

st patrick's primary school parramatta patter



27th November 2014 Term 4 No.8

Dear Parents

'DANCING UNDER THE STARS' DISCO

Congratulations on yet another wonderful night at St Patrick's Parramatta. For those who were unable to make it, a cool breeze after a ridiculously hot day, heralded the beginning of another tradition at St Pat's – an open air disco. Belinda the DJ from 'Footsteps', commenced the evening with a set of well known songs, most of which inspired the first brave dancers to start bopping.

It was also very good for parents to see some of the dance routines the children had been learning during weekly dance classes. Even some of the teachers got into the fun. In the background was a group of enthusiastic, hard working parents who organized our dinner for the night including; scrumptious sausages, delicious coffee and slices. Although the ice cream arrived late it was well worth the wait. It was so good to see so many families including ex-students and preschoolers stream through the gate. By the end of the evening the dance floor was packed with revelers and the Year 6 students had a 'dance off' with some very 'groovy' parents. One of the children asked me who had won this competition and my reply was easy – Our St Patrick's community!

Thank you to everyone who made an effort to come to the disco although the day was such an exhausting one weather wise. Thank you to Belinda from Footsteps who soldiered on all night without taking a break. Thank you to the teachers who were able to join us, and to those who sent their best wishes for a successful evening. Thank you to Mrs Benkovich, Mrs Kerr and Mrs Jones for staying to the end. Thank you to all the parents who donated items to sell or donated their time to set up. A special thank you goes once again to Mrs Marietta Maroun for the organization and selling of the food and drinks and to her group of helpers; Mrs Gittany, Mrs Romanos, Mrs Barakat, Mrs Takchi, Mrs Rahme and anyone else who supported us on the night. On behalf of all of us, especially the children, can I thank you for helping to create what one child said, was 'One of the best nights of her life! Thank you to all the children for their outstanding behaviour by following our 'safe and appropriate' rule. Thank you also to the owner of 'Dippin' Dots Icecream, for the donation of a full large esky of icecream. Once again though this was not intended to be a fund raiser we did raise approx. \$3500. This money will go towards purchasing new big books for the infants and new sets of engaging novels for the primary classes.

Well done one and all!

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

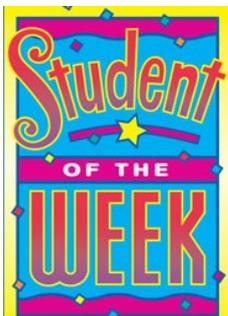
Last Monday the staff gathered together at St Joseph's retreat centre for our Staff Development Day. The topic of the professional development was 'Formation and Spirituality', and within which we had an opportunity to work through the question 'What is Spirituality?' and 'How does it manifest in our lives?' Fr Paul Roberts director of the Institute of Mission Blacktown, challenged us to look at the person of Jesus through scripture and to address what human qualities, demonstrated by the people of the bible long ago, are visible in us and through us. It was wonderful to be able to spend a whole day together discussing our interpretations, our understanding of our faith and our personal relationship with Christ. We each received a diary in which we wrote our reflections, questions and thoughts and it is hoped that we will gift ourselves with the opportunity to take time out to revisit some of these entries. The day finished with the celebration of mass together at which we thought of and prayed for our school community of children and parents.

May God bless you and your family

*Bernadette Fabri
Principal*

AFTERNOON PICKUP

We are continuing to review our afternoon pick up procedures. From all recent accounts, with children getting to the cars quicker, with parents staggering the times of pick up and with extra staff allocated we are observing a smoother run. Can I thank all the parents who are enabling this system to continue in a safe and orderly manner by ensuring that their names are clearly displayed on the dashboard and that they are not blocking the round a bout. Can I also ask any parent picking up OLMC girls to instruct their children to follow the guidelines from the staff on duty. We thank them for their courtesy and patience and for the manner in which they also assist us in the afternoons. As always we are open to feedback that will help refine and improve our systems.



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:

Marvin Molina, Bethany Issa, Chanel Maroun, Rhys Walker, Emily-Rose Grech, Dave Cerillo, An Le, Nathan Didier Serre, Natalie Draybi, Simone Tanna, Kristiana Stevanja, Adrian Stevanja, Amelia Tannous, Jaxson Rahme, Daniel Pinto

3L	Xavier Dagostino
3T	Joshua Romanos
4B	Lauren Buxton
4G	Antonia Bayeh
5C	Francesca Davino
5T	Lily Rodzen
6P	Fredrick Sarkis
6W	Emile Saab

3L	Andre Eltakchi
3T	Matthew Liang
4B	Emmaline Didic
4G	Arthur Constantone
5C	Francis Dagostino
5T	Clark Guatlo
6P	Jeremy Khoury
6W	Olana Lal

School Banking for Term 4

Student banking will cease for 2014 in week 10. Tuesday 9th December will be the final day for banking for 2014. Student banking will commence again Term 1, Week 2, 2015.

