



St Patrick's Catholic Primary School

Royston Parade Asquith 2077
P: 9477 3800
W: www.stpat.nsw.edu.au
E: spa@dbb.catholic.edu.au

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 9, 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

Dear Parents and Carers,

During this time of the Lenten Season we begin to focus on the events leading up to Easter. This is certainly a high point in the church year and at school the children will be learning about the Holy Week and Resurrection stories. Next week on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday morning assemblies, we will hold a simple Holy Week Liturgy in where events of Palm Sunday and Holy Week are celebrated. We welcome parents to come to these liturgies.

The School Cross-country

We took full advantage of the bright blue sky yesterday to hold our annual School Cross-country at Mills Park. It was great to see the effort and enthusiasm from the children while they completed the course, the support they gave their peers and the appreciation they showed for the opportunity to compete. Thank you to all parents who were able to attend and support the event. A big thank you also goes out to Mrs MacMahon who organised and facilitated a wonderful school event.

There was a moment at our school cross-country that made me especially proud to be connected with this wonderful school community. One of our senior students was still battling away out on the track, on his own, on his final lap. He was realising that 3km is a long way and he was starting to lose energy but not commitment. I was especially proud of the courage and determination that this young boy mustered to persevere to finish the race. He probably wasn't doing what most would consider as a traditional free flowing running style, but he kept moving and it was effective.

However, my favourite moment of the cross-country became even more special when the children sitting in the stand noticed what was happening and that every child there stood up and clapped, cheered and chanted his name to encourage him to the end. This obviously lifted this boy's spirits and he began increasing his efforts all the way to the finish. It was a memorable moment and I can only say that it came from a place within that is special to our school. It is amazing how one can inspire many and many can return the favour and inspire the one.

Parent – Teacher Meetings

By now the children should be well and truly settled into the school and class routines and will have had ample opportunity to demonstrate their talents while developing their knowledge and skills in class. This week parents have had the chance to

check in with teachers through the Parent/Teacher Meetings and teachers have also had the benefit of parents providing important information about their children to the teachers. It is a significant time where we can positively develop this valuable and powerful relationship between parents and school for the benefit of the children's well-being and learning.

I extend my thanks to both parents and teachers for working closely together to support the children in their learning. We look forward to seeing the results in Term 2 with First Semester reports. Of course, parents do not have to wait until times such as this week to meet with teachers. Both parents and teachers are encouraged to keep the communication channels open as needed and meet as required. Anytime this is required, please contact the school office and a meeting time can be arranged.

School Open Day

I continue to call on all parents to assist in promoting our school as the perfect place for new students to attend. If you know of parents who have preschool children ready to start school in 2022 and beyond, please take the opportunity to let them know about St. Patrick's Asquith as the school for them. Please encourage them to attend one of our School Open Day sessions on Tuesday 30th March to see and hear why St. Patrick's is the perfect place for their child. Parents can register by contacting the school (9477 3800) or click the following link: [St. Patrick's Asquith Open Day Registration](#).

All is just about set for next **Tuesday's** Kinder 2022 Enrolment information evening. I thank in advance the wonderful group of young men and young ladies from Year 6, who will conduct tours of the school to prospective parents during the morning sessions and from **5.30pm** at the evening session and staff and parents who will support the evening.

Harmony Week

Harmony Week was celebrated last week and culminated on Friday with a mufti day with a touch of orange to show our support for cultural diversity and an inclusive Australia. We started the day with a short Harmony Week assembly, followed by classroom activities, finalising the Harmony Day Poster Competition, a Harmony Day treat with a free ice block and a fundraiser with students donating a *gold coin donation for Project Compassion*.

Prime Minister's Spelling Bee

This week on Tuesday 23rd March the children in Years 3-6 participated in the Prime Minister's Spelling Bee. The children taking part in the Spelling Bee were given 30 random words from their reading level word list with 25 seconds to spell each word. It was a fun online format where they aimed for accuracy, to beat the clock while challenging themselves to apply various spelling strategies. The children may not have been familiar with all the words they are asked to spell, however, exposing them to new words and their definitions will help expand their vocabularies and encourage them to continue reading. We look forward to acknowledging the class and school spelling champions.

