



# St Patrick's Catholic Primary School

Cnr Melbourne & York Street (PO Box 4085) East Gosford NSW 2250

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Enews 11

26 June 2020

## FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have made it to the end of the term! This term has been a very difficult one for everyone and although things appear to be improving in the world, we have seen how quickly they can change.

We are still finding out how things will change for next term. For example, if our Athletics Carnival goes ahead, it will be very different to previous years. We have school photos planned but they also will be different. At present there can still be no group photos at all. We have been able to move the Year 5 and Year 6 Overnight excursions to term 4 but they still may not be able to go ahead as we have to follow the guidelines from the Catholic Schools Office, not just the Government. We will continue to keep you updated on all these issues as soon as we know.

## Family Surveys

Earlier this term the Catholic Schools Office sent home an online survey to all parents. We received the results of this survey last week. We had 119 responses to the survey and a Net Promoter Score of 34. The Net Promoter Score is determined by subtracting the 'Detractors' from the 'Promoters'. The score of 34 was very good based on the following scale:

0+ is good                      50+ is excellent                      70+ is world class

There were two main aspects to the survey –

- The school's response to COVID-19, Home based Learning, returning to face to face, etc
- How likely are you to recommend St Patrick's?

The responses to Part 1 were overwhelmingly positive with the majority of parents either strongly agreeing or agreeing with the statements. The responses to Part 2 were also overwhelmingly positive with 98.6% confidence in the school.

The majority of parents expressed their thanks to the school and the teachers eg:  
**'It's a great school. I'm happy I sent my kids there.'**

**'beautiful school, beautiful and loving staff and principal who knows every child'.**

**'St Patrick's have a fantastic culture. Teachers and staff display genuine love, care and empathy. They went above and beyond; I feel blessed at being part of this community!'**

There were many more positive comments which I am happy to share with anyone who is interested.

Pupil Free Day

Friday 3 July

No supervision for students

### Family Mass

Children's Liturgy every 9am Mass  
except in school holidays

### P & F Meeting

Once a term

Next meeting 28 May 7pm in the LARC

Victoria St Campus

Other dates are:

27 August

12 November

### St Patrick's Hall

Enquires and bookings please call the  
school office

### Outside School Hours Care

E: [eastgosford.oshc@dbb.org.au](mailto:eastgosford.oshc@dbb.org.au)

or phone 0408 165 671

or visit the school website

### The Uniform Shop

phone 0412 087 696

opening hours during school terms

*Tuesday*

8.30am – 10.30am

*Also 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of every month*

2.00pm – 4.00pm

The uniform shop can be contacted  
outside of business hours by email  
[stpatricksprimary@alinta.com.au](mailto:stpatricksprimary@alinta.com.au)

payments can be made direct to  
Alinta Apparel in the form of cash,  
credit card, or debit credit card

**NO CHEQUES**

uniform price list & online shopping  
available at

<http://www.alintaapparel.com.au/alinta/>

### 2nd Hand Uniform Shop

Open during Assembly Friday 2pm fort-  
nightly or as advised.

Contact Louise 0407 100 433

### Canteen

*Infants: Wednesday & Friday*

*Primary: Wednesday & Friday*

Rostered volunteers please give

24 hours' notice if you are unable to  
attend

There were also some concerns that parents raised which I would like to respond to around technology, before and after school care, Kiss 'n' drop, parking, nothing is being done at the school and the canteen.

The school on a number of occasions has investigated with the Gosford Council the possibility of a kiss 'n' drop for both sides. We have also spoken to them about the lack of parking. Unfortunately, the Council has advised that there is no where we can have a kiss 'n' drop on either campus because of our location to the main roads/streets. We even tried to see if we could have something implemented in the area in front of the Admin/Infants but we can't because of the pedestrian crossing and the bus stop. We have approximately 20 buses each day that drop off and/or pick up students. Our playgrounds certainly don't allow for the possibility of a kiss 'n' drop here either.

