

# St Patrick's Catholic Primary School

Royston Parade Asquith 2077

P O Box 3021 Asquith 2077

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## Parish Clergy

Rev Dr Biju Jose, OSH

Parish Priest

Fr Joy Thomas OSH

St Patrick's Asquith

Saturday Vigil 6pm

Sunday 8am, 10am, 6pm

## Weekend Mass Times

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.*



## From the Principal

### Dear Parents and Carers,

It was great to see the smiling faces of the Kinder children as they started their first full day of attendance at St. Patrick's last Friday. The children have settled in remarkably well and I thank parents for supporting us and our Kinder teachers for enabling such a positive start.

Thank you also to our parent volunteers who provided boundless support by welcoming our new Kinder parents on Friday morning with a friendly smile and a cuppa. This was a lovely opportunity to show our new families first hand the spirit and support which is so evident in our community.

As we embark on the year ahead, I pray we work closely together between school and home to support one another and ultimately the children who are the reason we are all here. Undoubtedly the year ahead will provide both exciting moments, but also a few challenges. How we manage each of these moments will reflect directly in the messages we send our children and support them more broadly.

### Welcome New Families

I sincerely welcome all our new families in 2023. It's always wonderful to see new faces amongst the children and parents joining St Patrick's Asquith for the first time. I encourage our existing families to extend a smile and welcome when crossing paths.

We welcome the following new families to St Patrick's: The Baica, Bindra, Burke, Campton, Chaudhary's, Cheah, De Mel, Dolan-Spencer, Figueroa, Guiang, Guthrie, Jivar, Kalra, Lee, Lin, Lu, Mahony, Mathew, Mehndiratta, Motycka, Pokhrel, Renard, Sanin Tirado, Satyanarayana, Sazmand, Shrestha, Singh, Watson, Zhou.

### School Mass

Today we celebrated our Opening School Mass to welcome the new school year. The mass provides our whole school community the opportunity to thank God for all our blessings and ask for his grace and guidance for the coming year.

At the mass Fr. Joy set our community a challenge to live out the Gospel message and share the blessings God has given us with others by being kind and generous to those in need. It is a simple but powerful message for all of us to seek to achieve.

I always look forward to witnessing the traditional Year 6 blessing of our new Kindergarten children that is celebrated at the mass. It has a great significance in the school's traditions and is such a lovely way to welcome our youngest students to our school community.

We also acknowledge and bless the Year 6 students and have the parents or family representatives of our school captains and sports captains proudly present them their badges.

# PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

## Communication Methods & Protocols

Communication is an important and crucial aspect to our work as partners. Each year the communication protocols are provided to the community to support that vital partnership between home and school. The school values strong and respectful communication and when we get this right, the children are best supported.

If you wish to speak to a teacher:

- You can make contact through the school office staff by phone, via email or in person. The office staff will pass this message onto the teacher concerned. The teacher will either confirm an appointment, or phone to talk within a reasonable timeframe (usually 24 to 48 hours or the following Monday if contact is made on a Friday). Often a return call might come earlier, but for practical reasons, at least one day's grace is required.

If it is a matter to be conveyed in writing:

- Please either send a note to the teacher/staff member or an email to the front office.  
- Emails will be forwarded to the teacher within normal hours and in a timely way. If confidential, please send as an attachment and mark as confidential. The school email address is: [spa@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:spa@dbb.catholic.edu.au)  
- **I ask that parents don't email teachers/staff directly. Emails received late at night or on weekends can impact on a staff member's personal and family situations and add to their stresses, especially if the matter is emotive or subjective.** Also, if a staff member is on leave, delays in response can result.

I thank all parents in advance for adhering to and respecting these protocols and for your continued support.

## Parent Information Meetings

Parent Information Meetings will take place next week on Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th February. This year we ask parents to attend in person at school (in classrooms).

The times for the sessions are:

Tuesday 13th February	Wednesday 14th February
5.30pm Kindergarten	5.30pm Years 1 & 2
	6.00pm Years 3 & 4
	6.30pm Years 5 & 6

The purpose of these meetings is to provide an opportunity at the start of the school year for parents and carers to collectively meet their child's teacher. It will also allow teachers to provide information to parents and carers about class, grade and school routines and expectations, curriculum topics and planned events.

These meetings are not meant for individual parent meetings. Parents who have important information they wish to communicate to their child's class teacher are encouraged to make an appointment through the school office or communicate information via an email to the school office to be passed on to the class teacher.

