

st patrick's primary school parramatta patter

Every School Day Counts!



17th July 2014

Term 3

No. 1

Dear Parents

It is my pleasure to welcome you to Term 3. I hope you and your families had a restful holiday, full of fun family times and relaxation. I would like to welcome back our teaching staff, especially Ms Sasha Nederpelt who will be 6W's classroom teacher till the end of the year in place of Mr Baird who has commenced his term as Acting Assistant Principal at St Patrick's Blacktown. Ms Nederpelt has a number of qualifications including a Masters in Education, specializing in Student Wellbeing, from the University of Melbourne. She is a very experienced teacher and comes with excellent references. Let me also take this opportunity on congratulating Mrs Anne Fardell for her appointment to Acting Coordinator 2 and to Mrs Bernadette Carroll for her appointment to Acting Coordinator 1 specialising in Information and Communication Technology. I would like to especially welcome all our students to another exciting 10 weeks of 'driving their learning' making new friendships and achieving their personal best. For those little ones who have experienced some distress in the mornings, returning to school after the break, can I suggest that you just continue to reassure them that all will be well. The change back to attending school regularly after two weeks full of comfy 'sleep ins' and extended time with family, makes them feel a little nervous. Be strong and keep smiling. They will learn from our confidence and trust.

School Attendance *At the end of last term, all parents received their children's mid-year reports. Part of the information presented to parents was the number of days absent, including partial absences. For most children these were minimal however the staff and I could not help but notice, and with some concern, that there are children who are already beginning the habit of missing school on a regular basis. Even a day here and there can eventually add up increasing the probability of a significant impact on their learning and their overall attitude to commitment, connection with others, resilience and personal drive.*

It is worthy of note at this point to mention that in cases of chronic illness, some children just cannot come to school. In these situations these children and their families are supported by children's services often connected to hospitals and out clinics and will generally have access to external tutoring for the period of their rehabilitation. The well being of these children is always paramount and absence from school is necessary.

The 2011 NSW Government Department of Education and Training, Working Document, Guidelines for Supporting School Attendance states;

- Regular attendance at school is fundamental to student learning. Students who attend school regularly are more likely to achieve educational success, and increase their career and life options.
- Student attendance has been identified as an important aspect of a student's wellbeing and failure to receive an education has been identified as a risk of harm factor.
- Poor patterns of attendance place students at risk of not achieving their educational, social and psychological potential and disadvantage them in the quality of choices they are able to make in later life situations.

*I have attached to this newsletter an interesting and easy to read article titled: **Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habit of Good Attendance. Early School Success goes hand in hand with good attendance!** which outlines some suggestions if your child is showing signs of school refusal or anxiety. If at any time you have any concerns regarding your child not wanting to come to school, please contact their classroom teacher, Mrs Benkovich or myself. May I also encourage you to schedule family holidays during usual holiday periods so as to establish in the family the high value you place on education.*

God bless you and your family

Bernadette Fabri



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



st patrick's award

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

KA	Emily Johnson
KM	Olivia Wehbe
1C	Kenneth Zhang
1S	Brooklyn Munro
2M	Syrus Dig
2Y	Julian Camenzuli

KA	Ashintha Joseph
KM	Michael Aboumelhem
1C	Chiara Banzato
1S	Diana Granados Gavito
2M	Laurice Behan
2Y	Alana Medak

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

Bishop Anthony Fisher OP
Rev Fr Andrew Bass
Rev Fr John Paul Escarlan
Rev Fr Steven Hyun
Rev Robertus Kim
Sr Susan Ward rsj

NATIONAL CONSISTENT COLLECTION DATA

What is the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability?

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability is a collection of data from schools about the number of school students with disability. It provides an approach to achieving a national set of data on school students with disability. From 2015, this information will be collected in every school across Australian, every year.

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability will help to put the right supports in place for students with disability so that they have the same opportunities for a high quality education as students without a disability.

The first national data collection took place on 18 October 2013 and involved around 20% of schools nationally. More schools will be participating in 2014. All Australian schools will be recording data in 2015. For further information please copy and paste the address below into your web browser.

<http://www.google.com/url?q=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.cecsw.catholic.edu.au%2Fimages%2FNCCD%2520FAQs%2520for%2520Parents%2520and%2520Carers.pdf&sa=D&sntz=1&usq=AFQjCNF83fYLD2XOGckRi5kklhzhKhCeCw>

Grandparents' Day

Please join us next Friday 25th July when we celebrate the special gift that Grandparents are.

Our celebrations will begin at about 9.15am with a Liturgy in the hall. Following this, adults will join with Grandparents to enjoy a cuppa in the Library.

People are then welcome to visit their grandchildren/children in the classrooms.

The children are looking forward to sharing this special event with you.

