

# st patrick's primary school parramatter patter

14th May 2015 Term 2 No.4



Dear Parents,

*This week our year three and year five students joined children of the same age all over Australia, in participating in the National Assessment Program in Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). In high schools students in year seven and nine undertake this test also.*

*For your information regarding the process, the test booklets and materials arrive at least ten days before the testing date so that schools can check that there are enough booklets and other testing material for every student in the relevant grades. These packages are in tamper proof wrapping and are counted and checked by two members of staff through this wrapping. The test material cannot be viewed by anyone at this time and as soon as the counting is completed the boxes are resealed, signed and not opened again until the morning of the first test, when they given to the grade three and five teachers. This procedure is followed for each subsequent test.*

*At St Patrick's Parramatta **all** students in grades three and five sit the tests, as we include students with a variety of learning difficulties such as mild intellectual disabilities, specific learning difficulties, Attention Deficit Disorder and Anxiety Disorders. Parents may decide to request their child not to sit the test. In line with government guidelines the school does provide a special area for children who may have difficulty completing the tests in the classroom environment for a variety of reasons and this year the library was used for this purpose. Mrs Flatley, Mrs Barclay and Mrs O'Dwyer supervised the children undertaking the testing in this area.*

*All completed test booklets are returned to the principal's office and stored securely until they are collected to be taken to the marking centre at the completion of all tests. The classroom teachers and learning support teachers remove any wall charts or material that could be copied during the test and seat the children so that they are unable to copy from each other. During the testing period the principal or the assistant principal is asked to make random visits to the testing areas to ensure that all correct protocols are being observed.*

*Teachers also make a point of carefully observing the children throughout the test, noting those who finish very quickly or those who do not finish in the required time frame, as all this can provide valuable feedback after all tests are submitted, not only to individual students but parents as well.*

***It is important to remember that children will be sitting a number of formal assessments throughout their school lives and that many of the skills they possess are not always assessed in these types of tests. Children who have artistic or sporting ability, problem solvers and those possessing interpersonal skills, those able to synthesize information and creative thinkers, for example, are not able to demonstrate their talent in Literacy and Numeracy assessments. We encourage our students to do their very best on the day of the tests while being aware that results can vary and a student who may in fact be quite a good writer, for example, may not produce their best piece of writing on that particular day. The data that all schools receive from these assessments, combined with school based assessments, help teachers plan programs to meet the variety of learning needs of our students.***

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO YEAR 2 MUMS**

Can I congratulate and warmly thank all the mothers who assisted in making our Mother's Day Morning Tea and Stall such a success. I am always overwhelmed and increasingly impressed at how well our community works as a team. In what appeared to be 'no time' the gifts were organized and priced, presented ready for sale, tables were adorned with decorations fit for the queen herself, food purchased and prepared, donations for the raffle organized and wrapped and the hall and canteen left spotless after all the celebrations and activity. The reality however is that behind the scenes many mothers spent what sometimes proved to be the best part of a day, over a number of days, contributing to an occasion that was enjoyed by all the children and parents at the school. I would like to sincerely thank them on behalf of all our community. May I also take this opportunity to thank the Year 2 parents for their financial contribution used for the morning tea and to those parents who supplemented the feast with their own donations. Many mothers commented how lovely it was to gather together at the morning tea and for the beautiful fresh rose they received after mass. Thank you also to Mrs Jenny Jones who communicated with the parent helpers throughout the day of the Mother's Day stall, ensuring that they had everything that they needed. **Total funds raised \$2084.00.** This money will go towards literacy resources including more home readers for K to 2 and novels for years 3 to 6 groups.

*God bless you and your family*

*Bernadette Fabri*

*Principal*

Thank you to the following members of the Parent Events Committee and volunteers who assisted with the Mother's Day stall, raffle and morning tea.

