



4th June 2015 Term 2 No.7

Dear Parents

On the 20th June is Refugee Day. It falls within Refugee Week which is held annually and which promotes positive images of refugees and celebrates the valuable contribution refugees make to Australian society. This year, Refugee Week is being celebrated from Sunday 14th June to Saturday 20th June. The Refugee Council of Australia is encouraging organizations and families to celebrate a unified Refugee Week based around the theme 'With courage let us all combine'.

Many of you will notice that the theme for Refugee Week comes from Australian's National Anthem – second verse. "For those who've come across the seas, we've boundless plains to share; with courage let us all combine to Advance Australia Fair."

Many of you, like me, have had the blessing of parents or grandparents who had sacrificed living in a country that was familiar to them and leaving loved ones, to come in search of a better life. I know for my parents this was very difficult, but they were convinced that a life in Australia would provide my sibling and I boundless opportunities for a better education and a better standard of living. Whilst I know that my mother and my father missed their family every day and longed at times for the place of their birth and upbringing, they never once regretted their choice to immigrate to Australia. Although my family and I were not refugees and I could never say I understand the trauma of having to leave a home that was no longer safe, I certainly understand the apprehension often felt and the gratitude directed towards such generous and welcoming people that soon became our neighbours and friends. Growing up here from the age of 3, I can say I never felt out of place, even though we may have done some things somewhat differently eg going to the beach with tables chairs and lots and lots of food, compared to friends that just took a towel and some money. I look back with great fondness on those memories. You may have some of your own.

The reality is, just like our National Anthem we do have, 'boundless plains to share' and it is important to remember this. Unfortunately the media will often lead us to believe that we have no more room and this 'spirituality of lack' as Parker Palmer calls it is quite toxic. Of course just like all civil society this does not mean we do not have regulations to follow and laws to obey, but then of course that is one of the reasons Australia is such a wonderful land and so many people want to make this their home too.

Let us embrace the spirit of this year's Refugee Week and pray that we as a nation continue to fight for the rights of all and the courage to embrace those who wish to join our society in peace and generosity.

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:

Paul Romanos, Jordan Moubarak, Hamish McGlenn, Isobel Rahme, Geshua Toledo, Joseph Chiha, Emmaline Didic, Marcus Grohs, Ray Wehbe(4B), Elisa Daher



Condolences to the Arida Family (Angel 5C) on the loss of her Grandfather.

3L	Elaria Fayad
3T	Joseph Romanos
4B	Lucienne Tolentino
4G	Aidan Khreich
5C	Wendy Chen
5T	Lam Nguyen
6P	Alanah Maoun
6W	Francis Dagostino

3L	Jesse Sabat
3T	Kyah Rahme
4B	Christopher Alarcon
4G	Simone Sabat
5C	Angel Arida
5T	Christina Batti
6P	Crystal Makdissi
6W	Amelia Tannous

Attention All Artists

There has been many great suggestions coming through the SRC Suggestion Boxes.

One popular suggestion being an Art Expo. So Artists get your paint brushes ready! The Theme for our Art Expo is FATHERS.

You can submit a creative response to any of the following statements:

I love my dad because.....

Fathers brighten our lives.....

Fathers show us the way.....

Fathers inspire us.....

Fathers provide wisdom.....

You can use Crayons, Charcoal, paint, photography, Clay or recycled materials.

All Artists must have their name and Class clearly marked on their masterpieces. Artists are asked to have their artworks ready by Monday 31st of September, Week Eight of Term Three. Please do not bring your priceless pieces in until this date, as the St Patrick's Art Gallery will not be ready until Week Eight.

Enjoy creating Artists, we eagerly await your masterpieces!

Mrs Pope & Mrs Jadrabieb





Parent Math's Forum Follow-up

We had a wonderful afternoon last Thursday learning how to use the beadstring to support the children in their mathematical thinking. Around 20 mums took up the challenge and tried some strategies using the beadstring to assist with counting forwards and backwards by 1s, 2s, 3s, 5s, 7s and 10s to name a few. We also looked at ways we can use the beads to work out the difference between 2 numbers as well as adding and subtracting by 10s.

