



St Patrick's Primary School Newsletter

25th February 2016

Term 1

Issue 4

Dear Parents

At last week's Primary Parent Information Nights I presented to parents the importance of remaining vigilant when the children are using online resources. It has come to the school's attention that some of the children have been accessing inappropriate websites at home, some of which are disguised as animation, but which are rated 'R'. The dilemma for parents is that the internet is an amazing tool for learning and for self motivated learners it opens up the 'treasures of the universe' in its potential to gather knowledge and skills on a myriad of topics. Supervision is the key!

*One of the most alluring features of technology for all of us, but particularly for this generation, is its ability to connect us with others, at anytime, anywhere from any device. Understandably I hear parents explaining that they are very frightened of their children using technology. Issues such as cyberbullying, developing a negative internet reputation, e-security, excessive internet use, identity theft and scams, unwanted contact, and the complications of social networking are real and need to be addressed. **I put to you however that as a parent, the precautions that you enforce with your children in the physical world are no different in essence from those in the 'cyberworld'. Children still need strict guidance and supervision when they are on and off the computer, phone or ipad.***

Take the following example. If a stranger came and knocked on your front door one night and asked if he or she could come in to spend the evening with your family or worse still go into your son or daughter's bedroom with the door closed, I am sure you would be alarmed because you would have no knowledge of this person's intent or their values. If the stranger was carrying weapons or the like I know you would not even open the door; yet every night strangers can and do enter our homes via our television sets and the internet, especially potentially those devices that are 'out of sight'. The message is clear, children of primary school age must never use the internet unsupervised. As they get older they often pressure parents by complaining that everyone in their class has either access to certain social media sites or own computers for bedroom use. It is always up to the parents of course, however a good guiding question is, "Does my child have the necessary experience, knowledge and skills to make an informed decision, especially if they find themselves in a complex situation?" The answer to this question will determine your action.

*Cybersafety continues to be an important community focus and today children in Kindergarten, Years One and Two received a copy of the **Child Safety Handbook** produced by NSW Police Legacy in consultation with The Protective Behaviours Consultancy Group of NSW. Fully supported by the NSW Commissioner of Police Andrew Scipione, this resource aims to raise awareness about the risks to children and the steps that can be taken to protect them and keep them safe. Topics covered include a whole section on Internet Safety (Pg 22). Digital copies of this publication can be viewed on,*

<https://issuu.com/associatedmediagroup/docs/childsafetyhandbookweb?e=2934354/11137505>

*Over the next few weeks the teachers in all classes will be addressing some key issues and strategies regarding how to keep safe when using the internet. Another wonderful government website is <http://www.cybersmart.gov.au> This website addresses many topics and concerns parents have in an inactive, entertaining way. So let the message be, "**Don't be frightened, be informed, be Cyberwise!**"*

God Bless you and your family

Bernadette Fabri

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www.stpatsparra.catholic.edu.au



Honour Award

The Honour Award is awarded to the child who demonstrates outstanding behaviour shown in the Student Charter

KA	Ava Lao
KM	Gabriel Kalouche
1C	Ethan Xue
1S	Jacob Semaan
2M	Olivia Wehbe
2Y	Anthony Wehbe



st patrick's award

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

KA	Mia Wehbe
KM	Aidan Connolly
1C	Tara DiChio
1S	Meagan Erive
2M	Olivia Gebrael
2Y	Ruby Younan

Parent Events Committee 2016

What a wonderful response we have had to parents volunteering to assist with organising events at St Patricks. We have had more than 25 offers of help. If you were unable to attend your child's parent teacher Information night, where Ms Fabri asked for volunteers, it is not too late. If you are interested, and can attend week day meetings from time to time, please send your information to the office and it will be forwarded on to me.



Our first parent meeting will be held next **Monday 29th February from 2-3pm** in the hall. At this meeting we will be organising ourselves into teams and preparing for the first event which will be our combined St Patrick's day and Cross Country on Thursday 17th March.

Look forward to seeing you there on **Monday 29th February from 2-3pm.**

Elly Benkovich

St Patrick's Primary School, Parramatta Enrolments for 2017 Kindergarten are now Open

Enrolment packs for Kindergarten 2017 are available from the school between the hours of 9am -3pm Monday to Friday.

Enrolment forms are required to be returned by Thursday 31st March 2016. When you return the enrolment you will need to bring your child's original Birth Certificate, Baptismal Certificate, Passports (parent's and child's if born overseas), Immunization Certificates and proof of address (council rates, drivers licence). We will photo copy these and return them to you at this time. Our acceptances are in accordance with the Diocesan Guidelines for Enrolments. Please feel free to contact us on (02) 9630 1421.



