



ST PATRICK'S BEGA NEWSLETTER

WEEK TEN, TERM 1, 2018

6TH APRIL, 2018

IMPORTANT EVENTS

11th April
1/2B Celebration
of Learning 2pm

P&F Meeting
6pm

12th April
School cross
Country
9.30am start

13th April
Playgroup Trial
9am

Last Day of
School

Monday
30th April
Students Return
to school

3rd May
5/6L Celebration
of Learning 2pm

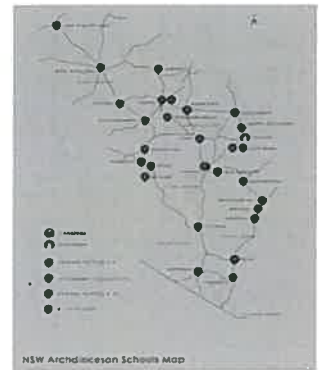
5/6B Celebration
of Learning
2.30pm

4th May
Yr 6 visit Lumen
11.40

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

Next Thursday Mr Ross Fox, the Director of Canberra & Goulburn Catholic Education, is visiting St Patrick's School from 1.00 - 3.30pm. The purpose of the visit is for the Director to get to know our community by meeting staff, students and parents, as well as to learn more about the specific context of St Patrick's as one of the 56 schools; in the Archdiocese. *From 3.00 -3.30 pm I invite each of you, the parents and carers, to come to the school library and take up the opportunity to meet Ross and share with him the great things about the St Patrick's Bega community.* Afternoon tea will be provided. Whilst this is only a brief meet and greet, it is an important way to promote our school to the director. I look forward to seeing you there! You may not be aware of the geography of the Archdiocese – the map here shows the NSW school locations.



Thank you to 34L and Mrs Lott and Mrs Harnett, as well as KG and Mrs Grant, for hosting celebrations of learning this week. Students have had the opportunity to showcase their progress and learning across the term. These celebrations are our 2018 way of students and classes sharing with parents and carers aspects of school life. Celebrations of learning are replacing the previous sharing times that were small events at school assembly. We hope that you get to see and hear so much more about the learning of your children in this new format of celebrating and sharing. You may also have opportunities for attending publication celebrations throughout the year as students continue to create and publish their own texts.

Next Wednesday, the 11th April, during the morning session we have organised a visit from Justine and Lara, the OT and Physio team who have been working with us at St Patrick's for the past year. They will design a program for the K-2 students and observe our students through the rotations. They will make specific recommendations to us regarding ways to assist our students with gross and fine motor skill development. They will also be able to provide to parents general recommendations where individual children could benefit from an individual program or OT / physio support. We are considering engaging the services of a speech therapist to also support us with student speech needs and to recommend where students may require further assistance.

Finally, we have had no parents nominating themselves to lead or share in the role of school canteen convenor as Pip White steps down from this role. Please consider your capacity to serve the community in this way. If there are no volunteer candidates by next Tuesday the role will cease to be a P&F role and will become a school role / position and will be advertised. The proceeds of the canteen will go toward the payment of the convenor.

Blessings for a restful weekend,

Jo

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

How important it is that parents are involved in the independence-building of their children, even before their school journey begins. It is the pathway to children's competency, confidence and creativity and the shortcut to resilience and real learning. Here are some tips for using independence-building language throughout your child's educational journey:

1. Never regularly do for a child the things a child can do for him or herself.
2. Asking 'Is this something you can do?' Children gain confidence, pride and sheer pleasure doing simple things for themselves.
3. 'Have you checked the help roster today?' Getting children to have a sensible allocation of chores builds accountability and a great work ethic, highly valued characteristics for continuing success at school and later in life.
4. 'Which of these two would you prefer?' Parents can give children some autonomy by allowing them to make some decisions and choices for themselves.
5. 'How can you make this happen?' This question encourages and promotes problem solving. Parents can first ask 'Can you handle this on your own?' and then ask 'What do you want me to do to help you solve this problem?' This ensures the child that you will support them, but that they can think and reason in finding solutions to issues that may arise.
6. 'We rely on you to do this'. Reliability is closely related to responsibility, which is another aspect of independence.
7. 'What have you learnt for next time?' We all should have the opportunity to learn from our mistakes. Real growth comes from making mistakes.
8. 'How do you feel about this?' Being able to regulate one's emotions is an important part of gaining independence. These days, more than ever, children should be encouraged to share their feelings and emotions and deal with issues as they arise.
9. 'When you muck up, you make up.' Children will continue to repeat their mistakes if there are seen to be no consequences for their behaviours. Relationship restoration is a lifelong skill involving swallowing your pride, making up, giving something back, not holding a grudge or saying 'sorry'.
10. 'You need to do what is right, not what is easy'. A sense of integrity is the basis for reasoned and socially focused self-control and self-management.
11. 'Let's find a way to make this happen'. Scaffolding your child to positive risk-taking, giving children smaller freedoms which will then lead to bigger liberties, will ensure their development of independence, while giving them the confidence to know you will help them when necessary. (adapted from parentingideas.com.au)

Let us nurture children's skills of independence and lead them to become successful, independent adults, who are not afraid to handle any challenge that comes before them, knowing that we are all directed to 'have courage', as God is with us on the journey.

With you on the learning journey,
Mary-Ann

FROM THE REC

Religious Education in 5/6B

We have been learning about:

- Lent, Holy Week, Easter Celebrations and Stations of the Cross.
- Bible stories, retelling them in our own words and creating our own representations through art.
- How to investigate Bible stories through the Three Worlds of the Text.

