Greetings,

*A reflection on Sunday’s Gospel:*

**Fr John Frauenfelder’s Words of Wisdom...**

Determination and persistence are the core themes of any of the parables and stories that Jesus told.

The story of Zacchaeus is no exception. He began as an unloved sinner. He worked for the enemy as a Roman tax collector. He had become a wealthy man, perhaps by overtaxing the poor. Because of his physical stature, he was always on the outside. The crowds lining the streets to see Jesus blocked his view. Zacchaeus was too short to see. But he was determined and persistent. He found a tree and climbed it. And Jesus saw him, loved him and changed his life forever!

This is our challenge! To be both determined and persistent with our relationship with Jesus and be changed by His great love!

**Letting Go: Parent Faith Formation**

I warmly invite all of our parent community, including grandparents and extended family, to our session on “Letting Go”. Please see the details below and be sure to RSVP by email or by calling the school on 43251159. *I hope you can join us!*
**Keep in your prayers**

Please keep Lucinda Gibbs (4 Gold) and her parents, Angela and Richard in your prayers. Lucinda’s grandfather (Richard’s father) passed away unexpectedly. We pray for them all in their time of grief.

*Give him eternal rest, O Lord, and may Your light shine on him forever.*

**Sacrament of First Eucharist**

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers all the children journeying towards receiving Jesus, Himself in the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

*May you always know the peace of Jesus, the light of His love, and the joy of His life within in.*

**Marian Celebration**

Thank you to the families who could join us for our Marian Celebration today. A big thank you to Mrs Levi, Sandor (4 Gold) and Shara (Year 6) who led a decade of the Rosary in Hungarian; it truly resonates that Mary is mother and queen of all.

*We ask Mary to watch over us and pray for us always.*

*Amen*

**Sunday Family Mass**

Don’t forget that on Sunday we have our Year 6 / Kindergarten / Whole school Family Mass at 9.00am. Please join us in this Eucharistic celebration – our last Family Mass for 2016. Bring along a plate and share morning tea with our school and parish community afterwards in the Jordan Room. See you there!

**What’s on:**

Week 3  -  Pint Size Paddies Youth Group (Year 5 – Year 8)
           Friday, 28th October, 7.00pm in the Hall

Week 4:  -  All Saints Mass for Kindergarten-Year 2
           Tuesday, 1st November, 9.00am in the Church
           All Souls Mass for Years 3-6
           Wednesday, 2nd November, 11.30am in the Church

*Go gently with Christ*

Jacqueline Fletcher, Religious Education Coordinator

St Patrick’s was represented by Year 6 at the Mission Mass at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara.
FROM OUR ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Thank you to all our fantastic children and their families for their fabulous effort with the school walkathon. The day was beautiful and sunny and the children had a ball walking the course at Hilton Moore Park. I thought no one would walk more than six laps, but many of the children proved me wrong and completed eight or nine laps.

My optimistic goal was to raise ten thousand dollars and to my astonishment, we raised $11,699.25. To thank the students, our wonderful P & F provided a free sausage sizzle lunch, cooked and served by our beautiful mums and a grandmother. This was truly a wonderful community building day where we all joined together to have fun and help provide a little comfort for our children next year with air conditioning. As it stands this year, with the money we raised in the walkathon and the funds from the canteen and P & F levy, we hope to have half the funds to start the installation process next year. We held a little competition with the children to see which class could raise the most money and which class could get every child’s money into the office first. Year 1Gold was the first class to get their money into the office and K-2A raised the most money per head for their class. So both these classes will be enjoying a pizza lunch in the coming weeks. Well Done!!!

Thank you so very much for the beautiful morning tea provided to our staff this morning to celebrate International Teachers Day. Today was a lovely gesture seeing so many children with flowers and chocolates or homemade goodies for their teachers. It reminded me of when I was a child, taking flowers each week to my teacher and watching her smiley face place them in a vase in our classroom. Those special memories never leave you.

Taking Photos of other children than your own
If you are taking a photo of your child at a school event please be mindful that you should seek permission from other parents if their child will appear in your photo. This a child protection requirement at our school.

Dates to Remember
- Our Kindergarten 2017 Transition Program Friday 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th November
- Year 5 Camp 16 – 18th November
- Years 1 & 2 Swimming Program — 14th to 25th November
- Year 6 Graduation Mass 1st December
- Academic Assembly 9th December
- Combined School and Parish Carols Night 15th December
- End of Year Mass 16th December

Changing Schools??
It is getting to that time of the year when we ask Parents if they are planning to change schools in 2017 to let us know. Could you please inform the school office in writing, if you have any changes for 2017 by 11th November. If you are intending to change schools we will also need to know the name of the school your child will be attending.

Dreamworld Tragedy
Many of you will be aware of the terrible accident at Dreamworld this week. Two siblings who attend East Gosford Public School and our St. Patrick’s OSHC, lost their mother in this tragic accident. I ask you to please join us in keeping this family and the East Gosford community in your thoughts and prayers.

Michelle Perry
Acting Principal
Comments from Year 3 Geography
Excursion to Shortland Wetlands

The most interesting part of the day was when we went in the science lab because we got to look at a huge, diverse range of microorganisms. There were so many discoveries to be made. We filled the tally chart with animals we found. **By Amelia.**

I loved doing dip netting and we saw an eel which was pretty big. It looked like we had nothing in our nets but we caught heaps of microorganisms. **By Christian.**

I learnt that they put huge tarps over the torpedo grass in the ponds so it can’t get any sunlight to grow. It is like a weed in the pond. **By Lopez.**

We learnt that microorganisms are tiny animals that can live in wetlands and they help clean the water and they are food for larger animals. **By Allissa.**

It was interesting to learn that a damselfly breathes underwater with its tail. I loved going up the high tower with our binoculars to look for birds and have a nice view of the wetlands. **By Sienna.**

I really liked the lab because we got to wear coats and use microscopes to see some cool microorganisms. The best were the bloodworm and the freshwater shrimp. **By Cameron.**

Mrs Lewis was excited to see her first snake in the wild. It was a red belly black snake sunning itself just below us.

