



# St Patrick's Primary School Newsletter

## 1st September 2016 Term 3 Issue 7

---



*Dear Parents,*

*Next Sunday is Father's Day and is a time when the family celebrates the love of these very special men in the family. The role of fathers seems to have changed over the years. Many in our grandparents or great grandparents generation were used to fathers being the sole 'bread winners', and because of this common situation in society during that time, fathers were not as visible in all aspects of family life, as they are today.*

*My own father for example had three jobs; his week job and then two on the weekends. When we were young we spent most of the time with our mum, however when the weekend came it was dad's job to drive the family to outings, such as the beach or visiting family. His role in the family was very 'traditional', working hard, building a business, house maintenance, car maintenance, garden maintenance, mowing, using tools, renovating and helping relatives. He loved soccer, fishing, playing with us in the back yard, tinkering in the garage, watching war movies, watching boxing and relaxing on the lounge reading the Readers Digest. He had a special chair and enjoyed coming home from work to find a hot pot of tea ready before dinner. Our father never came to school, very rarely helped out with homework and usually was the one mum used as a threat if we were being naughty. In our eyes however he was strong, clever, hard working, gentle and wise. What is curious is that although he was always busy he was a steady presence in the family. We knew him and he knew us.*

*Pope Francis passionately speaks about the importance of a father's presence in the family. He encourages fathers to be present by their wife's side; sharing the joys and pains, hard work and hope. He speaks about the importance of being there for the children as they grow up. Pope Francis reminds fathers that a father needs to be there for his kids, "when they play and when they work hard, when they are playful and when they are distressed, when they are communicative and when they are taciturn, when they are daring and when they are afraid, when they have strayed and when they have found their way again," he says.*

*Pope Francis also makes the distinction between fathers being present and being controlling and warns fathers that being too controlling can be suffocating for their children. He encourages fathers to correct and guide their children without demeaning or demoralizing them, protecting them at all costs. Just like the father in the gospel account of the prodigal son', Pope Francis encourages fathers to know how to forgive sincerely from the heart and to be patient and merciful.*

*Finally Pope Francis concludes that a wise and mature father will be able to say to his children after they've grown: "I taught you things that you didn't know, I corrected errors that you did not see. I let you feel an affection that was both deep and discreet that perhaps you did not fully recognize when you were young and unsure and I gave you witness of rigor and willpower that perhaps you did not understand when you just wanted complicity and protection."*

*May God bless all fathers!*  
*Bernadette Fabri*  
*Principal*

---



## Honour Award

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

KA	Barbie Koima
KM	Joshua Manago
1C	Lauren Polintan
1S	Emma Barrientos Salazar
2M	Sophia Paguaia
2Y	Jake Buxton

## st patrick's award



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

KA	Zavier Moujalli
KM	Steven Abraham
1C	Jacob Wehbe
1S	Matthew Tocher
2M	Biaggio Volante
2Y	Christina Elzahoul



## Book Week Celebrations

### Author visit Years 3-6

On Friday 26th August, Mark Greenwood, a famous author, brought history back to life in our school. He succeeded in doing so, definitely.



Mark Greenwood is an author with great passion for history and folklore. He told us stories of Simpson and his donkey, the legend of Lasseter's reef among many others. His stories brought us to the past, filling us with wonder and awe.

This author's intent was to express the feeling in the scene of a book and make the readers feel emotional after reading. He said that he liked to colour in the pages of history. Mark Greenwood, the history hunter's visit brought life into legends of history.

Joshua Lorenzo (4B) & Clyde Guatlo (4G)



Dear Parents,

We have noticed over the last week that there has been an increase in the number of children coming to sick bay. Some of the symptoms we are seeing include: high temperatures, sore throat, headaches, tummy aches, flushed cheeks and general flu like symptoms.

GPs are reporting that it is not unusual for this time of the year.

If your child is sick in the morning please do not send them to school. It is much better that they are at home resting and recuperating.



**Happy Birthday to the following children who will celebrate their birthdays in the following week:-** Arthur Constantone, Eddie Batti, James Kerr, Adrian Pangan, Jaden Dionisio



### Condolences

We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to the Perrett family on the passing of her Great Grandmother. Please keep the family in your prayers.

