

St Patrick's Bulletin

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

Diary Dates

Friday 14th November

- Assembly Prayer
- Year 3 Parish Mass
- 2.30pm Years 3-6 Award Assembly

Monday 17th November

Assembly Prayer

Thursday 20th November

9.15am-10.40am School Starters Program

Friday 21st November

- Assembly Prayer
- Year 2 Parish Mass
- P & F Annual General Meeting
9.15am
- Parent Coffee Morning 10.30am

Monday 24th November

Assembly Prayer

Wednesday 26th November

Stage 3 Parent Meeting 7pm

Thursday 27th November

9.15am - 10.40am School Starters Program

Friday 28th November

- Assembly Prayer
- Year 5 Leadership Day

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St Patrick's Primary School Blacktown



From the Principal

Dear Parents, Staff and Students

I was delighted to return to the community of St Patrick's last week, after a wonderful opportunity to travel in Spain, Italy and Greece.

I am grateful to Miss Deborah Sheridan, Acting Principal, and to each of you for the work you have done to ensure a great start to Term 4.

We are now well into November, the month of the 'Holy Souls'. The beginning of November is marked with a celebration of the feasts of All Saints (1st) and All Souls (2nd).

We honour the saints, not for their good, but for our own. Reflecting on the lives of the saints encourages us to be active in the love and service of God and each other. Each of us can name a 'living saint' or a 'saint' who has died. These are the women and men, not canonised, and yet we remember a characteristic or a lived action of saintliness.

We know about the lives of St Mary of the Cross (MacKillop) and Blessed Mother Teresa, to name two. The saints are also connected to our history, culture and tradition; Catholics of Celtic heritage remember St Patrick with affection, those from Sudan continue their devotion to St Josephine Bakhita, while the first saint of the Philippines is St Lorenzo Ruiz.

During this month of November our focus is on the faithful departed and we think especially of those who have played a significant part in our lives. We say, 'eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord' and we can each replace the word 'them' with the name of a loved person.

We pray, not just for 'them' but also for ourselves as we remember in gratitude all they meant to us – givers of life, partners in life, comforters, friends, sharers of our thoughts. The death of a loved person is a huge loss and our grief is great.

It is God's gift to us in the death and resurrection of his Son that has given us the hope that we too, one day, might see God 'with our eyes'.

*God Bless
Mrs Anne Marrins
Principal*

Faith Community

Over the last two weeks we have entered the month of November, celebrating the lives of the Saints and remembering those who have died on the feast of All Souls. St. Patrick's had two very prayerful and reverent prayer celebrations, giving the students an opportunity to commemorate some of our well known Saints and then to remember those who have died, especially family members or friends. Thank you to the teachers in Years 1 and 2 who prepared these lovely prayer services.



Last Friday St. Patrick's Staff had a faith formation day celebrating and exploring the life of Saint Mary Mackillop, at Mary Mackillop Place, North Sydney. This day gave us time to revisit Mary's life reflecting and sharing together on our own journey of faith under the guidance of Mary MacKillop.

Faith is a gift that enables us to commit our lives to God and to follow his way of love. Mary had many facets to her life of service, shedding light in many different directions. Her light coloured people's lives, giving them hope, faith and a direction for their future.

In the spirit of Jesus the teacher, Mary combined a love of children and a desire that education should be available to all. Due to the tireless work of Mary and her sisters, economic hardship and distance provided no barrier for formation in faith and knowledge. We, as teachers at St. Patrick's, endeavor to bring Mary's Charism to our Blacktown community by enlightening the faith of those around us, encouraging all to do great things and be compassionate towards others.

On Tuesday we celebrated Remembrance Day. On this day at 11am on the 11th day of the 11th month, 1918, the guns finally fell silent on the Western Front and the First World War came to an end. The students and teachers remembered the sacrifice of those men and women who gave so much for Australia in all conflicts. Many soldiers, nurses and people died.



We asked God to bless all the families and friends who have lost people during war and give them strength and wisdom as they go into the future, always praying that our country will remain safe and free. We pray also for peace throughout the world.

Thank you to the teachers who prepared this Remembrance Ceremony.

Have a great week, remembering

"We have much for which to be thankful" –

Mary Mackillop (1842-1909)

Keep smiling!

Maria Marks

Acting Religious Education Coordinator

DWF Appeal

The Diocesan Works Fund (DWF) supports the ministries and agency services of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Parramatta. However large or small, any donation you can make to the DWF is gratefully received and helps our ministries to continue their important work. Donations can be made to the DWF through the special collection at Church this week. Each family will receive an envelope today. More Envelopes will be available at the office.

