

Newsletter

11th April, 2019 Term 1 Week 11

Dear Parents

It is almost time for the children to have a two week holiday break and they certainly deserve one after such a fast paced term one. Whilst we encourage our children to have time to relax, spend time with the family and enjoy learning through experiences outdoors, there is one activity we recommend children do every day during the holidays, and that is reading. All children benefit from reading but it is particularly important for emerging readers, especially readers who are receiving extra support. What teachers notice is that after the holidays those children who have not continued their daily reading routine actually lose their improvement momentum. This is often very disappointing for teachers who take pride in watching children grow in this very important skill. Because for some children the skills of reading are not fully embedded yet, that is they have not become automatic, they need to read often.

In my discussion with parents regarding reading, comprehension, particularly children's difficulty with comprehension is a common theme. The process of reading involves a very complex set of skills and comprehension is key to the act of reading. If comprehension is not present, the reader is not reading.

There are many aspects to discuss when speaking about learning to read however one element which is often forgotten is the skill of Visualization (seeing) and Verbalization (Talking about the seeing). Educationalist Nanci Bell maintains that "The brain uses imagery to comprehend and interpret oral and written language." She also says that if this skill is weak, "this weakness often undermines the reading process..." This idea is supported by a quote from Albert-Einstein who is known to have said that "If I can't picture it, I can't understand it". In my experience children who 'hate' reading or who find reading difficult often tell me that they do not visualize, they cannot visualize; they do not 'paint pictures in their mind' as they are reading or create 'movies in their head'.

Adults who hate reading have also expressed this realization. Here are some easy tips to try with your child. These strategies are for readers of **all** ages who may be having difficulty reading:

- **Picture Imaging** Ask your child to describe a simple picture that you have shown them. Ask him or her questions about; What they are seeing, the Size, Color, Number, Shape, Place, Movement, Mood, Background, Perspective, Time and Sound. They can look at the picture as you ask them questions however it is best that you do not see the picture so as to give them a reason for answering – like a barrier game.
- **Word Imaging** Do the same for simple nouns but this time use words; written or said eg cat, dog, tower, skyscraper, circus, vehicle etc
- **Sentence Imaging** Do the same for simple sentences
- **Story Imaging** Do the same for simple stories. Use picture books and play a game by covering the pictures. Ask children to describe what the picture may look like, then reveal the picture and compare the mind image to that of the illustrators. **(Please note, that beginning readers need to use the pictures to assist them when reading. This is to be encouraged until they no longer need the pictures to read. Do not cover the pictures when the children are reading. Only cover the pictures when encouraging the skill of visualization)**
- Visualization by drawing pictures. Talk about details of the drawing and help the child to add detail to the picture.
- **Watch illustrators draw and talk about their illustrations.**

Wishing you all a happy and safe holiday with many moments of happy reading.

God Bless you and your family

Bernadette Fabri
Principal

2019 Dates to Remember

Term 1

Week 11

Friday 12th April

Infants Assembly—Kinder
2.15pm

LAST DAY OF TERM

Term 2

Week 1

Monday 29th April

Return to school for Term 2

Friday 3rd May

Year 5 Excursion— 'The
Rocks'

Week 2

Tuesday 7th May

Diocesan Cross Country

Mothers Day Stall

Wednesday 8th May

Year 4 Excursion—Botany Bay

Friday 10th May

Mother's Day Mass and
Morning Tea—more details
to come

Week 3

Monday 13th May

Stage 1 Science Incursion

Tuesday 14th May

Naplan Yrs 3 & 5—Writing

Wednesday 15th May

Naplan Yrs 3 & 5—Reading

Thursday 16th May

Naplan Yrs 3 & 5—Language



Honour Award

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

KA	Melissa Black	Maximillian Markovic
KM	Allen Elias	Nina Kancijanac
1C	Sofia Bousimon	Andrew Khalil
1S	Dominic Coles	Zachariah McPherson
2M	Beth Roumanous	Joseph Norman
2Y	Raymond Wehbe	Chloe Vella



st patrick's award

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

KA	Isla-Rose Eid	Hannah Nasr
KM	Jaidyn Shehadie	Sophie Abraham
1C	Olivier Touche	Audrey El Bayeh
1S	Parker Burgess	Joshua Day
2M	Celine Joachim	Madeleine Talbot
2Y	Michel Kazzaz	Angelina Bounassif

