



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 2

Thursday, 5th August 2021



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

I hope you are all doing well this week and finding your groove. Each day you continue to demonstrate courage, resourcefulness, patience, resilience and love, as you face the daily challenges that are compounded by the current lockdown.

Right now our Cumberland local area is experiencing an extremely high level of exposure to Covid. The news last week of the extended lockdown highlights how critical the situation we all face is. The highly transmissible nature of this virus has been emphasised by the recent condolence held in the Pendle Hill area where 45 out of the 50 people attending were infected. We are all at risk of infection. Unless we respond and follow the directives of staying at home, unless absolutely necessary, and wearing masks when out of our home, infection rates in our area will not decline. It won't be long until someone close to us is infected.

Thank you to all the families who are able to keep their children at home. We continue to provide supervision for the children of authorised workers. However, I cannot state any more strongly, the time has passed for parents to send their children to school because it is easier or the children are missing their friends. At this current moment of high case levels in our close local area it is vital that those children coming to school are those for whom it is absolutely necessary. As more Local Government Areas are closed down, we are faced today with the majority of our teaching staff who are not able to attend school and be rostered for supervision.



This is on top of their own concern for their personal health and worry about the possibility of bringing the virus home to their family. This unfortunately is the harsh reality of our current situation and it pains me to have to share such negative news but we have seen with this delta strand how highly contagious and transmissible it is.

As a staff we continue to look at ways to support families through the adjustment of learning grids to assist students continuing to engage in remote learning.

Thank you for your continued support. Stay safe, take care.

Steven Jones

Principal

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

UPCOMING DATES

Week 4

03/08 Tips & Tricks for Online Learning
04/08 Maths Olympic Challenge
06/08 Green & Gold Day

Week 5

08/08 Mary MacKillop Feast Day
09/08 Angelus followed by Mary MacKillop Liturgy 12pm
11/08 Wellbeing afternoon

NOTES HOME

Refer to SkoolBag notifications for updates
For instructions on downloading the SkoolBag App, please [click here](#)

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I hear more and more parents saying my children can't spell, even more so now as parents are working with their children during remote learning. Effective spellers use a number of different strategies interactively in order to spell a word correctly. They understand how to use banks of known words, word origins, base words, suffixes and prefixes, morphemes and spelling patterns to spell new words. These strategies sit under four main types of spelling knowledge. Bringing students' attention to these strategies develops each student's disposition for solving words when writing, teaching them HOW to spell rather than just memorising words.

Visual Knowledge

knowledge of the way words and letter combinations look

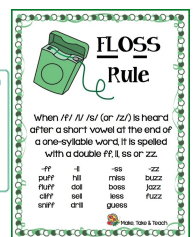


Visual Knowledge

Children learn the way words and letters look

- letters are used to write words
- spaces are left between words
- a letter string may represent different sounds
- there is a common letter order for words
- most string of letters follow a rule

Rule 1
C softens to /s/ when followed by E, I, or Y. Otherwise, C says /k/.



Phonological Knowledge

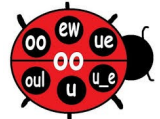
phonological processing requires an understanding of phonemic awareness (involving being able to hear the sounds in words and manipulate them) and alphabetic awareness (knowledge of letter sound correspondence)

Phonological Knowledge

Children learn the sounds that letter make

- the letter names
- the sounds represented by vowels and consonants
- onsets and rimes (eg tr-uck; sh-op; p-et)
- spelling patterns—strings or clusters of letters which occur in many words sharing common sound units (eg ite/ight).