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

Jasmine Nasr, Ava Salloum, Caitlin Polintan, Scarlett Weaver, Anthony Khouri, Aireen Kwa, Amelia Beacroft

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations are extended to all the boys and girls who were elected as this Semesters Student Representatives. We were very fortunate for this ceremony to have Dr Geoff Lee, State Representative for Parramatta, presenting the badges. Minister Lee spoke about the importance of leadership even at this young age and how wonderful that St Patrick's Parramatta has so many leadership opportunities at such a young age. He also reminded the children that there always will be opportunities for leadership and to keep striving towards it if that is what they aspire to. The Semester One House Captains were also awarded their badges at this ceremony. Congratulations to the following children:

SRC

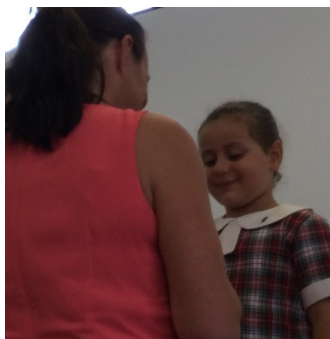
Semester 1, 2016

Class	SRC Names
KM	Girl: Cynthia Daher Boy: Steven Abraham
KA	Girl: Makayla Kalouch Boy: Christian Kalouche
1C	Girl: Estelle Perrett Boy: Noah Reyes-Mangabat
1S	Girl: Emma Barrientos Salazar Boy: Carl Ong Chua
2Y	Girl: Talia Kalouch Boy: Jake Buxton
2M	Girl: Olivia Gebrael Boy: Michael Aboumelhem
3L	Girl: Jazmyne Grech Boy: Anthony Khouri
3T	Girl: Christina kalouche Boy: Alex Layoun
4B	Girl: Angelina Aqabani Boy: Andre Elzahoul
4G	Girl: Jessica Wehbe Boy: Clyde Guatlo
5C	Girl: Annabelle Younis Boy: Ray Wehbe
5T	Girl: Isabella Ghostine-Maoraoui Boy: Joseph Chiha

House Captains

Semester 1, 2016

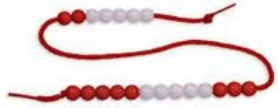
Name
John Boutros
Kayla Teklic
Marvin Molina
Stacie Touche
Zayden Weaver
Jake El-Sabbagh
Nicole Romanos
Isabella Loader



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

Congratulations to the following students who participated in this year's Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge. These children were amongst a total of 796 children and together they read 3852 books. May I encourage all children to participate in any activity which promotes Literacy as these very important skills of: Writing, Speaking, Representing and Composing / Reading, Listening, Viewing and Responding are all critical to other Key Learning Areas including Numeracy.

Congratulations to Magdalena Gilchrist, Finn Giron, Isla Giron, Diana Granados Gavito, Lily Rodzen, Zoe Samar, Allen Soso, Jacob Tamaro and Amariah Tamaro. Let's see if we can beat this year's total of 9 participants. All participants received a beautiful certificate from Catholic Education, Diocese of Parramatta.



Parent Maths Forum

Thank you to all the parents who joined with us on Wednesday night to participate in our Mathematics Information Evening.

We experienced the Numeracy hour just as our infant's children do, starting with number "warm ups" leading into a rich task. We were all challenged by open ended maths questions involving birthday cakes and apples on a tree. The evening finished with much discussion, lots of laughter and requests for more workshops throughout the year.

Jenny Barclay

Numeracy Coordinator

Child Protection Requirements For Volunteers

Dear Parents

All parents who wish to volunteer in the school eg, reading groups, sports carnivals and excursions, are required to complete the child protection module for volunteers found at the following link or to update if necessary (every two years). **Parents are no longer required to have a Working With Children Check.** More information will be forthcoming as CEDP will be implementing new declarations and forms for volunteers.

Please see the instructions below:

Child Protection Requirements For Volunteers

It is a system requirement that child protection training be completed by all volunteers commencing work in our school and a briefing every second year for existing volunteers.

An online training module for use by volunteers is available. To use the module:

- Open the module by clicking the **Start** link below.
- Read through the presentation.
- Complete and submit quiz questions. This will take approximately 45 minutes.
- After successful completion of the module, fill out the form by typing your name, email address, contact number, contact address and the school you intend to volunteer at.
- A notification of your successful completion of the module will be sent via e-mail to the school and also to your email address.

