



St Patrick's News

Term 1, Issue 5 – April 1st 2022



Dates to Remember

Term 1

April 7th: Principal's Morning Tea
First Reconciliation

April 8th: Raffle Draw-Easter Eggs /
Holy Week Celebration 2pm.
Parents Welcome. Please wear
masks.

Last day of Term 1

Term 2 Upcoming Dates

April 25th: Public Holiday

April 26th/27th: Stage 3 Camp

April 29th:
Resurrection Liturgy 9am
Anzac Day Liturgy 2pm
Parents welcome to both.

May 3rd: Diocesan Cross Country

May 4th: Mother's Day Stall

May 5th: Tour for Kindy 2023
Families 10am

May 8th: Mothers' Day

May 10th: Naplan begins

May 20th: Last Day of Naplan

May 24th: Feast of Our Lady

May 26th: National Sorry Day



*Dying you destroyed our death
Rising you restored our life
Lord Jesus, Come in glory.*



Dear Parents and Carers,

With only 1 week of school left for Term 1, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support throughout the past 10 weeks. We have had so many wonderful celebrations/events this term: Catholic Schools Week, St. Patrick's Day, Opening School Mass, Mercy Day, Cross Country and lots of Gymnastics provided by Dance Fever for Years 3-6. We were particularly delighted to have been able to have YOU, our parents and carers, back on site for those events.

The children have worked so diligently this term and have continued to demonstrate our MERCY values every day. Returning to Face to Face learning has been wonderful - each day we see students focusing on their goals, working in collaboration with others and striving to achieve their personal best. Well done to all of the girls and boys of St. Patrick's! Special congratulations to those who will be invited to attend the Principal's Morning Tea this coming Thursday - 2 students from each class are nominated by their teacher to attend.

I hope that the Easter Break and reflections through Holy Week, bring your family an increased sense of hope, faith and love.

Lord by your Cross

You set us free.

You are the Saviour of the World.



Easter Raffles: Have you bought your tickets? Beautiful Baskets are ready to go to someone's home for Easter! Tickets available through QKR. Don't miss out!

Welcome Back: Mrs Dunn will officially return from her Maternity Leave in Term 2. She will teach Year 6 - Mrs Aberley's class, on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday each week, whilst Mrs Aberley will continue to teach Mondays and Tuesdays and will support the professional development of teachers in Years 3-6 on other days.

Long Service Leave: Mrs Pono will take Long Service Leave in Term 2 and will be replaced by Mrs Marie Drennan - Monday/Tuesday and Mrs Samira Nakhoul - Thursday/Friday.

Special thanks to all of the staff at St. Patrick's. Every day I admire their passion, commitment, energy and knowledge of your children's learning as they go about doing what they do best: teaching, working in our busy office, working to maintain our gardens/buildings and supporting your children in whatever is needed. We are truly blessed to have such a dedicated team!

May our staff also have a wonderful, well deserved holiday and come back refreshed, re-energised and ready to do it all again in Term 2.

God bless you and your beautiful children as we work in partnership at our great St. Patrick's Primary School.

Monica Fitzalan
School Principal



Toastie Thursday: In Term 2, we will resume a 'Toastie' day. This year it will be 'Toastie Thursday' and all purchases must be made prior to the day via QKR. Orders must be placed by Tuesday morning at 10am to enable the ladies to process orders. For those new to St. Patrick's, this initiative is run by our Mini Vinnie's team and raises funds to support SVDP. Toasties are served from 8:30 am in the Canteen on Thursday morning, to those who have prepaid.

Faith Community

Sunday, 3rd April 2022: FIFTH Sunday in Lent - Year C

Jn 8:1-11 Let the person without sin be the first to throw a stone

The words Jesus speaks to the accused woman could as easily be addressed to each of us. We all feel at times that we've done the wrong thing – something we don't deserve to be forgiven for. However, Jesus says to us, I know you've done the wrong thing, and you are already forgiven, but you need to make a commitment to change and not repeat the error. It is Jesus' promise not to give up on us – not to forget about us – that we can draw strength from as we try to respond to his challenge to change.

Sacraments - First Reconciliation

It is through Reconciliation we forgive ourselves and others; we learn from our mistakes; and that with God's help, we have the power to keep changing for the better. Please pray for the following students who will be receiving the Sacrament of First Reconciliation next week. We wish them all the best as they prepare to encounter God's love and mercy in this beautiful Sacrament!

Stella Borg, Kateleen Cruz, Paige Cunningham, Isla Cunningham, Ernest Gerado, Rey Gerado, Jacob Gumayagay, George Hontas, Adam Kirton, Aleisha Knight, Harry Nash, Olivia Quinn, Havana Rojas, Ellaiza Saranghilo, Savannah Thorp, Jessica Weatherby and Kingston Webber.

