



St Patrick's Catholic Primary School

Royston Parade Asquith 2077

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P O Box 3021 Asquith 2077

ABN 66 789 035 993



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 1, Week 2, 3rd February 2021

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—Mr VT

Dear Parents, Girls and Boys,

Welcome everyone to a new school year for 2021. I am sure the children are excited to be back at school with their friends ready for another year of learning. It has been a positive start to the year with classes settling into routines quickly. Thank you to all the children for a wonderful start and to the staff for their efforts to support the children moving to a new grade.

Thank you to those who were able to support the Mathematics Assessment Interviews (Years 1-4) and Best Start (Kindergarten) last week. This opportunity provides teachers knowledge of the starting points for each child's learning in Mathematics. The children who are yet to complete the MAI will do so over the coming weeks during school hours.

On Monday our Kinder students started their first full day of attendance at St. Patrick's. It was great to see the smiling faces of the children as they started big school. The children have settled in remarkably well and I thank parents for supporting us and our Kinder teachers for enabling such a positive start. Thank you also to our Welcoming Committee who provided great support by welcoming our new Kinder parents on Monday morning with a friendly smile and a cuppa. This was a lovely opportunity to show our new families firsthand the spirit and support which is so evident in our community.

As we embark on the year ahead, I pray we work closely together between school and home to support one another and ultimately the children who are the reason we are all here. Undoubtedly the year ahead will provide both exciting moments, but also challenges. How we manage each of these moments will reflect directly in the messages we send our children and support them more broadly.

Welcome New Families

I sincerely welcome all our new families in 2021. It's always wonderful to see new faces amongst the children and parents joining St Patrick's Asquith for the first time. I encourage our existing families to extend a smile and welcome when crossing paths. We welcome the following new families to St Patrick's: Basa family, Bovey family, Cai family, De Alwis family, Espino family, Goyal family, Kenny family, Khanal family, Koirala family, Ligon family, Ma family, Martin

family, Mudzamba family, Nayyar family, Paglomutan family, Radford family, Riddett family, Rose, family, Shakya family, Sharma family, Shrestha (Sparsh Year 1) family, Sikanyika family, Vanco Salamanca family, Valia family, Whitehouse family, Zhang family (Haojun - Kinder and Wanting Yr 3)

School Events

Traditionally our school has many events scheduled throughout the year where our community can gather to support the efforts of the students in their learning, presentations and sporting events or celebrating together through our school liturgies and events like our annual P&F Welcome BBQ. Sadly, under current restrictions we are unable to hold these events as we would normally. Adjustments will continue to be made while our world lives with the Covid-19 Pandemic as the safety and well-being of our community is our highest priority. In response we will continue to put in place the necessary adjustments where required.

Our Beginning of Year and Ash Wednesday School Liturgies are under consideration. The limited number of attendees allowed in the church and the lack of a large covered (weatherproof) space in the school does make planning and staging school liturgies more challenging. Bishop Anthony will be providing directives in coming days to parishes on how they can celebrate Mass and arrange their liturgical and community life around the current restrictions. This will also give schools direction on what is possible with the celebration of school liturgies.

Communication Methods & Protocols

Communication is an important and crucial aspect to our work as partners. The school values strong and respectful communication and when we get this right, the children are best supported.

If you wish to speak to a teacher:

- You can make contact through the school office staff by phone, via email or in person. The office staff will pass this message onto the teacher concerned. The teacher will either confirm an appointment, or phone to talk within a reasonable timeframe (usually 24 hours or the following Monday if contact is made on a Friday). Often a return call might come earlier, but for practical reasons, one day's grace is required.
- Under the current guidelines provided by the NSW Government parents can be on site to attend essential and scheduled parent and carer meetings with teachers and/or school leadership. Please be aware that other options including phone, email or video conferencing through Zoom are available and may be more convenient to parents and have an added benefit of providing a non-contact Covid-safe environment.

If it is a matter to be conveyed in writing:

- Please either send a note to the teacher/staff member or an email to the front office.
- Emails will be forwarded to the teacher within normal hours and in a timely way. If confidential, please send as an attachment and mark as confidential. The school email address is: spa@dbb.catholic.edu.au
- I ask that parents don't email teachers directly. Emails received late at night or on weekends can impact on teachers' personal and family situations and add to their stresses, especially if the matter is emotive or subjective. Also, if a teacher is on leave, delays in response can result.

I thank all parents in advance for adhering to and respecting these protocols and for your continued support.

