



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 has been a remarkable year for our school, and I am very proud of what we have achieved together. This has been especially true with culmination of the successes in recent days with a wonderful Year 6 Graduation, an amazing Christmas Concert and finishing with the End of Year Celebration Mass.

I acknowledge and thank Fr. Joy and Fr. Biju. They are a constant source of strength, support and guidance for our school and parish community.

I acknowledge our amazing staff, who have gone above and beyond to provide quality education and support to our students to achieve their best in 2023. I am very grateful for your dedication and professionalism. I again want to acknowledge and thank some of our staff who are leaving St. Patrick's this year, Mrs Jessica Maleszka, Mrs Simone Hayward, Miss Donna Tran as well as Mrs Michelle Stewart who kept our school running while Mrs Taylor was on leave. Thank you, for your efforts this year to make our school a better place.

Thank you to our wonderful, hard-working and supportive parents, who have been our partners in education. You have supported your children's learning, supported and shown great appreciation to our staff, and constantly volunteered in various events and initiatives to support the school community to thrive.

I also celebrate our fantastic students, who are always the shining stars of our school. You have shown curiosity, enthusiasm, and passion for learning. You have also demonstrated kindness, respect, and responsibility towards others. You have taken on challenges and created opportunities this year, and you have grown in so many ways. That makes our school a school a great place to be.

On this, our last day for students in 2023, I wish everyone a safe, happy and holy Christmas. Enjoy some much-needed downtime with family and friends. Below is a list of Christmas Masses here in our Ku-Ring-Gai Chase Catholic Parish. I urge our families to come to Mass over Christmas to celebrate as a family. I pray the peace and joy of the newborn Jesus gives all our families hope for the New Year and holidays.

PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS



'Keep Christ in Christmas'

CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION TIMES

2ND RITE ~ Tuesday 19 December ~ 7.30pm

St Bernard's, Berowra Heights

1ST RITE ~ unchanged ~ see left hand column for details

CHRISTMAS-MASS TIMES:

Christmas Eve - Sunday 24 December

5pm St Bernard's Vigil Mass (Outdoor in school grounds with Carols and Sausage Sizzle ~ bring a chair/rug).

6pm St Patrick's Vigil Mass
(Children may dress up as Angels & Shepherds etc)

9pm St Patrick's Youth Vigil Mass

Christmas Day - Monday 25 December

12 am St Patrick's 'Midnight' Mass

8am St Patrick's Mass

10am St Patrick's Mass

9am St Bernard's Mass

NB: **NO evening Mass Christmas Day**

🎄 A Spectacular Primary School Christmas Concert! 🎄

Last week our talented students took centre stage in a hugely successful Christmas concert that was full of fun and Christmas spirit while celebrating the Christmas story through song and movement. It was a wonderful community event that was well supported by parents, grandparents, aunties, uncles and family friends.

A big thank you to all the children for their efforts to prepare and perform so incredibly well even through the heat of the day and during the concert. We are very proud of your commitment and energy to do your best. Well done! I also acknowledge and thank Mrs Teaghan Pugsley and Mrs Kylie Lloyd-Jones for leading the initiative from start to finish with the strong support of all the staff.

Thanks also to parents for supporting with the simple costumes needed for each grade, to our band and choir.

It was a collective effort that was met with cheering and applause especially after an amazing finale left the audience wanting to see and hear more.

Well done to everyone involved for making this Christmas concert a memorable event as the magic of the season was alive and well. 🎁🎁

Year 6 Celebrations

Our Year 6 students celebrated their graduation last Thursday evening with mass and a graduation supper and presentation. It was a great way to celebrate the achievements during their time at St. Patrick's. Some Year 6 children were acknowledged for their sporting, academic and community building achievements as was the strong commitment of our 2023 School Captains.

During the End of Year Mass, the Year 6 children also received a special blessing from their Kinder buddies. This is a wonderful tradition that returns the blessing that our Year 6 students gave their buddies at the beginning of the year. Following the mass, we completed their time at St. Patrick's with the traditional guard of honour. It was a wonderful occasion to acknowledge and wish our leaving students and their families, (some after long and strong contribution to our school), every happiness as they go onto new beginnings.

PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

Building Works

Staff have been busily packing up their classrooms in readiness to relocate rooms for the new building works to take place in coming weeks. The school site will be closed for the entire school holiday period as the building works begin in earnest. Only workers contracted by the building company will be able to access the school site during this time. Work will be carried out around the school grounds to significantly improve the water flow and drainage from the school grounds to eliminate flooding concerns. The entire top floor of Block A- Library and Stage 3 classrooms will have a new fitout with these rooms becoming available early to mid-term. I ask for everyone's patience while these works are carried out over the next 12 months.

Key Dates for Kindergarten in 2024

Kindergarten Best Start Assessment: Wednesday 31st January and Thursday 1st February 2024. From Friday 2nd February 2024, Kindergarten students will commence full day school attendance with a slightly earlier pick-up from 2:40pm to support the establishment of the pick-up routine.

School Swimming Carnival 2024

Recently, parents received an online form (information & permission note) for the Annual School Swimming Carnival scheduled for Week 1 Friday 2nd February 2024. I ask that this form be completed as soon as possible so that the organisation of the carnival can be completed before the end of this school year.

We usually hold the K-2 Water Fun Day on the same day as our School Swimming Carnival. However, as the first Friday of the Term 1 next year is also the first full day of attendance for our new Kindergarten students we will postpone the annual K-2 Water fun Day to a later date.

God bless,

Todd Vane-Tempest

Principal



Dates to Remember

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

Friday 2nd February - School Swimming carnival Yr 3- 6