



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 22nd February

3.30pm - 4.30pm

6.30pm - 7.30pm

Years 1-6 Student/Parent Learning
Tours

Thursday 23rd February

10.00am Opening School Mass

3.30pm-4.30pm Kindergarten

Parent session

4.30pm Kindergarten and New
Family Afternoon Tea

Friday 24th February

Diocesan Swimming Carnival

Tuesday 28th February

2.15pm Shrove Tuesday Liturgy

Wednesday 1st March

9.15am P & F Meeting

Ash Wednesday Liturgy

12.00pm Years 3-6

12.30pm Years K-2

Wednesday 8th March

7.00pm Parent Numeracy and
Literacy Sessions

Thursday 9th March

12.00pm Catholic Schools Week
liturgy

Open Classrooms

Picnic lunch

Friday 10th March

9.15am Open Classroom for new
families

From the Principal

'Learning for Life at St Patrick's in 2017'

At St Patrick's we are called to provide sound, contemporary education with the highest educational goals in a Christ-centred faith community. Our school is about learning – student learning and teacher learning.

The 2017 school year has just begun; however St Patrick's students are engaged in their learning.

Next week you are invited on a 'Student/Parent Learning Tour' of the learning spaces at St Patrick's. Our students, your children, will lead these learning walks, describing:

- learning goals
- teacher expectations
- how they use word walls and other scaffolds to support their learning
- show you evidence of their learning so far

I expect that you will hear about the Learning Intentions (what they are learning) and Success Criteria (used to indicate how they are doing in their learning). They will also explain the 2017 Learning Mantra and how they use Restorative Practices to resolve conflict and to rebuild relationships.

On Thursday 23rd February, we look forward to joining with you to open the school year as a believing and worshipping community through the celebration of the Eucharist, which is central to our faith. The liturgy will highlight our theme:

'Learning for Life at St Patrick's in 2017' and our school leaders will be commissioned to undertake their mission of service to their school community.

During the year, there will be Coffee and Chat Mornings, and Parent Education Sessions so that you can engage with your child's learning and school.

*God Bless
Mrs Anne Marrins
Principal*

Faith Community

Last Thursday 9th February was World Day of the Sick and Bishop Vincent with twelve priests celebrated Mass here in St. Patrick's Church. Some of our parents and students represented our school community at this Mass. All in the church were blessed on the forehead and on the hands with the oil of Anointing. The deaf were able to join fully in the celebration with the help of a lady who signed all that was said. The church filled with the young, old, able and challenged served as a reminder that all are equal in Christ's eyes.

Next Thursday 23rd February, we celebrate our Opening School Mass where our new students and staff are formally welcomed. Our School Leaders and Mini Vinnies Team will be blessed, receive their badges and take their pledge. We hope that you too will be able to be a part of our celebration.

This term, our Primary students will celebrate Mass in the learning spaces. Father Denese will preside over these and you will be invited to join. The readings and themes for these Masses will be based around the work the students are doing in Religious Education. Our Year K-2 students will join the Parish Mass on Thursday morning once a term.

As we journey towards the end of Ordinary Time and approach Lent, let us welcome each other and especially our new families as if they were Christ.

Silvana Murphy
Religious Education Coordinator.

Teaching & Learning

Welcome back to 2017. I look forward to working with you and your children in "Learning for Life at St. Patricks"

Mathematical Assessment Interviews

A big thanks to all parents and children who came for the Mathematical Assessment Interviews on Friday and Monday of week 1 and 2. The children, who were unable to make these Interviews, are being assessed during class time by teachers. These Mathematical Assessments are important as they give each teacher an opportunity to get to know the students and gives the teacher an understanding of where each child is at in their Mathematical learning.

Student/Parent Learning Walks: Years 1-6

Next Wednesday our Student/ Parent Learning Walks will be taking place between 3:30pm-4:30pm and 6:30pm-7:30pm. These walks have taken the place of our traditional Parent/Teacher Information Session. During these walks your child will lead you in a tour of their Learning Space. I urge every parent/ carer to take this opportunity with their child to find out as much information as they possibly can about their child's learning and learning space. The walks should take no

longer than 20 minutes, so it will give time for parents to visit other classes if they have more than one child at school. Please return the slip from the note that went out on Wednesday about this event. Any further questions about this event please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

Learning Intentions and Success Criteria

Every day St Patrick's students are informed about the Learning Intention and Success Criteria for English and Mathematics and for other Key Learning Areas. This important strategy enables students to know and understand the expectations for their learning, to self-assess against the criteria and to self-regulate, that is, to set the goal for their next learning. You are encouraged to discuss the Learning Intentions and Success Criteria with your children to assist parent understanding of learning in today's classrooms.