Mrs Barclay and Mrs Benkovich will be holding the next afternoon session on Thursday 25 June from 2.30 – 3.00pm. At this session we will be using playing cards to assist your children in their math's learning. The session will be very informal and interactive, where you can ask the questions as we go.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Elly Benkovich
On behalf of the Numeracy Team

The Executive Director of Catholic Schools, Parramatta Diocese, Mr Greg Whitby wrote an interesting entry in his blog bluyonder. Please find it copied below:

MISSING A TEACHABLE MOMENT

As educators know, extraordinary opportunities for learning come from those often unpredictable and unscripted teachable moments. Those moments that are not 'text-book' and yet provide students with valuable occasions for critical thinking, reflection and deeper learning.

On Friday, our government missed a teachable moment when the Prime Minister rejected appeals for the resettlement of Rohingya refugees stranded at sea in South East Asia.

The aim of government policy is ultimately designed to improve the lives of citizens whether it be access to universal healthcare or quality education. Our politicians are elected community leaders. They are also teachers – reflecting our values, sense of identity and hopes for the future.

This generation of Australian students will be key to solving future challenges including how we aid and assist those fleeing war and persecution.

I'm not sure what values were imparted or what lessons our students learned from Friday's response but I am reminded of the second stanza of our National Anthem:

*For those who've come across the seas
We've boundless plains to share;
With courage let us all combine
To Advance Australia Fair.*

With refugee week coming up in June, perhaps the word for our politicians here is – courage.

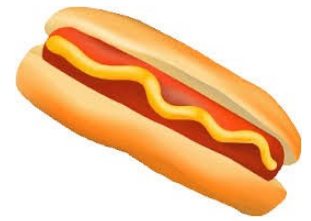
There are government and Catholic schools across western Sydney who have welcomed children from around the world (many from war-torn nations) into its classrooms and communities. These students are all contributing to a more inclusive and diverse society.

These students have stories of courage to share – and something to teach our politicians.

<https://bluyonder.wordpress.com/2015/05/27/missing-a-teachable-moment/>



Walkathon Lunch



Friday 26th June—Keep this date free!!

FUNDS RAISED FROM THE WALKATHON LUNCH WILL GO TOWARDS SUPPORTING THE DWF APPEAL



To make this an extra special day, students will have the option of purchasing a hotdog and/or corn cob, which they will receive once they return to school for lunch. This must be pre-ordered and prepaid. The cost of the hotdog will be \$4 and the cost of the corn cob will be \$2. Students may like to opt for the meal deal of a hotdog and a corn cob for \$5. Please keep in mind that this is optional and students may opt to bring their own lunch from home.

Jelly cups will be sold during the students play time for 50cents. Students will be allowed to purchase one jelly cup each. Once all students have had a chance to purchase one then they will be allowed to go for a second one if there are leftovers. Ice blocks will be handed out to each child at the park at no cost once they have completed the walkathon.

Semester 1—Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher Interviews will be in Week 9 and 10 for all children excluding Year 3 who will be in Week 8.

To book an interview go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and enter the following code for your child's year group.

Year 3—V32K2 All other Years—FWRLS



Tickets are on SALE now

St Patricks Primary School performance dates are:

Monday 15th June at Nagle College, Blacktown South

Wednesday 17th June at Nagle College, Blacktown South

Please follow the link to purchase your tickets:

<http://www.trybooking.com/Booking/BookingEventSummary.aspx?eid=132311>



OUR LADY OF MERCY COLLEGE PARRAMATTA

**College Open
Morning Tour
Monday
June 15, 2015**

OLMC Parramatta Open Morning Tour

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta invites you to attend our Open Morning Tour on June 15, 2015.

Discover how our rich tradition and cutting edge approach makes a Mercy Education at OLMC Parramatta treasured for life. Tour the College 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 or phone 8838 1222 to reserve your place or obtain further information.

