



# St Patrick's News

## Term 4, Issue 1– October 14th 2022



### St Patrick's School Values

#### Term 4

**October 18th:** Children's Global Rosary Day

**October 20th:** Year 3 attending Parish Mass at 9am

**October 27th:** Socktober, Year 2 attending Parish Mass at 9am, International Teacher's Day

**October 31st:** Swimming for Yr 2 begins

**November 1st:** All Saints' Day

**November 2nd:** All Souls' Day

**November 3rd:** Year 1 attending Parish Mass at 9am

**November 7th:** Basketball Gala Day

**November 9th:** **Kindy 2023 Orientation Session 1**

**November 10th:** Kindy attending Parish Mass at 9am

**November 11th:** Remembrance Day  
**Fundraiser-Walk-A-Thon**

**November 15th:** **Kindy 2023 Orientation Session 2**

**November 17th:** Year 6 attending Parish Mass at 9am

**November 18th:** Swimming Carnival

**November 21st:** Pupil Free Day - **NO SCHOOL**

**November 24th:** **Kindy 2023 Orientation Session 3**

Year 5 attending Parish Mass at 9am

**November 27th:** First Sunday of Advent

**December 1st:** Year 4 attending Parish Mass at 9am, **Christmas Concert (night)**

**December 2nd:** Thanksgiving Mass at 10am

Dear Parents/Carers,

A very warm welcome back to you all for Term 4. We have been delighted to see all students returning with big smiles on their faces, ready to learn and spend happy times with their friends.

We invite students to bring their Rosary Beads to school this month, as we will be taking many opportunities to pray together.



#### October is the month of the Rosary

*'Holy Mary, Mother of God.*

*Pray for us sinners,*

*Now and at the hour of our death. Amen.*



#### Celebrating our superstar Student Support Officers!!

*On Monday we celebrated SSO's at St Patricks. We are blessed with the best! Thank you ladies, for the outstanding work you do in supporting students and teachers everyday. Your generous support and guidance helps to shape students' lives everyday. You make St Pats a better place!*



**Mr Crowley:** As per our announcement at the end of last term, Mr Crowley is taking on a new position from 2023. He will be the new Assistant Principal at St. Madeleine's Kenthurst. We will have many opportunities to thank Mr Crowley for his dedication and outstanding work at St. Patricks, towards the end of the year. It's also his birthday today - Happy Birthday Mr Crowley!!!

**Building Works:** As you have seen at school, there is a lot of activity occurring. We are blessed that St. Patrick's school will be getting a new roof this term, as well as beautiful new bathroom facilities near the canteen. What a lovely new facility for the students. To facilitate these works, Year 2 are working in the MPA, and Year 4 are working in the Library. Of a morning and afternoon, the carpark may be busy, with extra trucks and vehicles of workmen. We thank you for your patience and support as this crucial and exciting work is happening.

**Walk-A-Thon:** To raise funds for much needed technology and a new lawnmower, we will be having a Walk-A-Thon in November. We are asking parents to kindly donate prizes for this event. Do you work for a restaurant that may be able to donate a voucher? Movie vouchers? Meat or vegetable hampers? Donations of electrical items? Toy shop vouchers? The more we have, the more exciting the day will be!

God bless,  
Mrs Fitzalan  
St. Patrick's Principal

## School Counsellor's News

**Counsellor:** Mrs Julia Kwiet, our School Counsellor, is leaving the Diocese and taking up a position out of education. We wish her all the best and thank her for the outstanding work she has done at St. Patricks. We are fortunate that she is with us this week and has done a thorough hand over with our new Counsellor, Caitlin Granger. We welcome Caitlin to our community and know that she will love her time here with us.

Hi St Patrick's Community! My name is Caitlin and I am privileged to join you as the new School Counsellor. Thank you to those who have already come to say hello at the gate. I was previously working as a Trauma Counsellor up the road at Blacktown Hospital. I am passionate about supporting children to recognise and understand their emotions and empowering them to build skills to express and regulate their emotions. Emotional wellbeing supports children to thrive in their learning, development and relationships. Outside of school, I enjoy spending time swimming, op-shopping and especially reading. Last year I set the challenge to read a book each week. One of my favourite books for both children and adults is 'Wonder' by R.J. Palacio. Please don't hesitate to say hello in the mornings and afternoons or call me via the school office. I look forward to meeting each of you.



Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends,

It is with much sadness and regret that I leave the St Patrick's school community. I have really enjoyed working at St Patrick's and meeting so many resilient and courageous children and families. I have accepted a job which allows me to work from home. This week I will be handing over to the very lovely Caitlin. I wish everybody all the very best and thank you for your involvement, courage and resilience. Warmest regards, Julia

## Faith Community


Dear Parents/Carers,

It is with great pleasure that I officially begin my role as Religious Education Coordinator here at St Patrick's. I look forward to working with you all in this different capacity. I am looking forward to more opportunities to deepen your own faith and engage you in your child's learning within the classrooms. If there is ever anything you require, please do not hesitate to make an appointment with me via the school office.

**Sunday, 16th October 2022: TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke [Lk 18:1-8](#)**

REFLECTION – by Greg Sunter



**Have you thought?**  
**A parable about God**

When Jesus tells this parable about the widow and the judge, he is actually painting a picture about God for his disciples. This is not to suggest that God needs to be worn down by persistence but rather it is a description of what God is not. If such a wicked and unjust judge can eventually be worn down, how much more quickly will God respond to a just cause? Yet the parable is told to reinforce the need to pray continually. The continuous prayer is not to wear God down – like the judge – but rather to demonstrate the genuine need.

**Scriptural Context**

Since chapter 9 of this Gospel, Jesus has been making a steady journey towards Jerusalem and the events of the Passion that await him there. This whole second half of the gospel is a series of teaching moments as Jesus seeks to prepare his disciples to continue his ministry after he has gone. Remembering that the gospel is written 50 or more years after the events described, the gospel writer has also deliberately structured these teaching moments for the audience of believers struggling day by day to live out the message and ministry of Jesus. As such, these teachings are just as important for modern audiences.

**Different View**


**Convincing God**

Does this teaching about the need for continual prayer mean that God needs to be convinced of our cause? Does a one-off prayer not get heard? Is God swayed by the force of numbers? Can the prayers of ten people carry more weight than the prayers of one? All these questions miss the point of the parable. It is not God who needs our prayers, but we who have to recognise, through prayer, our need for God's mercy and gracious love. The constancy of prayer is not to convince God but to remind ourselves of our dependence upon God.

*God bless!*

*Miss Cecillienne-Mae Matienzo  
Religious Education Coordinator*

## Important Dates and Reminders!

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Dates for your diary</b></p> <p><b>Global month of the Rosary-</b> Come and pray the Rosary on the playground from 2:30pm on the 18th October 2022 - please refer to this note for details  <a href="#">2022- Global Rosary Day Letter fo...</a></p> <p><b>Socktober - Mission Month</b> Crazy Sock Day- will be held on Thursday, October 27th. On this day students are invited to wear crazy socks with their uniform by making a donation via QKR. A photo booth will also be available on the day for students at an additional cost. Payments for this must be made via QKR. All funds raised will go towards supporting Catholic support agencies - please refer to this note for details  <a href="#">2022 - Socktober parent letter</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Mini Vinnies News Toastie Thursday</b></p> <p>On behalf of the Mini Vinnie's team and the coordinators (Miss Fauni, Mrs Hui Hui, Mrs Leilua and I) I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks and gratitude for the support of Toastie Thursday.</p> <p>Last term we managed to raise: \$635 bringing our total from Terms 2 and 3 to a whopping: \$1403.18</p> <p>The money raised will go towards St Vincent de Paul Society, St Patrick's Church 'Raise the Roof' appeal and other Catholic support agencies who greatly need your support.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Mary's Pantry</b></p> <p>Provides emergency provisions and groceries for those who are struggling in our community.</p> <p><b>Open weekdays between 10am - 1pm</b></p> <p>Located near the entrance to the Church.</p> <p>Thank you to MQOF Parish for providing this support to our families.</p> <p><b>Parish Links</b> For the latest news and updates from Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, please visit their <a href="#">website</a> and follow their <a href="#">Facebook page</a>.</p> 
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[Positive Partnerships](#) are delivering a **free, government-funded autism workshop** for parents/carers **1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> November** in **Parramatta**.

We invite parents/carers of young people on the autism spectrum to join us to learn about autism and ways to strengthen the home-school partnerships. Please find further details in the flyer attached.

