

St Patrick's Bulletin

51-59 Allawah Street Blacktown NSW 2148 Phone: 9621 4122 Fax: 9671 4903

Email: stpatsblacktown@parra.catholic.edu.au

www.stpatsblacktown.catholic.edu.au

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

Diary Dates

Friday 20th June

- Stage 1 Assembly 9.15am in Library
- Jump Rope for Heart Day

Monday 23rd June

Reports Going Home

Tuesday 24th June

- Stage 2 Boys Soccer Day
- Parent/Teacher Interviews
- By Appointment Only

Wednesday 25th June

- Stage 2 Girls Soccer Day
- Parent/Teacher Interviews
- By Appointment Only

Friday 27th June

- Sacred Heart of Jesus
- Touch Football Gala Day
- Yr 6 Fundraiser Mufti Day
- Come in your favourite sports team
- **LAST DAY OF TERM**



Monday 14th July SCHOOL RESUMES

Tuesday 15th July

Primary Blue Students Return

From the Principal

Dear Parents, Staff and Students

At this time of the year when enrolment applications are being accepted for Kindergarten in 2015, I meet with parents who are seeking to join our community.

Parents, whose first child is beginning their educational journey, talk about choosing a Catholic school because of a sense of community, a commitment to social justice and a recognised standard of values and behaviours that a Catholic school offers.

Many parents of other faiths also seek a Catholic school. For some it is because our values, although grounded in the teachings of the Catholic faith, are shared by all members of the community.

For other parents, there is a need to provide an environment that will support theirs, and in turn, their children's search for meaning and spiritual awakening.

St Patrick's Catholic Primary School seeks to nurture the faith of young people through its religious education program and through the faith environment it cultivates. Our challenge is to endeavour to be a community that believes, worships and celebrates together, is welcoming and accepting and offers quality teaching and learning.

"Catholic schools have grown more complex, but at their heart lies a great and simple truth. They are to be above all schools of holiness. They exist primarily to give saints to the world." (Pope John Paul II, 2000)

*God, our Father, may the presence of Your Spirit
be evident in our school community.*

*Help us to be large of heart, broad of vision
and generous in working for the good of our community
entrusted to our care. Amen*

*God Bless
Mrs Anne Marrins
Principal*

Yr 6 Fundraiser Mufti Day - Friday, 27th June 2014

**Gold Coin Donation to come in your
favourite Sports Team Clothes**

Faith Community

Pentecost/Confirmation

We celebrated the feast of Pentecost with a beautiful liturgy on Thursday 5th June. This liturgy gave the children at St. Patrick's a wonderful illustration of the meaning of Pentecost through the use of shadow puppets. This created the story visually for the children, showing the strength and power of the Holy Spirit.

During this ceremony, those who were to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation that weekend were presented with a small gift from St Patricks.

A number of teachers attended the Confirmation ceremonies to witness and support those who were receiving the Holy Spirit's Gifts. The Parish sacramental team and the families had worked together to prepare the children culminating in a beautiful ceremony, a special event for the students and their families. Congratulations to all those who received the sacrament of Confirmation.

The Parish and families are now beginning to prepare children in Year 3 for Reconciliation. Please keep these children and families in your prayers.

Refugee Week - "Restoring Hope"

This week we have celebrated Refugee week in our classrooms, school and amongst staff. This is a great opportunity for us to experience and celebrate the rich diversity of our refugee communities. When countries offer protection to refugees they are providing an opportunity for them to rebuild their lives, restore hope for a future free from fear, persecution, violence and insecurity.

