

St Patrick's Primary School Newsletter

3rd March 2016

Term 1

Issue 5

Dear Parents,

As part of my role as Principal of St Patrick's School Parramatta I attend the Parish Pastoral Council meetings as ex-officio member every month. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet regularly with the Dean and Parish Priest of the cathedral Fr Bob Bossini and other members of the parish community. Part of my duties, as part of this committee, is the communication of significant happenings at St Patrick's, through a principal's report. I have included this report for you. This will be a regular inclusion in future newsletters.

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**St Patrick's Parramatta
Principal's Report
1/3/16**

NEWSLETTER

- School commenced on Friday 29th January with 412 students enrolled, an increase from last year. Enrolment for 2017 is already open and numbers seem very promising with a waiting list expected.
- On the 5th February the school held the Opening School Mass. This was a well attended liturgy and after mass Father Bob blessed and handed out the badges for the student leaders. The symbolic action of the badges pinned on by the parents was very significant in reflecting the partnership between home and school and parish. After mass a morning tea was held in the library. We also launched a new system of leadership involving portfolios. This seems to be going very well so far. Some of the STEM leadership team took photos of the morning tea.
- 9th February was Shrove Tuesday and the children were treated to a Pancake Morning Tea. The funds from the sale of pancakes are going towards funding Ms Azar for World Youth Day.
- Thank you to Father Bob, Chris and Michael from the parish for coming and presiding over the 'burning of the palms' ceremony on the day before Ash Wednesday. The children found it very interesting. Based on the recollection of 'what lent means' by Kindergarten, this event seemed to consolidate their learning on the subject.
- Ash Wednesday mass was very well attended and the students from Yr 1 to 6 received the ashes at the cathedral. Kindergarten in the classrooms. Thanks again Father Bob!
- We have now completed all Parent /Teacher Information Nights. This was a wonderful opportunity for parents to hear about the learning plans for this year, to meet the teacher and to ask any questions. One of the main themes for Infants meeting was the importance of confidentiality by adults regarding student progress and for the Primary classes, 'Cyber safety'.
- At these meetings a St Patrick's Event's Committee was formed comprising of a number of volunteers from across the school. The role of the committee is to coordinate the social and fundraising events for the year. We had approx. 25 volunteers.
- The school put forward a swimming team to compete at the diocesan swimming carnival held on 26/2/15. One student Mikayla Saleh is now going forward to the Interdiocesan in the Mackillop team. Saleh, Mikayla — 9 Years (Please see newsletter article for more details)
- The school choir is once again going to participate in the diocesan program and concert CAPTIVATE. They will form part of a mass choir with other schools from the diocese. An Infants choir is also performing this year made up of Yr 2 students.
- The students from the school learning instruments at OLMC's music academy seem to be going very well.

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Office hours 8.30am—3.30pm

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- Teachers are currently undertaking their annual training in Anaphylaxis, Asthma and CPR. This will take place over the next month.
- On Friday 12th February the school held its “Welcome to St Patrick’s – Dance under the stars” Disco. It was a great success. This event will become a regular event at the school. Thank you again to all the volunteers.
- A table of 10 staff went to the WYD Gala Night. Staff insisted on self funding the tickets for this worthy cause which is an admirable gesture. We had a great night together.
- On 26th February our Yr 6 students went to Canberra. This was a very full day but very worthwhile. Yr 2 went to Elizabeth Farm and from all accounts the children had a great learning experience.
- I continue to be part of the World Youth Day Committee. This appointment will continue until well after WYD to assist in the debrief, in readiness for the next WYD.
- I have also been invited to be a part of Bishop Kevin Manning’s Scholarship Fund Committee. I have accepted this position with pleasure.
- Next week is Catholic School’s Week. This year’s theme is ‘Belonging’. The committee will be incorporating the children’s cultural backgrounds into this theme. We will be having a prayer liturgy in the hall on Monday morning followed by open classrooms and a joint parent/student morning tea.
- The school will continue to subscribe to “Bug Club” digital reading for the infants. Funds from last years walkathon has also gone into subsidizing school magazines for the primary children. These resources will be given to every child to be used at home and at school. They are very attractive publications with very interesting age appropriate topics and types of texts.
- The school has received a \$40,000 grant from the State Govt; Community Building Partnership (CBP) grants. The grant is to construct shelter across a number of ‘open to weather’ sections of the school eg the walkway to the hall and the stairs leading from Kindegarten to Year 3. Shelters in these areas will allow all children and staff to travel from one end of the school to the other without getting wet.