## Parking, Morning Drop Off and Afternoon Pickup

This week I outlined the procedures for the morning and afternoon drop off and dismissal routines. Thank you to parents who are mindful of driving slowly, using the pedestrian crossing and being vigilant with their young ones. I encourage parents using drive through to have the family name card on display to assist with calling children to be ready for pick up.

Name cards for new families will be sent home soon. Any parents requiring a replacement family name card are asked to contact the school office.

Safety is highly valued in our school community. Please remember to stay in your car when dropping off or picking up in the 'No Parking Zone' at the front of the school. When parents leave their vehicle to assist their child it slows the process down significantly and causes frustration.

I ask as a community we remain patient, keep calm and follow the protocols so that safety is maintained.

# PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

## Swimming Carnival

The carnival was an overwhelming successful event thanks to the efforts of parents and teachers. I particularly thank Mr Barlow for his efforts to organise and facilitate a great carnival. I commend the wonderful efforts of the children who participated with enthusiasm and good spirits in the events but also supported each other to take on a challenge and do their best. This year the participation rate was high with many children competing in swimming races and novelty events. The overall point score, spirit and age champion winners will be announced and presented at next week's Monday morning assembly.

## Monday and Friday Assemblies

Our main assemblies each week occur on Monday and Friday mornings. Each Monday we pray (school prayer), acknowledge the traditional owners of the local area, raise the flag and sing the national anthem, celebrate birthdays and acknowledge students with behaviour awards. At Friday assemblies we acknowledge selected children for the week who have gained a merit or pastoral care award.

Although many parents need to drop students at school each morning and then begin their day I invite and encourage parents to consider joining us for a morning assembly from time to time.

## Staff Development Day

Each year our staff have days set aside during the school year for professional learning opportunities. The school has planned a Staff Development Day for the last day of Term 1, Friday 12th April. As a result, this day will be a student free day. Supervision may be offered by our wonderful Before and After School provider, Royston Kid's, depending on numbers to make it financially viable.

God bless,

Todd Vane-Tempest

Principal

## Kuringai-Chase Parish

Parents are encouraged to click on the link to connect with all the current information regarding the parish through parish website including the weekly Parish Bulletin. [Link- Parish Bulletin](#)

From the Choir:

Parish Children's Choir is beginning this very Friday, 9th February, with practice at 4 to 5pm in the church, and Mass at 10am on Sunday. The Choir is a parish initiative, open to any young person in the parish from Year 3 up to the end of high school. It's a way for young people to really participate in their parish, and give back to their community while doing what they love to do: sing! We practise every Friday during school terms from 4 to 5pm, and we sing at 10am Mass on 2nd and 4th Sundays every month. It's a really worthwhile commitment, being part of a group that is very much loved and appreciated by the whole parish. If you'd like to join, come along to any practice and complete a registration form and start singing! You don't need to be a great singer, just be prepared to learn. If you need any more information, contact Patricia Smith (director) 9482 7935

### Dates to Remember

#### Term 1 - 2024

Tuesday 13th February - Pancake Day  
Tuesday 13th February - Kinder Parent Information Session 5.30pm  
Wednesday 14th February - Parent Information Session for Year 1-6 from 5.30pm  
Wednesday 14th February - Ash Wednesday Mass 9.30am (Yr3-6)  
Monday 18th March - St. Patrick's Feast Day Mass  
Wed 20th March - School Cross-country  
Thursday 28th March - Holy Thursday  
Friday 29th March - Good Friday  
Monday 1st April - Easter Monday  
Monday 8th - Wednesday 10th April- Stage 3 Bathurst Excursion  
Thursday 11th April - School Photos  
Friday 12th April - Last day term 1 - Pupil Free Day

### ST. PATRICK'S WEEKEND MASSES

SAT	6PM
SUN	8AM
SUN	10AM
SUN	6PM

# Religious Education

**Pancake Tuesday and Project Compassion:** We are launching our support for Caritas Project Compassion Appeal with Pancake Day on Tuesday 13th March, Make sure you order your Pancakes through QKR . Orders must be in by Tomorrow, Friday 9th February.



**Ash Wednesday and Lent :** Next Wednesday 14th February is Ash Wednesday, which begins the season of Lent. Lent is an important time in the Church year where we pray, fast and give. Years 3-6 will attend Mass at 9:30 on Ash Wednesday. Years K-2 will hold a special liturgy in the classroom to reflect on how they might pray, fast and give during Lent so that they may grow closer to God.

## Lent

Ash Wednesday

### Lent Begins

Reminds us of our call to repent and believe in the Gospels.



