



ST PATRICK'S GUILDFORD

Newsletter



VALUE OF THE WEEK: BEING A TRUSTWORTHY PERSON

DIARY DATES

25/10	Table Talk- Seeking Asylum in Australia 6.30-8.30pm
26/10	World Teachers Day Sausage Sizzle
29/10	2.10pm Whole School Assembly
30/10	Parent Group Meeting 5.30pm 6pm Parent Information Meeting on PBS4L
1/11	9.15am Whole School Mass - All Saints Day
2/11	2pm Mission Week Assembly in Hall
5/11	Clothing Pool
7/11	9.15am Year 2 Mass

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

We have made a very calm and productive start to Term 4. All students and teachers are settled into their new classrooms. Thank you for your understanding and support when the removalists were on site on the 1st day back this Term. The children have been outstanding and have displayed a safe and respectful attitude during the changes. I am very proud of the mature and cooperative behaviour all the children.

Years 2, 5D, 5W, Art and Music are now on Area E. Year 6 and 5S are on the land across the road from the Church, now called Area F. Year 4 are in the old Administration office with Year 1 & 3 upstairs in building B and Kindergarten is downstairs in Building B.

Thank you to Mrs Tracy Hoey and Mrs Wardeh Khoury who were Acting Principal and Acting Assistant Principal while I was away on leave.

Tomorrow is World Teachers Day and the Parent Group has kindly organised a Sausage Sizzle for the students and teachers. It is a time to acknowledge the professionalism of teachers and their invaluable contribution to the future of our society. Congratulations to all the teachers at St Patrick's for their tireless efforts to nurture and develop the minds and spirits of all the students in their care.

Yours sincerely
Philip Mahony
Principal



Dear Parents,

Positive Behaviour Support for Learning (PBS4L) is a social skills framework which has been developed at St Patrick's this year to improve learning and behaviour. PBS4L is a whole-school approach to creating a safe and supportive environment and has a strong evidence-base in many Australian and CEDP schools.

A safe and orderly school environment is important to learning. Disruptive classroom behaviour is known to interfere with learning and is a cause of stress and concern for students, teachers and families.

Most children start school with the social skills they need for success. Children learn behaviours very quickly, but they also learn inappropriate social behaviours. Common examples of behavioural errors include inappropriate language, disruptive classroom behaviour, crying to avoid doing work, and fighting, threatening or embarrassing others.

PBS4L schools understand that problem behaviour serves a purpose for their students. **The fastest way to turn problem behaviour around is by teaching them acceptable and appropriate ways to get what they need.**

Schools which participate in PBS4L have proven to:

- improve academic outcomes
- reduce rates of problem behaviour across the school
- acknowledge the positive behaviours
- raise the positive public profile of their school
- ensure that everyone is consistently managing
- Deal with inappropriate behaviour
- improve the way problem behaviour is being managed
- increase teaching time and the positive climate of the school and classrooms.

PBS4L (Positive Behaviour Support for Learning) is being launched next year at St Patrick's. The PBS4L Team and the teachers of St Patrick's have been busily preparing for this exciting event and would like you to attend an information evening that outlines all the work we have done so far.

The Parent Information Evening will be held next Tuesday 30th October at 6pm in the Hall. We hope that all parents are able to attend.

Tracy Hoey
Assistant Principal

Literacy Learning Links

This fortnight's *Learning Links* continues to describe the teaching experiences that we use at St Patrick's to help improve children's **Reading**.

VOCABULARY INSTRUCTION

Vocabulary plays an important role in learning to read, and helping us understand what we read. Readers cannot understand what they are reading without knowing what most of the words mean. As students learn to read more advanced texts, they must learn the meaning of new words that are not part of their everyday vocabulary. Research on vocabulary instruction tells us that (1) children learn the meanings of most words indirectly, through everyday experiences, and (2) some vocabulary must be taught directly.

Indirect vocabulary learning happens when students hear and see words used in different contexts. This can happen through conversations, especially with adults; from listening to adults read aloud, especially when unfamiliar words are defined and discussed; and when students read extensively on their own – the more they read, the more words they encounter, and the more word meanings they learn.

Direct vocabulary learning happens when students are explicitly taught both individual words and word-learning strategies. Specific word instruction includes reviewing new vocabulary words before reading and by providing time when students can work actively with new words. The more they use new words, the more likely they are to learn them. Students also need to be taught strategies for determining a new word independently. This includes learning how to use dictionaries and other reference aids; how to use information about word parts to figure out the meanings of new words (i.e., roots, suffixes and prefixes); and how to use context clues to determine word meanings.