As for the parking, unfortunately there are two high schools and two primary schools as well as a pre-school all in close proximity. There are many Year 11 and 12 students who also drive and there is no off-street parking for the staff at St Patrick's. On top of this when housing developments are approved by the council, there is no consideration for what already exists in the area. By this I mean that when a housing block is used to build town houses, there is only one parking space provided when in actual fact each household could have two cars (as is the case in many families). This means that the surrounding streets are used to park extra cars. If anyone has any solutions to these problems I am more than happy to meet with you so we can see what can be done.

I understand that some parents have raised the times that OOSH operates. As this is not operated by the school we don't have any control over the hours, however I am happy to contact CatholicCare about your concerns to see if any changes can be made.

I would like to expand on the 'amount of technology', 'nothing being done in the school' and 'the canteen'. When I arrived in 2016, there were some chromebooks and a few iPads, some IWBs and teacher laptops. We now have at least 15 iPads in each classroom, a teacher Ipad and laptop, and a bank of 32 laptops in the LARC for student use. There are IWB's or Interactive data projectors in all Infants classes and on the primary side there are two TVs in the Years 4 – 6 rooms and IWB's in Year 3. All the classrooms have been air-conditioned and the 4-6 classrooms as well as the Primary Canteen have been refurbished. The increase in technology, the air conditioning and the canteen refurbishment were supported by you, the parents, through the many fundraising activities, the P & F levy and the canteen. The canteen is operated purely by volunteers and the profits go back into the school. In the past there has been a paid canteen person but unfortunately the cost of this outweighed the money coming into the canteen. An outside operator would increase the cost of the items, would still need parent volunteers and then there would be no profits coming into the school.

Over the past 5 years I have endeavoured to make a number of changes to things at school. This includes the physical aspect, facilities as well as to policies, particularly our Behaviour Management Policy and curriculum. I am more than happy to meet with any parent who would like to address a comment they made in the survey or if you have any concerns at all. Please contact the office so an appointment can be organised.

### **Kindergarten enrolments 2021**

We currently have 65 enrolment applications for Kindergarten in 2021. Obviously, this is too many for next year and this number has exceeded our expectations. We are currently in the process of going through the enrolments and will be in touch with families shortly.

### **Approaching other children in the playground when something goes wrong in friendships**

Quite often our children get into friendship issues at school. This can be a simple thing or at times quite complex. My advice to parents, depending on the age of the children and the circumstance, is to let the children sort it out.

There are times however, that you need to be involved and that's when parents should contact the class teacher so we can investigate and find out what's happening. It is never appropriate for a parent to address another child. This can cause more difficulties for the children involved, especially when they sort things out themselves and it is also a Child Protection Issue. Please contact the school office if you have any concerns about issues such as these so that we can investigate appropriately.

### Dogs on the Playground

I know times at the moment are very different but I would like to remind parents that dogs are not allowed onto the school grounds. This is not only a safety issue but also something that we need to consider for students who are highly allergic or anxious.



### Reports

Semester 1 Reports will be sent home next Friday. Parents will be notified that they are available for you on COMPASS. Hard copies are no longer sent home.

I am hoping to have an update for parents about what Term 3 will look like for us. By this I mean, drop off and pickups, assemblies, parent volunteers etc.

Thank you for your continued support

Yours sincerely

Cheryl

***Cheryl Walsh, Principal***

## FROM OUR RELIGIOUS CO-ORDINATOR Ms Bolton

### Do not be afraid

In the Scriptures we repeatedly hear the phrase, 'Do not be afraid.' There is much in this world that disturbs us especially when we look back at events of 2020 and realise that we still have 5 months to go. From catastrophic droughts and fires to the pandemic we know as Covid 19, we certainly could find ourselves fearful about our future and our children's future. As parents we can find ourselves harbouring fears for our children. Fear is an understandable but how we handle fear is what is important. Our faith reassures us that Jesus listens to our deepest fears and invites us not to be afraid, to be strong and confident in the face of life's challenges, because even when we encounter setbacks, our lives rest firmly in God's hands, who loves us and takes care of us.

