Greetings,
This term is already flying by as we find ourselves at the end of Week 3! Let us keep in our thoughts all the students sitting their HSC exams and our own children who will begin assessment as we appropriate mid-term. We pray that they have clear and concise thoughts throughout their exams and that God watches over them all.

Sunday's Gospel Reflection

Jesus gives sight to Bartimaeus

Mark 10:46-52
In this week’s Gospel reading Jesus gives sight to Bartimaeus, a blind beggar.
Blindness is a powerful metaphor used throughout scripture. It is almost always a metaphor for blindness of heart or blindness of mind or a blindness of faith; rather than a purely physical impairment. There are multiple accounts of healing blindness in the gospel. Saul/Paul is blinded on the road to Damascus and only has his sight restored when he is baptised. The Pharisees are described as being ‘blind fools’ and there the prophets make numerous references to blind seeing as a sign of the Messiah’s arrival. It is a very powerful image of being ‘blind’ to truth and ‘blind’ to the teaching of Jesus.

© Greg Sunter

Marian Liturgy

This week we have placed Mary at the heart of our prayer and living. The infants have prayed the Hail Mary every morning and the primary students have engaged in a decade of the Rosary each morning, exploring and meditating on a new mystery every day. Did you know that May is the month of Mary, however October is the month of the Holy Rosary.

I love talking with students about Mary. We often reflect on when Jesus choose his Disciples and acknowledge Mary as being His first Disciple; chosen by God.

The Rosary is a beautiful meditative prayer. St John Paul II, a great Marian Pope and Saint gives us the key to praying the Rosary, “To contemplate the face of Jesus through the eyes and the heart of Mary.”

May Our Lady of the Rosary bless you, your family, your loved ones and the whole world with her loving maternal gaze and burning Immaculate Heart!

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First Eucharist: Parent Education Evening

It was a great turn out for the Parent Education Session for those who have children undertaking the Sacrament of First Eucharist. Classes will begin next week. I would like to acknowledge all the teachers from our school who support this Parish run program including Jade Conwell, Rhonda Jenkins and Adele Toomey as well as Marg, the Parish Sacramental Coordinator. Thank you for spiritually nurturing the children of St Patrick’s and the Parish.

One thing I believe we all walked away from was the paradox of our religion and faith; simple and yet complex. Understanding the transubstantiation of bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Jesus is indeed a mystery. Whilst it is undoubtedly a complex concept to understand; as we all grow and develop a deeper relationship with God, our understanding of this becomes clearer. We look at the transubstantiation through the lens of our faith!

What’s on:
Week 5:  All Saints / All Souls Whole School Mass Monday the 2nd November 9.00am
Week 6:  Years 3-6 will receive Reconciliation

May Christ’s peace be with you all!
Jacqueline Fletcher

FROM OUR ACTING PRINCIPAL

Thank you everyone for ensuring your children looked absolutely beautiful for their school photos last week. I was very proud of how they presented themselves and can’t wait to see the finished shots. I’m sure some of them will end up in frames for someone’s Christmas present.

This week Year 3 were lucky to have Kate Starr’s dad come to visit them and share his wealth of knowledge about our planets, stars, sun and solar systems. If you want to know anything about this, have a chat to the year 3 children, they’re becoming experts.

Next Friday is World Teachers Day, a time we reflect on the teachers who have contributed to our lives, past and present. We are very fortunate to be celebrating this day with a combined lunch on the primary side, followed by assembly. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful P & F for hosting the lunch.

Excitement is in the air as we prepare for the Annual Dinner Dance tomorrow night. There’s lots of talk about dresses, colours, prizes and dancing buzzing on the playground. We’re all looking forward to it and I’m sure everyone will have a great time. Thank you to our organising committee: Karen Hayhurst, Sonia Costa, Annabel Cockerton and Phil Parsons. You all have worked tirelessly and we are very grateful for the amount of time and effort you have put in for our school and parish community.

