



# St Patrick's Catholic Primary School

Royston Parade Asquith 2077

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## Parish Clergy

Fr Joy Thomas OSH  
Assistant Priest 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

*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,

This week, I sent out a letter to parents announcing the start of the School Refurbishment Project in a few weeks' time. Although the temporary classroom was due at school today, it is now scheduled to arrive next week. This false start is a reminder that we will need to be patient while this work is done and sometimes schedules will be delayed.

The completion of each new stage will signal a step closer to the completed works. Fortunately, a large amount of work is scheduled for the school holiday period and we are hopeful that when the children return to school next year the first stage will be close to completion.

### School Disco!

Thank you to Wendy and the team who organised and facilitated the Annual School Disco. There were two very energetic sessions of dancing, singing, games, prizes and bubbles led by DJ Andy. The event was well supported by our community and the children had a blast!

### Kinder Transition Sessions

We had another successful transition session yesterday for our Kinder 2024. Again, our Year 5 students demonstrated great leadership with their enthusiastic support while caring for their new buddies. We look forward to our last session next week.

### Semester 2 School Reports

The class teachers are busily writing the Semester 2 Reports which will be available through your COMPASS App later in the term. This semester report will provide information on your child's achievement in the various curriculum areas and their learning dispositions for Term 3 and Term 4. Parents are encouraged to contact the office if you would like to discuss the report with your child's teacher.

### Class Arrangements for 2024

At this time of year, a few parents may approach the school 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 2024 and teacher and class allocation are still being decided.

criteria for children who are selected to be in a stage class.

# PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

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.

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.

Often at St. Patrick's, the establishment of stage classes across two grades due to enrolment numbers is inevitable. As the classes in a stage group are taught the same topics and syllabus outcomes over two years, we can combine these groups without changing or impacting the learning required. There are no special

## Year 5 Leadership Opportunities

Today some of our Year 5 students put themselves forward to be selected by Years 2-5 to be school captain in 2024. It was wonderful to witness these Year 5 students present quality speeches for their peers to consider. I acknowledge and congratulate Thomas H, Liam D, Grant D, Luke M, Gabby D, Emma C, Lucy H, Charley B, Talita M and Mia N for their selection as candidates for school captain and for their excellent speeches they delivered. Next week we are scheduled to select our Colour House captains for 2024. All selected badged leaders will be announced at our Leadership Assembly on Friday of Week 8.

## School Christmas Concert

We are all looking forward to the school Christmas Concert on Friday 8th December. It should be a fun evening for all families to get involved with as we celebrate together. This year our talented music teacher Mrs Pugsley along with the teachers are preparing each class to tell part of the Christmas story through song and movement. Additionally, each grade will sing a few traditional Christmas Carols with the support of the school choir.

Unfortunately, our sausage sizzle won't go ahead as planned due to new Food Safety Standard Guidelines provided by Hornsby Shire Council. These guidelines require specialised training and possibly upgraded equipment for the school to use in certain food handling situations. Instead, parents are encouraged to bring along a picnic dinner that can be enjoyed prior to the concert on the grassed area outside the auditorium. We are also looking to provide some snacks and drinks for sale before the Christmas Concert.

There is a flyer attached to promote the evening with:

- Gates opening around 5pm.
- Families to enjoy a picnic dinner and members of the band busking.
- Concert will begin at 6pm with class groups and choir singing Christmas Carols.
- Presentation to St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal
- Acknowledgement and Good Wishes to Leaving Families
- Christmas Concert- each class presents part of the Christmas Story in song and movement. There will be a finale involving every student.

## P&F News

Christmas Wreath Making Workshop - 10 December

Paddy's Care Group have organised a Christmas Wreath Making Workshop with an experienced florist. Tamara from Melia Rose Designs, will lead this 2 hour workshop. You will leave with your own beautiful fresh Australian natives wreath to hang in your home (flowers will dry beautifully over a 6 week period). Recommended age for the workshop is 16 years+, but there will be a craft table for children 5 years+ where they can make their own Christmas decorations. Make a booking on QKR now! \$90 per person for the workshop, and \$15 per child for decoration making. Afternoon tea provided. Sunday 10 December | 2 - 4pm. Registrations close on 17 November.

God bless,  
Todd Vane-Tempest  
Principal

Thursday 23rd November - Kinder 2024 Transition Session 3  
Thursday 7th December -Year 6 Graduation  
Friday 8th December -Christmas Concert performance  
Monday 11th December - Year 6 Celebration Day - Moving Bodies Wednesday 13th  
December -End of year whole school Mass & Guard of Honour ( Yr 6 last day)  
Thursday 14th December -Last day of school for students (K-5)  
Friday 15th December - Staff Development Day (Pupil Free Day) Term 1 - 2024  
Tuesday 30th January - Staff Development Day (Pupil Free Day)  
Wednesday 31st January - Year 1-6 Students return to school  
Friday 2nd February - Kindergarten Start School