School Uniform/ Jewellery/ Hairstyles

Listed below is an overview of the school's uniform policy/ wearing of jewellery and types of hairstyles. All children must adhere to these regulations.

- Sports Uniform is worn on set sports day with white sport shoes only
- Black regulation school shoes are worn on other days
- "No Hat No Play" Policy requires school hats must be worn whenever students are outside.
- Regulation hairstyles
 - for girls, shoulder length or longer hair must be tied back. No hair colouring is permitted. Hair ties, ribbons and headbands must be navy blue.
 - for boys, neat and simple haircuts. Examples of some inappropriate styles are undercuts, number ones, and rat tails. Hair colouring is not permitted
- The wearing of jewellery or decorative jewellery, other than a watch and sleepers or studs for students with pierced ears, is **not** permitted.
- For pierced ears, one plain sleeper or stud per earlobe is permitted.
- **No** rings, bracelets, bangles or necklaces may be worn.
- Coloured nail polish is **not** acceptable.

Kind regards
Tom Crowley
Assistant Principal

Library News

Our Library is filled with a variety of valuable resources and provides a dynamic learning centre for staff and students to gather throughout the day. During 2017, we will continue to welcome members of the wider community to share this space with us too for meetings, workshops and various other educational events.

Borrowing

Library borrowing days for classes are as follows:
Monday: Primary Blue

Tuesday: Kindergarten & Year 1
Wednesday: Year 4 & Stage 3
Thursday: Year 3
Friday: Year 2

On these days, students require a library bag or thick plastic bag to protect their library book. Years K-2 can borrow 1 book and Years 3-6 can borrow 2 books. Books should be brought to school each week, so they can be returned or renewed.

Overdue Books

Books become overdue if they have not been renewed or returned within 2 weeks of being borrowed. Students with overdue books are not permitted to borrow, until the books are returned. In the case of a lost book a \$10 fee is payable to go towards the purchase of replacement books.

Students with overdue books from 2016 will not be allowed to borrow until all their overdue items are returned or fee paid. Notices were sent out at the end of Term 4 for any students who still had not returned their books.

Natalie Coghlan
Teacher Librarian

Swimming Carnival

On the 6th of February 2017 St Patrick's had our swimming carnival.

It was amazing for everyone who was involved and participated in the pool. It was also very exiting for the Year 3 students being their first year joining in the primary events.

We would like to say a huge congratulations to green team for coming first and congratulations to blue house team for coming first in the relay event.

We would love to say thank you to Mrs Harkins for organizing the swimming carnival because without her it would be impossible.

Annabelle Johnson, Emmanuela Nwosu, Venus Koko, Dorothy Anzoa
Sports Leaders



Personal Growth

Restorative Practices

a framework for building, repairing and maintaining healthy relationships for learning and for life.

Since 2014 St Patrick's has focused on implementing the Restorative Practices framework to provide our students with strategies for resolving conflict, repairing harm and building relationships.

Restorative Practices reflects our Catholic values of justice, compassion and love. It recognises that mistakes are opportunities for learning and consequences are designed to assist students to learn from their mistakes.

You are encouraged to be a part of the Restorative Practice Program to support your children in their learning for life, to talk with them about their understanding of the Restorative Practices approach at St Patrick's and to discuss the following questions:

- What happened?
- Who has been hurt or is sad?
- What were you thinking?
- What are you thinking now?
- What do you need to do to make things right?

Catholic Schools Week

On Thursday 9th March St Patrick's will celebrate Catholic Schools Week with a liturgy in St Patrick's Church at 12:00pm, followed by open classrooms and a picnic lunch in the playground.

On Friday 10th March classrooms will open again from 9:15am for prospective parents who are considering enrolling their child for Kindergarten 2018.

Australian Girls Choir –

February Open Classes

Look no further than the Australian Girls Choir (AGC) because we encourage, challenge and inspire girls as they learn to sing, dance and perform. School aged girls are invited to try our fun and inclusive classes and learn more about being part of the AGC! Contact us if you would like to attend a free trial class in February.

Ph 02 9922 6733 or email sydney@aspagroup.com.au

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

every learner every day

ABSENCES ADD UP!



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MISSING MORE
THAN**1**YEAR OF
LEARNING IN**12**

YEARS

DID YOU KNOW

**1 IN 6**

PRIMARY STUDENTS ARE NOT
ATTENDING SCHOOL REGULARLY!

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

WHAT PARENTS CAN DO

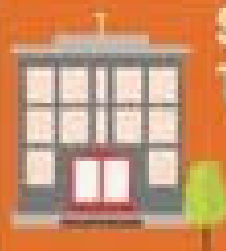


GOOD HABITS BEGIN EARLY



Good attendance starts in Kindergarten and sets students up for success in their school life

SCHOOLS ARE THERE TO HELP



If you're having attendance issues with your child, speak to your school about ways to address it.