

THURSDAY 23rd FEBRUARY 2023



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

E: spa@dbb.catholic.edu.au

Parish Clergy

Fr Joy Thomas OSH
Assistant Priest of the Parish

Weekend Mass Times

St Patrick's Asquith	St Bernard's Berowra Heights
Saturday Vigil 6pm	Saturday Vigil 5pm
Sunday 8am, 10am, 6pm	Sunday 9am

We recognise the Traditional Owners of the land of Hornsby Shire, the Darug and Guringai peoples, and pay respect to their Ancestors and Elders past and present.



PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

Dear Parents and Carers, Girls and Boys,

Yesterday we celebrated Ash Wednesday Mass with all our students attending. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Lenten Season which traditionally is a time of personal reflection and renewal. We are challenged to let God play a large part in our lives through the actions of Lenten traditions of prayer, almsgiving and fasting. This is a great opportunity for parents to speak to their children about the traditions of the Lenten Season as a time for reflection and renewal through prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

We also raised awareness of our annual fundraiser to support people and communities in need through Project Compassion. Each year, Project Compassion comes as a timely reminder of the importance of unity and how a single act of kindness – whether big or small, can make a life-changing impact in the lives of those who need it most.

Commitment to Continual Improvement in Learning and Teaching

Our diocese has committed to building a strong culture of improvement focused on teaching and learning. This will be supported by a continuous improvement system where school improvement is aligned to curriculum and assessment planning approaches. The work of school leaders and teachers will be supported by performance and development processes.

Importantly, CSBB has supported all schools in the diocese with additional funding so that school leaders and teachers can meet consistently each week to assess, review, evaluate and plan for learning success. This process has already begun at St. Patrick's with Mrs Huggins meeting with class teachers to begin the process of establishing baseline data for student learning across all classrooms. We are looking forward to establishing this initiative and believe it will have a positive impact on student learning.

PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

New Curriculum- InitialLit Program

The school through Catholic Schools Broken Bay has invested significant time and funding to support teachers to learn about and implement the new school curriculum for English and Mathematics. Part of our response to implementing the new K-2 English syllabus has been the introduction of the InitialLit program in K-2. It is a literacy program for all children in the first years of school to ensure that all children get off to the best possible start. It has been developed by MultiLit, a research-based initiative of Macquarie University.

Later this term the school will facilitate an information session for all K-2 parents about the Initial-lit program, with particular emphasis on reading and phonemic awareness. Please stay tuned for more information on this agenda.

Pastoral Care Behaviour Focus – Right Place, Right Time, Right Task

Each fortnight the school has a particular behaviour focus that is highlighted through discussions and lessons in class. The broad aim is to have a positive impact in achieving our school values of being safe, responsible learners.

Parents are encouraged to support these fortnightly focuses by adopting them at home. Using the same language at school and home gives a consistent message and I also hope helps families keep routines and expectations at home as well.

This fortnight we are focusing on being in the right place at the right time doing the right task. I am sure parents can use this phrase effectively each day as we do at school.

P&F BBQ

I am very thankful for the wonderful supportive parent community we have at St. Patrick's Asquith. This is particularly true for our P&F committee members who meet regularly to discuss, organise, support and facilitate school events and initiatives. It is a strong partnership, that also relies on the support of the entire school parent community. With this continued commitment, I look forward to another successful year in 2023.

One of my favourite annual community events is the P&F Welcome BBQ that is scheduled for Friday 3rd March from 5pm. The BBQ is traditionally well attended by families in our school community and is a great opportunity for families to reconnect in a relaxed social setting after the summer holiday break. We look forward to enjoying a sausage sizzle, jumping castle for the kids, Zumba dancing and drumming.

Playgroup

Playgroup will be returning on Monday 27th February (Week 5) and will continue to run during the school term every Monday from 9-10:30am in our Parish Meeting Room. Playgroup offers a creative and nurturing environment and provides opportunities for unstructured play and story time for children up to the age of 5 years. It is a wonderful chance for pre-schoolers to get a feel of 'big school', and parents to find support. Parents can register their interest via the link: <https://forms.gle/RWhA6ivfaPw4oPNMA> . We look forward to seeing you there.

God bless you and your families.

Todd Vane-Tempest
Principal

Dates to Remember

Monday 27th February - Playgroup starts - 9.30 - 10am
Tuesday 28th February - Subway special lunch order day
Friday 3rd March - P & F Welcome BBQ - 5.00pm
Wednesday 15th March - Naplan Begins
Friday 17th March - St Patrick's Feast Day Mass
Wednesday 22nd March - School Cross Country
Thursday 23rd March - School Photos
Friday 31st March - Easter Hat Parade -K, 1 & 2
Thursday 6th April - Holy Thursday & End of Term 1