



# St Patrick's Catholic Primary School

Royston Parade Asquith 2077

P O Box 3021 Asquith 2077

P: 7256 2144

W: [www.stpat.nsw.edu.au](http://www.stpat.nsw.edu.au)

E: [spa@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:spa@dbb.catholic.edu.au)

"Proudly part of the community of system schools operated by the Catholic Schools Broken Bay Trust (ABN 82 991 936 092)"

## Parish Clergy

Rev Dr Biju Jose, OSH

Parish Priest

Fr Joseph

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,

Today we celebrated our Opening School Mass. Thank you to those parents and grandparents who came along to be part of the celebration. The traditional Year 6 blessing of our new Kindergarten children and the acknowledgement and blessing of our Year 6 leaders was again a very special moment. The parents of our school captains and sports captains were rightly proud as they presented and pinned their badges.

I was also very proud of how the children participated with reverence and sang so beautifully during the celebration. I thank Fr. Biju for leading us as our whole school community took the opportunity to thank God for all our blessings and ask for his grace and guidance for the coming year.

### School Open Day

Each year I call on all parents to assist in promoting our school as the perfect place for new students to attend. If you know of parents who have preschool children ready to start school in 2027 and beyond, please take the opportunity to let them know about St. Patrick's Asquith as the school for them. Please encourage them to attend one of our School Open Day sessions on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March to see and hear why St. Patrick's is the perfect place for their child.

Parents can register their attendance via the school website or using the following link: [School Open Day 2026](#)

### P&F Welcome 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 27<sup>th</sup> February 5pm- 7pm. The sausage BBQ is free, and there will be drinks to purchase on the night.

Please fill in this registration form if you are attending and your order so that we can gauge how many sausages are required on the night:

[P&F Welcome BBQ Registration Form](#)

### Parent Information Meetings

Next week teachers will be holding Parent Information Meetings on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February. Meetings will occur at school in classrooms. The times for the sessions are:

#### Tuesday 17th February

5.00pm - Years 1 & 2

5.30pm - Years 3 & 4

6.00pm - Years 5 & 6

#### Wednesday 18th February

5.30pm - Kindergarten

# PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

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.

## Reminder: Communication Methods & Protocols

I have again provided the same communication from last week's newsletter as a reminder of the established Communication Protocols.

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.

## Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

I thank parents who use the morning kiss and drop-off zone each morning as I have noticed it operating smoothly during the last week. Most parents are using the area thoughtfully by driving through to the furthest point possible in the No Parking Zone outside the bottom gate which is allowing other cars to use the space behind your car. I again ask that parents remain in the car when dropping off as this keeps the traffic moving. This week I communicated the arrival and dismissal procedures for our school, I would encourage you to familiarise yourself with these and please ask any question if unsure.

## Internet Agreement

This week we acknowledged International Safer Internet Day by teaching the children our expectations for using technology through the Internet User Agreement. The 2026 Internet Agreements created by CSBB for the safe use of technology at St. Patrick's Asquith will be distributed to parents this week or 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.

I urge all our parents to set time aside to discuss your expectations at home for using technology safely. 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.

## 2026 Staff Development Days

Each year our staff have days set aside during the school year for professional learning opportunities. The planned Staff Development Days for the remainder of 2026 are outlined below:

Term 2: Monday, 20 April to Friday, 3 July.

Monday 20 April – Whole of system SDD & Shared Services Team Day

Friday 3 July – Whole of CSBB System Strategy Day (SDD)

Term 3: Monday, 20 July to Friday, 25 September.

Monday 20 July SDD – Network Day Cathedral North Precinct

Monday 17 August – Whole of system SDD

Term 4: Monday, 12 October to Thursday, 17 December.

