

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

This week I have continued to phone parents of students starting Kindergarten 2021, to ask them if they can let us know a little about their child. It is no surprise that they know their children so well and even delight in their little idiosyncrasies ie the little things they do that is uniquely them.

What I particularly enjoyed was how well the parents knew their child's areas of strength and quite openly discussed their areas of possible challenge.

From my observations I sometimes see a change in parental attitudes when the children get older. I am unsure if you agree with me here but I would be interested in knowing your thoughts.

When children are very young the adults in their lives seem to rejoice at the smallest of things. I know myself, now a great aunt, I love to see videos of our toddler making small developmental steps in learning. Even small changes end up videoed or photographed over and over again. Events like taking their first step, bopping to music for the first time, eating by themselves, even babbling in their own language albeit not making any sense, is seen as a sign towards learning growth.

Children notice our delight and this encourages them to feel safe and to repeat the action. Interestingly when I analyse the actions of the adults, we do not discourage effort and the making of mistakes, but rather gently guide them with open arms and hearts until they are ready to do it by themselves. We tend to understand, at this stage, that there will be toddlers who start to walk earlier and later, talk earlier and later, are toilet trained earlier and later and even vary significantly in their personalities. Parents of more than one child are very comfortable seeing this amongst their children and are generally very relaxed about these differences. How sad if they were all the same! How boring if we were all the same!

It is important that as children get older that we still celebrate this learning with the same confidence and enthusiasm that I see in parents who are beginning their school journey with their children for the first time. The reality is that children learn in significantly different ways and at different rates. Although in education we are called to give comparative data between students, each child has the right to progress in their own time, slowly disclosing the gifts that they possess. As already expressed in previous newsletters, the school report is dependent on what the learner is willing to show the teacher. The more confident and comfortable the child is in taking risks in learning and in articulating their own learning needs, the more accurate the report becomes. For some children this takes time and a key factor in assisting in this process is for the adults around them to show unrelenting confidence that the child will continue to grow and improve with the right strategies and attitudes, just like when they were toddlers. If we cannot be confident how can we expect them to be.

*A good sign to watch out for here is **what** do we praise? Do we praise only performance or results or do we praise effort and learning growth. Just like with toddlers learning to walk, we continually reach out to assist them and even coo when they fall saying, 'Nearly, lets try that again!' We certainly don't discourage them by insisting that they walk with their hands beside their side and with their head up like a soldier. Any type of walking will do as long as they are learning and are willing to try. What are your thoughts?*

I continue to look forward to watching the learning growth of all the students at our school.

*God bless you and your family
Bernadette Fabri*

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](#)



Do you have a calling to spread the good news and joy of the Gospels to the children in the State Schools in 2021?

Become a Catechist – a SRE volunteer – a Scripture Teacher.

What is a SRE?

SREs (Special Religious Educators) are volunteers who:

- Teach and share their faith with children of their parish who attend the local State Schools.
- Have a passion for sharing the gift of faith with young people.
- Have an hour per week to prepare and share their time and talents with young people.
- Are people who respond to the central mission of the Church to make Jesus known and loved.

For more details about the ministry, how it works and how you could become involved call the St Patrick's, Parramatta, Parish Office: ph **88398412** or e-mail secterary@stpatscathedral.com.au



We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to the Dinesh Kumar Family (Taran 3L) on the passing of his grandfather.

Please keep the family in your prayers.

Message of appreciation from St Vincent de Paul Association



We were overwhelmed again by the amount of donations from the families.

We prepared 29 hampers for our clients

and took another 3 car loads to the Vinnies Hub at Harris Park for distribution to families in need.

There are a lot of very grateful people who will have a happier Christmas because of your school's generosity.

We look forward to working with you again next year.

Thank you to all the families for your support of this appeal.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY - Friday 27th November 2020

Due to lockdown earlier this year the school had to postpone the scheduled Staff Development Day. This has now been rescheduled for Friday 27th November.