Donations for Athletics Carnival and Walk-a-thon



Dear Parents,

As you are aware over the next few weeks we will be holding our school Athletics Carnival (Friday 12th June) and annual Walk-a-thon fundraising event (Friday 26th June).



To allow the students to have a treat for lunch at these events the St Patrick's Parent Events Committee and helpers will be organising a BBQ and treats to be sold at the Athletics Carnival and hotdogs, corn and jelly cups to be sold for lunch after the Walk-a-thon.

In order to minimise cost to the school, which will in turn allow us to achieve a higher profit to use for the Diocesan Work Fund Appeal and school learning resources, we are seeking donations from our school community of the following items.

If you are able to donate any of these items can you please bring them to the office as soon as possible so that we can have time to purchase anything still required in time for these events.



***Hot dog paper bags**

***Water Bottles (500-600ml)**

***Disposable Gloves**

***Napkins (any colour)**

***Sauce (tomato or BBQ flavoured)**

***Ice Blocks (Super Dooper size- long, thin ice blocks)**



We thank you for your support and kindness. The St Patrick's community is always so giving and generous and without your help and donations we would not have such successful fundraising events to assist the school with purchasing resources that will benefit the student's learning. God Bless you all.

Mrs Anne Fardell and the St Patrick's Parent Events Committee

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 Parish 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.



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 Seven

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

Week Ten

Thursday 25th June

Maths session with Mrs Benkovich and Mrs Barclay 2.30pm—3.00pm

Friday 26th June

Walkathon " I'm a Celebrity"

LAST DAY OF TERM

TERM THREE – DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Week One

Monday 13th July

1st day of Term 3

Friday 17th July

Primary Assembly—Choir 2.15pm

Week Two

Thursday 23rd July

Grandparent's Day (more details to come)