PARENT GROUP MEETING

Date: Tuesday 19th, August
Time: 1.30pm
Topic: Anxiety and Resilience in Children
Venue: School Hall

Alison Kaylinger from the Behaviour and Wellbeing team at Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta will present an informative discussion for parents on strategies they can use to support their child to manage their worries.

Alison is a Social Worker who has worked with children and families for many years in both Health and Educational settings.

The presentation will be skills focused and there will be time for questions.

All parents are welcome.

Annual School Report (ASR)

Copies of the 2013 Annual School Report will be available from 30th June, 2014 on the school website and a hardcopy at the school office.

Lost Property

We still have a lot of lost property in the office. If your child is missing a sports jacket, bomber jacket, jumper please come into the office to collect.



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

Mia Assabgy, Joshua Lorenzo, Afia Mundanmany Babu, Zoe Samar, Isabella Kozlowska, Chloe Abou-Hamad

Morning Security & Attendance

Welcome back to a new term! Just a reminder that the school day starts at 8.50am when the bell rings. All students should be at school by this time.

We understand that parking is an issue around St Patrick's but sometimes leaving home 10 minutes earlier can make all the difference. Children who are continually late are missing out on some learning every day.

Just a reminder that the Ross Street gate is locked every morning straight after assembly. Should you arrive after this time you will need to enter the school via Villiers Street. The Villiers Street gate is locked at 9am.

If a child arrives after this time parents or carers are required to sign the child in at the office with a reason for the lateness. If the child comes in unaccompanied it will be deemed an unexplained absence.

Procedures for attendance are now on-line and the CEO has direct access to this information. Parents are required by law to notify the school in writing of any absences eg sickness. This can be done by sending a note, an email or by using the Skoolbag App.

If you require any further information or clarification please don't hesitate to contact me through the school office.

Elly Benkovich
Assistant Principal



SYMPATHY & PRAYERS

to the Joseph family (Mehaara SC & Ashintha KA) on the passing of their grandmother in April.

BOOKCLUB ISSUE 5 -2014

Due Wednesday 1st August, 2014

NO LATE ORDERS WILL BE
ACCEPTED

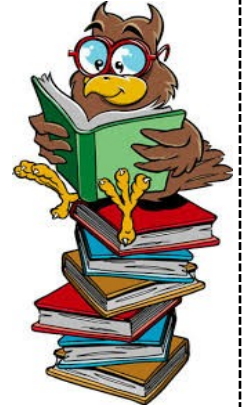
The preferred method of payment is to make the payment online directly to scholastic. If paying by cheque please make the CHEQUE out to Scholastic Australia.

Remember to fill out Order Forms correctly and place in a sealed envelope clearly marked with

NAME - CLASS - BOOKCLUB - CORRECT MONEY
(no change given)

Did you know?

By purchasing Book Club you are assisting the teachers to buy resources for their classrooms. The teachers receive a percentage from their class which goes directly back to their classrooms.



First Aid Course for Parents

A First Aid course has been organised for all interested parents in the school hall. The course will be run by Medilife and covers CPR, anaphylaxis, drownings, seizures and basic first aid.

Hopefully you will never need to use it but every parent should have the skills to perform CPR and provide basic First Aid.

The course will be held over 2 days and will be a 4hr course. As you can understand the importance of the course NO toddlers will be allowed.

The cost of the course is **\$135 pp** and will be held on the 29th July and 26th August between 11am—3pm.

To confirm your place please contact Tania Wehbe on 0419 693 014 tunza34@hotmail.com or Julia Gittany on 0423 777 333. Payment must be made to confirm your spot.



School Banking for Term 3

As of Term 3 the way you redeem your rewards for school banking will be changing. Currently you collect your 10 tokens and hand them in to the office to order your reward. Unfortunately a lot of children are missing out on their rewards as some tokens get lost or they don't add up correctly. Mrs Jones can access a report to let us know how many tokens you should have. Can I ask that you return all your tokens with your next school banking. The office will print a report every banking day and organise you to select a gift. We hope this makes it a lot easier and quicker for you to get your rewards.



OUR LADY OF MERCY COLLEGE PARRAMATTA

Celebrating 125 Years

College Open Morning Tour Friday August 1, 2014

Discover OLMC Parramatta

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta invites you to attend the August Open Morning Tour in this special anniversary year when the College celebrates 125 years of Mercy Excellence.

Tour the College and discover contemporary learning and academic excellence in the Mercy tradition and enjoy a 'comfortable cup of tea' with the College Leadership Team.

The College is now enrolling for 2015 and 2016.

Visit www.olmc.nsw.edu.au or phone 8838 1263 to reserve your place or obtain further information.