Monday 12th October – SDD- Spirituality Day

Tuesday 15 December - last day for all students (Primary and Secondary)

Wednesday 16 December – SDD- No Students SDD

Thursday 17 December – SDD- No School

# PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

## Catholic Schools Broken Bay- Parent Charter

Building positive relationships between schools and parents is the cornerstone of nurturing student learning and achievement. To formalise our commitment to effective communication and mutual respect, Catholic Schools Broken Bay launched a Parent Charter in late 2023. A copy of the Charter can be found [here](#). The Charter places great emphasis on respectful, open, and two-way communication and outlines:

- What you as parents can expect from your relationship with your school.
- What our school will expect from you as parents and carers.
- Guidelines for positive communication and engagement between parents and the school.
- How to make a complaint or raise a concern.
- An explanation of unacceptable behaviours and how these are handled by the school.

As we approach the end of another busy school term, we kindly ask parents to be mindful of the following guidelines for effective partnership:

**Stay Informed:** Stay informed about your child's progress by attending parent-teacher conferences, reading newsletters, and checking COMPASS.

**Initiate Contact:** Don't hesitate to reach out to the appropriate staff member if you have concerns or questions about your child's progress, behaviour, or any other aspect of their education. Initial communications should always be with the appropriate school personnel, e.g., the classroom teacher or Year Coordinator. If further support is required, please contact our school leaders.

**Be Respectful:** Approach conversations with staff in a respectful and professional manner, as they are dedicated to helping your child succeed.

**Respect Response Time:** Recognise that staff have multiple students and responsibilities. Allow them time to respond to your inquiries and respect their working hours. Staff will usually respond within 48 hours.

Effective communication between parents and school staff is the key to a successful educational journey for your child. We value your input and are committed to working together to ensure that our school remains a collaborative, safe, and supportive environment.

## Parish News

Parents are encouraged to click on the following link to access the weekly [Ku-ring-gai Chase Catholic Parish Bulletin](#). Parents will find information for St. Patrick's Church including opportunities for families to support parish events including charitable works initiatives, joining the children's choir and the sacramental program.

The Parish Children's Choir welcomes everyone back! It was lovely to hear the children's voices last Sunday during the 10AM mass.

This ministry is open to children in the parish from Year 3 up to the end of high school. If your child is interested in actively participating in the community, singing is a great start! We practice every Friday during school terms from 4-5pm at St. Patrick's church, and sing at 10 AM masses on the 2nd and 4th Sundays every month.

Your child can come along to our practice, and sing straightaway! No audition required. They will learn plenty and meet new friends. For more information, contact Patricia Smith (director) 9482 7935 or email [stpatscchoir@gmail.com](mailto:stpatscchoir@gmail.com).

God bless,

Todd Vane-Tempest

Principal

### Dates to Remember

#### Term 1 - 2026

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February - Pancake Day

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February - Ash Wednesday

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February - Welcome BBQ 5-7pm

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March - The Dish

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March - School Open Day

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March - St Patrick's Day

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April - Good Friday

# Religious Education

## Ash Wednesday

Please join with us for a special school mass next Wednesday 18th February at 9:30 for to commemorate Ash Wednesday and the start of Lent. All children K-6 will be attending this mass.

## 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 th Hornsby area through food and friendship. It serves a hot meal to over 40 people, distributes fresh food from local businesses that would other wise go to waste and operates a food bank.

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

Term 1 Week 5 Tuesday 3rd March

Term 2 Week 1 Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April

Term 3 Week 5 Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> August

Term 4 Week 3 Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November

On each occasion volunteers from St Patrick's cook a meal such as curry and rice, pasta bake, stir fry and vegetables. 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](#) or contact Mrs Lloyd-Jones. Thank you for your generosity.

# Religious Education

## 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.





# AT ST PATRICK'S WE ARE SAFE, RESPONSIBLE AND RESPECTFUL LEARNERS



Our PBL Focus this fortnight is...

