



# St Patrick's Catholic Primary School

Royston Parade Asquith 2077

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## Parish Clergy

Rev Dr Biju Jose, OSH

Fr Joy Thomas OSH

Administers of the Parish

## Weekend Mass Times

St Patrick's Asquith

Saturday Vigil 6pm

Sunday 8am, 10am, 6pm

St Bernard's Berowra Heights

Saturday Vigil 5pm

Sunday 9am



## From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

I have noticed many classes rehearsing their Christmas Concert performances in preparation for next week's event on Thursday evening (1st December). We are looking forward to a fun evening for all families as we come together to celebrate.

We will begin the concert with some favourite Christmas carols led by our school band prepared by Mrs Jacobson and school choir under the control of Mrs Pugsley. Following this our guest performer, Drew Lane, will facilitate the remainder of the concert with the live performance of items prepared during the day.

Families are welcome to bring along a picnic for their family to enjoy. We will also have a sausage sizzle available on the night. Families can now pre-purchase these via QKR. All purchases for the sausage sizzle need to be finalised by Monday.

Thank you to the parents who have already volunteered to assist with cooking and/or serving at the Sausage Sizzle.

### Christmas Concert Schedule

From 4pm: Sausage Sizzle

From 5pm: Christmas Carols with grade groups, School Choir and School Band

From 5:45pm: Christmas Concert with Drew Lane (each grade presents an item prepared by Drew)

### Covid 19 Update

With the build up to Christmas there are increasing opportunities for friends and families to gather to celebrate the festive season. Our school Christmas Concert is one of these opportunities. It can seem counter-intuitive to hold community events while there is a risk of spreading the virus.

# PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

We seek to minimise the risk where we can by holding the event outdoors (weather permitting) and ask everyone to follow basic hygiene measures where possible. Anyone who believes they have been exposed to COVID-19 is strongly recommended to monitor for symptoms and test if they have any concerns, as well as wear a mask.

Even though isolation rules have changed, the main message is those who test positive to Covid-19 should isolate from school until they are symptom free.

If a student is unwell and has any COVID-19 symptoms, even the mildest of symptoms, they should always test for COVID-19. If the test comes back negative for COVID-19, the student should still not return to school until either:

- The student no longer has any symptoms, or
- A medical certificate is provided to the school confirming that symptoms are explained by another diagnosis (such as hay fever)

We will continue to support families to use rapid antigen tests (RATs) if symptomatic or if they believe they have been exposed to COVID-19.

## End of Year Dates

Our final Staff Development Day will occur on Friday December 16th (last day of Term 4). As a result, the last day of attendance for Term 4 for all children will be Thursday 15th December.

As Friday December 16th is a student free day our excellent before and after school care provider, Royston Kids, will provide supervision for children on that day. This service will only be available if a minimum of 15 students attend. Parents who wish to use this service for the last day of term are asked to notify Royston Kids by Friday next week. Parents can contact the service via email: [roystonkids@hotmail.com](mailto:roystonkids@hotmail.com) or by phone: 0431 383 981.

## Class Organisation for 2023

Earlier this term I communicated that our staffing allocation had been reduced to 10 classes for 2023 based on the expected enrolment numbers. Fortunately, our numbers have stabilised sufficiently for the staffing allocation to return to 11 classes for 2023.

As previously communicated, factors that impact class arrangements are school enrolments, particularly grade size and staffing allocation. These two factors combined can have a significant bearing on what is possible across the school regarding grade and class structures. While we have less than a full complement of 14 classes it will be common in our school to have 'Stage Class' groupings.

Please be aware that Year 1 and 2, or Year 3 and 4, or Year 5 and 6, are learning the same topics and working to achieve the same outcomes. This allows the combining of children in these stage groupings to function successfully.

In the meantime, please 'talk up' your child's teacher and potential options in the lead-up to next year. It is the best way to ensure a positive build-up to 2023.

# PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

## **LSL- Mrs Huggins**

You may have noticed recently that there is someone missing around our school. Mrs Huggins has taken a well-deserved break with a few weeks of Long Service Leave. Her leave was originally scheduled to begin this week but was brought forward to begin a little earlier and will last until the end of the year. In her absence we are fortunate to have Mrs Kylie Lloyd-Jones step into the role of Acting Assistant Principal and Miss Hannah Fryar being Acting Religious Education Coordinator.

## **Funeral Service at St Patrick's Church this Friday at 1pm**

There will potentially be a largish funeral at St Patrick's this Friday at 1pm for Mrs Frances Gleeson who was 98 years of age and has been active in the parish for some 70 years.

I understand that Mrs Gleeson's husband was actively involved in the building of the churches of the parish and as a couple they had many other roles in parish life including the resettlement of refugees.

Although the service should be concluded well before the end of the school day, the expected large numbers may have an impact on the parking available in the surrounding streets for dismissal. Parents may need to allow for some extra time and expect possible delays for afternoon pick-up.