SEMINAR – UNDERSTANDING FAMILY LAW

The Solo Parent Ministry will be running our next Seminar on "Understanding Family Law" which will cover information on how the Family Law act applies to issues related to living arrangements for children and property settlements post separation or divorce amongst other topics. Date: Tuesday 22nd July, 7.30pm, Venue: Blacktown Cost: \$5.00. Bookings essential: Ph: 9933 0205 or Email: soloparentministry@ccss.org.au

SEASONS FOR GROWTH – BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT PROGRAM

CCSS Solo Parent Ministry is running its next Seasons for Growth Program for adults commencing on **Tuesday 5th August 2014**. This small group Program runs for five consecutive Tuesdays and is open to anyone grieving the death of their spouse or partner. See Notice Board for Flyer. **Venue:** CCSS Centre 51-59 Allawah St Blacktown. **Date/Time:** 5 Tuesdays from 05th August -10.00am – 1.00pm. **Cost:** \$80.00. Information and Registration- Ph. 9933 0205 or email: soloparentministry@ccss.org.au



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

TERM THREE – DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Week One

Friday 18th July Yr 4 Excursion to Elizabeth Farm
Infants Assembly Year 2

Week Two

Friday 25th July Grandparent's day
Primary Assembly Year 6

Week Three

Monday 28th July Yr 6 Voice of Youth
Yr 5 Personal Development Night
7pm—8pm (School Hall)
Tuesday 29th July ICAS English Competition 7.45am
Parent First Aid course 11am—3pm
Friday 1st August Infants Assembly Year 1

Week Four

Tuesday 5th August Cumberland Zone Athletics Carnival
Friday 8th August Primary Assembly Year 5

Week Five

Tuesday 12th August ICAS Mathematics Competition 7.45am
Friday 15th August Infants Assembly Kindergarten

Week Six

Monday 18th August Book Week commences
Tuesday 19th August Parent Group Meeting 1.30pm
Friday 22nd August Diocesan Athletics Carnival
Kinder Excursion to Calmsley Hill Farm
Primary Assembly Year 4



Walk-a-thon Update / Reminder

Thank you to all the children and parents who have returned their sponsorship money. Grand total soon to be revealed if you have not brought in your sponsorship donations please do so by 30th July. Congratulations to the 274 children who have returned their money.

Catherine McAuley

Japanese Culture Day

On Tuesday 24th June, 2014 we were lucky enough to attend the Catherine McAuley Japanese Culture Day. This experience was prepared by the Year 10 students from the school. Year 5 students from seven other schools were also invited to attend as well as the Year 8 students from Catherine McAuley.

Firstly we were picked up from St Patrick's by bus and driven to Catherine McAuley High School. After being introduced to the Year 10 students and Japanese teachers, we got to participate in traditional Japanese activities such as games, dancing, karaoke, origami making, learning how to use chopsticks, seasonal painting and even a tea ceremony. All of the activities were great, but the tea ceremony was the most interesting. After all of the activities we got to eat a delicious lunch which was provided by the Year 10 students. We ate sushi, sandwiches, jelly and juice. Yum we loved the sushi!

During these exciting activities we learnt many interesting facts about the traditional Japanese culture, techniques and way of life. We had a lot of fun and this experience helped us to better understand what we were learning about Japan in our own classroom.

The Catherine McAuley students and teachers were very kind, helpful and patient, especially when we were trying to make origami or perform traditional Japanese dance moves.

After this amazing experience was over we were driven back to school and shared what we learnt with the rest of Year 5. Tahlia Rizk, Amelia Tannous and Alanah Maroun





Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early

School success goes hand in hand with good attendance!

DID YOU KNOW?

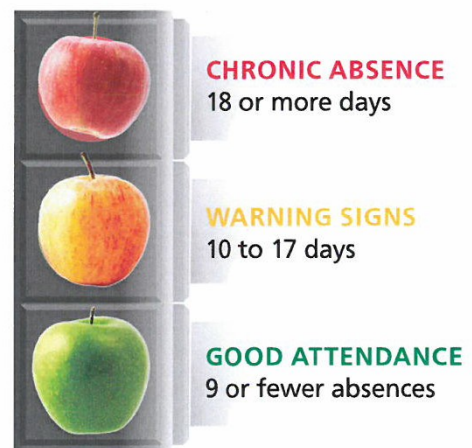
- Starting in kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Good attendance will help children do well in high school, college, and at work.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Set a regular bed time and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Find out what day school starts and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce your child to her teachers and classmates before school starts to help her transition.
- Don't let your child stay home unless she is truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors, or other parents for advice on how to make her feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
- Avoid medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session.

When Do Absences Become a Problem?



Note: These numbers assume a 180-day school year.

For more on school readiness, visit attendanceworks.org and reachoutandread.org