORKING BEE

Sean McIntosh is currently organizing our first working bee. This will take place in Term 2.

Watch this Space!

PARENT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

This term there will be a number of Parent Education Opportunities at the school. The education of your child is indeed a partnership and we welcome and encourage all parents to attend if interested in the topic presented.

- *Meeting for Parent Helpers (Kindergarten to Year 2) Wednesday 4th March 9.00am to 10.00*
- *Helping your child to Read (Kindergarten to Year 2) Wednesday 18th March 7.00 for 7.15 start
(Please note change of date from the 11th March to 18th March)*
- *'Eat it to Beat it' Presentation 16th March 1.30pm to 3.00pm*
- *Student Management Forum for Parents 25th March 7.00pm*

ST PATRICK'S PARENT EVENT COMMITTEE

Thank you to all the parents who volunteered to be part of the St Patrick's Parent Event Committee for 2015. There will be a committee meeting organized in the next few weeks so as to discuss community events for the year. Thank you is also extended to all the parents who volunteered as helpers to the committee. Your generosity is very much appreciated by the staff and families at our school. If you were unable to come to the Parent/Information Night and you would like to volunteer to assist please ring the office and leave your name. All events organized will be communicated to the whole school community over time.

KA		KM	Jossie Haub
1C	Maria Gittany	1S	Elizabeth Johnson
2M	Margaret Abdallah	2Y	Annette Romanos
3L	Clair Moujalli	3T	Zana Rahme
4B	Marietta Maroun	4G	Belinda Barakat
5C		5T	
6P	Rhonda El-Tobbagi	6W	Josephine Romanos

As you can see not all classes have a representative at this stage, however if you would like to nominate yourself please contact the office.

Catholic Schools Week

"EDUCATING FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW"

St Patrick's Primary invites parents, family and friends to celebrate Catholic Schools Week with us next Tuesday. The day will begin at 9am with a Liturgy in the amphitheatre. Years 3-6 will have open classrooms from 9.30am—10.00am and K-2 will be open to visitors from 9.30am– 10.30am.

Children may have the extra treat of an ice block, which will be sold for \$1.00 at lunch time. All money raised will support our World Youth day fundraising.

Kindergarten Afternoon Pick-up

If you are personally picking up your child from the school at 3.00pm, children can be collected from the Amphitheatre, where they will be seated and waiting with the teacher on duty. If your child has not been collected from the Amphitheatre by 3.15pm, they will return to their classroom where they can be collected.

If you are using our car drive-thru service, your child's name will be called and they will promptly walk down to the car pick-up gate. Where they will be assisted into their car.

Any children remaining after 3.30pm can be collected from the school Office.



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

**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

Weekday Masses

Monday to Friday 6.45am, 12.30pm
Public Holidays 8.00am

Pastoral Team

Fr Peter Williams elected Diocesan Administrator
Very Rev Fr Robert Bossini
Rev Fr John Paul Escarlan
Rev Fr Steven Hyun
Rev Fr Michael Gitau
Rev Robertus Kim
Sr Susan Ward rsj

2015

TERM ONE – DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Week Six

Friday 6th March Year 3 Excursion to Featherdale Farm
Primary Assembly—Yr 4 2.15pm

Week Seven

Tuesday 10th March Catholic Schools Week Celebrations
Liturgy 9am followed by open classrooms
K-2 Open classroom 9.30am to 10.30am
3-6 Open classroom 9.30am to 10.00am
WYD ice blocks for sale—lunchtime
Friday 13th March Infants Assembly—Kindy 2.15pm

Week Eight

Monday 16th March Parent Workshop “Eat it to Beat it”
1.30pm—3.00pm.
Tuesday 17th March St Patrick’s Day celebrations
TBA
Wednesday 18th March Helping your child to Read
Kindy to Year 2—7pm
Friday 20th March Year 4 Excursion to Arabanoo
Primary Assembly—Yr 3 2.15pm

Week Nine

Wednesday 25th March Year 5 Excursion to Mt Tomah
Parent Student Management Forum
7.00pm
Thursday 26th March Life Education van commences
Friday 27th March Primary Cross Country
Whole School Assembly
Choir 2.15pm