Teaching & Learning

Staff Profile

My name is Jodi Jefferson and I am currently teaching Kindergarten. I started teaching at St Patrick's in 2006 and have taught Year 5, Year 6 and Year 3. I have also worked as an intervention teacher in Kindergarten and Year 2 for literacy and numeracy. This year I have been working as a coordinator and have been given the responsibility of leading numeracy across the school.



I have been teaching for 19 years and have worked in 4 schools during my career. I completed my Bachelor of Education at Australian Catholic University and the University of Western Sydney. I later went on to study part time at Macquarie University where I completed a post graduate certificate in learning difficulties.

Outside of school, I have been married for 15 years and have 3 beautiful children Luke (14), Damon (12) and Mia (10). My favourite thing to do is spend time with my family. My children love to water ski so we spend a lot of time on the Hawkesbury River.

I feel very privileged to be part of the community at St Patrick's. I have made many dear friends here and love coming to work in such a positive environment everyday. I am passionate about educating children and consider my work to be incredibly rewarding. It is wonderful to get the opportunity to interact with so many different individuals on a daily basis!

Sydney Writer's Festival 14 Nov - 4 Dec 2014

*Are you ready to enter a world
as big as your imagination?*

This is one of the questions posed by the Children's program of the Sydney Writer's Festival based on moving stories.

Events include:

Russ the travelling story Bus- Take your old books to exchange for new books

Parramatta Stadium Fri 14 Nov, 10:00am – 12:00pm

Penrith Panthers Sat 22 Nov 11:30am-1:30pm

Western Sydney Wanderers Stadium Thurs 27 Nov
12:00pm-1:00pm

Riverside Theatre Parramatta Fri 28 Nov 12:00pm-
8:00pm

Stories from the Pyjamaverse – Interactive Storytime, guest appearances in the foyer from Western Sydney Wanderers, Grug, Maisy, Parramatta Eels.

Show starts at 6:30pm featuring children's authors Morris Gleitzman, Will Kostakis and Melina Marchetta; Playschool's Michelle Lim Davidson and poet Ahmed Al Rady. Wearing pyjamas is optional!

Fri 28 Nov Parramatta Riverside Theatre from 5:30pm
Adult \$15, Child \$10, Family of 4 \$40

Mem Fox- You can write a book like that!

Thurs 4 Dec Parramatta Riverside 6:30 pm \$10

Jackie French- Magic Books

Wed 3 Dec 6:30pm Bankstown Arts Centre \$10

End of Year Events

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Thursday 4th December	7.00pm	Christmas Celebration	St Patrick's Church
Wednesday 10th December	7.00pm	Year 6 Graduation Mass	St Patrick's Church
Friday 12th December	7.00pm	Year 6 Graduation Dinner	St Patrick's Church Hall
Monday 15th December	10.00am	End of Year Mass	St Patrick's Church
Monday 15th December	11.00am	Thank You Morning Tea	Staff Courtyard
Monday 15th December	12.00pm	Awards Presentation	Multi Purpose Area
Tuesday 16th December	9.30am-11.00am	K-2 Student Disco	Multi Purpose Area
Tuesday 16th December	11.40am - 1.00pm	3-6 Student Disco	Multi Purpose Area
Wednesday 17th December		Last Day of Term	

School Starters

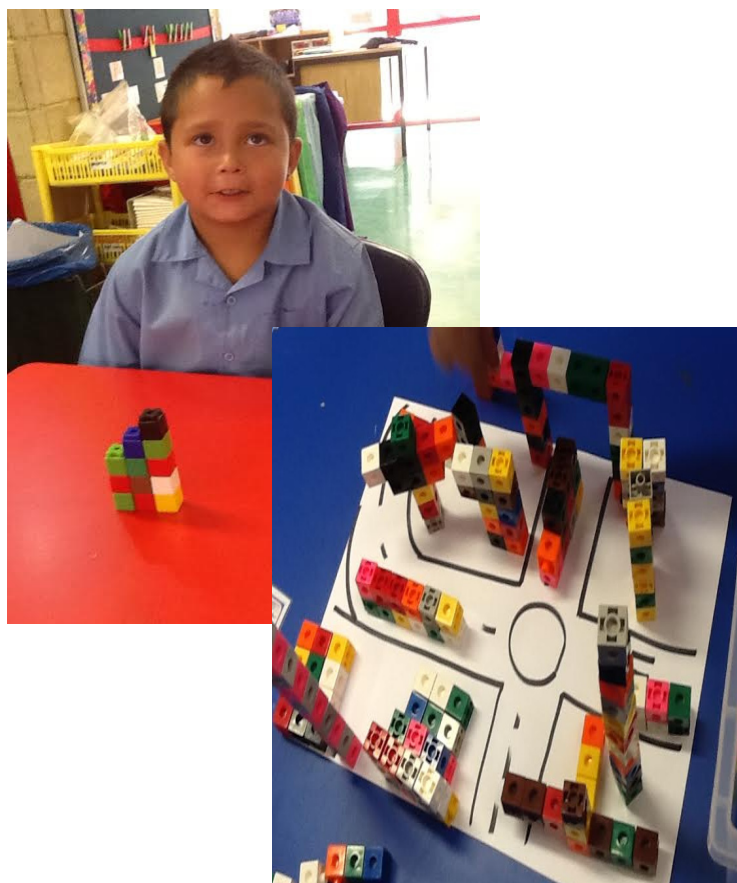
The Kindergarten 2015 School Starters Program will be run every Thursday from 20th November until the 4th December. The program runs from 9:15am till approximately 10.40am and is held in the Library. Parents are asked to help tidy up after each session.

