

st patrick's primary school parramatta patter



11th December 2014 Term 4 No.10

Dear Parents

I am writing this newsletter article after spending a lovely night with our Year 6 students and their families at their graduation ceremony and supper. Held in the school hall the Graduation Ceremony celebrated the memories held dear by the children and highlighted the accomplishments they wished to acknowledge over the 7 years at St Patrick's School. I was most impressed with the level of attendance and the manner in which all students contributed in some way to the liturgy, whether it be through music, readings, symbolic action, singing and hospitality. A media presentation at the end reminded us of how far the children had come from their earliest days at school to now. It was so good to see so many staff in attendance and I thank them for giving up their time to show Year 6 their support. I would also like to especially thank Miss Nederpelt, Mrs Bourne, Mrs Graham and Mrs Kerr for all their organization and to Mrs O'Dwyer for her support of the School Captains in preparing their Captain's Address.

After the liturgy the community gathered in the amphitheatre for a light supper prepared by Mrs Rhonda El-Tobbagi and a group of Year 5 parents. The new leaders for 2015 and their families were also in attendance serving as hosts for the night. Thank you is extended to Laura Tarabay, Maria Gittany, Sarah Mekari, Clare Guino, Shanika Joseph, Marieanne Maaraoui and Josie Romanos. I would also like to thank Mrs Marian Dagostino for the many hours spent preparing a multi media presentation for Year 6 and for running a number of workshops, involving a group of Year 5 children on IMovie, the basics of film directing and simple editing. Special thanks is also extended to Marietta Maroun, Rita Davino, Shelley Collins and Tricia Dooley for their assistance on the night.

To complete my editorial this week I have included a copy of the School Captains' address, presented by James Maroun and Yvette Roque. After they had finished it was easy to see why they have held this very prestigious role on behalf of their grade. Their presentation demonstrated an ability to articulate thoughts beyond their years and the unanimous opinion was that they did their peers and family proud. May I take this opportunity to Congratulate all the Graduates for 2014 and wish them well in High School.

May I also take this opportunity to say thank you to our parent community for your generosity, your co-operation, your feedback, your time, and particularly your partnership in the education of your children. Thank you to those who volunteered at morning teas, excursions, reading groups, masses, sports events, book covering and the many other school appeals. Thank you for your donation of money or goods, gifts for raffles and other contributions; it is very much appreciated. It is also with particular sadness that we say goodbye to some of our families who will be leaving St Patrick's with their youngest now going to high school. We wish you well and hope to see you again often.

Lastly I would like to say a sincere thank you to a number of staff that will be leaving St Patrick's at the end of the year. As already advertised through the Skoolbag App the following changes will take place.

Mrs Christina Nubla: *Congratulations to Mrs Nubla on her new permanent teaching position at Sacred Heart Primary School, Westmead. Christina has been appointed Acting Religious Education Coordinator for 2015. Mrs Nubla has had a long association with St Patrick's and is a much loved teacher who has touched the hearts of many children here. We wish her all the very best as you continue to serve God through the vocation of teaching.*

Mrs Anne Marie Salame: Mrs Salame will be leaving St Patrick's as full time classroom teacher in order to pursue other teaching options. Best Wishes is extended to Anne Marie who has had a fabulous year this year in Kindergarten. I know the children and staff will miss seeing her gentle and calming presence daily.

Ms Nicole Dunseath :Ms Dunseath will be returning to her hometown of Townsville. Congratulations to Nicole on her new appointment as classroom teacher at St Claire's Townsville. Although Nicole's association with the school has been relatively brief the impact she has had on the learning of the students in her class and her wonderful attitude to Professional Development will be sorely missed.

Ms Sara Toman: Ms Toman is undertaking a work holiday overseas for the next 12 to 24 months. Best Wishes to Sara as she embarks on an exciting adventure visiting other countries and schools. I know this excellent teacher will also return with even better skills to share.