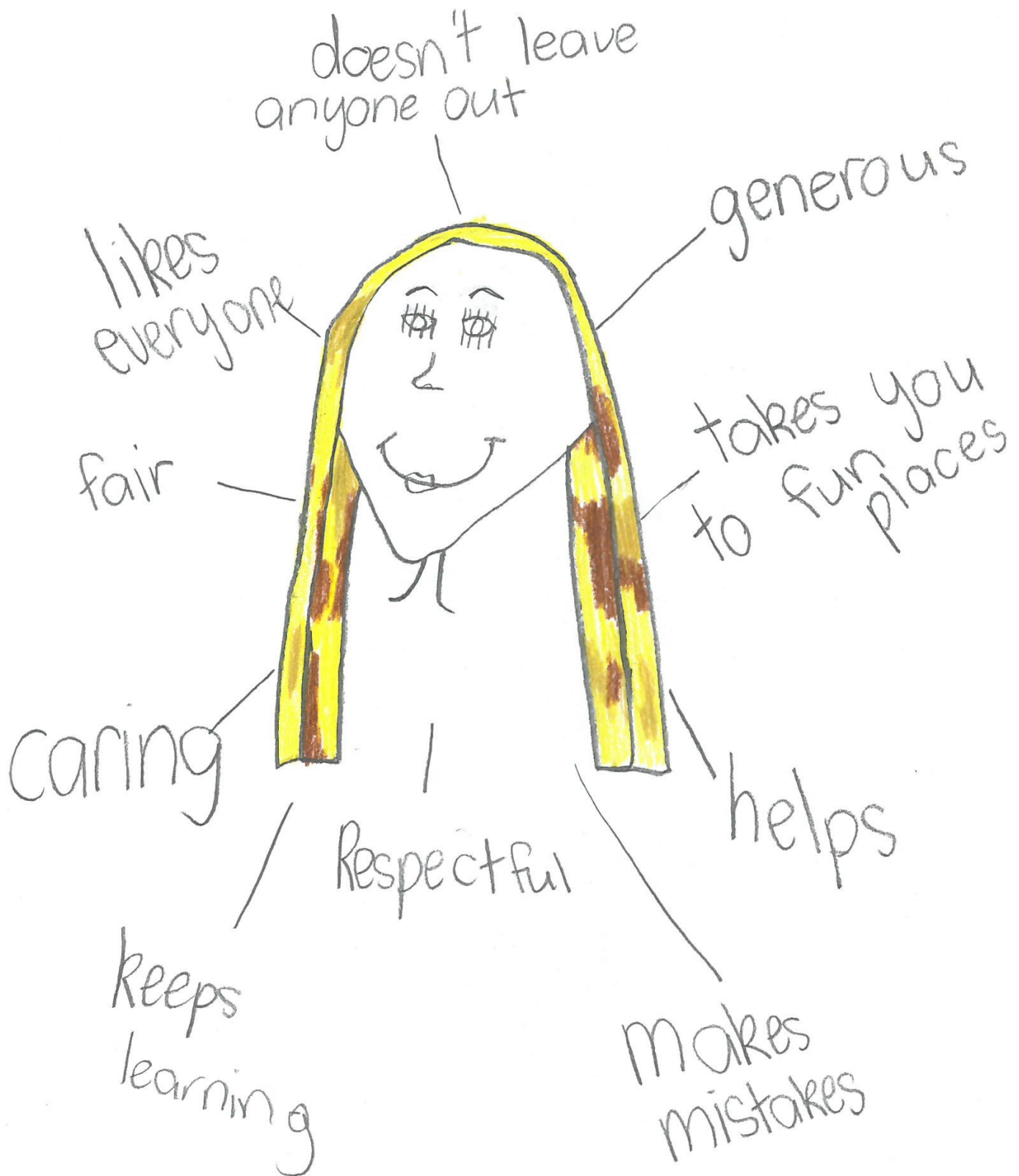
Friday 24th July

Primary Assembly—Yr 4 2.15pm

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.



What Does A Good Teacher Look Like?



Elliana 3T

The simplest way

...to eat more vegies, every day.

Did you know that eating the right amount of fruit and veg can lower your risk of cancer by 5-12 percent? Yet most adults don't eat enough of either, particularly veg.



Did you know that legumes, like chickpeas, red beans and lentils count as vegetables?

Hummus is a great way to get your kids eating chickpeas – add it to sandwiches, or send to school in a small container with some raw carrot sticks and pita bread, so they can make their own snack.

Don't forget to check out our website, it's packed full of free, vegie-packed recipes!

For more information visit www.eatittobeatit.com.au or join us at facebook.com/eatittobeatit

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



WYD PILGRIM INFORMATION NIGHTS

7.00 - 8.30 pm

Tuesday 12 May 2015 Greystanes Parish	Monday 18 May 2015 St Mary's Parish	Tuesday 26 May 2015 Springwood Parish	Monday 15 June 2015 Parramatta Parish	Tuesday 16 June 2015 Rouse Hill Parish
--	--	--	--	---

NOTES

- Prospective pilgrims only need to attend one Information Night
- Mandatory Pilgrim Formation Nights will take place in 2016
- Please check www.parrawyd.org for up to date information or changes

ADDRESSES

- Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish**
198 Old Prospect Road, Greystanes
- Our Lady of the Rosary Parish**
26 Swanston Street, St Marys
- St Thomas Aquinas Parish**
168 Hawkesbury Road, Springwood
- St Patrick's Cathedral Hall**
1 Marist Place, Parramatta
- Our Lady of the Angels Parish**
18 Milford Drive, Rouse Hill



Two-Day Workshops 2015

Strings Two-Day Workshop:

All about the Bow Ages: 9-14 years

Violin, Viola, Cello or Double Bass players of all ability levels are invited to join this workshop. Students will experience performances in large and small ensembles.

Date: August 15 and 22, 2015

Time: 9am – 12pm

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

Cost: \$150* (includes a light Morning Tea)

Percussion Two-Day Workshop:

Timing, Timbre and Tins Ages: 9-14 years

Are you interested in playing a percussion instrument or are you already taking percussion or drum lessons? Come along to the percussion workshop and experience performances in large and small ensembles.

Date: August 15 and 22, 2015

Time: 1pm – 4pm

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

Cost: \$150* (includes a light Afternoon Tea)

*Please note these prices are not inclusive of GST