Did you know we have 26 letters in our alphabet, 44 different ways these letters can sound and hundreds of different ways these letter combinations can be written



Etymological Knowledge

knowledge of word origins



Etymological Knowledge

Children learn where words come from ie Latin or Greek

Did you know we can make new words from:

- **homonyms** - words that sound similar but look different
- **compound words** - two words joined together eg cupboard
- **blended words** - words that are blended ie the start of one word blended with another eg Medibank—medical + bank
- **eponyms** - words that originate from the names of people, places or institutions, for example, leotard—J. Leotard, a trapeze performer

Morphemic knowledge

knowledge of the meaning of words and how they take different spellings when they change form

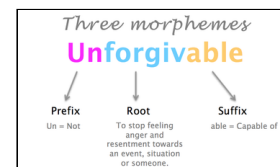


Morphemic Knowledge

Children learn the meaning of words and/or parts of words

Did you know that suffixes and prefixes have meanings too for example 'ed' means it happened in the past, 's' means more than 'un-' means not

A prefix is a group of letters (or an affix) that's added to the beginning of a word, and a suffix is an affix that's added to the end of a word. Affixes modify the meaning of a word.



friend
friends
friendship
unfriendly
friendlier
befriend

one,

So how can you as a parent support your child to use all these strategies when spelling an unknown word.

1. Focus on sound - children can write many words by thinking about the sounds in the word.

Say the word slowly, listen carefully, write the sounds in order.

- Clap the syllables, listen and write the word syllable by syllable. Make sure you have represented each sound with a letter or letters.
- Say the word in parts, write down each part.
- Do you know any other words that sound almost the same? How are those words written?

2. Focus on the look of words - children can write some words by thinking about the way they look. For example, clusters of letters appear in predictable patterns in words,
 - Think about how the word looks; try several different patterns.
 - What other letters could you use to write that sound?
 - What two letters often go together?
 - Which part looks right? Put a tick above the letters that look right.
3. Think about word meanings - children think about the structure of words and their meaning, and develop an awareness of the meaning patterns in words will assist students write many words.
 - Think about the meaning. Does it give any clues to the spelling pattern?
 - Begin with the base word.
 - Think about adding endings to words.
 - Do you know any other words that look and sound like this word? Are these words related to each other that is, in the same meaning family?
4. Make connections with other words - children can use what you know about one word to work out a new word.
 - Is there any other word that looks or sounds the same? Can you use this information to help you spell this word?
 - Think of other words that are like your word; try using parts of other words to make parts of the new word.
 - Do you know a memory trick to help you with this word?
 - Does this word have an oral or visual twin? (homophone, homograph)
5. Make use of other resources: live, print and electronic - children can write some words by referring to charts or word walls created from topic words, high frequency words or words with common letter patterns. Dictionaries and other print resources provide a good source for checking spelling.
 - Is there a chart that can help you with the spelling of the word?
 - Is there someone in the room that can help you with that word?
 - Try to locate the word in a dictionary.
 - Type the word on the computer and select an option from the spell check suggestions.

Finally I came across this lovely video that you can watch as a family about lockdown.

[Windows by Patrick Guest and Jonathon Bentley](#)



Stay safe everyone

Tracy Hoey
Assistant Principal

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

The transfiguration was a moment in time when Jesus' divine glory broke through his humanity and shone with a brilliance that was blinding. It is a celebration of the life and glory of God through Jesus. We are the ones who today possess the prophetic message; we are the present day eyewitnesses of Christ's majesty. We too have moments when we might behold his glory and hear the voice proclaiming his identity, but we need eyes of faith and ears that are open. Let us pray for those in our world who hear and see and do, following in the footsteps of Jesus. May we who have moments of blindness be open to hear the message and be Christ's shining light during our current challenging times of the pandemic and all the struggles and challenges it may bring.



*Loving God, you speak to us
In the quiet of our hearts.
Speak of hope to our world.
Speak of your gift of salvation.
Speak to us, for we are listening.
Speak through us to all we meet.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen*

ST MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP PRAYER ZOOM

Please join us on Monday 9th August at 12pm for the Angelus followed by a Liturgy for the feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop.



Fr Peter will be joining us for this liturgy.

The link to the liturgy is below.

<https://parracatholic.zoom.us/j/69373473763?pwd=SUdwNVcxV0UxZVJqeWtjVHBoZzdNUT09>

Meeting ID: 693 7347 3763

Password: 957875

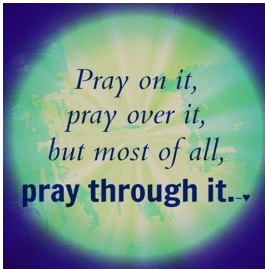
ST PATRICK'S GUILDFORD CHURCH MASS LIVE STREAM



<https://www.facebook.com/367473243387358/posts/2329131860554810/>

Mass will be live streamed on Sundays at 10am from St Patrick's Guildford.