P & F General Meeting 7:30pm Monday 29 March at St Patrick's

We look forward to gathering in person for a P & F general meeting next Monday evening. It will be great chance to meet new parents of the School and talk about any ideas for activities we can do as a parent community.

At 7pm, we will have a short Q & A with the Principal, Todd Vane-Tempest, prior to the meeting kick off at 7:30pm. We aim for the meeting to run for no longer than an hour.

Venue to be advised - either the CLIC or the school hall. ALL WELCOME!

St Pat's Cookbook

School Community project for Term 1 & 2. Harmony Day 2021 saw the launch to start the creation of our St Pat's Community cookbook! Families of St Pat's can start planning which of your favourite recipes you would like to have published in our very own school cookbook. Have a favourite family recipe that you keep coming back to? We would love you to share it with us. If you would like to offer any assistance with this, please email the P & F at pandfstpats@gmail.com. We're seeking a creative name for our cookbook too - prize announcements to come!

School Dismissal

At the end of the school day during dismissal we have nearly 250 students moving offsite in a very short period of time. I thank parents for supporting the new protocols put in place to support the safety and well-being of students and visitors. Doing this allows the staff to manage the school site effectively for everyone's benefit. This is particularly true on wet weather days where conditions make it more difficult to manage.

Holy Week Schedule- Mass Time and Location

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Saturday 27 March 2021

5pm St Bernard's // 6pm St Patrick's

Sunday 28 March 2021

9am St Bernard's // 8am St Patrick's & 10am St Patrick's & 6pm St Patrick's

Holy Thursday -Thursday 1 April 2021 (No morning Mass)

Mass of the Lord's Supper & Washing of the feet

7.30pm St Bernard's // 7.30pm St Patrick's followed by Exposition/Adoration till 10.00pm at both churches

Good Friday- Friday 2 April 2021 Solemnities

Solemn Stations of the Cross Passion of the Lord

10am St Bernard's // 10am St Patrick's

3pm St Bernard's // 3pm St Patrick's

Easter Vigil Saturday 3 April 2021

(No morning Mass)

7pm St Bernard's // 7pm St Patrick's

Easter Sunday- Sunday 4 April 2021

9am St Bernard's // 8am St Patrick's & 10am St Patrick's

God bless you and your families.

Todd Vane-Tempest

Dates to remember.

Last Day of Term 1

Thursday 1st April

Easter Sunday

Sunday 4th April

First Day of Term 2

Monday 19th April

Staff Development Day

Friday 25th June



AP news (Kylie Huggins)

Attendance

Regular school attendance is essential if students are to maximise their potential. Schools, in partnership with parents, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students. While parents are legally responsible for the regular attendance of their children, the school monitors student attendance daily including part or whole day absences, as a consequence of both their duty of care and legislative requirements.

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide a verbal or written explanation for the absence. A reminder will be sent via email and Compass requesting that parents explain their child's absence.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day

Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine

Give students time to greet their friends before class

Reduces classroom disruption

Any child arriving to school late or leaving early must be signed in and out by their parents via the Compass kiosk, located in the school office. We ask that parents do not record partial absences via the Compass App as this may result in your child having an unexplained absence recorded.

Please see green forms later in the newsletter.

OFFICE news

Qkr

There are a number of students whose class and/or grade has not been updated to the students 2021 class and grade. At the end of term 1 we will be deleting all class and grades from Qkr so the next time you go onto Qkr you will be required to update these details again. To do this go into the profiles tab (next to menu on the homepage) and fill in the required details. You can do this without making a transaction.

Wishing all our families a happy, safe and Holy Easter.



Learning Every Day Counts

ATTEND MORE ✓

LEARN MORE ✓

BE MORE ✓

TIPS FOR PARENTS

Supporting your child's attendance at school

Develop good routines: Children NEED routine. These habits are a good foundation that will help kids throughout their school life and into the future;

- Get uniforms, school bag and all school things organised the night before
- Go to bed at the SAME, reasonable time each night
- Get up at the SAME time each morning
- Have breakfast at the SAME time each morning
- Leave for school at the SAME time each day (be on time!)