Bernadette Fabri
Principal



Honour Award

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

3L	Jacob Tamaro
3T	Benjamin Aguilera
4B	Erica Jurisic
4G	Nicholas Rahme
5C	Mark Sonido
5T	Nikhil Sawant
6P	Connor Younes
6W	Kayleigh Figueredo

st patrick's award

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

3L	Isabella Moses
3T	Katerina Yannakis
4B	JJ Rizk
4G	Elaria Fayad
5C	Joshua Santos
5T	Joey Chiha
6P	Chloe Abou-Hamad
6W	Thomas Degenhardt

Parent Events Committee Update



What a great turn out we had to our first Parent events meeting on Monday. Thank you to Julie Sabat (4G, 4B), Annette Romanos (6P, 4G, 3L), Marietta Maroun (5C, 4G), Lorraine Saab (4B, 1S), Tricia Dooley (3T), Nina Wehbe (4G), Vivien Feng (1S), Shanika Joseph (2M), Belinda Barakat (2M), Victoria Younan (2Y, KM), Rita Agostino (2Y, KA), Dianne Ayoub (2Y, KM), Diala Semaan (KM), Natalie Kalouche (KA), Elizabeth Johnson (2M), Zana Rahme (4G, 2Y) for attending and giving up their afternoon to help with the planning of events for 2016. It was good to have representatives from all grades.

Our first event will be our Combined St Patrick's Day and Cross Country. At this event parents will be responsible for organising and running the Sausage sizzle on the day. While the committee will be working behind the scenes before then, they will be asking for volunteers on the day. More details to follow.

Some of our parents are also keen to try and find some sponsorship towards the cost of running some of our events. Watch this space for more information in future newsletters. Another group of parents are working towards soliciting prizes for our 2 raffles, Mother's & Father's Day.

All this sounds very exciting so please continue to support our committee members in any way you can.

Elly Benkovich

Parent Representative Council (PRC)

Congratulations and thank you to Ms Nicole Day (Ryan 3T) who has volunteered and accepted the position of Parent Representative Council (PRC) representative for St Patrick's Parramatta. I am also pleased to announce that Nicole was also elected a member of the new **2016 PRC Executive**

President: Lynn McKinnon (PRC Rep for Nagle Girl's Catholic College, Blacktown Sth)
Vice-President: Mona Mazlin (PRC Rep for Mother Teresa PS, Westmead)
Secretary: Linda Gosbell (PRC Rep for St Dominic's College, Kingswood)
Treasurer: Natalie Cilia (PRC Rep for St Mary MacKillop PS, Sth Penrith)
Parramatta/Holroyd Cluster Leader: Nicole Day (PRC Rep for St Patrick's PS, Parramatta)
Hills/Hawkesbury Cluster Leader: Sonia Nesci (PRC Rep for Our Lady of Lourdes PS, Baulkham Hills Sth)
Greater Blacktown Cluster Leader: Priscilla Pickering (PRC Rep for St Andrew's PS, Marayong)
Penrith/Blue Mountains Cluster Leader: Sharon Hader (PRC Rep for Corpus Christi PS, Cranebrook)

Duly appointed Ex-Officio Members (as at November 2015): Lynn McKinnon - PRC Rep to CCSP
Anne-Maree Pletkan - PRC Alternate Rep to CCSP

It is wonderful to have a member of our school community who can not only represent the interests of St Patrick's Parramatta but who can also keep the community informed, as well as represent our Parramatta/Holroyd neighbouring schools.

The 24 Hours for the Lord

On Friday, Year 6 students from the Religious Education committee will be spending the opening hour of *The 24 Hours for the Lord* at the Cathedral.

This special event, part of The Year of Mercy, provides all those who drop into the Cathedral between 2pm on Friday and 2pm Saturday, with the opportunity to pray before the Blessed Sacrament, receive the sacrament of Reconciliation and reflect on the theme: *God rich in mercy*.

Perhaps you will be able to spare some time to participate in this special event.

SPORTS REPORT

Last Friday, five of our St Patrick's Students represented our school at the Diocesan Swimming Carnival at Blacktown pools. This is a fantastic achievement and privilege. I would like to congratulate our swimmers for representing our school at such a high level. All of the staff and students of St Patrick's are very proud of each of you.

Congratulations goes to both the Junior Girls relay team: Isabella Younes, Arabella Gittany, Mikayla Saleh and Mikaela Barrientos Salazar and Raymond Wehbe (5T) - 50m Butterfly, for their participation on the day. They did their best, great effort!

But wait, there is more.

You may have heard of Mikayla Saleh. If you haven't, remember the name, because Saleh is going all the way! Mikayla not only represented our school in the 4x50m girls Freestyle relay team but also in the following events.