Parent Information Meetings

Parent Information Meetings will take place online **via Zoom** next week on Tuesday 9th and Wednesday 10th February. The purpose of these meetings is to provide an opportunity at the start of the school year for parents and carers to collectively meet their child's teacher. It will also allow teachers to provide information to parents and carers about class, grade and school routines and expectations, curriculum topics and planned events. Each grade will provide a brief summary of the information that will be presented.

The times for the sessions are:

Tuesday 9th February

Kinder - 6.00pm

Wednesday 10th February

Year 5 and Year 6 - 6.00pm

Year 1 and Year 2 - 6.30pm

Year 3 and Year 4 - 7.00pm

Further information about the Parent Information Meetings schedule and links to access each meeting will be provided separately.

Parent/Teacher Interviews

Individual Parent/Teacher Meetings will be scheduled for later this term and will allow the chance for parents and teachers to meet face to face or via zoom depending on the Covid-19 restrictions in place at the time. At these meetings parents and teachers can connect and discuss relevant information for their child, their child's effort and progress during Term 1 and set goals and make plans for the year ahead. Information about booking a Parent/Teacher Interview will be provided later in the term.

Parents who have important information they wish to communicate to their child's class teacher before this meeting takes place are encouraged to make an appointment through the school office or communicate information via an email to the school office to be passed on to the class teacher.

Parking, Morning Drop Off and Afternoon Pickup

This time of year is often busier than usual, with many parents re-establishing routines for a new year. The increased traffic will impact on parking, drop off and pickup. Ultimately **patience** will be required from parents, grandparents and others as it won't be possible to be in and out quickly on most occasions. I ask parents to adhere to the procedures in place as a streamlined process benefits everyone.

A more detailed explanation of the routines for Parking, Morning Drop Off and Afternoon Pickup will be provided separately.

Swimming Carnival

A reminder to all parents and carers of Years 3 - 6 children to complete the permission and entry form for *each* of their children attending the School Swimming Carnival. Please refer to communication sent out via Compass earlier this week.

A big thank you to the parents who have volunteered to assist at the carnival in an official capacity. Without this support we would not be able to hold this wonderful school event. An email was sent yesterday to the parents who have already volunteered. Please call the School Office if you did not receive an email.

School Canteen

The school is looking for volunteers to open the canteen on a regular basis. Information will be sent with the details next week.

French and Italian

This year our school language focus for Kinder to Year 4 has changed from French to Italian. This will be taught to children in Kinder to Year 4 by Mrs Christine Ryan. During the year the children will have an opportunity to learn some of the language and learn about the cultural and physical aspects of the country. Years 5 & 6 will continue to have French as part of their lesson with Mrs Walton.

God bless you and your families.

Todd Vane-Tempest
Principal



Pastoral Care – (Doris Russell)



PASTORAL CARE WHOLE SCHOOL FOCUS – WEEKS 2 / 3 – TERM 1 2021



At St Patrick's we are Respectful Learners.

We take pride in our appearance when we:

- wear our uniform correctly
- keep our uniform tidy
- make good hygiene choices

Welcome back to a new and exciting school year.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all of our new families to St Patrick's.

Pastoral Care is an important focus at St Patrick's school. This year a new Pastoral Care expectation will be reintroduced every alternate week. This will allow time for the students to properly absorb the intended expectation and its place in their social and learning environment. The Pastoral Care expectations will be:

- encouraged
- supported
- taught and
- maintained as part of our ongoing
- journey of excellence both academically
- and spiritually.

At St Patrick's Catholic School, we make good choices by being:

Safe Learners	Responsible Learners	Respectful Learners
Use safe and caring actions	Learn and Let others Learn	Speak and listen respectfully
Be in the right place at the right time, right task.	Care for our Environment	Take turns, include others and play fairly
Wear a hat outside	Care for all Property	Take pride in your appearance
Always be the best you can be.		
NAME:		CLASS:

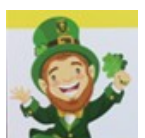
Students following these expectations will be acknowledged through the whole school stamp book system. Each week there will also be a student from each class receiving an award for following our 'weekly' school Pastoral care focus.

To assist us in our focus for Week's 2 and 3 could you please remember to **LABEL ALL** of your child's school clothing so it can be returned to you directly. We understand the **cost** and we would now like to encourage our students to take ownership of the **care** of such items. Good hygiene choices should also be discussed, especially during these uncertain times.

I am also looking forward to visiting various classrooms throughout the term to encourage the importance of acknowledging our Pastoral Care expectations.

'Our students are all on their own journey, our Pastoral Care expectations will guide them in making choices that will assist them in every area of their learning and in every area of their life!'

