St Patrick's School
NEWSLETTER

Newsletter 1, Term 1
8th February 2018

DATES TO REMEMBER

FEBRUARY	
Mon 4th	2.10 Whole School assembly
Tue 13th	Zone Swimming Carnival Parent Information Night (See Principal Message)
Wed 14th	Ash Wednesday Mass Yrs 3-6
Thur 15th	Parents Information Night (See Principal Message)
Wed 21st	Yr 6 Mass

WEEKLY VALUE
~
Take Pride in Yourself

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the New School Year at St. Patrick's for 2018. A very warm welcome to the new families joining our school community, I'm sure your time at St. Patrick's will be very rewarding.

We welcome new teachers to St. Patrick's: Mrs Amy Frangi (KF); Mrs Annie Barry (1A); Mrs Jane Frazer (1CF); Miss Jamal Al-Chalouhi (2A); Mrs Mary McKenzie (4KM); Miss Shelly D'Souza (4D); Mr Alex Meoli (4M); Miss Phoebe Connors (6B); and Miss Jasmine Chamoun (6M). Also we welcome back Mrs Cassie Bruscino (1B) from leave. Thank you for your cooperation with the Maths Assessment Interviews (MAI) conducted on the first two days of school. The teachers have gained valuable information on your child's mathematics ability and can plan to meet your child's needs.

The Parent Information Sessions will be held next week in your child's classroom.

TUESDAY 13TH FEBRUARY
Year One   6.00pm
Year Three   6.30pm
Year Five   7.00pm

THURSDAY 15TH FEBRUARY
Kinder and Year Six   6.00pm
Year Four   6.30pm
Year Two   7.00pm

It is vital that parents attend these sessions to gain important information about the learning ahead and events for the children in each grade.

Our first Parent Group Meeting will be held next Tuesday 13th February at 2pm in the Hall. We are looking for parents to join the Parent Group committee this year to continue the wonderful support and events the Parent Group organise each year.

The construction of the new Administration Building is underway. Thank you for your co-operation as we need to adjust dismissal procedures and classroom arrangements.

Yours Sincerely,

Philip Mahony
Principal

IF YOUR ARE LEAVING ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL

If you are planning on leaving St. Patrick's anytime throughout the year, a term's notice in writing must be given to the Principal before a student leaves the school or a full term's fees will be payable.

FROM THE 2018 SCHOOL CAPTAINS

Dear Parents, Students and Staff,

Welcome back to a new school year. We would like to welcome the new kindergarten children, new students to the school, students, teachers and parents to our school. We assure you that we will always follow our school motto 'Virtue and Honor,' setting an example to all students of St Patrick's. As captains we promise to lead the school with pride and respect. We are thrilled to be the school captains of 2018 and we hope you all have an exceptional year.

Kind regards,

Chanel Finianos and Brendan Barakat

Agile Learning Spaces, what are they and why do we have them?

In 2018 some of our grades at St Patrick's have moved into Agile Learning Spaces. Agile spaces are learning spaces that can be easily rearranged to enable learning to take *place as group work, whole class presentations, paired* work or a combination.

These spaces have been introduced within the Diocese of Parramatta to promote student learning and enhance teacher practice. Research shows that good teachers make a difference to student's learning. Agile spaces allow teachers to work together rather than in isolation. When teachers work together sharing their expertise on teaching and learning, reviewing data and the responsibility of students they are continuously improving their instruction. Children who have access to these improved practices and instructions have a greater chance of learning the desired outcomes.

Agile Learning Spaces are classrooms where everyone is learning together. This means they provide opportunities for people to work together in collaborative and exciting ways.

SECOND HAND CLOTHING POOL

The second hand clothing pool will be open on Monday, 12th February and will be open every fortnight moving forward for this term. Any uniform donations would be very much appreciated.

PARKING ON CALLIOPE STREET

Please be aware that rules apply to the No Parking area on Calliope Street. You must not stop for more than two minutes in a No Parking area. You must remain in or within 3 metres of the vehicle. Mobility Parking Permit holders are allowed to park for up to five minutes in a No Parking area.
Council Rangers will be policing this zone in the coming weeks and will be issuing fines for those parents who do not abide by these rules.

Blessing on a New School Year
Bless us as we start this New Year with our school community – students, parents, teachers and parish.
Help us to make the most of every chance
we have to start afresh.
May we show love to one another and to all.
May the new beginning of this school year
remind us that you give us chances to start over again.
Help us to forgive others as we receive your forgiveness.
Help us to learn and to work together.
Help us to be patient with ourselves and with others.
Bless our school community and keep us safe.
Help us to be aware of your love shown to us in the people around us.
May St Patrick and St Mary of the Cross MacKillop protect us
and help us to live as well as we can giving thanks and glory to God.