50m Freestyle - 1st Place

50m Backstroke- 2nd Place

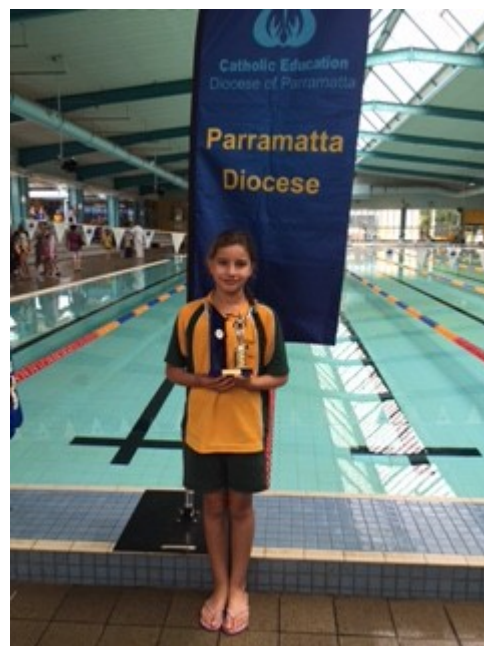
50m Breaststroke - 2nd Place

50m Butterfly- 3rd Place

200m Individual Medley - 1st Place

These outstanding results have secured Mikayla a spot at the MacKillop Swimming Carnival where she will be representing our school and herself. Not only did she achieve such amazing success in her individual races, her success resulted in Mikayla achieving the title of PARRAMATTA DIOCESAN JUNIOR GIRLS CHAMPION!

Again, a huge congratulations to Mikayla and all our swimmers on their great achievements in the pool so far this year! You have made the school very proud and We look forward to our swimming carnival in Term 4 this



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.

SIBLING APPLICATIONS NEED TO BE RETURNED BY 31ST MARCH, 2016

Speech therapy help for your child- at school!

Does your child call a snake a *thnake*? Is a rabbit a *wabbit*? Are other speech sounds unclear?

Is he slow learning to read, or has trouble spelling?

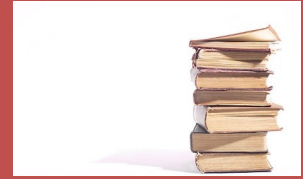
Does she have trouble expressing herself, following instructions or keeping up with the class?

Don't leave it any longer— help is at hand!

What can you do?

- Call Belinda to discuss your child
- Talk to your classroom teacher, or
- Talk to Ms Fabri about organising an assessment and therapy if needed.

Your child may be eligible for Medicare and private health fund rebates.



Belinda Drewitt Smith

0422 926 724

beesnees23s@hotmail.com

www.CommunicArtspeechpathology.com

Belinda is a qualified private Speech Pathologist and visits your school weekly.



Communicate Art

SPEECH PATHOLOGY

KIDS IN CARS - WARNING

Why are children at risk?

The temperature inside a parked car can be more than 30 degrees hotter than outside. Children are particularly at risk because they lose fluid quickly. Dehydrated children are at risk of suffering potentially life threatening heatstroke. There are a number of situations that can lead to an incident; changes in a normal routine or the keys being accidentally locked inside can result in a child being left in a car unintentionally. Parents sometimes choose to leave their child unattended, thinking they will only be gone for a few minutes. This can easily turn into ten to fifteen minutes and because the temperature rise in a vehicle is so rapid, even a short amount of time can place them in extreme danger.

Reduce the risks

- Never leave a child unattended in a car
- If you have to leave the car, even for a minute, always take the children with you
- Create a 'look before you leave' routine whenever you get out of the car
- Leave something in the back seat that you will need to take with you (e.g. handbag or laptop) as a reminder that you have a child with you
- Remember that large cars heat up just as fast as smaller ones
- Lock cars and secure keys out of reach of children to prevent children gaining access to and playing inside the car

KIDS IN CARS - THE NUMBERS

5,000

Every year across Australia, approximately 5,000 children have to be rescued from cars.

30+

The temperature inside a parked car can be over 30 degrees hotter than outside.

75%

of total temperature rise occurs within the first 5 minutes of parking a car.

70°C

Even on a cooler day, temperatures inside a car can reach well above 70°C

4

Three quarters of children rescued from cars are aged under four years old.



