



ST PATRICK'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL WINTON

TERM 1 | Week 3 | 2024

Monday 11th February

Ash Wednesday Liturgy

Join us at 8.45am in the St Patrick's Church.

Friday 16th February

Fortnightly Assembly

Join us in the Assembly Room at 8.30am.

Wednesday 21st February

Central West Netball Trials

Monday 26th February

Central West Rugby League Trials

Friday 1st March

Central West Touch Football Trials

13th – 22nd March

NAPLAN Testing Window

Friday 15th March

St Patrick's Feast Day

Wednesday 27th March

Last Day of Term

Thursday 28th March

IPRASS Travel Day

P&F Meeting

Monday, March 11th

St Patricks Assembly Room.

Newsletter

A Message From Our Principal

The commencement of a new school year is an important time for the entire school community. It is a period where relationships are being fostered, expectations are being set and routines are being learnt. By getting these key ingredients right we set ourselves on the path to success for the rest of the year.

This is exactly what has been happening in our classes so far this year. Teachers have been collecting and analysing information about their classes to know each students' likes, knowledge and abilities. This data is used to inform future lessons and teaching. We call this step - 'Know Our Learners'.

We understand that each child is an individual and on their own learning journey. We pride ourselves on 'knowing each learner' so we can personalise the next steps in each students learning journey and sequence learning experiences in a way that best suits them to ensure that every individual is learning and being challenged at St Pat's everyday.

Our parent-body has once again blown me away with their support of our school. Over the past few weeks, we've had terrific numbers of parent engagement at events such as our Parent Information Evening, Fortnightly Assembly and our first Parents & Friends Association Meeting.

Some common messages that were shared across our Parent Information Evenings were minimising disruptions and improving student attendance. A day here or there might not seem like much but it quickly adds up and no amount of catch up work replaces a day of learning in the classroom. You can help limit classroom interruptions to all children's learning by ensuring students arrive to school on time with their lunch and resources for the day and by scheduling appointments outside of students prime learning time, preferably towards the end of the day. During school hours all parents and visitors must go to our school office and not directly to classrooms.

Congratulations to our 2024 Executive Committee Members: President – Wendy Searle, Vice-President – Teonie Stockham, Secretary – Sharlene Geary and Tuckshop Convenor – Sophie Elliott. A special thanks to tuckshop extraordinaire Nerida Henwood who joined Sophie and Tracey to make our first tuckshop of the year was a roaring success. A survey, that will help guide the goals our P&F will work towards in 2024, will be sent to all families early next week, please keep an eye out for this as we strongly encourage everyone's input.

A huge thank you to all our families. Your support validates the above and beyond efforts that our staff consistently put in. We look forward to working with you and your children throughout the year as we continue to build a better St Pat's together.

Bridget Tully

Early Years (P&1) News

Over the past fortnight, students have been learning all about procedures. Together we brainstormed all the different types of procedures we can make. Finally, we settled on starting our unit with a bang by making fairy bread. On Monday, the class worked with Miss Dayna, students watched the steps of how to make fairy bread and sequenced photos of this procedure with partners. On Tuesday, students worked together to make their own fairy bread and began to draw detailed pictures to depict the steps taken. The time came for students to make their own fairy bread on Wednesday! Year Ones showcased their writing abilities and it was amazing to see the independence the Prep students have built within the first three weeks of school. Keep your eyes peeled for what we'll be making next!

In Maths, we have continued our number journey. Year Ones are deepening their knowledge of numbers to 120 through recognising patterns, number of the day focus and ordering numbers on our YUMI Deadly maths mat. Preps have been using snap cards to pair numerals with collections, practising their number formation and going outside to consolidate creating collections within nature. Our next mathematical focus will be measuring length.

During Religion, we have been exploring the different parts of the Bible and the importance of Jesus and Moses to the Israelites. God has been a big topic within our classroom and students have spent time creating pictures of what they thought God looked like. We are now diving into the Creation story from the Bible and learning about the blessings God has given us and what we are grateful for. Currently students are painting the Creation story, so watch our Early Years space for their new artwork.

- Miss Casey



Middle Primary (2&3) News

Given our classroom is an underwater theme, come and 'SEA' what we have been up to!

In English we have DIVED into an array of amazing persuasive mentor texts, and recognised key features of these books so that students can apply it to their own persuasive letters. Students also completed a play-doh activity to support their understanding of the writing process, where as authors, they must brainstorm their ideas, plan, draft, revise, edit and then publish a piece of work utilising teacher and peer feedback.