Children do not come to school on this day.

Last day of school for 2020 is Wednesday 16th December

St Patrick's Parramatta RETURN TO SCHOOL 2021 DATES						
Week One 2021	Tuesday 26th January, 2021	Wednesday 27th January, 2021	Thursday 28th January, 2021	Friday 29th January, 2021	Monday 1st February, 2021	Tuesday 2nd February, 2021
	Public Holiday - Australia Day	Staff Development Day - Yrs K-6 Individual Maths Assessments	Staff Development Day - Yrs K-6 Individual Maths Assessments	Years 1 to Year 6 Commence School Kindy Individual Maths Assessments	Kindy Individual Maths Assessments	Kindergarten 2021 to commence school (full day)
		Kindergarten - 6 - Parents will be asked to book their children into one session with their child's class teacher.				

Traffic Update - Afternoons

Dear Parents

Last Friday I had a meeting with Mrs Sharmeen & Mr Searle from Parramatta City Council to discuss the school community's concern regarding the traffic congestion. We discussed a number of suggestions put forward, which included some changes to parking limits. The next step for the council is to propose changes to parking limits and changes to signage with the local community for consultation. I will keep you informed as details come to hand.



CATHOLIC MISSION - ICE BLOCKS - REMINDER

Ice-blocks will continue to be sold every **Friday** at \$1 each. The money raised will be used to donate to the families in need through **Catholic Mission**. The students were very giving and enjoyed being part of this great contribution last week. Thank you for your generosity. Together we can make a difference.

We raised \$400 last week, that's alot of ice-blocks !!!

Water Bottles

Just a reminder to check every morning that your child has their water bottle. With the hot weather coming up and the children not being able to use the bubblers, we do not want to see children dehydrated.



Happy Birthday to all the children who will celebrate their birthday over the next week:- Natanem Addisu, Ethan Sivashanmugam, Jewel Sebastian, Daniella Fayad, Abbey Matta, Gabrielle Vella, Zavier Moujalli, Ethan Bechara

2021 PLANNING - IS YOUR CHILD RETURNING TO ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL PARRAMATTA IN 2021?

As we begin to make plans for 2021, we ask that if your child is not returning to St Patrick's Primary School Parramatta next year to please contact the school office. This does not apply to Year 6 students.

Understanding School Talk ???

Public Speaking and Communication

Thinking & Questioning

I have always been one to encourage thinking and questioning when the kids ask me something, so instead of giving them an answer..."What do you think?"

That's my standard response...particularly when they are going through the Why phase!

<http://www.kiddycharts.com/behaviour/asking-questions-stay-sane-when-your-kids-ask-why/>

Speak To Family On The Phone

I always encourage my children to share their news by calling up their grandparents and putting them on the phone for a few minutes. They have found this increasingly easier over time. This helps them communicate more clearly. I go through the conversation with them first e.g Why don't we call gran. You could tell her you got 9 out of 10 in your spelling test. Then maybe you could tell her what your teacher said about it and how you feel. This encourages their confidence, focus and storytelling when talking.

Dear Parents,

This is the last Book Club for 2020. To allow orders to be processed and ensure we get the books before end of term, **I have brought forward the closing date to 25th November, 2020.** Please make sure you have your orders in by the 25th November. If you wish for the books to be collected from the office please notify me and I can put them aside.

Thank you

Mrs Jones



Please find the link below to order books.

<https://www.scholastic.com.au/book-club/book-club-parents/>

[Covid - 19 Bulletin](#)

Please find for your convenience a link to Issue 23 of the COVID -19 Bulletin. This publication contains information and resources from N.S.W Western Sydney Health District on current COVID - 19 topics as well as practical ideas for childcare services, schools and families to keep everyone healthy during this time.

[Western Sydney Health - Issue 23 - COVID - 19 Bulletin](#)

Congratulations to the Zaiter Family (Ethan 2Y & Isaiah 1C) on the birth of their little girl, Victoria.



