



# St Patrick's Newsletter

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

Bulletin 13

31st August 2018

## Diary Dates



### **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September**

Fathers' Day

### **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September**

Dental visit – Kinder, Yr 2, Yr 4, Yr 6

### **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September**

2:40pm Stage 1 Assembly - Year 2

### **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September**

Touch Football Gala Day

### **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> September**

Stage 3 - Warner Graffiti Education

### **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September**

2:40pm Stage 1 Assembly - Year 1

### **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September**

Stage 3 PBL Fundraiser

### **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September**

Kinder to Year 4 Swimming Program

## *From the Principal*

*Believe, learn and achieve at Patrick's in 2018; a place of Mercy where we welcome, love and forgive everyone*

Last Sunday, 26th August, Australia celebrated the World Day of Migrants and Refugees. The Holy Father, Pope Francis, chose as the theme for the 104th World Day of Migrants and Refugees 2018; 'Welcoming, protecting, promoting, and integrating migrants and refugees'.

Bishop Vincent Long, Bishop of Parramatta, who himself arrived in Australia as a 'boat person', challenges us to consider how we live out the message of Pope Francis in Australia: *"The Holy Father reminds us of the urgent need to care for our displaced brothers and sisters, who have been forced to leave their homes for a better future. He makes the parable of the Last Judgment concrete by stating that every act of charity shown to migrants and refugees is an opportunity to encounter Christ. We are challenged by the message of the Holy Father to consider how we can welcome, protect, promote and integrate migrants and refugees in our own Australian context"*.

The statistics are alarming. UNICEF reported in December 2016 that, "An estimated 535 million children...live in countries affected by conflict or disaster, often without access to medical care, quality education, proper nutrition and protection..."

The spirit of Mercy at St Patrick's where we welcome, love and forgive everyone enriches our wonderful multi-cultural and multi-faith community.

*May God bless you  
Anne Marrins  
Principal*

## Faith Community

### Sacrament of Confirmation

On Saturday 25th August seven students from our school, together with other young people from Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, received the Sacrament of Confirmation to confirm their commitment to their faith and connection with God's love for them. They presented themselves reverently and were supported by their parents and godparents. Father Chris D'Souza, Vicar General, reminded parents and godparents of their responsibility to provide, not only food, shelter and education, but the spiritual dimension of faith, hope and love. Congratulations to Lana Barrameda, Salvatore Disano, Rovick Guerrero, Kyan Ilencik, Daniel Koko, Joshua Nuval and Ethan Quinn.

### World Youth Day 2019

We extend our congratulations to Miss Nathalie Casten and Miss Cecilienne Matienzo who will be our pilgrim representatives for World Youth Day in Panama City, Panama, from 22nd January until 27th January 2019. World Youth Day is an international celebration of faith. Pope John Paul II established World Youth Day (WYD) in 1986. The first WYD was held on Palm Sunday in Rome and is celebrated on Palm Sunday every year at a local diocesan level. Every two to three years, WYD is taken to an international host city for a week-long series of events attended by the Pope and millions of young people from all over the world who unite in a pilgrimage of faith where they can encounter the love of God. The highlight will be an open-air Mass celebrated by Pope Francis. Miss Casten and Miss Matienzo are selling tickets in the WYD Car Raffle every day after school at \$2 a ticket or \$20 a book of 10 tickets, as well as chocolates for \$1.00 to raise money towards the cost of their pilgrimage.

## Teaching & Learning

### From the Assistant Principal

#### Responsible use of Technology

It has come to our attention that some students from St. Patrick's have not been using technology responsibly out of school. We have a large number of students who have created social media accounts without their parent's knowledge. Here is some reasons why social media does have age restrictions:

#### **1. Children's personal information is at risk.**

Under the children's Online Privacy Protection Act passed in 1998 every child under the age of 13 is protected. This act requires that operators of websites and online services provide notice and obtain permission from a child's parents before collecting personal information, however when a social network account is created by a child giving false information the Federal law cannot protect their personal information from being collected and shared with others.

#### **2. Children under 13 don't have the cognitive brain capacity to make smart decisions online.**

Just because children seem to be technology savvy at younger ages, it doesn't necessarily mean that their brains are developing at the same rate as their digital skills. Research shows that it takes about 12 years to fully develop cognitive structures that enable students to engage in ethical thinking.

#### **3. Lying is just plain wrong**

Living in a society where we have rules and laws that we must abide by giving false information mightn't seem a big deal, however it is not telling the truth and I believe that we would all agree that being honest and telling the truth is a moral obligation in our society.

I encourage all parents and carers to be vigilant when monitoring your child's use of Technology. You are the number one teachers of your children.

**Tom Crowley**  
**Assistant Principal**

## Library News

What an exciting month we've had in the Library celebrating Australian Children's Literature! It was fantastic to have so many families spend time with us throughout August. Book Week celebrations are a great way to bring children and books together, helping them develop an even greater love of reading.

Thank you to everyone who made donations towards new Library books. We had \$75 in donations. Students were excited to see their names inside our new Library books and also be the first ones to borrow these books.

Congratulations to all the students and staff on such marvellous Book Character Parade costumes! Please visit our FB page to see photos from our recent celebrations <https://www.facebook.com/St-Patricks-Primary-School-Blacktown-714911375225324/>

## Book Fair

Thank you to all our wonderful students, parents, grandparents and staff who supported our two Book Fairs this year. The event generates so much discussion and excitement around books. We appreciate all the support families give by reading at home.

