

ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Making a Difference

Newsletter 1, Term 1

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DATES TO REMEMBER

FEBRUARY

Mon 9th	Parent Info Session Y1 5pm & Yr 2 5.30pm
Tue 10th	Parent Info Session Yr3 5pm & Yr 4 5.30pm
Wed 11th	Beginning School Mass Yrs 1-6 Parent Info Sessions Kinder Info 3.30pm Yr 6 5pm Yr 5 5.30pm
Tue 17th	Cumberland Zone Swimming
Wed 18th	Ash Wednesday Mass Yr 3-6

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

It is an honour and privilege to be appointed Principal of St. Patrick's, Guildford. The school has a reputation for being a centre of excellence for teaching and learning. I will strive to continue to move the school forward and promote quality learning environments. I was very impressed with the way the students commenced the year. They are settled, enthusiastic and ready to learn.

This is my 35th year in Catholic Education. I am first and foremost a teacher and have taught from Year 1 to Year 6 in seven different schools in the Sydney and Parramatta Dioceses. I was Assistant Principal at St. Margaret Mary's Merrylands for eight years and the past ten years I have been at St. Francis of Assisi, Glendenning, as Assistant Principal and Principal (2007-2014).

With the new year, we welcome new members to our St. Patrick's family:

- ***Our new students and their families.***
- ***New teaching staff: Miss Megan Owens, (60), Miss Monica Mansour (3M) and Mariette Francis (Personal Development & Health).***
- ***Our beautiful new kindergarten children who joined us last Thursday and have already shown how ready they are to start "Big School".***

I look forward to working closely with you and your children in 2015.

Kind regards

*Philip Mahony
Principal*



**SCHOOL PHOTOS
25TH FEBRUARY
FULL SUMMER
UNIFORM**

A MESSAGE FROM THE SCHOOL LEADERS

Welcome everyone to a new school year. We would like to welcome our new teachers, students and most of all, our new Principal Mr Mahony. We would also like to welcome to our school the new Kindergartens and the new parents. We hope you have a great year full of fun and learning.

Kind regards

Charlie-Rose El Riachi, Julian Barakat, Josephine Moujaes, Tony Ashkar, Teresa Akkarri, Mikayla Issa, Isaac Halloun and George Alam

WEEKLY VALUE
PLAYING FAIRLY

PARENT INFORMATION MEETINGS

All parents are warmly invited to their child's Parent Information Meeting which will be held on the following dates:

Kinder:	Wednesday 11 February	3.30pm
Year 1:	Monday 9 February	5.00pm
Year 2:	Monday 9 February	5.30pm
Year 3:	Tuesday 10 February	5.00pm
Year 4:	Tuesday 10 February	5.30pm
Year 5:	Wednesday 11 February	5.30pm
Year 6:	Wednesday 11 February	5.00pm

These meetings are a great way to meet your child's teacher who will outline important information for class organisation and events for the year.

SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

Full school uniform is to be worn during school hours, while travelling to and from school, and when students are representing the school on excursions and at sporting events. Jewellery, with the exception of watches and stud/sleeper earrings, should not be worn. A simple cross/medal and chain may be worn provided it is worn beneath the uniform. No other necklaces, beads or chains are permitted.

****Please note that the boys summer uniform is a Midford Sky Blue shirt and their navy shorts should not be cargo shorts.**

Extreme hairstyles or colours are not permitted and children who come to school with unacceptable hairstyles will be removed from the playground until the hairstyle is rectified. Coloured nail polish, hair gel and other cosmetics are not permitted.

A school hat must be worn when outside or the 'No hat, No play' rule will be implemented. The St Patrick's school bag is the only school bag permitted to be brought to school. (A full copy of the School Uniform Policy is available on the school website).

TRAINING MODULE - CHILD PROTECTION FOR VOLUNTEERS

Previously we have held Child Protection at our Parent Group Meetings. You will now go online to do your training.

It is a system requirement that child protection training be completed by all new volunteers commencing work in our school and has to be renewed every second year for existing volunteers.

An online training module for use by volunteers is now available at: <http://ceo-web.parra.catholic.edu.au/asp/volunteerscpmodule/index.asp>

To use the module:

1. Open the module by clicking the Start link.
2. Read through the presentation.
3. Complete and submit quiz questions. This will take approximately 45 minutes.
4. After successful completion of the module, fill out the form by typing your name, email address, contact number, contact address and the school you intend to volunteer at.

A notification of your successful completion of the module will be sent via e-mail to the school and also to your email address. Please contact the school office if you are unsure when you last did your training.

PARKING

Just a reminder for all parents to ensure they are following the parking regulations around the school. For our new parents, please note that the area in front of the Church in the morning is a drop-off zone, so no parking is allowed.

In the afternoon, may I ask parents to be considerate of others and not double park in Calliope Street. The School buses often take 10 minutes to travel the 300metres from near the hall to the top of the school where they pick up the children due to parents double parking.

Holroyd Council Rangers make regular patrols and do book those people not obeying the rules. We look forward to cooperation from all parents in regards to parking.