Yesterday we went to Newcastle to learn about Wetlands. We learnt about animals living there and why we need them. We went dip netting and we looked at animals through microscopes. Last of all we went on a walk and saw things through a pair of binoculars. It was an amazing day and everyone had fun. **By Anish**
FROM THE MUSIC ROOM with Mrs Suzie Morris

Each year St Patrick's participates in National Song Day (Music Australia) which is all about promoting the importance of music education in schools. At St Patrick's we are very lucky to have music classes each week, with a range of musical instruments at our finger tips and exposure to a raft of different music styles and experiences. As we all know music enhances our creative thinking, pattern recognition, listening skills, memory, coordination and spatial awareness - plus it is lots of fun!

Each year Music Australia produces a new song for this event and St Patrick's will join over 500,000 students from more than 2,000 school across Australia as we sing 'Let It Play'. We have been learning 'Let it Play' in music classes, not only singing but creating actions (Kindy, Year 2 and Year 3), playing accompanying instruments (Year 4 and Year 5) and movement (Year 1). We will come together as a school next Thursday (3/11) at 12:30pm so Kindy to Year 6 can perform the song together. You can sing also with it at home too - check out: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FMJqxt_kxbo or Google Let it Play and look for this video:

ICAS : International Competitions and Assessments for Schools

Students achieved outstanding results when they participated in ICAS Mathematics last term. Those children whose achievements were outstanding were rewarded with certificates of Distinction, Credit and Merit.

Ben in 3G, Anish in 3B, Inacio in 4G and Brien in 5G received certificates of Distinction; certificates of Credit were awarded to Amelia in 3G, Owen in 3B, Seth, Brian and Lachlan in 4G; Andy in 5G, Isabella, Spencer and William in 5B; William and Mahidi in 6G and Brodie in 6B. Certificates of Merit were awarded to Jed, Hannah and Ana in 3B, Cameron, Christian and Ryan in 3G; Jonathan in 5B and Jett in 6G.

Great results for all these children.

Carmen Hartz
Teacher Librarian
PRINCIPAL AWARDS
From the P&F …

Walk-a-thon BBQ

We hope all the kids enjoyed their free BBQ lunch last Friday after the walkathon. There certainly were a lot of hungry kids asking for seconds!

Thanks to all those mum and grandparents who helped on the day, we couldn’t do it without you. A special shout out to Sue M and Jane M for cooking 550 sausages on the day - in really hot conditions. Thanks ladies, you did a great job!

Term 4 P&F Meeting

Our term 4 meeting will be held on Wednesday 9th November at 7.00pm in the LARC (primary campus). All welcome! Please forward any agenda items to speg@dbb.catholic.edu.au by midday, Friday 4th November.

Term 4 School Disco - cancelled

Unfortunately we have had to cancel our term 4 disco as we have been unable to secure a DJ for the night. Never fear, we look forward to hosting a welcome back disco in term 1 next year! And if anyone has any family or friends that may be able to DJ for us next year, Michelle would love to hear from you. Please call 0408 412 408.

School Banking day is Wednesday

New School Banking rewards now available!

Exciting new Term 4 rewards with an Outback Savers theme are now available, while stocks last!

For every deposit made at school students will receive a silver Dollarmites token. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can redeem them for exclusive School Banking reward items in recognition of their regular savings habits. There are two new items released each term so be sure to keep an eye out for them!

Thank you for supporting the School Banking program at St Patricks and remember, School Banking day is every Wednesday.

If your child has lost their book, they can bring their money to school in a sealed envelope with a note on the next School Banking day. We will issue them with a replacement.

Thank you for supporting the School Banking program at St Patricks. We would also like to thank the wonderful parents who volunteer as our School Banking Co-ordinators and process our banking every week.
Students need to wear their **SPORTS UNIFORM** on Mondays and Fridays in Term 4.

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**LOST**

- Finn (4 Gold) has lost his school jumper. It’s size 8 and has his name on the label.
- Rowan T in 3 Blue has lost his Formal Hat
- Shaina P in 3 Gold has lost her Formal Hat

Please check your hats and return to the above classrooms if found.

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**Year 6 formal organised privately by parents** — Just a reminder to all year 6 parents that money for formal is due on the 1st November. A big thanks to all that have already paid! Formal is for children only! But parents are welcome to come and help supervise or you can enjoy dinner in the bistro!! We hope to get all the kids there!! It will be lots of fun!!! If there is any questions please don’t hesitate to call Sophie on 0403127999.

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**http://bit.ly/2eEJrGr**

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**www.freshaoptions.com.au**

During Wellbeing Week last term, the locally based company **Fresha Options Fresh Fruit & Veg Home Delivery** generously donated enough fruit and vegetables for all our St Patrick’s students to enjoy fruit break.  
A lunch box filled with healthy, natural food has a huge impact on a child’s ability to grow, learn and concentrate at school.  
Eating healthy = healthy body = healthy brain  
**Fresha Options Fresh Fruit & Veg Home Delivery** delivers fresh fruit and vegetables straight from the produce markets to your door across the Central Coast – eliminating long term storage!  
With easy online ordering, you can choose one of their mixed boxes or select your own produce saving you time and money.  
**Fresh - Easy - Affordable - Fast**

Find them on Facebook, call on 4384 7835 or order online at:  
**www.freshaoptions.com.au**