Ph: 4325 1642 / E: patsgos@acs.net.au
Crazy Sock Day was CRAZY!!!!!!

The children raised $511.80 that was donated to Catholic Mission. We added to this amount and sent a cheque down to the Diocesan Mission Mass for $1100 last Thursday with Mrs Ryan and some of our Year 6 representatives.

Notice they are wearing our beautiful St Patrick’s Blazers. These were purchased by the school for children to wear when they are representing us in formal situations.
Last Thursday we had Orientation for all our new Kinders in 2016. It was very exciting for them and their families to be attending Big School. Thank you to all our guest speakers and the warm welcome you provided to our new families. One of the most important and precious things I love about St. Patrick’s is the sense of belonging as a community that we share with each other and those new to our school. It is a wonderful gift that we should nurture and cherish because in today's world it is sometimes hard to find that love and acceptance.

Today we are sending home a Family Registration form for the 2016 school year (pink paper). Would you please complete one form per family so that correct school fees for 2016 can be determined. Please note that the form must be signed by both parents and returned to the office no later than 20th November 2015.

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU to the families that are providing meals for our Care Group. This message was received from a very grateful recipient of our care.

“Could you please pass on our thanks to those who have supported our family with meals, etc. recently. We are very grateful for all the help provided by individuals as well as the school.”

Thank you
Have a lovely weekend,
Michelle

Coming up….

Term 4
24 October Dinner Dance
29 October Touch Footy
30 October Orientation 9—11am
30 October World Teachers Day
5 November P & F meeting and dinner
6 November Kinder Orientation—children only
9—20 November Year 1 and 2 Swimming Program
16 November Year 5 Surf Day
17 November Year 4 Surf Day
18 November Year 6 Surf Day
19 November Year 3 Surf Day
18—20 November Year 5 Camp
27 November Year 5 at St. Peter’s

10 December Year 6 Graduation
11 December Final Assembly—Awards
14 December St. Patrick’s Carols Night at St Edward’s
15 December Year 6 Fun Day
16 December Last Day of school, Step Up 10am and Final Mass @ 11.30am

Return to School Dates—2016
Mathematical Assessment Interviews Thurs 28 & Fri 29 January 2016
Year 1—6 Monday 1 February
Kindergarten Tuesday 2 February
Friday, The Australian Reptile Park, Somersby.

“Do not climb on me. I bite!” I read on the giant croc.

Then we went to see ‘Elvis’ sleep...he might have moved a bit! We could not see my favourite animal, the WOMBAT! My mum came to be a group leader. We had a great day.

By Lachlan Cormack, KG.

Kindergarten had a great day on Friday the 16\textsuperscript{th} of October at the Australian Reptile Park. We saw many animals and learnt about them during our education session, observing Australian natives as well as some introduced species. We were able to touch some feathery, furry and scaly animals and Mrs McCallum had a lovely cuddle with ‘Fluffy’ the baby Burmese Python!

Everyone enjoyed walking around the park and exploring the many animal habitats and watching the animals move and play...except ‘Elvis’, he kept pretty still!

Mrs McCallum and Mrs Toomey would like to thank all the wonderful parent helpers who joined us for the day, ensuring everyone was safe and had a fun, educational day. J
Oztag
Congratulations to Daniel and Tom Peters and Emmet Nicholls who played in the 2015 Australian Junior Oztag Championship at Coffs Harbour on the weekend. Tom and Emmet’s team won the U11 Boys National Championship which means their team is the best in Australia in this age group. Daniel was captain of the U12 Boys and they were narrowly defeated, in extra time, in the Quarter Finals by Wests Tigers who went on to win the U12 boys title.
What great athletes these boys are and we are all so proud of their achievements.

