



St Patrick's Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Ph 02 6944 1085

www.spg.nsw.edu.au

Week 5 Term 2

Monday, 22 May 2017

Dear Families and Friends,

Confirmation

In the coming weeks a number of our students will combine with other children from around Gundagai to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation later this term. Confirmation is the sacrament where the candidates receive a special outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Through Confirmation, the Holy Spirit gives them the increased ability to practice their Catholic faith in every aspect of their lives and to witness Christ in every situation. What a powerful gift to receive!

We warmly welcome all the confirmation candidates taking part in this program and congratulate their parents and sponsors for supporting them. A parent Information night will be held at our school on the 29th of May at 6:00pm. I'm looking forward to discussing the Sacrament and outlining the program with the parents of the Confirmation candidates. See you next week.

Thank you to the eight mothers/grandmothers who put their names down to assist with reading. We will be contacting you shortly to confirm the day and times you would like to assist.

The following is an information flyer that was given to all parents/carers of pre-school children titled "Parent Engagement". This article outlines the importance of the partnership between the home and the school and some practical ways in which you can get involved in your school.

Parent web links

Students First - <https://www.studentsfirst.gov.au/engaging-parents-education>

Learning Potential - <https://www.learningpotential.gov.au/>

Safe Schools Hub - <http://www.safeschoolshub.edu.au/>

Parents for learning - <http://www.partners4learning.edu.au/>

Schools A- Z - <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/>

Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority - <http://www.acara.edu.au/default.asp>

What is Parent Engagement?

"Parent engagement is an intentional and collaborative strategy by school communities to support and leverage the knowledge, capacities and social capital of families to improve learning and well-being outcomes for all children and young people" (Family, School and Community Partnership Bureau, 2014).

Parent engagement is being positively involved and active in your child's learning. Your attitudes, values and behaviours can positively influence your child's education outcomes. We know that parents, families and carers are some of the most important influences on a child's education. When you are positively engaged in your child's education, they are more likely to attend and perform better at school.

Effective parent and family engagement in education is more than just participation in school meetings and helping with fundraising, it is actively engaging with your child's learning, both at home and at school. When schools and families work together, children do better and stay in school longer. You can support your child to get the most out of their schooling. The earlier you become engaged, the better it is for your children.

Why is parent engagement important?

Parent engagement is associated with improvements across a range of indicators, including:

- better education outcomes
- enhanced engagement with school work
- more regular school attendance
- better behaviour and increased social skills.

Parent engagement is one of the four pillars of the Australian Government's *Students First* reform agenda for schools.

How you can help your child do well at school

While it's important to stay informed and be involved in school activities where possible, there are lots of things you can do at home which can help your child to do better at school:

- Have high yet achievable expectations of your child.
- Talk regularly about school and the value of learning.
- Encourage positive attitudes and respect for school and teachers.
- Model the behaviours you would like to see in your child.
- Other things you can do which have also been shown to have a positive impact are to:
 - A. Read out loud with your child and listen to your child read out loud.
 - B. Talk and ask about what they are learning.
 - C. Ask what was and was not fun at school.
 - D. Help them to develop strong work habits.

One of the most effective ways parents and families can help children to do better at school is to make sure they go to school every day. School attendance has a major influence on educational outcomes. Students who attend school regularly are more likely to achieve better results at school and are more likely to complete their schooling.

Improving Communication between parents and schools

Effective communication requires a two-way flow of information. While most schools develop efficient structures for getting information out-such as newsletters, web sites and emails, fewer develop similar structures to ensure that feedback from parents is actively sought.

Of course, the use of any strategy must be tailored to the school's population. If families don't have reliable access to the Internet, e-mail won't work. A phone message in English won't communicate much to parents who speak only Spanish. The bottom line for schools is to communicate using strategies that convey what is important in a way that can be heard by parents and families and invites them to respond.

Successful parent-involvement programs typically develop in response to a specific need in the school or its community and are both focused and flexible in addressing that need. A strategy that works in one school might not be the best choice for another.

Why are we Better Together?

We know educational leadership is most effective when it is shared throughout the school - among teachers, parents and students - and is focused on learning, quality teaching and building a collaborative community.

We also know that when schools and families collaborate around student learning and well-being, students achieve better outcomes, attend school more regularly and stay on at school longer. Collaborative school communities are stronger communities because they build on local resources and foster social capital.

