

# St Patrick's Primary School Newsletter

26th May 2016

Term 2 Issue 5



*Dear Parents*

*This Sunday, May 29<sup>th</sup> 2016, a number of our children will receive the sacrament of Eucharist for the first time - their First Holy Communion. This ceremony will take place at St Patrick's Cathedral at 9.30am and for the first time the school choir has been invited to sing with some of our leaders forming part of the hospitality group, welcoming parishioners. It is a wonderful opportunity to support these children and their families on such a special occasion and I encourage as many families to attend as possible.*

*One thing I remember as a child at my First Holy Communion was the anticipation that soon I would receive Jesus in the form of a host. The sense of awe that we have when we are young, with an unflinching faith, is something people can sometimes lose when we get older. Unlike children, adults begin to make other aspects of their lives more important and we often get caught up with the busyness of life, neglecting our spiritual wellbeing. I once heard a priest challenge the congregation by asking, "Do you really believe that Christ is present in the Eucharist? If people truly believed, then it is surprising that people do not attend mass every day of the year." he said. In many ways receiving Christ in the Eucharist unites us as a community and reminds us that we have a job to do and that is to be 'Jesus people'; people that stand for forgiveness, hope, love and compassion in our communities. We need this nourishment to assist us to continue to build the kingdom of God, in our own ways, in our own families and places of work, day after day. We need to support the vulnerable and work towards achieving justice. Receiving the Eucharist helps to remind us that this is what Christ did and modelled to each and every one of us. The reality is that this can sometimes be a challenge for people especially when we feel frustrated with each other or angry when we are hurt or misunderstood. Receiving communion helps us to 'recalibrate' and begin again together.*

*Last Sunday at my parish church of St Michael's Baulkham Hills two little girls received their First Holy Communion with the parish. They were surrounded by many family and friends all of whom came to watch them on this very special day. It is hoped that these family members will continue this support throughout the lives of these little girls. It is hoped that they will continue to attend mass and be nourished by the Eucharist weekly.*

*We wish the same for all the boys and girls from St Patrick's Parramatta who are soon to receive Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time as well. Can I ask you to remember all of this year's first holy communicants in your prayers.*

*God bless you and your family*

*Bernadette Fabri*

*Principal*

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**Po Box 2308, North Parramatta NSW 1750**

**Office hours 8.30am—3.30pm**

**[stpatricksparra@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stpatricksparra@parra.catholic.edu.au)**

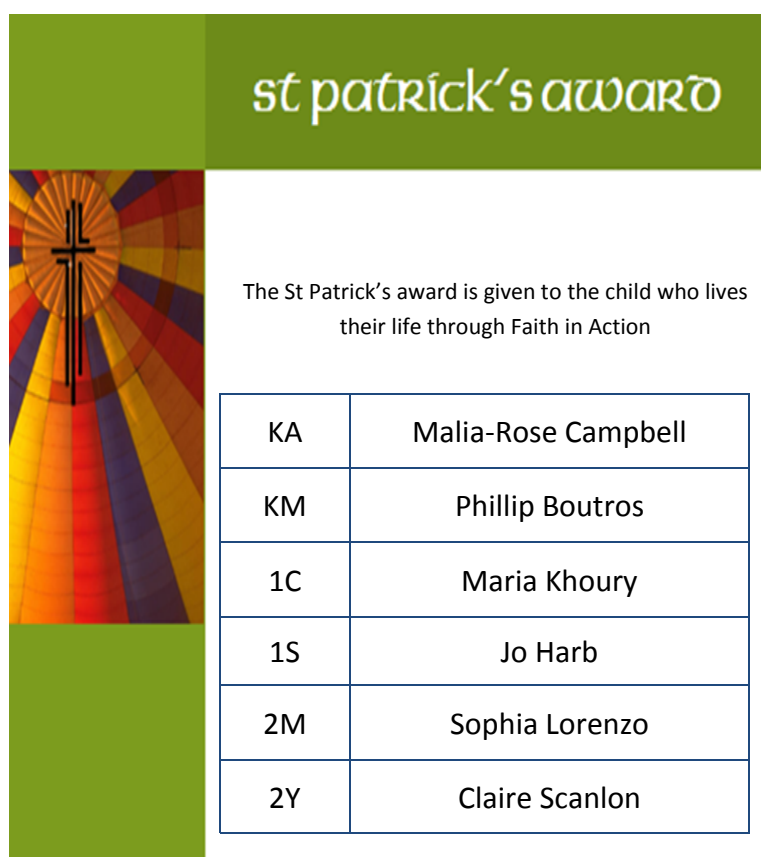
**[www.stpatsparra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stpatsparra.catholic.edu.au)**



