



St Paul's Update

16 March, 2016

Week 8, Term 1

Dates for your diary

17 Mar	St Patrick's Day – 'A touch of green' fundraiser - Green cake and green jelly day!
19 Mar	Feast of St Joseph
20 Mar	Palm Sunday
22 Mar	Rescheduled Cross Country – Max Ruddock Reserve, Winston Hills
22 Mar	Year 2 Excursion to Rouse Hill House and Farm
23 Mar	Easter Hat Parade
24 Mar	Holy Thursday – Easter Liturgy 2pm in the Church
24 Mar	Easter Break – school returns on Tuesday 29 March

St Patrick's Day - 'A Touch of Green' Thursday 17 March



Tomorrow all children are invited to wear a touch of green for St Patrick's Day and bring a gold coin donation. This is the final fundraising event for World Youth Day. Our connection to Ireland is very strong, Margaret Aylward, founded the Holy Faith Sisters in Ireland. We celebrate our links to the Holy Faith Sisters and their special place in our schools history. **PLEASE NOTE THIS IS NOT A MUFTI DAY – School Uniform is to be worn with a green ribbon, a green hat, green socks, etc.**

Quality Catholic School Survey (QCS)

All Catholic schools in the Diocese of Parramatta will be once again participating in the Quality Catholic Schooling (QCS) survey.

The QCS survey provides information from students, staff and parents about our school's cultural behaviour, relationships and learning community, and assists us in our focus on continuous improvement.

Between 21 March and 1 April 2016 all staff, all year 3, 4, 5 and 6 students, and 60 randomly-selected parents will be asked to complete an online survey. Staff and students will complete the survey online at school. Parents will be sent home a paper survey but will also be able to complete the survey online if preferred. The survey will take about 20-30 minutes to complete.

This year we will again be able to get even more information about the link between student wellbeing and learning outcomes. To do this we will need to include a student identifier in the student survey. The survey will still remain confidential and individual survey responses will not be accessible by the school or the Catholic Education Office.

An independent survey consultant (Insight SRC) who manages the data collection will ensure the survey data is kept strictly confidential. Each school will receive a de-identified information report at the end of May to help them to develop strategies for further improvement. This will definitely help us in working with all students to improve their learning. If you have concerns, please feel free to contact Juanita Gray.

As a parent if you are randomly-selected to complete the survey, I would encourage your participation as this will help our school to identify our strengths and areas in which we can focus our improvement.

If you have any questions please contact Juanita Gray or myself.

Marian Bell
Principal

Easter Celebrations

Just a reminder..... On Wednesday March 23 we will hold our Easter hat parade beginning at 9.15am. Kindergarten children have always been the stars of the parade and will remain so. This year we wanted to extend the invitation to any child in the school from kindergarten right through to Year 6 to also participate in the parade. **This is a voluntary option – no one has to parade – it is just an invitation.** We have offered this opportunity in response to feedback we received after last year's parade.

Following the parade we will draw the Easter raffle. Extra tickets will be sold in the playground next week. The classroom raffles will be drawn at the end of the day in the classrooms. Please continue to send in your Easter eggs. The more we have the greater the number of prizes per grade.

On Thursday March 24 (Holy Thursday) at 2pm we will hold our Easter Liturgy in the church. This will be a liturgy using the Stations of the Cross as a focus. This is a solemn liturgy reminding us of Christ's suffering and death. You are most welcome to join us for this liturgy. The children will process in and out silently. We ask that you do the same.

Cross Country - Rescheduled

Our rescheduled Cross Country will take place **next Tuesday, 22 March** at Max Ruddock Reserve commencing at 9:30am. Hopefully the weather will be kinder to us! **All Children from Years 3 to 6** will be attending. **Children in Year 2 who are turning 8 will participate in a modified Cross Country at school due to their excursion on Tuesday.** All other infant's children will remain at school on the day. All children will walk to the grounds with their class teacher. Children are to wear their sport uniform however, they may wear a plain coloured T Shirt in their house colour. Children will also need to bring their hats and 2 water bottles, sunscreen and morning tea (please place all items in a plastic bag clearly labelled). If your child requires an Asthma Puffer, please ensure that your child has it with him/her. **Thank you to those parents who offered to help us last week, we are hoping you are still available for next week, but if not could you please let Mrs Milic know as soon as possible so that we can make alternative arrangements. If you are now able to assist could you please advise the school office or email Mrs Milic rmilic@parra.catholic.edu.au**

Dance Fever Challenge

The Dance Fever Challenge is fast approaching and excitement is mounting! If your child has not returned their coloured permission note please do so immediately. This contact sheet is vital to the smooth running and care of your children on the night. If we do not have this signed contact sheet your child will not be able to attend and we do not want anyone to miss out on a great experience.



