



Thursday 8th September 2022

PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last week's Father's Day Celebrations were a great success with a huge number of dads joining us on Friday morning. The playground was full of dads enjoying a sausage sizzle, a cuppa and the odd game of handball in the morning. We later packed the church to celebrate our dads with a joyful liturgy and to hand out our weekly awards followed by a visit to the classroom and a chance to read a favourite story to their children.

I thank the dads who were able to come along and support the event. It again shows the fantastic spirit that is alive in our school community but also demonstrates the value that our parent community holds in connecting and engaging with their children at school.

I acknowledge and thank again the wonderful staff who keep supporting each event wholeheartedly with some much energy and joy.

Let's Hear it For The Boys

Another event, our Mums and Sons evening, 'Let's Hear it for the Boys', was held last night and it was an outstanding success. A huge thank you goes to Miss Fryar and Mrs Taylor and the supporting staff for organising and facilitate a wonderful event that was enjoyed by everyone. We had around 50 boys and their mums come along and enjoy catching up socially, playing some games and having a meal together. It was a great community event full of school spirit which St. Patrick's is well known for.

School Fete

The School Fete is fast approaching so please keep watch for the regular **Fete Newsletters** with the 4th newsletter being sent out this week via Compass. The fete promises to be a great day of excitement with a Tombola stall, jumping castles, rock climbing, a petting zoo and soccer darts to name a few fun activities. You will also be able to pick up a bargain at the many stalls available on the day and have a feast at the food stalls.

Please take the opportunity to support the fete by signing up via the following link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040e4aa8ac2ba3fe3-stpatricks>

Public Speaking

We are edging closer to the public speaking grand finals with classes and grades completing the list of finalists after holding class and grade finals to choose the top 5 students from each grade. Every student in the school has had the chance to prepare and give a speech in the past few weeks and we are now ready to hear the selected finalists.

St Patrick's Grand final will be held next week on Wednesday 14th September with the K-2 final held at 9:15am and the Years 3-6 final at 11:30am. The winning speaker, second and third placegetters for each grade will receive a medallion. The other finalists will receive a certificate of merit.

School Uniform

A reminder to parents that we are transitioning over the coming weeks from the children wearing their Winter uniform to wearing the Summer school uniform. While the weather stays a little cooler many parents may choose to continue having their children wear the full Winter Uniform but have the choice to switch to the full Summer uniform when the days are warmer.

As we move towards the end of the year and students grow out of their shoes please remember, as per our uniform policy, that all school shoes must be **completely black** for all uniform types. Please also ensure that students are wearing the correct socks, particularly when wearing sports uniform.

Although I have had to speak to a number of students recently about wearing their school uniform correctly, I acknowledge that the majority of students do the right thing each and every day without exception. I thank parents who continue to support the school by making sure their children are dressed in the correct uniform each day.

Tell Them From Me Survey Parent and Student Surveys

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 Catholic Primary School Asquith.

The survey is anonymous and will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. You can access the parent survey on your computer or mobile device by using the URL below:

<http://tellthemfromme.com/stpatsasquith2022>



The parent survey will close next week on **Friday 16 September 2022 (4:30pm AEDT)**

The survey will provide us with valuable feedback on what our students (Years 4–6) think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help them improve.

A separate letter will be sent to parents of Years 4–6 to provide greater detail about the student survey.

Kinder Screeners

Yesterday we welcomed some of our new Kindergarten students for 2023 as they participate in a Kinder Screener Session. It was a great chance for us to get to know them while they get to know the

school environment and meet and spend time with some of their new classmates. Next week we will meet the second group of Kinder 2023 students on Thursday 15th September from 9am.

We are continuing to build our numbers for Kinder 2023 with enough students to make two classes. We are still looking for more enrolments, so I encourage our parents to keep inviting families that you know have children ready to begin school next year to consider St. Patrick's as the best school for their child.

In Term 4 the children will return for three transition sessions scheduled for the mornings of Thursday 10th, 17th & 24th November (between 9am to 10:30am).

Play Group in back Mondays

We continue to have a great turn-out of numbers for Paddy's Playgroup each Monday morning from 9am in the Parish Meeting Room. I continue to invite pre-schoolers and their parents to come along for a fun filled morning of structured activities, craft, and time for unstructured play where the children can socialise and use their imagination while they play with their new friends. Next week's theme will be nursery rhymes.

Professional Learning and Planned Staff Development Days for the Remainder of 2022

A reminder that we have planned staff development days in Term 4 to do some of the work required to support the professional learning of teachers for new syllabus documents for English and Mathematics using resources provided by CSBB. The following dates will be Staff Development Days:

Monday October 10th– Day 1 Term 4

Friday December 16th– the last day of attendance for Term 4 for **all** children will be Thursday 15th December.

As a result, these days will be student free days. Our excellent before and after school care provider, Royston Kids, will provide supervision for a limited number of children on that day. Parents can contact the service via email: roystonkids@hotmail.com or by phone: 0431 383 981. Bookings are essential.

Year 5 Family Mass this Sunday

The Year 5 Family Parish Mass is on this Sunday at 10.00am. All families are welcome to join in.

Have a great weekend everyone.

God bless,

Todd Vane–Tempest

Principal

