



# St Patrick's Catholic Primary School

Royston Parade Asquith 2077

P O Box 3021 Asquith 2077

**P:** 9477 3800

ABN 66 789 035 993

**W:** [www.stpat.nsw.edu.au](http://www.stpat.nsw.edu.au)

**E:** [spa@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:spa@dbb.catholic.edu.au)

## 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,

Today we had nearly 40 excited children and their parents at school for the first of three transition sessions. During the morning the children had the chance to meet their new classmates for 2023, enjoy a book and a craft activity and explore the school. During this time our new parents also had a chance to connect with each other which could be the start of a life-long friendship.

Our Year 5 students also supported the morning by conducting tours and providing a few experienced tips to the children on how to successfully navigate their new school.

In coming weeks, the Year 5 students will buddy-up with the new Kinder students for 2023 which is a valuable and important connection that will support the children starting school. We look forward to continuing the journey with families next week at Transition Session 2.

### School Christmas Concert

The school will be holding a Christmas Concert on Thursday 1st December for all families to attend and celebrate together. During the day we welcome a guest performer, Drew Lane, who will facilitate the concert by preparing all classes to present an item.

Additionally, our talented music teacher Teaghan Pugsley will also teach each grade a few traditional Christmas Carols for them to sing with the support of the school choir and school band.

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 will be able to purchase these via QKR in the coming weeks.

We are seeking parents who will be able to assist with cooking and/or serving at the Sausage Sizzle. Please click on the link if you will be able to assist: [Christmas Concert Sausage Sizzle Volunteer](#).

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)

# PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

## 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 join 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.

## School Disco

It was fantastic to see a great roll-up of enthusiastic children for the first school disco since 2019. The children had a fun evening of dancing and other activities in the school hall with music and actions provided by the very talented DJ Andy. I thank the committee of parents who organised the evening and the P&F for keeping the price low by subsidising part of the cost. It was another wonderful community event.

## BYODD iPad Program for 2023

Thank you to the parents who tuned in to the online meeting for Year 3 parents to hear about the BYODD iPad Program for 2023. It was an opportunity for parents attending to find out about the way the school seeks to use technology to enhance learning, the applications used, school protocols and updates on the parent portal for purchasing an iPad. Some of our experienced parents also provided a few tips on managing the device at home. I also acknowledge and thank Mr Maher for facilitating the meeting.

## Staffing

Recently I acknowledged the retirement of Mrs Caroline Walton from her teacher librarian position at St. Patrick's along with the success of Mrs Rebecca Daly in gaining a position at Our Lady of the Rosary Waitara. At these times the school carries out a process of selecting suitable candidates to be part of the teaching staff for 2023. I congratulate Mrs Belinda Wickham who has been successful in attaining the teacher librarian position at St. Patrick's from 2023. Belinda is well known to the school as a parent in our school community, but she is also an excellent teacher who is coming to us from St. Agatha's Pennant Hills. I am sure our school community will congratulate Belinda on her new appointment.

## Class Arrangements for 2023

At this time of year, I am contacted by a few parents requesting their child to have a particular teacher or be in the same class as another student for the following year. I acknowledge that parents wish to advocate in the best interests of their child/ren, however it is not possible to promise any particular arrangements. **The school is still in the process of finalising staffing for 2023 and teacher and class allocation are still being decided.**

Please be aware that each year teachers take great care in arranging classes and although not a perfect science the teachers endeavour to balance the classes according to many factors including the children's social and emotional needs, academic abilities, personalities, gender, friendship groups, learning needs and work habits.

# PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

Other factors that impact class arrangements are school enrolments (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.

## Year 5 Leadership Development

Last week our Year 5 students participated in a Leadership Camp in preparation for selecting our student leaders for 2023. Since then, our year 5 students have stepped-up to support the Kinder Transition Session today where they lead tours and presented information about different spaces in the school. Soon they will be paired with a Kinder 2023 student as their buddy for next year.

It has also been encouraging to already have very healthy number of Year 5 students respond positively to the leadership opportunity by nominating themselves for the badged leader roles for 2023. Next week these Year 5 students will present a short speech to their classmates, class teachers and me to select the 5 girls and 5 boys to be put forward as possible School Leaders for 2023. We wish all candidates the best of luck.

