



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 learn & worship.

Diary Dates

Sunday 18th June

Body & Blood of Christ
First Eucharist

Thursday 22nd June

Boys Soccer Gala Day

Friday 23rd June

Kindergarten 2018 interviews

Thursday 29th June

Athletics Carnival



From the Principal

Learning for Life at St Patrick's; a school in the Mercy tradition where we welcome, love & forgive everyone

Each Saturday evening or Sunday, we join in the celebration of the Eucharist, the essence of our faith. The Eucharist or the Mass is an act of solidarity with Jesus and with each other.

Some years ago when Pope John Paul II went to Lima, Peru, he was met by a massive crowd of two million people. Instead of the usual greetings from the President and the Cardinal, two people from a shantytown stepped up to the microphone. As the huge crowd went quiet, they began to speak to the Pope: "Holy Father, we are hungry, we are sick, we lack work, our children die before their time. Yet, Holy Father, we believe in the God of life. And we hunger for bread."

Before the hushed crowd, the Pope replied in his best Spanish: "You tell me you hunger for bread. You tell me you hunger for God. I want this hunger for God to remain; I want your hunger for bread to be satisfied." The Pope then turned to the generals and the wealthy politicians gathered there and said very bluntly: "I won't simply say share what you have. I will say give it back! Give it back; it belongs to the poor!"

This weekend, 17th and 18th June, the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ, is the last of three weekends when our children of Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, have or will receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist for the first time.

Of the celebration of the Eucharist, the Pope John Paul II wrote:

"In the Eucharist we have Jesus, we have His sacrifice, we have His resurrection, we have the gift of the Holy Spirit and His love of the Father. In the humble signs of bread and wine changed into His Body and Blood, Christ walks beside us as our strength and our food for the journey, and enables us to become witnesses of hope."

*God Bless
Mrs Anne Marrins
Principal*

Faith Community

Over the past two weeks, a group of our young people have received Christ for the first time in Eucharist. The seven Eucharistic celebrations have been very special for each family and for our school community. We congratulate them and their families as they continue to grow in their faith.

The Sundays after the Easter Season celebrate three major solemnities in our Church. We celebrate Pentecost, the birth of our Catholic Church and the coming of the Holy Spirit. This is followed by Trinity Sunday when we celebrate God the Father, Son and Spirit. St. Patrick explained this to people by using the shamrock- three parts that are one. I often explain it to the children by saying they are themselves, they are also a son or daughter and a brother or sister, but all these are one person. The final Sunday before we return to the Liturgical Season of Ordinary Time is Corpus Christi or the Body and Blood of Christ. Here we celebrate the greatest gift God gave us – himself. It is the prayer of community- the meal at which we gather to share Christ and nurture as a community. From the celebration given to us on Holy Thursday night at the Last Supper, we are called to be followers of Christ and go out and spread the Good News to all whom we meet.

This week, we have also celebrated the teaching life of Mrs. Maria Marks with a beautiful Mass, giving thanks for her many dedicated years of service to St. Patricks. Maria has been a true model of living as Jesus has asked us to. Her love for her students, staff and parents has been inspiring and is an example for all of us to follow. We thank God that she has touched our lives.

May God bless us all as we travel forward into Ordinary Time.

Silvana Murphy
Religious Education Coordinator

Teaching & Learning

Parent/Teacher/Student Meetings

On Wednesday, 14th June, a note was sent home to every family about booking Parent/Teacher/ Student meetings. The booking code was incorrect. The correct code is 92q5e. These meetings are important for both you and your child as they are a time to receive feedback on your child's academic progress and to set future goals and direction for their learning in Semester 2. I encourage all children from Years 1-6 to attend these meetings.

For parents who do not have access to the internet you will be able to book your interviews on Thursday 22nd June between 8:30am-9:30am. If there are any issues or concerns I encourage you to contact your child's teacher.

The interviews close online on Friday 23rd June at 9:00am.

Learning in Year 4

In Year 4, we have been looking at different ways to entertain an audience when writing. Here is one excellent example of a piece of creative writing inspired by a cute picture.

Pig in Boots

There was once a little pig who was scared of mud. Life was difficult for this poor pig. But one fine day he met a beautiful sorcerer. The sorcerer asked the pig what he wanted and he said "Something to protect me from the mud".

The sorcerer searched for the spell. "What was the spell again?" she asked herself. "Oh that's right. I think it's red boots. Yes! That's it! Red Boots!"

Two pairs of red boots appeared and they were beautiful! So the pig put them on and found some mud. He was just about to jump into the mud when the pig's mother appeared. She just had to stop him from having his fun!

"What do you think you're doing? Take off those boots right now!" shouted the pig's mum.

