

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Last Friday, 31st July, the student body, accompanied by their teachers, gathered to farewell Father Bob Bossini in a short assembly on the playground. As many of you may know Father has resigned from his position as Dean and Parish Priest of St Patrick's Cathedral and will be moving to another parish community in the near future. Our school's Religious Education Coordinator Mrs Tuetue organised a lovely gathering at which each member of the Student Representative Council and the School Captains, Maria and Carl, presented Father with a bundle of gorgeous cards and letters written by each student.

Parents I know, that like the staff, if you had read these expressions of gratitude and care towards Father Bob you would have been so proud. I still cannot believe that students of such a young age, can write so eloquently. They expressed, through words and pictures, how much they have appreciated Father during his time at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta and how they have learned so much about how to live a good and holy life from his sermons. They appreciated the time he said mass for them, visited them in their classrooms and gave the Sacrament of Reconciliation to them.

The school choir, supported by all the children, sang a blessing song for him and the boys lifted red hearts during the chorus sections.

Father Bob always showed real care and concern for the children and the families in the school and often asked about you often. In his speech he thanked the children for being so caring and friendly and congratulated them on the part they play in creating such an amazing school, made up of supportive children and families.

The older children in particular were very interested in speaking with father in the playground and teasing him about his much loved Bulldogs Football team. Even those who barrack for other teams, wished him well for last weekend. Perhaps the Parramatta supporters amongst you may have not gone that far. It was also great to have Father Chris with us on Friday Morning.

Father Bob then went around to most of the classrooms to say a personal goodbye. He commented afterwards how hard this was for him as he was feeling quite emotional at seeing your children's beautiful faces looking at him with sincere sadness at his leaving. Father has always made it known how appreciative he is of the dedicated and hard working staff and the respect he has engendered among them will never be forgotten.

In the words of some of our children, 'Good Luck Father Bob, Thank you for everything and Farewell!'

## NSW Health 'hotspot suburbs' website

NSW Health have established a [website](#) to inform the community of actions they should take if they have been in a location where there has been confirmed cases of COVID-19 within NSW. It is important that all families comply with public health advice which includes the requirement to self-isolate for the required period if you or the children have been at any of the locations published on this website on the specified dates and times.

## **Mass Times**

We are open for Mass with a congregation of 100 people.

Entry is on a first come first serve basis. Mass is celebrated at the usual times :

Monday to Friday - 6.30 am and 12.30 pm Saturday - 8.00 am and 6.00 pm Vigil

Sunday - 8 am, 9.30 am, 11.00 am and 6pm

Please click on link for the most up to date information

[St Patrick's Cathedral](#)



### **DEEPEST SYMPATHY**

On behalf of the St Patrick's Parramatta School Community I wish to extend my deepest sympathy to the people of Lebanon especially those that have been affected in their capital city Beirut due to massive warehouse explosion that killed over 100 people and injured thousands. It is quite unbelievable to watch the devastation that has occurred, which I am sure has been compounded by their suffering due to the world Pandemic. I hope and pray that our school families of Lebanese origin have not been directly impacted and we join in solidarity by offering our thoughts and prayers

*God of love, whose compassion never fails;*

*Gather our hearts, minds, and voices as one as*

*we bring before you the griefs and perils of the people of Beirut, Lebanon*

*in the aftermath of yesterday's catastrophic explosions.*

*United in solidarity with our Lebanese sisters and brothers, we pray:*

*May the beauty of the gardens of Lebanon be restored.*

*May the peace shattered in Beirut be renewed.*

*May your children taken from this world by the blasts in Beirut,*

*be welcomed mercifully into your embrace.*

*And, may their loved ones who remain be comforted by all the world's peoples.*

*In God's good name we pray.*

*Amen.*

### **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**

We ask that you keep some of our children in your prayers as they receive their First Holy Communion at St Patrick's Cathedral this Sunday. The children and their families have been participating in sacramental preparations and this has been supported by the learning in their Religious Education Learning Cycles at school. Many Blessings on this wonderful occasion in your spiritual journey children!

**Date for Sacrament of First Holy Communion at St. Patrick's Cathedral:**

- **Sunday 9 August at 1pm and 3:30pm.**

## DROP OFF AND PICK UP PROCEDURES

Thank you to all the parents and caregivers for your cooperation regarding the early pick up in Term 2. Due to the current outbreaks in our local area this procedure will continue until further notice.