## Honour Award

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

KA	Shavene Perera
KM	Clare Camenzuli
1C	Isabella Bousimon
1S	Louis Wehbe
2M	Carl Cauan
2Y	Shanelle Wambeek



## st patrick's award

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

KA	Malia-Rose Campbell
KM	Phillip Boutros
1C	Maria Khoury
1S	Jo Harb
2M	Sophia Lorenzo
2Y	Claire Scanlon

### Walkathon Theme REVEALED !

After days of planning, the Walkathon Theme is now revealed! For the past few days, the student Leadership Team have been visiting Yr 2—6 classrooms and handing out ballot papers with the options:

Nurse

Teacher

Lawyer

Professional  
Sportsperson

- ◆ Futuristic
- ◆ Dream Job
- ◆ National Dress
- ◆ People from the Past
- ◆ Rainbow

Doctor

Electrician

Fireman

Plumber

Policeman

Builder

Students were asked to number their options from 1-5, one being their favourite and five being their least favourite. We have now gathered all ballot papers, counted the votes and are ready to reveal the theme.

The 2016 Walkathon Theme for St Patrick's is

## 'My Dream Job'

We hope that you will enjoy picking out your outfit for the walkathon and look forward to seeing the future you

Arts Leaders

An Le and Jacky Zhao

## Sporting News

Congratulations to Luke Maroun and Oscar Gray who have been selected to represent NSWCPSS MacKillop at the NSW PSSA Touch Carnival in Tamworth in July. Well done boys !!



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

Alex Layoun, Julia Vytingco,  
Kaitlyn Chiha, Chanel Nader,  
Sienna Moussa, Sophie El Bayeh,  
Daniel Motilal

## Congratulations

Congratulations is extended to Jacob Tamaro Class 3L who has been awarded a finalist position in the 2016, 'Write 4 Fun' Competition. Jacobs poem, 'Family' will be published in a book titled, 'Top Secret' which contains other poems and short stories. He will also receive a quality engraved pen and a Write4fun Gift Pack. Jacob's Poem is one of 15 finalists and was selected from over 9000 entries nationwide. I would like to congratulate Jacob for this wonderful achievement. Children will be able to read his poem and other selected pieces in this student author compilation soon to be in our library.

Congratulations is also extended to Amariah Tamaro whose poem was shortlisted. Jacob's poem and texts from other winners and finalists can be found at

<http://www.write4fun.net/competitions/57/winners>



## PRIMARY MATHS CHALLENGE

You are given the choice of receiving one million dollars at the end of one month or 5 cents doubled every day for 30 days. Which one would you choose? Why?

Please place your solution in Maths Box at the office.

## **CHANGE IN AFTERNOON PICK UP**

Dear Parents

It is always our aim at St Patrick's Parramatta to ensure our policies and procedures are clear, effective and functional. We believe that the afternoon pick up system is going extremely well however we have had some concerns from parents needing to go to the classrooms for pick up by parents. The reason we instigated this was because the children in the amphitheatre could not hear their names being called if by chance their parents decided to pick them up by car. To mitigate this issue we have now installed 2 new speakers in the amphitheatre. This means we can go back to our original system. I am sure parents having to go up and down stairs to collect their children will be very pleased about this change in routine.

**After school care** - children sit in the 'Cave' area under the hall until they are picked up.

**Drive through** - children will remain in their classrooms until their names are called. A teacher on the playground will assist them to move swiftly to the gate and teachers on the street will assist them to enter the car if necessary

**Children to be picked up by parents** - K—Yr 6 will be brought down to the amphitheatre to wait for parents etc. If they are called for drive through they will now hear their names.

**Children catching the bus or going by walk** - will be taken across the crossing by a teacher.

With this system it is hoped that no parent will need to walk to the classrooms but will have the convenience of their children waiting for them in the amphitheatre.