Supporting your Child with Reading

Top Tips for Parents

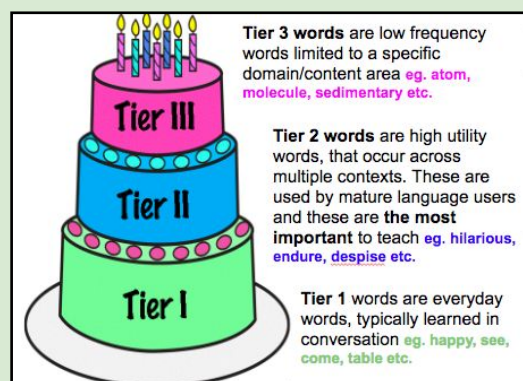
Tip 7 - Show that you value your child's efforts

Remember, your child needs to know that you value his or her efforts. Children learn to read over time, with lots of practise and support from parents and teachers.

- * Be aware of your child's reading level, but use that information in a positive way. Choose books and activities that are at the right level and that will help your child improve his or her reading skills.
- * Be patient and flexible in your efforts to help your child.
- * Show your child that you see him or her as a growing reader, and praise his or her efforts to learn.

Tracy Hoey

Assistant Principal



MISSION WEEK

Mission week will be launched a little later this year due to the moving and settling into new classrooms.

Parents are welcome to attend the launch on Friday, 2nd November at 2pm in the Hall.

The Shamrocks will guide prayer and planned initiatives for the 2018 Catholic Missions. All Catholic Parishes are supporting the Catholic Missions during October as well.

Healing a nation through education  

2018 World Mission Appeal

Myanmar is the focus for this year's appeal. It is the largest country by area in mainland Southeast Asia and is bordered by China, Bangladesh, India and Thailand. It has a diverse population of around 53 million people with approximately 135 separate ethnic groups. Despite its size and location, Myanmar is also placed in the lower half of the region's economies, with around one quarter of its population estimated to be living below the poverty line.

MASSES

Parents and friends are welcome to attend mass with the school and parish.

Week 3 Whole School Mass
9.15am Thursday 1st November
ALL SAINTS DAY

Week 4 Year 2 Mass
9.15am Wednesday 7th November
Ordinary Time 31



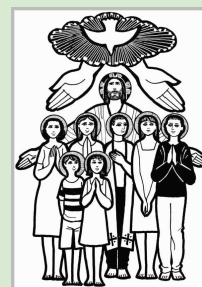
ALL SAINTS AND ALL SOULS DAY

On All Saints day we honour all holy men and women in glory with Christ: known or unknown, mighty or lowly, all whose lives were modelled on the Beatitudes and on the great commandment of love.

All Souls day expresses Christian faith in the communion of saints and our need to pray for one another in the Church, especially those souls in purgatory 'who have been buried in their human imperfection.'

Both of these days remind us of the importance to live our faith and be models of good morals and values.

Let us pray that we continue to grow in faith and fellowship among our brothers and sisters in this life and the next.



FEAST DAYS

24th October - St Anthony Claret
1st November - All Saints
2nd November - All Soul's Day
3rd November - St Martin de Porres
9th November - The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
10th November - St Leo the Great



The students who have been preparing for the last sacrament of initiation- Confirmation will be receiving it on 3rd November at 6pm.

Bishop Vincent will be the celebrant. Please keep these students in your prayers.

EDUCATION-MISSION MASS

Today, Thursday 25th October, representatives from The Shamrock team celebrated a Diocesan Education Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. The Diocesan Education Mass was an occasion for students from Catholic Schools in the Diocese to gather with Principals, Religious Education Coordinators, parents, teachers and Diocesan Priests to celebrate their role in the mission of the Church and to show their support of Catholic Mission for the work they carry out in Australia and in other countries throughout the world. Mr Mahoney, Mrs Khoury, Miss Connors, Mrs Antoun, Rebecca Saady, James Moujaes, Christian Khalil, Isabella Tatian and Maryanne Antoun represented our school at this event.

A Mission Expo was held after the Mass. The aim of the Mission Expo was to highlight mission activities that schools have been involved with during the past year and to share this information with other school communities who might wish to do the same. The Shamrock's showcased all their activities that they have worked extremely hard for in support of Mission.