Denise Gebrael, Claire Moujalli, Jacqueline Sarkis, Julia Gittany, Jolane Achie, Nina Wehbe, Monique Wehbe, Marianne Maaraoui, Noha Draybi, Michelle Tamaro, Annette Romanos, Maria Gittany, Zeinab Takchi, Marie Bechara, Rebecca Munro, Louise Khouri, Vanessa Haddad, Sonia Banzato, Mrs Baysari, Mrs Figueredo, and Mrs Morson. Apologies if we have left over your name, Please contact the office so we can acknowledge your assistance. Our sincere apology if we have inadvertently omitted your name.

Raffle prizes organized by Mrs Belinda Barakat and Mrs Z Rahme



## Parent Math's Forum Follow-up

At our recent Parent Math's Forum evening parents expressed an interest in some on-going workshops to reconnect with the Numeracy support team and continue to develop their strategies to further assist their children at home.

Mrs Barclay and Mrs Benkovich will be holding these afternoon sessions on Thursday 28 May and 25 June from 2.30 – 300pm. These sessions will be informal with parents invited to share experiences and ask questions as well as giving an introduction to another activity. Our first session will be looking at activities using a beadstring. We look forward to seeing you there!

Elly Benkovich  
On behalf of the Numeracy Team



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



### Working Bee

with  
Sean McIntosh

**Date :** Saturday 23rd May  
**Time:** 9am and 1 pm  
concluding with a BBQ lunch

Jobs to complete;

- Replacing dented Colorbond fencing panels.
- Staining wooden bench seating and tables.
- Weeding and barking gardens.
- Planting new plants, especially in and around the school entry to the Office.

3L	Josef Chedid
3T	Mikaela Barrientos-Salazar
4B	Anna Janczewski
4G	Luke Maroun
5C	An Le
5T	Alecks Lopez
6P	Dave Cerillo
6W	Annie Gittany

3L	Oisin Ryan
3T	Noah Gebrael
4B	Ray Wehbe
4G	Alissa Banzato
5C	Emily-Rose Grech
5T	Audrey Baysari
6P	Isabella El-Tobbagi
6W	Nicholas Moses



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

Brandon Roque, Alecks Lopez, Francis Dagostino, Elna Koikkara, Isabella Younes

## Writers Festival 2015

### Alana Michael 5C

On Friday May the 8<sup>th</sup> selected children from years 3-6 went to Riverside Theatre with Mrs Attard, Ms Kelly and Mrs O'Dwyer.

First we had to be at school by 8:15 for an 8:30 departure. We walked to the Riverside Theatre and arrived early. There were lots of other primary schools from the local area. Many students wanted to purchase the author's books which they could later get personally signed by authors Tristan Bancks and James Patterson. Once 9:30am had come we were allowed to enter the theatre and we found that we had some goodie bags on the seats and that was very exciting for me.

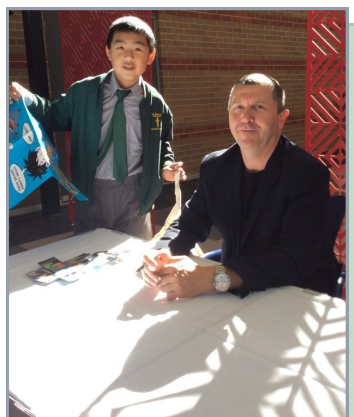
By the time everyone came in and we sat down, we started the show and Martin Chatterton came out and explained how he hates children (we didn't believe him) and told us a little bit about his daughter Sophie. Once he finished talking he started demonstrating his occupation- drawing. He is a fabulous illustrator. He selected a boy from the crowd and drew him in a very different way to what the child looked. It was hilarious.

After that James Patterson came out and talked a little bit about his new book 'Raffe's Australian Adventure' and answered some questions.

At 12:00 it finished. We had our morning tea and got our books signed in the sunny courtyard by these stars of the book world. Overall I had an amazing day and loved the experience.

What I learnt about writing fiction is that you have to set a scene if you want to write a good story. You have to plan well the plot before you even start. What I wonder about James Patterson's books is how he is motivated and how he comes up with the funny ideas for his stories. I wonder whether he really was the mischievous person he bases his characters on in his books?

My favourite author would have to be Tristan Bancks because his books are based on his life experiences at school and being a child at school. We had a wonderful day.