Start of School for 2015

Can you believe we are already talking about next year when we haven't even finished 2014. Such is life! Next year there will be a slight change to the start of the school year with students from Years 1 to 6 officially starting on **Thursday 29th January 2015**.

In order to begin the teaching and learning year successfully, it is vital that teachers have the most current data on each student to be able to cater for the specific needs of each child in numeracy. To assist with this data collecting the teachers will be conducting individual Maths Assessments over two days: **Tuesday 27th and Wednesday 28th January**. You will be asked to book a time online at a later date. Details will be sent home with reports.

Interviews will be scheduled each half hour and you will be required to nominate times that suit you. As each teacher will be doing interviews with their own class families should be able to arrange to have siblings do their interviews around the same time.

We look forward to your continued support as we trial the new online booking system and assessment process, which is a Parramatta Diocesan requirement for all schools. By having the interviews before the children start it will minimise disruption in the first weeks of school.

SNEAK PEAK! HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

This year the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta has asked us to arrange for a group of children to be part of a 'Video Card' for all schools in the Parramatta Diocese. We are one of a few schools invited so last week a photographer came to film some of our students. One of the requests was that the children form a nativity scene. Thank you is extended to Mrs Kath Lathouras for the donation of beautiful outfits to be used by the school and the donation of a novel to the school library. The photo attached will get you in the spirit of Christmas and was displayed on the CEDP Facebook page.



2015 St Patricks School Uniform

Please find attached the price list for the new 2015 school uniform. This will be available from OZ Fashions from Monday 5th January, 2015.

FOOD ALLERGIES

Several children at our school suffer from food allergies –**some very severe**. Action plans are currently in place to administer medication to these children if it is required. To assist the staff and to help safeguard the health of these children I ask that you impress upon your own children the dangers of sharing their lunches with other students. **In line with this policy we ask that you do not send gift items such as lollies, Easter eggs, Christmas candy canes etc for your child to give to other students.** We will continue to educate the children in the classroom about only eating their own lunches and I will keep you informed of any other protocols we may need to put in place. Thank you for your co-operation.

CONGRATULATIONS:

In order to celebrate the festive season the Lord Mayor of Parramatta Cr Scott Lloyd launched “**The Lord Mayor’s Christmas Card**” Competition encouraging children from pre-school age to Year 6 to get creative and design Christmas cards that the Lord Mayor and Councillors will use. All children who live or attend school in the Parramatta Local Government area were invited to submit an entry. The theme of the Christmas card had to be “Christmas Season in Parramatta”.

We are extremely proud to announce that one of our very own St Patrick’s Primary School Year 5 students **VERONICA TAKCHI** has received 2nd prize in the Year 3 to Year 6 category. She will be attending the Kids Christmas Concert in Centenary Square tonight to receive her prize. Congratulations Veronica on pursuing your gift of creativity and sharing your talent with others.

St Patrick’s Procedure for Election of Student Leaders

The School Leaders election process is outlined as follows:

- Year 5 Class teachers speak to their students about the qualities of a good leader.
- The Principal and Assistant Principal then visit the classes to talk about these qualities.
- Students can then nominate themselves for **School Captain, House Captain** or both.
- As part of the nomination they must outline the leadership qualities they feel they possess
- After nominations close students have a week to prepare their speeches
- First round speeches for **School Captain** are then presented by all nominees to Year 5, Principal and/or AP
- After voting the top 8 students progress to round two.
- Any student who misses out on the top 8 and wishes to stand for House Captain may do so. Top 8 then present their speeches to all of Primary
- Voting will proceed immediately after speeches by Years 4 & 5, and Staff
- Speeches for **House Captains** will be presented to appropriate House team members from Years 4 and 5.
- Voting for **House Captains** will be done in house teams by Years 4 & 5
- Declaration of results will take place at the first Monday Morning Assembly after voting
- The election results will remain confidential until the official declaration (apart from notifying appropriate parents so that they may be present).
- Commissioning to take place at Thanksgiving Mass
- Induction of leaders to take place at Opening School Mass
- The entire process is overseen by the Principal and Assistant Principal

Vinnies St Vincent de Paul Christmas Hampers

St Vincent de Paul does wonderful work throughout the year supporting people experiencing difficulties. With more than 2.2 million Australians living below the poverty line the demands for their help is never ending.

