



## ST PATRICK'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL WINTON

### TERM 1 | Week 5 | 2024

#### Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March

##### Fortnightly Assembly

Join us in the Assembly Room at  
8.30am.

#### Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March

##### World Day of Prayer

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

##### NAPLAN Testing Window

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

##### St Patrick's Feast Day

Everyone welcome to a morning of  
activities including Year 6 Leaders  
Induction

#### 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

#### Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April

##### Term 2 Commences

### P&F Meeting

#### Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup>

St Patricks Assembly Room.

# Newsletter

## A Message From Our Principal

We've had a very busy couple of weeks at St Pat's with lots of wonderful learning experiences and activities happening in each classroom. In the past fortnight, Early Years students have been busy making sundaes and fairy bread as they learn about procedures, Middle Primary students were preparing for Lent and Upper Primary students have competed at various Central West Trials. There are even more great things to come in the second half of our term such as – St Patrick's Feast Day and Leaders Induction, NAPLAN Testing and Holy Week Celebrations.

Next week parents will be invited to participate in a set of surveys called the ECSI surveys. ECSI stands for 'Enhancing Catholic School Identity'. The ECSI surveys will help our community to determine where we stand as a Catholic school in terms of our faith and Catholic Identity. It's important to note that we acknowledge many students, parents and staff come from various religious belief styles or attitudes. Our cultural context is changing, and so our faith should evolve along with it. Although they do take some time to complete, these surveys are extremely important for us to develop the mission and vision of our school as part of our Catholic School Renewal this year.

In 2024 we will be having an additional pupil free day on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April. This day follows on from the ANZAC day public holiday on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April. The reason for this additional professional development day is to provide necessary planning time and opportunity for our staff to continue to work on the implementation of V9.0 of the Australian Curriculum. In 2024 following advice from the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority we have already implemented V9.0 of the Australian Curriculum in Mathematics and will follow with English in 2025. There is much planning already occurring in all Townsville Catholic Education schools to ensure all teachers are well placed to provide rich learning experiences for their students. This additional professional development day (pupil free day) will only occur in 2024.

A huge thank you to the parents who stayed for our Assembly this week. We made a last-minute change so our Early Years class could see what an Assembly performance was all about. A huge thank you to our Middle Primary Class for demonstrating by sharing their Lenten prayers. We look forward to seeing the Early Years performance at our Assembly next week.

Just like that we are already at the halfway mark of our term. It is important now that everyone in our community, including students, have settled into the new year, we remind ourselves not to cut corners and continue to strive to be better, so we can continue to meet the high expectations we set for ourselves at the beginning of this year. If you have any concerns about how your child is settling into their class or anything else for that matter, please do not hesitate to get in touch with your child's class teacher. Our friendly staff can always be found either before or after school for a quick catch up or you can send them and email.

*Bridget Tully*

## Early Years (P&1) News

It is amazing how much growth the Prep/1 cohort has shown in just half a term. I am so proud of these little learners settling into routine, making new friends, developing a thirst for learning and giving everything a go!

We've started the year off with a few treats through our English procedural unit. Students have made and ordered steps with fairy bread and now we've moved onto making ice-cream sundaes which went down like a treat. The class have been working together to brainstorm the difference between simple verbs and strong verbs at the beginning of sentences to direct their audience. The students have created and used words like 'drizzle', 'swirl' and 'sprinkle' to match their procedural steps. In Literacy, we have had a strong focus on letter and sound identification, letter formation and blending and segmenting for preps. For our Year Ones, we have been identifying digraphs, trigraphs, blends and high frequency words individually and within our reading, as well as solidifying students' understanding of retelling stories.

If you want to know the value of a numeral, look no further than the Year One students at St Patrick's! In Maths, we have been exploring place value and partitioning numbers using MAB to support our visual learning. Preps have continued their number journey counting to 15 and now are beginning to count backwards.

As we continue to learn about the Creation story and all of God's creation, we have been exploring how we can care for the gifts we have been blessed with. This has tied in beautifully with our Lenten promises, as students made a promise to God on Ash Wednesday to reflect on how they can make a difference in this world, by remembering Jesus and following his footsteps.