*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 TWO – DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Week Four**

Friday 15th May Primary Assembly—Yr 6 2.15pm

**Week Five**

Tuesday 19th May ICAS—Computer Skills—7.50am

Friday 15th May Infants Assembly—Yr 2 2.15pm

**Week Six**

Friday 29th May NO Assembly

**Week Seven**

Wednesday 3rd June ICAS—Science Skills—7.50am

Friday 5th June Year 5 Bathurst Excursion

Primary Assembly—Yr 4 2.15pm

**Week Eight**

Monday 8th June

**Queen's Birthday Holiday—NO SCHOOL**

Tuesday 9th June

**Staff Development Day—NO SCHOOL**

Friday 12th June

Athletics Carnival & Infants Fun day

NO Assembly

**Week Nine**

Monday 15th June

Reports sent home to parents

**Parent Teacher Interviews begin thru to Friday 26th June**

Friday 19th June

Infants Assembly—Kindy 2.15pm

School Disco (more details to come)

**Week Ten**

Tuesday 23rd June

Walk-a-thon

Friday 26th June

Primary Assembly—Yr 3 2.15pm

**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.



## Exerpt from the Parent Information Handbook

### CONTACT WITH THE SCHOOL

**Telephone:** Telephone calls come to the school office and office staff are able to address most inquiries but may also direct calls to the Principal or Assistant Principal. They will also relay messages to teachers at recess and at lunch-time (urgent matters, immediately).

**Email:** [StPatricksParra@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:StPatricksParra@parra.catholic.edu.au)

**Skoolbag App:** The school's Skoolbag App can be used to inform the school of your child's absence or for special pick up arrangement. More forms will be available online in the near future. See Appendix for Skoolbag instructions.

**Appointments:** The school welcome communication from parents regarding their child's wellbeing and learning progress. To ensure that a suitable time be given to any matter please contact the school to make an appointment with your child's class teacher. Teachers are not permitted to hold parent/ teacher interviews whilst they are on duty. For any serious matters regarding Student Management please contact the Assistant Principal through the school office. (02) 9630 1421



Parents and students:

I'd like to congratulate to all 44 students who attended the Diocesan Cross Country Carnival on Tuesday 5 May. With over 3,500 Catholic Secondary and Primary school students competing for the best times, it is with tremendous pride that I advise our St Patrick's community that we have had one of our own make it through to the Mackillop Carnival. Luke Maroun qualified to compete in the next level of competition, where he will go up against the best runners from schools all over NSW. Well done Luke!

To all the students who participated on the day, Mrs. Warne and I would like to congratulate all of you on the way you represented our school on and off the track. As you can imagine, 3,500 students in one place is challenging, so we thank to our caring students who showed respect and patience to their peers, parents and teachers throughout the day.

Thank you also to all the parents who came to support and help, as they say many hands make light work.

Just a reminder to parents and students, the athletics carnival/infants fun day is on 12 June.

Finally, I will leave you with some photos from the day of our up and coming track stars! Thank you and congratulations again from Mrs. Warne and I to all parents and students involved.

Mr. David Younis  
Sports Coordinator



## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

As part of my role as principal I am asked to attend the Parish Pastoral Council Meeting at St Patrick's Cathedral every month. This is an ex- officio position which means it is in an advisory capacity only with no voting rights. Other members of the committee are: Fr Bob Bossini (President), Olivia Lee, (Chair), Kerry Giumelli (Secretary), Fr John-Paul-Escalon, Fr Stephen Hyun, Sr Susan Ward, Marian Polizzi, Bruno Davino, Veronica O'Leary, Bob Edgar and Elias Saleh . As part of my involvement at the meeting I prepare a Principal's Report. I have attached this report, with some additions for your perusal. This will become a regular addition to the newsletter.