### 40 Days

The season of Lent lasts 40 days (not counting Sundays) and represents the 40 days that Jesus spent in the desert. This is a time of reflection, repentance and growing closer to God. We are asked to pray, fast and give to help prepare our hearts for Jesus at Easter

Palm Sunday

Commemorates Jesus' triumphant entry into the city of Jerusalem.



### Pray

Prayer is our conversation with God. During Lent we should take more opportunities to talk with God and listen for what he has to say to us through the scriptures.



Holy Thursday

Celebrates the Last Supper with the disciples and passover.



### Fast

What can we give up during Lent so as to grow closer to God. Perhaps we go without our favourite treats or stop playing video games and instead use that time to help someone.



Good Friday

We remember the Passion and Jesus' sacrifice on the cross



### Give

Giving is the ways that we are able to support others especially those less fortunate than us. It may be through donations to Project Compassion or by giving of our time.



## DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

*In the words of Pope Francis*

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

## Up Coming Events

Wednesday 14th February- Ash Wednesday Mass Year 3-6 9:30am

# Religious Education

**The Dish:** We are proud to be able to support The Dish again this year. The Dish is an important part of the local community supporting disadvantaged people in the Hornsby area through food and friendship. It serves a hot meal to over 40 people, distributes fresh food from local businesses that would otherwise go to waste and operates a food bank.

We have been rostered onto The Dish for the following dates:

Term 1 Week 8 Tuesday 26th March

Term 2 Week 1 Tuesday 30th April

Term 3 Week 9 Tuesday 17th September

Term 4 Week 9 Tuesday 10th December



On each occasion volunteers from St Patrick's cook a meal such as curry and rice, pasta bake, zucchini slice and salad. The beautiful St Patrick children in the Mercy Action Group help to prepare a dessert to take. Last year we were also able to take along generous donations of fruit or fruit salad (very popular) as well as tea, coffee and long life milk.

if you are able to support The Dish, even just once this year please complete [this form](#). Thank you for your generosity.

**Sacramental Program:** For students in Year 4 and above who have made their Confirmation and wish to continue to make their Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion there will be a compulsory Parent Information Evening for the sacraments on **Tuesday 13 February** (7.30-8.30pm) at St Bernards Berowra. At least one parent must attend this meeting.

Reconciliation will be held either Wednesday 20th March (Asquith) or Thursday 21st March (Berowra) First Eucharist will be held on Sunday 2 June.

For more information about the Parish Sacramental program please see the [Parish Website](#) or email the sacramental coordinators at [kccpsacraments@gmail.com](mailto:kccpsacraments@gmail.com)



The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, which also marks the beginning of the annual Caritas Australia Project Compassion Appeal. Donations to Project Compassion allow Caritas Australia, the Catholic Agency for International Aid and Development, to work with local communities around the world to end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity.



Please give generously to Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help vulnerable people around the world, now and for all future generations.

With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to assist communities around the world through income generation, water and sanitation, food security, education and disaster risk reduction programs.

Project Compassion 2024 reminds us that the good we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and online by visiting [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) or by calling 1800 024 413.



Living out our  
challenge for  
discipleship



"Respect yourself  
and others will  
respect you"

- Confucious

# PASTORAL CARE FOCUS

Term 1 Weeks 1 and 2

We are respectful learners who take  
pride in their appearance.

## Why is it important to develop this skill?

Welcome back to a new school year! This fortnight as we head into the school year we are assessing what it means to wear our school uniform with pride. It is an important reminder for your children to remember to LABEL ALL their clothing so it can be returned to you directly (particularly reused uniforms with previous names of students: please cross out and relabel). We understand the cost and we need to encourage the students to take ownership of the care of such items. Also, it is important to remind students to be wearing their hats in the playground. We love our school and wearing our uniform with pride shows how much we respect ourselves and the school.

This year classes will be presenting a focus each fortnight on the second week of the focus, starting with 3 Green next week. Come along to Monday morning assembly to hear all about it!

## Wearing our uniform with pride



Label all your uniform items.

Set up good hygiene and  
grooming practices

Encourage to put jackets and  
jumpers in their school bags  
when they are hot.

## How can you help develop this at home?

Have students take  
responsibility for their clothing  
at home - tidying, washing etc

Encouraging your child to bring  
their hat and wear their hat at  
school each day.

Take care and be kind to yourselves,  
Hannah Fryar  
Wellbeing and Sports Coordinator



# St Pat's Uniform Shop

**Open Mondays  
and  
Wednesdays  
8:30-9am**

Welcome back to another school year!

