



St Patrick's News

Term 1, Issue 1 – February 3rd 2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

*As we begin the new school year together, may we strive to show the **MERCY** values to all: Love, Compassion, Justice, Respect, Excellence, Hospitality and Dignity.*



May God bless you and your precious children as we work together in 2023.

Staff [2023 Teacher Class List](#)

Opening School Mass: On Friday February 10th, we will celebrate our Opening School Mass. Our new School Leaders will receive their badges at this special mass. All parents and carers are very welcome to join us as we celebrate the Eucharist together. The mass will begin at 10am.

School Leaders

School Captains Alisi Aho & Marcus DeVilla

Mission Leaders Meera Pillay, Kingston Webber & Kateleen Cruz

Media Leaders Manya Shah, Josh Reyes & Juben Manchada

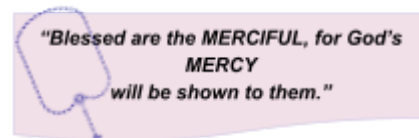
Sport Leaders Johnethan Angolo, Sophia Vitetta & Christian Mourad

Kindy Parents Information Session and BBQ: On Thursday February 9th, parents/carers and children are invited to join us at school for an Information session and BBQ. Whilst the session is on in the Library from 5-5:45, our Year 6 leaders and some teachers will play games with your children on the playground. The BBQ will run from 5:45 - 7pm. We look forward to seeing all of the Kindy (and new) families there!

'Meet The Teacher' On Tuesday February 14th, or Wednesday February 15th, class teachers will be presenting information regarding teaching and learning/expectations and events in their grade, during a 40/45 minutes session. We warmly invite **PARENTS/CARERS** to attend this session to hear all about your child's learning in 2023.

Today, your child brought home an 'All About Me' questionnaire, which you are asked to complete. Please ensure that this BLUE page is returned by Friday.

Kinder	BBQ and Session (outlined above)
Year 1	Tuesday 14th 5:30pm
Year 2	Wednesday 15th 5pm
Year 3	Wednesday 15th 5pm
Year 4	Wednesday 15th 5:30pm
Year 5	Tuesday 14th 5pm
Year 6	Tuesday 14th 5pm



Classrooms will remain open for ½ hour after the session should you wish to speak with the teacher.

Wishing you and your precious children God's blessings.

Monica Fitzalan
School Principal

Term 1 - 2023

February 4th: Parish Altar Serving Training Day

February 7th: Kids on Keyboards Commences

February 9th: Kindy Welcome BBQ 5pm-7pm

February 10th: Opening School Mass 10am, School Assembly 2:40pm. All welcome.

February 17th: Mufti Day - World Youth Day Fundraiser

February 20th: Eye Tests Commences

February 21st: Shrove Tuesday

February 22nd: Ash Wednesday

February 26th: First Sunday of Lent

February 27th: Mercy day - Wear **RED**

March 5th: Second Sunday of Lent

March 6th: Parents Representative Council Meeting, Book Fair Begins
Catholic Schools Week begins!

March 8th: Blacktown Zone Swimming

March 9th: Picnic lunch and Reading afternoon. All welcome.

March 10th: 2024 Kindy Open Day

March 12th: Third Sunday of Lent

March 13th: NAPLAN week

March 17th: Feast of St Patrick's

March 19th: Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 20th: Harmony Day & World Down Syndrome Day

March 25th: Feast of Annunciation

March 26th: Fifth Sunday of Lent

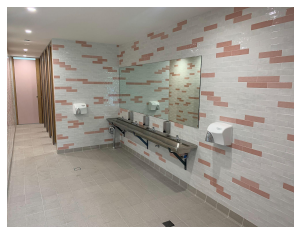
March 31st: 2024 Kindy Open Day

April 2nd: Palm Sunday

April 6th: Last Day of Term 1

New toilets!

Children have been delighted to see and use the beautiful new toilets near the canteen. This was our latest project in 2022! How wonderful to have colourful, well designed new facilities for our students.



Faith Community

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! It's been a great delight to see you all return safely to begin our 2023 school year. This week I shared a prayer with the staff and thought it would be a great opportunity to share it with you all as well.

We thank God

- for the energy and rest we have gained during our summer break
- for each other: for families and students we know already and have worked with, and for new families and students whom we welcome into our school community
- for looking after our school community during the break
- for the students we will meet and teach during this school year

We pray that we will always be mindful of each other; and thankful for the gifts and talents of our students.

We ask for the gift of wisdom as we help them to develop to the best of their ability.

I look forward to working with the school community again this year in my role as Religious Education Coordinator.

God bless!

Miss Cecilienne-Mae Matienzo

Religious Education Coordinator

Important Dates and Reminders!

Sunday Gospel Reading

Your light must shine in the sight of men

Matthew 5:13-16

<https://universalis.com/20230205/mass.htm>



Click on the picture to find out more information about the WYD Parish Bingo Fundraiser

Parish Links

New Parish Priest- Fr Andrew Rooney

Please be advised that Bishop Vincent has appointed a new assistant priest at the Parish. Fr. Andrew Rooney. Fr. Rooney commenced with us on the 16th January 2023.



