



St Patrick's News

Term 2, Issue 5 – 12th May, 2023

School Calendar



MAY

15th - Students return in full Winter uniform
15th & 16th - Yr 5 GAB Camp
22nd - TTFM Survey begins
24th - Stg 3 Girls Soccer Gala day
25th - Yr 4 Parish Mass 9am
26th - National Sorry Day
28th - Pentecost Sunday
29th - Yrs 3-6 Athletics Carnival at Charlie Bali Reserve

JUNE

2nd - Kindergarten Excursion to Calmsley Hill City Farm
8th - Yr 3 Parish Mass at 9am
9th - **Pupil Free Day** & TTFM survey ends
12th - **King's Birthday PUBLIC HOLIDAY**
15th - Yr 2 Parish Mass 9am
16th - Stg 3 Boys Soccer Gala day
19th - Yrs K-2 Athletics Carnival held at school
22nd - Reports issued
27th/28th - Parent/Teacher Interviews
28th - Stg 2 Soccer Gala day
30th - **LAST DAY OF TERM**

Welcome to our Week 3 Newsletter

I hope you have had a wonderful week, especially all of the mothers/mother figures who joined us to celebrate today.

And she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! [Luke 1:42](#)

Mothers Day: Today we celebrated God's gift of our mothers. When God made mothers, he gave the best he had! May Mary our Mother, watch over and bless all mothers and their precious children. I hope that Sunday is a special day and that you feel how loved and important you are in the life of your child/children.

Achala: My mum provides for me and cares for me. We love to play volleyball together. She makes Macorona pasta for me. I love my mum.

Anika: I would like to thank my mum for all her hard work. She makes me feel calm and relaxed. She is like a Superhero who always comes to my rescue!

A few important dates that parents have been looking forward to hearing:

Athletics Carnival	Monday, 29th May. Years 3-6 and Year 2's who turn 8.
Grandparents Day	Monday 21st August.
Colour run!!!	Fundraiser: Colour Run! How exciting is that! Friday October 20th.
Pupil Free Day	Friday, 9th June, Week 7 Pupil Free Day.

- If you are interested in being part of a Committee to help with the Colour Run - particularly the organisation of Donations (prizes) could you please give the school office a call as we will be organising a meeting soon. This will be our major fundraiser for the year and we look forward to having lots of fun whilst raising money to support our school community.

Winter Uniform: All students need to be in their full Winter uniform by Monday, 15th May.

*Special congratulations to our students who represented our school so well at the **Diocesan Cross Country** this week. Mr Browne, Miss Fauni, Mrs MacDonald and myself attended the Carnival on Wednesday and were very proud of the determination, focus, resilience and talent of our young runners! Well done everyone!*

Update: I hope you have been finding the 'What's on This Week?' communication is clear and helpful each week. Please note that our full Newsletter only goes out 2 times each term, Weeks 3 and 7. Today is Friday of Week 3, so here is the Newsletter!

Wishing you and your precious family God's blessings.
Mrs Fitzalan
Principal



Faith Community

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Term 2! I hope you are all well. It has been a great start to Term 2 and was lovely to have our mothers and mother figures join us for our Mother's Day Mass today. We hope you all have a wonderful day celebrating on Sunday. Let us also take the opportunity to remember Mother Mary, during this month of May which is dedicated to her.

Mary's Pantry

Thank you also for your generous donations to Mary's Pantry. The team at Mary's Pantry were very grateful for our donations that will go towards helping those in need in our local community. Remember that Mary's Pantry is open every day until 1pm. If you or someone you know requires assistance, please be sure to contact Mary's Pantry.

Sacramental Process

By now your child should have been enrolled in the Sacramental Process via the Church. Please ensure you read the communications sent via the Sacramental team. Could you also please send an email to the school email (stpatsblacktown@parra.catholic.edu.au) to let me know when your child will be receiving their Sacrament.

God bless!

Miss Cecillienne-Mae Matienzo
Religious Education Coordinator

— MAY —
IS THE MONTH OF



The Blessed Virgin Mary



— MAY IS THE MONTH OF THE —
Blessed Virgin Mary

THE MONTH OF MAY HAS BEEN DEVOTED TO THE BLESSED MOTHER SINCE AT LEAST THE 18TH CENTURY. HONORING MARY IN THE MONTH OF MAY HAS BEEN ENCOURAGED BY MANY POPES.

THE MONTH ENDS WITH THE FEAST OF THE VISITATION ON MAY 31ST.

