



ST BERNADETTE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

TERM 1, WEEK 8 - 22 MARCH 2018

NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PRINCIPAL.....

Dear Parents,

Thanks to all the parents and grandparents, who were able to join us during Catholic Schools Week. We had a wonderful time, which started with a beautiful Mass and a special blessing. Then of course we had a 60th Birthday cake for our school's anniversary, where we all sang Happy Birthday and Liam (K) and Angelique (Year 6) blew out candles. We had many visitors to the classrooms. The birthday surprises continued after morning tea, with games, movies, a treat bag and a special commemorative bookmark for the children. It was a great day and a happy celebration of 60 years of wonderful Catholic Education at St Bernadette's Primary School.



Next week the children and teachers will commemorate the events of Holy Week. This will be achieved through Project Based Learning. These reflections tell the story of Christ's last journey, which took him from a celebratory entrance into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, to his death on the cross at Calvary.

As members of a Catholic faith community, I encourage you to talk with your children about the meaning and importance of this special time and to make every effort to come along as a family to the Parish celebrations over Holy Week and Easter. Let us come together in prayer to prepare for and celebrate the peace, joy and hope which comes to us through the Risen Lord!

***"Greater love than this no man hath,
that a man lay down his life for his friends".***

John 15:13

As Easter approaches, on behalf of the staff at St Bernadette's Primary school, I wish every family a Holy and Happy Easter.

Wishing you God's blessings

Mary Ann Gatt-Petrini
Principal



**Our attendance
percentage to date is:
94.5%**

Cox Crescent, Dundas Valley 2117
Phone: 8846 2600 | Facsimile: 8846 2699
Email: dundasvalley@parra.catholic.edu.au
Website: www.stbernadettesdundas.catholic.edu.au


Parish: Father Christopher Sharah
Phone: 9871 4414 | Facsimile: 9871 1151
Website: friarsofstfrancis.org

| | | | |
|------------------------|----------------|------------|----------|
| <u>TOMORROW</u> | School Banking | Class Mass | Assembly |
| <u>FRIDAY 23 MARCH</u> | 8:30am | Year 1 | 2:30pm |

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES FOR WEEKS 9 AND 10

| | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|--|--|--|
| <u>WEEK 9</u> | | <u>WEDNESDAY</u> <u>28 MARCH</u> * Linda's Lunches due 9:30am | <u>THURSDAY</u> <u>29 MARCH</u> * Gymnastics * RLA Part B 2:15pm | <u>FRIDAY</u> <u>30 MARCH</u> * Public Holiday Good Friday |
| <u>WEEK 10</u> | <u>MONDAY 2 APRIL</u> * Public Holiday Easter Monday | <u>WEDNESDAY</u> <u>4 APRIL</u> * Linda's Lunches due 9:30am | <u>THURSDAY</u> <u>5 APRIL</u> * Gymnastics | <u>FRIDAY 6 APRIL</u> * School Banking 8:30am * Whole School Mass * Assembly 2:30pm |

LITURGY ROSTER

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| SCHOOL MASSES | <u>Friday 23 March</u> <u>Class Mass Year 1</u> Justine M, Rick A, Samuel F | <u>Friday 6 April</u> <u>Whole School</u> <u>Mass Year 4</u> Xavier R, Lucas R, Liam M, Justine M | |  |
| WEEKEND MASSES | <u>Saturday 24 March</u> <u>6:00pm</u> Rick A, Bartosz L | <u>Sunday 25 March</u> <u>8:00am</u> <u>PALM SUNDAY</u> Liam M <u>Sunday 25 March</u> <u>9:30am</u> <u>PALM SUNDAY</u> Brandon N, Isabella E, Lucas R, Xavier R | <u>Friday 30 March</u> <u>GOOD FRIDAY</u> <u>STATIONS</u> <u>10:00am</u> Daniel M, Jeremy F, Isabella E, Brandon N <u>GOOD FRIDAY</u> <u>LORDS PASSION</u> <u>3:00pm</u> Xavier R, Justine M, Jessica E, Sam F | <u>Saturday 31 March</u> <u>7:30pm</u> <u>EASTER VIGIL</u> Xavier R, Rick A, Brandon N, Daniel M. <u>Sunday 1 April</u> <u>9:30am</u> <u>EASTER SUNDAY</u> Sam F, Jeremy F |