"Ok" said the pig.

The pig was sad but he knew he would get to wear the boots again one day...

By Dorian Bradley-Wilkinson



Congratulations to the following students who have completed the challenge. Well done for completing it so quickly!

Eashan Ahuja (Year 1)

Blake Brown (Year 1)

Jesse Li (Year 2)

Azri Mortimer (Year 2)

Lydia Brown (Year 3)

Lana Barrameda (Year 4)

Anamika Alsaadi (Year 4)

Alyssa Brown (Year 6)

It is not too late to join the PRC. Please see the office or Mrs Coghlan for a permission note.

Book Club

Book Club orders are due online via LOOP by the 18 June 2017 <https://mybookclubs.scholastic.com.au/Parent/Login.aspx>. Thank you to all the parents who have supported Book Club throughout the year. We have used the Scholastic Rewards to purchase a lot of new books for K-6. Our main fundraiser next term will be the Book Fair, held in Week 6.

Personal Growth

Quality Catholic Schools (QCS) Survey 2017

In March this year every Catholic school in the Diocese of Parramatta participated in a Quality Catholic Schools Survey. All staff members, 60 parents who were selected randomly, and all students in Year 5 and Year 6 were invited to complete the survey. An external survey consultant, Insight SRC, facilitated the collection and analysis of the data. The responses from parent, staff and student surveys provide information about the Catholic culture, relationships and the learning community

1. The **Catholic cultural** data indicates that it is important to parents for their children to participate in prayer and celebrate liturgies and sacraments at school.

Parents would like more opportunities to participate in the Catholic culture of the school and more social justice activities for their children.

2. Parents believe that they have opportunities to and are encouraged to participate in **the life of the school** and that their views and concerns are taken seriously by the school.

3. Parents believe that the teachers are committed to providing **quality learning**, that the learning is stimulating and their children are highly motivated to learn.

Parents believe that classroom behaviour is not interrupting the learning and their children have positive relationships with their peers.

Parents would like to know more about the focus on learning improvement.

This survey is a valuable initiative enabling St Patrick's to focus on improving the learning outcomes for every student. The information obtained from the survey is helping us to build on our successes and to identify ways in which we can continue to improve.

Office

2018 Kindergarten Enrolments

Applications for Kindergarten 2018 are currently being accepted. If your child is turning five (5) before 31st July 2018 please collect an enrolment pack from the office or alternatively download an application form from our website www.stpatricksblacktown.catholic.edu.au. All applications

need to be returned by the end of June 2017.

Interviews will take place in June and July.



New Finance Procedures

St Patrick's will transfer to the new Catholic Education Department Finance system, Technology One during the upcoming school holidays. All schools in our diocese are in the process of changing to this system which will mean some changes to processing in the school office from the beginning of Term 3.

In future families who are leaving St Patrick's Primary School must give a minimum of 10 weeks' notice in writing to the school principal. Failure to do so will incur an extra charge of 10 weeks school fees being added to their account. There are no exceptions to this rule which is the policy of the Catholic Education Office and part of the enrolment agreement.

All school fee accounts (billing and receipting) will now be managed directly by the CEDP office. Parents are asked to keep their email addresses as well as their home address and contact details up to date with the school as receipts will now be emailed to parents.

Other day to day procedures will change with the new system and as you can appreciate there may be teething problems during the changeover period. We would appreciate your patience as we put these new practices and procedures into place. Thank you to Mrs Maree Murphy who this term has been involved in significant professional learning and planning to assist in the transfer to the new finance system.



1-2-3 MAGIC® & EMOTION COACHING PARENT COURSE

Learn to manage difficult behavior in children

2-12 years old

**Venue: St Michael's Catholic Primary School, Blacktown
155 Reservoir Rd, Blacktown. Tel: 9622 9910**

The Catholic Education Office Diocese of Parramatta together with St Michael's Catholic Primary at Blacktown, are pleased to offer parents and carers in our Diocese, the 1 2 3 Magic and Emotion Coaching course.

The course is 3 sessions and will be run on the following dates:

Session 1	9.15-11.15am	Monday, 24 th July 2017
Session 2	9.15-11.15am	Monday, 31 st July 2017
Session 3	9.15-11.15am	Monday, 7 th August 2017

Course Facilitators: Tanya Cosgrave & Lynne Wainwright

Cost is \$10 per parent/couple/carer(s) to cover the cost of the parent workbook (only one required per family). This workbook will be available for purchase on the night.

Register by calling St Michael's school office on 9622 9910

• An end to the arguing and yelling! • It saved our lives • Simple, sane, effective

This course is being run by a Parentshop® licensed practitioner. www.parentshop.com.au