At this stage we have not received any information from Parramatta Council regarding the change of signage on Trott Street. Our current procedures have been accepted so we will continue the drive thru pickup as per normal.

Thanking you as always for your continued cooperation

## BUILDING CHILD SAFE COMMUNITIES – NEW FORMS FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS AND CONTRACTORS

'Building Child Safe Communities' is a new initiative developed by Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta that enhances our commitment to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all students in our care. It is now a requirement that all volunteers and contractors complete an online undertaking form that confirms expectations in relation to behaviour whilst volunteering or contracting at schools, Catholic Out of Schools Hours Care and Catholic Early Learning Centres. This undertaking form also seeks to determine the suitability of volunteers and contractors by requiring them to declare that they do not have a criminal history involving children.

**Volunteers** – please click on '[Building Child Safe Communities – Undertaking for Volunteers](#)' or access the form via the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta public webpage <http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au>, then click on 'Child Protection Training Forms' (halfway down page on the right hand side).



Then click on '[Volunteer Form](#)' (halfway down page).

You will receive a confirmation email once the form has been submitted. Your details are maintained confidentially in a central database and a copy of your confirmation is emailed to the location where you are volunteering.

**Contractors** – please click on '[Building Child Safe Communities – Undertaking for Contractors](#)' or access the form via the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta public webpage <http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au>, then click on 'Child Protection Training Forms' (halfway down page on the right hand side).



Then click on '[Contractor Form](#)' (bottom of page).

You will receive a confirmation email once the form has been submitted. Your details are maintained confidentially in a central database and a copy of your confirmation is emailed to the location where you are contracting.

A new form is required:

- ◆ For each location that you are a volunteer or contractor
- ◆ If any of the details you have provided on the form change

We thank all volunteers and contractors for their continued support of Catholic Education.

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### [Spare Clothes Reminder](#)

A kindly reminder to all parents of Infant students, please pack a spare change of underwear, socks or stockings and boys pants inside your child's bag. Whilst we do have spare clothes it is not always possible to find sizes for every child. Little accidents do happen and if we can keep the child at school it is in the best interest of the child.





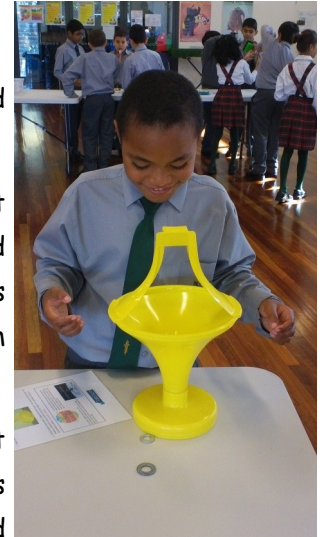
## Year 4 Science Incursion Experience

On Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2016 Year 4 students and teachers participated in a Science and Technology workshop called **Forces, Friction and Movement** run by Fizzics Education.

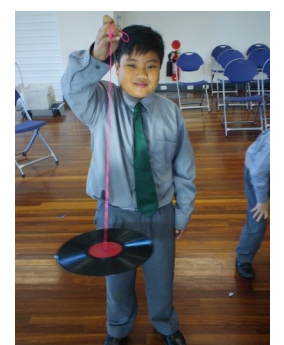
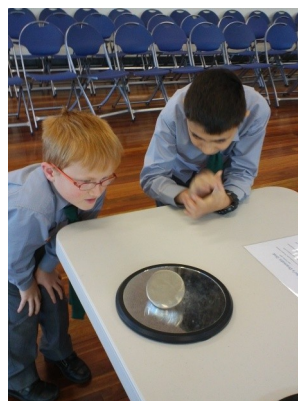
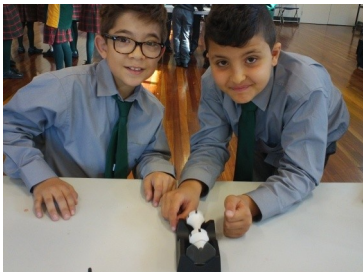
We carried out experiments to explore and investigate how forces and friction effect movement. We learnt about Sir Isaac Newton's law that "An object at rest stays at rest and an object in motion stays in motion with the same speed and in the same direction unless acted upon by an unbalanced force". We also learnt about the concepts of inertia, momentum and that every action has an equal or opposite reaction.