EASTER MASS TIMES at ST BERNADETTE'S PARISH

Holy Thursday

Mass of the
Lords Supper -
29 March at 7:00pm

Good Friday

Stations of the Cross -
30 March at 10:30am

Celebrations of the
Lords Passion -
30 March at 3:00pm

Easter Saturday

Easter Vigil -
31 March at 7:30pm

Easter Sunday

Easter Mass -
1 April at 9:30am



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE PREVIEW

Sunday, March 25 2018: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord - Year B

Mark 14:1 – 15:47

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord”

This Sunday, called Palm or Passion Sunday, is the first day of Holy Week. Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday are called the Triduum—three days that are the highlight of the Church year. There are two Gospels proclaimed at today's Mass. The first Gospel, proclaimed before the procession with palms, tells of Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem. Riding on a borrowed colt, Jesus was hailed by the crowds as they blessed God and shouted “Hosanna!” This event is reported in each of the four Gospels.

At the Liturgy of the Word on Palm Sunday, the events of Jesus' passion are proclaimed in their entirety. If we look at the readings that the Church proposes to us for each week of the liturgical calendar, we can have a sense of fragmentation, of small passages of scripture given to us to think about. Many of the Sunday Gospels relate individual parables of Jesus or particular incidents of the preaching and public mission. But when we come to Passion Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday, there is a much more coherent, detailed and confronting account of the events leading to Good Friday and Easter Sunday. This year, the formal reading is ‘the passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark’.

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HOLY WEEK

RLA Part B

This Sunday, Palm Sunday we commence Holy Week. Holy Week is a very sacred time of the year, as we commemorate and remember the last week of Jesus' life on this earth. The greatest focus of the week is the Passion and Resurrection of Jesus Christ and the events that led up to it.

At St Bernadette's all students from Kindergarten to Year 6 will focus on one Scripture passage from their Easter Triduum Unit and will create a Religious Literacy Assessment project. We invite all of you to view our RLA Part B Holy Week displays from 2:15pm on Holy Thursday, March 29.

Wishing all of you a restful and blessed Easter break.

Mary Elliott
Religious Education Co-Ordinator



SCHOOL NEWS

2018 NSW SCHOOL HOLIDAYS AND TERM DATES

Term 1

Concludes Friday 13th April

School Holidays: Saturday, 14 April 2018 - Monday, 30 April 2018

Term 2

Tuesday, 1 May 2018 - Friday, 6 July 2018 (10 weeks)

School Holidays: Saturday, 7 July 2018 - Sunday, 22 July 2018

Term 3

Monday, 23 July 2018 - Friday, 28 September 2018 (10 weeks)

School Holidays: Saturday, 29 September 2018 - Sunday, 14 October 2018

Term 4

Monday, 15 October 2018 - Wednesday, 19 December 2018 (10 weeks)

These dates were correct at the time of printing.



STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

Term 2

Monday, 30 April - Staff Development Day and Pupil Free Day.

Tuesday 1 May - All students resume school.

ENROLMENTS

Enrolment packages are available now for children starting school in 2019. If you have a child or know of any children who are beginning school next year, please let their parents know that enrolment packages are available at the school office or website. <http://www.stbernadettesdundas.catholic.edu.au/Enrol-Now>

Sibling Expression of Interest

Families who already have a child at St Bernadette's and who wish to enrol a sibling into Kindergarten in 2019 are asked to contact the school office and an enrolment pack will be sent to you or you can download a copy from the school website. We ask that all completed forms be returned to the school office as soon as possible. Thank you for your cooperation.

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS



It is very important that we have parents up-to-date contact numbers. If you have changed your mobile number or moved house - please let us have your new information.

ATTENDANCE - EVERY STUDENT EVERY DAY COUNTS

Thank you to all families who continue to support the school and their child's education by ensuring that their child attends every possible day at school. Absence from school due to illness is totally understandable. When children are sick, they need to be at home and return to school when they have recovered.

Unnecessary absences though, directly affect the learning of the students. Parents are asked to keep this in mind especially as we move towards Easter and school holidays periods. To maximise your child's learning, additional days for holidays at this time should be kept to a minimum.



STAFFING NEWS

Please note that Mrs Gatt-Petrini will be taking a year's long service leave starting in Term 3 this year.

