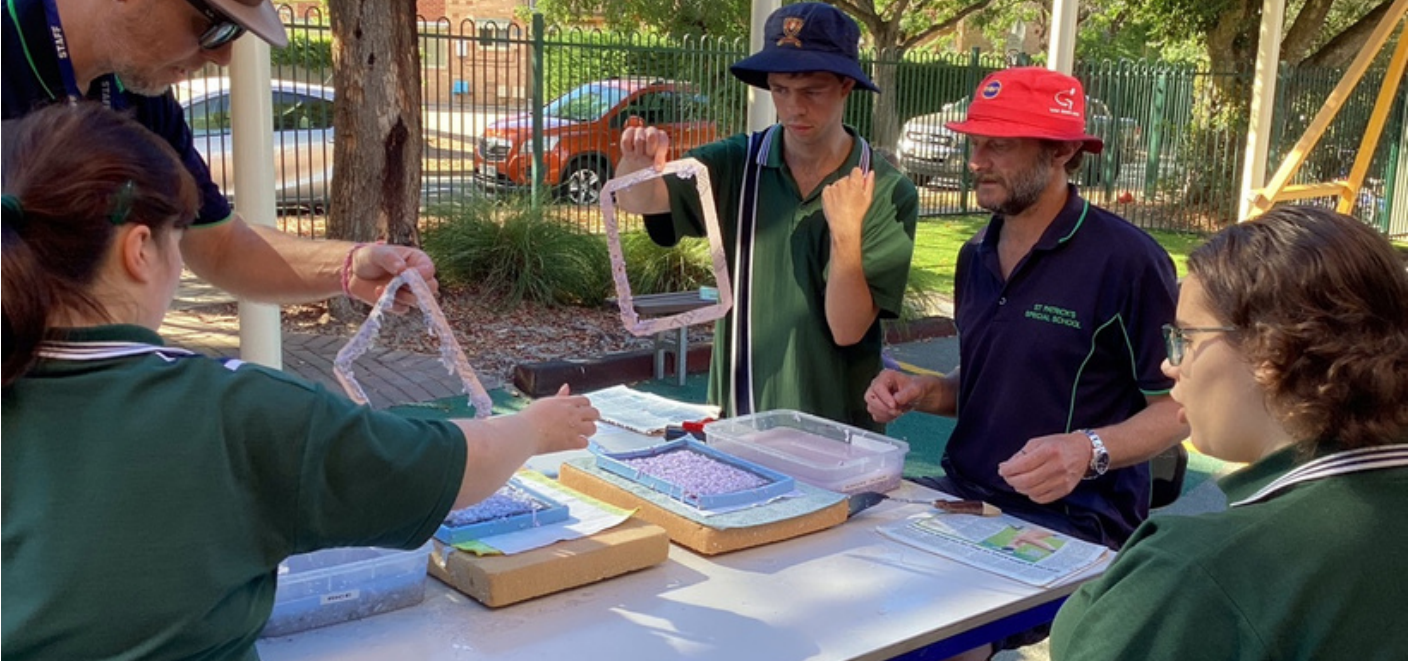




ST PATRICK'S SPECIAL SCHOOL

WWW.STPATS.CATHOLIC.EDU.AU

MARCH 15, 2024



Dear Families

As we find ourselves already halfway through what has proven to be a busy and warm term, I want to extend my gratitude to you for your active participation in your child's education. Your commitment to attending meetings with your child's teacher to discuss their Personalised Plan for Learning (PPL) demonstrates the invaluable partnership between home and school that is crucial for the success and well-being of our students. Your insights and input are so important in our approach to meeting the unique needs and abilities of each child.

I want to take this opportunity to remind you that the conversation remains open. Whether it's regarding your child's learning progress, health, or well-being, please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher at any time. Your ongoing involvement and feedback play a vital role in ensuring that we provide the best possible support.

Looking ahead, I am excited to announce that next Thursday, Father James will be leading our first Mass of the school year. This occasion will also provide us with an opportunity to celebrate St Patrick's Day, which is this Sunday. As we

From the Principal

continue our journey through the season of Lent, let us be mindful of its significance as a time of prayer, fasting, and acts of kindness towards others. It is a time for reflection and for making a positive impact in the lives of those around us.

During this Lenten season, I am continually inspired by the remarkable work of Caritas Australia and the stories they share of individuals facing adversity around the world. One such story that has deeply touched me is that of Biru. I encourage you to take a moment to read about Biru's journey and the challenges he has overcome. His story serves as a powerful reminder of the resilience of the human spirit and the importance of compassion and solidarity in our global community.

<https://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion/biru-story/>

Thank you once again for your unwavering support and partnership. Together, we can make a meaningful difference in the lives of our students and in the world around us.

Warm regards,

Cathy

God of Hope

We pray for our world with all its beauty and need. We thank you for the love in our lives that is a mirror of your unending love.

May all creation know your compassion this Lent, and may we take the courage to share it, especially with those who don't have what they need.

In our time, we hear the same words you spoke to Moses: 'I will be with you,' when you ask us to do courageous things. Through our prayer, fasting and almsgiving, move us to act in the company of your Spirit. Showing compassion and acting for justice, to renew the face of the Earth, now and for all future generations. We ask this in Christ's name.