MORNING GATE OPENING TIMES

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you once again for your feedback with regard to the opening time for the Ross Street Gate. We have certainly taken your concerns seriously and as expressed earlier share some of your concerns. The school is committed to finding a reasonable solution that will both ensure the safety of all children on site and to assist families to get in and out of the area effectively. In the meantime we will continue to keep the gate open at the original time of 8.00am until we can come up with a solution that works well for all. I ask that you all endeavour to assist the school with this matter by not sending your children earlier than needed ie 8.20am. This earlier time is NOT for children who wish to come to school to get extra play or be with their friends. **Children will be required to sit for the entire 20 extra mins. Parents will be contacted if children are not being cooperative of this condition.** Thanking you always for your interest and support

Bernadette Fabri

St Patrick's Current Attendance Level = 91.7%

K = 91.9%	2 = 95.0%	4 = 93.5%	6 = 93.3%
1 = 89.5%	3 = 85.2%	5 = 92.9%	

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations is extended to Ms Brown and her fiancé Ed and to Ms Azar and her fiancé Dave who will be getting married these holidays. I know you join us in congratulating them and in wishing them all the very best for their future.



Happy Birthday to the following children who will celebrate their birthday in the coming week and over the school holidays: Luke Wehbe, Shavene Perera, Christopher Hanna, Patrick Saab, Anthony Wehbe, Isaac Wehbe, Marcelino El Halabi, Celine Joachim, Sophia Khoury, April Soh, Ava Khouri, Sophia Lorenzo, Troy Daniel, Tara DiChio, Marcella Abboud, Takeshi Liu, Frank Malkoun, Michael Agostino, Fleur Perrett, Ava Lao, Adam Jurisic, Dunya Grudic, Johnnie Daher, Andrew Khalil

CHANGE TO LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

Dear Parents,

Mr Mark Baird has decided to retire from his leadership position of Coordinator 2 at St Patrick's Parramatta in order to pursue other professional goals at the school. On behalf of the school staff and community I wish to thank Mr Baird for his many years of service in leadership and wish him well for the next stage of his career. Mr Baird remain class teacher of 4G.

UPDATE ON MS KELLY

As many of you know Ms Kelly had a fall earlier this term. She sustained breaks to 4 bones; both legs and a wrist. She has undergone surgery and is currently doing rehabilitation. Ms Kelly thanks you all for your concern and expressions of good wishes. We will keep you updated on her recovery. Please keep her in your prayers.



Should I read the hard words for my child?



Decoding is a process that allows kids to figure out most words they've heard but have never seen in written form.

Children can use strategies such as:

- I can look at the initial sound and sound out the word.
- I will look for smaller words inside this new word.
- I will skip over this word and read the rest of the sentence to see if I can work it out.
- I can use the illustrations to help me work out the word.

FEEDBACK and COMPLAINTS

St Patrick's Parramatta staff always welcome feedback and ideas from the parent community. If you have any feedback, concerns or complaints please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher, Mrs Benkovich (behaviour) or Miss Fabri through the school office (8832 4600), school email address stpatsricksparra@parra.catholic.edu.au, or through Skoolbag App. The school follows the CEDP Complaints Handling Policy. <http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/home>

New Religious Education Framework

Last year saw the launch of a new Learning Framework for Religious Education in the Diocese of Parramatta. The Bishop's own motto 'Duc in Altum' (Go out into the deep) has provided the inspiration for this ambitious project. This new Learning Framework will be the basis of a new approach to Religious Education which will replace "Sharing Our Story" the current curriculum that has been in place for over 20 years.

The process of developing a new Learning Framework for Religious Education has been a co-creation with students, parents, teachers, clergy and system leaders. At the heart of the process was the commitment that the student wonderings about their faith would be the catalyst and the inspiration of the Learning Framework. The new approach is based on an experiential and inquiry based pedagogy and responds to learning elements of the Review of Religious Education that took place in 2014.