## Acceptable Haircuts / Hairstyles

- Boys haircuts are to be neat and simple. No undercuts, no lines, no Mohawks and no rats tails.
- Hair cuts are to be of consistent length ie **Not longer on the top and shaved no 1 sides.**
- Girls shoulder length or longer is required to be tied back with either hair ribbons or “scrunchie’s” in school colours.
- The use of hair gel is not permitted.
- No coloured hair is permitted

## Contact Details

In case of an emergency at school it is very important to have all parent contact details, address, phone numbers (mobile and work), email, emergency numbers up to date. If you have changed your address or phone numbers please notify the office in writing as soon as possible.



## Father's Day Celebrations

This year, St Patrick's will be celebrating **Father's Day** tomorrow **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2016**. As in previous years, we will be celebrating our wonderful fathers and grandfathers at **Mass in St Patrick's Cathedral at 9:15am**. Prior to the Mass the Year 4 parent members from the St Patrick's Parent Events Committee will be organising and preparing a **delicious breakfast** commencing at **7:30am** for our dads and grandads to enjoy. We believe it will be a great way to allow our fathers and grandfathers to catch up, bond and feel loved and appreciated by our school community.

We look forward to seeing as many of our fantastic dads and grandfathers attending the breakfast as possible.

## **Sporting News !!!!**

Congratulations to Luke Maroun and Marcus-Adam El-Chaar who will represent the Parramatta Diocese at the NSWCPSS Mackillop Track & Field Championships, as members of the 2016 Parramatta Diocesan Athletics Team on Monday 19th September at Sydney Olympic Park.

We wish them all the best !!!!

## School Fees/ Statements

Thank you to all parents who have paid their Term 3 school fees. We have identified that there has been an issue with our Term 3 statements being posted out to some of our parents. If you do not receive your statement in the next few days, please contact the office as soon as possible.

If you have any queries regarding your account please contact Mrs Sharon Nutter on 9630 1421.

## Australian Bush Day – Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September

You are invited to join us on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September for the following celebrations:

12.40pm – 1.10pm – Open classrooms

1.15pm – 2.45pm – Australian Bush Dances



- ◆ We ask that the students come dressed as a pioneering Australian.
- ◆ This could be a convict, explorer, drover, gold miner, stockman, bushranger, farmer, pioneering women, outback settlers or soldiers.
- ◆ These people within our Australian history are directly linked to student learning in the classrooms about Australia's past.
- ◆ Costumes could be made with your child from items around the home.

### Book Donations for purchase for the Library

The children and I have selected some books that we would like in our library collection. If you would like to purchase a book for our library, it would be greatly appreciated. From Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September to Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September the library will be open before and after school for you to visit and select a book with your child. They will be the first to borrow this book. Many thanks for your generosity.

Mrs O'Dwyer

Teacher / Librarian

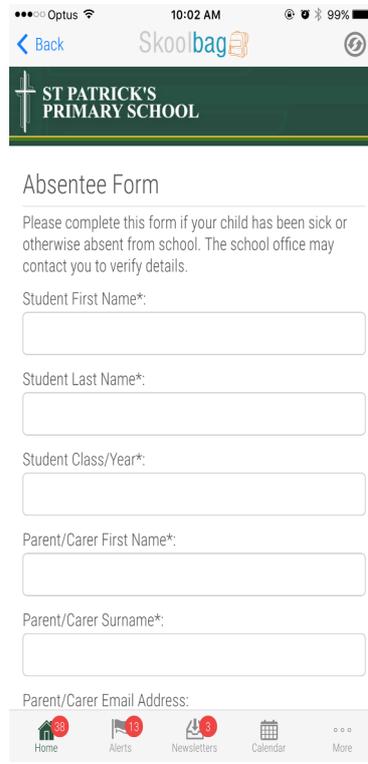
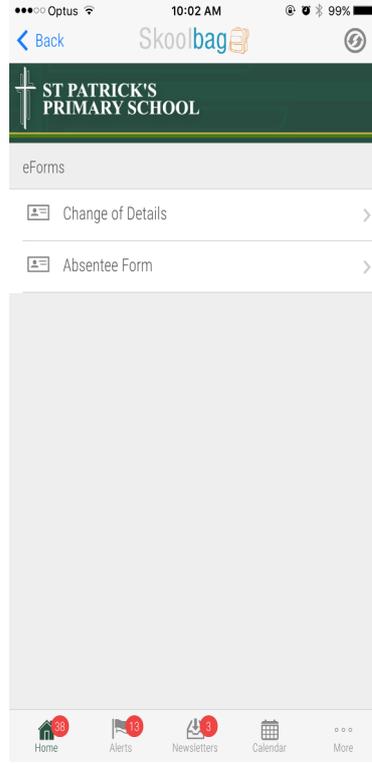
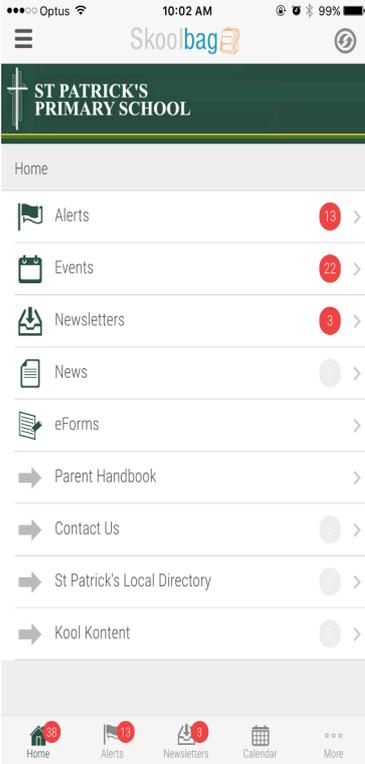