I look forward to an exciting Term 4 with many things to come.

God Bless you and your families  
Todd Vane-Tempest  
Principal



## Upcoming Dates

Thursday 17th November - Kindy 2023 Transition 2  
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.*

Christmas hampers are a beautiful gift. They are given to individuals and families who have called upon the help of the St Vincent de Paul Society. Vinnies is committed to making Christmas a time to renew hope. This year if you are interested in helping out there are a few different ways in which you and your family could do this. This year we will be supporting the Asquith Conference of St Vincent de Paul by providing hampers of Christmas goodies. Each class will be making a hamper containing the following items if you are able to donate please send items into school by Friday 21st November. Hampers will be collected by a representative from St Vincent de Paul on Monday 28th November.

- Lollies (no chocolate)
- Christmas cake or pudding
- Packet of Pasta
- Couscous or rice
- Tin of Tuna
- Long Life Milk
- Gravy Mix
- Long Life Custard
- Jar of Jam or vegemite
- Jar of Pasta Sauce
- Tin of Ham
- Tea Bags
- Tinned fruit
- Soup
- Jelly Crystals
- Sweet Biscuits
- Savoury Biscuits
- Tinned vegetables
- Jar of Coffee
- Cereal
- Christmas Decorations

## World Mission Month and Socktober

Thank you to the Year 6 Students for running a fabulously fun day for Catholic Mission for Socktober. We raised \$217 which will go towards Catholic Missions projects in Ethiopia.

## Remembrance Day Liturgy

Tomorrow Year 5 will lead us in a short liturgy for Remembrance day. At this liturgy students will wear the poppies created for us by Mrs Knowles and we now have a beautiful Remembrance day wreath made of crochet poppies that we can use. Thank you Mrs Knowles for this generous gift. Thank you to Year 5 and your teachers for preparing this prayer. Thank you also to the Band who will play the National Anthem and to Andrew for playing the Last Post.



Kylie Lloyd-Jones  
REC

## Upcoming Dates

Friday 11th November - Remembrance Day

Friday 21st November - Last day for St Vincent De Paul Hamper Items

Living out our  
challenge for  
discipleship



"Never stop  
learning because  
life never stops  
teaching"  
-Unknown

# PASTORAL CARE FOCUS

Term 4 Weeks 5-6

We are respectful learners who  
learn and let others learn.

## Why is it important to develop this skill?

We are hitting the middle of Term 4 already! We will start to feel like we are on the downhill towards the end of the year, but it is timely to remind children that there is still so much opportunity for learning to occur over these last 6 weeks.

It is important to remember that all children have the right to an education. Children also have a responsibility to both their own learning and to allow the learning of others, through their actions.

Things we can encourage our students to do:

- Stay on task - work with others that allow them to do their best
- Be active listeners
- Work well independently, in partners, groups
- Be prepared for learning - bring everything they need for their day to school
- Cooperate well with others

## Learn your best!



Establish some good homework  
routines for independent  
learning.

Read at home with a parent each night or  
when possible.

Get older siblings to teach  
younger siblings new concepts.

## How can you help develop this at home?

Tell your child something new  
about your life they might not  
know or teach them about a new  
concept they are interested in.

Develop time management skills to  
complete tasks around the house in  
accordance with other commitments.

# P&F

## Parents and Friends News

### Fete 2022

The P&F would like to thank everyone for their assistance and participation in St Patrick's 2022 Fete. It was a wonderful day and we were blessed with amazing weather. So many have commented to me on the genuine sense of community spirit and the happiness for all those who attended, most importantly for the children. .

The day was due to the efforts of many but I would like to thank the Fete organising team and in particular Belinda Wickham, Marcella Frutschi and Candi Fernando who did so much work to make the day come together. If it wasn't for these three the fete would not have happened. Others on the team were Eileen He, Gosia Kopec, Stina Rossi, Fiona Heydon, Pia Scott and Nick Ward.