During Mathematics, students are SWIMMING through variety of number and place value tasks using hands-on materials such as counters, MABs, the YuMi Deadly counting mat and puzzles. They have been counting forwards and backwards from three, four and five digit numbers, and representing them in a variety of ways including expanded notation, written words, base-10 form and numeric values. The consistent repetition and consolidation of these skills will enable students to grow their knowledge in other mathematical areas throughout the year.



Middle Primary (cont.)

In Religion, students have SAILED into their new unit, where they are learning about the features of prayers of thanksgiving, praise and forgiveness. Throughout this unit they will look at God as the creator and how to apply this knowledge to write their own meaningful prayers.

We began our new Earth and Space Sciences unit by exploring how Day and Night occurs, and recognising that the Moon orbits Earth, and Earth rotates on its axis whilst orbiting the Sun. By the end of the term the students will SINK into investigations of shadows and sundials.

During Humanities and Social Sciences, in readiness for their Around the World unit, students worked collaboratively in small CREWS to complete a puzzle of the World Map and an Australian Map. They have enjoyed singing the seven continents song on repeat, and recognising landmarks within Australia and our neighbouring countries.

Overall, it has already been a CLAM-packed three weeks of learning, and the best is yet to come!

- Miss Brodie



Upper Primary News

We have a room full of excited authors, chomping at the bit to begin their free writing pieces!

In English, students have been exploring the 6 + 1 Writing Traits and their purpose in writing. They have participated in a range of activities based on the specific trait to engage and practice key writing skills. Collaboratively, students have applied their new knowledge of the traits to create anchor charts that they will continuously use throughout the year to support their writing. This week, students have worked hard to create visual ideas in their writer's scrapbooks and will use this resource to pull ideas, select appropriate word choices and write with a strong voice. Students have explored figurative language devices used by authors in mentor texts. They created original examples with the purpose to engage audiences and allow readers to connect to their writing.



Over the last fortnight, students have been learning about decimal numbers, place value and multiplication strategies. They have compared and ordered decimals to the tenths, hundredths and thousandths. Students have revised multiplication strategies using arrays, equal groups, word sums, repeated addition and skip counting. They applied strategies to successfully multiply large numerical amounts by two and three digit numbers.

In Science this term, students will investigate earth and space science where they will explore natural events causing rapid change to the earth's surface and investigate human impact. So far, students have learnt about the impact of earthquakes and the three different boundaries of tectonic plates. They explored divergent, transform and converse boundaries through an experiment using mars bars. They were able to observe the impact of an earthquake on the earth's crust and describe the effects on people and the environment.

In Religion, students have started their new unit on prayer. They have explored different forms of prayer: personal, communal, worship, meditative and traditional Christian prayer. Students delved into personal prayer by reflecting on a day at school and using the Examen Prayer as a guide to structure their personal prayers. They have been enjoying multiple forms of meditative prayer as they practice calming themselves to have a private conversation with God.

- Miss Stacey



APRE News

LENT IS COMING! Lent is a period of preparation, like Advent the period in which we prepare for the birth of Jesus (Christmas), in Lent we prepare for the resurrection of Jesus (Easter). Lent lasts for 40 days, comparable to the 40 days in which the Holy Spirit called Jesus to worship in the desert. This reflective period allows us to become better people. We are encouraged throughout Lent to get back to basics and do three things: pray, be merciful (give to those in need) and go without.

For the commencement of Lent we will gather together for an Ash Wednesday Liturgy on Monday in the St Patrick's Church. As is tradition on Ash Wednesday we will receive a cross of ashes on our foreheads. As a day of repentance, the cross symbolises our acknowledgment of our mistakes and wrong doings and reminds us that we sometimes turn away from God's love but with his help we can try to reach out to others with more love and kindness especially in our own families, our school and community and in our world.

Next week we will also acknowledge Shrove Tuesday, also known as Pancake Tuesday. Shrove Tuesday is the last day of 'Ordinary Time' in the Catholic church before Lent. In past times in preparation for Lent all the good and indulgent food needed to be used up before Lent and rather than simply throwing it was combined into a mixture such as pancakes as a last hurrah before Lent. In learning about this tradition students will be treated to some pancakes for morning tea.

