



# St Patrick's Bulletin

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We acknowledge the Darug people, the traditional custodians on whose land we learn & worship.

## Diary Dates

### Wednesday 26th October

7pm Kindergarten 2017 Parent meeting

### Friday 28th October

World Teachers Day

### Tuesday 1st November

All Saints Day

Melbourne Cup Day

### Wednesday 2nd November

All Souls Day

9.00am-1.40pm ARL Football Clinics

9.00am - 11.00am Kindergarten 2017 Orientation Group 1

### Thursday 3rd November

9.00am - 11.00am Kindergarten

2017 Orientation Group 2

2.40pm ES1/S1 Assembly

### Wednesday 9th November

9.00am - 11.00am Kindergarten

2017 Orientation Group 1

7.00pm Stage 3 Personal Development Presentation

### Thursday 10th November

9.00am - 11.00am Kindergarten

2017 Orientation Group 2

2.40pm S2 Assembly

### Thursday 11th November

Remembrance Day

Parent Coffee Morning

## From the Principal

**Unlocking Potential at Patrick's; as a place of Mercy where we welcome, love and forgive everyone'**

Welcome back parents and friends to Term 4. I hope you and your family had a safe and relaxing holiday.

Last Friday Mrs Jefferson and myself, accompanied by our school captains Nathaniel Noval and Ashlee Sebastian participated in the Annual Parramatta Diocesan Mission Mass. This mass brought together all schools in the Parramatta Diocese to celebrate the mission of the Church. This Mass was celebrated by Father Paul Roberts.

In his homily Father Paul reminded us that we are all missionaries who are commissioned by Jesus to go out to the wider community and continue Jesus' work of spreading the good news not only in word but most importantly through our actions and dealings with others in greater need.

The theme of this mass and Mission Sunday, which is celebrated this Sunday relates to the Year of Mercy. Pope Francis notes, "The mercy of God is his loving concern for each one of us .... As the Father loves, so do his children. Just as He is merciful, so we are called to be merciful to each other." Mercy can change the world.

On a personal note, I would like to thank everyone in our community for your support while Mrs Marrins has been on Long Service Leave.

*God Bless  
Tom Crowley*

*Acting Principal*

# Faith Community

May and October are the two months set aside by the Catholic Church to honour Mary. This is done by praying the Rosary.

It is believed, that our Lady gave the Rosary to St. Dominic in the early twelfth century. ***“When people said the Rosary in the twelfth century, Gabrielle’s greeting ‘Hail Mary, full or grace, the Lord is with thee,’ was often said along with the Our Father. Later, Elizabeth’s greeting ‘blessed are you among women’ was added. It was not until the sixteenth century that the words, ‘Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death’ were added.”*** Vatican Documents-Holy See.

Today, the Rosary is divided into four sets. To each of these is assigned a mystery. The four mysteries are: the Joyful; Sorrowful; Glorious and Luminous (or Mystery of Light). These mysteries are events in the life of Jesus and his Mother Mary as written in the gospels. Families are encouraged to pray the rosary especially in this month of October.

Silvana Murphy,  
Religious Education Coordinator.

## MISSION MASS

On October 14th 2016, Year 6 school captains went to St Patrick’s Cathedral in Parramatta with Mr Crowley and Mrs Jefferson. We celebrated our mission of what Jesus told us to do.

The first thing we did was we visited some mission expo stalls set up by other students from around the diocese. The stalls were about different schools and what they do to follow Jesus’ Mission.

Next we all went into the Cathedral to celebrate Mass and the evangelisation of peoples. Near the end of the mass a catholic mission missionary talked to us about how much education has an impact on our daily lives. She told us about how people in Cambodia are struggling without education. She told us getting a child’s education is one of the greatest gifts. After Mass we went to the Cathedral cloister area for lunch. The most important point that we took from today’s experience is that it is everyone’s responsibility to be missionaries.



By Ashlee Sebastian And Nathaniel Noval

# Teaching & Learning

## Writing in Year 2

Last term Year 2 had a huge focus on writing descriptive compound sentences and how this can enhance our writing of imaginative texts. The story below was written by Matilda Rowe and highlights perfectly the use of adjectives, onomatopoeia and dialogue to create an engaging story. Well done Matilda!