Also thanks to all the stall holders and Fete day announcers who put in a huge effort to make their stalls come together and for the many volunteers who did their bit on the day or in the lead up. It was a true team effort. I also acknowledge the support of Mr Vane-Tempest, the teachers and office staff who helped out on the chocolate wheel and with other tasks. It was so nice to be back together and we are grateful for the success of the day.

Due to the generosity of parents and our sponsors (please remember to support these local businesses) we are able to make a donation of \$18,719 to the school. This year's fete was a community event and not focused on fund raising but it is great we were able to also be so successful financially. We are currently looking at how we will spend this money and have a final list for announcement at the P&F AGM on Monday 5 December at 7.30pm in the school hall.

Due to the success of the fete we were able to reduce the price of the student disco recognising the effort of all the school community in contributing to the fete. We were also able to provide a lunch for our teachers on Friday 28 October as part of World Teachers Day.

### P&F 2023

As we are now beginning to get back to more social gathering the opportunity for more community events will be available next year. Would you like to be a part of organising social events, continuing to grow 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.

### P&F AGM for 2022

The P&F AGM will be on Monday 5 December at 7.30 in the school hall. Come along and find out what is planned for next year and how things went with all our teams this year.

David De-Fina

## Student Achievements

Natalia S advanced to the Gold band at the Gymnastics State Championship and her team came 2nd. She is very excited and proud of her achievement



# St Vincent de Paul



St Vincent de Paul Society  
*good works*

Vinnies NSW are currently looking for volunteers 18+ years for our Vinnies Support Centres. Vinnies Support Centres are client-centred support and referral services operated by the St Vincent de Paul Society. They offer face to face support to those in the community who require financial, food or material assistance. The support teams work with our clients to offer the best possible assistance for their needs and connect them to the Society's Conference home visitation teams or Vinnies' Services.

As a Vinnies Support Centre volunteer, you will assist staff with providing advocacy, referrals and support to clients navigating the appropriate services. Vinnies have a number of volunteer roles available including administration & reception support, assisting with client interview rosters, data entry and helping out with ad hoc duties as requested.

Vinnies Support Centres offer a friendly and supportive team environment, flexible volunteer hours (school hours available) and the opportunity to learn a variety of skills. Significantly, your volunteer contribution will make a tangible difference to the lives of those in your community.

If you are interested in hearing more about volunteering in a Vinnies Support Centre, or helping out in a volunteer capacity elsewhere, please contact the Volunteer Experience Team at [volunteers@vinnies.org.au](mailto:volunteers@vinnies.org.au)

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Want to assist Vinnies but time poor? Keen to volunteer but need to be there for the kids? Vinnies NSW are currently looking at what we can offer in terms of increased flexibility around volunteering. Covid 19 has encouraged many of us to reassess our priorities including where we spend our valuable time. The historical volunteer model of committing to a regular weekly time slot no longer suits our busy lifestyles.

The Volunteer Experience Team at Vinnies are looking to create a mailing list of volunteers who would be happy to volunteer on an ad hoc basis. Volunteer tasks may range from assisting packing Christmas hampers at a Vinnies centre for a few hours to committing to sharing a Vinnies Campaign via social media once a month. Once placed on our 'Vinnies Support Volunteer Crew' mailing list, you will be contacted once a month via email to inform you of upcoming ad hoc opportunities. To be placed on our mailing list and become a part of our valued Vinnies Support Volunteer Crew please email [volunteers@vinnies.org.au](mailto:volunteers@vinnies.org.au)

We thank you wholeheartedly for your contribution

## From the Parish

Parish Children's Choir Congratulations to Stage Two students on a wonderful Family Mass last Sunday! We were so happy to have some talented singers join us from Year 3 and Year 4, and we would love to welcome them and any other keen young singers into the Choir. It's very easy to join: just come along to practice, on Fridays at 4 to 5pm in the church. After school care people are happy to drop students off and pick them up again after practice. We'd love to have you, even this late in the year. The Choir sings at 10am Mass on 2nd and 4th Sundays each month except January. We practise every Friday from 4 to 5pm in the church. If you'd like any further information contact Patricia Smith 9482 7935



**SIGN UP TODAY**



**Play Cricket**

## **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)**



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