Advisory bodies like boards, councils and parent associations increase the participation and engagement of the school community in young people's education and as a consequence build collective responsibility for the faith formation, learning and well-being of all young people.

We know that the most effective schools seek to affect the communities that affect them. When our school-based decision-making is informed by, and responds to, the needs and aspirations of the community which the school serves we can make better and more respectful decisions.

When principals, teachers and parents work together to build a culture of shared leadership and responsibility for student learning and well-being, children do better and schools get better.

CONCLUSION

- Successful parent involvement = the active, ongoing participation of a parent or primary caregiver in the education of his or her child.
- Parents can demonstrate involvement at home-by reading with their children, helping with homework, and discussing school events-or at school, by attending functions or volunteering in classrooms.
- Schools with involved parents engage those parents, communicate with them regularly, and incorporate them into the learning process.
- We know educational leadership is most effective when it is shared throughout the school - among teachers, parents and students - and is focused on learning, quality teaching and building a collaborative community.

Have a good week.



FAITH LEARN LEAD



Australia's
**BIGGEST
MORNING
TEA**

SAVE THE DATE

Please mark on your calendar the Biggest Morning Tea hosted at the Gundagai Services Club where our Kindergarten - Yr 2 students will be performing on Thursday, 25 May.

Child Protection

As per the Department of Education and Communities Policies, we would like to remind you that all **parents, caregivers or volunteers who assist in the school in any capacity must have completed a Working With Children Check.** THERE IS NO COST FOR VOLUNTEERS. Please log on <https://wwccheck.cyp.nsw.gov.au/Applicants/Application> at your earliest convenience.

REC News

3/4 Mass

Thank you for the reverent and meaningful Mass on Friday Years 3 and 4 and Mrs Wilson. Father Luke spoke to us all about being stewards and taking care of God's gifts.

Confirmation 2017

Confirmation preparation will begin next week.

The parent information night will be on Monday the 29th of May 6:00pm in room 4 at the school.

The first afternoon session for candidates will start on Tuesday 30 May, 3:30pm – 4:30pm.

These sessions will be led by Mr Powell, Father Sijo, Father Luke and Mrs Flanagan.

Please complete the registration process as soon as possible if you have not done so already.

Online Registration: use this hyperlink CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION

OR go to: <https://goo.gl/forms/QVw6vq2DvT5Y7aU43>

Or the school website: spq.nsw.edu.au



Dates to mark on your calendar:

26/05- Liturgy led by Years 1 and 2 (FRIDAY 12pm).

02/06- Mass led by the SRC (FRIDAY 12pm).

03/06- Mass Presentation of Confirmation Candidates (Saturday 6pm)

09/06- Liturgy led by Years 5 and 6 (FRIDAY 12pm).

16/06- Mass led by Years 3 and 4 (FRIDAY 12pm).

17/06- Mass Confirmation (Saturday 6pm)

23/06- Liturgy led by Years 1 and 2 (FRIDAY 12pm).

30/06- End of term Mass led by Staff (FRIDAY 12pm).

Thoughts/ Questions / Reflection for the week:



God Bless,
Mrs Flanagan
REC

Class Merit Award Recipients Week 4 of Term 2



Kindergarten - **Darby Jones** - using interesting writing techniques such as talking and spelling.

Year 1/2 - **Rylee Flanagan** - his increased application and enthusiasm towards his learning.

Year 3/4 - **Isaac Pearce** - creatively presenting a TV guide on Google spreadsheet.

Year 5/6 - **William Naughton** - for his consistent application to his school learning and active involvement in class.

Wildcat Award Recipients Week 4 of Term 2



Responsible Tessa Crowe, Jess McDonnell & Ollie Gailey.

Respectful Amy Cotterill & Tessa Crowe.

Safe Nathaneal Tozer, Tessa Crowe & Flynn Leane.

All parents are kindly invited to a Fundraising Meeting Wednesday 31st May at 1pm at the school in Room 4.

Items to be discussed:

Music Trivia Night

Parent Dinner

Sleep-out night

Please contact Carolyn Reardon 0408 441 056 or calreardon@bigpond.com

SPORTS WRAP UP

Netball Cup

On Monday 15th May, 9 girls in Years 5 and 6 travelled to Young to compete in The Netball Cup. It was a great day and everyone played very well. The girls played 6 games of netball and won 4 and the games they did not win, were very close.

