



ST PATRICK'S GUILDFORD



Principal: Steven Jones
34 Calliope Street
Guildford 2161
Phone: 8728 7300
Email: StPatsGuildford@parra.catholic.edu.au
www.stpatsguildford.catholic.edu.au

Parish Contact Details
Parish Priest: Fr Peter Blayney,
Parish Associate: Sister Helen Cunningham OP
Phone: 9632 2672

Newsletter 1

Thursday, 4th February 2021



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2021 school year! In the past week we have welcomed all of our students and staff back for the commencement of the new school year. This week we also welcomed our youngest members into the St Patrick's school community along with their parents. All the children and parents returned with an overwhelming sense of excitement and calmness which has permeated across the school. Perhaps leaving your children at the entrance to come in on their own each morning has instilled in them a new sense of confidence to meet their daily challenges.

As we have commenced 2021, we have returned to operating on one school site in our new learning spaces with a new outdoor learning environment. The smiles and joy in the students spaces has made the challenges of the past couple of years worthwhile. We hope in the upcoming weeks, as restrictions in schools possibly relax a little to be able to provide families with a tour of our new school outside of school hours.

We also welcome our new staff members Mrs Samantha Barros (Year 1 Green), Mr Anthony Bechara (Year 6 Blue) and Mrs Deborah Skinner (School Counsellor Tuesday & Thursday) and welcome back after leave Mrs Lisa Miller (Kindergarten Green), Mrs Geralyn Fernandez (Year 5 Yellow) and Mrs Samantha Cassar (K - Yr 2 Diversity teacher). I hope they quickly feel a part of our special community and I know you will welcome them warmly.

As a parent, this time of the year can be challenging and emotional. One of the greatest challenges can be sending your child off to school, be it for the first day or for their thousandth day. You are entrusting your child to their class teacher and hoping that they will care for your child just as you do. When you drop your child off at the gate each morning, your thoughts are in part informed by your own experience of school. Sometimes this can lead to feeling anxious about the experience your child will have. Be mindful that your anxieties don't become your child's anxieties too. Your child's experience of school will not be the same as yours was. So it is important to remain positive.

This year we return to school after a unique Summer of 'holidaying at home'. Families explored a different kind of Christmas holiday and many creative experiences were had. It has been a delight hearing the children's stories. The 2021 year will continue to be guided by restrictions. We will still experience the routines, rituals and traditions that shape school life, they will just take a different form. Last year taught us to embrace the opportunity to look at things differently and explore new possibilities which turned out to be positive.

So as we begin this new year full of hope and possibility, I wish the children every success as they strive to meet their goals in relation to their academic, social and spiritual learning.

Steven Jones
Principal

At St Patrick's we are making a difference by being safe, respectful learners.

UPCOMING DATES

Week 3

12/2 8:50am Opening School Mass (ZOOM)
14/2 St Valentine's Day

Week 5

22/2 8:45am Assembly (ZOOM)
24/2 9:30-10:30am Visit from Cerdon College & St Paul's College (Year 6)

Week 4

15/2 8:45am Assembly (ZOOM)

NOTES HOME

[Welcome Letter 2021](#)

[Canteen Price List](#)

[Grade Supply](#)

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome back to the new school year. It was so lovely to witness all the children come through the school gates last Thursday and see our new playground. Their faces just lit up. We can't wait for the opportunity for you to see it too. The children have settled into school routines very quickly and are loving their new learning spaces. It has been great to walk around the classes and see the children so engaged in their learning.

Welcome to our new Kindergarteners who began on Monday. We are so excited to embark on the next seven years of learning with you here at St Patrick's. The children were happy to be at school and have been enjoying the wonderful activities planned by their teachers.

As we begin a new school year its good to reflect on getting back into routine:

- Establishing a good bedtime routine - You know how much better we as adults function on a good night's sleep .. So it makes sense that our children will be more engaged in their learning if they are well rested too.
- Having a balance between homework and play - It's important to help your child work out the best routine to do what needs to be done for school, while also finding time to be a kid!
- Keep the devices off at bedtime - It's so tempting to fall for the pleas of, "I just want to finish this level! Or I'll turn it off, just wait a second". Social media doesn't have a time limit and there is always another level, so take the device away and put it somewhere visible to you. You would be amazed at how much more relaxed your child will be when the temptation to keep checking their device is taken away from them.