The draft Learning Framework for Religious Education is being trialed in Term 2 and our school has taken up the exciting opportunity to be a part of the trial in Stage 3 (Year 5 and 6). This will replace the current Sharing Our Story Program for Term 2. All our teachers are participating in a Professional Learning Program for the new Learning Framework throughout 2019 and will be well prepared for its implementation. This is an exciting opportunity for our community to further enhance our approach to Religious Education and promises to offer great learning for our staff and students.

We look forward to sharing this wonderful experience with you throughout the year and will keep you abreast of the details of the trial as it proceeds.

Leanda Standing
RE Coordinator



Next Level Sports Clinic

EASTER SCHOOL HOLIDAY Program! [REGISTER NOW! nextlevelsports@live.com.au](mailto:nextlevelsports@live.com.au)

Why Choose Us?

NLSC is an active school holiday experience for primary school students. An experienced team of PDHPE teachers and coaches create a program to make it fun and engaging for all our clients. NLSC has been operating in the Parramatta area for over five years providing a healthy option for parents and students over the holidays.

Mr Younis and the Next Level Sports Clinic team will be running their clinic over the first week of the easter break! Join us from the 15th of April through to the 18th for fun with plenty of activities, games, exercises & a free lunch on the Thursday!

Please note the locations of the clinic; NLSC Easter holiday clinic will be held at; St Patrick's, Primary School Parramatta.

DATE

Clinic 1

Monday 15th - Thursday 18th April.

Students are welcome to attend the whole Clinic or selected days. **Act now, as spots are limited! For a better understanding of what we do check out our Facebook page with plenty of memories from previous clinics.**

For more information and other enquiries please contact us!

Contact David Younis at: nextlevelsports@live.com.au (Emails returned promptly)

Like us or contact us on Facebook! Search for "Next Level Sports Clinic"

NAPLAN ONLINE

14/5/2019 to 24/5/2019

Term 2 Week 3

Start Time	Tuesday 14/5	Wednesday 15/5	Thursday 16/5	Friday 17/5
Year 5 9.00am	Year 5 Writing	Year 5 Reading	Year 5 Language	Year 5 Maths
Year 3 10.00am	Year 3 Writing	Year 3 Reading	Year 3 Language	Year 3 Maths

Term 2 Week 4

Start Time	Tuesday 21/5	Wednesday 22/5	Thursday 23/5	Friday 24/5
Year 5 9.00am	Catch up Naplan Tests for children who are absent			
Year 3 10.00am	Catch up Naplan Tests for children who are absent			

Frequently Asked Questions

[How will student privacy be maintained with NAPLAN Online?](#)

Student background information (including student identifier, sex, date of birth, language background and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status) and test participation and performance data are collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student's right to privacy is maintained. The NAPLAN online assessment platform has been built with state-of-the-art security features that have been rigorously tested.

Read the [NAPLAN privacy notice](#) (copy into your browser)

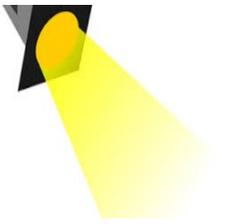
[Will the expanded test window lead to students being able to tell other students the answers to NAPLAN questions?](#)

NAPLAN Online will use tailored testing, which means the test automatically adapts to student performance and presents questions that match student achievement level, allowing the student to demonstrate their knowledge. This means students are likely to be working on different questions at different times and many will be sitting tests with different items.

The tailored test design will also offer many more items than are currently used for the paper NAPLAN version, providing additional security protection.

[Will there be staff training for readiness testing as well as NAPLAN Online?](#)

Education Services Australia will train key staff from states and territories on the functionality of the platform. Students and teachers can familiarise themselves with the testing experience, as well as the types of items to be included in the online tests by using the [public demonstration site](#). Schools determine the device that students should practise on. Encourage students to practise on a device similar to the one they plan to use for the NAPLAN Online tests.



Spotlight on...

Today we are focusing on our Year 3 SRC members -

3L - Xavier Moujalli and Mia Wehbe

3T- Abbey Matta and Phillip Ayoub

Xavier Moujalli

What is your favourite movie/tv show ever? Why?

My favourite movie is Transformers because I love cars and robots.

If you were an animal what would you be?