## **P&F AGM**

On Monday 5th December at 7:30pm we will have our AGM for our P&F. We are blessed at St. Patrick's to have a vibrant and energetic parent body, as we work together to support our community, especially the children. As a community, we owe our team of parent volunteers an enormous vote of thanks for their time and tireless continued advocacy for the school. I take this opportunity to thank the members of the Parent Council and P&F who have provided loving service to our community. It is important we have a generous and continued succession of parents and so I ask everyone to give consideration to engaging with our school and joining the P&F committee.

As we are now enjoying getting back to more social gatherings, we hope the opportunity for more community events will be available next year. Would you like to be a part of organising social events, building the St Pats parent community? There are lots of opportunities for you to share your skills and get involved. Send an email [pandfstpats@gmail.com](mailto:pandfstpats@gmail.com) and let us know how you would like to be involved or just let us know what ideas you have for parent and family social gathering or activities.

## **St. Vinnie's Christmas Appeal**

The children enjoyed wearing mufti today as a reminder to support the St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal. Each year our families generously donate non-perishable items to this appeal to support others in our community in need. I thank all parents in advance for their generosity and thoughtfulness at this time.

## **Men in the Morning**

We had a good turn-out of dads to the Men in the Morning event today. It is a wonderful tradition in our school to make a special time for our dads to spend a little bit of time with their children at school before heading off to work. And what a great way for our dads to connect with their child/ren, their friends and other dads in our school community.

# PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

## Leadership Assembly

Over the coming weeks we will select Year 5 students to serve as badged leaders for school and vice captains as well as colour house (sports) captains. This week our Year 2-5 classes listened to speeches from the final five Year 5 boys and girls nominated for school captain. Next week the children who nominated for sports captain will also present their speeches.

On Friday 9th December (Week 9) from around 2pm we will hold a special Leadership Assembly to acknowledge and thank our current badged leaders and to announce and congratulate our newly chosen leaders.

I thank all of our Year 5 students who put themselves forward for these roles. It is great to see so many of our students wanting to take on these roles to serve in our school community. Parents are welcome to attend the Leadership Assembly at school or view it online via Zoom. Below are the access details for those needing to attend online.

Link: <https://dbbcatholic.zoom.us/j/64298707530?pwd=eEM5cUFta0RvMDNFk3lydHNJSnJuUT09>

Meeting ID: 642 9870 7530

Password: 574053

## Well-being Week- Peer Support

A fantastic new initiative was started this week (Well-being Week) with all students through Peer Support. All children had the chance to join with other students across grades a few times this week to focus on the important values and behaviours that we share in our school community through our new Behaviour Matrix posters.

For our older students they had the chance to demonstrate their leadership skills as they facilitated activities. For all students it was a chance to connect with children from different grades and develop new connections and friendships.

As a way of culminating the week's activities, the children also had a wonderful time sharing a meal at the Peer Support Picnic Lunch today. I acknowledge and thank our Stage 3 teachers for preparing the Year 5 and 6 students for the positive way they have led the school.

**God bless,  
Todd Vane-Tempest  
Principal**

## Upcoming Dates

Thursday 24th November - Kindy 2023 Transition 3

Thursday 1st December - Christmas Concert

Thursday 8th December - Yr 6 Graduation Mass

Thursday 15th December - End of Year Mass

Thursday 15th December - Term 4 - Last Day all Students

Friday 16th December - Staff Development Day

# REC - Kylie Lloyd Jones

## St Vincent De Paul Christmas Appeal

*Christmas is a time of hope, joy, and of giving from the heart.*

Thank you for the generous donations for St Vincent De Paul Christmas Hampers. We are able to make many hampers which we will give to Mr Worthington from the Asquith St Vincent De Paul society on Monday at Assembly. These will then be distributed by the parish to those in need.



### First Week of Advent

We light a candle of hope. May it light the way.

This Sunday is the First Sunday of Advent. This is a season of waiting, remembrance and anticipation. Advent is the time when we open our hearts once again to the year-long journey through the life of Jesus, praying that we will be transformed by it, and that our relationship with Jesus will be further deepened.

Over the next few weeks different classes will be leading us in a simple prayer at our Monday morning assemblies to celebrate Advent.

Week 8 First Week of Advent led by Year 1 Green

Week 9 Second Week of Advent led by Year 1/ 2 Gold

Week 10 Third Week of Advent led by Kindergarten

Broken Bay Diocese has published a series of Advent Reflections that are available on the [Broken Bay Website](#).

### Christmas Concert

On Thursday 1st December religious singer/songwriter and performing arts specialist, Drew Lane, will be visiting our school to be a part of our Christmas celebrations. Drew will be working with our students to present a Christmas concert for the St Patrick's community. He brings a wealth of experience to share with the students and it'll be a great time full of singing, movement and drama. Parents are warmly invited to be a part of the celebration of faith and fun.

Students are requested to wear a red or green tshirt. (They may wear a festive christmas t-shirt if they already have one at home.)