This Christmas Season we are all able to help in a small way by donating an item to the Christmas hamper being assembled by your child's class. The final day for donations is Thursday 11th December as the hampers will be delivered to Vinnies on Friday 12th December. **Please make sure that the items are well within their use by dates**

Some Suggested items:-

Tinned: ham, beetroot, potato salad, asparagus, salmon, tuna, pineapple, other fruit, Plum pudding, fruit cake

Long-life: custard, cream, milk, juice, Sweet or savoury biscuits, fruit mince pies, confectionary, Chips, Soft drink, Self saucing pudding, pancake shake mix, maple syrup

Tea, coffee, Milo

Mayonnaise, honey, jam

Bon Bons, Christmas napkins

Any other festive non perishable food items

2014 Dancing under the Stars



2014 St Patrick's Swimming Carnival

On Wednesday 26th November we held our 2014 Swimming Carnival at Parramatta Pools. We could not have asked for more perfect weather.

Congratulations again to Wattle who won the Swimming Carnival and congratulations to all of the students who participated in the race events. It takes a lot of courage to perform in front of an audience especially for our younger students who attended our Swimming Carnival for the first time.

I would like to thank all of the Staff who attended the Carnival and assisted by carrying out their duties efficiently and diligently in order to ensure the students had fun and most importantly were safe. Thank you especially to Mrs Jones, Mrs Kerr and Mrs Carroll for helping to set up early on the day.

A huge thank you to all the parent volunteers, who without their help the day would not have run as smoothly. Thank you for your dedication and commitment to ensuring your job was carried out professionally and efficiently. I appreciated your time, effort and support.

Thank you also to our wonderful House Captains who were a great support in organising their teams for races and assisting teachers with maintaining safe and appropriate behaviour. You should be very proud of the great leadership you displayed.

And last but not least a big thank you to Jackson Wehbe in Year 5 and Mr Gittany for being our school photographers on the day and capturing lots of special moments showing the student's achievements as well as action shots and them having fun. The Carnival was a success thanks to the collaborative effort of staff, parents and students.

Congratulations to the following students on achieving age champion or runner-up. We aim to present you with your trophies within the next couple of weeks.

Junior Girl Champion: Mikayla Saleh

Junior Girl Runner-Up: Mylan Do

Junior Boy Champion: Daniel Sarkis

Junior Boy Runner-Up: John Boutros, Andre Eltakchi, Daniel Takchi

11Yr Girl Champion: Kayla Tekilc

11Yr Girl Runner-Up: Adriana Saab

11Yr Boy Champion: Connor Younes

11Yr Boy Runner-Up: Eden Gittany

Senior Girl Champion: Ashleigh Grubba

Senior Girl Runner-Up: Annie Gittany

Senior Boys Champion: Emile Saab

Senior Girls Runner-Up: George Khoury

The 2015 Zone Swimming Carnival Team will be announced early in Term One once guidelines and race/time specifications have been provided by the Diocesan Coordinator.

Once again thank you to all who participated or assisted on the day.

Yours Thank fully

Mrs Anne Fardell



**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



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 FOUR – DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Week Eight

Thursday 27th November Footsteps Dance Program
Friday 28th November Primary Assembly
Yr 4 - 2.15pm

Week Nine

Thursday 4th December Footsteps Dance Program
Friday 5th December Infants Assembly
Choir - 2.15pm

Week Ten

Wednesday 10th Dec Year 6 Graduation & Liturgy Supper
7pm
Thursday 11th December Footsteps Dance program
Friday 12th December Whole School Assembly
Year 6 - 2.15pm

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

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

DIOCESAN WORKS FUND APPEAL - NOVEMBER

During the month of November, we will be joining all schools and parishes in the Diocese of Parramatta to help support the Diocesan Works Fund. Also known as faith@work this fund reaches out to people in our local communities that are not supported by regular parish contributions. The faith@work appeal gives us the opportunity to act together as one Church family to support ministries and services that no individual parish or school can offer. Please be generous so these good works can continue.



