



# St Patrick's Catholic Primary School

Royston Parade Asquith 2077  
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P O Box 3021 Asquith 2077  
ABN 66 789 035 993

## Parish Clergy

Rev Dr Biju Jose, OSH  
Parish Priest  
Fr Joy Thomas OSH

## 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.



## From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers, Girls and Boys,

We are rapidly approaching the end of another school year and 2024 will soon be a memory.

I acknowledge the great support we continue to receive from the parent community and thank parents for your ongoing commitment to seeking a Catholic education for your children. I also acknowledge and thank our P&F Executive and P&F Organising Committees. Each has been outstanding in their commitment and resolve to support the school. I particularly thank our P&F President Mrs. Katie Barillaro for her leadership and tireless commitment to supporting the school.

As we prepare to say goodbye to 2024 and those leaving and moving onto other adventures, we also look forward to the celebrations of Jesus' birth at Christmas.

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.



**'Keep Christ in Christmas'**

**CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION TIMES**

**2ND RITE** ~ Wednesday 18 ~ 7.30pm St Bernard's, Berowra Heights

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

**CHRISTMAS-MASS TIMES:**

Christmas Eve - 24 December		Christmas Day - 25 December	
5pm	St Bernard's Vigil Mass (Outdoor in school grounds with Carols and Sausage Sizzle ~ bring a chair/rug).	12 am	St Patrick's 'Midnight' Mass
6pm	St Patrick's Vigil Mass (Children may dress up as Angels & Shepherds etc)	8am	St Patrick's Mass
		9am	St Bernard's Mass
9pm	St Patrick's Youth Vigil Mass	10am	St Patrick's Mass
		NB: <b>NO evening Mass Christmas Day</b>	

# PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

## Fr. Joy- 30 years of Priesthood

I also acknowledge and congratulate Fr. Joy who is celebration 30 years in the priesthood. We are very fortunate to have such wonderful priests as Fr. Joy and fr. Biju who are fully committed to the mission of the church and supporting the faith journey of the children.

## School Christmas Concert

A reminder to all families that our school Christmas Concert is scheduled for this Friday on the evening of Friday 6th December. The concert will take place at school in the main assembly area (weather permitting). The children will sit in their class groups. Parents are encouraged to bring along a picnic rug or fold-up chairs to sit on to watch the concert. As we have done previously, there will be a section towards the front for picnic rugs with chairs further back to allow a good view for all attending.

Families are welcome to bring along a picnic of food for their family to enjoy or a sausage sizzle for families who have already purchased via QKR.

Thank you to the parents who have already volunteered to assist with cooking and/or serving at the Sausage Sizzle.

## School Christmas Concert Schedule

- From 4:30pm: Sausage Sizzle
- From 5pm: Christmas Carols with grade groups, School Choir and School Band
- From 6:00pm: Christmas Concert with Drew Lane (each grade presents an item prepared by Drew)

## Staff News

With the retirement of Mrs Taylor from the school office, I am pleased to announce that Mrs Michelle Stewart has been employed to take over the Senior Administration role at the commencement of the 2025 school year. Michelle is well known to our community as she regularly works in our school office alongside Cheryl and Liz. Michelle is very experienced in the Senior Administration role as she holds the same position at one of our sister schools in the diocese. I am sure our school community will welcome her warmly when she takes on the role in a permanent capacity in 2025.

## Class Arrangements for 2025

Last week I communicated some changes in class arrangements for 2025. As Catholic Schools Broken Bay reduced the staffing allocation in line with our current enrolments we will have the following class groups:

- Kinder- 2 x Kindergarten classes
- Stage 1- a Year 1, a Year 1/2 and a Year 2 class
- Stage 2- a Year 3 and a Year 4 class
- Stage 3- a Year 5 and a Year 6 classes

I also communicated that our staffing allocation for 2025 had been reduced in response to our expected enrolments in 2025, especially in Years 3-6. I am very thankful that CSBB is providing additional classroom support for our school beyond what is usual to support learning in these classrooms especially during the morning at peak learning times. This will include at times an additional teacher and/or addition teacher aid support.

Around this time of the year, it is not unusual to have some families relocate to other areas due to a change of circumstances. We ask parents to contact the school via email or phone call if your circumstances have changed and you will be leaving the school at the end of the year.

# PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

## Step Up

As we are still finalising staffing, we have needed to move the advertised Step-up Day to next week (Tuesday, Week 9). As you are aware, the Step-up Day provides an opportunity for the children to meet their class teacher for next year as well as the classroom they will occupy in 2025. We seek to provide this opportunity so that the children know who their teacher is before heading into the holidays and possibly make some connections with them before the end of the year. This opportunity and these simple interactions before the year ends can often settle the nerves when it is time to return to St. Patrick's for 2025.

I again encourage parents to speak positively about the possibilities for class groups and their teachers next year.

## Semester 2 Reports

Semester 2 Reports will be available to parents soon via Compass. I thank our dedicated staff for the long hours and effort to provide parents with a review of each child's achievements and efforts over the last two terms. I ask parents to read their child's report carefully and encourage parents to talk constructively and positively with your child focusing on his/her successes and challenges outlined in the report.

Parents are encouraged to contact the office if you would like to discuss the report with your child's teacher.

*Please note that if your child is in Year 6 or leaving St Patrick's, you will need to download all reports as you will no longer have access after December 31st.*

## Key Dates for Year 1-6 in 2025

The first week back at school for Year 1-6 children in 2025 will be Monday 3rd February.

## Key Dates for Kindergarten in 2025

Kindergarten Best Start Assessment: Monday 3rd and Tuesday 4th February, Kinder students will be participating in the "Best Start" Kindergarten Assessment.

From Wednesday 5th February 2025, Kindergarten students will commence full day school attendance ~ 8.45am - 2.55pm.

## Year 6 Celebrations

Our Year 6 students are looking forward to celebrating their achievements during their time at St. Patrick's with events scheduled over the coming weeks. These students are a wonderful group that we are very proud of, and we all look forward to creating some memorable moments during their final days.

During the End of Year Mass on Wednesday 11th December the Year 6 children will receive a special blessing from their Kinder buddies. On Friday 13th December, the Year 6 children will have a fun day together at Moving Bodies.

Their last school day at St. Patrick's will be Monday 16th December celebrated with the traditional guard of honour. Parents are welcome to attend this from approximately 2:30pm. On the evening of Monday 16th December, Year 6 will celebrate their graduation mass in the church with their parents, followed by a special supper with their classmates, parents and teachers in the school grounds and school hall. It is a special time to acknowledge and thank the Year 6 children for time here at St. Patrick's.

I thoroughly congratulate our Year 6 students for successfully completing their primary schooling at St. Patrick's and we hope to hear about their wonderful achievements in the future.

## Year 5 Parent Group Support

I also acknowledge and thank the Year 5 parent group for supporting The Year 6 Graduation. Traditionally our Year 5 parents pay-forward their generosity to the current Year 6 group through fund raising for the Year 6 Graduation as well as set up, decorate, assist with the supper and clean up after the event. The generosity of our current Year 5 Parent Group will be repaid next year when their children graduate from Year 6. Year 5 parents who can provide support with the Year 6 Graduation are encouraged to contact the school.

# PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

## Whole School End of Year Mass

We will be celebrating our End of School Mass on the 11th December at 9:30am. This celebration will acknowledge the successful year we have had at St. Patrick's but also acknowledge, bless and thank our leaving Year 6 students. As is the tradition, our Kinder students will give a special blessing to their Year 6 buddy as they prepare to leave St. Patrick's and start a new learning journey in high school next year.

Following the End of Year Mass the school will hold a special thank you morning tea for parents who have volunteered at events or in the classroom throughout the year.

## Leadership Assembly

Last Friday we held our special Leadership Assembly to acknowledge and thank our current leaders for 2024:

McAuley House Captains- **Isabel H & Luke M**

Coolock House Captains- **Siya W & Oscar B**

Mercy House Captains- **Jamie W & Grant D**

Xavier House Captains- **Charley B & Luca C**

Vice Captains- **Mia Ng & Gabriel D**

School Captains- **Lucy H & Liam D**

We also announced our student leaders for 2025. Congratulations to the following students who were selected by the students as School and Colour House Captains for next year:

McAuley House Captains- **Rose M & Seanna S**

Coolock House Captains- **Amy F & Holly M**

Mercy House Captains- **Elizaveta K & Ethan C**

Xavier House Captains- **Layla B & Charlotte A**

Vice Captains- **Esha D & Belle C**

School Captains- **Evie W & Cristiano G**

## Thank You Bite Me Bakehouse

Recently, our school has received generous support from Bite Me Bakehouse, a local business. We would like to formally acknowledge and thank the owner, Anthony Courtney, for his contributions. Anthony has graciously provided pies, sausage rolls and other bakery items free of charge to support our fundraising efforts at recent school community events. As a proud former student of St. Patrick's, Anthony wishes to give back to the school in appreciation of the wonderful experiences he had here.