Amen



Fourth Week of Lent (Week beginning Monday 11 March)



Memory is 26 years old and lives in rural Malawi. As the eldest child in a low-income farming family, Memory had to take on many household chores and farming activities to support her parents. They struggled to pay for Memory's school fees and school supplies, and Memory often had to walk to school barefooted.

With the support of Caritas Australia and its partner the Catholic Development Commission in Malawi (CADECOM), Memory was able to enrol at a technical college where she learnt technical skills in carpentry. She undertook a three-year carpentry course, with CADECOM supporting part of her tuition and boarding fees.

Memory became the first female carpenter from her village. Today, she works as a carpenter at one of Malawi's largest hydroelectric power stations. With the income from her job, she can provide financial support to her family and inspire other young women in her community so that they may have the opportunity to succeed in a male-dominated industry.

Watch [Memory's Story](#)

Please donate to Project Compassion.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow, **for all future generations**.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes, online by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

Photo: Tim Lam/Caritas Australia



St Patrick

This weekend the church celebrates a great saint, St Patrick, a saint whose name is surely written in heaven. While he accomplished much in establishing the church in Ireland, and Irish immigrants have taken that message to so many parts of the world, including our own country, St Patrick's life was not an easy one. The only way he could have mustered the courage was surely to live each day with Christ 'behind me, in me, beneath me, above me, on my right, on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ when I arise, in the heart of every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me (St Patrick's Breastplate). May we arise with this breastplate of his, knowing that God's strength will guide us on our journey.



Last week as part of our Environment (HASS) unit of work and our current focus on recycling, students from the Blue, Purple and White classes heard from our KESAB guest and partook in a fun recycling relay challenge. Students sorted items of rubbish and ran across the hall to deposit them in the correct coloured bin, either green (organics), yellow (recyclables) or red (landfill). This activity followed on from the work we have done in class looking at refusing, reducing, reusing and lastly recycling. Students have loved interacting with this topic and seeing what actions we can take now for the environment, both at school and at home. We have also borrowed a papermaking kit for the next week and classes are enjoying recycling old paper into new sheets of rough coloured paper.

Pete Gunson - Teacher





VARIETY BOWLING CARNIVAL

Last week some of the middle and senior students attended an Inclusive Bowling Carnival at Zone Bowling Cross Road. Variety the Children's Charity funded the event and it was a brilliant opportunity to enjoy some bowling and partner with some other local schools. St. Patrick's students played two games throughout the day and there were strikes and spares galore!

Maddi Ross - Senior Teacher



WHITE CLASS @
We Rock The Spectrum
KID'S GYM
For All Kids





DIARY DATES 2023

Friday 15 March

- Students invited to wear green to celebrate St Patrick's Day

Thursday 21 March

- Kyton's Bakery delivery
- Welcome Mass /St Patrick's Day Celebration @ 9.30am
- Parent Morning Tea @ 10.15am

Friday 22 March

- Senior Parent Morning Tea 9-10am

Tuesday 26 March

- Master Plan Community Consultation 5-6pm
- School Expo 6-8pm

Friday 29 March

- Public Holiday - Good Friday

Monday 1 April

- Public Holiday -Easter Monday

Friday 12 April

- School term ends 3pm

TERM 2

Monday 29 April

- Professional Development Day (Pupil Free Day)

Tuesday 30 April

- Students return to school

Friday 7 June

- Professional Development Day (Pupil Free Day)

Friday 5 July

- School term ends 3pm

Shoe Modification

Footwear to suit individual needs can sometimes be challenging to find. Ollie Ashenden Children's Shoes recently shared information on Facebook that may be of interest to our school community:



Ollie Ashenden Children's Shoes

11 h · 🌐

Another excellent left foot build up by [Richard Libba](#) at Ideal Shoe Repair on Hutt Street for one of our NDIS customers.

If you have NDIS funding for supportive footwear we can help with shoes, plus organise shoe modifications if you need them with Richard, and we are able to invoice your plan management company directly.

He also does a great job converting lace up shoes to velcro if your child has issues with fine motor skills/tying laces and has outgrown velcro styles.



ST PATRICK'S SPECIAL SCHOOL

EXPLO 2024

DISCOVER THE POSSIBILITIES

TUESDAY
26 MARCH, 2024
6 - 8 PM

Address
13 Warwick Ave
Dulwich

Welcome & St Patrick's Day
Celebration

ST PATRICK'S SPECIAL SCHOOL
March 21, 9:30 am

MORNING TEA
10:15 am

Please RSVP infoestpats.catholic.edu.au by Monday
March, 18.



direct collect

Direct Collect is a bin collection service providing St Patrick's Special School with a dedicated bin for 10¢ refundable bottles, cans and containers. If you would like to contribute refundable bottles and cans, please place them in the blue bin at the front of the school office.



Bus Phone Numbers



Red Bus:
0407 606 950

Green Bus:
0417 821 292

Rainbow Bus:
0406 829 513



The Southern Cross

Part of your Catholic family since 1867

Living Catholic

For the latest CESA Covid-19 updates:
<https://www.cesa.catholic.edu.au/alerts> and
<https://www.facebook.com/CatholicEducationSA/>