A note went out on Monday outlining information for children travelling to the venue by bus, Dress Code for the evening, Supervision at the venue and Collection from the venue. Please read this note very carefully and make note of the Teacher in charge of your child on the night. All children will need to be marked off a list, parents **MUST** make contact with the nominated teacher before taking their child home at the end of the night.

A final reminder, parking at the venue may be difficult due to the Easter Show. You are strongly advised to pre-book your parking for the evening.

Enrolments 2017

Enrolment for Kindergarten 2017 have now commenced. An enrolment package can be collected from the School Office between the hours of 9:00am and 3:00pm.

Car Park Update

Thank you to the many families who are using the car park safely and patiently. With the huge numbers of cars that come through each day, the safety of our children is of utmost importance. With this in mind – here are a few reminders:

- Park only in marked spaces
- Drive at 10km per hour
- Avoid double parking anywhere
- Use the disabled spaces legitimately
- Drive around until a spot becomes available
- Delay pick up in the afternoons – children are supervised until 3.40pm

At kiss and drop in the mornings:

- Drive to the end of the area slowly
- Children alight on the passenger side only with their bags
- Parents remain in the car
- Drive off carefully

Please remember that the playground is not supervised before 8:25am - Children should not be on the school grounds (unless they are attending before school care) before 8:25am

Thank you in anticipation of your support.

Partial Absences

As previously requested, if you need to take your child to a medical appointment or need to leave school early, we are now **insisting** that you collect your child during official school break times. It has come to our attention, when looking at absence records, that the disruption to class time is significant (in excess of 40 partial absences per day). Your child may be collected between 11am -11:30am or between 1:00pm-1:45pm. The classrooms will not be contacted after 2:45pm. Obviously there will be occasions when this is not possible but we ask that you keep it to an absolute minimum. Thank you for your cooperation.

From the Classroom – Year 3

Some children in Year 3 have been working on some writing for a competition. They had to start with the same sentence and include at least four words from a list provided. The piece had to be less than 80 words, here are some of the great entries -

I got scared!

It came creeping, creeping towards me and I could not turn my head away. It was a hideous cat. I was at a picnic in a lush park to celebrate my birthday. My mum had a scrumptious cake with lots of candles lit. The cat pounced onto the cake and was set on fire. Everyone ran away. It was hilarious!

By Noah B

The Horrible Day!

It came creeping, creeping toward me and I could not turn my head away. The aeroplane lights turned off. The food cart was moving by itself. It had a pot on it. The cart came to me. I opened the pot and it was a hideous meal. It was eyeballs, vermin and blood soup.

It definitely did not look scrumptious. It looked disgusting, I tried to push it away but it was too heavy. The pot fell over and rats ran everywhere.

I ran and grabbed a parachute and jumped to safety!

By Hamish T

I got Scared!

It came creeping, creeping toward me, I could not turn my head away. It was a hideous, man eating snake. I ran for my life, when I looked back, I saw it was only my friend Noah that had an electric snake. It was hilarious that Noah scared me with such a scheme. To make up for it he shared his scrumptious lunch.

By Connor C

Premiers Reading Challenge

Once again our school has registered to participate in the Premiers Reading Challenge. It is simple to participate. All you need to do is read the required amount of books from the suggested list and enter the books online using your username and password. All students reading records must be entered online between now and the **19 August**. Usernames and Passwords will be exactly the same as last year. If your child has forgotten their password they will need to see either their class teacher, Mrs Taylor or Mrs Nobili in the Library/Office.

Parents & Friends News

Some exciting news from the P&F....

shhhhhh..... Did you hear the rumour? We might be having a School Fete this year???

Well it isn't really a secret if you came to our last P&F meeting.

This is what we have looked at so far....

- We have been doing a Fete feasibility review
- We have confirmed with the school and church that we are ok to have a fete
- We have a possible date for the fete - **Saturday October 29, 2016**
- We will be getting a Fete committee together ASAP
- We cannot wait to get the entire school community involved in our fundraising efforts.

So now you all know what I know, BUT stay tuned! More news about this and other FUN things from the P&F to come.

Renee McClintock
P & F President

Tomorrow is St Patrick's Day

Green Cake & Jelly DAY

St Patrick's GREEN Cake & GREEN Jelly day is at lunchtime tomorrow Thursday 17 March. Funds raised from this event will be going towards the purchase of a needed medical defibrillator for the school.

We are selling a variety of cakes and jelly cups ranging from 50c - \$1, plus fairy floss for \$2.