Pedestrian Safety Before & After School

A few safety reminders as we near the end of term ...

- *When the gate is closed in the morning at 8.50 am, you are required to walk your child in and sign them in. Please do not just drop them off and drive away, there is no supervision outside the gate in the morning.*
- *At no time are you permitted to park in the school's driveway, morning or afternoon.*
- *Just a reminder that we have a designated Pedestrian Crossing outside our school. We have noticed a number of parents crossing their children from the OLMC side of Ross St, not on the crossing, often opening the car door into traffic. Please take a minute or two extra and cross your child at the crossing to ensure their safety.*
- *We encourage the students to enter and leave their cars from the curb side.*

We all learnt these safety measures when we were at school so please re-enforce them with the most important people in your life - YOUR PRECIOUS CHILDREN.



Honour Award

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

KA	Michael Roumanus	Amelia Sivashanmugam	KM	Angela Bracks	Nathanael Jaitani
1C	Deon Don	Alyssa Vella	1S	Melinda Malkoun	Ava Takchi
2M	Patrick Katar	Mia Freifer	2Y	Olivier Touche	Ava Boutros



ST PATRICK'S AWARD

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

KA	Evie Grohs	William Gebrael	KM	Makayla Abdou	Trey St John Tannous
1C	Xavier Bayssari	Erika Talbot	1S	Miami Calumpiano	Oliver Jakopovic
2M	Jasmine Rizk	Benjamin Kalouche	2Y	Elaine Xue	Andrew Khalil





Honour Award

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3L	Sonia Sltoa	Timana Gutierrez Caceres	3T	Olivia Moussa	Annabella Remaili
4B	Gabriel Kalouche	Marie Rahme	4G	Troy Daniel	Isabelle Tannous
5C	Thomas Aguilera	Noah Reyes-Magabat	5T	Lauren Polintan	Remon Wehbe
6P	Jerome Santos	Ashintha Joseph	6W	Maria Wahbe	Finn Giron

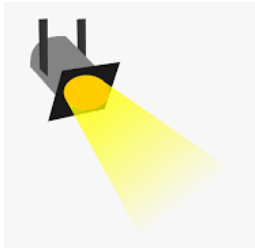


ST PATRICK'S AWARD

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3L	Fleur Perrett	Dominic Coles	3T	Lawrence Wahbe	Elijah Skaf
4B	Julia Vytingco	Liam Stojkovski	4G	Aiden Ebrahim	Tiffany McCloskey
5C	Sophie Gahdmar	Ethan Xue	5T	Clio Encarnaco	Noah Romanos
6P	Michael Ayoub	Cedric Guino	6W	Aaliyah Johnston	Sophia Lorenzo





Term 4 Week 6 Spotlights

This week our interviewed spotlights will be from
Year 6

Year 6: Christian Sta Rosa

What has been the funniest moment in your Primary school journey?

One time when I was in Year 3, I was dozing off and almost fell fast asleep in class. The sound of the teacher's loud voice then woke me up.

If you could only save one thing what would it be?

I would save my special toy, a stuffed cat, that I had from when I was a baby. I'm sure my family could save themselves so I would make sure my special childhood toy came with me as I can't sleep without it.

What are five words that explain who you are?

Funny, artistic, empathetic, kind, humble

If you could meet any superhero who would it be? why?

I would like to meet Spiderman because he is friendly and saves people which are traits I think are important.

What is your biggest dream?

My biggest dream is to become an actor, especially a voice-over in animations. When I was a young boy I would watch movies with voice-overs and dreamed to be a voice-over. My parents have recently signed me up to an agency so you never know!!!

Year 6: Sophia Lorenzo

If you were Prime Minister, how would you help your country?

I would make sure no one was homeless and that all children had access to an education.

If you could live anywhere in the world, where would you want to live and why?

I would love to live in Italy because I really like their food.

