



St Patrick's Catholic Primary School

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PARISH CLERGY

Father Shaju John OSH
Parish Priest of Ku-Ring-Gai Chase Parish
Fr Joy Thomas OSH
Assistant Priest of the Parish

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

St Patrick's Asquith
St Bernard's Berowra Heights
*Due to social distancing, please call the Parish Office
9456 2450 to reserve a seat at Mass.*

NEWSLETTER Term 4, Week 9, 9th December 2020

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet, the Guringai and Dharug people, and recognise their continuing connection to land, water and community. We pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging.



PRINCIPAL news



Dear Parents, Carers, Girls and Boys,

We are rapidly approaching the end of another school year and 2020 will soon be a memory. For me the year has passed very quickly but has been very eventful and, as we have all experienced at times, challenging. This year parents along with the school and the children have had to quickly adjust to a new normal. I would like to acknowledge the great support we continue to receive from the parent community and your ongoing commitment to seeking a Catholic education for your children.

As we prepare to say goodbye to 2020 and the staff and students leaving and moving on to other adventures, we also look forward to the celebrations of Jesus' birth at Christmas.

Elsewhere in this newsletter is a list of Christmas Masses here in our Ku-Ring-Gai Chase Catholic Parish. I urge our families to come to Mass over Christmas to celebrate as a family. I pray the peace and joy of the newborn Jesus gives all our families hope for the New Year and holidays.

School Hygiene and Safety

Throughout most of the year the school has put in place Covid-safe measures for the health and safety of our entire school community. As we finish the year and move into a new year, it seems that the school will need to continue to adhere to restrictions made by the NSW Government.

I am pleased to advise that the school will continue the School Hygienist services at least until the end of Term 1, 2021. The school will provide details of any adjustments to Covid-safe procedures as we are advised by Catholic Schools Broken Bay and the NSW Government.

I thank all parents and carers for the support and cooperation that has been given during this time. At times, the school has had to make quick adjustments to our usual routines and procedures due to government announcements. Each time our parent community have been outstanding with their positive and supportive response.

Semester 2 Reports

Tomorrow, all families will be able to access Semester 2 reports via Compass. I encourage parents to read them carefully, focusing on effort and comparing them with the Semester 1 reports to look at growth. Parents are encouraged to contact the office if you would like to discuss the report with your child's teacher.

Staffing and Classes 2021

Last week we congratulated Mrs Katrina Brown on her new appointment at her new school for 2021. Yesterday I communicated to the school community that Mrs Carmel Kevill will also be leaving our school community to take up opportunities at a tertiary level.

As a result, the school is now in the process of seeking suitable teachers to replace both Katrina and Carmel in classrooms and for the REC Leadership position. Obviously replacing teachers at any stage of the year takes some time to organise. I acknowledge that the school year is coming to an end soon. I am seeking to have all teaching positions in place by the end of the school year so that the school community will know staffing for classes for 2021. On Friday, the students will have the opportunity to step up into their 2021 classes and meet their teacher for next year. Please 'talk up' your child's teacher and potential options in the lead-up to this date. It is the best way to ensure a positive build-up to next year.

P&F Donation

There are many parents that are tireless in their efforts to support the school in its endeavours to educate and care for the children while they are at school. This is particularly true of the P&F and their committees. One of the huge benefits the school receives through the P&F is fundraising. At the last meeting the P&F made a generous donation to the school of over ten thousand dollars to support the acquisition of new equipment and facilities that will benefit the school community.

The equipment and facilities to be purchased will be new musical instruments, codable robotics technology, sporting equipment including mats and balance beam for gymnastics, outdoor chess pieces and a new awning for the canteen. The school is very thankful and grateful for this wonderful donation and ongoing support by our amazing P&F volunteers.

Leadership Assembly

This Friday 11th December we will hold a special Leadership Assembly to acknowledge, congratulate and thank our current School Captains. At the assembly we will also hand over to our newly announced School and Sports Captains for 2021. Parents are invited to join the assembly online via the Zoom link provided to all parents yesterday through Compass.

Liturgy and Kinder Blessing of Year 6 Buddies

Next Tuesday morning the school will celebrate the end of the school year with a short liturgy. During the liturgy we will give thanks for the gifts that each one of us brings to our school community. We will also acknowledge and thank those in our community who are leaving us including our Year 6 graduating students. One of our long-standing traditions is for our Kindergarten children giving their Year 6 buddies a blessing. This is a special moment that mirrors the blessing that was placed on the Kinder children at the Beginning School Mass by their Year 6 buddies. A link was sent through Compass to all parents to access the liturgy online via Zoom.