**God Bless and travel gently,
Doris Russell
(Pastoral Care Coordinator)**



OFFICE news (Cheryl)

Welcome to 2021 !!!!!

Welcome to all of our families for 2021. We look forward to sharing your child's 2021 journey with you.

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 must 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.

Qkr -

As in previous years **all** purchases are required to be made via the Qkr app– this includes School Uniforms, Canteen, Special Lunch Day Orders — and yes, even your school fees can be paid on the Qkr app.

REMINDER TO ALL FAMILIES:- Please amend your child's class and year level when ordering or paying in Qkr — this will ensure your child receives their uniforms and other purchases without any confusion.

School fees for 2021

In December 2020 CSBB emailed some information regarding the new fee structure for 2021 . School Fee accounts will be emailed at the end of this week or early next week from CSBB. All school fees are overseen by the Catholic Schools Broken Bay Fees Liaison Team, should you be experiencing any financial difficulty please contact Julie Payne at CSO on 9847 0258.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to call Cheryl in the Office.

Medications

If at any time your child requires medication you **must** complete the necessary paperwork (available on website) and bring the labelled medication to the office. All medications are to be administered by School Office staff only.

Wishing all of our wonderful families and community a happy and prosperous 2021.



Chess Coaching Club

CHESS!!

Learn to be a chess champion! Coaching for students at St Patrick's Primary School (Asquith) is held on Fridays from 1:15pm to 1:55pm, starting on 5 February 2021.

Learning and playing chess helps children develop their logical thinking and problem solving skills, improves their concentration and focus, while also being a great source of enjoyment.

Activities include group lessons on a demonstration chess board or interactive whiteboard, puzzle solving and fun practice games.

Students earn merit awards by making checkmates, or by displaying skills and positive qualities, which all good chess players strive to develop.

If your child is interested in taking part, you can collect an enrolment form from the school office, or email enrol@sydneyacademyofchess.com.au for a copy.

For all enquiries, please contact Sydney Academy of Chess on (02) 9745 1170.



Mount Colah Football Club

Fun, Friendship and Fitness

Teams

- Boys and Girls from Under 6 to Under 18
- Men and Women - All Age, O35, O45

Register to play
mountcolahcolts.com

U6 & 7 players Zero Dollar
Registration outlay with \$100 Active
Kids Voucher. New U6 & 7 players
get free shorts and socks

MiniRoos U6-U11
Season Rego Fee
• Includes MCFC
Training Shirt &
MCFC "Kano"
Skills Clinic



ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR YEAR 7, 2023

LIMITED AVAILABILITY FOR YEAR 7, 2022



ENROL ONLINE
MERCYCHATSWOOD.NSW.EDU.AU



Celebrating
130 years

OF INSPIRING YOUNG CATHOLIC WOMEN
1890 - 2020

Positive Partnerships



positive partnerships

Working together to support school-aged students on the autism spectrum

NSW PARENT/CARER ONLINE WORKSHOP



Join us for an online workshop where you will have the opportunity to listen, share and learn with parents and carers who support young people on the autism spectrum, from across New South Wales.

During the online workshops, we will cover four topics:

- diversity of autism
- working together with your child's school
- understanding sensory processing
- understanding behaviour.

These workshops are part of a series of sessions but you can choose if you would like to register for each session or just the individual ones you are able to join.

**Please note that this is not a webinar but is an online workshop where we will work collaboratively together online across the sessions.*

Location:

NEW SOUTH WALES
via zoom online

Dates & Times (AEDT):

Diversity of Autism

🌟 Tues 2 Feb, 2021
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Sensory Processing

🌟 Tues 9 Feb, 2021
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Understanding Behaviour

🌟 Tues 16 Feb, 2021
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Working Together

🌟 Tues 23 Feb, 2021
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

http://



For more information and to register, visit www.positivepartnerships.com.au
or contact Rachael Dillon rdillon@autismspectrum.org.au



positive partnerships

Working together to support school-aged students on the autism spectrum

NSW PARENT/CARER ONLINE WORKSHOP




Join us for an online workshop where you will have the opportunity to listen, share and learn with parents and carers who support young people on the autism spectrum, from across New South Wales.

This online workshop is for parents, full-time carers and grandparents. Join other families to learn more about autism and ways to strengthen the home-school partnership.

During the online workshops, we will cover three topics:

- diversity of autism
- understanding behaviour
- working together with your child's school

Location:

 New South Wales
via zoom online

Date:

Wednesday 24th February 2021

Time

Wed 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM (AEDT)



<http://>

For more information and to register, visit www.positivepartnerships.com.au
or contact Alison Macrae amacrae@autismspectrum.org.au



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)

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