The Catholic Education Office will be selecting an Acting Principal to lead St Bernadette's during this time.

EASTER RAFFLE

It is time for the annual St Bernadette's Easter Raffle! All money raised will go towards the end of year school gift presented by Year 6. We ask all families to bring in Easter eggs or Easter gifts of any shape and size as a donation towards the Easter Raffle.



Tickets will go on sale before school, at recess and lunch for 20c each or 3 for 50c. As long as your child purchases a ticket they are guaranteed to win a prize!

PRINCIPAL AWARDS

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| KINDERGARTEN Joshua J | YEAR 1 Ella T | YEAR 2 Lucy F | YEAR 3 Youran D |
| YEAR 4 Jessica E | YEAR 5 Jessica K | YEAR 6 Leah N | <i>Congratulations!</i> |



Brydie C - 22/3

Anthony D - 28/3

Yvonne C - 22/3

Eva L - 2/4

Timothy G - 24/3

Francesco M - 3/4

Samara C - 25/3

Jerome B - 4/4

Emily H - 26/3

Lauren T - 5/4

LEARNING MATTERS

HOW TO HELP OUR CHILDREN IMPROVE THEIR VOCABULARY

Helping our children become expert authors begins with perfecting their oral language. Being able to express yourself clearly so that you are easily understood by others is the basis of communication and socialization. Equipping our children with a large bank of words will put them in good stead as they begin to record their ideas on paper.

Here are a few suggestions of fun things to do at home to build your child's vocabulary in a fun way.

1. Cultivate a fascination with words

Fostering kids' interest in words encourages a lifelong habit of noticing new ones and retaining them.

2. Become (better than) a walking dictionary

It's not realistic to teach your child the meaning of every new word they hear as they will tire of this really quickly. Choose one or two crucial words to highlight. A straight forward definition when the word arises works best.

3. Work vocabulary into conversation and play

The interactions you have with your children daily are prime opportunities for vocabulary reinforcement. Using higher order words when having 'a chat' will begin to put these words into context which children will store for use in future compositions.

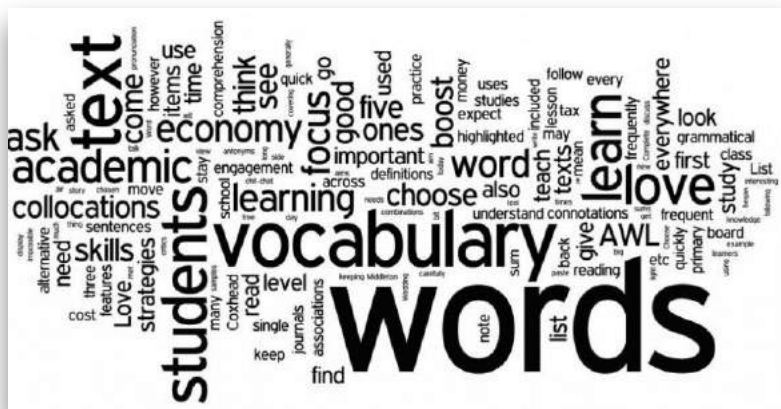
4. Play word games

At a word building level games like Boggle or Scrabble will make learning new words fun.

Making learning fun is the best way to encourage and inspire our children to take risks and make progress.

Lisa Gerrard

Assistant Principal



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Throughout the year I will be sharing with you what we are doing in class in regards to unpacking Scripture passages. We as a school are using the Parramatta CEO model, the 'Senses of Scripture', which is broken down into 3 areas - Literal, Spiritual and Application. Today I provide an overview of the 'Senses of Scripture'. On various occasions, in upcoming newsletters I will be providing you with ideas to discuss with your children in reference to the Sunday Gospels.

Level 1: Literal Sense

Who? What? When? Where? Why?