We learnt how to pull a cloth out from under things on a table (That's right!!!! It's science not magic), how to balance objects and why they balance, how to make objects move using gas (oxygen), that forces can go through water and solids, that friction needs pressure and surface area to work and experience what it would be like to turn a spacecraft.

We had a lot of fun experimenting and it was great to have the hands-on experience to see what we are learning about in class.



Written by Darcy Fraser and Gabrielle Sabat





## Staff Development Day

This term's Staff Development Day is on Tuesday 14th June. Please be aware that there will be NO school on this day.

Newsletter for  
Primary School  
parents

# Parent Line

NSW

AUTUMN 2016



**Parent Line** NSW is a unique telephone and online counselling and support service for parents and carers. We cover issues with babies, children and young people up to 18 years of age, all over NSW. Our counsellors are professionally trained and specialise in working with families.

## Only the best will do

Parent Line counsellors use research-based understanding of children and families together with proven parenting strategies to help parents develop more positive relationships with kids. We support parents to find strategies that best work for their family and we provide thousands of referrals every year to services all over New South Wales.

TOP 5

## concerns in 2015

Last year we were most often asked about:

- 1 Child anxiety
- 2 Reducing parent/child conflict
- 3 Managing challenging behaviour
- 4 Managing parents' stress
- 5 Impact of parental conflict and separation on kids

## Child development and learning

Many parents have concerns at times during the primary school years about their child's social development or learning skills. **Talking over concerns with a parenting counsellor can identify where problems might be occurring and we can offer referrals and/or parenting strategies to assist.** We can also talk about changes in a child's behaviour or character to help parents understand what may be happening for their child.

## Tough conversations

The primary school years are filled with tough conversations parents need to have with kids. Some of these include:

- \* Strangers and safety
- \* Using technology
- \* Sex education
- \* Bullying
- \* Grief



Parent Line counsellors are very familiar with these conversations and can help parents find the best ways to communicate concerns without making kids distressed or defensive. **Call us or jump online at [www.parentline.org.au](http://www.parentline.org.au) to chat to a counsellor.**

## 5 signs of a healthy family

Whilst every family is unique, researchers find there are common signs of healthy families:

- \* Members are committed to one another
- \* Families engage in positive communication
- \* The family spends significant time together
- \* Members show affection to one another
- \* The family actively engages together to resolve crises (DeFraix 1999).

**Our counsellors can help families develop these ways of being together.**



"I just DON'T want to go!"

Our counsellors receive many calls from parents with this issue, and there are many reasons why children may not want to go to school. Our counsellors can discuss your family situation and what your child may be experiencing so that we can help you find some strategies that work.

1300 1300 52

7 days a week

[info@parentline.org.au](mailto:info@parentline.org.au)

[www.parentline.org.au](http://www.parentline.org.au)



## 2016 Year 6 Farewell Dinner Tickets

One of the Year 6 Mum's, Paula Michael will be available at Villiers Street Café every Friday between 2-3 to purchase tickets for the Farewell Dinner alternatively you can contact Paula to make other arrangements on 0417 901 919. The details are as follows:-

**Date:** Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2016  
**Time:** 6.00pm (for 6.30pm start)  
**Venue:** Renaissance Function Centre,  
3 New St East, Lidcombe  
**Cost:** \$50 per adult and children  
under 12 — \$20

**NB: As per current procedures we ask that parents be mindful of the students in their child's class who have severe allergies to particular foods. We ask that you do not order foods that may place these children in danger. If unsure please contact your child's class teacher. These foods include egg, tuna and sesame seeds, depending on your child's class. As Tuckshop2u is a service available to all schools the menu cannot be controlled at this stage.**

**TUCKSHOP2U**  
HEALTHY - AFFORDABLE - CONVENIENT

ABN 78 608 449 074

1300 TUCKER  
(1300 882 537)

info@tuckshop2u.com.au

tuckshop2u.com.au



OUR LADY OF MERCY COLLEGE PARRAMATTA

## **College Open Morning Tour Monday June 6, 2016**

OLMC Parramatta Open Morning Tour

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta warmly invites you to discover why a Mercy Education is treasured for Life at our Open Morning Tour on June 6, 2016.