What would your ideal job be?

My ideal job would be a veterinarian because I love caring for and helping animals.

Who is your most inspirational person and why?

My most inspirational person is my mother because she is very hardworking and cares for the family and never complains.

What is your dream pet?

I would love to have a dog. I don't have one but keep begging mum for a dog. My dad keeps saying no because he likes cats. I prefer a dog.

Year 6: Cedric Guino

Do you like movies more or books?

I prefer movies because I just watch and don't have to concentrate as much as when I read books and I like seeing the action and characters come to life in a movie.

If you were an animal what would you be and why?

I would love to be a bird so I can view the world and nature from above and fly anywhere I want to for free.

If you had \$1000 to spend what would you buy?

I would buy a nice watch and new gaming equipment.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I like to play video games.

What are you most excited for currently?

Year 6 camp and the school holidays.

Year 6: Jerome Santos

What is your favourite movie and why?

My favourite movie is 'Spiderman- Into the Spider-Verse' because Spiderman is one of my favourite heroes and this movie is a new version with different genres and different spidermen from different genres.

What is your biggest fear?

My biggest fear is darkness because I can't see what's approaching me or what's out there. I can't assume I am safe as I can't see in the dark.

If you were famous what would it be for?

If I was famous I would be famous for gaming because I am not good at singing or dancing but I love gaming and am pretty good at it.

What do you like more? Listening to music Or reading books? Why?

I prefer to listen to music because I don't need to concentrate but with reading books I need to concentrate more. When I listen to music I don't have to do much but listen.

If you could be any animal what would you like to be and why?

I would like to be a dog because dogs are one of my favourite animals and I like running around a lot like dogs, who are very active and move around a lot.

Year 6: Sheoni Perera

What is something nobody knows about you?

Something that not a lot of people know about me is that I like to draw landscapes with pastels. I'm very creative.

What is your ideal career?

I would love to be a lego designer to make lego sets for younger kids so they can play and learn how to build.

What is your favorite book?

My favorite book is called 'How to Bee.' I like this book because it hooks me into the story from the start and I find it very interesting.

If you could be an animal, what would you like to be and why?

I would be a rabbit because I could fit in small places and hide.

What is something you love a lot?

I love my toy bunny a lot because she is very special to me and I've had her since I was a baby when I received her at Easter time. She comforts me when I'm sad.

SCHOOL WELL-BEING COUNSELLING SERVICE

The wellbeing of children and young people in Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta schools is of paramount importance. A sense of well-being and connectedness in schools promotes optimal development of the person and contributes to academic success.

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.

Celebration of Learning Kindergarten: Term 4 Week 5

This week, Kindergarten is celebrating their learning in Geography. The students were learning about different places in Australia and what makes them special places.

We interviewed some students about their learning.

Jared:

"In Geography, I am learning about new places in Australia. I am enjoying this task because I get to learn about different places I never knew about before. I think this learning is easy because we have to draw the places we learn about and I like drawing."

Charlize:

"In Geography, we are learning about new places in Australia. This task is fun because I like drawing and we are drawing all of the places we are learning about. This task is easy for me because I am good at drawing."

Jamie:

"In Geography, we are learning about special places in Australia like the City, Taronga Zoo and Luna Park. I like this because I am learning about different places. I already know a lot of places but it is great to learn about new places."

Mahalia:

"In Geography, we are learning about different Australian places. My favourite place is the Blue Mountains because it is interesting. I like learning about special places. It is fun."

Celebration of Learning Year One: Term 4 Week 5

This week, Year One is celebrating their learning in Science and Technology. They are designing and creating an instrument that can be used to communicate with others from a distance.

We interviewed some students about their learning.

Leah Wahbe:

"We had to design and make a toy so that you can hear and talk to other people. I have learnt how to reuse recycled materials to make a toy for communication. I think this task is easy and hard because I can easily do things by myself such as poke the hole in the cup to put the string in. The hard part is I don't know how to tie the string and I need my partner to help me."