Guard of Honour and Dismissal

Another wonderful tradition at St. Patrick's is to farewell all the Year 6 graduating students along with other leaving students and staff with a Guard of Honour. This will begin from approximately 2:40pm next Tuesday 15th December. As a result, the dismissal of children from K-2 and their siblings will be slightly delayed. Dismissal will begin from approximately 2:50pm with K-2 children and their siblings gathering in the hall.

To avoid a mass gathering outside the school to witness the Guard of Honour and to assist with social distancing, Year 6 parents are invited to view from the Basketball Court (access via the back gate) or the area between the hall and the school office. I ask that Year 6 parents avoid mingling, wait for their child to come to them after the Guard of Honour has finished and then leave the school site in a timely way.

Leaving Families

Among our Year 6 families there are a number of families who are also leaving our community. Listed below are the leaving families from all grades, some who have been associated with our school for well over ten years. We thank them for the wonderful way they have contributed to our school over such a long time, and we wish them every blessing for their future. Good luck to the following families:

Byrnes
Chibowora
Da Silva
Dodman
Fieldus
Fraser
Gill
Helou
Hippmann
Ingram
Jaoudat
Lennon
Lin
Londono Jekey
Luca
Mamari
Melissari
Milham
Pham
Richardson
Robertson
Segafredo
Simons
Tagwireyi
Uy
Waite
Zheng



School Fee Relief during Covid-19

We currently have a number of families with outstanding fees. Please be aware that we are supporting families as the impact of COVID-19 continues to be felt throughout our community. Our program to assist families who are experiencing difficulties with school fees due to COVID-19 can be found here: <https://www.csodbb.catholic.edu.au/parenthub/Fee-Relief-during-Covid-19>

God bless you and your families.

Todd Vane-Tempest
Principal



STUDENT AWARDS

Week 8

Class	Pastoral Care	Other
K Gold	William C.	Messic.M
K Green	Ellyza E.	Andrea C.
1 Gold	Layla B.	Joanna Y
2 Gold	Aaron Z.	Dylan M.
2 Green	Luca C.	Melissa H.
3 Green	Elena K.	Mia R.
4 Gold	Noah E.	Emily C.
4 Green	Bethan M.	Lachlan H.
5 Green	Rosie O.	Bianca M.
5/6 Gold	Tom W.	Sophie W.
6 Green	Alice D.	Samara R.



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES and HOW TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT

St. Patrick's, Asquith

Christmas Eve—Thursday 24 December

6pm Children's Vigil Mass

9pm Youth Vigil Mass

12 midnight Midnight Mass

Christmas Day—Friday 25 December

8am St Patrick's Mass

10am St Patrick's Mass

St Bernard's, Berowra Heights

Christmas Eve—Thursday 24 December

5pm Children's outdoor Vigil Mass
(in courtyard of St Bernard's Primary School)

7pm Christmas Vigil Mass

Christmas Day—Friday 25 December

9am St Bernard's Mass

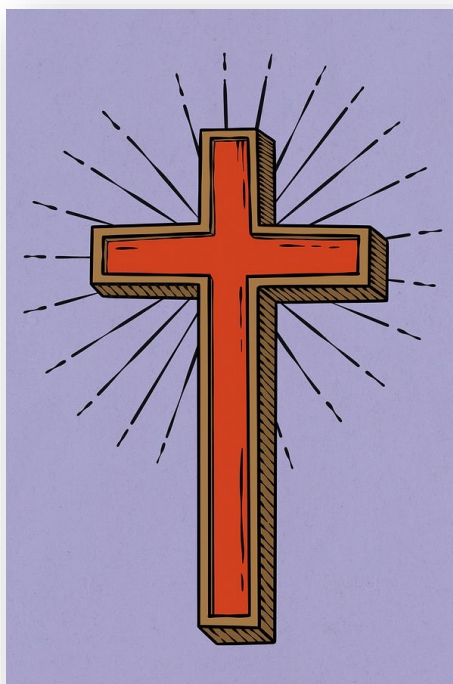
No evening Mass at either church on Christmas Day

RESERVATIONS are ESSENTIAL for ALL Christmas Masses
and **MUST** be made **DIRECTLY** with the **PARISH OFFICE**

Preferred booking by email to parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au using
"Christmas Mass" as subject.

YOU MUST include the name and contact number for each person
requiring a reservation.

Alternatively, call the Parish Office on 9456 2450—Monday to Friday 9am to 3.30pm,



AP news (Kylie Huggins)

Academic Achievement Awards

At St Patrick's we greatly value teaching and learning. Last Friday we were able to acknowledge those students who have achieved academic growth across four different learning areas. We congratulate all award recipients for their efforts throughout the year.