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

Samuel Navasardyan, Sean Feng Malcolm Nasr, Lacey Bond
Tiffany McCloskey, Harrison Chidiac, Alexander Sicurella

Year Six Trip to Canberra

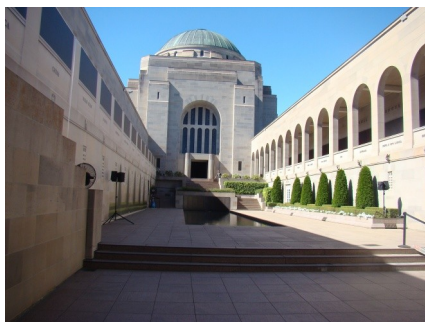
The whole of Year 6 went to Canberra on the 26th of February. We all woke up really early in the morning to depart from school at six, so we could get to our destination on time. We travelled to Canberra by bus and our first destination was Parliament House.

First a tour guide took us into the chambers, which were the House of Representatives (Green Room) and then the Senate (Red Room). After that we did a role-play about passing a bill (law) in the House of Representatives, which was absolutely fantastic!

Secondly, we finished our role-play and went back to the bus so we could go to Old Government House Gardens to eat our lunch. When we finished our lunch and had a play, we then went into Old Parliament House, which is now the Australian Electoral Commission. We learnt how to vote and the process in which they use to count the votes.

Next, we got into the bus to go to the War Memorial. When we arrived we watched a quick film clip on how it is important to respect the people that have died for our country. It showed us that some relatives of the people who died could be there and it was extremely important that we be respectful and quiet. After that we walked around and saw things they used in the different wars, we heard a real helicopter landing and troops having to quickly disembark for war. We also went and saw all the names of all those who gave their lives for our country. It was interesting to see all the poppies that decorated the names.

Finally, we got back on the bus and started our long trip back to school. Year 6, the teachers and the parents enjoyed the Canberra Trip and we all wish we could go there again. We all felt that we learnt a great deal and will never forget this special Excursion!



2016 Term 1

Important Dates

Week 6

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

Week 7

Monday 7th March Catholic Schools Week
 9.00am—Liturgy (School Hall)
 9.30—10.30am Open Classrooms
 10.30 –11.00am Morning Tea on the playground

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



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)

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.

ENROLLING NOW FOR 2017



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



ST PATRICK'S MARIST COLLEGE

151 Kirby Street, Dundas NSW 2117 Tel: (02) 9638 5644 Fax: (02) 9684 2120
Email: stpatsdundas@parra.catholic.edu.au Website: www.stpatricks.nsw.edu.au

OPEN DAY

St Patrick's Marist College

7th March 4.00pm to 6.00pm

You are most welcome to attend the
St Patrick's Marist College Open Day
(151 Kirby St, Dundas)

At our Open Day you will be invited to take part in a tour of the school where you will meet current students and experience the many aspects of College life. You will be welcomed to our new Hospitality learning space where you will taste some of the food that you could learn to make. There will be hands on experience in the Science Department, Music and Drama displays, various academic subjects to explore and much more.



Nutrition Snippet

The simplest way

...to shop in season and save.

Buying fruit and veg when it is in season is much cheaper than at other times of year. It's better quality and tastes better too.

Autumn heralds a host of new season produce. Here is a guide for March, April and May:

FRUIT

Apple (Red Delicious, Granny Smith), Avocado, Banana, Custard Apple, Fig, Grapes, Grapefruit, Kiwifruit, Mandarin (Imperial), Melon, Nashi, Orange (Valencia), Passionfruit, Pear, Plum, Persimmon.



VEGETABLES

Asian Greens, Beans (Green), Beetroot, Broccoli, Cabbage, Capsicum, Carrot, Cauliflower, Celery, Cucumber, Eggplant, Leek, Lettuce/Salad Mix, Mushroom, Onion, Peas (Snow), Potato, Pumpkin, Shallots, Spinach, Sweetcorn, Tomato, Turnip, Zucchini.



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.



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

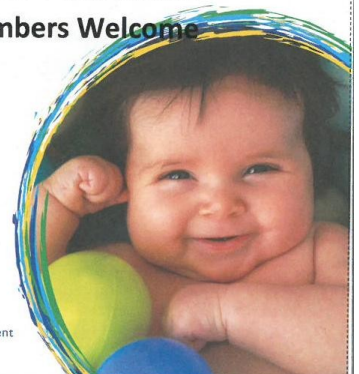
1 Marist Place, Parramatta

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

Playgroup NSW



playgroupnsw.com.au

1800 171 882



Enrolling now for 2017 & 2018

OUR LADY OF MERCY COLLEGE PARRAMATTA

Discover

Year 7, 2018
Enrolment Information Evening
Tuesday March 15, 5.15pm

A Mercy Education is treasured for life

Enquiries: 8838 1222 or registrar@olmc.nsw.edu.au
www.olmc.nsw.edu.au

MERCY COMPASSION JUSTICE DIGNITY EXCELLENCE HOSPITALITY STEWARDSHIP SERVICE