### Class Liturgies

During the remainder of the term, classes will be celebrating liturgies based around the units they have been studying in Religious Education. Unfortunately, parents are not able to attend these celebrations this time due to the Covid restrictions still being in force. We hope that next term you will once again be able to share these special times of prayer with us.

Here are some photos from the Year 4 Liturgy celebrated on Thursday. We were blessed to have Father Paul attend.



Year 4

## Sacramental program

Children will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the evening of September 16<sup>th</sup>, which is the Wednesday before the Sacrament of First Eucharist.

The First Eucharist Sacramental Program Is being advertised in the church bulletin. Application forms are available from the parish office and need to be returned by July 30<sup>th</sup>. The parent information night will be held in the church on **Thursday August 6 @ 7.30pm**. It's obligatory to attend.

A Rehearsal & Retreat Day for the children receiving First Eucharist [Compulsory] will be held on

## Reception of the Sacrament:

Saturday September 19, 6.30pm @ Somersby [Time to be confirmed]

Sunday September 20, 9am & 11am [Dedicated Mass] @ Gosford [Times to be confirmed]

An extra Mass may be necessary depending on the number allowed in the church by September.

The dates for the **Sacrament of Confirmation** are still to be announced.

## Thank You

Thank you Maria P who has children in kindergarten and Year 2 for making beautiful prayer table cloths for classes. We are now able to reflect each liturgical season on our prayer tables.

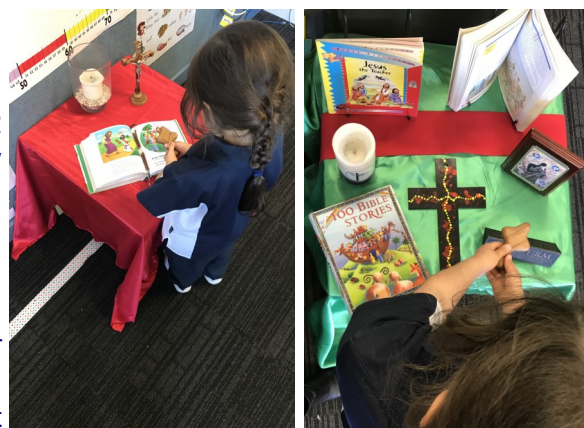
## Sunday Mass

Mass attendance is limited to 50 people per mass but Father Greg has been offering more time slots.

You still need to book in so go onto the Parish website or contact parish office for booking

time on 4325 1042. Bookings for Gosford's weekend Masses may be done through [www.trybooking.com](http://www.trybooking.com)

Blessings for a restful holiday and many thanks for your support.



## "Women's Faith Circle"

An opportunity to explore our faith, to reflect, pray and build community.

9am, after school drop off

2nd and 4th Thursday of the month

School Terms only

Commencing Thursday July 23rd

Contact Jane Eager 0417 660 078

for

further details"

## Esther Refugees

Refugees escape their country because of War, Disasters and if they are being chased by officials. Being a Refugee is very hard. You do not usually have a passport, you are a type of stowaway. You usually escape by boat. You go to a different country where it is hard to learn the language. The trip is not like a plane trip to another country for a holiday. It is serious. This week is Refugee week.

Fantastic!  
Some very  
relative points  
Esther well done!  
Mrs. Will. x

Great work from Esther



## FROM THE LADIES OF THE OFFICE...

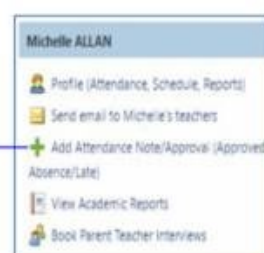


### FULL DAY ABSENCES

If your child is absent for a full day, please ensure you enter the details into Compass. Please see instructions below on how to do this.

#### Attendance: Entering a full day Parent Approval

- 1 From the Compass home screen (or from your student's profile), click the 'Add Parent Approval' item. (ie holiday, medical illness)



- 2 From the pop-up window,
  - Select the reason,
  - Enter a brief description of the absence,
  - Select the start and finish time,
  - Click the 'Save' button.