Be positive: Talk about school in a positive way in front of your child. If you have any concerns, talk to the school about the issue rather than create a negative image about school for your child. You will create problems for yourself and your child if you teach them to be negative about school.

Build your child's problem solving skills: Rather than solving all their problems for them, help your child solve problems by asking them what they think is the best thing to do, or what do other kids do if this happens. Discuss ideas together rather than just giving them the answer or criticising the school. You are a role model for your child.

Be firm: You are the parent and kids need to feel secure in knowing that you always mean what you say. Don't say things if you can't or won't do it. Kids have plenty of friends, but they only have one mum/dad. Being a parent is more important, more special and much harder than trying to be their friend.

Develop incentive programs: Encourage and reward the behaviour you want to see. Everyone likes to be rewarded for trying hard and doing their best. Kids respond to small rewards, praise and little treats. Nothing big or expensive, maybe just some time with you kicking a ball, a bike ride or fish and chips! You could also use a chart and put a sticker up for each time the child gets ready for school on time – at the end of the week you could agree on a reward for their efforts. Being positive makes everyone happy.

Kids need to understand about consequences: If your child does not do what you agree to, or they break the rules, then they need to know that there will be consequences for their actions e.g., no computer or TV, no pocket money or maybe even ask them how they will "make up" for their behaviour. Follow through with the consequence!

Don't get into arguments: with your child. Kids know how to push your buttons, so instead of ongoing arguments, just say what you need to say and walk away. Tell your child you have made your decision and that it is final. Your child will soon learn that you mean what you say and that arguing will not work. Teenagers are expert arguers!

Don't take things personally: Kids will often use 'words as weapons' especially when they are feeling frustrated. Name calling, muttering under their breath or saying "I don't love you anymore!" can be very common.

Be consistent: You will only confuse your child and create anxiety if you constantly change the messages you give them. If you tell your child they have to be at school every day and then let them stay home because it is convenient or give in to their demands, then the child learns that you will cave in under pressure and that you don't mean what you say.

Learning Every Day Counts

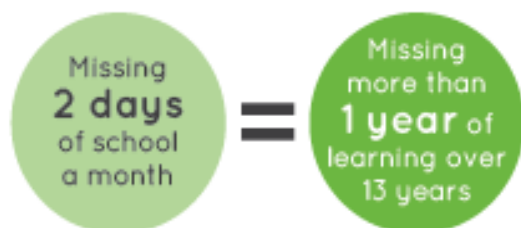


Absences add up!

Being **10 minutes** late per day can lead to **6 days missed** per year.



Missing **2 days** of school a month means over **1 entire year** of missed learning in a child's school life.



Each day missed:

- Puts your child behind and makes it harder for them to catch up.
- Can lead to lower achievement in reading, writing and numeracy.
- Can lead to gaps in learning and impact on social and emotional skills.



**ATTEND MORE,
LEARN MORE,
BE MORE...**

Good habits begin early

Be on time each and every day.



Good attendance starts in Kindergarten and sets your child up for success in school life.

What parents can do

- **Be firm.** Send your child to school every day unless they are sick
- Develop good sleep and morning routines
- Schedule appointments after school
- Avoid taking holidays during term time
- Limit screen time

Schools are there to help

If you're having attendance issues with your child, speak to your school about ways to address it.



Additional resources

www.csodbb.catholic.edu.au/schools/attendance

REC News (Tahnee Roberts)



St Patrick's Day

Despite the rain we still celebrated our Feast Day with many enjoyable and insightful activities. We also acknowledged our students who have become members of the 2021 MAG to assist the school in carrying out those traditional Mercy values. I would also like to thank the staff for their assistance in helping celebrate the day and the parents who were able to help serve treats from the canteen and cook a barbeque for our sausage sizzle lunch to help them celebrate.