## ATTENDANCE/ABSENCES

Children are required by legislation to attend school each day, and we are required by law to keep records of each child's absences from school. For this reason if your child is unable to attend school, a note must be sent the day the child returns to school giving the reason for the absence. This can be done by letter or by using the school's Skoolbag App (please see instructions below).

**The absence needs to be explained within 7 days of the absence or it will be changed to unexplained and cannot be altered if the note is received after that time. All absences are shown on the child's report.**

**During the past 2 weeks we have had many children absent with sickness. We would very much appreciate if your child is still**



**Step 1**—Open your skoolbag app

**Step 2**—From home page (picture 1) select eforms

**Step 3**—Select Absentee form (picture 2)

**Step 4**—Complete the absentee form with your child's details. (picture 3)

**Step 5**—Submit the form which will then be emailed to St Patricks to enable the office to mark the absent as explained.

**NB:** The dates should show the first day of absent and the last day the child is absent.

**unwell they do not return to school until they are feeling much better. This will alleviate the passing on of illnesses to the other students.**

### St Patrick's Advertising—Local Directory

Dear Parents,

Please find uploaded with this newsletter the St Patrick's local directory. You will find the names & contact details of some companies associated with our community or local area that maybe of some service to you. May I take this opportunity to **sincerely thank these families for their support of the school** through their involvement in our advertising program. Monies from the advertising will go towards continuing to increase our bank of devices for learning, in particular K—4. If any family or friend is still interested in putting in an Expression of Interest please contact the office on 96301421.

Kindest Regards

Bernadette Fabri



OUR LADY OF MERCY COLLEGE PARRAMATTA

**College Open  
Morning Tour  
Monday  
September 5, 2016**

## REACHING OUT TO REFUGEES

In the past 70 years over 800,000 Australians who once were refugees have made great contributions to Australia and have enriched the fabric of our lives. They left their home countries to seek refuge elsewhere because of war, persecution or as was the case with my forebears, because they could not feed their families due to famine. The reasons people seek asylum or refuge in Australia today are not too different from years past. The response of our country has changed.

“Governments have a responsibility to manage migration flows, but the Australian Government’s current approach is harsh and should change.

**The Catholic Church opposes mandatory detention and offshore detention because these policy responses do not respect the dignity of people seeking our help. *It is imperative that the dignity of the human person must always come first.*”**

(Fr Maurizio Pettina CS, Director, Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office )

### **It takes courage to be a refugee:**

As people who have faced persecution because of who they are (their race, nationality or membership of a persecuted group)

or what they believe (their religion or political opinion), refugees need courage:

- The courage not to deny identity or beliefs in the face of persecution.
- The courage to leave all that is familiar and step into the unknown in search of peace.
- The courage to keep going in the face of devastating loss, difficulty and despair.
- The courage to begin again, to work hard and to maintain hope in an unfamiliar land.



### **It takes courage to speak out against injustice:**

In a world where refugees experience persecution in their countries of origin and often face discrimination, difficulty and rejection in places where they seek refuge, speaking out often requires courage.

We acknowledge and celebrate the dedication and bravery of refugee leaders, advocates and citizens who draw attention to violations of human rights, support people at their time of greatest need and challenge callous indifference to the suffering of others.

Australians are encouraged to celebrate the best aspects of our nation’s welcome of refugees, frankly acknowledge unjust treatment of asylum seekers and refugees and commit to working together to ensure that we do better.