I would be a horse because its really fast.

Favourite Book?

My favourite book is the thirteen story treehouse because it's a really funny book.

If you could have any superpower what would it be?

It would be invisibility because I could hide under my bed and not go to school and no one could see me.

If you had \$1,000,000 to spend in a day, what would you spend it on?

I would spend it on a rich house and a Ferrari.

Phillip Ayoub

What is your biggest fear?

A german shepherd because they are scary and big and they bite me.

If you had \$1,000,000 to spend in a day, what would you spend it on?

I would take my family to Dubai, travelling in gold class.

Name 5 words describing you?

Happy, Quirky, Energetic, Crazy, Awesome

Who is your biggest inspiration?

My family, they look after me and support me in all I do.

If you were an animal what would you be?

I would be a cheetah as they are really fast and speedy.

Mia Wehbe

Favourite book?

My favourite book is World's worst children 3 because it has a lot of made up funny words.

What's your favourite place in the world?

My favourite place in the world would be Lebanon because whenever we visit we can always see my great great grandmother and because I love the scenery.

Favourite movie?

My favourite movie is Incredibles 2 because I love the scenes and all the superheroes and super powers.

What sport or music do you play?

I play the piano and touch footy.

If you were an animal what would you be?

I would be a giraffe because with a long neck I could have a good view of the land.

Abbey Matta

What do you do in your spare time?

In my spare time I read, draw and go on my ipad. I do these things because they keep me entertained.

Favourite celebrity/sport icon?

Ariana Grande, because I like her songs.

What is your ideal job?

My ideal job is to own a restaurant in the city with my two best friends or own a hairdressing shop.

Favourite Movie?

My favourite movie is, 'Instant Family', because it's sad and exciting at the same time to watch.

Who is your biggest inspiration?

My parents are my biggest inspiration because they are supportive and wise.

St Patrick's Day Fun Day

On Friday, the whole school went to Motiv8 at Dundas. Every grade split up into teams. The teams were the Electros, the Rockers, the Hoppers and the Punks. Every grade had so much fun playing cool games. All the kids had so much fun playing games. Motiv8 had a motto and it's all about having fun. That is exactly what we did - had FUN. Congratulations to the people who won a Gatorade from winning penalty shootout and congratulations to the people who won a prize from each coach in the closing ceremony. On the behalf of everyone we would like to thank Miss Fabri for letting us have this day. We would like to thank the coaching staff of Motiv8 for bringing all these fun games for us.

Written by Christian Sarkis 6W



Easter Mass Times



**ST PATRICK'S
GIFT SHOP**
Murphy House, 1 Marist Place, Parramatta.

*Wide range of religious gifts and cards to
celebrate any special occasion.
Open 10am to 4pm on opening day
Drop in and have a look*

Palm Sunday 13 & 14 April	6.00pm (Vigil), 8.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am , 6.00pm	Holy Mass with Procession from Cloister Holy Mass with Procession
Mon 15 April	7.30pm	Office of Tenebrae
Wed 17 April	7.30pm	Chrism Mass
Holy Thursday 18 April	6.45am Exposition, Reconciliation,	Office of Readings & Lauds (Morning Prayer) 11.15am-12.20pm
	7.30pm 11.30pm	Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper Office of Compline (Night Prayer)
Good Friday 19 April	10.00am 10.30am-12.00pm 3.00pm	Stations of the Cross 1st Rite of Reconciliation Celebration of the
Holy Saturday 20 April	9.00am	Office of Readings & Lauds (Morning Prayer)
	7.30pm	Easter Vigil
Easter Sunday 21 April	8.00am, 9.30am, *11.00am, 6.00pm	Holy Mass *Solemn Holy Mass with

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

*sub tuum
praesidium*

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	6.30am, 12.30pm
Public Hol	8.00am

Pastoral Team

Bishop of Parramatta Most Rev.

Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM CONV

Very Rev Fr Robert Bossini

Fr Christopher Del Rosario Rev Deacon Willy Limjap

Meg Gale (Sacramental Coord)

Milli Lee (Parish Admin Asst) Mindy Mercado (Youth Co-ord)

Patricia Preca (Parish Secretary) Donna Missio (Receptionist)