Stephen Lee
Assistant Principal

FROM THE R/E COORDINATOR



Lord Jesus,
we ask for Your help as we begin this new school year.
Allow us to experience Your presence in the many blessings You put before us.
Open our eyes to the new challenges and exciting opportunities that this new school year brings.
Open our heart and mind to new friends and new teachers.
Give us a generous spirit to be enthusiastic with our studies and courage to accept new opportunities.
Help us to be attentive to one another and let us experience Your presence in all our encounters.
Jesus, inspire us to do our best this year!
Amen

OPENING SCHOOL MASS AND COMMISSIONING OF SCHOOL LEADERS

The Mass will be held on Wednesday 11th February at 9am. The School Leaders for 2015 will be commissioned in the roles after Mass in the church.

MASSES

Parents and friends are welcome to celebrate the Mass with the parish and students on:

Week 3 – Wednesday 11th February
9am Years 1-6 Mass
Our Lady of Lourdes

Week 4 – Wednesday 18th February
9am Yrs 3-6 Mass
Ash Wednesday

FEAST DAYS

2nd February – The Presentation of the Lord

3rd February – St Blaise, St Ansgar

5th February – St Agatha

6th February – St Paul Miki and companions

10th February – St Scholastica

11th February – Our Lady of Lourdes

14th February – Sts Cyril and Methodius

18th February – LENT begins



RELIGIOUS TRIVIA

What is the table on which the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is celebrated?

When do Catholics believe the Body and Blood of Christ was instituted?

Who generally serves as the head of a Diocese?

There are how many sacraments in the Catholic Church?



Answers
Altar
Holy Thursday (Last Supper)
Bishop
Seven

Yours in Christ
Wardeh Khoury

SCHOOL BANKING

School banking would like to welcome the Kindergarten children to St Patricks and welcome back Years 1 to 6; we are looking forward to a great year!

You can get involved in the School Banking program by opening a Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account at any Commonwealth Bank branch, over the phone on 13 2221, or via NetBank if you are an existing customer with NetBank access.

Remember to take in identification for you and your child (driver's licence and birth certificate). You will receive a Dollarmites wallet and deposit book that your child will use to participate in the program.

For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a cool Dollarmites token. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can redeem them for an exclusive School Banking reward item in recognition of their continued savings behaviour.

The rewards items available during 2015 are:

- ET DVD, released Term 1
- Planet Handball, released Term 1
- Invisible Ink Martian Pen, released Term 2
- Intergalactic Rocket, released Term 2
- Glow-in-the-Dark Solar System, released Term 3
- Cosmic Light Beam Torch, released Term 3
- Outer Space Savers Money Box, released Term 4
- Lunar Light Band, released Term 4

Don't forget that banking day is on Tuesday, students should hand in their weekly deposits to their class teacher.

FROM THE CANTEEN

Welcome back to a new school year. The new Canteen Price List was sent home last week. On the list, **sausage rolls** were priced at \$2.70 which is incorrect. **Would you please change the price to \$3.50.** Thank you.

Thank you to the parents who have offered to help this year. We are still very short on helpers especially Monday and Friday. If you could spare some time to help please send in the Help note that also went home last week or ring the office. For our school canteen to remain open we really do need volunteers to help.

CANTEEN ROSTER - SEPTEMBER

Mon	Wed	Fri
	4 Roslie Narse	6 Mary-Anne El - Khoury (lunch)
9 Odette Zaidan	11 Lisa Antoun Charolette	13 Rita Kahila
16	18 Sadie Ters Rania Antoun	20 Sue Sleiman
23	25 Tina Laguzza	27 Natalie Durbidge

SUPERVISION

All children are supervised from 8.15am until 3.15 pm. Children who are at school before or after these times are not supervised and responsibility for their safety must remain with the parents. If a parent is unavoidably late collecting his/her child in the afternoon, we ask that the office be notified so that supervision can be arranged.

FROM THE PARENT GROUP

Dear Parents

Welcome back to a new year and new beginnings. Hope you all had a fantastic holiday with your child/children.

Firstly I would like to thank my committee for the hard work and dedication over the past 2 years. Emily, Mike, Sonia, Kate, Dianna, Joanne and Maria, your constant support is greatly appreciated. Without all your help and commitment we would not have achieved all that we did, to benefit all our children at our great school.

As everyone is aware our first parent group meeting for the year is on Tuesday 17th February 2015 at 7.00 pm. On this night we will be having elections for the new parent group committee. I would like to urge everyone to consider joining and being part of a team. It is a rewarding experience as the look on the children's faces when we are able to continue to provide a service for them on Mother's Day, Father's Day, sport carnivals, fundraising, etc, is priceless. It is also a great way to get to know someone new in the school. If you are not able to join the committee, come along to help with the various times that parent helpers are needed, because without helpers we are not able to provide a service to benefit our school and the children. Without a committee there will be no extra fundraising to provide for our children resources, shelter, etc.

Lastly thank you to all the parent helpers in the past, especially the last two years. Your help was greatly appreciated.

Hoping to see you all there.

Dolly Chahin

President

KINDERGARTEN 2015



Fun
with
Yr 6
Buddies





1st Few days in Kindergarten