"DURING THIS BEAUTIFUL MONTH OF OUR LADY, LET US CROWN HER WITH FRAGRANT FLOWERS... AND ASK JESUS TO BE TRULY A CAUSE OF JOY TO HER AS HE 'WAS'." - ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA

WAYS TO HONOR THE BLESSED MOTHER THIS MONTH:

- HAVE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO PRAY A ROSARY AND OFFER IT FOR SOMEONE'S INTENTIONS.
- DECORATE YOUR PRAYER SPACE TO HONOR THE BLESSED MOTHER.
- PLACE FLOWERS NEXT TO YOUR MARY STATUE.
- PRAY THE LITANY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (LITANY OF LORETO).
- REFLECT ON THE MAGNIFICAT.
- MARY'S HYMN OF PRAISE —
- VISIT A CHURCH OR PLACE OF PILGRIMAGE THAT IS DEDICATED TO THE BLESSED MOTHER.
- PARTICIPATE IN A MAY CROWNING.

Mini Vinnie's News:



Thank you for your continued support for the Mini Vinnie's Team and their Toastie Thursdays. Remember that your child can order a Toastie via the QKR app. All funds raised will be used to support charities in our community.



MARY, QUEEN OF THE FAMILY
PARISH, BLACKTOWN

Parish Links

For further Parish information please visit the following link:

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

Parish Bulletin

<https://mqofblacktown.org.au/news-events/#bulletin>

World Youth Day Fundraiser -

Please join the MQOF Youth group fundraiser to help support the youth attending WYD 2023 in Lisbon, Portugal. Both Miss Matienzo and Miss Fauni will be attending WYD in July and would love to see you support the MQOF youth group's fundraising efforts!

What: WYD Fundraiser- Trivia Night

When: Saturday May 20, 2023, 6:30pm for a 7pm start

Where: St Patrick's MPA

Cost: \$25 per ticket or \$200 for a table of 10

Please contact the Parish office for ticket purchases on: 9622 1125



Happy Birthday to.....

April

1st - Alexa Razon
4th - Tony Deng
5th - Gabrielle Tiu
10th - Abigail Chineke
11th - Jasleen Kaur & Abigail Pelayo
12th - Guradabjot Sandhu
16th - Sophia Abulail
17th - Wintley Rimoni
19th - Valerie Tedja
20th - Kaleb Green
22nd - Josaiah Ata
23rd - Ellaiza Ann Saranghillo
25th - Austin Lampson
30th - Chaze Cruz



May

1st - Chibuzor Oghor
2nd - Dre Deng
3rd - Gurnyaz Singh
4th - Zoe Borg
9th - Ateng Dut & Launga Kalu
10th - Isaiah John
13th - Dominic Ashton & Lomio Ata
14th - Jayhaan Kumar
15th - Stella Borg
18th - Lalique Olandres
20th - Ayman Almourtada, George Hontas, Tomoe Nguyen, Arnav Pawar, Kobe Royeras
21st - Eliana Marasigan
22nd - Chloe Borg, Ara Dsouza & Kristina Mojus
23rd - Jeeval Kumar
26th - Marcus Retamales
29th - Matthew Kelso
31st - Jayden Valenzuela

June

2nd - Araz Feraset
5th - Ruby Gutierrez & Havana Rojas
6th - Olivia Borg, Anikesh Kumar & Sophia Selman



Library News from Mrs Gudaitis

Book Fair

In Week 9 of Term 1, we held another successful Book Fair in the library. We sold over \$2700 worth of books which resulted in over \$900 worth of new books that we were able to purchase for our library. I would like to extend a huge thank you to all of our parents and families who supported us during the fair and who can see the value in bringing quality literature to our children. I would also like to thank Mrs Pono, Mrs McDonald, Mrs Davino and Mrs Leilua for their most valued support throughout the fair. Without them, the fair would not be the success that it was. Thank you!

Borrowing

The borrowing schedule for each class is as follows:

Monday: Year 3 and Year 1

Tuesday: Kindergarten and Year 4

Wednesday: Year 6

Friday: Year 5 and Year 2

Please ensure your child has their library bag and book ready on these days, ready to return from the previous week.

Book Club

Book Club Issue 3 is now open for purchases! **Orders close on the 15th May.** You can access the catalogue in two ways:

- Online- visit <https://www.scholastic.com.au/book-club/book-club-parents/book-club/> or
- Visit the front office and pick up a paper copy of Issue 3



National Simultaneous Storytime

Once again St Patrick's has registered for the National Simultaneous Storytime (NSS) for 2023! NSS is in its 23rd big year! On this special day, students and teachers all read the same book at the same time, fostering a sense of community and excitement around reading. It's the perfect way to get your kids excited about books and learning! Almost 2.2 million readers participated last year including the beautiful children at St Patrick's. NSS will take place on the 24th May 2023 and the text that has been chosen to be read is 'The Speedy Sloth' By Rebecca Young and Heath McKenzie. We can't wait to stop as a



school community and read this wonderful text knowing that this book will be read by millions more at the very same time from schools, homes and libraries right across the country!