Mrs Catherine Bourne: After 15 years connected to St Patrick's Parramatta, Mrs Bourne has accepted an appointment as Co-ordinator/Educator - Natural Fertility Services (Catholic Care Social Services - Diocese of Parramatta) Congratulations Catherine! I would like to extend a special thank you to Catherine for everything she has done for the St Patrick's Community. Such a long association is indeed a very special one and I know we will miss her dedication and commitment to teaching greatly, but even more her presence amongst us weekly will be a void we will need to get used to.

Mrs Nerida Samaha, Mrs Eva Youssef, Mrs Katie Mills and Mrs Christa Silvia: Good bye and good luck to all these teachers who are moving on from St Patrick's in order to focus on family needs, other work options or work options closer to home. I thank them on your behalf for all the contributions they have made to creating the wonderful school St Patrick's is. Each one of these teachers has a special place in our hearts.

Please keep all these teachers in your prayers for a fulfilling transition to the next part of their life journey.

As this is the last newsletter for the year I would like to wish all children and families all the very best for a Happy and Holy Christmas filled with the blessing of peace and joy with your families.

Bernadette Fabri
Principal



Graduation Speech

Welcome fellow year 6 students, parents and teachers to our year 6 graduation.

I'm James Maroun the 2014 boy school captain and this is Yvette Roque girl school captain .Its hard to believe that we first walked our steps at St Patricks seven years ago.

Now we will say our goodbyes and give our thanks for our incredible learning journey at our school.

As the famous Chinese philosopher LAW ZOO said "A journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step."

On our journey good friendships have been formed , wonderful memories have been made and solid foundations laid. These all started as a single step.

We are all looking forward to the next step of our journey. Most of us, including me, are feeling fearful, but excited about the road ahead..... High school and saying fond farewells to friends and teachers will not be easy but it is a step each of us must take.

The identity of St Patricks primary school is shaped around its brilliant teachers who demonstrate their passion every day . The supportive leadership of Miss Fabri, Mrs Benkovich and Mrs Kerr helped make our education a great one.

To the teachers of St Patricks, thankyou for sharing your time , talent, knowledge with us. Yes we know it was your job to do it, but what you did for us went beyond your duties. You took the time to explain tasks and assignments, sometimes repeatedly because we weren't paying attention. You put in the effort to make our lessons more interesting and engaging. You made sure that each and every one of us worked to the best of our abilities and brought out our individual talents.

To my fellow students –

I wish you all many years of good health, new friendships and amazing experiences. Make sure that you surround yourselves with good friends and always take care of your family.

Thankyou for giving us the opportunity to be your school captain for 2014.it has been a huge honour and a rewarding one. I wish you all the best.

Thankyou

James Maroun

GRADUATION SPEECH

Time flies so fast doesn't it, it only seems like yesterday when we all walked into this school to begin our learning journey.

Honestly at first I had a feeling of confusion about whether to run for the role as school captain or not. But my eagerness to achieve my ambition of being a leader ruled and my dream came true.

I have learned a lot from being the school captain. I have recognized my growth as a leader and have enhanced my skills and values as we go along. It has been a tough responsibility but having my mentors and you my dear classmates made it a lot easier for me.

Graduation is not the end of our school journey but another step to the next chapter in life. Primary school years have prepared us to face more challenging days ahead.

As well as preparing us academically for future studies this school has almost molded a shield for protection against life's challenges.

Our school values have equipped us with the resourcefulness of Catherine MacAuley -A wonderful mercy sister whose values we try to emulate. These values include

- Compassion
- Respect
- Resilience
- Thoughtfulness
- Supportiveness and
- Confidence

We will try to be strong and confident members of society who will stand up for what is right, be just people and not to be deterred by others who want to steer down the wrong path of our journey. This won't be easy as there will be many distractions along our journey. I urge you all my fellow year 6 classmates to join me on this journey to make the right decisions and stay on the correct path.

Now I would like to thank

- All our dear parents who are proud of us today. Thank you for all you have done for us. Thank you for the opportunity you have given us to receive the sacraments, helping us with our learning and nurturing us in our faith
- All our loving and caring teachers who have helped us grow through over the years intellectually, spiritually, emotionally as well as socially
- To our caring office staff for running things smoothly and allowing our teachers to concentrate on us.
- To my awesome class mates and friends who have made my stay here such an enjoyable one
- To our supportive, thoughtful and compassionate Principal Miss Fabri and Vice Principal Mrs Benkovich for providing freedom and laughter to this school
- to my alma mater and to the beautiful world in which I live:
- You all contributed to my total wellness as a person.