### St Patrick's Parramatta Principal's Report 14/5/15

- We have now commenced Term 2 of this year. We are currently in Week 4 of a 10 week term.
- The children and teachers appear to all be very keen to be back at school and all units of work have commenced.
- A few weeks ago Year 5 organised a beautifully meaningful ceremony in commemoration of Anzac Day. The children managed the minute of silence with great reverence.
- On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> of May the children and staff had their school photos taken. Although the weather was not ideal all went well.
- Kindergarten interviews are now underway with the fortunate and unfortunate situation of having over 90 applications for around 62 positions. From all accounts the school continues to have a very good reputation for a thriving religious education focus, strong academic directions, very good discipline and a very strong family based community.
- The school has commenced the school based student management and pastoral care process. The aim is to establish a clear and procedurally fair, shared approach to student management. This involved rewarding desirable behaviours and discouraging undesirable behaviours through age appropriate consequences and clear communication with parents.
- Fund raising is continuing from last term to raise money to send a young teacher to World Youth Day. Last term we sold ice blocks and this term we look forward to having some more treat days.
- Congratulations and thank you to all the Yr 2 parents for organizing the stall and raffle for Mother's Day. The idea of this event is more to assist the children with gifts rather than as a fundraiser however any money made from the stall or raffle will go towards buying resources that will benefit the children's learning eg more home readers and novels.
- The community gathered together to celebrate our Mother's Day Mass on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May. This was followed by a beautiful Mother's Day morning tea and the raffle draw.
- Diocesan Cross Country. A bus load of children went to the Diocesan Cross Country today. One student, Luke Maroun was successful in getting to the next round. Congratulations Luke!
- Congratulations to Oscar Gray who made it through the Diocesan trials and is now trialling out for the Mackillop trials in Rugby Union. Good Luck Oscar!
- The staff have commenced professional development in Literacy this term and will continue for the rest of the year. Ms Nederpelt, and I have been participating a Reading K to 2 and Mrs Fardell and I will be undertaking a Reading 3 to 6 Leaders Course soon, which has been very interesting.
- A large number of staff have also elected to commence an Inclusion Online course on Managing Behaviours run by the CEDP. This 20hour course is done on site with a facilitator and from my previous experience is usually very well worth doing. I have been very impressed with the staff's commitment to professional development and thank them for their efforts.
- Since last year and into this year we have continued to build some strong ties with OLMC. Students from the senior school have come over to interview our students in relation to health and well being, are undertaking coaching with year 6 and hopefully in the future will be involved with a possible debating program.
- Students are now in winter school uniform.
- Many children and families have now commenced preparation for First Holy Communion which will take place in June. This preparation is supported by Religious Education lessons in their classrooms. We wish these children all the best as they continue their spiritual journey as part of their parish communities.
- This week children in Yrs 3, 5, 7, and 9 sat for the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy. (NAPLAN) The results from these tests, combined with a number of school based assessments, are used to form a learning profile for the students which help to inform teaching programs.

## PARISH BASED CONFIRMATION

If your child has received First Eucharist and turns 10 by the end of June, he/she is able to prepare to receive the sacrament of Confirmation. Children who have participated in the St Patrick's Parish based program for First Eucharist need only to notify the Parish Office as their paperwork is up to date.

If your child has prepared for First Eucharist in another parish, you will need to collect the form from the school office and return it to Sr Susan at the Parish office.

If you have any questions please contact Sr Susan on 8839 8460

**ALL ENROLMENTS CLOSE ON JUNE 30, 2015.**

## THE BIENNIAL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS PARENT CONFERENCE

Dear Parents, can I alert you to the advertisement in this week's newsletter of the above mentioned parent's conference which will be held from the 16th to 17th May at Coffs Harbour. This is an important opportunity for Catholic schools parents from across NSW to acknowledge, support and celebrate parent involvement in education. The theme of the conference is "it takes a village to raise a child".

## WINTER UNIFORM CHANGE OVER

All children should now be in winter uniform.

**The winter uniform is only available from Oz Fashions:**

115 - 127 Parramatta Road GRANVILLE NSW 2142

**Phone:** 9897 3121

### Operating Hours:

Monday to Friday  
9.00am—5.30pm,  
Saturday  
9.00am—4.00pm

**Replacing clothes is expensive, parents please ensure all items are labelled.**

We encourage parents of the younger grades to place a change of clothes for those little accidents, as we have limited supplies in the office.