Week Ten

Wednesday 1st April Yr 6 Nursing home visit
Thursday 2nd April LAST DAY OF TERM

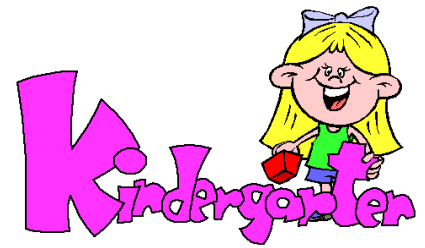
The Parent Calendar is now available under events on the Skoolbag app. From the home screen go into events and all Term 1 events are available to view. Should you have any issues please contact the office who can guide you through it.

ENROLMENTS FOR 2016 KINDERGARTEN ARE NOW OPEN

Enrolment packs for Kindergarten 2016 are available from the school between the hours of 9am -3pm Monday to Friday.

When you return the enrolment you will need to bring your child's original Birth Certificate, Baptismal Certificate, Passports (parent's and child's if born overseas), Immunization Certificates and proof of address (council rates, drivers licence). We will photo copy these and return them to you at this time.

Enrolment forms are required to be returned by 31st March 2015.



CHANGES TO ENROMENT CRITERIA

The Catholic Education Diocese Office has made changes to the enrolment criteria for all children applying for places in a Catholic school.

ENROLMENT CRITERIA

Who can enrol in a Catholic school?

Children whose fifth birthday occurs on or before 31 July are eligible for enrolment for Kindergarten that year. By law, all children must be enrolled in school by their sixth birthday.

A new Enrolment Policy for Parramatta Diocesan Catholic schools has been introduced which offers Catholic families greater choice by allowing them to apply for enrolment at a Catholic school anywhere in the Diocese. Where places are limited, priority will be given in order to:

- Catholic children who live in the local parish
- Catholic children from other parishes
- Children of families who actively participate in the life of the school and local parish community (e.g. siblings)
- Orthodox children
- Children from other Christian faiths
- Children of non-Christian faith

Catholic schools have a strong religious dimension and people of other faiths who wish to enrol in Catholic schools should be willing to participate in the religious activities of the school. Check with the principal of the school you are applying to.

Siblings

Siblings of children already enrolled in the school are considered by the same criteria above. However, within each of these categories, a sibling of a child already enrolled will have preference over an applicant who does not have a sibling enrolled in the school.

What if my child already attends a Catholic primary school in the Diocese?

A child who has completed primary education in a Catholic parish-based primary school will usually be offered continuity of enrolment in a Catholic secondary school. If no places exist at the chosen school, Catholic Education's Director System Performance will assist families to enrol in another Catholic secondary school in the Diocese.

Attention Volunteers: Please note that both requirements below need to be completed.

CHILD PROTECTION FOR VOLUNTEERS– WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK

All volunteers must register for a Working with Children Check. Please see link below for instructions.

<http://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/working-with-children/working-with-children-check>

Child Protection Module For Volunteers

Parent helpers in a school are a vital resource. Any parent interested in assisting in reading groups, excursions etc needs to complete the 'child protection briefing for Volunteers' found by following the website link below. Parents and other family members are unable to assist if this module is not completed and submitted. Parents only need to complete this module once every two years. Looking forward to welcoming you as volunteers as you share your gifts with our school community.

It is a system requirement that child protection training be completed by all volunteers commencing work in our school and a briefing every second year for existing volunteers.

An online training module for use by volunteers is available. To use the module:

1. Open the module by clicking the **Start** link below.
2. Read through the presentation.
3. Complete and submit quiz questions. This will take approximately 45 minutes.
4. After successful completion of the module, fill out the form by typing your name, email address, contact number, contact address and the school you intend to volunteer at.
5. A notification of your successful completion of the module will be sent via e-mail to the school and also to your email address.

<http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au/training>

CAPTIVATE



Catholic Education
Diocese of Parramatta

St John Paul II Catholic College, Nirimba Campus

The **CAPTIVATE Masterclass - Dance Intensive** will take place at from **Friday 20th March to Sunday 22nd March** at St John Paul II Catholic College, Nirimba Campus.