A prayer to share:

*Lord,
No one is a stranger to you
and no one is ever far from your loving care.
In your kindness watch over refugees and
asylum seekers,
those separated from their loved ones, those
who are lost,
and those who have been exiled from their
homes.
Bring them safely to the place where they
long to be,
and help us always to show your kindness to
strangers and those in need. Amen.*

Have a wonderful week! Keep smiling!
Maria Marks
Acting Religious Education Coordinator

Teaching & Learning

Staff Profile

My name is Victoria Matterson and I am part of the Stage 1, Year 1 team at St Patrick's this year. I graduated from Australian Catholic University with a Bachelor of Education (Primary). I started teaching at St Patrick's in 2010 and since then I have taught Year 5, Year 4 and currently Year 1.



I am passionate about teaching because I enjoy guiding and assisting my students in acquiring the necessary knowledge and skills to equip them for life long learning. I love being a part of my students' life journey. This year I have taken on the role of EMU specialist teacher, which has allowed me to deepen my understanding of how to help children develop their numeracy skills.

In my spare time I enjoy reading and spending time with family and friends. I have been married for 2 and a half years and have two beautiful dogs, Bonnie and Ralph. We have recently bought a new house and are looking forward to making it our new home.

Parent/Teacher Interviews

At the end of this term you will receive your child's Semester One Student Learning Report. You are invited to attend a Parent/Teacher Interview where the teacher will provide more detailed information about your child's learning progress.

Portfolios have been issued with Reports in previous year. However, this year your child's work samples, work books and assessment tasks will be available at the interview to support the discussion about their learning.

Interviews for Years 3-4 have now been completed. Kindergarten, Years 1, 2, Stage 3 (5 and 6) Interviews will be on 24th and 25th June 2014. Teachers may also provide other times around these dates. Bookings will close today at 4pm.

This year we are providing an online system to enable you to choose the day/s and time/s that best suit you. A letter providing the details for booking your interview time/s has been sent home. Please make sure that you only select the Teacher's name that is on your letter. Students who have received a letter for a combined interview (an interview with two teachers at the same time), please select INVITATION ONLY.

Homework Group

This week is the last week for homework group this term. There will be **NO HOMEWORK GROUP** next week, being the last week of term.

Homework group will return in Term 3, Week 2, 23rd July.

Thank you to all the tutors who volunteer to help the students with their homework. Thank you also to Sr. Libby who runs the group each week and all those who assist her.

Restorative Practices

WE HAVE TWO BASIC CHOICES

When dealing with wrong doing, we have two basic options available to us. This simple guide of adversarial and restorative responses encapsulate the full range of human responses. One is to punish, the other is to repair. Choose the one you would rather be exposed to yourself and decide if this is the world view you wish to share with your child/children.

Adversarial (Blame)

We ask questions such as:

“why did you do it, who is to blame, what punishment or sanction is needed?”

When we are blaming others we have the following values driving our behaviour:

- Our focus is in the past
- We are preoccupied with blame the person and somehow making him/her accountable
- We think that the more we punish the less someone is going to repeat the behaviour.

Restorative (Relational)

We ask the following questions:

“what happened, what harm has resulted and what needs to happen to make things right?”

When we are making a decision to repair the harm and hold the person who has caused the harm steady and are guiding them to repair the harm, we are being guided by the following values:

- We focus in past, present & future
- Our desire is to assist in repairing the harm done
- We believe that our relationships with others will be the main factor.

Year 6 Canberra Excursion

Last week our Stage 3 students attended a two day excursion to Canberra, our National Capital. This is a wonderful learning opportunity for the leaders of our school to observe where the leaders of our nation work. The experience of visiting the National Parliament, Electoral Education Centre and War Memorial gives a greater depth to the learning that has taken place in the classroom. This learning was enhanced with the students taking part in the Last Post Ceremony at the War Memorial, a federal election and a ‘mock’ parliamentary debate in the Education Centre

of the National Parliament. Despite their tiredness on the second day our students demonstrated excellent skills in debating.

The students of St Patrick’s were exemplary in sharing their knowledge, learning new knowledge and in how they presented themselves as model young citizens of the future. Members of the public, who were also visiting the same venues, commented on the students’ pride in appearance and their engagement with the displays.