We really will need the help of parents from **Kindergarten & Year 5** to donate some cupcakes, slices, lamingtons or biscuits, with a **touch of green** that we can sell at the stall. Any donations should be dropped off to the school office tomorrow morning.

We will also need **parent helpers** on the day to sell, so any parents that can help from 12.30-2.00pm for lunch we would really appreciate it. Your children would love to see your smiling faces. Thank you in advance.

Any enquiries can be made to Mirna Jasser 0414 896 037 or Danielle Haddad 0419 440 922



EASTER RAFFLE



Don't forget to bring in your Easter eggs this Friday March 18, as every child who donates will receive a **free ticket** in their class raffle. The Easter eggs donated will be made into baskets and raffled within the school.



Raffles will be drawn on Wednesday March 23.

We ask that all Easter raffle books that were sent home be returned to school, sold or unsold by this Friday March 18.

Raffle tickets can also be purchased at the school playground from Monday March 21. Look out for the table. Tickets are 50c each.

We will be wrapping Easter hampers on Monday 21 March.

If you have some time to spare we would really appreciate your help.

We will be meeting in the art room at 9.00am, straight after assembly.

Thank you again for supporting the school in the Easter egg raffle.



GOOD LUCK!

Mirna Jasser & Danielle Haddad
Social Coordinators

St Paul the Apostle P & F 2016

News and Events

The Parents & Friends executive committee of 2016 warmly welcome all families to our school. We would like to encourage parents and carers to get involved in the P & F activities. They are a great way to meet new friends, become involved in your child's school, and participate in the life of the school.

The P & F are planning some very exciting events for this year and there are many ways to be involved. Come along to the events we hold, assist in organising an event or have your voice heard at our General meetings. We hold two P & F General Meetings per term.

Join the P & F committee. Volunteering helps our school and equally helps the volunteer, use your talents for the good of your child's schooling.

General Committee Member - POSITION VACANT

The P & F is creating a new position for a General Committee Member. Your role will be to join the executive committee and help where required. Parents, carers or parishioners willing to fill this position, please contact our Chairperson Rennee McClintock, renneemcclintock@gmail.com for further information.

Grants - Sub-committee

The P & F will be creating a sub-committee to coordinate grants submission.

FREE MONEY! Yes the school can get free money IF we find the grants available to us and makes submissions but this may take some paper work and some research. We need some help putting them together, maybe you have time at night, in day, anytime. You will not be required to attend P&F executive meetings, but will be guided as to what to do by the committee.

Do you have some experience in this area or know somebody who does or are just interested and want to get involved, please contact our Treasurer Penny Wallace, penny.wallace@live.com.au, for further information. We would really appreciate your help.

Research shows that *"when parents are engaged with the school and with their children's learning, students achieve more at school."*

It's your P & F!

Dates for your diary

P & F Events Calendar

Event	Date	Time	Location
St Patrick's Day Green Cake and Green Jelly Day	Thursday 17 March	Lunchtime	St Paul the Apostle School
Volunteers needed wrapping Easter hampers	Monday 21 March	9:00am	Art Room St Paul the Apostle School
Easter Egg raffle	Wednesday 23 March	During School Hours	St Paul the Apostle School

POSITION VACANT

The Parish of St Anthony's Toongabbie invites applications for the position of part-time administrative assistant. The person in this role is accountable to the Parish Priest and would be required to work within a small parish team one day per week (Friday) with the possibility of some occasional relief work. This is a part-time position. The initial appointment will be for one year with a probationary period of three months. A job description can be obtained from the parish office:
Telephone 9631 3316 or
email: secretary@stanthonyschurch.org.au.
Applications close on Friday 1 April.

INVITATION

Sr Catherine Maddock, the founding Principal of Christ the King North Rocks will be leaving the parish and returning to Ireland on 30 June. A mass of thanksgiving in her honour for over four decades of service to the Christ the King community and Catholic Education in the Diocese, will be celebrated on Sunday 19 June at 10am followed by morning tea. Those of you who have known Sr Catherine over this time are asked to join us for this very special celebration.

We look forward to seeing you there.

C.A.R.E.S

Community & Road Education Scheme

Open Day

Tuesday 19 April, 2016

10am – 2pm at

Auto Place X Peter Brock Drive,
Prospect

Come along during the school holidays and
ride in a safe environment with real traffic
lights

Bring your own bike and helmet

FREE Face Painting

Parking on site and free

Bring a picnic

Sausage Sizzle and drinks

Adult Supervision required



Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday to those children celebrating their birthdays on
16 March – 23 March

Dylan B, Savannah N, William G, Isabelle R, Nicholas F,
William C,

