



## ST PATRICK'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL WINTON

### TERM 1 | Week 1 | 2024

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March**

Australia Day Public Holiday

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January**

Parent Information Evening

Staggered sessions in each  
classroom 5pm-6pm.

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February**

Fortnightly Assembly

Join us in the Assembly Room at  
8.30am.

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February**

Central West Swimming

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February**

Central West Netball

**13<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> March**

NAPLAN Testing Window

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March**

St Patrick's Feast Day

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March**

Last Day of Term

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March**

IPRASS Travel Day

**29<sup>th</sup> March – 1<sup>st</sup> April**

Easter Long Weekend

### P&F AGM

**Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>**

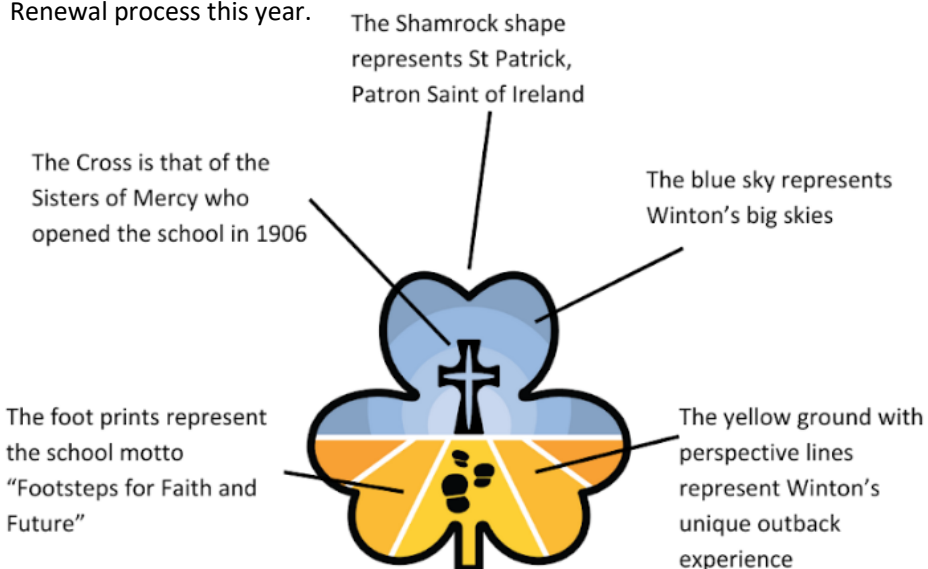
5pm, St Patricks Assembly  
Room. General meeting to  
follow

# Newsletter

## A Message From Our Principal

Welcome to the 2024 school year! It is with great pleasure that I welcome back all of our students, staff and families to St Patrick's Catholic School Winton. A particularly warm welcome to our staff member Mrs Dayna Curtis and her family and the students and their families who are new to our St Pat's Family. I know you will all be made to feel welcome and at home very quickly.

We have started the new school year looking very refreshed with our reimagined school emblem and motto. This process last year provided significant opportunities to reflect and collaborate on our school's mission and purpose. Our new motto highlights that St Pat's is just one small part in the students' lives but the right and strong foundations in the Primary Years sets will set out students on the right path for future success, in education and in their faith so they can turn back to God in adult life. Parents and our wider community will continue to be involved in shaping the future direction of our school as we immerse ourselves in the Catholic School Renewal process this year.



Positive partnerships between home-and-school is an important feature to fostering student wellbeing and success. I encourage everyone to be involved in the school through as many activities as you can. To ensure our caregivers are informed of the expectations and routines in their child's learning we will be holding a Parent Information Evening on Monday January 29th from 5-6pm. All families are urged to attend even if their child was in that class in the previous year as each year we make improvements in the best interest of our students. Sessions will be brief only lasting 20 minutes. We have staggered sessions to ensure families with children in multiple classes can be present for each - Upper Primary – 5.00pm, Middle Primary – 5.20pm and Early Years 5.40pm.

Thank you all for the fantastic start to the school year. This week has been an exceptional start to the new school year. Thank you to our wonderful staff who have gone above and beyond to prepare exciting learning environments and for their role-model behaviour and efforts in settling in across this week.

Bridget Tully  
Principal

## Early Years (P&1) News

Wow! This first week has flown by in the Early Years classroom. It has been an absolute pleasure getting to know the bubbly personalities of the new students in our class. Starting school is such a big change in anyone's life, but it's especially for 5-year-olds when everything is new. We have been focusing on routines, creating structure and friendships within our classroom to assist in our future learning.

In Literacy, Preps have been learning the sounds for S, A and T. We have been singing chants to identify and write their corresponding letters. Year Ones have been revising their blends and digraphs to assist them with reading and writing. Throughout this term we will be learning all about word choice through yummy procedures.

This term in Maths, we are learning and cementing our foundational knowledge about numbers. Year Ones are exploring the different number patterns from 0-120. While Preps are counting to 10, creating collections and learning how to draw numerals.

In class, we have been discussing the importance of St Patrick and how his past is related to the Catholic faith. The students were so shocked and saddened to find out that he was kidnapped by pirates when Patrick was 16 years old. We have also been focusing on who God is and how we can talk to him through prayer.