LENT
Ash Wednesday, 14th February, marks the beginning of the Lenten season. Lent is a time for strengthening our faith, a time to reflect on who we are and where we are going. It is time of quietness and prayer, a time of penance and meditation, a time to become aware of our strengths and weaknesses.
Just as Jesus spent forty days in preparation for his work of redemption, so we too prepare for our own redemption. During Lent we look at ourselves, at how we talk and listen, how we think and act, and how we are with others.

MASSES
Parents and Friends are welcome to attend Mass with the Parish and school this term:
Week 2
Wednesday 7th February
9am Years 1-6
Opening School Mass

Week 3
Wednesday 14th February
9am Years 3-6 Mass
Ash Wednesday

Kinder, Year 1 and Year 2
These classes will have an Ash Wednesday liturgy during the day.
Parents are advised to attend the 9am Ash Wednesday Mass or evening Mass**.**

Week 4
Wednesday 21st February
9am Year 6 Mass
1st Week of Lent

FEAST DAYS
8th February - St Jerome Emiliani, St Josephine Bakhita
10th February - St Scholastica
14th February - Ash Wednesday (fast and abstinence)
22nd February - The Chair of St Peter

The Year of Youth celebrates 10 years since World Youth Day was hosted in Sydney during 2008. It will focus on the theme, 'Open New Horizons for Spreading Joy: Young People, Faith and Vocational Discernment'. The emphasis is on local discussion and dialogue in parishes, schools, youth groups and dioceses.

Delivering the invitation, Archbishop Denis Hart, President of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, said: "In 2018, we want to engage with youth in new ways and they with us, helping young people to encounter God in Jesus Christ and his Church. Open your hearts to the life God intends for you and so make a real difference in the world."

On behalf of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, Archbishop Hart said: "As bishops we invite you, the youth of Australia, to open your hearts to Christ. You are deeply loved by Jesus and the Church. We appreciate your gifts and contributions, and we want to journey with you.

"Young people have a great capacity to address injustice and create new opportunities for joy and hope. Today, many young people want to serve, and others are willing to take a chance to make the world a better place. Leaders and older members of the Church must continue to listen to and benefit from the many graces of youth, supporting them to discern their vocation and identify their call in the world, within communities where they are safe, nurtured and respected." (Source: The Catholic Outlook)

Congratulations to the School Leaders who were commissioned at our Opening School Mass on Wednesday 7th February. May the Holy Spirit work in you to inspire you to deliver the gospel message as lived by Jesus to the students you serve.

Yours in Christ,
Wardeh Khoury

Positive Behaviour Support for Learning

At St Patrick's we have begun the implementation of PBS4L (Positive Behaviour Support for Learning) a whole school approach for creating a positive, safe and supportive school climate in which students can learn and develop. Every member of the school community (school staff, parents and students) work together establishes expectations that reinforce positive behaviours. It provides a common language and purpose in relation to behaviour. The framework's aim is to improve pupil behaviour and increase learning times.

Here are our PATS Rules

P.A.T.S. Rules

RESPECT through...
Pride
Achievement
Thoughtfulness
Safety

Talk to your child about these expectations and what they mean. The teachers will be modelling these expectations throughout the school day in the way they speak and act around the children. You can also be a role model when you
- show your child how proud you are of them
- talk about and celebrate their achievements
- are thoughtful and caring towards others
- how safe you can be around the home

St Patrick's Guildford
TERM 1 - AT A GLANCE
2018

WEEK	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
Feb 1	29th Jan Teachers Commence MAI's	30th MAI's	31st Yr 1 to 6 return	1st Feb All Kinders	2nd	3rd /4th
Feb 2	5th	6th	7th 9am Opening School Mass	8th	9th	10th/11th
Feb 3	12th 2.10pm Whole School Assembly	13th Cumberland Swimming Carnival *Parent Info night 6pm Yr 1, 6.30pm Yr 3, 7pm Yr 5*	14th 9am Ash Wednesday Mass Yr 3-6 10am K-2 Liturgy in classrooms	15th *Parent Info night 6pm Kinder & Yr6, 6.30pm Yr 4, 7pm Yr 2*	16th	17th/18th
Feb 4	19th	20th	21st Yr 6 Mass 6A Penance	22nd	23rd *Diocesan Swimming Blacktown*	24th/25th
Feb/ March 5	26th	27th	28th Yr 5 Mass 6MC Penance	1st March	2nd	3rd /4th
March 6 Catholic Schools Week	5th 2.10pm Whole School Assembly	6th	7th Yr 4 Mass 6C Penance	8th OPEN DAY	9th	10th/11th
March 7	12th	13th	14th 5W Penance Cross Country	15th	16th 9am ST PATRICK'S Whole School Mass	17th/ 18th St Patrick's Day
March 8	19th St Joseph's Day	20th	21st Yr 3 Mass 5D Penance	22nd	23rd	24th/25th Palm Sunday
March 9 HOLY WEEK	26th 2.10pm Whole School Assembly	27th	28th Yr 2 Mass 5S Penance	29th HOLY THURSDAY	30th GOOD FRIDAY	31st March 1st April EASTER SUNDAY
April 10	2nd EASTER MONDAY	3rd	4th 9am Whole School Easter Mass 4KM Penance	5th	6th	7th/ 8th
April 11	9th Annunciation	10th	11th Yr 1 Mass 4D Penance **Yr 2 Penance Parent Information 6pm**	12th	13th School Closes	14th /15th