Mercy Action Group

Congratulations to our Mercy Action Group for 2021. We wish them many blessings as they help to drive various social justice initiatives in our school community.



Project Compassion

Thank you for last week's contribution of \$416.05. This brings our current total to \$961.10

A special mention to Rose M who donated \$50 from her personal savings - What a kind and selfless act!

Please donate generously this week and continue to pray for those communities who need our help.

The Dish

Thank you to the families who volunteered to assist with The Dish last Tuesday, it is wonderful to see so much support for this initiative.

Our rostered date for Term 2 is in Week 10 - Tuesday 22nd June. I will send a roster out for this early next Term.

Holy Week

Next week each stage will be presenting a liturgy to remember the events of Holy Week. These will occur at our morning assembly at 8:45am. Please join us to pray for and remember this special and Holy occasion.

Monday 29th March - Kindergarten and Stage 1

Wednesday 31st March - Stage 2

Thursday 1st April - Stage 3



ANZAC Day

On Monday 26th April we will have an ANZAC Day Liturgy in the playground at 8:45 am. All families are welcome to attend.



Important dates for Term 1:

Week 10 - Holy Week Liturgies

Monday 29th March - Kindergarten and Stage 1

Wednesday 31st March - Stage 2

Thursday 1st April - Stage 3

Wishing you blessings and joy,

Tahnee Reynolds

Acting Religious Education Coordinator

P & F News

P & F General Meeting 7:30pm Monday 29 March at St Patrick's.

We look forward to gathering in person for a P & F general meeting next Monday evening. It will be great chance to meet new parents of the School and talk about any ideas for activities we can do as a parent community.

At 7pm, we will have a short Q & A with the Principal, Todd Van Tempest, prior to the meeting kick off at 7:30pm. We aim for the meeting to run for no longer than an hour.

Venue to be advised - either the CLIC or the school hall.

St Pat's Cookbook – A School Community project for Term 1 & 2.

Harmony Day 2021 saw the launch to start the creation of our St Pat's Community cookbook!

Please keep your recipes coming. We would love for you to share your favourite family recipes with us.

If you would like to offer any assistance with this project, please email the P & F at pandfstpats@gmail.com

We're seeking a creative name for our cookbook too, look out for prize announcements!

STUDENT AWARDS

Week 7

Class	Pastoral Care	Other
K Gold	Soraya D	Haojun Z
K Green	Willow W	Casey M
1 Gold	Aiden R	Craig A
1 Green	Charlotte R	Milap K
2 Gold	Zahra F	Elise H
3 Gold	Jaime W	Nathan W
3 Green	Gauri T	Emma C
4 Gold	Isabelle H	Ben F
4 Green	Tyler S	
5 Green	Piper C	Angus C
5/6 Gold	Alexa R	Noah E
6 Green	Natasha H	Mikey P

Week 8

Class	Pastoral Care	Other
K Gold	Kiera S	Harry W
K Green	Arudra L	Myles R
1 Gold	Annalise W	Merric M
1 Green	Eva P	Messic M
2 Gold	Freya A	Evie W
3 Gold	Grant D	Wanting Z
3 Green	Joshua T	Adam T
4 Gold	Natalia S	Anthony G
4 Green		
5 Green	Emily C	Julienne U
5/6 Gold	Natalie H	Rebecca C
6 Green	Louis S	Charlotte K

Congratulations to these children who received band awards. Well done!

Grant D, Flute Lily W, Flute Gemma T, Flute Mia N, Flute Hayley N, Flute Charley B, Clarinet Tilita M, Clarinet
Gabiella R, Trumpet

PASTORAL CARE WHOLE SCHOOL FOCUS (Doris Russell)



PASTORAL CARE WHOLE SCHOOL FOCUS – TERM 1 – WEEKS 8 and 9



At St Patrick's we are **Responsible Learners**.
We care for our environment when we:

- put all our rubbish in the bin
- take care of our gardens
- turn off lights and IWB projectors
- reuse, recycle, reduce
- respect the environment around us



During Weeks 8 & 9 our focus is to be a **'Responsible Learner'** by **caring for our environment**.
It is a part of our journey to living the **discipleship challenge**.

