



# St Patrick's News

## Term 3, Issue 4 – September 2nd 2022



### St Patrick's School Values

#### Term 3 - Upcoming Dates

- September 4th:** 10am - Confirmation St Patrick's Church
- September 5th-23rd:** Swimming Program Begins for Kindy to Year 4
- September 8th:** Year 1 attending Parish Mass at 9am
- September 9th:** Mufti Day
- September 15th:** Year 5 attending Parish Mass at 9 am / Voice of Youth Finals
- September 16th:** Stage 2 Touch Gala Day
- September 21st:** Principal's Morning Tea
- September 22nd:** Year 6 attending Parish Mass at 9am, Mrs Coghlan's Farewell Liturgy 2:30 pm in MPA.
- September 23rd:** Stage 3 Touch Football Gala Day, Mercy Day Liturgy 2:30
- Last Day of Term 3**

#### Term 4

- October 10th:** Staff Development Day - PUPIL FREE.
- October 11th:** Schools Returns
- October 13th:** Year 4 attending Parish Mass at 9am
- October 14th:** Dance Fever Kindy-Year 6 Begins
- October 20th:** Year 3 attending Parish Mass at 9am
- October 27th:** Year 2 attending Parish Mass at 9am
- November 3rd:** Year 1 attending Parish Mass at 9am
- November 11th:**  
**Fundraiser-Walk-A-Thon**

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Happy Fathers Day!** Today we gathered as a faith community to celebrate all of the fathers and father figures in the childrens' lives. We were amazed to see so many fathers/grandfathers gather for breakfast and a Liturgy together.

Special thanks to Rima Mourad, Anita Jug and all the parent helpers and staff members who prepared the delicious breakfast. We hope that all those who take on a fathering role in the children's lives have a wonderful day on Sunday!

Please also keep in your prayers, Father Regie and Father Chadi who are 'Fathers' to us all, who guide us in our lives and bring us closer to God through his words.

**Book Week:** Wow! What a wonderful celebration of the great variety of books that children know and love! We were inspired to look up so many different books, once we had seen who the children came dressed as. Special thanks to all families for putting so much effort and creativity into selecting a character for your child to dress as. Thank you also to the parents/carers who joined our picnic and reading session. The school grounds were alive with laughter, picnic blankets, incredible costumes and the sound of people reading together.

**Mrs Coghlan's Farewell:** Parents and carers are warmly invited to join us on Thursday 22nd September, to farewell Mrs Coghlan. The Liturgy will be held in the MPA at 2:30pm.

**Miss Allegra:** We are excited to share the wonderful news that Miss Allegra is engaged. We wish her and her fiance many blessings at this exciting time.

**Walk-A-Thon:** To raise funds for much needed technology, 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! **Special thanks to Anita Jug who has generously donated a large number of Maccas vouchers for our students. What a great start! Who will be next to donate?**

*A further set of RAT tests will be sent home with each child today! Please use as required.*

God bless,  
Mrs Fitzalan  
St. Patrick's Principal



#### A Father's Day Prayer

God,  
Bless all the fathers in the world. Father, we ask that You guide them to be good role models and loving to their children. We also ask that You help them to be a father like You are. Give them grace and patience to handle situations in a loving way.  
Amen



Sunday, 4th September 2022: TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

[Luke 14:25-33](#) A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

### Gospel Reflection

Our 'possessions' are all those things – material, emotional, and psychological – that we cling to and that we think give us our identity and status. Jesus called for a radical reinterpretation of status and position. He tells his listeners that they cannot truly be disciples if they continue to cling to those things that are considered important in this world. They have to surrender the things that bind them to this world's ideas of status and position before they can fully embrace the kingdom view of the world. As Jesus said, you have to really count the cost!

© Greg Sunter

### Mini Vinnies Formation Program

The St Vincent de Paul Society runs a Mini Vinnies Formation Program (MVFP). The MVFP will nurture students, who undertake the project, to be a light in the world, inspired by the spirit of Blessed Frederic Ozanam and Gospel values.

The MVFP is open to **ALL** students from Years 4-6 (regardless of whether or not they are part of Mini Vinnies). Participation in the Program is voluntary and students will make their way through three awards: Bronze, Silver and ultimately Gold. This formation will be undertaken in the students own time at home, and parent or guardian supervision is required. For more information, please see the [Mini Vinnies Registration Information page](#). Please click here to [register your interest](#). Congratulations to all of our students who have already completed projects this term.



### Confirmation

Congratulations to some of our Year 5 & Year 6 students who received the Sacrament of Confirmation this week. We are very proud of you all. Thank you to the families who continue to nurture and guide them on their faith journey. The final Confirmation Mass for this year will be held this **Sunday, 4th September at 10.00am in St Patrick's church. All welcome to attend.**

### 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](#) which includes upcoming events and a disco for our youth and young adults.