[FREE 2 Day Autism Workshop](#)

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**October 15th:** Hannah Pascual  
**October 17th:** Jay Refalo  
**October 18th:** Amyah Sisikefu  
**October 20th:** Edward Lampson  
**October 21st:** Ardine Bautista & Ryan Pasnin  
**October 24th:** Mercy Andrea  
**October 26th:** Christopher Weatherby  
**October 27th:** Achala Athum



### Fundraiser-Walk-A-Thon

**Donations of PRIZES needed.**

Do you work for a company who can donate a voucher? Prize? Dinner out?



Please contact the Office as we are hoping to have lots of great prizes to give out on the day! More details soon. **Date: Friday November 11th**

### Library News

#### Book Club

The next issue of the Book Club brochure 7 is available now to download. To view the brochure, click the link [HERE](#)  
To make your orders please visit the link [HERE](#). There are some books which cost as little as \$3 so everyone can experience independent reading for pleasure. **Please complete your order by 28th October** to avoid missing out. Your orders will be delivered to the school and then handed to your child at school. Thank you for your continued support!

Please note: A small portion of the sales made from Book Club will go towards restocking the library with new and exciting books.

Mrs Gudaitis,  
Library Teacher.

### KINDERGARTEN 2023 ENROLMENTS OPEN

**Please let family, friends and neighbours know that 2023 Kindergarten enrolments are now open!**

If your child was born between 1st January 2017 and 31st July 2018, your child is ready for school in 2023.

Please collect an Enrolment pack from school office between 8:30am and 3:00pm or simply download via the school website.

[Enrol-Now/How-to-enrol](#)

Please follow [THIS](#) link for more information regarding our Kindergarten Enrolment Process.





## Office News

### Notification of Student Leaving

The Diocesan Tuition Fee and School Building Levy are annual fees billed in Terms 1, 2 and 3. A pro rata fee based on weeks enrolled for the year is made for students entering the School part way during a term. If a student leaves the School during a term, no refund will be made in respect of the remaining portion of that term. Other School Based Fees for items such as camps, excursions, materials or technology may be charged to a student's account and are payable under the same conditions as Diocesan Fees. **A Term's notice in writing must be given to the School Principal before the withdrawal of a student or a full term's fees will be payable.**

### Leave of Absence

If your child is going on extended leave greater than 5 days, an **Application for Exemption Form** must be completed and returned to the office prior to the leave date. Please complete the following form [Application Extended Leave](#). This leave will be considered by the Principal for approval.

*Please note that any Leave time taken during term will impact on your child's learning. Our Diocesan mantra is, 'Every Child, Every Day' and students are legally obliged to attend school every day of the school year. Holidays and Leave should ideally be taken in school holiday periods.*

### School Fees

Dear Parents, you should now have received school fee statements for Term 3. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact our school office on 8869 6000.

If you have changed your address please don't forget to update it by filling out the following form and returning it to us as soon as possible. [Change of Address/Contact Details](#)

Many thanks,  
Mrs Browne

### No Toys from Home at School

At St Patrick Primary School, we request that children do **NOT** bring toys from home to school. Toys brought to school can disrupt the learning at school. Whilst we understand that children may wish to carry familiar toys with them to show their friends, bringing toys from home to school can create difficult situations to manage. Hence we request that children do **NOT** bring toys from home to school.

**Please note that children are NOT TO BRING POKEMON CARDS TO SCHOOL.**

### Let us know...

Mrs Fitzalan and Mr Crowley are always happy to meet with any parent who has a concern. We hope that by being at the gate every afternoon, as well as some mornings, you feel comfortable to approach us for a conversation or to request an interview to discuss any challenges you may be facing.

### Phones & Apple Watches

Please remember that if any student brings a phone or Apple Watch to school, it must be signed in at the Office and students can collect them at the end of the school day. If parents need to contact students during the day, calls must go through the Office. If a child is unwell they will be sent to the Office by a teacher and parents will be called. We thank you for your support with this important matter of privacy, child protection and safety.

## Attendance

**Here Everyday Ready On Time - Morning Bell 8:55 am!**

**It is important that your children come to school on time every day, unless they are genuinely unwell.**

### [Attendance Matters!](#)

*If your child is absent due to illness, please inform the school by contacting our school office and explain absences for the day by entering in the COMPASS Parent Portal. Alternatively you can send us an email or call our school office on 8869 6000.*

**Please note if you enter your child absent days via COMPASS Parent Portal, the time is not to be adjusted.**

When a student is away for more than two days, a Medical Certificate will be required when returning to school.

### [Missing School?](#)

### [Leaving Gaps in your Child's Learning.](#)

St Patricks Attendance Liaison Officer  
Aida Almeida