DAILY ANGELUS AND PRAYER MEETINGS



Parents and students are welcome to join the school community in prayer daily at 12pm. The zoom will open at 11.50am so that we can pray together at 12pm.

<https://parracatholic.zoom.us/j/66039619019?pwd=eGRNbThhR083b3p4aWpLYklJUWUrdz09>

Meeting ID: 660 3961 9019

Password: 186103

FEAST DAYS

4th August - St John Vianney

6th August - The Transfiguration of the Lord

7th August - St Sixtus II & Companions, St Cajetan

8th August - St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

9th August - St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross

10th August - St Lawrence

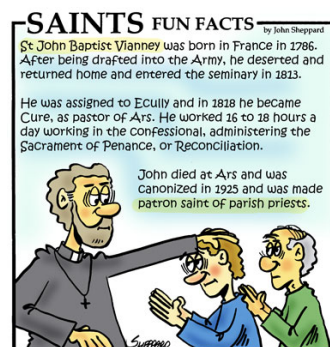
11th August - St Clare

12th August - St Jane Frances de Chantal

13th August - Sts Pontian and Hippolytus

14th August - St Maximilian Mary Kolbe

15th August - The Assumption



Keep safe!

Many blessings,

Wardah Khoury

MERIT AWARDS - Congratulations to the following PARENTS

KBlue	Mrs Nakhoul			KGreen	Mrs Galayini		
1Blue	Mr & Mrs Khairallah	1Green	Mrs Tatian			1Yellow	Mr & Mrs Boutros
2Blue	Mrs Zeydan			2Green	Mrs Rivas		
3Blue	Mrs Karam	3Green	Mrs Webster			3Yellow	Mrs Hallit
4Blue	Mrs Ashkar			4Green	Mrs Chidiac		
5Blue	Mrs Dandan	5Green	Mrs Semrani			5Yellow	Mrs El-Chedyak
6Blue	Mrs Contreras	6Green	Mrs Opoku			6Yellow	Mrs Fontana

WELLBEING

Some valuable lessons have been learnt over the last few weeks. I discovered that my 13 year old son does not know how to wash a car. He also never weeded a garden before and actually made the garden worse! However perseverance (which was one of the learner qualities we looked at earlier this year) does pay off. My son actually made dinner one night and had never cooked before! He made pizza scrolls and they were delicious!!

Hopefully each of our students at St Patrick's are also learning some new skills while at home.

Therefore the challenge is on, please share any new learnt skills with your class teachers. We would love to see them.

Mrs Michele O'Connor



STAFFING

Congratulations to the following staff who have accepted positions at other schools...

Mrs Tanya Graham (Year 6 Yellow Tuesday & Wednesday) who has accepted a four day per week teaching position at St Bernadette's Lalor Park commencing next week. We wish Mrs Graham all the very best in the next stage of her career. As a result of Mrs Graham's leaving, Mrs Amanda Khoury will join the Year 6 teaching staff on a Monday and Friday. Mrs A Khoury currently teaches Creative Arts at St Patrick's Tuesday to Thursday. Prior to joining St Patrick's Mrs A Khoury was a class teacher at another primary school.

Mrs Josephine George has accepted a permanent five day per week position at Trinity Catholic College Auburn. Mrs George will finish at St Patrick's next Thursday and will be missed by all members of the school community at St Patrick's. We wish Mrs George all the very best. We are currently finalising Mrs George's temporary replacement for the remainder of the year.