School Goals

This year we will continue as a school, our focus with teachers and students around giving and receiving feedback to improve learning. We will particularly be exploring ways students can see themselves as a learner and the dispositions that help them learn such as resilience, focus, never giving up, a positive mindset and many more.

Term Overviews

Next week you will receive a Term Overview that outlines the intended learning for the term for your child's grade. Please look over it and ask questions across the term around the themes or focus areas the children are learning.

I would like to thank everyone, students and parents for the warm wishes Miss Dann and I have received in regards to our knee reconstructions during the holidays. We are so privileged to be a part of such a warm and caring community.

Tracy Hoey
Assistant Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR



**Father, we pray
for knowledge and understanding
for teachers, pupils and parents.
We pray that you will be
with our teachers and pupils
as they start a new school year.
We pray that you will give pupils
tenacity as they seek for understanding
and new revelations in their studies.
Father we also pray for parents,
that they will support pupils by building
a closer working relationship with teachers and staff.
This we ask in Jesus Name.**

MASSSES

Students will continue to attend Parish Masses on Wednesdays as a class. Parents and friends wishing to attend are welcome. The church can accommodate 70 people and any extra will unfortunately not be allowed in due to current social distancing restrictions.



Week 3
Friday 12th February
8.50am Whole School K-6
Opening School Mass -Zoomed

Week 4
Wednesday 17th February
Grades will have a liturgy in classes
ASH WEDNESDAY

RECEIVING THE EUCHARIST AT SCHOOL AND GRADE MASSES

If your child is in Kindergarten to Year 3 and already receives the Eucharist at Mass due to being baptised in the Orthodox or Melkite rites, please inform the class teacher as they are welcome to receive the Eucharist when attending Mass. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me to seek clarification.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

The students in Year 2 will be prepared and receive the Sacrament of Penance in Term 2 during class time. Year 3 students will learn about the Eucharist during Term 3. It will be the Parents responsibility to then complete paperwork and make a booking at a Mass for First Holy Communion with the Parish once the forms are sent home. Year 5 students will learn about Confirmation and the Gifts of the Holy Spirit in preparation for Confirmation in Term 4 if they are eligible. The date to be confirmed. Any parent who has a child in Years 4-6 who haven't received their First Communion and wishes them to do so will need to contact the Parish for further information.



FEAST DAYS

2/2 Presentation of the Lord
5/2 St Agatha
6/2 St Paul Miki and companions
8/2 St Jerome Emiliani, St Josephine Bakhita
10/2 St Scholastica
11/2 Our Lady of Lourdes
22/2 The Chair of St Peter
23/2 St Polycarp

Yours in Christ,
Wardeh Khoury

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S SUMMER HOLIDAY CHALLENGE 2020/2021



Don't forget to complete your entry for the EXecutive Director's Summer Holiday Challenge. All responses need to be submitted by Friday 5 February to be in the running. **FIRST CHALLENGE:** Complete the Executive Director's Summer Challenge to win a Google Chromebook or a \$30 gift voucher. All you have to do is go online using this link and write in 50 words or less why you liked what you read.

SCHOOL COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

At St Patrick's our main communication channels to parents are via:

~ **Fortnightly Newsletter** ~ **Skoolbag App** ~ **School Website** ~ **School Facebook Page**

Every second Thursday our newsletter is distributed via the channels stated above. Don't forget to make sure that you have the Skoolbag app on your phone, with the notifications turned on. You can use the app to inform the school of your child's absences or change of details.

SCHOOL BANKING

Just a reminder that School Banking has resumed for 2021. Student Banking will be every **Tuesday**.

Students are to place their bank books in the office bag for processing.

CLOTHING POOL

To adhere with current advice, the St Patrick's Clothing Pool will operate by completing a "[Wish to Order](#)" form at the office. School staff will attempt to meet the request if items are available.



LIBRARY BORROWING

We are still awaiting the furniture for our new Library. As a result there will be no library borrowing this week. We will keep you informed as to when Library borrowing will begin and on which days for your child/ren.

SCHOOL FEES

School Fee Statements should be mailed out mid February and payment for Term 1 Fees will be **due on the 17th March**.

You will receive a form with your school fee statement that will list the types of payments and the amounts you will be required to pay.

Please complete this form and return in the envelope provided by the due date.

If you have any questions or you require any financial assistance please call Catherine Hartsuyker - School Finance on 8728 7300.