- Geographical context
- Historical Context

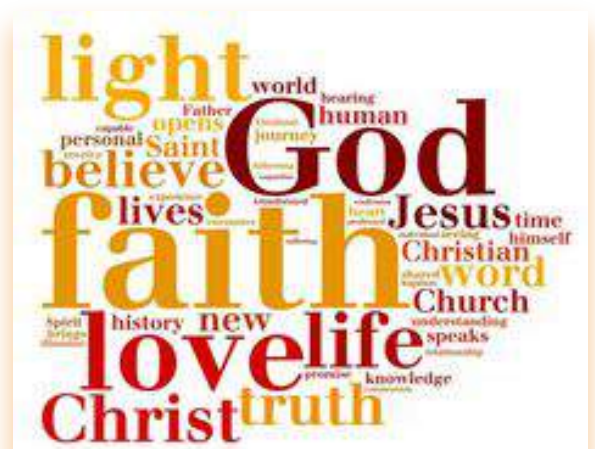
Level 2: Spiritual Sense

- What is revealed about God in this passage
- What is revealed about Jesus in this passage
- What is revealed about the Holy Spirit in this passage
- What symbols might need explaining
- Catholic Church teachings practice and tradition referenced in this passage
- Sacraments in the passage
- Morals, Catholic Values
- How does this passage guide us in our path to Heaven

Level 3: Application Sense

Applying the Literal and Spiritual Sense

- What does this call me to do in my life?
- How do I love God and my neighbour?
- Prayer
- Words
- Thoughts
- Actions



CHILDREN'S CORNER

YEAR 3

Year 3 have been very busy working on their writing skills. They have been writing a persuasive text around the topic, "Homework is a waste of time". We received a lot of very good points of view on the topic from our students. We hope you enjoy reading them!

Lots of people think that homework is not a waste of time. I definitely think that homework is a waste of time. **Lucas N**

Some people think homework can help us but I strongly believe it's a waste of time! **Ryan R**

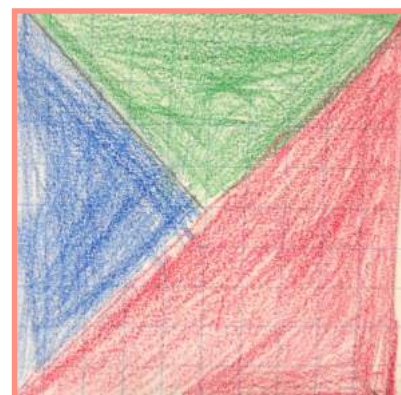
If you do homework you can't read! Reading can help you learn too! Plus you already learned at school. My favourite thing to do is read. If I miss out on reading I will be double sad and angry. **Youran D**

Finally, some people like me have activities after school and for me on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday my family has something to do, so at night or when I wake up I have to do my homework. **Angelica B**

Therefore, I firmly believe that homework is a waste of time because I miss out on a lot of things. What do you think? **Francesco M**

YEAR 3 MATHS WORK

Design a flag that is $\frac{1}{4}$ one colour, $\frac{1}{4}$ another colour and half a third colour. What might the flag look like?



EXTRA CURRICULUM

ICAS

It's that time of the year when we offer the Years 2 – 6 students of St Bernadette's the opportunity to participate in the ICAS competition.

A note with the dates and times etc was sent home with your child today.

We ask that the note and the money is returned to school by next
Wednesday March 28th.

This will ensure that all interested can be entered by the due date. No late entries please to avoid disappointment.

The competition dates are:

- Digital Technologies – May 8th, 2018
- Science – May 29th, 2018
- English – July 31st, 2018
- Mathematics – August 14th, 2018

Lisa Gerrard

Assistant Principal

PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE 2018

The Premier's Reading Challenge is a NSW Government initiative that encourages children from Kindergarten to Year 9 to read a variety of good quality literature over a sustained period of time. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely.

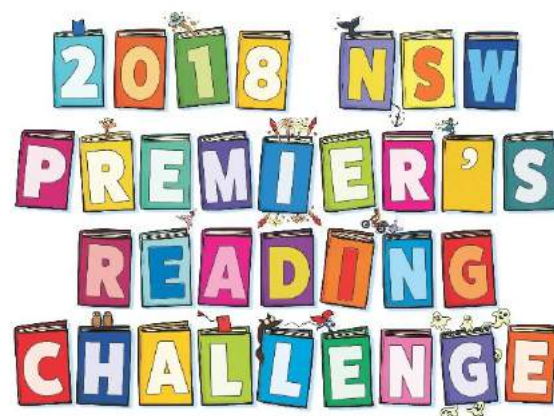
The 2018 Challenge started on **Monday 5 March** and closes **Friday 31 August** (midnight) for **students**. Students must complete their online Student Reading Records by this date.

Books read from 1 September 2017 can count towards the 2018 Challenge.

Participation in the challenge is optional.

