



St Patrick's Catholic Primary School

Royston Parade Asquith 2077

P O Box 3021 Asquith 2077

P: 7256 2144

ABN 66 789 035 993

W: www.stpat.nsw.edu.au

E: spa@dbb.catholic.edu.au

Parish Clergy

Rev Dr Biju Jose, OSH

Parish Priest

Fr Joy Thomas OSH

St Patrick's Asquith

Saturday Vigil 6pm

Sunday 8am, 10am, 6pm

Weekend Mass Times

St Bernard's Berowra Heights

Saturday Vigil 5pm

Sunday 9am

We recognise the Traditional Owners of the land of Hornsby Shire, the Darug and Guringai peoples, and pay respect to their Ancestors and Elders past and present.



From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a wonderful start to the school year with all children settling into routine and ready to be focused on learning. I thank parents for supporting us and enabling such a positive start.

Thank you also to our parent volunteers who provided great support by welcoming our new Kinder parents on Wednesday morning with a friendly smile and a cuppa. This was a lovely opportunity to show our new families first-hand the spirit and support which is so evident in our community.

Each year I pray that we continue to work closely together so that school and home can support one another and ultimately the children who are the reason we are all here. Undoubtedly the year ahead will provide both exciting moments, and sometimes a few challenges. How we manage each of these moments will reflect directly in the messages we send our children to help support them.

Welcome New Families

I sincerely welcome all our new families in 2025. It's always wonderful to see new faces amongst the children and parents joining St Patrick's Asquith for the first time. I encourage our existing families to extend a smile and welcome when crossing paths.

We welcome the following new families to St Patrick's: The Adams, Adib, Buzneh, Chin, Collis, Dhakal, Ioffrida, Joseph, Koh, Lagrosa, Leyva, Lozano, O'Gara, Ramos, Rolleston, Rybkin, Somerville, Tong, Vandore, & Villanueva Perez.

School Mass

I invite all parents to join us next Wednesday morning from 9:30am in St. Patrick's Church as we celebrate our Opening School Mass to welcome the new school year. The mass provides our whole school community the opportunity to thank God for all our blessings and ask for his grace and guidance for the coming year.

I look forward to witnessing the traditional Year 6 blessing of our new Kindergarten children that will be celebrated at the mass. It has a great significance in the school's traditions and is such a lovely way to welcome our youngest students to our school community.

At the mass we will also acknowledge and bless the Year 6 students and have the parents or family representatives of our school captains and sports captains proudly present them their badges.

PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

Communication Methods & Protocols

Communication is an important and crucial aspect to our work as partners. Each year the communication protocols are provided to the community to support that vital partnership between home and school. The school values strong and respectful communication and when we get this right, the children are best supported.

If you wish to speak to a teacher:

- You can make contact through the school office staff by phone, via email or in person. The office staff will pass this message onto the teacher concerned. The teacher will either confirm an appointment, or phone to talk within a reasonable timeframe (usually 24 to 48 hours or the following Monday if contact is made on a Friday). Often a return call might come earlier, but for practical reasons, at least one day's grace is required.

If it is a matter to be conveyed in writing:

- Please either send a note to the teacher/staff member or an email to the front office.
- Emails will be forwarded to the teacher within normal hours and in a timely way. If confidential, please send as an attachment and mark as confidential. The school email address is: spa@dbb.catholic.edu.au

- I ask that parents don't email teachers/staff directly. Emails received late at night or on weekends can impact on a staff member's personal and family situations and add to their stresses, especially if the matter is emotive or subjective. Also, if a staff member is on leave, delays in response can result.

I thank all parents in advance for adhering to and respecting these protocols and for your continued support.

Parking, Morning Drop Off and Afternoon Pickup

In the coming days I outlined the procedures for the morning and afternoon drop off and dismissal routines. Thank you to parents who are mindful of driving slowly, using the pedestrian crossing and being vigilant with their young ones. I encourage parents using drive through to have the family name card on display to assist with calling children to be ready for pick up.

Name cards for new families will be sent home soon. Any parents requiring a replacement family name card are asked to contact the school office.

Safety is highly valued in our school community. Please remember to stay in your car when dropping off or picking up in the 'No Parking Zone' at the front of the school. When parents leave their vehicle to assist their child it slows the process down significantly and causes frustration. **I ask as a community we remain patient, keep calm and follow the protocols so that safety is maintained.**

Parent Information Meetings

Parent Information Meetings will take place next week on Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th February. Meetings will occur at school in classrooms.

The times for the sessions are:

Tuesday 18th February	Wednesday 19th February
5.30pm- Years 1 & 2 5.30pm- Kindergarten 6.00pm- Years 3 & 4	6.30pm- Years 5 & 6

The purpose of these meetings is to provide an opportunity at the start of the school year for parents and carers to collectively meet their child's teacher. It will also allow teachers to provide information to parents and carers about class, grade and school routines and expectations, curriculum topics and planned events.

These meetings are not meant for individual parent meetings. Parents who have important information they wish to communicate to their child's class teacher are encouraged to make an appointment through the school office or communicate information via an email to the school office to be passed on to the class teacher.

PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

Monday and Friday Assemblies

Our main assemblies each week occur on Monday and Friday mornings. Each Monday we pray (school prayer), acknowledge the traditional owners of the local area, raise the flag and sing the national anthem, celebrate birthdays and acknowledge students with behaviour awards. At Friday assemblies we acknowledge selected children for the week who have gained a merit or pastoral care award.

Although many parents need to drop students at school each morning and then begin their day I invite and encourage parents to consider joining us for a morning assembly from time to time.

Parish News

Parish Children's Choir is beginning this very Friday, 7th February. The Choir is a parish initiative, open to young ones in the parish from Year 3 up to the end of high school. It's a good way for young people to actively participate and give back to the community while doing what they love: singing!

We practice every Friday during school terms from 4 to 5pm, and sing at 10am Mass on 2nd and 4th Sundays every month. It's a worthwhile commitment, being part of a group that is very much loved and appreciated by the whole parish.

Come along to any practice, complete a registration form and start singing!

You don't need to be a great singer, just be prepared to learn and meet new friends. If you need any more information, contact Patricia Smith (director) 9482 7935 or email stpatscchoir@gmail.com.

**God bless,
Todd vane-Tempest
Principal**

Dates to Remember

Term 1 - 2025

Wednesday 12th February - Opening School Mass 9.30am

Tuesday 4th March - Pancake Day

Tuesday 4th March - The Dish

Wednesday 5th March - Ash Wednesday

Wednesday 12th March - Naplan Begins (yr 3 & 5)

Sunday 16th March - Kindy & Year 6 Mass 10am

Monday 17th March - St Patrick's Day Mass 9am

Thursday 20th March - St Patrick's Open Day

Thursday 3rd April - Cross Country

Friday 11th April - Last day term Pupil Free Day

Term 2 - 2025

Monday 28th April - SDD Pupil Free Day

Tuesday 29th April - SDD Pupil Free Day

Wednesday 30th April - First Day Term 2

Religious Education

2025 Year of Jubilee - Pilgrims of Hope

Every 25 years, the Catholic Church holds a Jubilee Year. All members of the global Church family are called to participate. It is a time to grow deeper in our faith and prayer life. A time too to re-establish a proper relationship with God, with one another, and with all creation. The theme for the 2025 Jubilee is Pilgrims of Hope. Throughout the year we will have opportunities to celebrate the Jubilee Year.

The Diocese of Broken Bay has created a website of resources including pilgrimages to local parishes that your family may be interested in participating in. <https://www.bbjubilee.com.au/>



Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the *faith* you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of *charity* enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed *hope*
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.
To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen



Religious Education

The Dish

The Dish: We are proud to be able to support The Dish again this year. The Dish is an important part of the local community supporting disadvantaged people in the Hornsby area through food and friendship. It serves a hot meal to over 40 people, distributes fresh food from local businesses that would otherwise go to waste and operates a food bank.

We have been rostered onto The Dish for the following dates:

Term 1 Week 5 Tuesday 4th March

Term 2 Week 9 Tuesday 24th June

Term 3 Week 9 Tuesday 16th September

Term 4 Week 9 Tuesday 9th December



On each occasion volunteers from St Patrick's cook a meal such as curry and rice, pasta bake, zucchini slice and salad. The beautiful St Patrick children in the Mercy Action Group help to prepare a dessert to take. Last year we were also able to take along generous donations of fruit or fruit salad (very popular) as well as tea, coffee and long life milk.

if you are able to support The Dish, even just once this year please complete [this form](#). Thank you for your generosity.

Pancake Day

To launch our Project Compassion Lent Campaign we will be hosting a pancake day on Tuesday 4th February.

Pancakes are available for \$1 either plain, with butter or with jam. Gluten free options are available.

Please order pancakes through QQR by Thursday 27th February. Thank you to the PnF for supporting this day.



Term 1 Liturgical Events

Week 2: Wednesday 12th February 9:30am - Opening School Mass

Week 5: Wednesday 5th March 9:30am - Ash Wednesday Mass

Week 7: Sunday 16th March 10am - Kindergarten and Year 6 Family Mass (and Parish St Patrick Celebration)

Week 7: Monday 17th March 9am - St Patrick's Feast Day

Parish Family Masses

Term 2: Sunday 25th May 10am - Stage 1 Parish Family Mass

Term 3: Sunday 24th August 10am - Stage 2 Parish Family Mass

Term 4: Sunday 9th August 10am - Year 5 and Future Kindy Parish Family Mass

ICAS All-Stars.

Celebrating State Champions
in Academics

The all-new ICAS All-Stars competition allows students to compete in the next level of ICAS and be celebrated as state champions.

This exclusive event recognises the top academic achievers in the state, giving your child a platform to showcase their skills and gain recognition at the highest level.

- Eligibility: Your child must have participated in ICAS 2024 in New South Wales and achieved a merit or above.
- Win up to \$1,500 in prizes!



Enrolment link:
<https://eduvision.com.au/events-and-competitions>



Maths challenge

5c and 10c coins

Here's a new puzzle to try this week!

The aim is for the whole family to collaborate on solving it. Encouraging the whole family to share puzzles and talk to each other mathematically is very important to us. Enjoy!

I'll share the solution in the next newsletter.

Solution from last newsletter:

Six dollars were exchanged for 5c coins and 10c coins.

The number of 5c coins was the same as the number of 10c coins.

How many 5c coins were there in the change?