SCHOOL RESOURCES
Diocesan Works Fund Appeal - November 2014



OZ FASHIONS

The Uniform Specialist

115-127 Parramatta Road GRANVILLE NSW 2142

www.ozfashions.com.au

P. 02 9897 3121 F. 02 9897 3222

ABN: 85531965061

St Patrick's Catholic Primary School Parramatta Uniform Price List

DESCRIPTION	TOTAL PRICE
Unisex Sports	
Short sleeve polo	\$30.00
Long sleeve polo	\$30.00
Short	\$30.00
Pant	\$40.00
Jacket	\$50.00
Girls	
Winter pinafore	\$50.00
• Tab tie - complimenting pinafore/skirt check	\$5.00
• Scrunchy- complimenting pinafore/skirt check	\$5.00
• Soft headband - complimenting pinafore/skirt check	\$5.00
• Hard headband - complimenting pinafore/skirt check	\$5.00
White peterpan blouse with piping along collar	\$30.00
Tights – Bottle green cotton/Lycra	\$15.00
Summer dress	\$45.00
• Scrunchy - complimenting summer dress check	\$5.00
• Soft headband - complimenting summer dress check	\$5.00
• Hard headband - complimenting summer dress check	\$5.00
Turnover socks - White	\$4.00
Boys	
Short sleeve lay back collar shirt with school crest	\$25.00
Short – Grey full elastic waist	\$25.00
Long sleeve two piece collar shirt with school crest	\$30.00
Trouser – Grey Melange	\$40.00
Tie –S, M, L {Velcro pre tied} & XL {self-tied}	\$17.00
Turnover socks - Grey	\$4.00
Unisex	
Scarf – Bottle green with school crest	\$12.00
Bomber jacket	\$65.00
Poly/Wool Jumper – Bottle green {Girls ONLY}	SIZE: 4-8 \$50.00
	SIZE: 10-12 \$60.00
	SIZE: 14-18 \$70.00
Poly/Wool Jumper – College grey with bottle/gold stripe detail {Boys ONLY}	SIZE: 4-8 \$50.00
	SIZE: 10-12 \$60.00
	SIZE: 14-18 \$70.00
Accessories	
Back pack	\$40.00
Excursion/Library bag	\$14.00
Sun hat	\$18.00
Lice off kit – designed to fit inside of sun hat	\$6.00
Art Smock	\$15.00
Raincoat – Day/Night – Available in yellow or navy with reflective tape	\$25.00
ALL prices above are quoted for all sizes and prices are subject to alterations	

St Patrick's Cathedral Carols in the Cloister

Saturday 6th December 2014 - 7—10pm

Bring a picnic rug or chair and join us on the Cloister lawn for a night of fun and singing.

BYO Picnic Food and Alcohol.

Desserts and Tea/Coffee/Cordial provided



Santa will visit

Gold coin donation for Candles

For catering purposes, please add your name and number of Adults and Children attending to the list in the Cathedral Narthex or email secretary@stpatscathedral.com.au



Catherine McAuley Year 7 2016 Enrolment

A new Enrolment Policy for Parramatta Diocesan Catholic schools was introduced in October 2014 which offers Catholic families greater choice by allowing them to apply for enrolment at a Catholic school anywhere in the Diocese. The key change in the new policy is the removal of the concept of 'feeder' parishes and schools.

In light of these recent changes it means the letter sent to all primary school parents of Year 5 girls concerning enrolment at Catherine McAuley for Year 7 2016 is now incorrect. That letter referred to feeder schools and advised that Catherine McAuley would not need to interview applicants from feeder schools who apply for a place at Catherine McAuley.

Please be advised that given the new Enrolment Policy and given the great demand for places at Catherine McAuley all applicants will continue to be interviewed as was past practice.

A reminder that applications for Year 7 2016 must be submitted by the closing date of Friday 27th March 2015 to be considered for first round offers. Offers of admission will be made during Term 2.

A Year 7 2016 Enrolment Information Evening will be held on Tuesday 17th March 2015 after the Catherine McAuley Open Afternoon/ Evening which will now take place from 4.00 – 6.30pm.

Please contact Catherine McAuley School Reception if you have any further questions regarding enrolment on 9849 9100 or visit our school website www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au

The St John of God Institute of Counselling, established in 1969, offers a course designed to develop skills in personal growth, communication, parenting and general counselling principles. Participants can learn new skills in dealing with daily personal challenges and the issues that arise within families, the school environment and in the workplace. It is conducted on Tuesday evenings within the school term between 7.30pm – 9.45pm at Holy Cross College, Victoria Road, Ryde commencing on Tuesday 3 February 2015. The cost for the course is \$450.00 for the year with an early bird offer of \$400.00 if paid in full by the end of February 2015. For enquires please contact: Michael Hill - 9869 3774 or 0410 774 432; Carol Harding - 9639 0096 or 0408 705 848; Janelle Carlile - 0431 598 004; or Email: counselling1969@gmail.com