I will not end this speech without expressing my heartfelt thanks to god our creator who sent his son Jesus for us to follow. He has been in me, stayed by me and guided me throughout this whole journey. None of this would be possible without him.

Before I hand you back to James I will leave you now with this final quote from a great author, Dr. Sues " you have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself in any direction you choose

By Yvette Roque



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 and over the holidays:

Christian Tanna, Mehaara Joseph, Syrus Dig, Christina Batti, John Paul Wehbe, Kasey Lao, Jessica Wehbe, Tahlia Rizk, Clark Guatlo, Christian Sarkis, Aiden Kalathil, Diamond Murphy, Lauren Buxton, Jose Cerillo, Simone Sabat, Jessica Bechara, Joseph Sassen, Nicholas Rahme, Michael Ayoub, Ruby Younan,

KA	Jerome Santos
KM	Isobel Rahme & Jack Gittany
1C	Ryan Day
1S	Jazmyne Grech
2M	Jim Rizk
2Y	Mikaela Barrientos Salazar
3L	Simone Tanna
3T	Joshua Santos
4B	Jasmine Nasr
4G	Monica Giurgius
5C	Clarissa Guino
5T	Clovis Batti
6P	James Maroun
6W	Mathew Kassis

KA	Maria Wahbe
KM	Ethan Firmeza & Oliver Kougelis
1C	Maya Glinski
1S	John Paul Wehbe
2M	Deo Cerillo
2Y	Geshua Toledo
3L	Andrew Barakat
3T	Priscilla Nimmo
4B	Adrian Stevanja
4G	Elaine Wehbe
5C	Amelia Tannous
5T	Louis Takchi
6P	Rachel Corpuz
6W	Joseph Rahme

Holidays

As part of the implementation of the National Standards, holidays taken by students outside of school vacation periods will now be included as absences. **A Certificate of Exemption can no longer be granted for this purpose.**

Families are encouraged to holiday or travel during school vacations. If travel outside of school vacation periods is necessary, the following considerations apply:

- If the principal accepts the reason for the absence, the absence will be marked as "L" and a Certificate of Extended Leave – Holiday issued.
- If the principal does not believe the absence is in the student's best interests and does not accept the reason, the absence will be recorded as "A". A Certificate of Extended Leave – Holiday will not be issued.
- If the period of absence is in excess of 50 days, the student may be eligible to enrol in Distance Education See Distance Education - Revised Enrolment Procedures 2014

For that period the student's enrolment transfers to the distance education school.

2015 Library Council

Congratulations to the new library council for 2015 who were named at last Monday's assembly. Student's nominated themselves for the role and prepared and delivered a speech outlining what qualities they possess to be a good library monitor.

In collaboration with the Year 5 teachers and the Library staff the successful candidates have been announced.

This year it has been extremely difficult to choose the Library council due to the outstanding qualities of the nominees.

The successful students are as follows:-

Francesca Davino	Marybeth Abraham	Nathan Didierserre
Mehaara Joseph	Ashleigh Grubba	Dave Cerillo
Chanel Chidiac	Jordon Moubarak	Brooklyn Griffiths



SYMPATHY & PRAYERS

to the Bond family (Zac 5C & Lacey 1S) on the passing of their great grandfather.



CONGRATULATIONS

to the Grohs family (Marcus 3L & Alani 1S) on the birth of their little girl, Evie .



115-127 Parramatta Road GRANVILLE NSW 2142
www.ozfashions.com.au

Notice to all parents seeking St Patrick's school uniform. OZ Fashions will retail St Patrick's uniform from the 5th January 2015. Due to skeleton staff during Christmas break our containers holding remaining items of your uniform may be delayed as a result. To avoid disappointment please call prior to ensure stock availability. Please be reassured all summer uniform will be available prior to school

commencing. Thank you for your cooperation in advance! OZ Fashions Team PH: 9897 3121

2015 Medical Alerts

In preparation for 2015 we are conducting our annual review of student health care needs. We will shortly be sending home a 2015 Medical Information Audit Form that needs to be completed and returned at the commencement of school in 2015.