A Prayer for those preparing for First Reconciliation

Come, Holy Spirit,
open the heart and mind of this children,
who is preparing to receive your gifts of mercy,
healing and forgiveness in the Sacrament of First Reconciliation.
May this Sacrament always remind them of
God's unconditional love for them, even if they do wrong,
because of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.
May they honestly acknowledge their need to continually
review their lives and receive God's grace when they have failed
to love as Jesus has modelled for us.
May they share that forgiveness with others.
Be with them and their families at this special time and
remain always present in their lives.
Amen.

MQOF Parish Links

For the latest news and updates from Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, please visit their [website](#) and follow their [Facebook page](#). Here is a link to their last [Newsletter](#).

Important Dates and Reminders!

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| <p style="text-align: center;">Project Compassion</p> <p>We encourage you to put your compassion into action this Lent through your prayer, fasting and almsgiving by supporting Project Compassion.</p> <p>All donations are made directly to our school's fundraising page.</p>  | <p style="text-align: center;">Lenten Program</p> <p style="text-align: center;">St Patrick's Church Saturday 2nd April 2022 10am - 1.30pm</p> <p>The 7 Last Days of Jesus by Dr Brant Pitre. Facilitated by Richard & Marina Desa.</p> <p>Flyer HERE Register HERE</p>  | <p style="text-align: center;">First Holy Communion</p> <p>Online registrations close Monday 2nd May. See flyer for key dates.</p> <p>This program is for students in Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 who have received their First Reconciliation.</p> <p>Register HERE</p>  |
|--|---|---|

*Mrs Natalie Coghlan
Religious Education Coordinator*

Caritas Australia Project Compassion Appeal

Caritas Australia's Water Challenge-

The Mini Vinnie's team will be participating in Caritas Australia's Water Challenge. This is where we will be carrying a bucket of water for 3km. This initiative will help raise awareness and allow students to stand in solidarity with those in our world who are facing water shortages or have no accessible running water in their homes. We thank the members of the Mini Vinnies team for raising funds for such a worthy cause. Due to the rain, we've had to postpone our participation in the challenge.

Our next proposed date is Thursday 7th April.

It's not too late to donate! All donations are to be submitted online via the St Patrick's Primary School profile at:

<https://fundraise.projectcompassion.org.au/stpatricksprimaryschoolblacktown>

To find out more about the Water Challenge and ways your family can also participate. Please visit this link:

<https://lent.caritas.org.au/water-challenge>



Miss Matienzo, Miss Fauni and the Mini Vinnie's team

Library News

Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge

Huge congratulations to the wonderful readers at our School who participated in the Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge over the Summer Holidays. We are very proud of your wonderful commitment to reading.

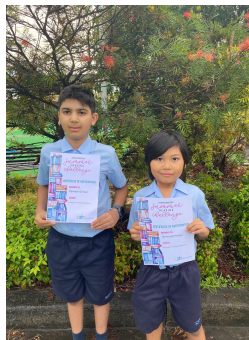
Congratulations to the following students who participated in the challenge this year:

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Arya Bedi | Kush Pandey |
| Ridit Bedi | Yash Pandey |
| Ridit Bedi | Jeremiah Pelayo |
| Leon Blackler | Richa Ranade |
| Jaeden Coloma | Jay Refalo |
| Raivya Duggal | Sofia Vitetta |
| Anmol Gill | Kingston Webber |
| Carmen Gonzalez | Annabella Zaghtiti |
| Rannbir Grewal | Krystal Zaghtiti |
| Japji Kaur | |

St Patricks Book Fair

Thank you for your support of our recent Book Fair. We hope that your children are enjoying their new books! We were able to raise \$2550 in book sales which translates to almost \$800 in new books for our Library! Keep a look out for all of our new books in the library during your borrowing times.

Mrs Gudaitis and Mrs Pono



REVIEWS OF OUR SCHOOL

Families looking to enrol at St. Patricks, always look at our Website and Facebook page. [It would be greatly appreciated if you could add a Review on our Facebook page, highlighting a positive aspect of our community.](#) St. Patrick's is certainly a beautiful community to be part of and we would love to see your affirmations.
[St-Patricks-Primary-School-Blacktown](#)

Uniform Changeover

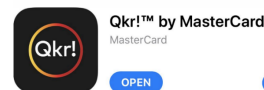
By Week 3 of Term 2, we ask that all students are in their full Winter uniform. For the first 3 weeks, depending on the weather, children may wear their Winter or Summer uniform as we transition to Winter uniform.

Compass Parent Portal - St Patrick's encourages parents to download the Compass Parent Portal app once your child is enrolled at our school. It will be our primary communication tool that will facilitate effective communication between parents and school. All **school notes, notices and newsletters will be sent through Compass.**



To access the Compass Parent Portal app, simply download the '**Compass School Manager**' app, available through Apple Store or Google Play. It is suitable for both iPhone and Android Smartphones.