Zavier Skaf:

"We are learning how to make a tool so that your partner can hear you from a distance. I have learnt how to actually make and design a communication toy. I think that this task is super easy because I can easily use the toilet paper rolls and the cups for my project."

Allen Elias:

"We are learning to design and make something to talk through. I have learnt some new things about communication. This task is easy and I like it because we get to use recycled materials to make our toy."

Sophia Khoury:

"We are learning about designing and making something to help us hear people from a few seats away. This task was easy because we can just design and then make using the materials we have. I liked putting the materials together to make my communication toy."

Celebration of Learning Year Two: Term 4 Week 5

This week, Year Two is celebrating their learning in Mathematics.

We interviewed some students to find out about what they are learning and how they are going with their learning.

Daniel:

"We are learning how to skip count from zero. We are also skip counting by 2, 3, 4, 5 and 10. Counting by 3 was hard for me because I am not used to counting by 3. I enjoy this learning because I like to think and challenge my thinking. I have to concentrate to think about the next number, especially when counting by 3's.

Araminta:

"We are learning how to skip count by different numbers. I find counting by 3's hard because the numbers are not always multiples of 3 like the times tables. I am starting to enjoy this learning more because some parts are harder and I get a little confused but I like to work hard and challenge my thinking."

Logan:

"We are learning about the surviving numbers from 0-40 and 40-80 to see which numbers survive when we skip count. This learning is hard for me because it is hard to calculate the next number sometimes and what is higher or lower. Even though it can be super hard sometimes, I enjoy this learning"

Charlene:

"In Mathematics, we are learning about skip counting. This learning is hard for me because I don't really know much about skip counting. I am trying to find patterns to help me. I enjoy this learning because it helps me get better at counting."

Celebration of Learning Year One Maths Group: Term 4 Week 5

This week, Mrs Barclay's Year One Maths Group is learning to estimate the number of counters and then calculate 10 more or 10 less. They are also learning how to put these numbers onto the number line.

Sofia. B:

"I am learning how to estimate how many counters I have and putting the counters into groups. I learnt how to put counters into groups of 10 and how to put my total number onto the number line."

Miami. C

"I am learning how to take away and add numbers and to work out 10 more or 10 less. I have learnt how to add one more and work out one less. I can also add 10 more to the number in my head without looking or using counters."

Deon:

"I am learning how to put numbers onto the number line and how to add and take away. I have learnt how to put my number on the number line in the correct place."

Zac:

"I am learning to guess how many counters there are. I have learnt how to find half way on the number line and then put my number on the number line."

STOP, LOOK,
LISTEN, AND THINK
BEFORE



CROSSING
THE ROAD



Safety Reminders for the Christmas Holidays



PEDESTRIAN

PASSENGER

ON WHEELS



S ROAD SAFETY EDUCATION
FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS

CE CATHOLIC EDUCATIO
DIOCESE OF PHOENIX

Pedestrian, Passenger and Safety on Wheels

Pedestrian Safety	Passenger Safety	Safety On Wheels
<p>Stop! Look! Listen! Think! Every time you cross the road.</p> <p>STOP one step back from the kerb</p> <p>LOOK continuously both ways</p> <p>LISTEN for the sounds of approaching traffic</p> <p>THINK whether it is safe to cross and keep checking until safely across</p> <p>Hold an adult's hand when you cross the road.</p> <p>Hold an adult's hand when you're on the footpath.</p> <p>Hold an adult's hand when you're in a carpark.</p> <p>Use a safe place to cross the road like a zebra crossing or traffic light.</p>	<p>Click clack front and back.</p> <p>Always buckle up in your seat belt.</p> <p>Get in and out of the car on the footpath side.</p> <p>Wait till the bus has gone and then use a safe place to cross.</p>	<p>Always wear a helmet when you ride or skate.</p> <p>Ride your bike away from the road.</p>