



Our Vision
An inclusive community committed to high levels of learning for all.

Our Mission
In the spirit of Saint Mary Mackillop, we strive for excellence with love, dignity, integrity and justice.

Feeling Safe
Our School Student Protection Contacts are:
Miss Donnelly, Mr Maher and Jayne (school counsellor)

Reminders and To Do List

Sign up to/ update your FlexiBuzz to your child's year level for 2020.

Please read the recent FlexiBuzz, Email or Facebook correspondence concerning the Schools response and actions to the Coronavirus outbreak.

All parents/carers will be informed of any changes to school activities via FlexiBuzz and Email.

St Patrick's School – A Nut Aware School.
We are aware that children may have a severe anaphylactic reaction to **peanuts**. Parents are requested to be diligent with items packed in lunch boxes.

Dear Families,

Walking Advertisements — As a school, we do what we can in getting the 'good word' out about what we do from day to day. Social media platforms, local publications and signage are some of the ways that we try to achieve this. Yet remarkably, for all the resources invested in this worthwhile endeavour, this type of advertising is not the most effective.

When we conduct our enrolment processes, we ask our families how they came to hear about us. 95% of the time they tell us it's you—our parents. Their reasoning for choosing St Patrick's School is mostly to do with the fact that they have spoken to a member of our community that has told them about their good experiences.

You play the main part in building good experiences with your school. Thank you for:

- Seeing us when you've got a concern— Good experiences aren't always about the 'warm and fuzzies'. Good experiences can be about how the school responded to a concern of yours regarding your child's progress;
- Being engaged in your child's learning— When you involve yourself by simply asking ; "How is my child going?"; you help create relationships that ensure the progress of your child;
- Supporting a 'solutions focused' way of thinking— any problem involves all parties working together towards a solution. When we support each other great things can be achieved for your children.

As a part of our community, you are a 'walking advertisement'. On behalf of our school community, I thank you for your ongoing support of your children and, in turn, our school.

Learning Conversations - During our daily classroom visits we ask learners questions about their learning. At St Patrick's, we know that their responses are feedback for us as their teachers. We ask them:

- **What are you learning?** Students who can answer this have it clear what it is they're supposed to be focused on. When they know what they are learning, they can transfer the intended learning to other areas.
- **How are you doing? How do you know? How can you improve?** Students that can answer these three questions know the success criteria of the learning. They use the criteria to assess their own learning.
- **Where do you go for help?** Some of our students will list the teacher/teacher aide as the one and only option. Students should know the other strategies that they've been taught when the teacher is busy with another student.

As parents you can ask very similar questions that focus on the learning. Ask your child; What did you learn today?; How did you do?; What did you do when you didn't understand?; How can you improve?; and; What are you most proud of?

When you ask these questions, your children come to understand that you expect them to learn something every day.

God Bless

Tyronne Maher
Principal

"A smile is the light in your window that tells others that there is a caring, sharing person inside."

Denis Waitley

School News

Uniform Expectations – The word uniform means ‘the same’. Wearing the uniform shows pride in our school and that students are ready to learn. Weak expectations regarding uniform can result in poor learning attitudes and the formation of trends that exclude others (leading to ‘bullying’). Our families do a great job in supporting our uniform policy which can be found on our school’s website.

As per our policy, students are reminded about:

- **Jewellery** - No jewellery is to be worn except for watches, religious medallions, one pair of stud or sleeper earrings (plain gold or silver studs are to be no more than 4mm in diameter and sleeper earrings are to be no more than 15mm in diameter). Nail polish and make-up are not to be worn.
- **Hair** - Shoulder length hair is to be tied back with school coloured bands or ribbons that reflect the relevant formal or sports uniform worn on that day. Hair for boys and girls, should be worn/cut in such a way that stops hair from being in the eyes of the student. Hair should be worn in a way (for both girls and boys) that enables the hat to be worn properly (i.e. High ‘pony tails’ or ‘buns’ do not allow the hat to be worn properly).

Attendance - The semester 1 reports, like all school reports include information about your child’s attendance. We understand that children become unwell and must stay at home. However, if your child can attend they should. Every hour counts. When a report indicates that a child has been away for 10 days, this is 10 school days, 2 school weeks or **50 hours of learning**. This reinforces the idea that if your child cannot attend, they should be still involved in something of a learning nature at home. Reading a book in bed while you are unwell is an easy way of achieving this.

Online Trivia Night— Thank you to our P&F for organising the online ‘Rattle of the Brains’ event on the 29th May. A great time was had by all. The questions are available on the ‘Rattle of the Brains’ Facebook page if you’d like to have some fun.

Online Assembly— Our second online assembly will be held at 8:50am this Friday morning. Students will view the assembly in their classrooms. A link will be sent via FlexiBuzz and email for any families wishing to attend. Clicking on this link will give you immediate access to the assembly. We look forward to you being able to join us.

Social Distancing— Thank you families for your cooperation in regard to social distancing. Parents are to phone or email the school to arrange early collection of students, uniform purchasing or a meeting with the classroom teacher. Parents are able to come into school to sign out children when they have called ahead.

DATE CLAIMERS- 2020

12th June—8:50am Online Assembly
(link will be sent to families)

25th June—release of Semester 1
Student Reports

25th June—Last day of school.

26th June—School Closed— Planning
and professional learning
day.

13th July—First day term 3

2020 Term Dates

Term 2- Mon 20 April–Friday 25
June

Term 3- Mon 13 July–Friday 18
September

Term 4 -Tues 6 October–Friday
4 December



Tom and Riley Working hard! When Riley was asked the learning questions (See page one of this newsletter) he was able to answer all of them! Well done on some focused learning Riley.