The students that represented the Shamrock's received extremely positive feedback on their work and presentation.



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Dear Parents and Carers

Last week you would have received an email from research company JWS Research asking you to complete a short survey about the reasons for sending your child to a Catholic school. Thank you to those who have responded to this. There has been a good response rate so far but we are hopeful of getting as many replies as possible.

If you haven't already done so, could you please click on the link in your email and complete the survey. It will take only about 15 minutes to do. **The closing date for the survey is 26 October.**

If you did not receive an email inviting you to participate in the survey, please email Jacqui Lowe from JWS Research at jlouw@jwsresearch.com.

Thank you for your support of this important project.

Gregory B Whitby AM KSG
Executive Director

PARENT GROUP MEETING

Our Term 4 Parent Group Meeting will be held next Tuesday 30th October at 5:30pm in the school hall, just before the PBS4L Parent Information Evening at 6pm.

All parents are welcome.

SCHOOL DISMISSAL

Please note that all children need to be picked up by 3:15pm.

WALKERS

Children are escorted just past the teachers carpark or to the crossing. It is the responsibility of the parents or whoever is picking the child up to be at the meeting point. Any child who is unable to find who is to pick them up is advised to return to the school office.

EARLY LEAVERS

If your child needs to **leave school early** or there is a change to how they will go home, this needs to be put into a **note** and given to the class teacher in the morning. If possible please pick up your children before **2.00pm** as it is hard to contact classes as they are moving around after that time.

LATE ARRIVAL TO SCHOOL

If your child arrives late to school a parent must accompany them into the office to sign them in.

YEAR 3 EXCURSION TO HOMEBUSH BY MICHAEL KHATTAR

On our excursion we went for a walk around. The first thing we saw was the mangroves and our guide taught us all about the mangroves. Next we went to see more mangroves, this time we learnt about their environment. They told us they grow in saltwater. After that we saw an electricity tower. We stopped to go bird watching. We saw swans and pelicans and many other birds. The guide told us there is a gate that they open to let water in to water the plants. We then saw fresh water but it was a little polluted. There was tower to look out from. Next we saw some animals including lizards, turtles, frogs and many more. Lucky last, we saw the bugs that live in the water.



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National Apology to Victims and Survivors of Institutional Child Sexual Abuse

A reflection for all the agencies, ministries, parishes, clergy, staff and volunteers of the Diocese of Parramatta for 11am on Monday 22 October 2018

This reflection is to acknowledge and recognise the importance of the National Apology to Victims and Survivors of Institutional Child Sexual Abuse being delivered today by the Prime Minister of Australia, Scott Morrison.

Today is a very important day when the prime minister will say sorry to all those people in Australia who, in the past, were hurt as children in places where they were supposed to be loved and cared for, including our churches and schools.

The prime minister will not only be saying sorry to the people for the hurt they have suffered, but also to acknowledge and recognise their courage in telling their stories.

With their voice, these brave people were able speak out and ask for help. It has meant that many of those who caused the harm have been brought to justice, and other children have been saved from harm. It has also helped us as a Catholic community to learn from the past so that this does not happen again.

The Diocese of Parramatta, including our parishes, schools, ministries, agencies, staff, clergy and volunteers are joining together today to acknowledge the National Apology, to remember the children who were hurt, and to give thanks to those who found courage and strength in speaking out.

We stand together to acknowledge the harm caused by those within Catholic institutions who sexually abused children or responded to abuse in a way that was ineffective or inadequate, and to honour the immense courage of those who found their voice and spoke the truth which saved others from harm.

For more information about the National Apology, please visit www.nationalapologyconsultation.gov.au or call 1800 604 604.



Circle of Security

The Circle of Security (COS) is a 5 week relationship based early intervention program designed to enhance attachment security between parents/care givers and children.

Most parents could benefit greatly from a program such as this as it is non-blaming and simply focuses on the connection through the relationship and how this can be enhanced.

It is not a behavioural modification approach in caring for children.

It is an attachment based parent reflection class. Designed to engage parent's wisdom and to help them follow their child's needs.

Date: Every WEDNESDAY starting 31 October– 28 November

Time: 10am-12pm

Location: Vardy's Road Public School

Limited Childcare Available, Bookings Essential

To register contact Tanya on ☎0409 439 345

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