KINDERGARTEN 2022 ENROLMENTS OPEN

2022 Kindergarten enrolments are now open



If your child was born between 1st August, 2016 and 31st July 2017, please collect an enrolment form via the school website or school office. Please let family, friends and neighbours know that 2022 Kindergarten forms are available.

**Open Days: 11th March 2021 - 9:15am to 10:15am,
23rd March 2021 - 5:00pm to 6:00pm, 7th May 2021 - 9:15am - 10:15am**

[Click here](#) for more information or to register your interest.

CONGRATULATIONS



Amelia Meoli Born 1:10pm 7th December 2020



Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Meoli on the birth of their first daughter, Amelia at the end of last year.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

On Monday **1 March** there will be a **Staff Development Day** (pupil free day).

On this day staff will be analysing the student data and observations collected at the start of the year to devise goals and plans for students and cohorts.

PARENT TEACHER MEET & GREETs

During Week 7 (8-12 March) there will be an opportunity for one on one meetings between all parents and class/support teachers for 10 minutes.

On **Tuesday 9 March** there will be a late evening meeting. Final details regarding the arrangements and the manner in which these will take place will be decided in the upcoming weeks.

COMPASS PORTAL - Lodging Absent Notices

Just a reminder that all attendance notes/explanations can be completed via the Compass Portal. Due to the recent update of the Compass Portal, both parents residing at the same address will now receive the attendance SMS notification at 10am. Once a note has been submitted, the link will expire. **Only one note can be submitted per student per day.**

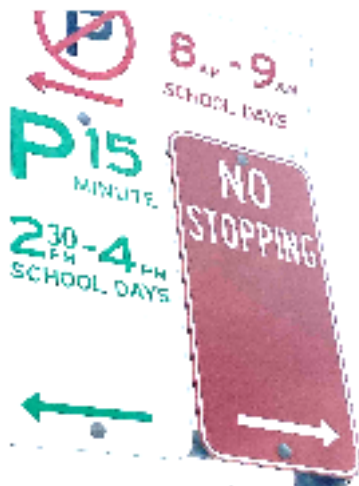
If your child/ren are away from school a note to explain the absence is required within **7 days** of the first day of any absent period. If your child/ren does not bring a note within the 7 days their absence may be recorded as an 'Unexplained'.

- Note to teacher (upon first day of return)
- Skoolbag App
- SMS Service (link message at 10am)
- Notifying the school office
- Email the school - stpatsguildford@parra.catholic.edu.au

Extended Leave

Extended leave is considered to be **5 or more** days during the school term for the purpose of a family holiday, family business, bereavement or other reasons. Parents or carers must complete and submit an [Application of Extended Leave](#) form **prior** commencing leave and have it approved by the school Principal. This form is available from the office or on the school website.

PARKING



Over the past week, the school has received feedback that a number of families from our school are parking their cars in the no parking zone of a morning which operates between 8am and 9am on the school/church side of Calliope Street and not observing the parking signs in Apia St.

Please see below the NSW rule regarding this signage.

No Parking 8am - 9am in Calliope Street. Please also observe the parking signs, including drop off in Apia 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. Hours of operations apply. This means the restriction applies from 8am to 9am only.

Mobility Parking Permit holders are allowed to park for up to 5 minutes in a No Parking area.

A reminder that the bus zone outside the school administration office operates in the morning and afternoon. No car is permitted to stop in this zone during the times identified.

Not adhering to the above may result in a fine and loss of demerit points. Council and the school police liaison have been informed of the school and communities concerns regarding non compliance with the parking regulations, and parking rangers will most likely be present in the upcoming days/weeks. The school and staff do not have the jurisdiction to enforce the No Parking area.

Please do not stop or park at any time across the driveways including Fr Peter and Sr Helen's driveway..

LABELLING ALL ITEMS

Please ensure that all personal items (clothing, lunchboxes, bags, etc.) are clearly labelled with your child(ren)'s name. Each year there are numerous items of clothing, especially hats and jackets that have no names or identification in lost property.



NO NAME = difficulty to find the OWNER

SPORT

Parramatta Diocesan Primary students enrolled in Year 5 and 6 in 2020 are invited to participate in the Parramatta Diocesan Team Sport Trials during Term Four, 2021. It is important to note that these trials are generally for those children who display above average ability and/or have representative experience in their chosen sport. While teams are open in age it is strongly recommended that only children of a representative standard in Years 5 & 6 in 2020 are invited to attend.

Nominations close soon. ANY parents and students in Year 5 & 6 who wish to nominate are to complete the nomination prior to the closing date.