COMMUNICATION

All school related information will be communicated by COMPASS and our fortnightly newsletter. Miss Vickie can help you if you are having any issues accessing COMPASS. You are always welcome into our school and classrooms at drop off and pick up for a chat and to check out your child's work. Otherwise get in contact with our teachers via their school email:

Early Years – Miss Casey

scasey3@spwtsv.catholic.edu.au

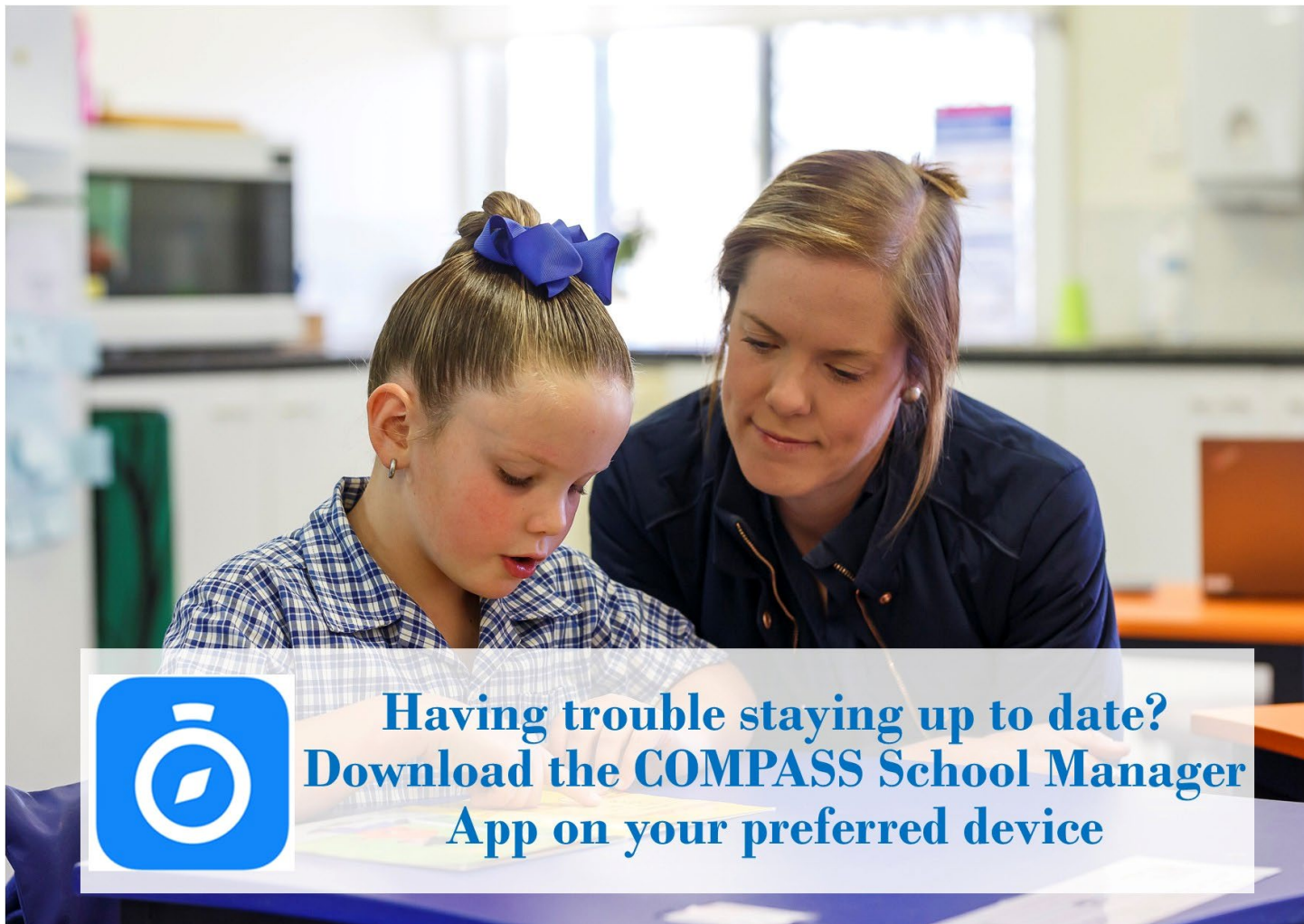
Middle Primary – Miss Brodie

sbrodie1@spwtsv.catholic.edu.au

Upper Primary – Miss Stacey

ssanders@spwtsv.catholic.edu.au

Alternatively, you can contact our office to arrange a meeting.



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