The purpose of collecting this information is to identify students who are at risk of anaphylaxis, allergic reaction, asthma attack or other serious medical conditions and to confirm existing information.

Please keep an eye out for this note and we ask for your assistance in ensuring that all pages are completed and returned by the due date.



CHRISTMAS DRESS UP DAY



Wednesday 17th December is the last day of the year for students. On this day the children will be permitted to come to school wearing their best Christmas gear. This may include Christmas T-shirts, Christmas hats and head bands, Christmas coloured clothes and badges. For safety reasons we ask that all children wear joggers. Coloured joggers are permitted on this day. Any child who does not have Christmas clothes are allowed to wear general mufti.



National Rosary of Australia Competition Winners

Earlier in the year students from Years 3 to 6 entered a national colouring in competition organised by National Rosary of Australia. The competition received over 3000 entries. Congratulations to An Le, 4G who has been awarded 1st Prize in the Junior section, Mylan Do who received a highly commended and to Alanh Issa, 3T who received an Encouragement Award. We can't all be winners but a very special congratulations to all who entered for your enthusiasm and interest.

THANK YOU

Thank you is extended to Mr George Gittany for the organization of the donation of Eels caps and merchandise for interested students. The Eels supporters at the school just loved them!

DWF Appeal

Thank you to all those who donated to the Diocesan Works Appeal through the school. A total of \$165 has been raised to help continue the good work of the Diocese.

St Patrick's Christmas Celebration

Come and join us in the OLMC Hall, at 1pm, on Tuesday 16 December, when we will be telling the Christmas story in word and song. We hope this celebration will open our hearts to welcome Jesus this Christmas season.

We will also be farewelling the teachers who are leaving St Patrick's at the end of this year.



St Vincent de Paul Christmas Hampers



We have been overwhelmed by your generous response to the Vinnies Christmas Hamper Appeal. With the assistance of Mrs Sabat and Mrs Rahme we have packed and wrapped 26 hampers overflowing with food staples and Christmas treats.

This is yet another example of the lived Faith of the St Patrick's School community. God bless you all. May the peace and joy of the first Christmas fill your homes and the homes of those who are struggling, as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.



SRC Shout Out

Our New Mascots

This Semester we were lucky enough to meet some interesting and curious creatures!

By having these school mascots we have learnt a lot!

RICKY RESPECT, COOLIO COMPASSION AND ROCKY RESILIENCE have showed us how to be like Jesus, a true CHRISTIAN.

Ricky has showed us that to be respectful we have to show kindness and love towards others no matter how different they may be. God made us all different and that is what makes us special.

Coolio has taught us that thought and care is what compassion is all about. We should put others needs before our own. As Mary Mackillop said "Never see a need without doing something about it"

Rocky has showed us that we should never give up and to show resilience. We don't always get things right at first, because we all make mistakes, but when we do make these mistakes we should always bounce back and give it another go!

We should show these qualities everywhere we go just like our mascots have showed us. By doing this, we will make our school and our community better places!

Isabella Loader & Connor Younes (4G)

Kyra Dpenha & Rhys Walker (4B)

SRC Luncheon with Miss Fabri

On Tuesday the 2nd of December, all the SRC's went to a luncheon with Miss Fabri, Mrs Nubla and Mrs Pope. During the lunch we had chips and lollies. The room was set up beautifully with small Christmas tree decorations and colourful table clothes. We discussed the highlights of being SRC's and spoke about some new ideas for next year. We all had a great time and we would like to thank Mrs Nubla and Mrs Pope for all the effort they put into the SRC in 2014.