Our students were a credit to themselves, their parents and teachers and, of course, their school.

Anne Marrins

Rating: 3 Stars out of 4

In week 7 we completed our excursion to the Australian Capital, Canberra. We visited the Australian National Museum, Questacon, the Australian Institute of Sport, the Australian War Memorial, the Electoral Education Centre in Old Parliament House and Parliament House. Australian National Museum had lots of fun exhibitions. Questacon was full of fun and mysterious science activities. The Institute of Sport had very challenging sports. The Australian War Memorial contained lots of sacred items. The Electoral Education Office told us how to vote and lots about voting in general. Parliament House held a role play of debating and voting on laws. I really had fun and took lots of interesting photos.

Martha Buitizon



Office

2015 Kindergarten Enrolments

Applications for 2015 Kindergarten Enrolments are now available. If your child is turning five (5) before 31st July 2015 please collect an application form from the office or alternatively download it from our website:-

www.stpatsblacktown.catholic.edu.au

All applications need to be returned as soon as possible. Interviews are now taking place.

School Fee Statements

All families would have received their school fee statements sent out from the Parramatta CEO. Term 2 payments are now overdue and need to be paid as soon as possible or alternatively please contact Mrs Browne to make payment arrangements.

Items for Sale

The old Canteen will be open Monday, 23rd June and Tuesday, 24th June from 8-30am - 9.30am and from 2.30pm - 3.30pm for sale of new and second hand clothing. We have numerous items of second hand clothing from shirts, shorts, pants, tunics, summer dresses, sports shirts and sports shorts/pants, winter jackets, school jackets (second hand)

Also available to purchase is new hats, beanies, gloves and winter jackets.

School Hats

All children must have a School hat. 'NO HAT - NO PLAY'. Students not wearing a school hat are required to sit in the undercover area during breaks. Sharing of 'spare' hats is not permitted for health reasons. Hats are available from the school office for \$10 each.

Butterfly Badges

On sale for \$2 at the office. All proceeds goes to the Deafness Foundation for the Deaf and Hearing impaired Community.

Winter Jackets

The Winter Jackets have now arrived. If you have pre-ordered a jacket please collect and pay at the office. We have ordered some extra ones if parents would like to purchase.

Notes

All notes issued to students will now be on our website for you to download. Please go to <http://www.stpatsblacktown.catholic.edu.au/notes-forms> or alternatively we can photocopy a copy of the note at a charge of 50 cents per page.

Partnership

Entertainment Books

Entertainment Books are on sale in the office. This is part of the Parents & Friends fundraising for this year. The cost of the Entertainment Book is \$65.00.

Mufti Day - Come in your favourite Sports Clothes

Friday, 27th June students will be able to come to school in their favourite Sports Clothing.

A gold coin donation is required to wear the Sports Clothes. The proceeds will go towards the Year 6 Graduation Dinner held at the end of the year.

PRC June

Congratulations to the following students for completing the Premier's Reading Challenge;

Kelsy Bhandari (Kindergarten)
Jude Boado (Kindergarten)
Alyssa Brown (Year 3)
Gabiella Serra (Year 3)
Shali Ahmed (Year 4)
Peter Neskes (Year 4)
Tanisha Prasad (Year 4)

Don't forget to bring your reading log to the library when you have completed the challenge. Don't forget to keep reading during the school holidays.

Joanne Beamish

Congratulations

On Saturday 7th June 2014, Isaac and Marcus Ohanian participated in the Goshin Ryu Karate Nationals with great success.

Isaac competed in 3 events on the day receiving 2nd place in 9-10 year Kata (purple belts and above) and 2nd place in the 9 years Sparring.

Marcus competed in 1 event on the day receiving 3rd place in the 7 years and under Kata.



It was a great effort by the boys; Isaac who has been training with Shihan Richard Bradford for 3 years and Marcus who has been training for just over a year. Well done boys!