

St Patricks School



Junior School Newsletter Term 1 2014

Welcome back to St Pat's for a new year of learning together. It is wonderful to be discovering new friends and renewing older friendships. The children have begun our new year with enthusiasm and excitement. It has been a super start!

Reminders and Pointers.

Lunches. Please check your child's lunchbox each day for the first few weeks to find out what they are eating and the amount to give them. Talk with them to make sure they are enjoying lunchtimes and let class teachers know if there are any concerns. Teachers check lunch boxes to see what has been eaten and encourage children to take uneaten food home.

Uniforms The year has begun well with all children having sun-hats to wear while outside. Please make sure **ALL** items of clothing and footwear are named. This really helps us to return items to their owners. Lost property can be checked in A4's bag room.

Discovery Time has already begun and we are collecting bits and pieces to use in our creating and problem solving sessions each Friday. It is so encouraging to hear parents conversations with children as they collect them after school on Fridays. Keep up the support, we all love it!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Already this year we have introduced our classes to daily prayer time and helped them to find out about the special people who helped to build St Patrick's School over 100 and so years. We have discovered why our Houses have been given their names and who our patron St Patrick is. In Week 4 we begin to build our understanding of Jesus and how He is part of our lives.

NUMERACY AND LITERACY

Teachers are assessing and discovering what children already know and working to set learning goals and next steps to develop these learning areas. Children may bring home books they have read before help them to discuss what they are reading by looking for connections to things they may have done or hunting for words they can find on a page. Teachers have other ideas to use books that will build skills so ask if you want more help. Remember a good book can always be read more than once!

INQUIRY

We have begun by getting to know who we are and where we belong. Thanks to all parents who have returned the information sheets about their child they are so useful in building a relationship with each child.

Special points of interest:

- *Safe Walking begins in Week 5 with Constable Andrews*
- *Parent Meeting 26 February*
- *Arty Afternoon start in Week 4 on Tuesdays*
- *Art Deco Picnic 21 February*
- *Ash Wednesday Liturgy 5 March*
- *Junior Athletics 27 March*
- *Estuary Walk 9 April*
- *St Patrick's Day Mass 17 March 2pm*

Interviews to discuss your child's progress in relation to National Standards will be throughout the year depending on your child's birthday. Class teachers will contact you to make an appointment. Children who have had their birthdays already this year will be contacted in March when teachers have more information to share.

We look forward to getting to know your child and their family throughout this year. Never hesitate to contact your child's teacher. It is only when we know something that we can do something about an issue.

May God always bless you and your family

Nikki Thompson A1
Raewyn Williams A2
Wendy Nikolaison A3
Ashleigh Ennor M5
Jan Bevan A4