Term 1 Weeks 3-4

## WE ARE SAFE LEARNERS

AT ST PATRICK'S WE ARE **SAFE, RESPONSIBLE, RESPECTFUL** LEARNERS

SAFE	RESPONSIBLE	RESPECTFUL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PLAY SAFELY AND FAIRLY</li><li>• MOVE SAFELY AT ALL TIMES</li><li>• CARE FOR OTHERS</li><li>• STAY SUN SAFE</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• MAKE GOOD CHOICES</li><li>• RIGHT PLACE, RIGHT TIME, RIGHT TASK</li><li>• LEARN AND LET OTHERS LEARN</li><li>• CARE FOR ALL PROPERTY</li><li>• CARE FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• LISTEN ACTIVELY</li><li>• TAKE PRIDE IN YOUR APPEARANCE</li><li>• TAKE TURNS AND INCLUDE OTHERS</li><li>• USE KIND WORDS AND ACTIONS</li><li>• SPEAK RESPECTFULLY</li></ul>

 **ST PATRICK'S**  
ASQUITH

### PBL FOCUS

As we begin the new school year, we are revisiting our school-wide Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) expectations to help students establish strong routines and a positive learning environment. This fortnight, our focus is on our first school value: being a Safe Learner. Students will be learning what it means to make safe choices at school, why safety is important for everyone's wellbeing, and how this looks in different settings such as the classroom, playground and shared spaces. By explicitly teaching these expectations, we are supporting all students to feel secure, confident and ready to learn each day.

### How can we support this at home?

- Talk with your child about what being safe looks like at school (e.g. walking calmly, using equipment correctly, following adult instructions).
- Encourage your child to use safe choices when playing at home, such as being aware of others and using gentle hands and feet.
- Remind your child that rules and routines help everyone feel secure and cared for.
- Practise safe habits together, like packing their bag carefully, looking after belongings, and moving safely in busy spaces.
- Praise your child when they show responsibility and awareness, such as stopping to think before acting or helping others stay safe.

Take care and be kind to yourselves,  
Hannah Fryar  
Curriculum Coordinator

# SPORTNEWS

## SWIMMING CARNIVAL 2026

Last Thursday, we were lucky to have the sun shining for Year 3 – 6 to have an action-packed day at Hornsby Pool for our Swimming Carnival. The day burst with house colours and energy as students filled the poolside with vibrant spirit, strong sportsmanship, and plenty of smiles. Students loved cooling off in the novelty events and enthusiastically diving into both the 25m and 50m races. Their enthusiasm, teamwork, and impressive efforts made it a truly memorable and successful event. A big thank-you to our wonderful staff and parents for assisting on the day—your support is invaluable, and we couldn't run such a fantastic carnival without you. Age champions and Zone carnival information will be shared in the coming days!



## WATER FUN DAY

Kindergarten to Year 2 had a terrific day at school rotating through a range of fun novelty activities, including water sponges, water pistols, and bubble wands. The students loved cooling off with an ice block and enjoyed a variety of creative craft and art activities in the afternoon. A big thank-you to all the parents who came along and supported this wonderful event—your involvement helps make days like these truly special.



# LIBRARY

Welcome back to school!  
We hope you have had a relaxing summer break and are feeling energized for a new school year filled with reading!  
What books did you enjoy reading over your holidays?

We look forward to welcoming you back into the library for **Let's Do Lunch** this term on **Tuesday** and **Wednesdays**.

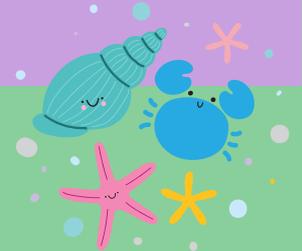
**Tuesday** Unplugged Coding  
- Stage Two (Years 3 & 4)  
**Wednesday** - Stage 3 Book Club

The children at St Pat's have created the stunning illustrations for the book **Captain's Cave**. Don't miss out on grabbing your copy!



## BOOK CONTACTING

I would love some help with covering **NEW** books that we have purchased for the library. They will be sent home in bundles of 10 with contact. If you think you can help please contact me - Belinda Wickham via the school office.