Class	Religious Education	English	Mathematics	One other KLA
K Gold	Anamaria D	Emmanuella H	Madeleine H	Creative Arts Darius A
K Green	Annalise W	Prince M	Charlotte R	English Matthew B
1 Gold	Kassidy C	Isabella S	Layla B	Geography Sienna F
2 Gold	Grant D	Oliver C	Emma C	English Charley B
2 Green	Elissa M	Oscar B	Charlie S	English Sophie S
3 Gold	Catherine M	Daniela T	Eric H	Creative Arts Vibha L
3 Green	Ava V	Elena K	William F	Science & Technology Abigail S
4 Gold	Piper C	Stella H	Ivy W	Science & Technology Curtis H
4 Green	Alexa R	Julienne U	Gloria S	Science & Technology Joshua W
5 Green	Tara C	Rebecca C	Nicholas W	Geography Ruby R
5/6 Gold	Alison D	Sophie R	Matthew T	Science & Technology Louis S
6 Green	Marisa M	Alice D	Adam P	Geography Leela I



OFFICE news (Cheryl & Judith)

Attendance and Compass

Thank you for your ongoing support of recording student absences via Compass. Please note that **only full day absences should be entered via the APP**. Partial absences should be recorded via the Compass kiosk in the office foyer when you drop off or collect your child. Class rolls are marked by class teachers at 9:00am. If your child arrives after this time, a parent must accompany the child to the office foyer to have the partial absence officially recorded.

Accidents will happen...

Please remember to pack spare underpants and socks in a plastic bag for your Kindergarten and Year 1 children.

Canteen

Please be advised that the last canteen day for 2020 will be **FRIDAY 11TH December**.

Broken Bay News

An online version is available here: https://issuu.com/bbcatholic/docs/broken_bay_news_december_2020_issue_208

Mathematics Assessment Interview

At the beginning of the school year every child from Years 1 to 6 in a CSBB school is assessed using the Mathematics Assessment Interview (MAI). The Mathematics Assessment Interview is a clinical interview with an associated research-based framework of growth points that describe key stages in the learning of 4 number domains. Growth points enable teachers to: identify any children who may be vulnerable in a given domain; identify the zone of proximal development for each child in each domain so instruction may be customised and precise; and identify the diversity of mathematical knowledge in a class.

We will be having an assessment day for Years 1-4 on Thursday 28th January, 2021. Parents will receive information regarding how to book these interviews via the Compass App. Grades will be allocated timeslots, and we ask that parents adhere to these timeslots as best as possible. There will be provisions made for families with siblings across Years 1-4. We ask that when booking for your family that you do not book for students in Years 5 and 6. Due to time constraints, students in Years 5 and 6 will be having their assessment during the first few weeks of school during class time.

Merry Christmas:

Thank you to all our lovely families for your support, generosity, and above all, patience during this trying year.

Judith and Cheryl from our School Office at St Patrick's wish you a safe, happy and joyful Christmas. We look forward to seeing you in the new year! **Merry Christmas !!!**



WAR ON WASTE (Mary Connor)

St Patrick's is Declaring a War on Waste!

Over the past few months, our school community has begun a war on waste. Why? Well, we want a future for these children that is not dominated by worries about climate change, greenhouses gases and rising sea levels. We want our children to become responsible global citizens who care about their environment and about the future.

Pope Francis in his encyclical *Laudato Si* has called not only for Catholics, but for everyone to develop an ecological consciousness “*What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up? (#160)...many things have to change course, but it is we human beings above all who need to change. (#202)*”

Single use plastics are a major environmental issue. We therefore, encourage you to prepare healthy lunches without the use of cling wrap, alfoil or ziplock bags. Reusable lunch boxes are the way to go. Reusable drink bottles are also ideal.

We have begun a ‘return and earn’ system for juice boxes and have already collected \$40, from which we purchased some beautiful electronic candles. We are also taking soft plastics to Coles or Woolies for “Redcycling”. Our compost bins are in action, but unfortunately we see many whole pieces of fruit in them. We also see many uneaten sandwiches in plastic bags in our bins. Please talk to your children about what they will eat at school and ask them to take home uneaten food, especially whole fruit.

If you are interested in beginning a war on waste in your suburb, below is a link that might help. Engage in conversations with your child about how your family can make a difference. You might also think about electricity and water wastage.

<https://education.abc.net.au/home#!/digibook/2597026/war-on-waste>

Please enjoy this amazing artwork created by 2 Gold under the guidance of Mrs Rapa, a wreath made with bottle tops.