Congratulations to the 3 students from St Patricks who competed in State Athletics at Homebush last Wednesday and Thursday. Jai Adrichem competed in the Shot Put and ended up coming 9th, Harry Barnes competed on the 100m race, coming 7th and Ashley Treacy competed in the 100m race and came first overall. These students are competing against students from all schools across the state. A fantastic effort. We are so proud of you.

At the end of last term 14 teams from year 3-6 went to Baker Park at Wyong to participate in the CCC Netball Gala Day. It was such a hot day but we all survived with some teams managing to place as runners-up in the competition. Thanks once again to all the teachers who trained the teams during their lunchtimes and to the parents who managed the teams on the day.
This term we are looking forward to the primary surf days and the Years 1and 2 swimming program in November.

Last Friday 12 students from Years 5 and 6 participated in the Waratah Cup. This is cricket competition held each year between the Central Coast Catholic Schools. St Pats won their first game against Terrigal and then travelled to The Entrance where they unfortunately lost to Kincumber. Thank you to Mrs Miller and all the parents who assisted on the day. Congratulations to all the members of the team for showing great sportsmanship and encouraging their team mates.

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Coming up on the 29th October is the CCC Touch Gala day for Years 5 and 6. Teams will be chosen and notes will be sent out as soon as the weather cooperates.
FROM THE MUSIC ROOM with Mrs Suzie Morris

‘Coz what we’ve got is gold!’ is the key line in our new song K-6 are learning for National Song Day on 29 October. Part of the Music Count Us In program is creating a song each year to promote music education in schools. They selected high school students across Australia to work with professional artists to compose and record a song which is then sung by over 500,000 students from more than 2,000 schools across Australia at the same time on the same day – 12:30pm Thursday 29 October 2015.

We are currently learning the song and having a ball creating actions to go with the words. Kindy came up with the actions to the chorus, 5Gold have choreographed verse 1, various other classes have added actions for the bridge and verse 2. Our guitar and recorder groups have also been busy learning their parts!

This year students and teachers are invited to wear a ‘touch of gold’ with their school uniform – a tie, scarf, sash, headband, ribbons etc.

The students can access the song to sing along with at home and also information on how they create and record it via our St Patrick’s google site (learning portal). All they need is their username and password and with a few simple steps they can be logged on and listening from any device anywhere :) Once students enter their school email address via sign in on google.com.au they are recognised as a student at St Patricks’ within the Dioceses of Broken Bay and will then be transferred to a secure section of google just for us! If you are having trouble or need help please email susan.morris@dbb.catholic.edu.au (Tues-Thurs).

‘We can share the happiness we’ve made…’

Suzie Morris
Music Teacher

ICAS English and Mathematics

Students from St Patrick’s achieved outstanding results when they participated in the ICAS English and Mathematics Tests last term.

For English Jerrica Tony and Isabella Gooley were awarded Certificates of Distinction. Certificates of Credit were awarded to Ella Molloy, Sophie Holliday, Lauren Cox, Mahidi Ranasinghe, Gemma Lavings, William Frost-Foster, Alexander Lara, Ella Murray, Andy Trinh, Abby Grogan, Xavier De Silva and Amelia Neale . Merit Certificates were awarded to Katie Lovegrove, Grace Harrington, Jed Singh and Shruthika Dhinakar, .

For Mathematics Andy Trinh and William Frost-Foster were awarded Certificates of Distinction. Certificates of Credit were awarded to Brian Cho, Abby Grogan, Lachlan Kemp, Katie Lovegrove, Xavier De Silva, Tom Conroy, Isabella Gooley, Alexander Lara, Ella Murray, Noah Nakagawa, Jed Singh, Jai Heaney, Xander James, Christopher Kemp, Mahidi Ranasinghe and Jerrica Tony. Merit Certificates were awarded to Jose Alonzo, Aydin Ercan and Nathaniel Stanley.

Congratulations to all these marvellous children.

Carmen Hartz
Teacher Librarian
Dinner Dance Prize Donations

We thank those who have generously donated a prize.