🎵 ST PATRICK'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL 🎵

## **INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC & BAND PROGRAM**

🌟 **GIVE YOUR CHILD THE GIFT OF MUSIC** 🌟

Music education helps children grow in every way:

- **Confidence & Creativity**
- **Focus, Memory & Academic Skills**
- **Teamwork & Responsibility**
- **Wellbeing & Resilience**
- **Joy, Expression & Lifelong Skills**

### **PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

- Instrument lessons taught at school
- Band Taster Classes Term 1, 2026 (new musicians)
- Opportunities to join the School Band
- Performances throughout the year
- Supportive, encouraging learning environment



**ENROL NOW open** to Year 2 to Year 6, 2026.

**Studio21band@gmail.com**

**Inspire their potential.**

Help them discover the joy of music



*Ku-ring-gai Chase Catholic  
Parish is on the lookout for more  
volunteer Catechists to*

# PLANT THE SEED OF FAITH

**WILL YOU COME FORWARD?**



**CAN YOU  
COMMIT LESS THAN 1 HOUR PER WEEK?**

**ARE YOU  
A STAY AT HOME MUM/DAD OR CARER?  
WORKING FROM HOME?  
RETIRED?  
A UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE STUDENT?**

*If you answered **yes**, please consider  
becoming a catechist in one of our  
local public schools.*

**FAITH CAN MOVE MOUNTAINS  
NO QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED  
JUST WWCC  
TRAINING PROVIDED**

**[kccpcatechists@gmail.com](mailto:kccpcatechists@gmail.com)**





**Act, Create, Communicate**

**The difference is dramatic.....**

**Boost your child's creativity, confidence, communication skills & self-development through drama.**

**Our drama programme covers public speaking, plays, mimes, drama games, improvisations, play building, speech and productions.**

**Enrolling for 2026**

**venue**

**St. John's Church Hall  
6 Royston Road  
ASQUITH NSW 2077**



**For further information Please call  
Louise Gardiner**

**☎ 0410700272**

**✉ hornsby@ogradydrama.com.au  
louise.drama@gmail.com**

**www.ogradydrama.com.au**

# Why Chess?

- Create Brighter Thinkers
- Improve Student Focus
- Achieve Academic Success

**Combines  
learning  
with fun!**



## Educational Benefits:

- Improves concentration and focus
- Develops logical thinking and problem solving skills
- Enhances memory
- Encourages creative and lateral thinking
- Promotes discipline
- Accelerates emotional development
- Expands visualisation and spatial awareness
- Demonstrates actions and consequences
- Rewards correct decision making
- Increases self-confidence
- Provides opportunities to make new friends from diverse backgrounds

## St Patrick's Primary School (Asquith) Chess Classes, 2026 Fridays 1:15PM - 1:55PM in the Library

<b>Term 1</b>	<b>Cost: \$136</b>	<b>6th Feb - 27th Mar</b>
<b>Term 2</b>	<b>Cost: \$170</b>	<b>24th Apr - 26th Jun</b>
<b>Term 3</b>	<b>Cost: \$153</b>	<b>24th Jul - 18th Sep</b>
<b>Term 4</b>	<b>Cost: \$153</b>	<b>16th Oct - 11th Dec</b>

To enrol please pay online with your credit card at

[www.sydneyacademyofchess.com.au/payment](http://www.sydneyacademyofchess.com.au/payment)

Enter the code **CBY4FA5RO7** and fill in the electronic form, with your child's details.

*\*There are no credits or refunds for missed classes, clashing activities, sickness, school excursions, staff development days, teacher strikes or change of mind. Any missed classes can be made up at one of our online chess classes. Please visit <https://sydneyacademyofchess.com.au/online> for more information.*

*Payment must be made the day before attending the first lesson of the commencing term. The participant will not be allowed to join the class until payment has been received. Joining midway through the term is welcome. Use the payment code above and follow the online instructions.*

