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Newsletter 3

Thursday, 19th August 2021



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents

Last Sunday we celebrated the "Feast of the Assumption" and heard how God chose Mary to be the Mother of His Son, Jesus. Mary was so special; she was taken up body and soul together to be with Him in heaven.

Like all mothers, Mary had her happy and sad moments in her life.

- The birth of her son, Jesus
- Losing Jesus in the temple
- The wonderful miracles Jesus performed
- The crucifixion and death of Jesus
- Jesus' resurrection from the dead

Mary said "yes" to God's plan and so Jesus was made man, died on the cross and was raised from the dead to save us from our sins. Just as she helped Jesus when he was young, she stayed on earth after Jesus ascended into heaven to help strengthen the apostles.

There are many outstanding qualities of Mary we can apply to our own lives –

- To praise God for the gifts of our lives
- To care for others as our gift to God



As parents, we need to ask ourselves how we apply these qualities to our own lives and our children's lives. For many of us we could not be experiencing a more challenging time with the current pandemic and lockdown restrictions. May we during this time, ask Mary our Mother to provide us with the resilience, strength and perseverance to get through these challenging times as a community. Not only caring for ourselves and our family, but all members of the NSW and Australian community.

*Lord,
We thank you for the gift of Mary.
May we be inspired by her strong faith
And great love for God and others.
Help us to become more like her and
To care more for those in need around us.
Amen*

Thank you once again for all that you are doing to support your child(ren) during this time and the safety of the school community.

Steven Jones
Principal

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

UPCOMING DATES

Week 6

20/8 National Science Week Day
12:30pm Weekly Kahoot
1:45pm Parents, Mrs Hoey & Mr Jones Zoom
<https://parracatholic.zoom.us/j/69905310584?pwd=Sk5WK3FaNTBwc1A4MmZ5TUV2eUJJBQT09>
Meeting ID: 699 0531 0584
Password: 735296

Week 7 Book Week Activities

23 - 26/8 9am Whole School Read Aloud zooms
27/8 9:30-10:10am Dance Fever live zoom disco
12:30pm Weekly Kahoot
1:45pm Student/Parent Virtual Book Parade

NOTES HOME

Pastoral Letter to the faithful of the Diocese of Parramatta on the COVID-19 vaccination

Communication regarding Fee Support

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

FOOD: DIFFERENT BY DESIGN

This week we celebrate National Science Week. We have created four science based learning tasks based around the theme Food: Different by Design. As a family, pick ONE experiment to do. The choices are below for you to click on. If you choose to take on the challenge send in your photos to stpatsguildford@parra.catholic.edu.au clearly labelled with your child's name and science challenge. Have fun!!!!

Designing with Dairy



From Seed to Salad



Preserving



Making Bread



OLD WORLDS, NEW WORLDS, OTHER WORLDS

Next week we celebrate Book Week virtually at St Patrick's. The theme for this year's book week is 'Old Worlds, New Worlds, Other Worlds'. Each year, schools and public libraries across Australia spend a week celebrating books, Australian authors, illustrators and the importance of reading. This year we continue to do the same even if we are at home.

Read alouds - Each day at 9am one of the shortlisted books will be read live on zoom. Look out for the zoom links to be set out on Monday.

Writing Stimulus will be launched on Monday after the read aloud - Look out "We're under Attack"!!!!!!!

Book Week activities - A selection of activities have been created for you to choose from.

Virtual Book Parade - On Friday we will watch our virtual book parade at 1.45pm. Please send in your book week photos by Wednesday afternoon so we can put together the book parade.

Virtual Book Week Disco - On Friday at 9.30am DanceFever will host a disco via zoom for the kids to join. Dress up in your outfit if you like and have a dance.

Book Week Competitions - Throughout the week we have some competitions. Every entry receives a ticket in the draw to win a book voucher.