Dance Intensive is a three day program run in Term 1 - Week 8 for Years 5 to 12 dance students of all abilities. Led by a number of professional dancers and choreographers, the workshop exposes students to a wide variety of dance styles including Classical Ballet, Cheerleading, Contemporary, Jazz, JFH, Lyrical, HipHop, Tap, Urban Jazz Fusion and more. Not to be missed, it is a great way to extend students technical skills and appreciation of dance, meet professional dancers and choreographers.

This is a user pays program and is:

- **Primary Students:** \$80 for the 2 day program (Sat, Sun)
- **Secondary Students:** \$120 for the full 3 day program (Fri, Sat, Sun)

Starting times each day are:

- **Friday:** Secondary Only 8:00am - 5:00pm
- **Saturday:** Secondary 8:15am - 5:00pm/ Primary 8:30am - 5:00pm
- **Sunday:** 8:45am - 5:50pm (primary and secondary)

Sunday Performance: 6:30am - 8:00pm

If you would like to be part of this program, students can enrol online. Please go to:

<http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/event-details/captivate-masterclass-dance-intensive>

Contact: CAPTIVATE Team

Tel: 9840 5649

Email: captivate@parra.catholic.edu.au



ENROLLING NOW FOR 2016



Catherine McAuley is a Catholic girls' secondary school, located at Westmead. Our broad curriculum encourages young women to pursue independent lifelong learning.

OPEN NIGHT **Tuesday 17 March 2015** 4.00 - 6.30pm

Tour our school grounds, visit classrooms and view displays. A Year 7 2016 Information Night will be held following at 7.00pm with presentations from the school leadership team.



CONTACT OUR SCHOOL
ON 9849 9100 FOR AN
ENROLMENT PACK.
APPLICATIONS CLOSE
27TH MARCH 2015



Catherine McAuley, 2 Darcy Road, Westmead | www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au



Nutrition Snippet

The simplest way

...to make a healthy
afternoon tea.

Try these simple ideas for making
snacks that will satisfy even the fussiest
eater...

- **Home made hot chips** Slice potatoes into thin discs, and arrange on a baking tray sprayed lightly with olive oil. Grill until golden, and serve with a small amount of tomato sauce.
- **Bite sized fruit with yoghurt** It's a fact- kids are more likely to eat fruit when it is cut up into small pieces. Try serving some diced fruit with some reduced-fat yoghurt. It's a winner.
- **Veggie sticks**

These are so easy to prepare and make a super healthy
afternoon tea. Try cutting up some carrot or celery sticks and
serving them with hummus.



For more information visit www.eatittobeatit.com.au
or join us at [facebook.com/eatittobeatit](https://www.facebook.com/eatittobeatit)

The Eat It To Beat It program is supported by the Western Sydney
Local Health District Live Life Well @ School Program.





The simplest way

to improve the health of your family and save money

Come to our FREE Fruit & Veg Sense Workshop






Date: Monday, 16 March 2015

Time: 1:30pm until 3pm

Venue: St Patrick's Primary School Parramatta

Did you know that eating enough fruit and vegetables all their lives can help protect children against diseases, including some forms of cancer? This **free workshop** run by Cancer Council NSW will show you how you can easily:

-  **Save time and money making healthy meals**
-  **Learn clever ways to entice fussy eaters**
-  **Get a free recipe book simply by attending**

The *Eat It To Beat It* program is supported by the Western Sydney Local Health District Live Life Well @ School Program.



Health
Western Sydney
Local Health District



Don't miss out – registration is essential. To book your place please register no later than **12/3/15** by:

Completing and returning this slip to the school front office.

Your name:

Your contact number or email:

[Non-govt schools receive just 12% of all capital funding](#)

DID YOU KNOW? Non-government schools educate more than one-third of all NSW students, yet receive just 12% of the capital funding provided to schools by the NSW Government. Furthermore, non-government schools will receive almost 20% LESS funding in 2014/15 than they did six years ago, despite educating 33,600 more students in that time. This is why funding support from Federal and State Governments must keep pace with rising education costs - to maintain education quality and to ensure a Catholic education remains affordable for all families.