Tour the College and enjoy a 'comfortable cup of tea' with the College Leadership Team and get a sense of the rich tradition and cutting edge education at OLMC Parramatta.

The College is now enrolling for 2018.

Visit [www.olmc.nsw.edu.au](http://www.olmc.nsw.edu.au) or phone 8838 1222 to reserve your place or obtain further information.



Parents Representative Council  
SUPPORT | CELEBRATE | EDUCATE



The Parent Representative Council – Diocese of Parramatta welcome all parents/carers, teachers and school leaders to join us for our 2<sup>nd</sup> General Meeting of 2016.

This is a great opportunity to find out what the other schools in the Diocese are doing in teaching and learning, social events, parent and friends committees and to keep up to date on what's happening! We encourage you to come with questions and provide feedback so that we can provide you with the support you need!

**Date:** Monday, 30 May 2016 at 7:00pm

**Located at:** Diocesan Assembly Centre (DAC), Cnr Flushcombe Rd & Marion St (Ground Floor), Blacktown NSW 2148 ([View Map](#))

**Topic:** Special Needs Classes in our schools including ASPECT Western Sydney School Satellite classes

**Presented by:** ASPECT Western Sydney School

### **A little about our presenters this week...**

Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect) is Australia's leading service provider for people on the autism spectrum. Our specialised, evidence informed schools program is the largest in the world, with additional services that include information and advice, diagnostic assessments, behaviour support, parent and family support, and adult programs.

Autism is a lifelong condition that affects about one in 100 Australians, or 240,000 people. The word spectrum reflects the diversity of experience of people on the spectrum.

Our services provide people on the autism spectrum with the opportunity to realise their unique potential, as well as providing much needed support to their families, carers, friends and colleagues. Aspect's vision is to provide the best possible opportunities for people on the spectrum. We believe that people on the autism spectrum area *different brilliant*.

### **Seminar - Dealing With The Legal System**

Each year CCSS Solo Parent Services offers an Information night for anyone interested in gaining a greater understanding on how to choose the best lawyer for your situation, how best to deal with Lawyers so as to minimize your legal fees and how to protect your rights regarding family assets. This night is being held on Tuesday 7th June from 7.30pm - 9.30pm at CCSS, 38 Prince St, Blacktown. Guest Speaker: Mr Richard Brading, (Solicitor at Wesley Legal Service, Castlereagh St.)

**Cost:** \$7. **Registration Essential:** Rita Ph. 8822 2222 [soloparentservices@ccss.org.au](mailto:soloparentservices@ccss.org.au)

# 2016

## Important Dates

### Term 2

#### Week 5

Friday 27th May Year 5 Excursion—Bathurst  
 Captivate Rehearsal Primary  
 Infants Assembly—Kindergarten - 2.15pm

#### Week 6

Tuesday 31st May ICAS—Science commences at 7.40am  
 Thursday 2nd June Stage 3 Boys Soccer Gala Day  
 Friday 3rd June Primary Assembly—Year 3 - 2.15pm

#### Week 7

Friday 10th June Primary Athletics Carnival  
 Infants Fun Day  
**NO ASSEMBLY**

#### Week 8

**Monday 13th June PUBLIC HOLIDAY—NO SCHOOL**  
**Tuesday 14th June STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY—NO SCHOOL**  
 Friday 17th June Assembly—Choir - 2.15pm

#### Week 9

Tuesday 21st June Walk-a-thon  
 Thursday 23rd June Captivate Performance  
 Friday 24th June Primary Assembly—Year 6 - 2.15pm

#### Week 10

Thursday 30th June Stage 2 Boys & Girls Soccer Gala Day  
 Friday 1st July Infants Assembly—Year 2 - 2.15pm  
 LAST DAY OF TERM 2

*A Year of Mercy with Pope Francis*

*Perceive All of His Warmth*

(The gift of wisdom) comes from intimacy with God, from the intimate relationship we have with God, from the relationship children have with their Father. And when we have this relationship, the Holy Spirit endows us with the gift of wisdom. When we are in communion with the Lord, the Holy Spirit transfigures our heart and enables it to perceive all of his warmth and predilection.

*-General Audience, April 9, 2014*



*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 Deacon Willy Limjap  
 Margaret Gale ( Sacramental Coord)