

School News

St. Patrick's Primary School
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Newsletter No.14 *"Never see a need without doing something about it"* 5th September 2014

St. Patrick's Primary School - Pyramid Hill

Dear Parents and Carers,

Romans 12:6-8

"God has also given each of us different gifts to use. If we can prophesy, we should do it according to the amount of faith we have. If we can serve others, we should serve. If we can teach, we should teach. If we can encourage others, we should encourage them. If we can give, we should be generous. If we are leaders, we should do our best. If we are good to others, we should do it cheerfully."

I thought the above scripture was quite fitting for the week we have just had. What an amazing week we have all had here at St Patrick's. The gifts, talents and beautiful nature of our students was on show at many events throughout the week. We are very lucky to have such wonderful children that are extremely well behaved when we are out and about in the community. The week began with the Seniors heading to Melbourne to see a beautiful ballet, The Bayadere, which was a story of romance and tragedy. The stage was continually filled with amazing dancing, colour and music! The children sat, intensely taking it all in. We are so thankful to Mrs Farrant who organised the whole occasion for the children. Here at St. Patrick's we are extremely lucky that we are able to provide experiences like that for our children. Thank you Mrs Farrant for a wonderful experience and day!

On Thursday the whole school ventured over to Shepparton for 'Sandhurst Arts on Show!' The teachers tell me that our students had a wonderful day and took part in all of the festivities very well! The performance of all of the collective schools was impressive and great efforts went into the event. We thank parents for being here to pick up their children as it was an extremely long day for them!

Unfortunately due to the wet weather at the start of the week we had to cancel our athletics day with Pyramid Hill College. The collective sports day has been rescheduled for Wednesday 8th October, in our first week back. Please put this date on your calendar. If you ordered a BBQ lunch it will still be provided so we have kept the orders here at school. Children need to wear full school uniform on this day.

This coming Monday St Patrick's is having a review validation day in the area of Pastoral Wellbeing and OH&S. We have representatives from the Catholic Education Office Sandhurst coming to explore our school community especially in the areas of being a safe and inclusive school to grow and learn. As part of this day we will be taking part in our SAKG cooking and gardening. The children will not need lunch on this day, simply some fruit for morning snack. We will have lunch with our friends from the CEO.

Monday morning we also have our Dad's or special man in our lives coming in for the Father's Day breakfast. We know that most Dad's head off to work early so we will do our best to provide a quick breakfast for Dad's and the children. The breakfast will begin at 8:00am sharp. All children visited the Father's day stall today so we hope that they can hide their presents until Sunday!

Today all families will receive an envelope with our INSIGHT SRC survey and information attached. I cannot stress how valued your opinion is in regard to this. We rely heavily on the parent, staff and student community in sharing their honest opinions so that we can make great improvements for our school into the future. I am really hoping that all families take part. Surveys need to be returned to school by September 12th 2014.

Next week the Senior class will be off to Billabong Ranch for their school camp. We are hoping that all children are starting to get all that they need ready. Please be sure to pack only what is needed as we do not have excess space. The children only require what was in on the list and strictly no computer, iPad etc devices. Please be sure to label all clothing and belongings with your child's name in case of lost property. We will not be far away but I am sure Mrs Farrant and myself will have an amazing time with the children. Mrs Hampson and Mrs Hick's will be at school if anyone were to need anything. I will text Senior families nightly to keep you informed that all is well!

Mrs Hampson will be taking Long Service Leave for the last week for this term and the first week of next term. I will be in class as well as some replacement teachers. If there is anything you need to contact Mrs Hampson about please do so before she takes her long service leave. I will be available if anyone needs anything while she is away. We hope Mrs Hampson has a restful and enjoyable time while she is away!

Over the past few weeks some students from St Patrick's have not been behaving according to our school rules and expectations when traveling to and from school. When a child from St Patrick's travels on the bus it is expected that they will behave in line with our school rules.

Unfortunately over the past few weeks I have had several complaints about some of our students play fighting, moving around and littering on the bus. I have now said to all of our community bus drivers that any complaints about St Patrick's children and they will be removed from bus travel for 1 week.

This would be a great burden to parents as they would need to get children to and from school. If you have children traveling on the bus, can I ask that you please discuss how important it is to behave safely on the school bus for the wellbeing of everyone.

The last week of term is fast approaching and it has been an extremely busy term with great learning and opportunities. We have noticed that home learning and reading expectations are dropping off from home. We often have children completing home learning at recess, this is very disappointing. It is expected that every child in the school reads for 20 minutes a night and try to be heard by an adult at least 4 times a week. We know that this strategy rehearses all that we teach at school. We know that if this is committed to, ensures we are nurturing great readers. A skill that we all need in life! All children need this while at primary school. We understand that our home lives can become busy however we cannot stress how important this is. A small variety of other tasks are sent home for home learning. These tasks have been well prepared by the teachers, all of them inclusive of some student choice and variety. We are aiming to provide home learning that is engaging and independent for the children to complete. We do rely on the adults in the home to enforce the routine and support the schools expectations on this.

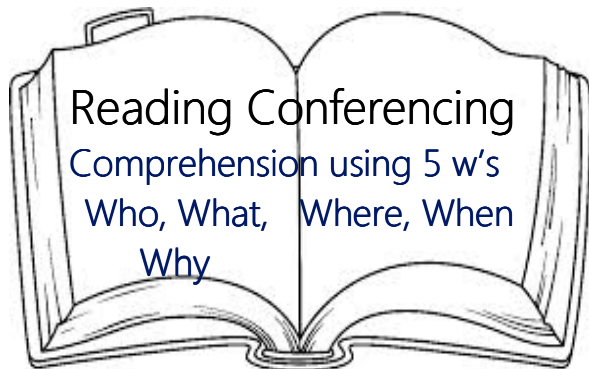
Looking forward to our last two weeks of what has been a busy term!

Jasmine Ryan
Principal

LEARNING CELEBRATIONS

READING AWARDS!

Congratulations to Jeff Pacala who has received his 150 nights of Reading Award. Well done Jeff! Jeff is working hard with his fluency. He is trying to make his reading sound like he is talking. Keep working hard Jeff!



IMPORTANT DATES—2014

SEPTEMBER	
Mon 8th	8.00am Father's Day Breakfast St Patrick's Pastoral Wellbeing & OHS School Validation Review
10th-12th	Senior School Camp
Thursday 18th	Interschool Sports in Charlton

A Special Prayer for Fathers

God, bless all the fathers in the world. Guide them to be good role models and loving to all their children. Help them to be a father like You are. Give them grace and patience to handle situations in a loving way.

Amen

Sandhurst Arts on Show