Please visit

<http://www.primarysportparra.catholic.edu.au/Representative-Selections>



Please note the 2021 Parramatta Basketball Boys & Girls teams and Tennis teams were selected at the end of last year.

BUILDING UPDATE

The following work took place within the school during the holidays...

External works

- painting Years 1-4 external bricks,
- relaying of the artificial turfing of the playground space outside the administration office
- landscaping of the central playground area including the construction of a large sandpit covered by a shade cloth, laying of many sandstone pieces, relocating of the pavers that had been donated by families and were located outside the hall, installation of balance beams,
- upgrading the drainage and laying new artificial grass in the playground area outside the hall
- installation of two slides, rerouting the drainage to alleviate the previous blockage that would previously overflow near the bottom Calliope street crossing during storms
- clearing and installing sandstone bollards in the staff car park,
- removal of the demountables from both sites, grading of the bottom demountable site and laying of turf and irrigation
- installation of irrigation systems to the majority of garden beds within the school
- commencement of the native area including yarning circle and vegetable gardens at the back of the hall
- repairing footpath between administration office and parish office

Internal works

- painting inside the parish school hall
- installation of additional storage areas in Years 1 to 4
- finalisation of Kindergarten, Year 5, 6, Music and Art learning spaces

Further works to be completed

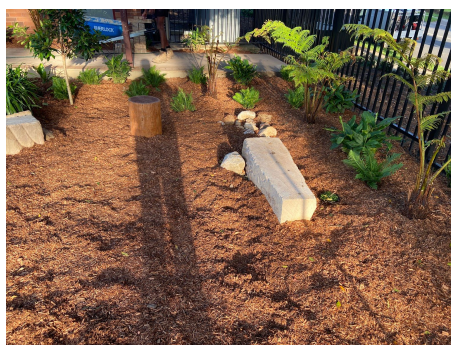
Over the coming weeks there will be the finalisation of the following which has been held up due to various supply difficulties as a result of the current worldwide pandemic

- delivery and Installation of library shelving
- delivery and Installation of staff, leadership and counselling furniture
- installation of flag poles, school bell, outdoor music equipment, outdoor blackboards and furnishings, basketball ring and backboard
- painting of handball courts and various other symbols on the hard surfaces
- completion of the area behind the hall including the installation of an electric sign on the corner of Calliope street and Apia street.

Whole school clean

- the whole school was thoroughly cleaned including steam cleaning of all carpets and soft furnishings
- further external cleaning to be completed at the conclusion of outdoor landscaping





STAFF LIST 2021

Principal:	Mr Steven Jones	(Principal)
Assistant Principal:	Mrs Tracy Hoey	(Assistant Principal, Literacy Leader, Kindergarten Learning Leaders & Behaviour Support)
R E Coordinator:	Mrs Wardeh Khoury	(Religious Education Coordinator)
Coordinator:	Mrs Michele O'Connor	(Wellbeing Leader, Diversity Leader, Stage 2 Learning Leader & Behaviour Support)
Coordinator:	Mr Mark Aggar	(Numeracy Leader, Diversity Leader, Stage 3 Learning, Year 6 Behaviour Support)
Coordinator:	Ms Samantha Barros	(Literacy Leader, Stage 1 Learning Leader, Year 2 Behaviour Support)
Coordinator:	Miss Dalia Fadel	(Numeracy Leader, Year 1 Behaviour Support)
Special Projects:	Mr Alex Meoli	(Sport & Extra-curricular)

Administration Staff:	Mrs Cathy Hartsuyker (Finance)	Bernadette Alexander (Business Manager - Fri)
	Mrs Josephine George (Mon-Thurs)	Mrs Jenny Titterton (Tues - Fri)

Kindergarten:	KBlue - Ms Tasmin Higgins	KGreen - Mrs Lisa Miller
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Year 1:	1Blue - Mrs Cassandra Bruscino	1Green - Mrs Samantha Barros/ Mrs Mary McKenzie (Wed)	1Yellow - Miss Maree Catalano
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Year 2:	2Blue- Miss Patty Apokis	2Green- Mrs Phoebe Connors
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Year 3:	3Blue - Mrs Marica Bosen	3Green - Mrs Christina Dawood	3Yellow - Miss Dalia Fadel /Mrs Mary McKenzie (Tues)
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Year 4:	4Blue - Mrs Leeanne Barber (Mon-Wed) Mrs Amanda Makdessi (Thurs - Fri)	4Green - Miss Lena Hanna
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Year 5:	5Blue - Mrs Daniela Coco	5Green - Mr Alex Meoli	5Yellow - Mrs Geralyn Fernandes
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Year 6:	6Blue - Mr Anthony Bechara	6Green - Miss Junayna Hanna
	6Yellow - Mrs Wardeh Khoury (Mon, Thurs, Fri) / Mrs Monica Remaili (Tues, Wed Wks 1-5)/ tbc (after Wk 5)	