**Note:**  
Late arrivals and early departures **must** be entered via the Kiosk on arrival or departure.

### LATE OR EARLY TO SCHOOL

If your child arrives late to school or leaves early, you must enter the details via the Kiosk, not the compass app. Currently the Primary students are entered into Compass when you phone the office as parents are not permitted on the school grounds to use the Kiosk.

### QKR!

Don't forget to download Qkr! As it is the only way to purchase a lunch order or buy from the 2nd hand uniform shop. There is information on how to download at the end of this newsletter.

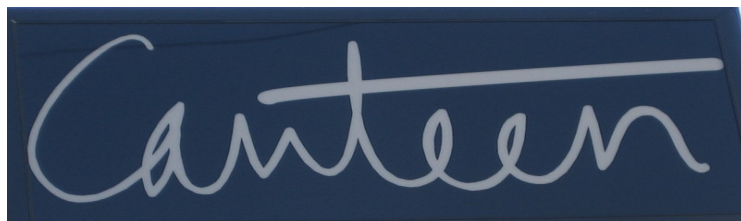


*We're supporting families as the impact of COVID-19 continues to be felt throughout our community.*

*Our program to assist families who are experiencing difficulties with school fees due to COVID-19 can be found here: <https://www.csodbb.catholic.edu.au/learning/Fee-Relief-during-Covid-19>*

## FROM OUR PARENTS & FRIENDS COMMITTEE.....

Thank you to the wonderful canteen committee for opening the canteen last week. It was lovely for everyone to have lunch orders! Slowly, we are returning to 'normal' however our restrictions will still have to be in place until we are advised otherwise. Thank you to all parents for getting the orders in on time.



A few issues with Qkr! If you are still having problems, try to reinstall the app and make sure you choose the correct side/class for your child(ren). We had a few infants orders on the primary side and vice versa. We look forward to the day we can return to over the counter sales but until then, thank you for supporting the canteen once again through lunch orders.

Suzanne Simpkins, one of our parent representatives, sat in on a zoom meeting this week with other schools from our cluster. Lots of ideas were shared on ways to enhance community involvement during this time. We know you're all still out there and we apologise that things have been a bit quiet from the P&F. Fingers crossed next term might look a little different. Watch this space...



On the primary side, the veggie garden is flourishing. There are always lots of helpers, keen to get their hands dirty.

A big thank you to Jonathon from Year 6 and his family for sending in seedlings today. We are so excited to plant these and watch them grow.



## From the Mrs Hartz our Teacher Librarian in the LARC (Learning and Resource Centre) and Library

### Premier's Reading Challenge

The Premier's Reading Challenge ends on Monday the 24<sup>th</sup> August so there is still plenty of time to read, especially with the holidays just around the corner.

This week we congratulate the following children for completing the challenge: Soren in KB, Keith and Isabella W in 2B, Jude in 2G, Riley in K-2 A and Xavier in 5B.

To everyone else - keep reading: "slow and steady wins the race!"

Happy Reading and Happy Holidays!

## FROM THE MUSIC ROOM with Mrs Suzie Morris

### BAND IS BACK!

Since the end of last term, our band students have been having instrument lessons online with their music tutors and this week we were excited to be back at band rehearsal on Monday and Tuesday mornings!

Mrs Morris and Mrs Harris, our band conductor, greeted eager students this week as band rehearsals returned for our Training and Concert bands. Social distancing and hygiene was in full swing for band rehearsal with musician spread out across the music room, hand sanitising on entry and exit and cleaning of equipment (stools, music stands etc) after use.



It was so wonderful to be back together, you could see it on the kids faces and even better to play music together!

Concert band is on Monday mornings from 7:45am and Training Band on Tuesday mornings from 7:45am in the Primary Music Room. More information: <https://sites.google.com/view/st-patricks-bands/home>

**INSTRUMENT LESSONS:** Percussion and brass lessons will remain online with woodwind students face-to-face at St Pat's.

**GUITAR LESSONS:** Our guitar students will continue to engage online with Steve, returning face-to-face in Term 3.

**KEYBOARD LESSONS:** Lessons with Sharon Hatton (CCCoM) and Anna Rott (Piano Place) have returned to face-to-face at St Pat's.