PLEASE DO NOT RESPOND TO COMPASS SMS

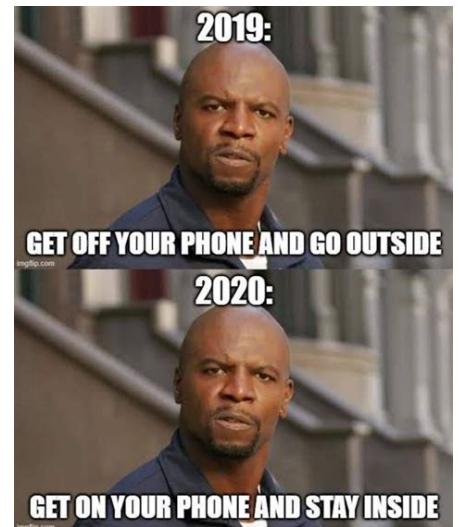
If your child is working remotely and you receive a SMS from the school saying that your child is absent, please ignore this message. We are continuing to send out this message as a way of ensuring those children who are at school have arrived safely and are actually present at school. Please only contact the school office or respond to SMS if your child is unwell and not remote learning for the day. At around 11am we will convert all children absent to the remote learning code.

LOCKDOWN - REMOTE LEARNING - SURVIVAL (PARENT PRESENTATION)

Last Tuesday Fay Jelley presented a seminar for St Patrick's parents titled **Lockdown - Remote Learning - Survival**. Below were two areas discussed that parents found extremely helpful.

Some ways you can support your child's learning

- Keep to a regular bedtime and wake up schedule, this will help keep a routine in place and will help for when school returns.
- Get dressed for the day's learning, discourage pyjamas!
- Encourage good hygiene practices.
- Create a learning space.
- Make a plan for the day, chat about the day's expectations so there are no surprises. Have regular breaks, this can include 5-10 min brain breaks during tasks.
- Give rewards for tasks completed like 30 minutes of iPad time, fun or special outside activities when the morning activities have been handed in.
- Provide healthy snacks and water, it may be helpful to make a packed lunch in the morning to get them through the day.
- Aim for less than a full school day at home.
- Keep a balance between work, play, social and sleep- turn off screens an hour before bed.
- Build in physical activity, creative activities, reading and down time for your children, yourself and family time.



Parent Self Care

- Take Breaks - brain breaks and de-stress - all sorts of enjoyable ways.
- Move - stretching regularly, walking, running, yoga, dancing, cycling.
- Keep connected socially - check in buddy, walking buddy, fence chats, Zoom, all media form. Be honest with someone.
- Use Positive Self Talk - What's more healthful/helpful thinking?
- What are the silver linings/opportunities?
- Learn a new skill? Lots of online classes.
- Be grateful!

SPORT

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Many of us and/or children think of community sports when they think of the word 'fitness'. We know there are many advantages to signing a child up for a sports club/team, practise and games once or twice a week, however, lockdown has made this even more challenging.

Here are some ways to keep your kids moving at home:

- Make physical activity part of the daily routine. From household chores to an after-dinner walk, keep your family active every day.
- Allow enough time for free play. Children can burn more calories and have more fun when provided with this opportunity. Playing tag, riding bikes, as well as, building items with lego or other household items that are safe or require supervision.
- Keep a variety of games and sports equipment on hand. It doesn't have to be expensive. An assortment of balls, hula-hoops, and jump ropes can keep kids busy for hours.
- Be active together. It'll get you moving, and kids love to play with their parents e.g. Dance offs or making family world records together (most jumps/burpees, longest handstand/plank or fastest backyard/hallway sprinter etc).
- Limit time spent with devices, such as watching TV, using electronic devices, being online, and playing video games.

If you run out of options at home, take advantage of your local area around you, whilst also keeping a safe distance from others. Make family fitness outings part of your regular routine. Let family members choose an activity, ensuring everyone can participate.

<https://www.pinterest.com.au/CassieCelestain/sport-activities-for-kids/>

Cumberland Council is providing online events, activities and webinars for all students in the community. Please sign your children up if they are interested. See links below:

https://www.cumberland.nsw.gov.au/whats-on?keyword=&date-type=&category%5B187%5D=187&category%5B62%5D=62&items_per_page=36

<https://form.jotform.com/212070357442852>

Please remember; you'll help show your kids that exercise is important by regularly exercising yourself.

Stay safe and well,

Alexander Meoli
Sports Coordinator