God bless,  
**Todd vane-Tempest**  
Principal

### Dates to Remember

#### **Term 4 - 2024**

Friday 6th December - Christmas Concert

Wednesday 11th December - End of Year Mass and Volunteers Thank  
You Morning Tea 9.30am

Friday 13th December - Year 6 Moving Bodies Fun Day

Friday 13th December - 2025 Swimming Carnival & Water Fun Day

Monday 16th December - Year 6 Last Day & Guard of Honour 2:30

Monday 16th December- Year 6 Graduation 5:15pm for 5:30 Start

Tuesday 17th December - Last Day Term 4 - K-5

Wednesday 18th December - SDD no students at school

#### **Term 1 - 2025**

Friday 31st January - First Day Term 1 SDD no students at school

Monday 3rd February - Years 1 - 6 Return

Monday 3rd February - Kindy Best Start

Tuesday 4th February - Kindy Best Start

Wednesday 5th February - Kindergarten 1st Day





# Christmas Concert

## Friday December 6th

**4:30pm**

**BBQ begins**

**5:10pm**

**Band and Choir**

**6pm**

**Concert with Drew  
Lane begins**

Religious singer/songwriter and performing arts specialist, Drew Lane, will be visiting our school to be a part of our Christmas celebrations. Drew will be working with our students to present a Christmas concert for the St Patrick's community. He brings a wealth of experience to share with the students and it'll be a great time full singing, movement and drama. Parents/parishioners are warmly invited to be a part of the celebration of faith and fun.

Weather permitting the concert will be held on the playground. Please bring a picnic blanket or picnic chairs to sit on.

Children are asked to wear their favourite Christmas Outfit. Students will be asked to move to sit in their class groups at 6pm ready for the concert to begin.

Food for the BBQ can be preordered through QKR.



# Christmas At Kuringai Chase Parish

CHRISTMAS EVE NATIVITY PLAY - Tuesday, 24th December at 6pm at St Patrick's Church.

Our parish would love to invite any children attending mass on Christmas Eve to be part of the nativity play. It is a beautiful tradition in our Church and it brings the story of Christmas to life.

If you would like your child/children to be a part of this special story we ask that they attend two rehearsals before Christmas Eve. Each rehearsal will go for about an hour and will take place at St Patrick's Church.

Rehearsal 1 - Friday, 20th December - 9am - choir and 10am - nativity

Rehearsal 2 - Monday, 23rd December - 9:45am - choir and 10.45 am - nativity



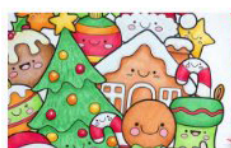
## VACATION CARE DEC 2024

St Patricks, Asquith

7.30am – 6.00pm

P: 0481 602 053 | E: [oshc.asquith@catholiccaredbb.org.au](mailto:oshc.asquith@catholiccaredbb.org.au)

*CatholicCare*  
Diocese of Broken Bay



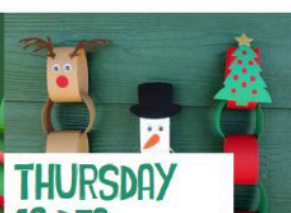
**WEDNESDAY  
18 DEC**

### A VERY MERRY OSHC CHRISTMAS

Come along and join us for a day filled with Christmas Cheer! We will be making our own stockings and baking some Christmas cookies as well as singing along to carols. Get in the festive spirit the week before Christmas!

Starts: 10:00am

**\$** INTERNAL PROVIDER  
\$75.00



**THURSDAY  
19 DEC**

### PEDAL TO THE METAL SPORTS DAY!

Thirsty for some fast-paced action? Are you ready to compete in some friendly competitions? We do we have the day for you! Come along & participate in sport themed activities such as Basketball & Table Tennis! You won't want to miss out!

Starts: 10:00am

**\$** INTERNAL PROVIDER  
\$75.00



**FRIDAY  
20 DEC**

### ASQUITH CRAFT MANIA!

Have you always wanted to create beautiful creations? Then come join us for Craft Mania! We will be decorating the OSHC room along with folders that each of the children can store their creations in for years to come. Come and show us your creative flair!

Starts: 10:00am

**\$** INTERNAL PROVIDER  
\$75.00



**WE LOOK FORWARD TO  
SEEING YOU AFTER CHRISTMAS**