Sausage sizzle starts from 4pm, Band and Choir from 5pm and Drew Lane from 5:45pm.

We look forward to seeing you there.

### Upcoming Dates

Thursday 1st December Christmas Concert

Thursday 15th December End of Year Mass

Kylie Lloyd-Jones

REC

# Student Achievements

## Academic Achievement Awards

At St Patrick's we greatly value teaching and learning. Over the last few weeks 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.

<u>Class</u>	<u>Religious Education</u>	<u>English</u>	<u>Mathematics</u>	<u>One other KLA</u>
K Gold	Clara HV	Laura B	Leo B	<u>Creative Arts</u> Arabella S
1/2 Gold	Mina M	Halle B	Jessica P	<u>PDH</u> Aiden R
1 Green	Maesalina M	Alessandro M	Eva B	<u>Creative Arts</u> Liesel P
2 Green	Anamaria D	Madeleine H	Alejandro M	<u>Geography</u> Milap K
3 Green	Esha D	Charlotte A	Lila B	<u>English</u> Kassidy C
4 Gold	Elissa M	Mia N	Charlie S	<u>Creative Arts</u> Lily W
4 Green	Lucy HV	Charley B	Chelsea S	<u>PDH</u> Luca C
5 Gold	Ava L	Tyler S	Christian I	<u>Science &amp; Technology</u> Niall C
5 Green	Catherine M	Vibha L	Noah D	<u>Science &amp; Technology</u> Daniela T
6 Gold	Noah E	Gloria S	Antonio M	<u>Geography</u> Piper C
6 Green	Alexa R	Sophie B	Elizabeth M	<u>Science &amp; Technology</u> Angus C

# PASTORAL CARE AND WELLBEING - WEEK 7 AND 8

## RELAUNCH OF PASTORAL CARE POSTERS

This week students have been reviewing and looking at our new pastoral care posters and reminding themselves of the expectations we value in our St Patrick's Community. You can see our newly designed Pastoral Care Matrix that will be present in every classroom and will remind students of ways that they can be SAFE, RESPONSIBLE and RESPECTFUL learners.

## WELLBEING WEEK

Theme: School Community

Monday: Peer Support - Session 1

Tuesday: Staff vs Student Netball Game

Wednesday: Peer Support - Session 2

Thursday: Men in the Morning, Peer Support - Session 3 and Picnic

## AT ST PATRICK'S WE ARE SAFE, RESPONSIBLE, RESPECTFUL LEARNERS WHEN WE:

### SAFE



USE SAFE AND CARING ACTIONS

ARE IN THE RIGHT PLACE, AT THE RIGHT TIME



### RESPONSIBLE

LEARN AND LET OTHERS LEARN



CARE FOR OURSELVES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

CARE FOR OUR PROPERTY



MAKE GOOD CHOICES

### RESPECTFUL

SPEAK AND LISTEN RESPECTFULLY



TAKE PRIDE IN OUR APPEARANCE

TAKE TURNS, INCLUDE OTHERS AND PLAY FAIRLY



ST PATRICK'S  
ASQUITH

## PEER SUPPORT

This week as part of reintroducing our Pastoral Care Matrix and Posters, Year 5 and 6 have been running 3 sessions to explore these expectations. The sessions aim to foster the following: build friendships/connections, develop teamwork and celebrate each child's uniqueness and contributions to our school community.

These sessions have also been a great opportunity for Year 6 to utilise and hand over their leadership responsibilities to our new 2023 leadership group. They have all done an amazing job and have enjoyed the leadership opportunity.



# CHRISTMAS CARD DESIGN COMPETITION

**Create a nativity / Christmas image to use for a Christmas Card to be used by Danny Casey, Director of Schools and other executive staff to send out CSBB Christmas wishes!**

The artist of the chosen entry will receive a pack of cards printed with their image for their families to use along with a \$50 Event Cinemas voucher. The student's name and school will be credited on the back of the card.



**Entries close November 30th, hand your entries to your class teacher!**

**Good luck.**



**ST PATRICK'S**  
ASQUITH

The issue 8 brochures went out last week. This is the last book club for the year. Get your orders in by Friday 2 Dec as this is the last day for ordering

# Book Club

## ISSUE 8 OUT NOW!



**EVERY ORDER REWARDS YOUR SCHOOL!**

**SCHOLASTIC**





## Girls Only Cricket Master Blasters Hub 2022-2023

**Come and join the local Girls Only Master Blasters cricket hub!**

\*14 week introductory program - providing the opportunity for girls aged 7-10 to learn all the skills of cricket in a fun and social setting at Parklands Oval, Mount Colah from 6.00-7.30 pm on Friday evenings.

\*Girls who register with Mount Colah CC will combine with participants from some other local clubs.

\*Sessions run from Friday 21st October, 2022 and will continue through to late February, 2023. Registrations are welcome throughout the season.

\*Come and try the first session for free!

For more details and registration links go to:

[www.mountcolahcc.com](http://www.mountcolahcc.com)