Numeracy

Over the last few weeks Year 1 have been learning about volume and capacity.

To support their learning, groups were asked to build cities that had buildings with a volume of 12. This means every building was only to have 12 blocks. This was challenging when we tried to develop buildings that had unusual shapes.

Mrs Hawkes was an observer teacher for the lesson and she complimented the children on their unique designs, promising architects of the future!



Restorative Practices

St Patrick's Students endeavour to be:

- Respectful
- Responsible
- Safe

When relationship problems occur, the students work at restoring the harm they have caused. They use the following questions to do this:

- What happened?
- Who or what was hurt?
- How can we fix it?

Sometimes they solve issues themselves, other times they ask a teacher to assist. Parents can also use these questions at home.

Pat on the Back Awardees

Year 3 Bronze:

Viviana Abusalah	Aboul Aguek
Viola Anglo	Ada Domingo
Patrick Iskander	Jessica Sabharwal
Dishav Singh	Anja Zmijanac
Ivana Siric	Faanuu Pualoa
Emmanuela Nwosu	Mercy Opoku

Year 4 Bronze:

Luke Hanna	Abigail Caraig
Esara Chettri	Audrey Ruiz
Kelicia Illencik	David Obwoya
Jiero Caliguiran	Peter Neskes
Sharli Ahmed	Sanat Sanat
Angela Thompson	

Stage 3 Bronze:

Vince Bacani	Cheguot Noi
Sunday Yona	Farish Ahmed
Michael Carrick	Daniella Goncalves
Marko Siric	Ajak Ajak
Jack Stewart	Anthony Singh

Year 3 Silver:

Angar Ajak	Philippe Moutia
Adrienne Arellano	Josep Sergio
Ada Domingo	

Year 4 Silver:

Ashlee Sebastian	David Obwoya
Audrey Ruiz	Tanisha Prasad
Akshita Narula	

Stage 3 Silver:

Ellenora Vaotuuu	Gaksoun Are
Rebecca Wehbe	Marlon Noval
Sunday Yona	Michael Carrick
Shanikqaua Dennis	Ashleigh Tabousares

Nancy Aduniya
Martha Buitizon
Ranveer Boparai

Gracia Fernando
Shaquania Dennis

Year 3 Gold:

Bryan St Domingo

Nicole Zhang

Stage 3 Gold:

Beatriz Arellano
Ellenora Vaotuuu
Jessica Laurance

Stephanie Nwosu
Rebecca Wehbe
Lillie Pender

Sport News

Later this month on Thursday, 27th November, the PDCPSSC Primary Sports Awards evening will held. It is an award ceremony acknowledging the achievements of talented sports persons in 2014. Congratulations to Stephanie Nwosu who has been nominated for an award.

Jessica Laurance from Stage 3 has been selected to represent NSW in under 11's Little Athletics Team for the New Zealand Trans-Tasman tour in 2016. A huge amount of dedication, effort, training and skill is required to be selected for a team such as this. Congratulations to Jessica on her achievement.

Office

School Fee Statements

School Fee Payments are now overdue. If you have not finalised your account or have a payment arrangement in place, please contact the school office to discuss your statement with Mrs Shannan Browne.

Moving School

If your child will not be attending St Patrick's in 2015, it would be appreciated if you could notify the school office in writing as soon as possible. You should include in the letter where your child will be attending school in 2015.

Partnership

Pink Ribbon Day

Throughout the Month of October we supported Pink Ribbon Breast Cancer Awareness.

Available at the office are:

Wrist Bands \$4	Enamel Pin \$5
Pens \$6	Bracelet \$7
Diamante Brooch \$10	

Nagle Netball Club

Nagle Netball Club now looking for players for 2015!
For more information visit our website
www.naglenetball.com.au or contact Cassie Johnson
0400 136 629