## Two-Day Music Workshops

For Boys and Girls aged 9 - 14

Date: May 23 and 30, 2015

Venue: Christina Creede Music Centre, Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta

Cost: \$150

### VOCAL WORKSHOP:

**All Creatures Great and Small (9am-12pm)**

Learn about voice, develop vocal performance techniques and prepare pieces for performance as you sing songs about animals at this fun morning workshop.

### WOODWIND WORKSHOP:

**Tone, Technique and Timing (1pm-4pm)**

Join in group activities and perform in large and small ensembles as you discover ways to improve your sound, timing and rhythm and develop your technique.

[www.olmc.nsw.edu.au/theacademy](http://www.olmc.nsw.edu.au/theacademy)



## OLMC Parramatta Open Morning Tour

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta invites you to attend our Open Morning Tour on May 18, 2015.

Tour the College and discover why a *Mercy Education* is treasured for life and enjoy a 'comfortable cup of tea' with the College Leadership Team.

*The College is now enrolling for 2016 and 2017.*

Visit [www.olmc.nsw.edu.au](http://www.olmc.nsw.edu.au) or phone 8838 1222 to reserve your place or obtain further information.



Come join us at the:

Village School      Village Skate Park  
Village Parish      Village Chapel  
Village Well-being Centre  
Village Cafe

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Register online at

<http://www.ccspp.catholic.edu.au/about-the-conference>

- Please note the start time of 8:45 on Saturday registrations from 8:00am.
- Dress for dinner is smart casual.
- There will be transport available from the airport so please book via email if you require this service [parents@lism.catholic.edu.au](mailto:parents@lism.catholic.edu.au)
- If you have any queries contact Linda McNeil at [linda.mcneil@ccsp.catholic.edu.au](mailto:linda.mcneil@ccsp.catholic.edu.au) or the Lismore Parent Assembly at [parents@lism.catholic.edu.au](mailto:parents@lism.catholic.edu.au)

Council of Catholic School Parents  
133 Liverpool Street  
Sydney NSW 2000  
Ph 02 9287 1513  
[www.ccspp.catholic.edu.au](http://www.ccspp.catholic.edu.au)  
[www.partners4learning.edu.au](http://www.partners4learning.edu.au)

Catholic School Parent Assembly  
Catholic School Office  
PO Box 158  
Lismore NSW 2480  
[hpt://parent.lism.catholic.edu.au](http://parent.lism.catholic.edu.au)

It takes a  
Village  
to raise a child

Listen

Discover

Share

**16 – 17 May 2015**

**Opal Cove Resort, Coffs Harbour**

**11th Catholic Schools Parent Conference**

**“It Takes a Village to Raise a Child”**

Hosted by the Lismore Catholic Schools Parent Assembly  
& The Council of Catholic School Parents NSW/ACT



DIOCESE OF LISMORE  
**Catholic Schools  
Parent Assembly**  
*Parents in Partnership*



*Holy Family Primary School,*

*Luddenham*

*25th Anniversary*

*Mass & Morning Tea*



*Friday 12th June*

*9.15am in the Church*

*Followed by Morning Tea in the School Hall*

*RSVP - 22nd May to*

*Marie, Monica or Despina in the School Office*

*For further information contact the*

*School Office on 4773 4485*

*Email - [Luddenham@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:Luddenham@parra.catholic.edu.au)*



SunSmart Snippet

**The simplest way**

**...to prevent skin cancer.**

Autumn is well and truly here, and as the days get shorter and cooler it's easy to think that we don't need to be as vigilant about sun safety.

However UV levels are not linked to the temperature, and can still be high enough in Autumn to damage children's skin.

To help keep your kids safe, check your schools SunSmart status by heading to [www.sunsmartnsw.com.au](http://www.sunsmartnsw.com.au)



For more information visit  
[www.sunsmartnsw.com.au](http://www.sunsmartnsw.com.au)