To experience a book a child can listen to the book being read to them, participate in a shared reading of the book or read part or all of the book independently.

Further information is available on the website at:
<https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>



www.premiersreadingchallenge.nsw.edu.au

You must read a certain number of books to complete the Challenge:

| Challenge | Number of books you must read | Minimum number of PRC books | Maximum number of Personal Choice books |
|-----------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| K-2 | 30 | 25 | 5 |
| 3-4 | 20 | 15 | 5 |
| 5-6 | 20 | 15 | 5 |

Please fill in the form below if your child will be participating in the Premier's Reading Challenge for 2018 and return it to school by next **Wednesday March 28th**.

Premiers Reading Challenge 2018

My child _____ in _____(class)

My child _____ in _____(class)

My child _____ in _____(class)

My child _____ in _____(class)

will be participating in the Premier's Reading Challenge for 2018. I understand that I will need to enter my child's reading log online once the password is made available to me.

- ☐ This is the first time my child has participated in the PRC. *(The user name and password will be given after I have registered the students)*
- ☐ My child participated in the PRC in 2017 and has a login and password.
- ☐ My child participated in the PRC in 2017 but needs a login and password.
- ☐ My child participated in the PRC in 2017 at another school.

Signed: _____

Thankyou for your continued support.
Mrs Halina Levenets



P & F NEWS

Coming soon!

Mother's Group - starting Term 2



Do you have a baby, toddler or preschooler at home?
If so, you are most welcome to bring them along to our brand new Mother's group!
We'll be meeting every Monday during term time from 9:30am till 11:00am.
Starting Monday 7th May (Week 2 of Term 2) in the Hall.

Come along for a morning cuppa and a chat while your little ones play.
It's a great way to meet other mums, get out of the house and keep the kids occupied.
If you have any questions please call Margaret on 0424 756 449.

2nd HAND UNIFORM

St Bernadette's run a 2nd hand clothing pool managed by a school parent. If you require any items, please text Cathy Nagy 0416 048 169 providing name (of student or parent), size, item and quantity. The items will then be pulled out of stock and held in the school office. A text message will be sent advising what's available and when it's ready for collection. Please pay directly at the school office.

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|--|
| Tracksuit Pants - \$5 | Girls Winter Tunic - \$15 | Boys Winter Pants - \$10 | Boys and Girls Ties - \$2 |
| Jackets - \$10 | Girls Winter Shirts - \$5 | Boys Winter Shirts - \$5 | Hats - \$2 |
| Sport shorts and shirts - \$5 | Girls Summer Dresses - \$10 | Boys Summer shorts and shirts - \$5 | School Bag - \$10 Excursion Bag/Library Bag - \$2 |

WE ARE NOW IN THE FINAL DAYS TO COLLECT OUR SPORTS IN SCHOOLS VOUCHERS. THE LAST DAY TO HAND YOUR VOUCHERS IN WILL BE TUESDAY 3 APRIL 2018. THANK YOU TO EVERYBODY FOR PUTTING IN THE EFFORT TO COLLECT THE VOUCHERS FOR OUR SCHOOL.



Many thanks to all the Kindergarten parents to supplied green goodies for the St Patrick's Day Morning Tea. Many thanks to all the mums and dads, who came and served on the day. Thanks also to Mrs Katherine Cicala for facilitating this community event. \$351.00 was raised.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

2018 Lenten Message from Bishop Vincent

To read Bishop Vincent's Lenten Message in full and watch the video, please visit: goo.gl/2F77m9

Walk the Lenten Journey on your mobile phone

The Xt3 Lent Calendar App 2018 is available for download on Apple and Android devices (search for Xt3 Lent) and can be viewed from the website: www.xt3.com/lent