- Take a selfie with your favourite book - (please label photo as selfie child's name e.g. selfieSimon and send to stpatsguildford@parra.catholic.edu.au)
- Photo of yourself or a family member reading in the most unusual position - (please label photo funny photo child's name e.g. selfieSimon and send to stpatsguildford@parra.catholic.edu.au)
- Book title emoji quiz - upload your answers to Seesaw or Google classroom
- [Book Week Bingo](#) - upload your pictures to Seesaw or Google classroom
- Colouring competition - Choose one of the colouring pages to print and colour. [K-2](#) and [3-6](#) upload your colouring in to Seesaw or Google classroom



Tracy Hoey
Assistant Principal



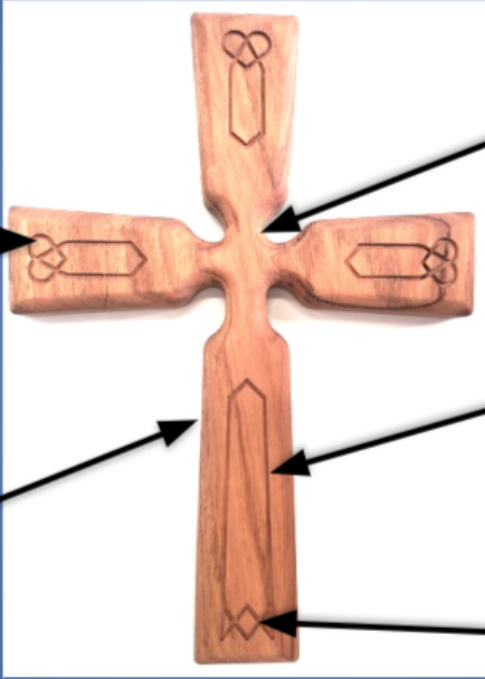
ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL CROSS

On Monday 9th August we introduced the new school cross during the St Mary of the Cross MacKillop liturgy. The cross was designed to represent the school community and draw together the rich history of the school and our contemporary context. We are invited to join in the love of the Holy Trinity and use the model of the saints to 'Make a Difference.' Father Peter said a 'virtual blessing' of the crosses, however the crosses will be blessed once school resumes onsite. These crosses will be placed in all spaces within the school.

St Patrick's School Cross

Celtic Trinitarian Knot - the love of the Holy Trinity having no beginning or end.

Celtic Cross Shape relating to Ireland the place where St Patrick converted many to christianity.



Resurrection Cross- based on the hope and faith of the Risen Christ.

Every symbol points to the center of the cross. The heart and love of God.

The lives of Saints- models of living the Gospel leading us to God.

Josephite Emblem linking the connection to St Mary MacKillop through the founding sisters of St Joseph who started St Patrick's School.



PHOTOS OF DAD

Families are asked to send one photo of your Dad doing something fun with you or something silly to stpatsguildford@parra.catholic.edu.au these will be used during the Father's Day Zoom Liturgy on Friday 3 September at 8.45am. All photos need to be emailed by Friday 27th August.

FEAST DAYS

19th August - St John Eudes
 20th August - St Bernard
 21st August - St Pius X
 24th August - St Bartholomew
 25th August - St Louis, St Joseph Calasanz
 27th August - St Monica
 28th August - St Augustine



God of all life...

May your love and light shine in and through me today
 in a way that no mask can hide.
 May my eyes dance with the laughter and joy
 Replacing my hidden smile.
 May my actions of care and concern
 Speak louder than my muffled voice ever could.
 And may the generosity of my heart
 Radiate out through who I am
 And how I respond to the world around me
 So that others may not see my mask
 But your image shining out
 Moving in and through me today.
 Amen

God Bless and keep safe,
Wardeh Khoury

WELLBEING OF ALL MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY

Premier Gladys Berejiklian has continued to announce each day that Guildford is one of the suburbs of most concern. Parents are asked to only send their child(ren) to school if they are an authorised worker and have no supervisory options at home.