Many thanks
Mary Connor



ASHBEAR EARLY LEARNING CENTRE



Ashbear has been a part of the Mount Colah community for over 20 years. We are a small 19 place family oriented centre. We focus on the whole child, through small groups and interest -based learning experiences.

Ashbear facilitates a “schoolies” program, which includes group projects, hands on investigations and experiments, and rich language and literacy opportunities. We provide an environment that supports all the fundamental skills necessary for successful transition to school.

Our educators are extremely experienced and qualified, with the majority holding a Degree or Diploma in Early Childhood Education and Care. We pride ourselves on consistency of care, and the strong relationships we build with our families. There is always a familiar face to greet you and your children.

Ashbear caters for children from birth to 5 years. We are open 7.30am – 6.00pm 49 weeks of the year



Ashbear Early Learning Centre

83 Beryl Avenue, Mount Colah

NSW 2079 02 9457 9588

ashbear@bigpond.com

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR YEAR 7, 2023

LIMITED AVAILABILITY FOR YEAR 7, 2022



ENROL ONLINE
MERCYCHATSWOOD.NSW.EDU.AU



Wishing Tree — North Shore Mums Smiles2U

Christmas is just around the corner and we would love your support in the Smiles2U Wishing Tree. Throughout the month of November we will be collecting Christmas Gifts to gift to the many children who will be in hospital on Christmas Day.

www.northshoremumssmiles2u.com

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

DECEMBER/JANUARY EVENTS



SUMMER READING CLUB LAUNCH WITH SUZY SPINDOLL

Give your children incentive to read these school holidays and the opportunity to win great prizes by signing up for the Summer Reading Club! For our launch this week, we invite you to join Suzy Spindoll as she teaches circus tricks that will amaze - using normal household items!

Hornsby Shire Libraries Facebook
Monday 30 November – Friday 4 December

Ages: 0–14 years

Watch online at
facebook.com/HornsbyShireLibraries



CHRISTMAS STORYTIME WITH ELLENI AND LANI

Join us for Christmas stories and songs in a very special storytime. Come in to the library to collect your holiday craft from Monday December 7.

Hornsby Shire Libraries Facebook
10am, Thursday 10 December

Watch online at
facebook.com/HornsbyShireLibraries



CHRISTMAS BUBS 'N' BOOKS

Sing Christmas songs with Elleni, Lani and special guest Jodie in a very festive Bubs 'n' Books.

Hornsby Shire Libraries Facebook
10am, Tuesday 15 December

Watch online at
facebook.com/HornsbyShireLibraries



CHRISTMAS STORYTIME WITH PENNY AND CATH

Join us for Christmas stories and songs in a very special storytime. Come in to the library to collect your holiday craft from Monday December 7.

Hornsby Shire Libraries Facebook
10am, Thursday 17 December

Watch online at
facebook.com/HornsbyShireLibraries



SUMMER READING CLUB FINALE WITH SUZY SPINDOLL

Suzy Spindoll is back for the end of Summer Reading Club to teach you tips and tricks to help you become a juggling super-star!

Hornsby Shire Libraries Facebook
Monday 25 January – Friday 29 January

Ages: 0–14 years

Watch online at
facebook.com/HornsbyShireLibraries



For booking details and further information on these events and more events in your library visit hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library

FOR COUNCIL EVENTS AND LOCAL NEWS JOIN US:



HORNSBY SHIRE LIBRARIES SUMMER READING CLUB



'MYTHS, FAIRY TALES AND LEGENDS'

3 Dec 2020 – 27 Jan 2021

Participate in the SRC online via Beanstack to be in the draw to win fantastic prizes. For children aged 0–14 years.