- Miss Casey



## Middle Primary (2&3) News

Time really must fly when you're having fun because we are officially halfway through Term One!

In English, students completed their persuasive texts, and have moved onto exploring other genres of literature to both read and write. They have delved further into the 6 + 1 writing traits, and are currently learning about what sentence fluency is, and how they can apply it to their writing. As always, they love engaging with high quality texts to draw inspiration from and are genuinely excited to write everyday and share their work with their peers.

During Mathematics, students have been consolidating their addition knowledge utilising a variety of strategies and hands-on materials to solve problems.

In Religion, students learned about prayers of thanksgiving, praise and forgiveness, and drew pictures to give praise to God about things in their life they are thankful for. On Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, students took the time to consider how they might give more to others. They each wrote Lenten Promises detailing what they aim to do more of over the next 40 days.

In Earth and Space Sciences, students completed annotated drawings to reflect how Earth rotates on its axis, whilst orbiting the sun, which causes day and night. They have been investigating shadows outside the classroom, and the use of sundials to tell the time.





## Middle Primary (cont.)

During Humanities and Social Sciences (HaSS), we have almost wrapped up our Around the World Unit, with students confidently being able to recognise the geographic divisions of the world and also Australia. They are currently working on a mini craft activity that will display their knowledge of their home, town, state, country and planet.

If we've achieved this much already in the first half of the term I can't wait to see what our Middle Primary Class will achieve by the end of Term 1!

- Miss Brodie



## Upper Primary News

Over the last fortnight in English, through shared reading experiences, the Upper Primary students have read the works of Roald Dahl to identify the types of figurative language he uses. In rich discussions, we've unpacked these, to further understand the impact of these devices on a reader. To strengthen their knowledge of figurative language, students have participated in activities such as identifying and matching examples, creating anchor charts using student ideas, reflecting on language, and explicit teaching experiences through targeted clinic groups.

A love of literature is something we strive for in the Upper Primary class. In order to promote independence, responsibility and enjoyment in reading, students have begun reading experiences through Book Clubs! Each member of a Book Club has a unique role they must complete in order to present their feedback at their Book meetings. Every week students rotate roles which are aimed at improving reading comprehension strategies.

In addition to our Book Clubs, we have started a classroom routine to allow students to 'taste' the works of different authors. First Chapter Fridays occur every Friday morning. This is an opportunity where staff and students share the first chapter of their favourite novel, a recent read or a book recommendation. We would love parents and wider community members to become a part of this routine, starting Term 2!



In Mathematics, students have been exploring the language used in worded problems. They have been identifying the facts, the question and the distractors. Students have benefited from this learning to identify the language linked to a specific operation, in order to correctly solve problems. Looking ahead to Week 6, students will continue their learnings in: applying the properties of odd and even numbers to classify and solve simple problems, solve large multiplication sums and explore prime, composite and square numbers to solve problems and simplify calculations.



In HaSS, students have been exploring man-made and natural landforms, comparing familiar and unfamiliar places and investigating, through research, Australian tourism and trade. They have delved into learning about sustainability practices, modelled by our First Nations Peoples. Students have responded to their new learnings by responding to illustrations and literature.

In Religion, students are learning how to write quality prayers using the You, Who, Do & Through structure. This is an opportunity for students to praise God for His blessings, ask God for physical or spiritual needs, make requests on behalf of others or thank God for everything he does for us.

- Miss Stacey





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FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS

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Last week we welcomed in Lent with a very special Ash Wednesday Liturgy in our church. Thank you too all families and parish members that came along and to Fr Mick for presiding over the service.

The beginning of Lent also marks the beginning of Caritas Australia's annual Project Compassion Appeal. You will have received Project Compassion box for your home.

The theme of Project Compassion 2024 is 'For All Future Generations' and reminds us that the good we do today extends to impact the lives of generations to come. By donating to Project Compassion, Caritas Australia, the Catholic Agency for International Aid and Development, can work with local communities around the world to end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. You can find out more online via the Caritas Australia website at: [www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion)



# LENT

