



ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL LITHGOW

~ PATROL ~



"Never see a need without trying to do something about it."

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TERM 1 DIARY DATES

Tuesday 17th March 2020
St Patrick's Day Mass – 12.30pm
Year 6 Zooper Dooper Stall

Wednesday 18th March
Mufti Day & Green Morning Tea

Thursday 19th March 2020
National Close the Gap Day

Monday 23rd March 2020
National Day of Action Against Bullying,
Down Syndrome Day & Harmony Day –
**students can wear crazy socks and a touch
of orange in support**

Wednesday 25th March 2020
Polding Swimming

Monday 30th March – Monday 6th April 2020
Life Ed Van Visit

Wednesday 29th April 2020
School Photos

ATTENTION PARENTS

Please note the following dates
which have been confirmed as our
Pupil Free Days for 2020:
**Friday 22nd May, Friday 5th June &
Monday 26th October**

SPECIAL THANKS

I extend a huge thank you to the Bressington family who came in recently to revamp some of our garden areas. We all deeply appreciate your efforts and are enjoying the beautiful gardens you have created.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



We have had another busy and productive week at St Pat's. Students are working hard in classrooms and have recently completed their beginning DIBELS assessment which indicates their oral reading fluency rate and accuracy level in accordance with grade equivalent benchmarks. The school uses this data to track individual reading progress, set targets and plan intervention. The K-2 Phonics Program, as well as the 3-6 focus on timed reading, puts our students in good stead for reading success and the DIBELS results are reflecting steady growth across the school. I thank the teachers for the ongoing hard work they are doing in the area of reading. At the same time, teachers are working in Professional Learning Teams with a focus on targeting essential skills in Numeracy. They are working collaboratively to plan differentiated activities and assessments that are designed to expose gaps and problem areas. Your children might talk about "X-Ray Work" or "Curve Balls". X-Ray Work means that the students are doing an independent task that gives the teachers the information they need in order to plan their instruction. Just like an X-Ray tells a doctor what needs fixing, our X-Ray work tells the teachers what they have to do in order to address any gaps in learning. Curve Balls are the questions that teachers include in tasks and activities that are designed to "trick" or expose the gaps in understanding. The teachers are working hard on designing these quality assessments and activities that are very specific and targeted, ensuring that they have the information they need in addressing the learning needs of every student.

This week I attended a K-12 Meeting at La Salle Academy and continued discussions around how we can work together more closely, particularly in the transition from Years 6 to 7. Mrs Joyce Smith and Mrs Kylee Harding will visit our school on Monday 16th March to chat to our Year 6 students about La Salle to begin the preparation for high school. There will also a Parent Information Evening at La Salle for Yr 7 2021 at the La Salle Hall on Tuesday 17th March starting at 6pm.

Thank you to Miss Toole for organising the Sacramental Parent Meeting and to Mrs Marshall, Mrs Sutherland and Mrs Ticehurst for assisting at the meeting. Thank you to all parents who attended and have begun this special Sacramental journey with your child.

Today our Cross Country Carnival was a huge success and I thank Mrs Therese Sutherland who did a huge amount of work in organising this event. What a wonderful experience for our students and how lucky we are to be able to have our event at the beautiful Lake Wallace.

We have been hearing so much about the Corona Virus and we are taking all of the necessary precautions here at St Pat's. Parents are being regularly updated with information via Compass and our students and staff are also being updated regularly regarding the recommendations we are receiving from NSW Health and Catholic Schools NSW. The best thing that we can do is to follow recommended WHO hand washing techniques (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3PmVJQUCm4E>), minimise contact with others and to keep children home if they are displaying any cold and flu symptoms. It is also important that we as adults are mindful of not creating panic and anxiety in our children around this issue. This link provides some very useful tips on how we can talk to our children about this issue <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/talking-with-children.html> and I encourage all parents to read this information. I commend Keenan Shepherd, Rory Case, Boutras Taouk and Vann Cutler for taking the initiative to make an appointment with me and request permission to form a school "Hygiene Team". I have had several meetings with the boys and they are very passionate about raising awareness of good hygiene practices within our school community. Together we have come up with some topics that they will talk to our students about at Monday Assembly over the next few weeks. They will also be designing posters for our school. We look forward to hearing from the team on Monday. Well done boys!

We look forward to next week and the impending celebrations for St Patrick's Day – I hope everyone has their touch of green ready!

Mrs Renae Dunleavy

FROM THE REC



Monday Morning Prayer: Thank you to Miss Brown and Year Two who led us in our whole school prayer this week. Please join us next Monday 16th March as 3H lead us in a prayer service that celebrates our Patron Saint, Saint Patrick.

Project Compassion: Lent is a time of giving to others. Please continue to contribute to this extremely worthwhile cause as this is a wonderful way to give to others less fortunate than ourselves and it shows the true spirit of our school.

St Patrick's Celebration Mass: Our St Patrick's Celebration Mass will be held next Tuesday 17th March at 12:30pm. We encourage families to come along and join in the celebrations of our Patron Saint. Students are asked to please wear **full school uniform with a touch of green** on this day instead of their sports uniform.

Confirmation Preparation Group Reminder: Confirmation preparation groups will begin this weekend. Your child received a note today reminding them of the group they are in and also the name of your group facilitator. Thank you to the parents who have volunteered to facilitate a group. If you have not sent back your enrolment form and/or payment, please do so ASAP.