### The Magical Sea Serpent by Matilda Rowe

One mysterious day, a little fish swam amongst the gorges and through the flickering freshness of the sea. He saw a cave where they say a magical sea serpent lay. He entered and saw all sorts of wavy light beaming against the top of the cave.

He heard somebody bellowing, he got a bit scared. Maybe it was the magical sea serpent. He raced out of the cave and told the other sea creatures that he thought he heard the magical sea serpent. It was extremely scary! His friends believed him and decided to help, the cave was very, very scary.

Bang! Slither, slither.....It was the magical sea serpent! They all swam as fast as they could. The sea serpent was awake! He was boiling with rage and so with his magical powers he tried to destroy the little place in the sea that they lived in. “Ahhhhh!” screamed all the fish. “Help! Help!” called a baby octopus.

Now not many sea serpents have tentacles, but this one was magic so it did have tentacles. With it’s swaying tentacles it grabbed the little fish!

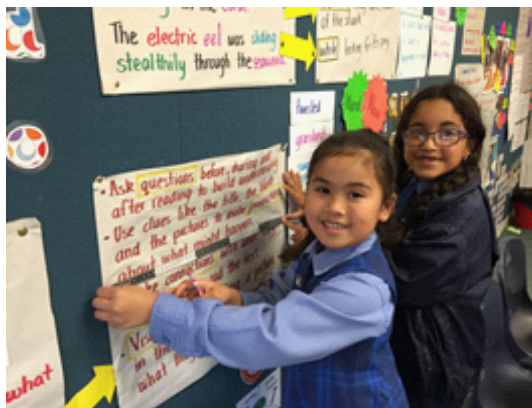
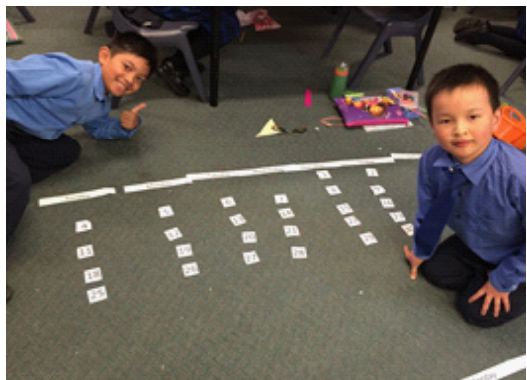
“Help! Help! Help me!” cried the little fish. His friends were worried. The bravest fish, which was dog shark said “Hey sea slug, come and catch me! Na, na, na, na, na!” This made the sea serpent angry. “What are you doing?” asked the cat fish. “What if he does catch you!” “Don’t worry, I have a plan,” said dog shark.

The sea serpent swam to catch the dog shark. Dog shark swam into his cave and gave the sea serpent a sea teddy. The sea serpent fell asleep. Now they were safe forever, all thanks to dog shark. Unless he wakes up again!!

## From the Acting Assistant Principal

### Mathematics at St Patrick's

One of the challenges teachers of Mathematics face is getting our students to understand that it's ok to make mistakes. In fact in Maths, we want students to make mistakes! Students should not view mistakes as learning failures but rather as learning achievements. It is a scientific fact that brain growth comes from the experience of struggle. When students struggle with Mathematics it means that they are outside their comfort zone, which is an extremely important place to be. As teachers and parents of our children, it is important that we remind them that it's ok to make mistakes and that it's great opportunity to learn something new.



### ICAS Results

Congratulations to the following students who have received credits in the ICAS Mathematics Test:  
Nicole Zhang (Stage 3), Arjun Pillay (Year 3), Priyesh Chand (Year 4), Rovick Guerrero (Year 4).

## Personal Growth

### Andrew Chinn

Last term Andrew Chinn worked with our students on 'Music in Prayer'. The day culminated in a concert where a few of our students sang in pairs or solo on the microphones. Andrew travels all around Australia, New Zealand and parts of Canada and America. He enjoys incorporating children into his albums. He is about to launch a new CD and has chosen some students from all over Australia whom he has worked with in the past three years. We are extremely proud and excited to announce that two of the selected few are our very own Awal Shol and Esther Peter in Year 4.