### Drop off Reminders

A reminder that from Term 3 the front gate will close at 8.50am. Any child arriving at school after this time must be accompanied by an adult who will need to fill in a partial absence form. If this does not happen the partial absence will be recorded as 'unexplained'.

**Pick up will continue at 2.40pm** due to the tightening of the current restrictions. We would like to remind all the adults entering the school that **Physical Distancing is expected** and we ask you to respect the health and safety of others in our community. It is best practice at the moment that you do not enter the school grounds unless you are unable to physically distance outside. We will continue to keep you informed of any further changes.

## eSafety Webinars for Parents/Carers

CEDP would like to invite you to join one of the following free webinars for parents and carers.

Parents and carers must register for the course on the secondary site via the following link:

- 20 August 2020 session - [link to register](#)
- 7 September 2020 session - [link to register](#)

### 1. Webinar information and FAQ

If you have any further enquiries please email [safeguarding@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:safeguarding@parra.catholic.edu.au).

## TELL THEM FROM ME - OPPORTUNITY FOR FEEDBACK

In the coming weeks we will be inviting students, teachers and parents to provide feedback on their experience of our school using an online survey. The surveys are an important part of our whole school evaluation and planning process.

We would like to invite you to complete the *Tell Them From Me (TTFM)* Partners in Learning survey. As we value the role of parents and carers within our school community we would greatly appreciate your feedback. The information you provide will be used to maintain our commitment to working together in partnership to further improve student learning and wellbeing at St Patrick's Parramatta.

Information regarding the availability of the survey and the link will be communicated to you in the near future.



**As the bubblers are still out of use, it is very important that each child bring their own water bottle to school.**

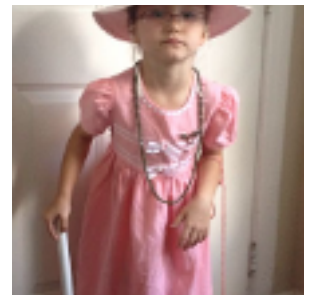


## CELEBRATING OUR LOVE OF GRANDPARENTS

Dear Parents, this year, due to continuing restrictions we are unable to hold our usual Grandparent's Morning Tea and Open Classrooms. This does not mean however that we are not thinking of these very precious people in our lives. In order to show the grandparents in our school how much we value and appreciate them the following activities will be held:

1. Children will participate in televised mass at the Cathedral dedicated to Grandparents.
2. Children will be preparing something special for their grandparents and to enable this to happen can you please send a photo of their grandparents with your child to school, if possible by next Monday, 10th August. Can you also include their names and postal addresses if possible. If this is not possible please do not worry as we will have alternative arrangements.

3. **GRANDPARENTS DRESS UP DAY** We know that our grandparents cannot visit us this year but we can pretend to be them for the day SO all children are asked to come dressed as one of their grandparents, great grandparents or even great great grandparents. Have a little fun with the outfits but keep it simple!



### Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD)

The NCCD provides state and federal governments with the information they need to plan more broadly for the support of students with a disability.

Every year, all schools in Australia participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). The NCCD process requires schools to identify information already available in the school about the supports provided to students with disability.

This information gathered assists the Education system and schools to:

- formally recognise the supports and adjustments provided to students with disability in schools
- consider how they can strengthen the support of students with disability in schools
- develop shared practices so that they can review their learning programs in order to improve educational outcomes for students with disability.

All students with a Personal Plan will be counted in this data collection. The NCCD will have no direct impact on your child and your child will not be involved in any testing process and the school will provide data to the Australian Government in such a way that no individual student will be able to be identified – the privacy and confidentiality of all students is ensured.

Parents of students with a Personal Plan will be emailed with further information about this process.

Alyssa Onorato

Leader of Learning - Diversity

## SRC

We have been very mindful that the COVID 19 restrictions have impacted on the unusual timing of our SRC roles and we have come to a decision, with the help of our current SRC students to, schedule the installation of our Semester 2 SRC and Semester 2 Coloured Captains in week 4.

As part of our discussion, it was agreed that Semester One and Semester Two SRC students, have been given equal time to fulfil their role this year by the changes planned. This year our children have had to certainly learn resilience, patience and a period of sacrifice.