Start the module >>

<http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au/training>

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS GUIDE

A copy of the publication CATHOLIC SCHOOLS GUIDE has been distributed to children in Years 2 to 6. The Guide is independently and privately produced and they claim that consultation has been made with the Education Offices of all the Dioceses. The aim of the publication is to assist parents of primary school students by providing information about Sydney based high schools. **Please note not all of our local high schools are represented in this publication. The publication is complementary**

2016 Term 1

Important Dates

Week 5

Friday 26th Feb Diocesan Swimming Carnival
 Year 2 excursion to Elizabeth Farm
 Year 6 excursion to Canberra
 Primary Choir—Yr 3—5 to St Paul's Winston Hills
Infants Assembly 2.15pm—Year 1

Week 6

Friday 4th March **Primary Assembly 2.15pm—Year 5**

Week 7

Friday 11th March **Infants Assembly 2.15pm—Kindergarten**

Week 8

Thursday 17th March Combined St Patrick's Day Celebrations & Cross Country
 Friday 18th March St Patrick's Day Liturgy—2.15pm

Week 9

Friday 25th March Good Friday—NO SCHOOL

Week 10

Monday 28th March Easter Monday—NO SCHOOL
 Tuesday 29th March Life Education Van commences
 Wednesday 30th March Life Education Van continues
 Thursday 31st March Life Education Van continues
 Friday 1st April Life Education Van continues
Primary Assembly 2.15-Year 3

Week 11

Monday 4th April Life Education Van continues
 Tuesday 5th April Life Education Van continues
 Friday 8th April **Infants Assembly 2.15-Choir**
 LAST DAY OF TERM

MORNING DROP OFF

Reminder to Parents that the morning drop off zone on Ross Street is for kiss and drop only. Should you park and come into the school you may be fined. Thank you to the many parents following the Kiss and Drop procedures.



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

Mon to Fri 6.45am, 12.30pm
 Public Hol 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 Deacon Willy Limjap
 Margaret Gale (Sacramental Coord)

ENROLLING NOW FOR 2017

Catherine
McAuley



Catherine McAuley is a Catholic girls' secondary school, located at Westmead. Our broad curriculum encourages young women to pursue independent lifelong learning.



OPEN NIGHT

Tuesday 15 March 2016 4.00pm - 7.00pm

This school open event will give visitors the opportunity to tour the school and view facilities as well as meet our School Principal and School Leadership Team

CONTACT OUR SCHOOL ON 9849 9100 FOR AN ENROLMENT PACK. APPLICATIONS CLOSE 1ST APRIL 2016

Catherine McAuley, 2 Darcy Road, Westmead

| www.mcauley.nsw.edu.au

Parramatta Marist High School Information Evening 2016



Tuesday, 1 March 2016

5:30pm - School Tours & BBQ

6:30pm – 7:15pm Principal's Address & Information Session

Bookings Essential: www.parramarist.nsw.edu.au

Enrolment packages will be available during the evening.

Year 7, 2017 Enrolments open: 3 March 2016

Year 7, 2017 Enrolments close: 7 April 2016

Enrolments received after the closing date will be placed on a waiting list.



Open Day
Sunday
28 February 2016
10am-2pm

OLMC Parramatta Open Day

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta warmly invites you to its 2016 Open Day on Sunday, February 28 from 10am – 2.00pm. Principal's welcome at 10.00am and 12.00 noon.

Discover why a Mercy Education is treasured for life.

Reservations can be made by visiting www.olmc.nsw.edu.au or phone 9683 3300 to obtain further information.

There's a Playgroup near you!

Come to playgroup and meet others in a relaxed and friendly environment.

A playgroup is a place for you and your children aged 0-6 to have fun, make new friends and develop skills through play.

Parramatta St Pats Playgroup

St Patricks Hall

1 Marist Place, Parramatta

Wednesdays 10.30 – 12.30

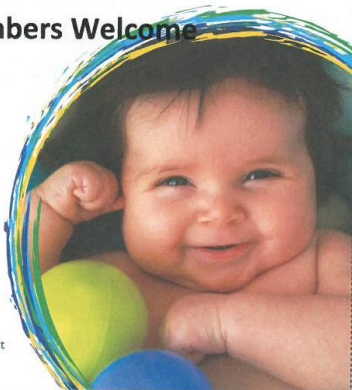
1800 171 882

Have fun and make friends

New Members Welcome

You are welcome to visit 2 sessions before you become a Playgroup NSW member.

Funded by the Australian Government
Department of Social Services



playgroupnsw.com.au

1800 171 882



Nutrition Snippet

The simplest way

...to bake a healthy lunch box treat.

Homemade muffins are a great way to add a fruit or veg-filled treat to lunch boxes.

Apple and date muffins

Ingredients: 3 apples, chopped; 1 cup boiling water; 200g dates, chopped; 50g butter; 2/3 cup brown sugar; 2 tps mixed spice; 1 egg; 1 tsp baking soda; 1 tsp baking powder; 2 cups wholemeal flour.



Method: Preheat oven (180 °C). Chop apples and dates. Add boiling water, butter and sugar. Mix until butter melts and sugar dissolves. Add spice and allow to cool. When fruit mixture is warm, not hot, add spice and egg. Mix well. Add baking soda, baking powder and flour. Mix, but do not overbeat. If mixture is too dry, add a little milk. Spoon into the prepared mini-muffin tin. Bake for about 15 minutes.

For more information visit www.eatittobeatit.com.au or join us at [facebook.com/eatittobeatit](https://www.facebook.com/eatittobeatit)

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



Health
Western Sydney
Local Health District