The girls will be a part of the Butterfly Choir working with Andrew and they will be recording with him on Saturday October 22, from 1:00-3:00pm at the Robertson Brothers Studio in West Springwood. They will experience being part of the recording process and receive a free CD when it's all complete in December or January. The CD will be called 'Proclaim'.

What a great opportunity and experience for our girls. We wish them well in this exciting adventure.



Silvana Murphy,  
Religious Education Coordinator.

### Restorative Practices

We'd like to make you aware of a Youtube clip that is on our Facebook page to promote the use of Restorative Practices at our school. It shows how students take ownership of working out their problems and how this gives every student a voice during this process.

We highly recommend you watch this clip to gain a deeper understanding of Restorative Practices at St Patrick's.

# Partnership

## Canteen

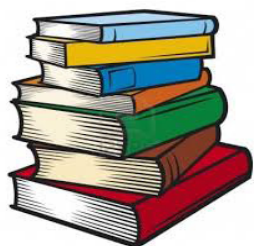
As you are aware the Munch Canteen has begun operations at St. Patricks. Your feedback is most welcome to the school about the canteen so they can provide the best service for your children and you. Just a couple of points to remember,

- Canteen opens at 8:30am. The only food that can be purchased in the morning before school starts is from the breakfast menu.
- The children put in their lunch orders before school starts at the Canteen.
- It is important for the children to have their lunch orders written out at home and brought to school to just drop off at the canteen in the morning.
- Children should have their own paper bags to write their lunch orders on. If you don't the ones at the canteen are available for 20c.
- The canteen is open between 11:10- 11:30 at break 1 and 1:40-2:00pm at break 2. During this time children are to purchase snacks only and not their lunch.
- The canteen is closed after school.

## Office

### Books and Clothes for South Sudan

Previously we have asked for any books and old school uniforms you may have to donate to the people of South Sudan. We are now also asking for childrens and adult clothing of any type. If you have been thinking about clearing out your wardrobe now would be the perfect opportunity.



### Lost property

Over the next couple of weeks we will be cleaning out the lost property. All items will be sorted and either thrown out or placed in our second hand clothing pool. Please check the lost property bins if you have noticed anything of your child's missing.



## MARY, QUEEN OF THE FAMILY PARISH, BLACKTOWN

### Can God Help us in Exams?

Exam times are often moments when we especially feel the need to pray!

We can't really expect God to make up for any lack of work, nor to give us magical answers!

But it is a time when we need the peace that can come from confidence in our relationship with God. The mere knowledge of his care and friendship can help to calm our anxieties.

Exams can also bring out the worst in a person. Our relationship with God can help us here too, dealing with any jealousy, competitiveness, or narrow judgments about other people by remembering who we are.

We are human beings long before we take exams and will be long after they are over. So our way of viewing ourselves and each other can never be based on how well we perform in exams, rather as beloved children of God, and therefore brothers and sisters to one another.

Each person is made in the likeness of God. Each person has special gifts and talents.

And so we pray, any time we prepare for and sit exams; May we learn to love and accept ourselves and each other, to value the unique abilities that each of us has. May God be with us, to enlighten us, strengthen us, and to relieve any worries we may have. And May we always remember who we are.

Alison Ryan

MQOF Youth Minister

### A PARISH HSC PRAYER

Heavenly Father,  
We bring before you our HSC students.  
Give them the gifts of wisdom, right judgment,  
knowledge and courage.  
Bless them with calm hearts and clarity of mind  
as they sit for their exams.  
May they be affirmed in their efforts and may  
they know that you are with them.

We pray that they stay calm under pressure  
and work to the best of their ability.  
May they feel your loving presence in their  
lives, now and always,  
and may they be strengthened by the prayer-  
ful support of us, their parish community.

We ask this through Jesus Christ your son,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy  
Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen**

Mary, Queen of the Family Blacktown