All girls represented our school with pride and should be proud of their effort on the day. Thank you to Mrs Sullivan, Mrs Cotterill and Charley Hackett who were able to help transport the girls to Young. Thank you also to Beth Flanagan for umpiring for our school and helping the girls with further developing their knowledge and skills in netball.

Archdiocesan Cross Country

On Wednesday 17th May, Lilly Bartlett, Peter Reardon and Lochie Wilson travelled to Canberra to compete in the Archdiocesan Cross Country. Thank you Mr Shane Bartlett for taking our runners to Canberra.

All students ran well on the challenging course and should be very proud of their achievements. Lilly came 8th and Peter came 11th. Lochie Wilson came 1st and will next run in Sydney. Congratulations and good luck.

Touch Football Trials

On Friday 19th May, Lilly Bartlett travelled to Sydney to trial for the MacKillop touch football team. After a busy week of playing and competing, Lilly was selected in the team that will compete in Wagga Wagga at the start of August. Congratulations Lilly.

Mortimer Shield

This Thursday, we will be travelling to Tumut to compete in the Mortimer Shield League and League-Tag. Students will be training at school this week at lunch time on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Please bring a change of clothes. [We have varying reports from the children regarding transportation on the day. Could you please confirm with the front office if you are taking your child or other children to ensure that we have everyone covered. Many thanks in advance.](#)

Western Region Athletics Friday 2nd June

Please return your permission notes to school as soon as possible. High Jump practice will take place during lunchtime on Wednesdays. Please bring a change of clothes.

Happy birthday to the following people who celebrate their birthdays this week.

Mrs Wilson celebrated on Saturday, 20 May

Abby McDonnell celebrated on Sunday, 21 May

Our very best wishes to you on your special day!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday, 25 May - Mortimer Shield Tumut
Biggest Morning Tea - Kindergarten - Yr 2 only from 11am

Monday, 29 May - Confirmation Parent Evening 6pm

Tuesday, 30 May - Science ICAS Competition
1st Student Session Confirmation 3.30 - 4.30pm

Wednesday, 31 - Thursday, 1 - St Pat's Public Speaking class presentations
Musica Viva whole school performance 9am

Friday, 2 June - WR Athletics West Wyalong
Supportive playgroups 9 - 10.30am

Monday, 5 June - Rugby Union Trials Yass

Tuesday, 6 June - 2nd student session confirmation 3.30 - 4.30pm

Friday, 9 June - supportive playgroups 9 - 10.30am

Monday, 12 June - Public Holiday

Tuesday, 13 June - English ICAS Competition
3rd Student Session Confirmation 3.30 - 4.30pm

Wednesday, 14 June - Spelling ICAS Competition

Thursday, 15 June - Public Speaking competition between Gundagai & Tumut at Gundagai

Friday, 16 June - NSW CPS Cross Country
Confirmation gathering day - all students
Semester 1 reports home
Supportive Playgroups 9.00 - 10.30am

Saturday, 17 June - Confirmation 6pm

ROSTERS

Meat Raffle Roster: If you are unable to do your shift please contact Lauren Gailey on 0412 802 069 or laurentickner@hotmail.com Please feel free to still put your name down to assist with the roster.

Friday 26 May: Peter Reardon & Jock Graham **Friday 2 June:** Doug McDonnell & Vince Powell

Friday 9 June: Tim Jones & Craig Hargreaves **Friday, 16 June:** Sharon McCarthy & Jess Nugent

RADIO 2.15pm	ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER	TUCKSHOP ROSTER		CUPCAKE MONDAY
<p>Wednesday, 24 May Peter Reardon Eli Flanagan</p> <p>Wednesday, 31 May Brianna Crossley Riley Manns</p>	<p>Saturday, 27 May Abbey Flanagan Thomas Ferguson</p> <p>Saturday, 3 June Lilly Bartlett Benny Bartlett</p>	<p>Friday, 26 May Jess Eccleston Simone Jones</p> <p>Friday, 2 June NO TUCKSOP Due to parents travelling to WR Athletics</p>	<p>Simone Jones Shannon Bartlett</p>	<p>29 May Bec Naughton Marg Kingwill</p> <p>5 June Jess Nugent Sharon McCarthy</p> <p>12 June Lisa Peterson Rebecca Gaskin</p>
	<p>PRAYER & MASS TIMES</p> <p>Friday, 26 May Mass 12pm Church</p>			