



# St Patrick's Catholic Primary School

Royston Parade Asquith 2077

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## Parish Clergy

Rev Dr Biju Jose, OSH

Parish Priest

Fr Joy Thomas OSH

Assistant Priest

## 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,

Yesterday we celebrated Ash Wednesday with Year 3-6 students attending mass and younger grades attending a liturgy. 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. I thank families who supported our fundraiser this week with our Project Compassion- Pancake Tuesday. This event raises awareness of the Lenten Season 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.

### Parent Information Meetings

This week we had many parents attend Parent Information Sessions for their child/ren. These meetings are a great chance for parents to meet their child's teacher and hear about the routines, expectations, curriculum topics and planned events.

As these meetings were not meant for individual parent meetings, parents who have important information 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.

### P&F BBQ

Each year the P&F host a Welcome BBQ that is well attended by families in our school community. It is an opportunity for families to reconnect in a relaxed social setting after the summer holiday break. This year's Welcome BBQ is scheduled for Friday 15th March from 5pm. We look forward to enjoying a sausage sizzle and some fun activities for the children.

# PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

## Change to School Phone Number

I communicated earlier this week that our school phone system is currently being upgraded to a cloud-based phone system, resulting in a change to our phone number. Our school phone number is changing to Ph: 7256 2144.

Calls coming through the current school phone number will be redirected to the new number for a short period of time before the number is cancelled at a later date. The school's contact details will be updated in all school communication channels over the coming weeks. We encourage you to update School Contact Details (Ph: 7256 2144) in your devices. We appreciate your support as we transition to this new phone system.

## Additional Staff Development Days for 2024

Last week I communicated that the school would have additional staff development days in 2024. These days will primarily focus on Teacher Professional Learning about Curriculum Reform. This has been a strong emphasis of new NSW Curriculum for English and Mathematics in recent years that has been adopted by all NSW schools. In my last communication about the SDD, I inadvertently omitted one of the additional SDD that is scheduled for the first day of Term 3. The dates for these staff development days are:

- Tuesday 2nd April (following the Easter Long Weekend)
- Friday 12th April (the last day of Term 1)
- Monday 29th April (the first day of Term 2)
- Friday 5th July (the last day of Term 2)
- Monday 22nd July (the first day of Term 3)

I trust that providing these dates early in the year and strategically placing them around holiday breaks is an advantage to our families.

## Language Survey

This week I provided a link to parents who have not yet completed the Language Survey. This is mainly aimed at parents of new kindergarten students, new families to the school and current families who didn't complete the survey in 2023.

We now invite you to click on the following link to complete the survey: [2024 Language Survey](#)

## Internet Agreement

The 2024 Internet Agreements created by CSBB for the safe use of technology at St. Patrick's Asquith were distributed to parents at the Parent Information Session for your child/ren. A vital aspect of the ongoing work each school does is to facilitate a safe online working space for the children and staff to operate in. To support this the school has developed and seeks to communicate clearly understood protocols for our children, which are known and reinforced by parents and teachers. Such discussions and common understandings are crucial in keeping our children safe, as well as having clearly understood expectations and rules.

The agreements will be sent home this week to parents who were unable to attend the information sessions. Whilst we seek all families to return the signed documents to school next week, the value and importance lies not simply in returning them but engaging closely in the conversations about rules and expectations.

I urge all our parents to set time aside for these discussions as we do at school. In partnership, we send the children the important message on all fronts when this takes place and enable them to learn firsthand the important responsibilities each has.

# PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

## Mercy College Open Day

Mercy Catholic College Chatswood welcomes prospective students and families to our College Open Day on Sunday 3rd March 10am -1pm.

We are an inclusive community that offers girls from Year 7 – 12 an authentic, professional Catholic education, delivered with care and compassion.

Take part in a guided tour of school facilities including our New Technology and Applied Studies Lab.

JOIN OUR PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS: 10:15am, 11:15am, 12:15pm

Register your interest today! <https://bit.ly/3poSAWI>

If any family want further details please visit the College website <http://www.mercychatswood.nsw.edu.au/> or contact our College Registrar [SMCCC.Registrar@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:SMCCC.Registrar@dbb.catholic.edu.au)

God bless,

Todd Vane-Tempest

Principal

### Dates to Remember

#### Term 1 - 2024

Tuesday 5th March - Subway Lunch Order Day  
Wednesday 13th March - Naplan Begins  
Friday 15th March - P&F Welcome BBQ  
Monday 18th March - St. Patrick's Feast Day Mass  
Wed 20th March - School Cross-country  
Thursday 21st March - Harmony Day  
Tuesday 26th March - The Dish  
Thursday 28th March - Holy Thursday  
Friday 29th March - Good Friday  
Monday 1st April - Easter Monday  
Tuesday 2nd April - SDD Pupil Free  
Monday 8th - Wednesday 10th April- Stage 3 Bathurst Excursion  
Thursday 11th April - School Photos  
Thursday 11th April - Last day for Students  
Friday 12th April - Last day term 1 - SDD Pupil Free Day

#### Term 2 - 2024

Monday 29th April - First Day Term 2 - SDD Pupil Free Day  
Tuesday 30th April - Students return  
Thursday 9th May - Open Day