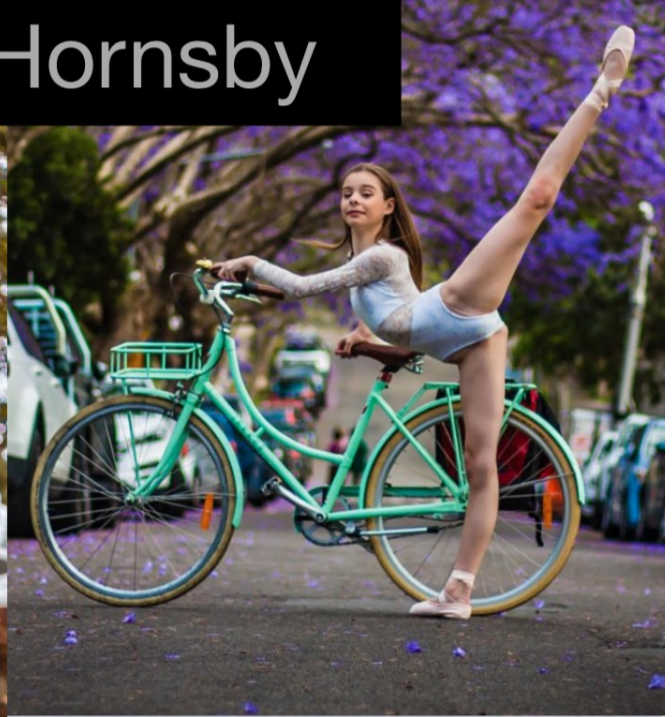


To sign up, visit
hornsby.nsw.gov.au/libraryevents

Dance Classes in Hornsby

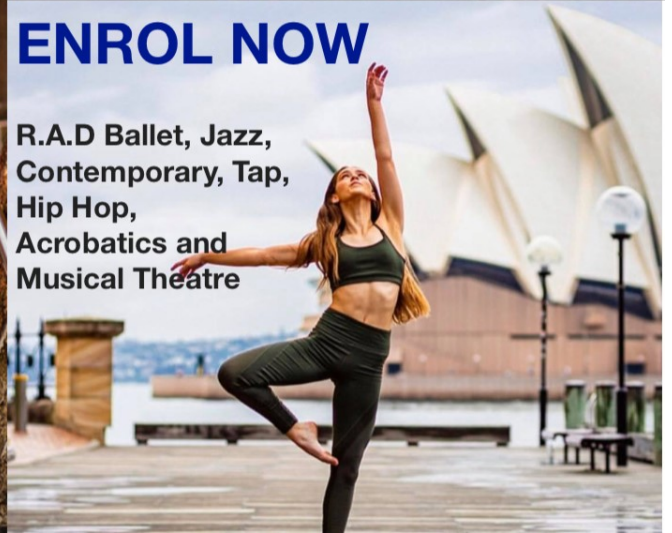
enquiries@industrypa.com.au
www.industrypa.com.au

0416 243 755
or
0425 683 911



ENROL NOW

R.A.D Ballet, Jazz,
Contemporary, Tap,
Hip Hop,
Acrobatics and
Musical Theatre



Road safety



Driving safely near school buses

There is a 40km/h speed limit for traffic passing a school bus that is setting down or picking up school children. This speed limit is for all traffic travelling in the same direction as the bus, whether the bus is stationary or moving.

Lights will flash on the front and back of the bus reminding drivers that there may be children crossing or about to cross the road.

Buses can't stop quickly because they are large and heavy vehicles. So, remember:

- Reduce speed to 40km/h when bus lights are flashing
- Give way to buses
- Watch out for children crossing
- Never park in or near a bus stop or bus zone.

Informal school bus stops

Informal bus stops are not sign posted and are usually found in rural areas. They may be at the front of a property, or on the side of the road, which may make children difficult to see.

For more information on keeping our kids safe around schools visit the parents section on [safetytown.com.au](https://www.safetytown.com.au)



Lives lost on NSW roads.
Our goal is zero.



Helping children on and off the bus safely

Your children are most at risk in the minutes after getting off the bus. Here are some ways you can reduce this risk:

- Always meet your child at the bus stop. Never meet them on the opposite side of the road and call them across.
- Wait until the bus has gone, then choose a safe place to cross the road. Remember to Stop! Look! Listen! Think!
- If you cannot meet your child, organise for another trusted adult to take your place.
- Wait at the bus stop and stand at least one step back from the edge of the road.
- Always wait until the bus has gone, then use a safe place to cross.
- Buckle up if the bus has seatbelts.

Model safe pedestrian behaviour. Children learn safe road user habits from you and will continue them later on when they are old enough to travel alone.

Until your child is at least eight years old, hold their hand on the footpath, in the carpark and when crossing the road. Up until at least 10 years old, supervise your child very closely, holding their hand when crossing the road.

STOP!
one step back from the kerb

LOOK!
continuously both ways

LISTEN!
for the sounds of approaching traffic

THINK!
whether it is safe to cross and keep checking until safely across

Messages to share with your children in Kindergarten to Year 2

Hold a grown up's hand when:

- you cross the road
- you're on the footpath
- you're in a car park

Messages to share with your children in Years 3 and 4

- Hold an adult's hand when you cross the road
- Use a safe place to cross the road

Messages to share with children in Years 5 and 6

- Stop! Look! Listen! Think! every time you cross the road and keep checking until safely across

Kindergarten to Year 6

- Wait until the bus has gone and then use a safe place to cross

For more information on keeping our kids safe around schools visit the parents section on safetytown.com.au