Want to know more? Visit The Jesuit Refugee Service <http://www.jrs.org.au>

The Asylum Seeker Resource Centre <https://www.asrc.org.au>



## HOW CAN WE HELP REFUGEES?

At St Patrick's we are going to help the Jesuit Refugee Service, called Arrupe Place, which provides assistance to refugees living in Western Sydney. Arrupe Place has a **foodbank** which provides free fortnightly supplements to refugee families to assist them with their grocery needs. This allows them to spend some of their grocery money on things like rent, bills and medical care.

We are appealing for donations of non-perishable food. *Of course it must be within the used by date.* Items will be collected in the classrooms.

The appeal will conclude on **14<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

### **Canned Goods**

● Canned Lentils ● Canned Chickpeas ● Canned tomatoes ● Canned Tuna ● Other canned vegetables (corn, peas, etc.)

**Other Essential Items** ● Rice ( Jasmine and Basmati preferred) ● Oil (smaller bottles preferred) ● Tomato Paste

● Pasta ● Cereal ● Instant Noodles ● Dried Noodles ● Spices ● Stock ● Salt

● Long life milk ● Coffee ● Tea ● Sugar ● Baby food

### **Toiletries**

● Shaving Cream ● Shampoo ● Deodorant ● Soap ● Nappies (toddler size preferred) ● Toothbrushes ● Toothpaste ● Sanitary pads ● Laundry detergent

Thank you for your generous support of this appeal

Jude Kerr

Religious Education Coordinator

### **Financial Donations**

Donations can be made to assist the Jesuit Refugee Service for asylum seekers in the community. Here are some examples of how financial donations will assist people and their families:

- \$50 could provide a vulnerable family with a supermarket voucher, enabling them to buy essentials such as rice, flour, tea, and fresh vegetables for the week.

- \$150 would provide a fortnightly allowance for the food, travel, and medical needs of asylum seekers living in the JRS Blaiket Shelter in Elizabeth Bay

- \$450 would assist a family seeking asylum with their basic fortnightly living expenses; including food, travel, and medical needs.

- \$40 would pay for an Opal Card to help pay for weekly train and bus fares to get asylum seekers to and from important appointments with lawyers, doctors, and potential employers.

**Want to know more?** Visit The Jesuit Refugee Service <http://www.jrs.org.au>  
The Asylum Seeker Resource Centre <https://www.asrc.org.au>

# 2016 Important Dates

## Term 3

### Week 7

- Friday 2nd September Father's Day Breakfast—School Hall 7.30am  
Father's Day Mass—St Patrick's Cathedral—9.15am  
Infants Assembly—Year 2—2.15pm

### Week 8

- Wednesday 7th Sept Australia Story: Country Day— Please see details in this newsletter  
Friday 9th September Primary Assembly—Year 6—2.15pm

### Week 9

- Wednesday 14th Sept Refugee Appeal finishes  
Friday 16th September Stage 2 Boys & Girls Touch Gala Day  
Infants Assembly—Year 1—2.15pm  
Movie Night—More details to come

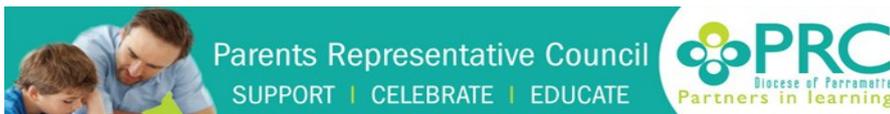
### Week 10

- Friday 23rd September Stage 3 Boys & Girls Touch Gala Day  
Primary Assembly—Year 4—2.15pm  
Last day of Term 3

## Term 4

### Week 1

- Monday 10th October Return to school for Term 4



Term 4, 2016 General Meeting - Mon 14 Nov 2016: Topic Future Directions/Where we're heading in Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta

Diocesan Assembly Centre, Cnr Flushcombe Rd & Marian St, Blacktown



## Catherine McAuley Westmead Enrolments for Year 7 2018

There will be three Open Mornings specifically for Year 7 2018 enrolments on:

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September, Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October and  
Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2016  
9.15 – 11am**



*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**

**Bishop of Parramatta Most Rev.  
Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM CONV**

- Very Rev Fr Robert Bossini  
Rev Fr John Paul Escarlan  
Rev Deacon Willy Limjap  
Margaret Gale ( Sacramental Coord)  
Milli Lee (Parish Admin Asst)  
Patricia Preca (Parish Secretary)