Library Assistant:	Mrs Sandra Fogarty (Tues, Wed, Thurs)
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LTST:	Mrs Monica Remaili (Weeks 1-5 Term 1)	IT Trainee Assistant: Nichoals Azar (Mon, Tues, Thurs)
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Diversity:	Mrs Samantha Cassar	Mr Ken Bladwell	Mrs Michele O'Connor
	Mr Mark Aggar	Mrs Tracy Hoey	Mrs Rebecca Simai
	Mrs Terese Croan		

Reading Recovery:	Mrs Terese Croan (Year 1)	Mrs Rebecca Simai (Year 1)
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Extending Mathematical Understanding (EMU):	Mrs Terese Croan (Year 1)	Miss Dalia Fadel (Year 3)
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School Counsellor:	Mrs Angelique Fernandes (Mon - Wed) Mrs Deborah Skinner (Tues & Thurs)		
Teacher Assistants:	Mrs Jeanette Carey (M-Th) Mrs Kate Nasrallah (M-F) Miss Belinda Salloum (W, F)	Mrs Jenie Gabriel (T-F) Mrs Trish Green (M-W, F) Miss Brooke Rawlings (M-W)	Mrs Katy Pedini (Th-F) Mrs Gisell Fahd (M, T, Th, F) Mrs Cherly Moses (M)
Music:	Mrs Narelle Boatfield (Tues, Wed, Thurs)		
Art :	Mrs Clancy Hoyle (Tues, Wed, Thurs)		
Sport:	Miss Monica Dann (Tues, Wed, Thurs)		
Maintenance/Grounds	Mr George Burke	CEDP Leader of Learning:	Mr Paul Devlin
Canteen Operator:	Mr Tony Zouein - Bon Appetit Catering	CEDP Director of Performance:	Mrs Deborah Buscal
Cleaning Staff:	Charmax		

St Patrick's Guildford Term 1 Planner 2021

WEEK	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
1 January	25/1	26/1 Public Holiday	27/1 Staff Development Day - K-6 MAI testing Kindergarten MAI testing	28/1 Year 1-6 Commence Kindergarten MAI testing	29/1 Kindergarten MAI testing	30/1 31/1
2 February	1/2 Kindergarten commence 8:40-9:10am Tea & Tissues (tbc)	2/2	3/2	4/2	5/2	6/2 7/2
3	8/2 Term overviews sent home 8:45am Assembly	9/2	10/2	11/2	12/2 8:50am Opening School Mass & Induction of 2021 Student Leaders (Zoom)	13/2 14/2
4	15/2 8:45am Assembly	16/2 6pm Parent Group mtg	17/2 Ash Wednesday - Ash Wednesday Class Liturgy	18/2	19/2 School Census Day	20/2 21/2
5	22/2 8:45am Assembly	23/2	24/2 Penance: 6 Yellow 5 Yellow attending Mass 9:30am Cerdon & St Paul's Year 6 visit	25/2	26/2	27/2 28/2
6 March	1/3 STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY	2/3 8:45am Assembly	3/3 Penance: 6 Green 5 Green attending Mass	4/3	5/3 Clean Up Schools Day	6/3 7/3 Clean Up Australia Day
7 Catholic Schools Week	8/3 8:45am Assembly	9/3 3:15-7:30pm Parent & Teacher Meet & Greet	10/3 Penance: 5 Green 5 Blue attending Mass	11/3 9:15am Kindergarten 2022 Open Morning	12/3	13/3 14/3
8	15/3 8:45am Assembly	16/3	17/3 Penance: 5 Yellow St Patrick's Day Whole School liturgy Zoomed	18/3	19/3 National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence (NDA)	20/3 21/3
9	22/3 8:45am Assembly	23/3 NAPLAN Practice - Yrs 3 & 5 5-6pm Kindergarten 2022 Open Morning	24/3 Penance: 6 Blue 6 Yellow attending Mass NAPLAN Practice - Yrs 3 & 5	25/3 9-12pm St Patrick's Cross Country (tbc) 12pm Coordinated NAPLAN Practice (all NSW Catholic Schools) - Yrs 3 & 5	26/3	27/3 28/3
10 April Holy Week	29/3 8:45am Assembly	30/3	31/3 Penance: 5 Blue	1/4 Last Day of Term 1	2/4 Good Friday	3/4 Daylight saving concludes 4/4 Easter Sunday