QKR! (pronounced 'quicker') Mobile Payment App - St Patrick's is now a 'cashless school'. QKR! is an easy to use mobile phone application that is also suitable for both iPhone and Android Smartphones. This service is currently available for all payments **except for school fees**. Communications will be distributed as new events and products become available for purchase.



Also follow us on **Facebook** for the latest news, upcoming events and lots more!

If in need, please don't hesitate to contact the school office on 8869 6000.

Please ensure that you are watching our school Facebook page and that you have signed up for COMPASS as this is how all correspondence/updates are shared with you.

Attendance

Attendance - Every School Day Counts! Here Everyday Ready On Time - Morning Bell 8:55 am!

Regular attendance at school is critical to ensuring that every student has the kind of opportunities in life that he or she deserves. Non-attendance has a variety of effects on students, both academically and socially. As you are aware, every day of attendance at school adds to your child's chances of success and achievement from Kindergarten through to high school.



Every day at school counts towards your child's learning!

Absences add up quickly. If your child is absent 1 day every 2 weeks over the course of a school year, this will add up to 20 days loss of education. This is almost half a school term in a year!

If your child is absent due to illness, please inform the school by entering in COMPASS Parent Portal, or send us an email. Alternatively you can always contact our school office and explain absences on the day. When a student is away for more than two days, a Medical Certificate will be required when returning to school.

St Patricks Attendance Liaison Officer
Aida Almeida

EACH DAY MISSED:

- ▶ Puts your child behind and makes it harder for them to catch up
- ▶ Can lead to lower achievement in reading, writing and numeracy
- ▶ Can lead to gaps in learning and social connections

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



April 3rd: Jasmine Apai

April 5th: Arya Bedi

April 11th: Jasleen Kaur & Abigail Pelayo

April 17th: Wintley Rimoni

April 20th: Kaleb Green

April 25th: Austin Lampson

May 1st: Chibuzor Oghor

May 4th: Zoe Borg

April 4th: Tony Deng

April 10th: Abigail Chineke

April 16th: Sophia Abulail & Jazarah Calderon

April 19th: Valerie Tedja

April 23rd: Ellaiza Ann Saranghilo

April 30th: Chaze Cruz

May 2nd: Holly Jones

May 6th: Alexander Green

Cross Country/Fun Run 2022

Our Cross Country /Fun Run was a great success for our St Patrick's students..

What a wonderful sight to see all of our students participating in the carnival. The weather was perfect for our day. K-6 were all given the opportunity to run in either the competitive Cross Country event or the Fun Run. Congratulations to all of the students on their efforts. Some of our students will now represent our school in the Diocesan Cross Country at Eastern Creek Tuesday 3rd May, Week 2, Term 2.

A big thankyou to our Yr 6 leaders who did a wonderful job in helping to run the day.

We really appreciate the help of our Parents. Without them we could not run fun activities like this. Thank you Hailey Borg, Glenda Santos, Monica Thorp, Marie Mokoia, Ashwin Sharma and Rim Malki.



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 our school office between 8:30am and 3:00pm or simply download via the school website. <https://www.stpatsblacktown.catholic.edu.au/Enrol-Now/How-to-enrol>

We ask that all families who have a sibling starting in 2023, advise the Office within the next week so that we can confirm how many places we have available for other families.

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



Open Day: 5th May 10am



St Patrick's Primary School Blacktown



**Looking to Enrol
for
Kindergarten 2023?**

**2023 Enrolments Now Open!
Don't Miss Out!**

Contact us!
02 8869 6000

Email: stpatsblacktown@parra.catholic.edu.au
Website: www.stpatsblacktown.catholic.edu.au/

Is your child ready to start Kindy?
Join us for a
Kindy Open Day!



Open Days

15th March 10am
29th March 10am
&
5th May 10am

Enrolment Packs Available Now!

Please call our school office to organise your enrolment pack or
download an enrolment form from our school website.
www.stpatsblacktown.catholic.edu.au



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 1. 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.



Fourth Week of Lent



This week through Project Compassion we learn about Rosali. From her life as a child soldier in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rosalie is now a business owner, a community leader and a role model for other ex-combatants seeking to readjust to civilian life. Watch a short film about Rosalie's story [here](#).

Thank you for your generosity with our Project Compassion School Team! We currently have \$1012 in total. We greatly appreciate your donations which now exceed our target of \$1000!
Your support is invaluable to us, thank you again!

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations**.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 through our St Patrick's Primary School grade teams:
<https://fundraise.projectcompassion.org.au/stpatrickprimaryschoolblacktown>