Premier's Reading Challenge

The Challenge aims to encourage a love of reading for leisure and pleasure in students, and to enable them to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely. The Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) is open to all NSW students in Kindergarten to Year 10, in government, independent, Catholic and home schools.

Key dates for the 2023 challenge are:

27 February 2023 - challenge opens for student entries

Friday 18 August 2023 - challenge closes for student entries.



As was the case last year, students from Years 3-6 will be required to enter their books read into the PRC book log independently. Children from Kindergarten - Year 2 will have their books entered on their behalf by their teachers based on the books that they have read in class throughout the year. Year 3-6 passwords are the same as in previous years, copies of each child's login details will be distributed to class teachers.

News from Mrs Preston

Supporting your child

Getting the Most out of Gaming webinar

The Council of Catholic school Parents NSW/ACT, in conjunction with the eSafety Commissioner, is holding a 45 minute webinar on Tuesday 23 May to provide families with strategies for supporting children and young people to have safe, positive experiences when playing games online. It is designed for parents and carers of children aged 7 to 14.

It will cover:

- when gaming can be beneficial;
- strategies to promote better in-game experiences;
- how to keep children safe online – using safety and privacy settings in games and platforms;
- strategies to promote more balanced gaming and how to create smoother transitions from game-play to other activities; and
- the key online risks and where to find help for things like bullying and harassment in games.

For more information and to register, click [here](#).

Support your child's literacy skills

The Council of Catholic School Parents NSW/ACT is excited to be able to continue to provide families across NSW and the ACT with opportunities to build their capacity to support their child's learning.

Corey Tutt OAM, proud Kamilaroi man and the 2020 Young Australian of the Year for NSW, will read a section of his book, [The First Scientists](#) to children and young people. Parents and carers are encouraged to register for this online event on the evening of 30 May.

Parents are welcome to attend and hear tips about how reading at home can improve children's literacy skills.

Registrations are now open [here](#) or via the same link in the attached flyer [Corey Tutt Literacy - Final flyer.pdf](#) . Corey Tutt will be reading at 6:30 pm on Tuesday 30 May.

Road Safety



Safety Town is a great website for Parents, Children and Teachers that promotes Road Safety. [Click here](#) to access the website for great information.



Please be conscious when driving in our car park. There are children and elderly parishioners around!

Please respect that your child's safety is our priority **SO PLEASE SLOW DOWN!**

Parent Teacher Interviews

Your child's report will be sent home in Week 9 via our Compass Parent Portal. The following week, Week 10, we will be holding Parent Teacher Interviews so look out in the coming weeks for information on how to book your child's interview with their teacher.

NAPLAN

From 2023, NAPLAN results will be reported against 4 proficiency standards rather than numerical bands as in previous years.

NAPLAN reports will contain 4 easy-to-understand proficiency standards:

- Exceeding
- Strong
- Developing
- Needs additional support.

The new reporting standards will provide parents, carers and teachers with simpler and clearer information about how students are performing.

Print copies of individual student reports (ISR) and additional student reports (ASR) are expected to be sent to schools for distribution to parents and carers early in Term 3.

Counselling Corner

Hi St Patrick's Community,

Below are some fact sheets and podcasts on managing anxiety and mental health difficulties for your child and for yourself:

- Supporting your child's emotions <https://emergingminds.com.au/resources/podcast/supporting-your-childs-emotions/>
- Anxiety in primary school aged children <https://emergingminds.com.au/resources/anxiety-in-primary-school-aged-children/>
- Self care for parents and caregivers <https://emergingminds.com.au/resources/self-care-for-parents-and-caregivers/>
- Talking to your child about your primary aged child mental health difficulties <https://shorturl.at/BEOR0>

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me with any questions or worries relating to mental health.

Take care, Caitlin (Wellbeing Counsellor, Mon-Wed)

Office News

School Fees

Dear Parents, you should've now received your fee statements. If you have changed your address, please don't forget to update details 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.

Communication and Essential Apps

COMPASS Parent Portal

The primary form of communication between parents and carers and school. Please contact the school office if you are still unable to download the app or are experiencing technical issues.



QKR! phone app

St Patrick's is now a cashless school. This service is currently available for all payments **except for school fees**. Please ensure your child's **year and class name** are updated.



Facebook

Follow us on facebook for the latest news, updates and reminders.



Spriggy schools canteen

Joey's Canteen offers breakfast, lunch and snacks for students every day. **Cash** can be used at Joey's canteen as it is a privately run canteen.

Online orders to be placed by 9:00am every day.