\*please check individual timetables for lesson details and times

### CHOIR - SINGING TOGETHER?

We will hold off on re-commencing choir until Term 3 - stay tuned for more information next term.

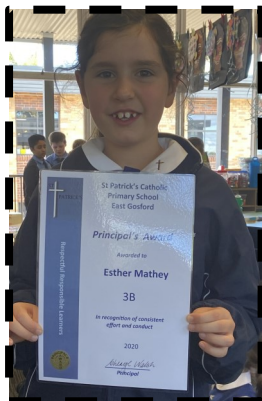
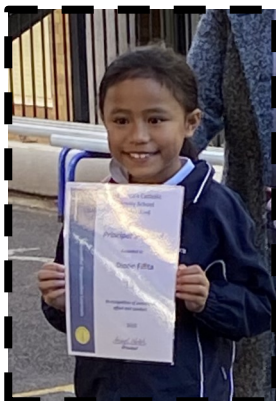
## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to our Year 4  
teacher Miss O'Neill  
on her engagement!!



## WELL DONE AMELIA!!

On Saturday, Amelia N had her long hair cut and she donated it to people who need hair. Hair for wigs for cancer patients.



Congratulations to  
Esther M and Dione F  
who received a Principal's Award  
from Mrs Walsh this week

## Year Two Poetry - Limerick and Haiku Poems

Over the past few weeks in writing, Year Two have been learning about different types of poetry. Here are some poems that they had a try of themselves. Enjoy!

There once was a man called Ben  
He had a best friend called ken  
He came to ask for some money  
So he could by some honey  
And Ben gladly gave him ten

*By Chloe Pimm*

Once there was a girl called Stella  
She loved her chicken Bella  
Bella was barking  
And Stella was starving  
So Stella began to take a bite out  
of Bella.

*By Lyla Maloney*



### Haiku Poem

Cellina like bikes  
Victoria likes bikes  
too.  
  
We are bikers.

*By Cellina Kang*

There was a boy called Ben.  
And he had a big red hen.  
He has a cat.  
The cat saw a rat.  
Ben cried so did the hen.

*By Victoria Yoon*



There once was a girl called Stella.  
Who had a friend named Bella.  
The morning was great.  
So I went down to the lake.  
And her last name was Vella.

*By Scarlett Vella*



### Wish Poem

I wish I were a vet.  
I would love to be at the clinic.  
It would be hard but I like animals,  
helping animals.  
I would do it happily.

**By Amelia Nakagowa**



### Girls are the best

I am a girl.

I am strong.

I am flexible.

Girls!

I am funny and joyful,

I am clever and smart,

I am happy and creative.

**By Isabele Haskell**



Dolphins are pretty.  
Bottlenose dolphins are cute.  
They are rare.

This turtle is cute.  
Turtles can breathe through their butts.  
My brother loves them.  
This water is cold.  
It is extraordinary.  
It is awesome.

Crabs are so awesome.  
They are sometimes red like lips.  
They are very hard to crack

**By Amelia Nakagowa**



There was once was a girl named Milena

Who had a friend named Hannah

They were so great

So they went to the lake

And there they saw a Nana

**By Milena Carbonara**

### Colour Poem

*Red, red, someone's dead.*

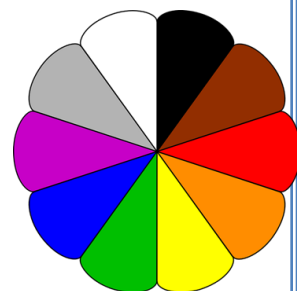
*Blue, blue it looks like glue.*

*Pink, pink, I saw you wink.*

*Black, black, straight to the shack.*

*Brown, brown it's time to frown.*

**By Aaditya Gaur**

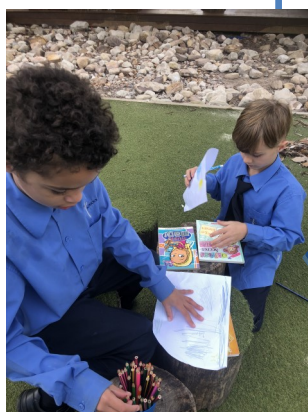


Year 1 and 2 have been learning weather words all term. This week they spent a lesson in 'il sole'.