Just when we think we have made record sales at this event, our school community spend more! This year, a combined amount of \$8,293.00 was spent on books at our Book Fair! These sales raised a total of \$2000 in Scholastic Rewards for us to spend on books for our school. We are so happy our students love reading at home and that we have even more new books in our school. Well done!

## Premier's Reading Challenge

Congratulations to the following students who have recently completed the PRC: Raivya Duggal (K), Anmol Gill (K), George Hontas (K), Theodore Villena (K), Charbel Hajje (Yr 2), Sahil Bhat (Yr 3), Aariz Khan (Yr 3), Ibrat Gill (Yr 4), Caelyn Thammadi (Yr 4), Max Zhao (Yr 4), Lana Barrameda (Yr 5) and John Mathew (Yr 6).

All students must be enter their books online by midnight on Friday 31 August. No late entries can be accepted. The 62 students, who completed the challenge this year, will receive their certificates during Term 4. Well done!

## Book Club

Online orders are due on loop by Wednesday 12 September. There are always great deals in each catalogue, including \$2 books! To register

or log in, visit

<https://mybookclubs.scholastic.com.au/Parent/Login.aspx>

## Great Aussie Bush Camp Review

The Aussie Bush Camp is a fun, joyful area with a ton of grassland and water areas. The area is set in Kincumber Central Coast. They had areas which had cabins and a campsite. The cabins for us were a little cramped. From the outside it looked like a modern stretch of small, stone houses segmented into little blocks. All in all, I think the place looked like a forest with modern buildings and challenges fit for the most daring.

The whole point of camp is to have fun and do challenges. My most memorable experience was High Ropes. I felt that, for me, it was the most fun. The other fun activities were Lost Island, a mud-filled obstacle course; Commando, a night challenge, where you must find the teachers' hostages; Powerfan, a fourteen metre climb and then a sudden fall and last but certainly not least, Giant Swing, a ten to seventeen metre drop.

I think camp was fun, challenges were fun and the students were jovial.

By Arjun Pillay – Stage 3



## CAPTIVATE 10th Anniversary Showcase

Congratulations to the students who represented St Patrick's as part of the choir for the 10th Anniversary CAPTIVATE Showcase. Students have been participating in weekly rehearsals since April as well as four inter-school rehearsals. They did a wonderful job of learning songs which were quite challenging in nature. And, not only did the choir have to learn five songs, they also had to do actions as

part of the drama performance. The choir also thoroughly enjoyed watching the many inspiring performances by talented students from schools in the Parramatta Diocese as well. Having to come to school and then attend performances over two nights was quite tiring for many in the choir, but it didn't stop them from doing an amazing job. A special thank you to all of the parents who had to reschedule appointments, change work hours and make arrangements for students to go with friends and family. We know and appreciate how tricky that was and that you made these changes to allow your children to participate in this showcase.

Finally, congratulations to the children who represented St Patrick's so beautifully. You were settled, respectful and sang your hearts out. You did our school proud!

**Karen Thoms, Justyna Lupa  
and Mary-Anne Stenning  
Captive Coordinators**



## Partnership

### Assistant Principal Leave

Mr Thomas Crowley, Assistant Principal, will be on Long Service Leave from Monday 3rd September until Friday 28th September 2018. We wish Mr Crowley an enjoyable break and precious time with his family. We look forward to welcoming him back for Term 4 on Monday 15th October 2018.

Mrs Eugenia Vrontas has been appointed Acting Assistant Principal and Mrs Charmain Floody, Acting Coordinator 2, during Mr Crowley's leave.

### Dental Visit

On 4<sup>th</sup> September (Week 7 Tuesday) the Western Sydney Local Health District will be visiting the students in **K,2,4,6 with free dental checks**. Students in these classes will bring a consent form home. **Fill out and return the consent form to school before the date of the examination** so that your child is eligible for this free service. Results from this dental examination will be posted directly to your home address. Detailed information for this service is provided with

the consent form. **Without the returned signed form your child cannot have this free examination.**

**Eugenia Vrontas, Coordinator**

## World Youth Day

In January 2019 teachers and secondary students from Parramatta Diocesan schools will attend the World Youth Day (WYD) pilgrimage to Panama City, Panama. It will be led by Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen, Bishop of Parramatta.

In support of this pilgrimage we have been asked to sell tickets in the **Diocesan WYD Raffle**. Tickets are in **books of 10 at \$2 per ticket**. Tickets can be picked up at the school office. If you cannot sell the whole book just return it with the money you have raised by **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2018**.

**Prizes are a Mazda 2 Car; COSMOS Coach Tour to the value of \$2,000; iPhone X; Apple iPad Mini, \$500 cash; \$500 Westfield Gift Card; Apple Watch; \$100 Event Cinemas Gift Card**

Tickets are sold each afternoon, so if you can't take a book home, come and buy a ticket or two (**\$2 each**) from our WYD table outside the Canteen area.



## Administration

### 2019 Kindergarten Enrolments

Enrolment applications for Kindergarten 2019 are being processed. If your child is turning five (5) before 31st July 2019 please collect an Enrolment Pack from the office or alternatively download an application form from our website: **www.stpatsblacktown.catholic.edu.au**. Late applications may be returned by 7<sup>th</sup> September 2018

### Office

**School Office hours: 8:30am – 3:30pm, opening 8:55am Wednesday mornings**

All payments and enquiries can be made during these times. Payments may be made by cash, EFTPOS, BPay, Post BillPay or by Credit Card. Details are located on the bottom of the statement. When paying by BPay please use the current statement. We advise that we are unable to process EFTPOS payments after 3:30pm.