19 April - School resumes Term 2



positive partnerships

Working together to support school-aged students on the autism spectrum

NSW PARENT/CARER ONLINE WORKSHOP



Join us for an online workshop where you will have the opportunity to listen, share and learn with parents and carers who support young people on the autism spectrum, from across New South Wales.

During the online workshops, we will cover four topics:

- diversity of autism
- working together with your child's school
- understanding sensory processing
- understanding behaviour.

These workshops are part of a series of sessions but you can choose if you would like to register for each session or just the individual ones you are able to join.

**Please note that this is not a webinar but is an online workshop where we will work collaboratively together online across the sessions.*

Location:

NEW SOUTH WALES
via zoom online

Dates & Times (AEDT):

Diversity of Autism

Tues 2 Feb, 2021
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Sensory Processing

Tues 9 Feb, 2021
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Understanding Behaviour

Tues 16 Feb, 2021
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Working Together

Tues 23 Feb, 2021
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

http://



For more information and to register, visit www.positivepartnerships.com.au
or contact Rachael Dillon rdillon@autismspectrum.org.au



positive partnerships

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NSW PARENT/CARER ONLINE WORKSHOP



Join us for an online workshop where you will have the opportunity to listen, share and learn with parents and carers who support young people on the autism spectrum, from across New South Wales.

This online workshop is for parents, full-time carers and grandparents. Join other families to learn more about autism and ways to strengthen the home-school partnership.

During the online workshops, we will cover three topics:

- diversity of autism
- understanding behaviour
- working together with your child's school

Location:

 [New South Wales](#)
[via zoom online](#)

Date:

Wednesday 24th February 2021

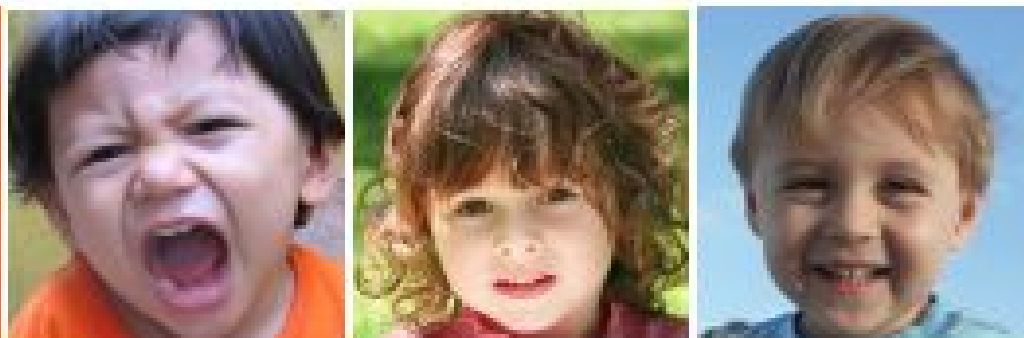
Time

Wed 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM (AEDT)

<http://>



For more information and to register, visit www.positivepartnerships.com.au
or contact Alison Macrae amacrae@autismspectrum.org.au



1-2-3 MAGIC

Discipline that works with 3-10 year olds

**A 4-session parenting group for mums, dads and carers.
Learn strategies to manage unwanted behaviour,
encourage good behaviour, and strengthen your
relationship with your child.**

Where: Parramatta/Holroyd Family Support Inc.
37 Collins St, Pendle Hill

When: Wednesdays, 3 - 24 March, 2021

Time: 10am—12noon

Cost: Gold coin donation each week

Free onsite childcare available!

**For enquiries or to book your place,
call Emma or Wendy on 9636 8437**

**Alternatively, you can fill out our
Expression of Interest form at
www.tinyurl.com/term1group**

Note

Participants need
to have a child 3-10
years old in their care
to practise strategies
covered in this
course.

Please note:

Due to COVID-19 and to enable social distancing,
places are strictly limited and bookings are essential.
A screening, temperature check and check-in process will also be
in place to maximise the health and safety of attendees.