Australian Reptile Park
- Entry for 1 x adult and 1 x child

U-Nique Beauty Spot
- 2 prizes: $30 voucher

IGA
- 4 prizes: $40 vouchers ($20 liquor, $20 IGA)

La Bonita
- 3 prizes: 2 x facials and 1 x massage

Century 21 Property Connect Erina
- $100 restaurant voucher (to use at New York Pizza, Bar & Grill)

Bill & Al’s Painting
- $100 restaurant voucher (to use at New York Pizza, Bar & Grill)

Magnolia
- $50 voucher
- Magnolia gift pack
- Interiors by Chloe
  - Gift pack of cushion covers and beaded clutch bag
  - Soy candle

Peaceful gift pack – oil burner and sign

Prazauskas Family—2 x bottles of spirits (For coin toss)

St Patrick’s School—Wine packs x 4
SCHOOL BANKING

PLEASE SEND YOUR BANK BOOK IN ON WEDNESDAY

School banking award winners for this week:

Malena Patrick & Riley White
Hayden Mexan & Bonnie Brown

Thank you for supporting the School Banking program at St Patricks!

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

will be open on Tuesday 17th November instead of Tuesday 10th November.

BACK PACKS ARE IN STOCK NOW

LOST

Matthew Derrick has lost his Blue Jacket - name inside (small writing) please check and return to him if found.

The Uniform Shop

Uniforms for 2016

All students requiring any new uniforms for 2016 are required to either visit the shop during opening hours or make an appointment for a uniform fitting during Term 4, 2015.

Families can purchase or lay-by uniforms at the time of fitting. The uniform shop will be open in January 2016 for lay-by collection and size exchanges (if required).

Please make your Term 4 uniform fitting appointment as soon as possible.

2. Email The Uniform Shop: stpatricksprimary@alinta.com.au (the shop manager will either call or return your email to arrange a suitable time)

You could be taking one giant leap to California’s Disneyland

For every $10 deposited through the School Banking program, students can receive a reward from our Outta Space Savers range. With the withdrawal of the Lunar Light Bank this term, we are releasing an alternate reward item in Term 4. Together with the new Outta Space Savers Money Box, students will be able to test their skills with a game of rock, paper and scissors.

For more information visit wwwbank.com.au/schoolbanking

ST PATRICK’S

OTTER SPACE SAVERS

OVER SPACE SAVERS

is preparing for touchdown.

As we launch into the final term of School Banking, students are one small step away from completing their savings mission on Planet Savings.

Two new out-of-this-world reward items will be available for order while stocks last.

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We NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS TERM!!!!

We need Volunteers to ensure canteen will remain open during the year. Contact Adrienne on 0414 509547 or mrspraz@gmail.com if you would like to volunteer.

Adrienne on mrspraz@gmail.com or 0414 509547

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>INFANTS</th>
<th>PRIMARY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY 28th October (Recess only 9.30am -11.30am)</td>
<td>Jay Clarke</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED 0414509547</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRIDAY 30th October (ALL Day – 8.15am – 2.00pm)</td>
<td>Katie Ercan HELP NEEDED 0414509547</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED 0414509547</td>
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<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY 4th November (Recess only 9.30am -11.30am)</td>
<td>Marcus Hams</td>
<td>Michelle Greenwood</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRIDAY 6th November (ALL Day – 8.15am – 2.00pm)</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED 0414509547 HELP NEEDED 0414509547</td>
<td>Adrienne Prazauskas HELP NEEDED 0414509547</td>
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<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY 11th November (Recess only 9.30am -11.30am)</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRIDAY 13th November (ALL Day – 8.15am – 2.00pm)</td>
<td>Angela Stitt HELP NEEDED 0414509547</td>
<td>Deidra Robertson Katie Ercan</td>
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If for any reason you are unable to do canteen on the day you have volunteered please contact Adrienne on 0414 509547 asap so she can arrange a replacement if possible.