E una bella giornata!



Year 1 made  
and ate thier  
Gingerbread Men



E una bella giornata!



Italian fun!



## THE UNIFORM SHOP

### Shop Closure Notice



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The Uniform Shop will be closing one week earlier due to a system upgrade.

The last day for Uniform Shop purchase Online and In store will be Friday 26th June.

The Uniform Shop will recommence Online trade from 6th July and in-store trading from Week 1, Term 3.

For any urgent Uniform Shop purchases during this period, please contact our customer service center on 02 4321 0433.

Thanks for your understanding.

Alinta Management



# Qkr! - see how to download it here

<https://apps.apple.com/au/app/qkr-by-mastercard/id589799471>



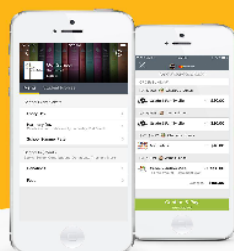
masterpass

For quicker, hassle-free school payments, try Qkr! today

Introducing Qkr! (pronounced 'quicker') by Mastercard, the secure and easy way to order and pay for school items from your phone at a time and place that suits you.

With Qkr! you can:

- Order and pay for your child's lunches, reducing the need to bring cash to school;
- Pay for a variety of school items;
- See your receipts on the app and get them sent by email if required.



Getting started is easy - try it yourself today

## Step 1 Download Qkr!

on your Android phone or iPhone. iPad users can download iPhone app



## Step 2 Register

Select your Country of Residence as 'Australia' and follow the steps to register

## Step 3 Find our school

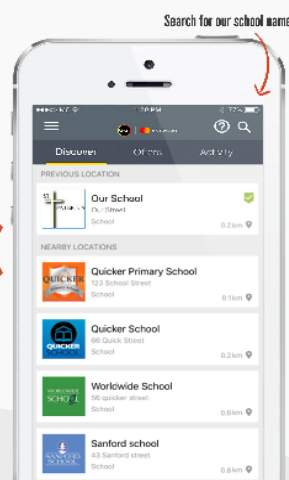
Our school will appear in 'Nearby Locations' if you're within 10kms of the school, or search for our school by name.

## Step 4 Register your children

When first accessing our school you will be prompted to add a student profile for your child. This allows you to make orders and payments for them.

If you have made a purchase you can select our school from 'Previous Location'

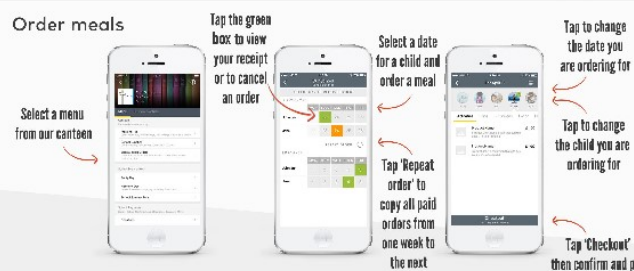
If you're within 10 kms of the school, you can select our school from 'Nearby Locations'



Add your children's details in Student Profiles



Order meals



Making payments

Add up to 5 cards to your wallet



## LOST

Amisha Jamnadas has lost her formal hat clearly labelled —if found please return to her.

Come and

---Play Rugby League---  
with the

## GOSFORD KARIONG

Rugby League Football Club



Quality Coaching,  
Guaranteed Mateship,  
**Maximum Fun!**



Under 6s - Under 17s



Come on down to training; Wednesdays & Friday afternoons from 4.30pm 24<sup>th</sup> June 2020@ Carrington Street Oval, Narara. Or phone Khloe or Deb : 0402190282 for team training times

Registration Fees are \$150, which includes; insurance, shorts, socks and Club shirt.

Family discounts & payment plans are available.