Our Semester One SRC students have shown great resilience in their leadership roles by adapting to the current situation in many ways. They now lead the school in prayer in the office and acknowledge children who have birthdays from the office microphone. During their weekly meetings, our SRCs' have shown a great interest in being stewards of creation and have raised some great discussion points on how we can improve this at St. Patrick's Primary School Parramatta which our Semester 2 SRC students also discuss and help implement in the near future.

Our leaders are to be congratulated for their dedication and perseverance during this time. With great discussion and celebration of their achievements along the way, they have created a safe and enjoyable environment for all.

As we are in no position to have external visitors in the schools for school assemblies the presentation of certificates of appreciation and of the badges will be done at a short Infants and Primary Assembly - outside weather permitting. We will take many photos and even some vision for you if possible. We would like to thank you all so much for your support and patience as we uphold the health guidelines for schools to keep our school COVID Safe. It is wonderful that our students have such great role models in their parents.

N.B - We are still in discussion about Colour captains with the impact COVID - 19 has had on sporting events.

Congratulations to the following Students:

### Semester 2 Student Representative Council

<b>Class</b>	<b>SRC Names</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>SRC Names</b>
KA	Christian Jaitani & Amelia Sivashanmugam	<u>KM</u>	Maroun Abraham & Mila Moses
1C	Allen Elias & Scarlett Eid	1S	George Rizk & Nina Kancijanac
2M	Joshua Day & Molly Moses	2Y	Jayden Blazek & Frances Thomas
3L	Ray Chen & Fleur Perreth	3T	Lawrence Wahbe & Olivia Moussa
4B	Liam Stojkovski & Cynthia Daher	4G	Troy Daniel & Ava Lao
5C	Thomas Aguilera & Daniella Gereige	5T	Adam Jursic & Alexandriya Izmestyeva



# Honour Award

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

KA	Sebastian Malek	Cienna Joachim	KM	Maroun Abraham	Olivia Saab
1C	Ava Khouri	Chanel Wakim	1S	Quintus Feng	Aaylia Ebrahim
2M	Vincent Camenzuli	Sofia Bousimon	2Y	Charlene Wambeek	Jayden Blazek

## ST PATRICK'S AWARD

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

KA	Samuel Betros	Jude Rahme	KM	Elijah Missak	Emily Lin
1C	Sebastian Vella	Tony Karam	1S	Ava Takchi	Victoria Adaymy
2M	Jimmy Sahyoun	Olivia Zhang	2Y	Anastasia Naudi	Logan Munro





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3L	Joshua Jaitani	Edan-Grace El-Chaar	3T	Elijah Skaf	Annabella Remaili
4B	Benjamin Maroon	Julia Vytingco	4G	Alicia Remaili	Donnacha Ryan
5C	Ellen Nikolakopoulos	Adrian Sicurella	5T	Amelia Coles	Elie Wehbe
6P	Brian Chen	Ava Salloum	6W	Bryan Bracks	Sophia Lorenzo

## ST PATRICK'S AWARD

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3L	Bailey Grohs	Owen Abraham	3T	Callum Donaldson	Hunter Morson
4B	Marie Rahme	Marcelino El Halabi	4G	Gabrielle Vella	James Morson
5C	Raymond Joe Khoury	Alisha Katafono	5T	Jake Doueihy	Meagan Erive
6P	Christian Barakat	Isobel Rahme	6W	Elisa Daher	Ethan Bechara



Below are some general strategies, adapted from [kidshealth.org](https://kidshealth.org), highlighting that kids' worries are normal, and have an important function in life. Parents can support their children to cope with stress or worries:

7. Highlight the positive. Ask your kids what they enjoyed about their day, and listen when they tell you about what goes great for them or what they had fun doing. Give plenty of airtime to the good things that happen. Let them tell you what they think and feel about their successes, achievements, and positive experiences — and what they did to help things turn out so well.

Schedules are busy, but make sure there's time for your kids to do little things they feel good doing. Daily doses of positive emotions and experiences — like enjoyment, gratitude, love, amusement, relaxation, fun, and interest — offset stress and help kids do well.

8. Be a good role model. The most powerful lessons we teach kids are the ones we demonstrate. Your response to your own worries, stress, and frustrations can go a long way toward teaching your kids how to deal with everyday challenges. If you're rattled or angry when dealing with a to-do list that's too long, your kids will learn that as the appropriate response to stress.

