Dear Parents/Carers

This year from 5 - 11 March 2017 St Patrick’s Guildford will join with Catholic schools across NSW and the ACT to celebrate Catholic Schools Week (CSW).

Our theme for CSW 2017 is ‘Learning connected’, building on Pope Francis’ statement that ‘Everything is connected’. This sense of connection calls for shared responsibility for the care of nature and our human relationships in a changing world.

Catholic Schools Week is about forging and strengthening connections between everyone who has a stake in our schools – students, staff, families, priests, parishioners, and members of the wider community – by showcasing our activities and actions.

During Catholic Schools Week, we take the opportunity to highlight not only the best of what we do, but also what happens in our schools every day.

For that reason, we invite you and your family to join us at St Patrick’s on Wednesday 8th March at 11.30am to 12.30pm to celebrate with our school and parish community during Catholic Schools Week 2017.

Our school will celebrate by:

* Whole School Assembly on Monday 6th March 2.15pm in the Hall.
* Open classrooms on Wednesday 8th March 11.30am to 12.30pm.
  * Open School for any New Enrolments 11.00am to 12.30pm

This is an ideal opportunity to support our community of St Patrick’s and learn more about the great things that take place in Catholic schools every day.

Our school has a supportive and talented community of teachers, parents, carers, P&F, clergy, parishioners and support staff who work together to give students the best education possible.

Continued over page
This special week on the Catholic Schools’ calendar provides an opportunity for the community to recognise our committed and gifted teachers and support staff for their work in encouraging success, promoting discipline, supporting creativity and instilling compassion in our young people.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support of St Patrick’s School and look forward to celebrating Catholic Schools Week with you on Wednesday 8th March.

Once again, Australian Catholic Superannuation is a proud sponsor of Catholic Schools Week 2017 and we greatly appreciate their generous participation. I encourage you to visit the Australian Catholic Superannuation and Retirement Fund’s website at www.catholicsuper.com.au.

Yours sincerely
Philip Mahony
Principal

PARENT GROUP

It was very pleasing to see so many parents able to attend the Parent Group Meeting last week. The 2017 committee are:

Samantha Khattar – President
Rania Antoun – Vice President
Corryn Luburic – Secretary
Rima Saady – Treasurer

Fundraising
Berna Nahas
Mary Contreras
Katie Karaki

Hospitality
Emily Lichaa
Julia Malouf

We are looking forward to all our St Patrick’s parents support to raise funds for extra resources for the students.

REMINDER

School Photos are next Tuesday 7th March.
Please return your photo envelopes to the school if you are paying cash or order online with your credit card. Children are to wear their full summer uniform. No sports uniforms to be worn on this day.

WEEKLY VALUE

Speaking & Acting with Respect

CROSS COUNTRY

St Patrick’s Cross Country for all children in Years 2 to 6 will be held on WEDNESDAY 15TH MARCH.

The children will assemble at school as normal and walk to the oval.

We require parent helpers around the course. Please fill in the slip on the bottom of the Cross Country Note or leave a message at the school office. (You must have completed the child Protection Course)

Parents are welcome to come and cheer their children on! We will start at approximately 9.10am.

HIGH SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

Sr Helen will be available to endorse High School applications on behalf the Parish Priest after any of the Masses on the weekend.
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.

The cross reminds us to take the responsibility for our own lives to follow Jesus.

The bible helps us to understand the Word of God and know His way.

The lit candle is a sign that Jesus is with us as we face hard things and take up our cross to follow Him.

ST PATRICK’S DAY
Our celebrations for St Patrick’s Day will begin on the 16th March with music workshops run by Australian religious songwriter and singer, Andrew Chinn. Parents are warmly invited to be a part of the celebration of faith and fun by attending a concert at the end of the day that will take place on the main playground (hall if raining), at 1.25-2.25pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

On St Patrick’s Day, the 17th March, children are to come dressed in green. The day will begin with a 9am Mass. At 12.30pm Parents are welcomed to attend a short assembly followed by a picnic lunch at 1pm. The parent group will be organising some treats for sale on the day. More information will be forwarded closer to the day.

SACRAMENTS
As mentioned at the Parent Information Evenings, Parents wishing their child to enrol in the Sacramental Program will need to attend the compulsory Parent meetings for the Sacrament. If your child is new to the school or has missed out on reception of a Sacrament for their age, please ensure you attend the relevant meeting.

Yr 2 - Sacrament of Penance – Parent Meeting 5th April 6pm
Yr 3 - Sacrament of Eucharist - Parent Meeting 7th June 6pm
First Communion will be celebrated throughout August -mass times will be allocated in mid June
Yr 5 - Sacrament of Confirmation- Parent Meeting 23rd August 6pm
Confirmation Mass on Tues 31st October 7pm

FEAST DAYS
1st March - LENT BEGINS-Ash Wednesday
17th March - St Patrick
20th March- St Joseph

Yours in Christ,
Wardeh Khoury