Prayer for Confirmation Candidates: Please keep our Year 6 candidates in your prayers as they begin their preparation to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Miss Cassie Toole

AP REPORT



School Wide Positive Behaviour for Learning (SPB4L)

School expectations around behaviour are essential for creating safe, settled and calm learning environments.

Focus~ Week 8/9	Be Respectful
I show respect when I <i>stop, listen, wait for the word 'go'</i> and then <i>follow the instructions</i> .	
<i>At St Patrick's School we show respect to everyone! If we are respectful to our classmates and teachers our classrooms and playground are happy, safe and fun places to be. We learn best when everyone shows respect to each other at all times.</i>	

World Down Syndrome Day, National Day of Action Against Bullying and Harmony Day

Our school will be acknowledging the above very important days on Monday 23rd March. All students are invited to wear a touch of orange and crazy socks with their school uniforms on this day. We will begin our acknowledgements with a special morning prayer and our students will participate in lessons related to these causes throughout the day.

NAPLAN Online 2020

This year the NAPLAN tests will again be administered online. Our Year 3 and 5 students will participate in the tests during the following period: 12th-22nd May. I will confirm our school dates as soon as possible. In the lead up to these tests our students will participate in Practice Tests. Year 3 and Year 5 will complete the Omnibus test (mix of Mathematics, Spelling, Grammar, Punctuation and Reading) and Year 5 will also complete the Writing test. These tests will take place on Monday 23rd March and Tuesday 24th March. On Wednesday 25th March there will be a Parent Information Session at 3:20pm in the Library. This session will explain how the NAPLAN testing works and show what IT skills the students will need to best support them throughout the tests. Everyone is most welcome to attend. A note with more information will be sent home shortly. As always if you have any further questions with regards to any of this please feel free to contact me.



Lithgow Show 2020

St Patrick's will again have a display in the school pavilion at the Lithgow Show. Please 'pop' in and have a look at all of the wonderful work our students have done. Their colouring in competition entries will also be on display!



Life Education Van Visit

We will be having a visit from Healthy Harold and the Life Education Van again this year. The van will be at our school during week 10 and during this time each class will have the opportunity to visit. During their visit students will participate in age appropriate lessons based around healthy lifestyle choices. The cost for this visit is included in your child's school fees. Therefore, when permission notes are returned to your child's classroom teacher, no money is required.

Mrs Lyndal Marshall

MY PLACE, MY STORY

Two of our Year 6 students, Braith and Jemma were lucky enough to be invited to attend a writing workshop, in Bathurst, presented by Dr Anita Heiss. Dr Anita Heiss is a proud member of the Wiradjuri nation. She is a celebrated author of literature for children and adults. She is an advocate for Indigenous Literacy and has worked in remote communities as a role model and encouraging young Indigenous Australians to write their own stories.

Throughout the day the students worked with Dr Anita reflecting on their own experiences and then writing about these. With the help of Mrs Dean, both Jemma and Braith were engaged in a variety of writing tasks which they undertook individually or in small groups. At the conclusion of the day Jemma and Braith participated in a group performance of their writing.



LORISSA COLLINS - 6T

For setting a good example with younger students.

TREY BANKS - KO

Settling into Kinder so well and trying hard in all that he does.

MASS TIMES

SATURDAY VIGIL

ST PATRICK'S

5pm - (April - September)

6pm - (October - March)

SUNDAY

ST PATRICK'S

10am

Children's Liturgy is held during school term.

ALTAR SERVERS

FOR THIS WEEK:

ST PATRICK'S VIGIL

Blake Livingstone, Ella Livingstone

SUNDAY

Abbey Reid

Sunday Mass is also available at St Vincent's Portland and Sacred Heart Church Wallerawang.

For more details see the Lithgow Parish website and the Portland Parish website.

UNIFORM SHOP

Our Uniform Shop is located in the old canteen and is operated by volunteers for which we are very grateful. Days and times shop open are:

Monday - 2.30pm - 3.05pm

Tuesday - 8.40am - 9.30am

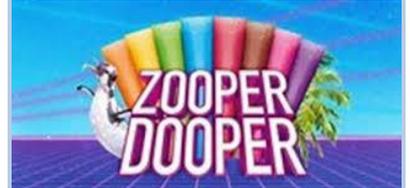
Friday - 2.30pm - 3.05pm



Please take advantage of using the Uniform Shop order form which can be downloaded from our website and sent in to the school. Orders can then be filled and sent home with students.

YR 6 ZOOOPER DOOPER STALL

Year 6 will be having a Zooper Dooper Stall on Tuesday 17th March to go towards Yr 6 fundraising. Zooper Doopers will be available to purchase at recess for 50c each.



"EVERYTHING GREEN" MUFTI DAY & GREEN MORNING TEA

Wednesday 18th March

St Patrick's School will be having a special Green Morning Tea for the students to celebrate St Patrick's Day.

Special treats will be sold at the Canteen at recess - "everything green".

Items will be priced from \$1 - \$2.

Students can come to school dressed in mufti clothes for a gold coin donation towards Year 6 fundraising.

Remember to wear a touch of green!



CANTEEN ROSTER

Week 8 - Term 1 2020

Wednesday:

Thursday: J. Fowler

Friday: W. Romanous



WE THE ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL COMMUNITY ACKNOWLEDGE THE WIRADJURI PEOPLE THE ORIGINAL CARETAKERS OF THE LAND ON WHICH OUR SCHOOL IS BUILT.