Francesca Davino & Nicholas Parkes (5C)

Erin Bautista & Clark Guatlo (5T)

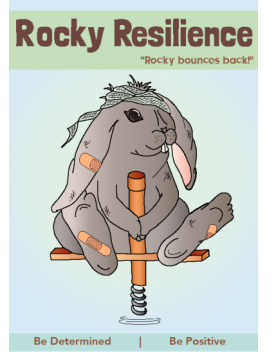
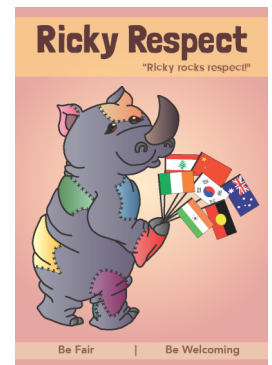


Special Thank You

To all the SRCs for Semester Two

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Student Council Representatives for Semester Two, on all their efforts, hard work and dedication. They have demonstrated excellent leadership qualities and displayed great enthusiasm in carrying out their role. It has been an absolute delight working closely with these children this semester.

(Mrs Nubla and Mrs Pope)



Colour It!



Brooklyn Munro & Jonas Fleeton (1S)

Crista-Nicole Gahdmar & Daniel Pinto(1C)

Puzzle Time

Christmas Holidays

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      K V
      C X
      I N W X
      C D D K
      Z M T H B Q
      D N A Q Y Y
Y L W D M J Z S U N E W Y E A R S E V E
D A E R B R E G N I G I W W I A D L S Y
O U B N S A R G O N C C G F M Y B N
  N V O L K H O A W H R J L O U I
    P Z C C R M T R F Q M V J M
      N R O W O I J H L E J W
        K U N O N S W Q R O A K Y E
          H E N Y T S I E J E L K K O
            C P S R M L W M F R T I E E Q
              F B A A E A L           E I P N D S K
                M F U S I I L           J F P D D A V O
                  V N D G N             X H E Y Y
                    F A E H             L E S W
                      J H               R R
    
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- REINDEER _____
- GINGERBREAD _____
- JANUARY _____
- NEWYEARSEVE _____
- SNOW _____
- SLEIGH _____
- CHRISTMAS _____
- FIREWORKS _____
- SNOWFLAKES _____
- CHURCH _____
- HOLIDAYS _____
- SNOWMAN _____

Isabella Younes & Christian Stojkovski (2Y)

Gabrielle Sabat & Aaron Macadangang (2M)

Being an SRC

My time as an SRC was hard, but enjoyable. It was a big responsibility, but I feel it has made me grow a lot as a person.

Pauline Said (3L)

I liked being an SRC because I got to experience many different things such as being a leader and helping others.

Marcus Brayden Grohs (3L)

I loved being an SRC as it taught me to how to be a great leader and how to set goals for myself and others and work together to achieve them.

Sara-Maree Wakim (3T)

Being an SRC was an enjoyable experience as it taught me to be more responsible and to be more accountable for my actions.

Pierre Onano (3T)

Who Am I? Guess the Teacher

1.



2.



Alexandra Elphinstone & Frank Agostino (KA)

Zoe Samar & James Fraser (KM)

Happy Christmas to You



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES AT
ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL, PARRAMATTA

1 Marist Place, Parramatta

24th December Vigil Mass at 6pm

Vigil Mass at 8.30pm

Scripture, Prayer and Carols 11.30pm

25th December Mass at 12 midnight

Mass at 8.00am

Mass at 9.30am

Mass at 11.00am

Mass at 6.00pm

Confession /Reconciliation: 11.15am-12.20pm

22nd, 23rd, 24th December

Web: www.stpatscathedral.com.au

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

TERM FOUR – DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Week Ten

Thursday 11th December Footsteps Dance program

Friday 12th December Thanksgiving Mass—9.00am
Whole School Assembly
Year 6 - 2.00pm

Week Eleven

Monday 15th December Choir to perform local Nursing Home

Tuesday 16th December School Christmas Concert —1pm
OLMC Hall

Wednesday 17th Dec **Last Day of school for students**
Year 6 Fun day

2015 TERM ONE – DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Week One

Tuesday 27th January Individual Maths Assessments
(To be booked online)

Wed 28th January Individual Maths Assessments
(To be booked online)

Thursday 29th January Years 1-6 return to school

Week Two

Monday 2nd February 2015 Kindergarten commences



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