

ST. PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

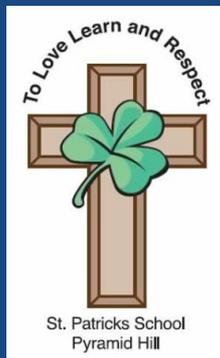
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"Education For All"



St. Patrick's is a welcoming community where all are encouraged to **'Love, Learn and Respect'** in the **Josephite Tradition.**

MONDAY 18TH MARCH 2024 ISSUE NO. 4

Dear Families, During the week, I read a wonderful speech from Pope Francis on Happiness and I thought I'd share it with you here. Hope you enjoy it.

"You can have flaws, be anxious, and even be angry, but do not forget that your life is the greatest enterprise in the world. Only you can stop it from going bust. Many appreciate you, admire you and love you.

Remember that to be happy is not to have a sky without a storm, a road without accidents, work without fatigue, relationships without disappointments. To be happy is to find strength in forgiveness, hope in battles, security in the stage of fear, love in discord. It is not only to enjoy the smile, but also to reflect on the sadness. It is not only to celebrate the successes, but to learn lessons from the failures. It is not only to feel happy with the applause, but to be happy in anonymity.

Being happy is not a fatality of destiny, but an achievement for those who can travel within themselves. To be happy is to stop feeling like a victim and become your destiny's author. It is to cross deserts, yet to be able to find an oasis in the depths of our soul. It is to thank God for every morning, for the miracle of life.

Being happy is not being afraid of your own feelings. It's to be able to talk about you. It is having the courage to hear a "no". It is confidence in the face of criticism, even when unjustified. It is to kiss your children, pamper your parents, to live poetic moments with friends, even when they hurt us.

To be happy is to let live the creature that lives in each of us, free, joyful and simple. It is to have maturity to be able to say: "I made mistakes". It is to have the courage to say "I am sorry". It is to have the sensitivity to say, "I need you". It is to have the ability to say "I love you".

May your life become a garden of opportunities for happiness. That in spring may it be a lover of joy. In winter a lover of wisdom. And when you make a mistake, start all over again. For only then will you be in love with life. You will find that to be happy is not to have a perfect life. But use the tears to irrigate tolerance. Use your losses to train patience. Use your mistakes to sculptor serenity. Use pain to plaster pleasure. Use obstacles to open windows of intelligence. Never give up Never give up on people who love you. Never give up on happiness, for life is an incredible show." (Pope Francis).

Have a great week

John

TALAARAWAN

MARCH

18th: St. Patrick's Day Mass and Activities at School - BBQ Lunch

19th - 22nd: John at Conference

21st: Harmony Day Dress Up Day

22nd: SAKG

25th: Food Share. Playgroup 10:30

26th: Learning Conversations

27th: Hot Shots Tennis - Years 5-6

27th: Last Day of Term

APRIL 15th: First Day Term 2

22nd: Food Share. Playgroup

25th: ANZAC Day holiday

MAY

1st: Visit to Pre-School.

3rd: Year 5/6 Student Conference

St. Patrick's Primary School is committed to child safety.

We believe all children have the right to feel safe and to be safe.



Behold, I make all

things new. Rev 21:5

Every day
COUNTS!

School success starts
with attendance

Pupil Free Day and Last Day of Term 1

Thursday the 28th of March will be a Pupil Free Day.

Friday the 29th of March is Good Friday.

This means that our last day of Term 1 will be Wednesday 27th of March.

Due to us finishing the term one day early, the children will be dismissed at the normal time of 3:20.

John Away

From Tuesday to Friday this week, John will be attending the Victorian Association of Catholic Primary Schools Principals Conference. This conference will see a number of world class speakers present topics on leadership, wellbeing, diversity, human rights and community spirit. Louise will be leading the school in John's absence.

Harmony Day

This week is Harmony Week (Monday, 18 to Sunday, 24 March). This is an exciting opportunity to celebrate and acknowledge diversity within the Australian community and bring people together.