Last week the students acknowledged 'Clean up Australia Day.' Each year it is an opportunity to give back to our environment what we often take for granted; clean water, uncluttered coastlines, uncluttered parks and bushland, clean safe environments, neighbourhoods and learning environments. Our responsibility is to show respect for the earth, as it is a precious and life-giving entity made more fragile by the way we are disrespecting its use and the gifts it provides. In the previous week our children worked together to clean up our playground, to make sure that there were no papers, plastic or non-environmentally friendly objects....this needs to be the norm rather than a reminder **SO** in the next few weeks we will encourage the students to take responsibility of their learning environment.

We protect the environment with nurturing and hard work, beginning with 'our playground'.

Things you can do:

- **Take responsibility** for the environment around you, **take time** to stop and pick-up papers, food scraps or plastic wraps and place them in the **CORRECT** bin!
- Bring food in **lunch boxes** without the plastic wrappings.
- Bring **water bottles** instead of juices.
- **Recycle** the packaging you bring to school so it can be used in an **environmentally friendly** way.
- **Take responsibility** for your **belongings** by:
 - Putting your name on your belongings (jumper, hat, lunchbox, drink bottles)
 - Putting your lunchboxes in designated areas
 - Putting things in lost property or returning to owner
- **Tidying up after yourselves** in the classroom or playground – **returning** equipment, tidying workspaces, keeping classrooms clean

Some quotes from St Francis of Assisi the Patron Saint of Animals and Environment (Remember we can do this



THE CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

DISCIPLESHIP CHALLENGE:

We are called to show respect to each other and for God's creation.

GOSPEL PASSAGE:

Creation – Sixth Day – Care for God's creation (Gen 1: 24-31)

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)

Sport news

Cross Country

It was a wonderful sunny morning for our Cross Country event. The usual track at Mills Park was a little modified this year, to accommodate safety for the children. Thank you to all our parents who came along to support.

Congratulations to all students who gave the long 2km and 3km run an amazing attempt. The following children have been successful in qualifying to compete at the Broken Bay North Shore Schools Cross Country being held on Tuesday 27th April at Rofe Park Hornsby.

Age 8 Girls

Elizaveta K, Evie W, Charlotte A, Rose M, Charley B,

Age 8 Boys

Liam D, Nathan W, Lachlan C, Anthony P, Aaron Z

Age 9 Boys

Thomas H, Fynn E, Luca C, Cristiano G, Samuel A, Gabriel D, Joshua T

Age 9 Girls

Annabel A, Natalia S, Angela R, Charlize L, Jamie W, Abigail S

10 Boys

Noah D, Archer W, Niall C, Colin P, Edward W, Eric H

10 Girls

Catherine M, Emma D, Stella H, Elena K, Ava V, Ashleigh I

11 Boys

Joshua W, Lachlan H, Charlie R, Marcus B, Luke P, Danny P

11 Girls

Gemma T, Sienna F, Helena S, Natalie H, Rebecca C, Bethan M

12 Boys

Matthew T, Jake F, Kurt W, Michael P, Jack B, Nicholas W

12 Girls

Tara C, Zasha E, Marli S, Ruby R, Bianca M, Gracy B

COMMUNITY news

Fantastic effort Zola in your performance in Les Mis!





HORNSBY LIONS
JUNIOR RUGBY UNION CLUB
COME AND JOIN THE PRIDE
#jointhepride #hornsbylions



Play junior rugby at the all inclusive, family friendly rugby club

GIRLS & BOYS WELCOME

- U5'S TO U9'S - MINIS RUGBY
- U5'S - U7'S TOUCH RUGBY ONLY

EQUAL TIME POLICY

- FUN AND PARTICIPATION
- AFFORDABLE FEES

All U5s to U9s get a new rugby ball with registration

COME AND GIVE IT A GO & JOIN THE PRIDE

COME & TRY
GET INTO RUGBY
18TH & 25TH MARCH 2021
ASQUITH BOYS HIGH
4.30PM TO 5.30PM