### Important Dates and Reminders!

<p><b>First Reconciliation</b> <b>ATTN: Years 3 and above</b></p> <p>Online registrations close 18th September. <a href="#">See flyer</a> for key dates.</p> <p>This program is for students in Year 3 or above who are baptised.</p> <p>Register <a href="#">HERE</a></p> <p><b>REGISTER NOW</b></p>	<p><b>Why Pray With Your Kids?</b></p> <p>Prayer is one important way we connect with God.</p> <p><a href="#">HERE</a> is a book filled with daily prayers you can use at home.</p> 	<p><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> 
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Mrs Natalie Coghlan  
Religious Education Coordinator

### St Pat's Kitchen Garden

Another great harvesting success story at St Pat's Kitchen Garden. Students and teachers eagerly harvested potatoes. The students were overwhelmed with the sight, shape and number of potatoes they all collected. Mrs O'Donoghue even found wriggly earthworms.

Students explored what dish they could cook with potatoes. Some are eager to make mashed potatoes while others are interested in fries 🍟. Mrs O'Donoghue also pulled out a radish plant..yummo!



## School Counsellor

Dear Parents & Carers,

The Parks Community Network are offering some fantastic parenting programs throughout the school terms.

These programs will give you skills and confidence to manage your child's challenging behaviours, encourage more positive behaviour and take the stress out of parenting. The aim of these courses is to help parents guide the social and emotional wellbeing of their children. We know that happy children do well at school and in life.

These programs are evidence based, which means they work :) 123 magic and emotion coaching for parents has two versions, the original version and another one designed to work with additional needs children.

Courses can be delivered in English and Arabic and all are free!

You will meet and hear from other parents who are experiencing similar challenges with their children and most parents who have joined report good outcomes and would recommend doing these courses.

For more information please contact:

Susan Isacc, the Family Support Worker at The Parks Community Network;

P (02) 96097400 Ext 104 | M 0404699879; F (02) 97571094

E: [cdw2@parkscommunity.org.au](mailto:cdw2@parkscommunity.org.au).

[www.parkscommunity.org.au](http://www.parkscommunity.org.au)

[Fun FRIENDS](#)

## Library News

### Premier's Reading Challenge

The Premier's Reading Challenge has now closed. Thank you to all the students who have registered their reading logs on the PRC Website. Your Certificates will be arriving within the next few months. As stated in previous newsletters, those students from Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 have had their reading logs entered by their teachers.

### Book Week

Our Book Week Celebrations began with a bang on Monday 22nd August with our book character parades and our parent picnic/reading sessions. It was wonderful to see our parents back on site, enjoying the sunshine and reading quality books to their children. Our students and teachers had so much fun dressing up in their favourite book character costumes and enjoyed the opportunity to show off their hard work during the parades. I'd like to extend my thanks to all who attended and made this occasion so special, especially our beautiful parents who came along to our picnic and parades and who helped to ensure their children looked spectacular!



### Book Fair

Our Book Fair took place on Monday-Wednesday during our Book Week celebrations. Again, it was so wonderful to see the excitement around purchasing quality literature for our children. Thank you to all of the parents who helped to support their children's love of reading by purchasing at our fair. A portion of the sales made will go to purchasing new books to keep our library stocked with new and exciting books for our students to enjoy.



*Mrs Gudaitis*  
*Library Teacher*



*The St Pat's Way*  
*Update*

[The St Pat's Way Update](#)





## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**September 2nd:** Leon Blackler & Allianna Juanga  
**September 3rd:** Hateni Kalu  
**September 4th:** Emily Zhang  
**September 5th:** Akur Aguek  
**September 6th:** Julie Collins  
**September 7th:** Arianne Bautista  
**September 8th:** Rav Cea  
**September 9th:** Deon Medina  
**September 10th:** Arel Erkol  
**September 11th:** Helen Zhao  
**September 12th:** Salesi Ma'afu & Sofia Vitetta  
**September 14th:** Kai Adamson, Caitlyn Arellano & Annabella Zaghtiti  
**September 15th:** Kateleen Cruz



## Wellbeing - Let them be children!

1. Fly a kite.
2. Build a stick fort.
3. Dig a hole. Bury something. Make a time capsule.
4. See what's under rocks.
5. Identify tree types.
6. Play tag, hide and go seek, or spotlight (tag at night with flashlights).
7. Go on a scavenger hunt.
8. Make an entry in a nature journal.
9. Take a walk or go on a hike.
10. Climb a tree.
11. Tell stories.
12. Learn to tie 10 different kinds of knots.
13. Ride your bike, skateboard, or scooter.



## Zone Athletics

On the 26th of August, students from Years 2-6 competed at Charlie Bali Reserve in the Blacktown District Zone Athletics Carnival. These children were the top athletes in our own school carnival and looked to compete against their peers from other schools across a range of events. Mr. Browne, Mrs. Harkin, Mr. Johnson and Mrs. Houghton were so impressed by not only the behaviour of every boy and girl, but the manner in which they showed maturity and sportsmanship in all of their events. A further congratulations to *Achala Athum (Year 4)*, *Jarwyn Quarthey (Year 5)*, *Allano Castro* and *Christopher Weatherby (Year 6)* who competed today at our Diocesan Carnival.

**Congratulations to all of our wonderful students for representing our school so spectacularly!**



## 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.

## 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**



## 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

## 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. [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 2. 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.