Skoolbag
Complete communication solution

How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

For iPhone and iPad users:

1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. You will see your school appear, click "Get" then "Install".
4. The app is FREE to download.
5. When installed click "Open"
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.
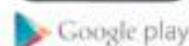
iPhone

iTunes

For Android users:

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click "Open" when installed.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
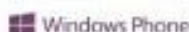8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.

Please Note: Some brands of Android phones need the setting in "Notification Manager" changed to "Allow" instead of "Notify" in order for the push notifications to work. The phone must also be running at least version 4 system software to run the app.

Google play

For Windows 8.1 Phone and Windows 8.1 or 10 device users:

1. Go to the Windows Store on your 8.1 Windows Phone or Windows 8.1/10 Device
2. Search for "Skoolbag" in the keyword app search
3. Install the Skoolbag app
4. Find your school either by using the keyword search or location service.
5. Click the "Pin" icon to pin the school tile to your Windows Phone home screen.
6. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup"
7. Toggle the Push Categories that are applicable to you by tapping the on/off switch.

Please Note: The Skoolbag Windows App is for 8.1 version Windows Phones, or Windows 8.1 and 10 devices.

Windows Phone

Find out more at www.skoolbag.com.au   Don't forget to like us on Facebook!

BACK TO SCHOOL - 2018   IMPORTANT UPDATES

Happy New Year! We hope that you had a relaxing break and are now looking forward to kicking off a successful 2018!

We've prepared for you:

- **Back to School Resources** - to help you set up SkoolBag for the new year and get the most out of our new features in 2018
- **Complimentary v3 Upgrade** - information on how to upgrade to the new version and some helpful resources and guides
- **New Features & Coming Soon** - a summary of new features and what we're working on
- **MOST IMPORTANTLY** - your feedback and suggestions for what you would us to build for your SkoolBag platform

Back to School Resources:

1. Remind new parents to download the SkoolBag app (Click here to download an image that you can put in your Newsletter and on your Facebook page)
2. If you use groups in your app, remember to roll over your groups (i.e. rename Year 4 to Year 5).
3. Set up Custom eForms - i.e. Absentee Form, School Surveys, Excursion Forms
4. Sync your calendar so that parents and app users can add school events to their personal calendar from within the app.
5. Security - please ensure as a SkoolBag admin that you do not share your admin account and password.

If you require any assistance with the above, please get in touch with us by emailing support@skoolbag.com.au

v3 Upgrade:

1. You are now eligible to upgrade to the latest version of SkoolBag. The upgrade button is on your SkoolBag dashboard. Note: the upgrade takes 30 seconds and does **not** require your app users to upgrade anything on their device. It is a back end system upgrade only.
2. New feature guide *for parents & app users* (Click here)
3. New feature guide *for SkoolBag Admin users* (Click here)
4. New features walkthrough video *for SkoolBag Admin users* (Click here)

New Features & Coming Soon:

1. New Features: **Groups** (v3 NEW FEATURE), **Group Manager** (v3 NEW FEATURE), **User Profiles** (v3 NEW FEATURE), **Photo Gallery** (NEW DESIGN), **Family Essentials** (NEW FEATURE, more info)
2. Coming Soon: Newsletters, Major app design and feature improvements (our biggest ever app update!)

Your Feedback & Suggestions:

We would love to hear from you about what features or capabilities you would like to see within the SkoolBag platform to make it easier to streamline your communication. Please don't hesitate to share the smallest ideas to the largest ideas. We greatly value your feedback and we will be taking every single suggestion to our roadmap planning meeting for consideration.

Simply email **support@skoolbag.com.au** with your feedback and suggestions and we'll add them to our next feature roadmap meeting agenda!