We look forward to welcoming Fr Rooney to our school community this year.

For further Parish information please visit the following link:

<https://mqofblacktown.org.au/>

Free English classes

"Life Anglican Church will be running free English classes for all levels. An additional English class with a focus in writing will also be offered. The classes will be run in the evening to include people who work. Classes will be run on Wednesdays at 6pm starting 1st February 2023 at 4 Samuel Place, Quakers Hill (behind Aldi). Those interested in enrolling, should contact Dr Daisy William at daisy.william@lifeac.org.au"

Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese Ltd

From the beginning of 2023, Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta will have a new name, Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese Ltd. The organisation will also have a new governance framework. It is not expected that these changes will have an impact on the day-to-day operation of schools, or upon students, parents and carers, and parishes. Further information is available [here](#).



January 1st: Gabriel Al Houch, Nathan John, Janny Juntarpoon, Marian Shrestha & David Zheng
 January 3rd: Araf Alsaadi
 January 4th: Lou Deng, Mahati Menon & Miko Panganiban
 January 5th: Ivan Ghazoul
 January 6th: Isla Cunningham
 January 7th: Kalista Derksen, Zalah Garcia, Arayah Garcia & Saviour Saliba
 January 9th: Snithik Singh
 January 10th: Rudra Patel
 January 14th: Manya Shah
 January 16th: Liam Aung, Saige DeLuca & Faith Walker
 January 19th: Anmol Gill
 January 22nd: Divya Kandel
 January 24th: Matthew Pavlek
 January 25th: Maddison Borja
 January 27th: Johnathan Angolo
 January 28th: Anika Srivastava
 January 29th: Diggy Fadlelmula
 January 30th: Miguel DeVilla & Jessica Weatherby
 January 31st: Lilith Green
 February 2nd: Tracey Naaba
 February 4th: Harbaaz Singh
 February 5th: Gail Arielle Dela Pena
 February 6th: Melinda Derksen-Hudson
 February 8th: Tyga-John Saad & Nuoxin Yan
 February 9th: Owen Cunningham
 February 11th: Luke Constable & Rhys Nawajh
 February 12th: Laticia Hodgson
 February 13th: Ashvik Chandra
 February 14th: Oliver Hutchings-Kirk
 February 16th: Riley Egan & Miguel Paje
 February 17th: Eliche Datorin



Starting, moving or transitioning school can be an exciting, worrying and stressful time for children and parents/carers. Here are some tips to reduce anxiety and increase confidence

<https://raisingchildren.net.au/school-age/school-learning/school-choosing-starting-moving/starting-school>

Please don't hesitate to call me via the school office if you have any concerns about your child's transition back to school or your family's safety and wellbeing.

I will be based at St Patrick's on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays in 2023.

Welcome back! - Caitlin Grainger (Wellbeing Counsellor)

*Take care,
Caitlin (Wellbeing Counsellor)*

Lunch Orders

Joey's Canteen offers Breakfast, lunch and snacks for staff and students. If you have any questions, you can contact Mrs Nakhoul at joeyscanteen1@gmail.com

Joey's Canteen Menu

As 'Joey's' is a privately run canteen, **CASH** can be used for purchases.

Meals can be purchased through 'Spriggy Schools' or over the counter.

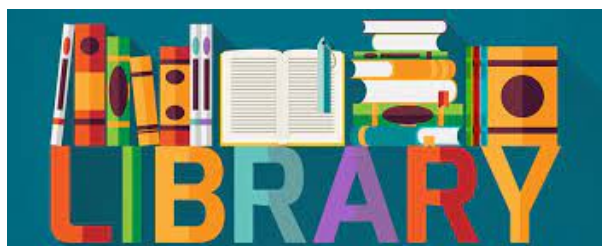
Spriggy app ["Spriggy Schools" app](#)



Orders must be placed by 8:30am on the day the food is to be received.

Library News

Library books: If you had a 'clean out' at home in the holidays and found any school Library books, could you please return them ASAP. We have many outstanding books which means other students cannot borrow them to read. Your support is appreciated.



Positive Partnerships

Dear Parents/Carers, please see links below with details about a workshop for the Arabic speaking community.

This free workshop will be held in Moorebank and is a fantastic opportunity for parents and caregivers to learn and share in safe space.

[Autism workshop for the Arabic speaking community](#)
[Autism workshop for the Arabic speaking community](#)

 **positive partnerships**
 Working together to support school-aged students on the autism spectrum

Office News

School Fees

Dear Parents, you should be receiving fee statements within the next 2 weeks. 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](#)
If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact our school office on 8869 6000.

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.

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.

St Patrick's Online Communication

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.**

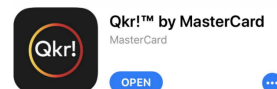


To access the Compass Parent Portal app, simply download the '**Compass School Manager**' app, available through Apple Store or Google Play. It is suitable for both iPhone and Android Smartphones.

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.

***Wishing you all God's blessings in 2023.
We are delighted that you are part of our St. Patrick's Community.***