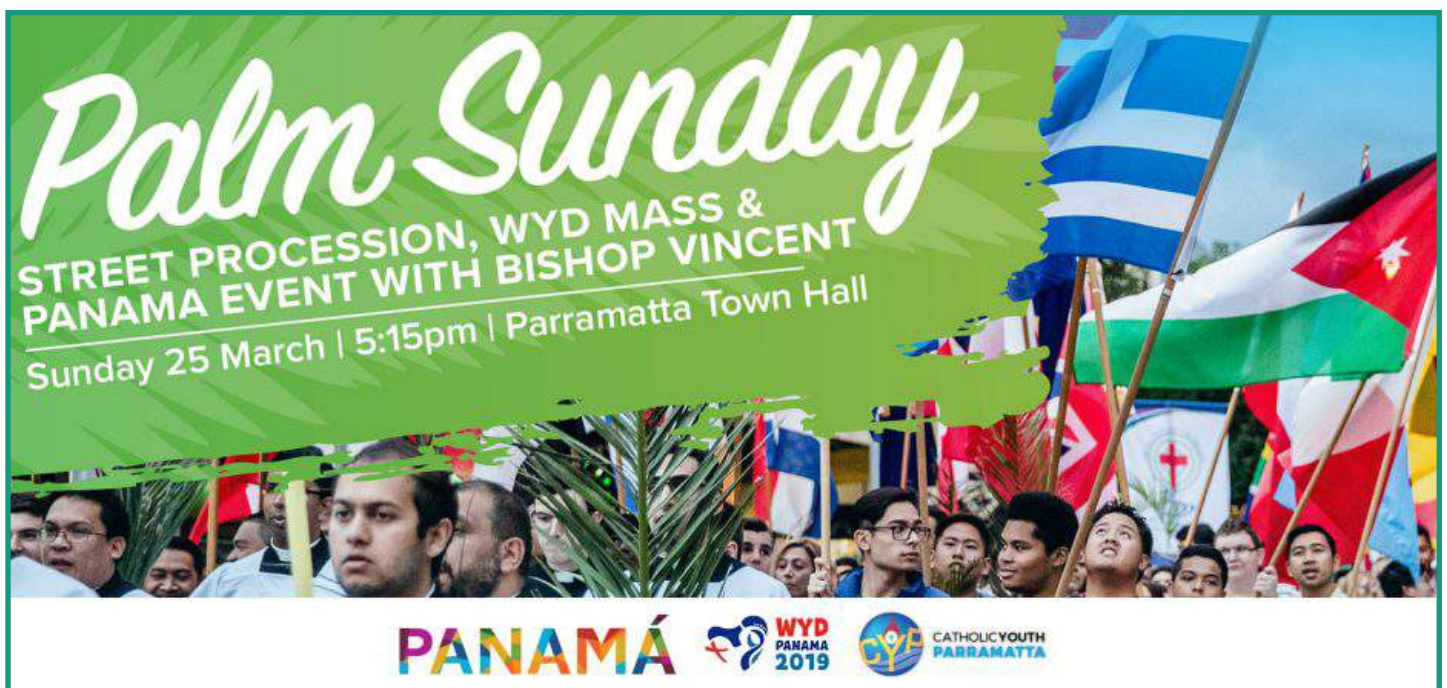
The Lent calendar will run from Ash Wednesday to Divine Mercy Sunday. Each day will unlock a new video, meditation or podcast, to help you prayerfully journey through Lent. The theme for the Xt3 Lent Calendar 2018 is *"Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus."*

Palm Sunday Procession: 25 March

Catholic Youth Parramatta are hosting the annual Palm Sunday Procession. Starting at Parramatta Town Hall on Sunday 25th March at 5:15pm and walking to St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Details at: parracatholic.org/cyp

Good Friday Night Walk: 30 March

Catholic Youth Parramatta are hosting the annual Good Friday Night Walk. Starting Friday 30th March at 10:00pm from St Patrick's Church, Blacktown and finishing at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Details at: parracatholic.org/cyp



COMMUNITY NEWS



Build your own iPhone app these school holidays!

More than 30,000 Australian kids have loved Code Camp

Been before?
Try our new camp

Blast 3D



Camps we offer at Code Camp

Sponsored by Westpac

Powered by hp

Little League

Ages 5-6

2 days of fun where our littlest coders make the first small, but important steps to becoming creators of technology, not just consumers.



Spark

Ages 7-12

3-4 days of creativity, design, fun and coding. Our most popular Code Camp where every child aged 7 and above starts their coding journey.



Ignite

Ages 7-12

Ignite is for those who have conquered Spark or who already have a coding experience elsewhere. They'll build their own top-down adventure game!



Blast 3D

New!

Ages 8-13

Brand new for 2018, your kids will immerse themselves in a 3D world of their creation! Unlock the next level of their coding adventure at Code Camp Blast 3D.



Book now at:

www.codecamp.com.au

Give us a call on:

1300 263 322

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