Sam and Jade

Mayoral Appeal Fund

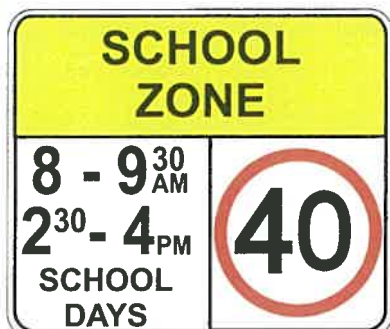
On Wednesday, 4th April, school captains Emerson and Jasper and Mini Vinnies representatives Luchia and Jontae visited Bega Council Chambers and presented Mayor Kristy McBain with a cheque for \$648 as our St Patrick's contribution towards the Tathra/Reedy Swap Fire Mayoral Appeal Fund.



SPORTS NEWS

Cross Country

The school cross country will be held next Thursday, 12th April. This year, due to the large amount of travellers using the showground, we have decided to change the course. The children will start in the showground and run through the side gate into the park. This will eliminate using the road and main entrance as most of the course will be in the park. We will start at 9.30am with the 8 year olds. The 5 to 7 year olds will have their run around the school grounds, after recess. The rest of the school will watch followed by the ribbon presentation. All children are expected to take part unless they have a note. Parents are invited to attend. Please ensure children have everything they need eg: hat, sunscreen, water bottle and especially Ventolin for any asthma sufferers.



From: Ian Baker, Director – Education Policy - CEC NSW

Subject: School Zones Reminder for the end of Term 1

A reminder to all our parents ahead of the break at the end of Term 1 that school zones remain in place for the safety of our children and families.

School zones operate on all gazetted schools days, which are all days the school is open, even pupil free days.

Therefore, school zones operate as normal for Term One until (and include) Friday 13th April 2017 and resume on Monday 30th April 2017.



Adam Kellerman Australia's number 1 wheelchair player and Australian Open quarter finalist is set to play in the MERIMBULA TENNIS Club's TEN15 event on Saturday 14th April @ 4pm. In what will be a great spectacle, Adam will take on some of the South Coast's top players with the only rule change being Adam gets two bounces versus their one. As well as Adam competing, these events are also gender neutral so Ladies and Men are in the draw against each other. The event starts at 4 pm and is free entry to come and view the event. It would be great to have a lot of people there to create a great atmosphere.

The format is a lot of fun. Matches are only first to ten points and as players only have one serve, it's fast and furious.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY TENNIS CAMP

When – 23rd & 24th April

Where – Merimbula Tennis Club

TIMES – 1.00pm – 4.30pm Each Day

COST \$50.00 Per Child

Ages 5 - 15 Beginner to Advanced

Ph James on 0409 315542 email - sapphirecoasttennis@gmail.com

Holidays care will be held in our school hall from Monday 16th April to Friday 27th April. Please return your enrolment form to the office as soon as possible

NAPLAN on paper – information for parents and carers

Why do students do NAPLAN tests?

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) assesses literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life.

Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in the annual NAPLAN tests in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

The tests provide parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. NAPLAN tests are just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process; they do not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance.

NAPLAN tests also provide schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

What will be tested?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum. All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

To give you an idea of what the tests look like, see example questions at nap.edu.au/naplanexample

How can I help my child prepare for NAPLAN?

Help your child prepare for NAPLAN by reassuring them that the tests are just one part of their school program, and by reminding them on the day to simply try their best. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance.

ACARA does not recommend the use of services by coaching providers or excessive preparation. NAPLAN is not about passing or failing, but about assessing learning progress.

Participation in NAPLAN

All students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are expected to participate in the annual NAPLAN tests.

Students with disability may qualify for adjustments that reflect the support normally provided for classroom assessments. A formal exemption may be granted for a student with significant intellectual disability and/or significant coexisting conditions, or for a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background.

Your school principal and your local test administration authority can give you more information on special provisions or the process required to gain a formal exemption.

Will my child sit NAPLAN on paper or online?

Your child will sit the NAPLAN paper tests in 2018.

However, children in some other schools across Australia may sit the NAPLAN online tests this year. Federal, state and territory education ministers have agreed that NAPLAN will move online over the next two to three years. State and territory education authorities will determine when their schools move online.

As students are presented with questions that test the same range of difficulty, regardless of whether they complete the test online or on paper, results for both formats will be reported on the same NAPLAN assessment scale.

To find out more about NAPLAN Online, visit nap.edu.au/online-assessment

What if my child is absent from school on test days?

Where possible, schools may arrange for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the testing week. Individual students are not permitted to sit tests after Friday 18 May 2018.

NAPLAN 2018 tests timetable

	Tuesday 15 May	Wednesday 16 May	Thursday 17 May
Year 3	language conventions 40 minutes writing 40 minutes	reading 45 minutes	numeracy 45 minutes
Year 5	language conventions 40 minutes writing 40 minutes	reading 50 minutes	numeracy 50 minutes
Year 7	language conventions 45 minutes writing 40 minutes	reading 65 minutes	numeracy 60 minutes
Year 9	language conventions 45 minutes writing 40 minutes	reading 65 minutes	numeracy 60 minutes

How is my child's performance measured?

Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each test. A result at the national minimum standard indicates that the student has demonstrated the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level. The performance of individual students can be compared to the average performance of all students in Australia.

A NAPLAN report will be issued by your school later in the year. If you do not receive a report, you should contact your school.

How are NAPLAN test results used?

- Students and parents may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to help them better identify students who require greater challenges or additional support.
- Schools use results to identify strengths and weaknesses in teaching programs and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review programs and support offered to schools.
- The community can see average school NAPLAN results at myschool.edu.au

Where can I get more information?

For more information about NAPLAN:

- contact your child's school
- contact your local test administration authority at nap.edu.au/TAA
- visit nap.edu.au

For information about how personal information for NAPLAN will be handled by ACARA, please visit nap.edu.au/naplanprivacy