I hope the students have a fabulous long weekend and are ready for more learning in Week Two.

- Miss Casey



## Middle Primary (2&3) News

My name is Miss Brodie and I am so excited to be teaching the Year Two and Three students again for 2024!

The Middle Primary students had a cracking first week, and well and truly exceeded classroom expectations by demonstrating the reimagined St Pat's values. We thoroughly enjoyed welcoming both new and familiar faces into our classroom, and have been building rapport through games, hands-on learning and of course some arts and crafts!

Students have already been immersed in a variety of literacy learning activities, further igniting their love for reading, writing and drawing. As a whole class, we read numerous books of varying genres and modelled word attack and comprehension strategies to support our understanding before, during and after reading. Students then showed off their neat handwriting and letter formation skills when writing responses to literature. In small groups, they decoded a range of simple and compound sentences, and decided on the correct sentence boundaries and punctuation - a necessary skill for both reading and writing.



During Mathematics rotations, students worked in teams to engage with place value and number building tasks utilising concrete materials and puzzles to consolidate their learning. They are already pleading to begin their online Mathematics revision via Prodigy, which is an exciting prospect when students are keen to continue their learning!



## Middle Primary (cont.)

The students also revisited and deepened their knowledge of who God and Saint Patrick are, the story of Creation, and discussed the importance of respectful prayer practices. I look forward to updating you on all of our wonderful learning experiences over the next nine weeks!

- Miss Brodie

## Upper Primary News

The Upper Primary class is back and ready to take on 2024! Making up our class this year are 18 respectful, courageous, merciful and inclusive students who come to school settled and ready to take on the learning opportunities that are carefully curated for our Upper Primary students. In just four days of school our Upper Primary students have learnt and achieved so much already. We have explored concepts in English, Maths, Religion and have engaged in team building exercises to strengthen relationships amongst peers.



In English this week, students have been focusing on the inquiry question: 'What makes a good writer?' Through guided discussions, students identified a wide range of features that make a strong writer. We connected these features of writing to the 6 + 1 Writing Traits that they will continue to explore and deconstruct over the next week. Students will use their new and revised learnings of the traits and apply these into free writing pieces.



In Mathematics, students have revised and extended their knowledge of place value to correctly represent large number values. They recognised place value to tenths, hundredths and thousands and used the conventions of decimal and fractional notation to name and represent certain amounts. Students applied their knowledge of place value to interpret, compare and order numbers with more than two decimal places.

In Religious Education, students participated in a range of activities that were aimed to build their understanding of our namesake, Saint Patrick. They completed a read and respond task, created shamrock artwork and learnt how to pray in colour. These foundations and routines in R.E will set our Upper Primary students up for success when learning a range of religious concepts.

Starting a new school year often comes with a mix of emotions. To support our year four students transitioning into the Upper Primary class and the development of new friendships forming in our room, we read a range of mentor texts that have enabled students to enact familiar morals and values. One of our favourite reads, 'Our Class is a Family', left a very positive impact on students, and after many rich discussions, they collaboratively came to the conclusion to build a supportive, loving and caring classroom community across the year.

2024 is going to be one to remember!

- Miss Stacey



## REMINDER: SCHOOL SWIMMING

School Swimming starts next week.

**Tuesday - Prep-Year 3**  
**Wednesday – Year 4/5/6**

Please pick your child up from the pool at 2.45pm. A huge thank you to our instructors Wendy and Jacey. We are seeking some extra parent helpers to assist.



# WELCOME TO 2024



ST PATRICK'S  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
WINTON

## APRE News

An integral part of our St Pat's Family is the St Patrick's Parish. We welcome all families, returned and new to join our St Patrick's parish and come along to mass. Fr Sylvester (our Parish Priest) will be leading mass on Sunday evening, January 28th, at 6.30pm in the St Patrick's Church.

Our new school motto 'Footsteps to Faith and Future' has deep connections to our school's charisms representing:

- Our founders, the Sisters of Mercy – known as 'the walking sisters' because they didn't expect people to come to them, rather they would serve by going out to the less fortunate to help them and show compassion.
- Our namesake, St Patrick – having been held captive for six years walked 200km to his freedom, protected by God's guidance after an angel spoke to him in a dream.

Inspired by our charisms we have revised our School Values to connect the different elements of our school's culture. This fortnight we have a school wide focus on the value – Belong.

## OUR VALUES

### Belong

The St Patrick's family **moves together**, promoting hospitality, service and inclusive partnerships between parents, students, staff, parish and community.

*Welcome one another just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.  
Letter of Paul to the Romans 15:7*

### Respect

We care for all of God's creation, valuing each individual and serving our school and wider community with our whole heart **following** the spirit of Catherine McAuley.

*Do for other people what you want them to do for you.  
Luke 6:31 (ICB)*

### Courage

Like St Patrick, we find strength in faith. We are **guided** by our trust in God, to endure all we encounter on this **journey of life**.

*"Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong.  
1 Corinthians 16:13*

### Mercy

Inspired by the words of Catherine McAuley, we **walk along the path** of justice by responding to the needs of others compassionately.

*Act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with God.  
Micah 6:8*