

ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Making a Difference

Newsletter 1, Term 1

February 4th 2016

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DATES TO REMEMBER

FEBRUARY

Wed 10th	Ash Wednesday Mass Yrs 3-6 K-2 Liturgy to receive Ashes
Mon 15th	Parent Info night 7pm Hall
Tue 16th	Cumberland Swimming Carnival Kinder Info Night Kinder Class Room
Wed 17th	Yr 6 Mass

SCHOOLBAG APP

This app is available in your App store on your apple device. For android users: you must have a Google account before installing the app.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

Welcome back to St Patrick's for 2016 and if you are new to the school community, I'm sure your time with us will be fulfilling and rewarding.

We will print the first two newsletters and then the 3rd newsletter will be available through the school website, the Skoolbag App or by email. If you want to receive the newsletter by email please return your email address to the school by completing the slip below. Some newsletters will be printed for any parents who can't access our digital formats. (Eldest child will need to pick up a newsletter from the office).

We welcome new teachers to St Patrick's; Mrs Lisa Williams, (5W), Miss Sara Issa (6I), Miss Dalia Fadel (2F), Miss Rebecca Zeait (2RL), Mrs Jackie Moshtaghi (3JA). Also we welcome back after leave; Mrs Rebecca Shen (KKS) and Mrs Amanda Makdessi (3JA).

Thank you for your cooperation with the Maths Assessment (MAI) conducted on the first two days of school. The teachers completed 420 MAI's over those days and will complete all the students by the end of next week. The teachers have gained valuable information on your child's mathematics ability and can now plan appropriate lessons and tasks to meet your child's individual needs.

Kind Regards
Philip Mahony
Principal

EMAIL ADDRESS

Please send me the School Newsletter by email (print clearly)

Family Name: _____ Eldest child's name : _____

Email address: _____

PARENT INFORMATION NIGHTS

For years 1-6.

This will be held on **Monday 15th February at 7pm** in the hall. Our format has changed this year. The general information will be given by the principal and then you will stay in the hall to meet your children's teachers.

Kindergarten

This will be held on **Tuesday 16th February at 6pm** in the Kindergarten Room.

SCHOOL LEADERS

Yesterday at our Opening School Mass, the 2016 School Student Leaders were commissioned.

Captains: Christen Baltasar, Ray Burchdan

Vice Captains: Alice Wall, Ronny Rahme

School Leaders: Monique Bechara, James Chaaya, Alicia Potts, Nicholas Azizi,

SRC: Andrea Alzened

For 2016 another 8 students were commissioned.

Pastoral Leaders: Olivia Budini, Virginia Hehme

Community Leaders: Elyssa Awad, Taylah Yacoub, Jeromne Kady, Christian Meafou, Shanice Younan, Isaac Geha

OPAL CARDS

The first lot of Opal cards have gone home to students who had a bus pass last year. The new applications will be sent to the child's home address in the next few weeks. Transdev have sent us a link for their bus timetables for this year. The link is: www.transdevnsw.com.au
From the timetables menu, simply select the appropriate school or route to download the latest timetables.

If your child opal card isn't working on the bus, please ring Transport for NSW.

CHILD PROTECTION

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. The easiest way is to Google CEO Parramatta Child Protection. Then go down and click on Child Protection Module 1. This will take you to the site and you can progress through by clicking the forward arrow on the bottom of the screen. If you did this Module last year there is no need to do it again until next year.

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.

WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES

There will be a change in our Assemblies for 2016. On Monday mornings we will have our School Prayer, School song and the National Anthem plus informing the parents of upcoming events. Every second Wednesday afternoon in the Hall, starting from Wednesday 10th February, we will have a Whole School Assembly. The student leaders will lead the assembly with the Principals Awards being presented and a Media report by our Year 6 students. We will conclude the assembly with St Patrick's Breastplate prayer. Module assemblies will continue during the year with each grade presenting twice. The grade teachers will inform you of the date when arranged.



FROM THE R/E COORDINATOR

Pope Francis declared this Extraordinary Jubilee Year as the Year of Mercy. He has encouraged everyone to be dedicated to living out their daily lives by showing mercy to others just as the Father constantly extends to us all. "In this Jubilee Year, let us allow God to surprise us. He never tires of throwing open the doors of his heart and repeats that he loves us and wants to share his love with us. We are called to be a sign of pardon, strength, aid and love." (*Misericordiae Vultus*)

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to our new School Leaders who were commissioned yesterday after our Opening School Mass. May the Holy Spirit Guide you to be examples, as Jesus was, of God's love, mercy, care and service as you engage in your extra duties and responsibilities.



MASSES

Parents and Friends are welcome to attend Mass with the Parish and school on:

Week 3-
 Wednesday 10th February
 9am Years 3-6
Ash Wednesday



(K-2 will have a separate Liturgy for Ash Wednesday)

Week 4
 Wednesday 17th February
 9am Year 6 Mass
1st Week of Lent

FEAST DAYS

- 5th February- St Agatha
- 6th February – St Paul Miki and companions
- 8th February – St Jerome Emiliani, St Josephine Bakhita
- 11th February – Our Lady of Lourdes



Yours in Christ
 Wardeh Khoury

IMPORTANT NOTICES

Parents, please remember the road rules and observe all parking signs when dropping and picking up children. Please show courtesy to our neighbours and do not park across or in their driveways. **The area in front of the church is a "Drop Only Area" in the mornings.**

Some afternoons, parents waiting for their children permit their toddlers to run around inside church. Please show the correct reverence in the church. Thank you.

The office would like to ask parents to try and have the correct money for hats etc. due to the fact that we don't always have cash on the premises.

FROM THE SCHOOL CAPTAINS

As the school captains we would like to say a big welcome back to the teachers, students and parents, we wish you the best of luck and good health for 2016. We are both honoured to have the role as school captains, and we promise to make a difference in the school by leading the students of St Patrick's with "Virtue and Honour".

Kind Regards
Ray Burchdan and Christian Baltasar

FROM THE CANTEEN

Healthy Canteens is excited to welcome St Patrick's Primary to our family of Canteens.

We hope you enjoy our new menu and our online ordering service. However there will be some changes.

- ◆ Food from home will no longer be heated up at the canteen.
- ◆ The children will drop off their lunch orders at the canteen before school.

Any questions please feel free to speak to our lovely staff.



Kindergarten Begin School

MERRYLANDS WEST SCHOOL & WORKWEAR CENTRE

Shop 9-10, Coolibah Centre
9-11 Sherwood Road
Merrylands NSW 2160
(Behind Pizza Hut)
P: 02 9637 4502 F: 02 9637 5859
E: mluniform@tpgi.com.au
Lay-by Welcome
Mon-Thurs 9-5 Sat 10-3

ALL YOUR UNIFORM NEEDS IN ONE PLACE...

School uniforms for St Patrick PS
Grosby school shoes – 30% off second pair (equal or cheaper value)
Boys shirts, shorts and trousers
Girls dresses, slacks, blouses and skirts
School socks, sports socks, tights
School back packs & laptop bags