Instead, look on the bright side and voice optimistic thoughts about your own situations at least as often as you talk about what bothers or upsets you. Set a good example with your reactions to problems and setbacks. Responding with optimism and confidence teaches kids that problems are temporary and tomorrow's another day. Bouncing back with a can-do attitude will help your kids do the same.

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## 2020 SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS - Monday 10th August, 2020

School Photographs will be taken on **Monday 10th August 2020**. Please ensure that your child is neatly dressed in **full Winter School Uniform** on that day.



If you wish to purchase photos, **we are asking that you pay online for both individual photos and sibling photos. This is a COVID safe practice as it limits the handling of goods.** This can be done in the convenience of your home and an email receipt will be mailed to you as confirmation. You can pay for all children or sibling photos in 1 easy payment. **The online code for our school St Patrick's Primary, Parramatta is MKW J3F KMB. This needs to be completed at least 48hrs prior to photo day.**

Please click on the link below to order  
[Advanced Images](#)

**Advanced Life school photography have supplied St Patrick's with their COVID 19 safe plan.**



# COVID-19

Keep yourself and your loved ones safe



Stay 1.5 metres or two big steps away from other people



Follow NSW rules for gatherings and activities (Individuals and businesses). Follow advice to avoid COVID-19 hotspots



Don't attend big family gatherings. Catch up with a small group instead



Stay safe when out and about. Take hand sanitiser with you. Clean your hands often



No shaking hands, hugging or kissing other people who don't live with you



Stay in if you feel unwell. Get tested if you have any symptoms. Avoid contact with others until you are well



SCHOLASTIC  
**Book Club**

orders are due:

7th August



Happy Birthday to all the children who will celebrate their birthday's over the next week:-

Emilie Blazek,  
Lawrence Wahbe,  
Levi Jaitani,  
Raymond Joe Khoury,  
Marie Rahme

## COVID-19 symptoms



Fever



Cough



Sore throat



Shortness of breath



Loss of smell



Loss of taste

## Stay Safe



Clean your hands thoroughly for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, or an alcohol-based hand sanitiser



Cover your nose and mouth when coughing and sneezing with a tissue or your elbow. Put the tissue in the bin and wash your hands



For more information call the National Coronavirus helpline on **1800 020 080** (available 24/7). For free help in your language call **13 14 50**.

[www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19](http://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19)

Understanding  
School Talk ???

W.H.S.  
Work Health  
& Safety

## SCHOOL WELL-BEING COUNSELLING SERVICE

Access to counselling services can be made by contacting your child's classroom teacher or Ms Fabri, who will then put forward a referral. Mrs Ricketts will then contact you for further information. Further details can be found in previous newsletters.

## When do I need to self-isolate

**Self-isolation or home-isolation means you must stay in a separate room or space at home and follow the public health advice.**

## Do you have COVID-19 symptoms?

## Yes

Keep a safe distance from people in your home.  
Call your doctor or go to your local COVID-19 clinic to get tested.

## No

Practise physical distancing and good hygiene.

## Have you returned from overseas?

## Yes

You must self-isolate in a hotel for 14 days.

## No

Practise physical distancing and good hygiene.

## Have you been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19?

## Yes

You must self-isolate at home.  
The contact tracing team or your local Public Health Unit (PHU) will call you to find out more, and share information on what you need to do next to keep you and your family safe.

## No

Practise physical distancing and good hygiene.

## Have you been tested for COVID-19?

## Yes

You must self-isolate at home until you get your test result.

## No

Practise physical distancing and good hygiene.

## Is your test for COVID-19 positive?

## Yes

Stay in home isolation. Your doctor or PHU will contact you to notify you of the POSITIVE result, explain what happens next, and help identify your close contacts.

If your symptoms are mild and you can safely self-isolate, you may be able to stay at home. Your doctor or PHU can help with supporting you.

If you become sicker you may need to go to hospital. In a health emergency call 000 for an ambulance. To speak to a nurse about your symptoms, you can call 1800 020 080 for free, 24/7.

## No

If your test is negative for COVID-19, but you still have symptoms, stay home until you are well for 24 hours.

If your test is negative for COVID-19 AND you are a returned traveller or a close contact, stay home until your 14 days of self-isolation is complete and you are well for 24 hours.

Everyone should practise physical distancing and good hygiene, even when your isolation is complete.