The uniform shop will be open on Mondays and  
Wednesdays 8.30am till 9am for:

- purchasing second hand items
- trying new uniform for sizing
- purchasing new uniform

All in-person purchases new and secondhand will be  
processed via the Qkr! app. EFTPOS available. No cash!

All new uniform ordered via the Qkr! app will be delivered  
to your child's classroom. Orders submitted by Sunday  
4pm will be delivered on Monday. Orders submitted by  
4pm on Tuesday will be delivered on Wednesday.

Please remember to update your child's new class for  
2024 on the Qkr! app.

**Edlyn L and Michelle B**

Uniform shop volunteers  
stpatuniformshop@gmail.com



# O'Grady DRAMA ACADEMY

**“Act, Create,  
Communicate”**

## **“Drama develops kids!”**

### WHY DO DRAMA?

Drama helps to increase your confidence, self-esteem & verbal communication. You will then feel comfortable talking to your friends and grown-ups and when asked to present news or public speaking at school.

Drama is loads of fun & will enable you to stand up, make good eye contact & be heard.

## **Enrolling 2024**

Venue

**St. John's Asquith**

**6 Royston Parade, Asquith** Opposite St. Patrick's



For further information on drama classes please call

**Louise Gardiner**

**Ph: 9875 3139**

**M: 0410 700 272**

Email: [louise.drama@gmail.com](mailto:louise.drama@gmail.com)



# Become an Asquith Magpie

Register By  
29th Feb

Only **\$100**

- Boys and Girls
- u6's League Tag
- u7's Tackle Ready
- u8/9's Mini
- u10/12's Mod football
- u12/14/16 Girls Tag



**Registration includes – full playing kit,  
– Training Shirt  
– Team photo**

**HORNSBY LIONS**



**Play netball in 2024  
with the Hornsby Lions!**

**New players welcome**

Early bird discount available until 15 January 2024

The club trains at Montview Oval  
and plays at Pennant Hills Park,  
as part of the Hills District Netball Association.



Welcome to Hornsby Lions Netball

Hornsby Lions is a family friendly netball club that seeks to provide a fair, fun, inclusive and respectful environment. We welcome new members and aim to encourage our players to keep enjoying the game of netball.

We're a not-for-profit, community netball club based in Hornsby. We're part of the Hills District Netball Association and we train in Hornsby Heights and play at Pennant Hills.

Registrations for the 2024 Winter Competition will open on 1 December 2023.



Registrations close  
16 February 2024

Visit our website:

[www.hornsbylionsnetball.com.au](http://www.hornsbylionsnetball.com.au)

PROUDLY  
SPONSORED BY



HORNSBY  
RSL CLUB

## REGISTER WITH ASQUITH FC TODAY!

Get a group of friends together to play  
with The Friendly Club or  
register as an individual and we will  
include you in a team to make new friends

Asquith FC caters for all skill levels from beginner to Academy  
with Junior and Youth teams available in all ages from U6 - U18.

Visit our website for the  
Lowest Fees in the Area



**GIRLS JUST  
WANNA HAVE FUN  
- WITH THEIR FRIENDS!**

**Join the Friendly Club**

All new U8-U18 female registrations receive a  
\$50 rebel voucher. Conditions apply.

Sapphires (U6-U11) • Girl's Youth (U12-U18)  
Women's All Age • Women's O30/O45



*The Friendly Club*

For further information  
[registrar@asquithsc.org.au](mailto:registrar@asquithsc.org.au)  
[www.asquithsc.org.au](http://www.asquithsc.org.au)





**MOUNT COLAH GIRL GUIDES PRESENT**

# **Messy Open Night**

**TUESDAY 13TH FEBRUARY 2024**

**5:30-7:30 PM**

**AT THE MOUNT COLAH GUIDE HALL AT  
THE END OF PIERRE CLOSE, MT COLAH**

**FOR ALL GIRLS AGED 5-13**

**WEAR CLOTHES THAT CAN GET MESSY!**

**ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:**

**BLIND SPONGE VOLLEYBALL**

**MARBLE PAINTING WITH SHAVING CREAM**

**MESSY SNAKES AND LADDERS**

**ANY QUESTIONS CONTACT US AT**

**[MOUNTCOLAHDM@GIRLGUIDES-NSWACTNT.ORG.AU](mailto:MOUNTCOLAHDM@GIRLGUIDES-NSWACTNT.ORG.AU)**