<b>OPTIONAL EXTRAS</b> (prices exclude delivery) <i>To enhance your child's learning experience these items are available for purchase online at the time of enrolment</i>		
<b>Workbook 1 – Cost: \$25</b> [For Beginner/Rookie Players]	<b>Workbook 1 &amp; 2 – Cost: \$40</b> [SPECIAL OFFER]	<b>Exploration in Chess Beauty – Cost: \$33</b> [For Advanced Players]
<b>Workbook 2 – Cost: \$25</b> [For Intermediate Players]	<b>Chess Set &amp; Roll-up Board – Cost: \$25</b> [Recommended for All Ages]	<b>DGT Starter Box (Fold-up Chess Set + DGT Bonus) – Cost: \$85</b> [Recommended for All Ages]
	<b>Chess Clock DGT1002 Bonus – Cost: \$55</b> [Recommended for All Ages]	

*Pay for four terms in advance and receive a free chess set or workbook 2. Offer expires 31st March, 2026.*



**SYDNEY  
ACADEMY OF CHESS**

**Sydney Academy of Chess Pty Ltd**

ABN: 14 139 982 004

Suite 2, Level 2, 1-17 Elsie Street Burwood, NSW

PO Box 2034, Burwood North, NSW 2134

P: 9745 1170 E: [info@sydneyacademyofchess.com.au](mailto:info@sydneyacademyofchess.com.au)

## WHAT'S ON TERM 1



	GYMNASIATICS	ACTIVITIES
MON	GYM STAR TRAMPOLINING	LEARN-TO-PLAY BASKETBALL KIDS BOXING
TUES	GYM STAR PARKOUR	
WED	GYM STAR TRAMPOLINING	LEARN-TO-PLAY PICKLEBALL KIDS BOXING
THURS	GYM STAR PARKOUR	LEARN-TO-PLAY NETBALL KIDS BOXING
FRI	GYM STAR	LEARN-TO-PLAY BASKETBALL KIDS + TEENS BOXING
SAT	GYM STAR	

(02) 8998 5400 
 hornsby@pcycnsw.org.au 
 pcycnsw.org.au

**HORNSBY HEIGHTS FOOTBALL CLUB**  
**TRYOUTS NOW ON**

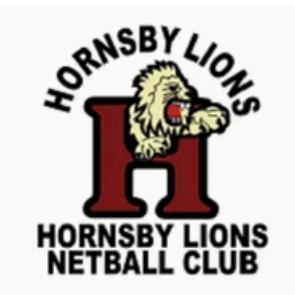
REGISTRATIONS FOR WINTER SEASON NOW OPEN

MONTVIEW OVAL  
HORNSBY HEIGHTS

GAMES -  
SATURDAY FOR MIXED  
SUNDAY FOR GIRLS

IS YOUR CHILD KEEN TO PLAY FOOTBALL IN 2026?

**SIGN UP NOW**  
<https://hhfc.majestri.com.au/winter-season-2026>



### JOIN THE HORNSBY LIONS ■

**COME & TRY DAY**  
Saturday 14 February 2026  
3:00 – 4:30pm  
Montview Netball Courts

2026 Netball Season – Registrations Now Open!  
A fun, friendly and inclusive community netball club.

Who can play?  
NetSetGO • Juniors • Cadets • Seniors

Training: Montview Oval, Hornsby Heights  
Games: Pennant Hills Park

Registrations close: **17 February 2026**

■ Register now at:  
[www.hornsbylionsnetball.com.au](http://www.hornsbylionsnetball.com.au)

All skill levels welcome – beginners encouraged!



### KNA ALL ABILITIES NETBALL “COME AND TRY” MORNING

Have you always wanted to play netball, learn new skills, build your confidence, and improve your health and fitness in an accessible, inclusive, fun, and supportive environment?

Join us at the KNA “Come and Try” morning including a free KNA sausage sizzle lunch for players.

- For:** Females and males aged 15 years or older
- When:** Sunday 16th March, 2025
- Time:** 10am-12pm
- Where:** Canoon Rd Netball Courts, South Turramurra
- Cost:** FREE!!

RSVP: 28th February, 2025  
Deb Frost  
[debfrosts@bigpond.net.au](mailto:debfrosts@bigpond.net.au) | 0424 403 065