No child is to be sent to school if they are sick, unwell or have socialised with others outside of their home. Sick children are still required to return a negative covid test result and be symptom free before returning to school. These actions are to ensure the safety of other students and staff.

Thank you for your continued support to ensure the safety of all and adhering to the Premier's advice.

STUDENT DATA VALIDATION

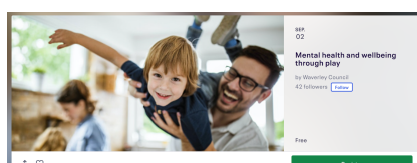
On Monday you would have received an email or SMS (for those parents without email) from Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP) asking you to review and, where necessary, update the key information they hold about your children currently enrolled in CEDP schools. The purpose of this review is to ensure that CEDP has the right details to correctly identify and support students, including contacting families in an emergency or to share important updates. Steps have been taken to ensure this process is as secure as possible to protect your information and your family's privacy. Your information is only accessed by authorised staff when it is necessary and in accordance with our Privacy Policy. The link is open until Friday 3 September. Families are urged to complete the review/update as soon as possible to ensure that your family's correct details are on file. This is particularly important as Greater Sydney remains in lockdown due to the COVID-19 outbreak. This short "[how to](#)" video may assist you with completing the process (use the closed caption icon to turn on subtitles). Please don't hesitate to contact the school office if you have any questions or concerns. Only one person per family needs to complete the survey and it takes about 15 minutes to complete. If you have any questions or to seek help, please contact the CEDP Community Liaison Team on 9840 5796.

STAFFING

Congratulations and welcome to Mrs Tiffany (Tiff) Cooper who has joined St Patrick's as a clerical administrator Monday, Wednesday and Friday for the remainder of the year as Mrs Josephine George's replacement. Mrs Tiff Cooper is currently working two days per week at Our Lady of Lourdes Baulkham Hills South as a clerical administrator.

SEMINAR

Playing with Gratitude researcher, Rod Soper, will provide insight into the powerful influence play with gratitude has for the creation of mental wellness for us all, and in particular children. Free seminar on Thursday 2 September from 6:45-8pm via zoom. [Register here](#).



ICAS

We know it has been a very tough few months of uncertainty for teachers, students and families. In response to the changed circumstances due to COVID-19, the ICAS tests have been pushed into Term 4 from 5 Oct – 29 Oct 2021. Thank you for your understanding and support. Stay safe and well

Mr Alexander Meoli

SUPPORT AVAILABLE

For families impacted by COVID-19 requiring additional support for food and other necessities, help is available:

St Vincent de Paul (Vinnies) offer vouchers in an emergency. They can be contacted on 13 18 12. See attached flyer for local numbers for Vinnies. Also please do not hesitate to contact Mr Jones on 8728 7300.





2021 NSW PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

NEW CLOSING DATE - Friday September 3, 2021

To support all students, the following adjustments have been applied to the Premier's Reading Challenge in 2021. A full list of changes for 2021 can be found on the [PRC rules page](#).

- The Challenge closing date has been extended to allow extra time to finalise student entries and coordinator validations. The new closing dates are:
 - Challenge closes for students: **Friday September 3, 2021**
 - Challenge closes for coordinators: Friday September 17, 2021
- Students on all Challenge levels will be able to read **10 choice books**.
- Students on all Challenge levels will be able to include books on their reading records that they read collaboratively as a class, in person or online with their teacher or at home with their parents/carers.

Congratulations to the following students who have completed the challenge - Lillian KG, Maya 1Y, Stavroula 1G, Kael 1Y, Emily 3B, Georgia 3Y, Esabella 3Y, Mouamal 4G, Zoe 5B, Isabella 6Y

Great opportunity during Book Week to complete the PRC.

SCHOOL SHELTERS & BANNERS

During the current lockdown St Patrick's has received delivery of two shade shelters, four house flags and two school banners for use at the various school and sporting events once we return to some normality. We look forward to using these at gala days and school events.