As one of the world's most culturally diverse countries, Australia takes pride in its cultural diversity, a defining aspect of our national identity. Over half of Australians are first generation migrants or come from a migrant background, contributing to the diversity of Australia. This annual celebration symbolises inclusiveness, respect, celebrate diversity and fosters a profound sense of belonging for everyone.

On Thursday, which is Harmony Day, we will be having a dress up day. Children are asked to either dress up in their national colours, or wear orange, the colour for Harmony Week.

We will be using this day as a Fundraiser for Caritas, so all children are asked to bring a Gold Coin Donation



St. Patrick's Day



OUR BIRTHDAY CALENDAR - MARCH & APRIL

26th March - Thomas

10th April - Leiza

19th April - Jace

St. Patrick's Day

March 17th is the traditional Feast Day of St. Patrick. This year though, St. Patrick's Day falls on a Sunday, therefore we celebrated today with our usual festivities, activity day, Mass and BBQ lunch.

As per usual, the Primary students from Pyramid Hill College joined us for activities which included tabloid sports, art & craft and cooking.

A big thank-you to all the staff for the effort they put in to make it such a fun day.



Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Play Group

Don't forget that Playgroup runs every Monday morning from 10:00 - 12:00 in the school library. This group, organised through Loddon Shire, continues to grow and is a great way to meet other families in our community with young children. For more information contact the school or Kinsley Mowat on 54510200

Staff Professional Learning

It is very important for our students, that the staff at St. Patrick's keep up to date with the latest research, ideas, skills and knowledge in the educational world. This helps to ensure that your children are always getting the best education that we can provide. At present, Chris and Louise are part way through a course in "Teaching English in Multilingual Classrooms" which will equip them with added skills to teach in our unique educational environment here at St. Pat's. On Wednesday they will be attending the 3rd of 5 days in this course. Jean will be taking the classes on this day

Hot Shots Tennis

On Wednesday of next week, the 27th of March, our Year 5&6 students will be travelling to Boort for the Calder Hot Shots Tennis Day. Our students will join with students from Pyramid Hill College to compete against students from other schools in the district. Please return the permission forms as soon as possible.

St. Patrick's Day



Word Association

Here's a fun game to play around the table or in the car to get kids thinking.

One player starts by saying a word. The next player says a word that is related to the first word. It can be related in any way. If another player cannot see how the words are related, he/she can challenge, and the connection needs to be explained. Keep going until a word is repeated or a connection cannot be explained.

Here's an example: 1st person says Egypt – 2nd person says Mummy – 3rd person says Dad – the next says beard – then Santa Claus – Christmas – trees – leaves etc.

What's Happening in the Classroom?

Welcome to Week 8

Learning Conversations: Our Learning Conversations will be held next Tuesday the 26th of March. This is a wonderful opportunity for you and your child to talk about their progress and goals in learning. If you have not returned your intention form for the times that you are available please do so as soon as possible.



Literacy: F-6 The students have been very busy in literacy with lots of wonderful narrative and persuasive pieces of writing. We are now up to 25 nights of Reading for many of the students. It is lovely to see the excitement on their faces when they get to select a gift from the Reading Box.

Numeracy: For the Juniors, Time is our numeracy focus for the next two weeks. We will be learning about reading the clock face and matching it to digital time. The 3-6 students have been identifying fractions of a whole and placing them on a number line.

Religion: The next two weeks we will focus on the key events of Holy week, This will include a visit to Church to view the Stations of the Cross, giving the students the opportunity to participate in prayer and reflection as we approach Easter.

Sport: We have been playing small collaborative games and learning to dribble in basketball.

Inquiry: SOCIAL JUSTICE

F-2 Students learnt about Italian culture by making and cooking their own pasta in different shapes. They also played Bocce, a traditional Italian game.

3-6 The students will continue to learn about Aid agencies such as Caritas and the difference their work is making to families around the world.

Chris and Louise

Classroom Activities



Calendar Events

Please keep an eye on all events listed on the Calendar on the front page of this Newsletter. There are a number of events coming up so please make yourself aware of these.

The Calendar is updated each time the Newsletter goes out.