



# St Patrick's School Newsletter

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5<sup>th</sup> February 2025



St Patrick's Primary School, Wangaratta, would like to acknowledge the Yorta Yorta Nation, whose clans include Bangerang (Pangerang) Kaitheban, Wollithiga, Moira Ulupna, Kwat Kwat, Yalaba Yalaba and Ngurai-illiam-wurrung, as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which our school is situated.



Dear Parents,

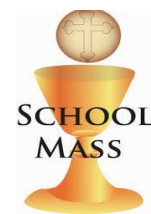
Wow - what an amazing start to St Patrick's Primary School year 2025!

We welcomed 28 new Foundation students and numerous other students at various year levels. The start of a new school year always brings a great energy with a sense of anticipation, excitement and at times, a few nerves. It is the opportunity for new beginnings, a time to rekindle dreams and aspirations or perhaps a chance for a fresh start. This week saw our community at its best! Before school even officially began the staff in all areas of the school were busy ensuring learning spaces, resources, programs and systems were all in place for a smooth start. We thank the staff for their work during the holiday period to ensure we were in great shape for the arrival of our students last Thursday and Friday. We have much to be grateful for as we begin this 2025 school year together.

I welcome Ms Markeeta Green to our staff this year. We are very lucky to have Mardy's knowledge and experience in the junior team.

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This Friday 9.30am is the opening of our school year Mass. I would love to see as many parents, grandparents, family or friends join us in this wonderful celebration acknowledging our new students and all our wonderful Year 6 leaders.



Our first Assembly for this year will commence on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February at 2.45pm.

I look forward to working with and for you this year, but most of all, having lots of fun.

Take Care Everyone,

*Arn*

*Christ beside me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ within me,  
Christ beneath me, Christ above me.*

**Saint Patrick**

## Updates:-

### Save the date!



We have organised a private gathering at the Gateway Hotel on **February 21st from 5:00pm to 6:30pm (by the pool deck)** as an opportunity to connect with one another. This event will provide an excellent chance to meet new families, reconnect with old friends, and enjoy a pleasant afternoon event together.

We understand this date will not suit everyone. There will be further opportunities throughout the year for us to get together.

### Meet and Greet

It was great to catch up with many of you whilst attending Meet and Greet. We are most appreciative of your attendance at these meetings.

### Pupil Free days

This year, I am happy to announce YMCA will provide their holiday program for our students when we have Pupil Free days, starting this term. Our first Pupil Free day is on Tuesday 1st April (last week of term).

### Caritas

Check out the Caritas website, St Patricks is shining brightly on their project compassion page. In the words of Catholic Identity leader, Ms Janina Rinaldi “.... you know you have made it when you're on the Project Compassion page!!!! ” LOL. Well done (our students are in the feature photo scooping buckets of water whilst participating in Caritas K's.)



### Immunisation Forms

Just a reminder for parents to send a copy of their child's Immunisation Form to the office. This is a government requirement.

## Second Hand Uniform Stall

We will be holding our first second hand Uniform stall next Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February at 3.15pm. Donations of old school uniforms are welcome. All items of clothing are \$2.00.

## Zooper Doopers

Every year we sell Zooper Doopers to raise money for CARITAS. We will be selling them Thursdays and Fridays at recess, starting this Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2025. Zooper Doopers will be 50c each.



## Volunteers



We will be hosting a volunteer information session on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February. We will be holding a session at 9.00am and 3.30pm in the school staffroom. Please familiarise yourself with the Child Safe policies housed on our school website.

## Safe on Social Information Evening

Kirra Pendergast, the leading international expert, in Online Safe attending our school on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February. She will hold an information session during the day with students from Years 3-6 and staff. A parent evening will be held in the hall at 6.00pm. This will run for approximately one hour. If you would like to read more about Kirra please check out website [www.safeonsocial.com](http://www.safeonsocial.com)

## PAM can be accessed by this website:

<https://pam.spwangeratta.catholic.edu.au/Login/Default.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f>

## Facebook



Another way to keep in touch is to follow our Facebook page. Just search St Patrick's Primary School Wangaratta to find us.

## YMCA - Contact Details



To contact the YMCA After School Care Program please use the following:  
Email: [StPatricksWangaratta@ymca.org.au](mailto:StPatricksWangaratta@ymca.org.au)  
Phone: 0477449997 - Annette Monshing – ASC Co-ordinator

## Mass Times



Saturday 4.00pm Our Lady's  
Saturday 6.00pm St Patrick's  
Sunday 8.00am St Patrick's  
Sunday 9.00am Our Lady's  
Sunday 10.30am St Patrick's  
Sunday 5.00pm St Patrick's  
Sunday 10.00am Moyhu  
Sunday 10.00am Whitfield (1st Sunday)

Facebook Page: Catholic Parishes of Wangaratta

# DATES TO REMEMBER

February	7 <sup>th</sup>	-	9.30am Beginning Year Mass
	12 <sup>th</sup>	-	Foundation Rest Day
	13 <sup>th</sup>	-	9.00am Volunteers Information Session
	13 <sup>th</sup>	-	3.15pm – 3.45pm Second Hand Uniform Stall
	13 <sup>th</sup>	-	3.30pm Volunteers Information Session
	14 <sup>th</sup>	-	<b>2.45pm First Assembly for 2025</b>
	19 <sup>th</sup>	-	6.00pm Save on Media Information Session
	19 <sup>th</sup>	-	Foundation Rest Day
	21 <sup>st</sup>	-	5.00pm Gateway Gathering
	26 <sup>th</sup>	-	Foundation Rest Day
March	4 <sup>th</sup>	-	Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day)
	5 <sup>th</sup>	-	Ash Wednesday
	5 <sup>th</sup>	-	Foundation Rest Day
	10 <sup>th</sup>	-	Labour Day Public Holiday
	11 <sup>th</sup>	-	Foundations Commence Full Weeks
	17 <sup>th</sup>	-	St Patrick's Day
	26 <sup>th</sup>	-	School Photos
April	1 <sup>st</sup>	-	<b>PUPIL FREE DAY</b>
	4 <sup>th</sup>	-	1.30pm Easter Assembly (Easter Raffle Draw)
	4 <sup>th</sup>	-	<b>2.30pm End of Term</b>
	21 <sup>st</sup>	-	Easter Monday
	22 <sup>nd</sup>	-	<b>PUPIL FREE DAY</b>
	23 <sup>rd</sup>	-	<b>PUPIL FREE DAY</b>
	24 <sup>th</sup>	-	<b>PUPIL FREE DAY</b>
	25 <sup>th</sup>	-	ANZAC Day Holiday
	28 <sup>th</sup>	-	9.00am Students Commence Term 2

## Volunteers

**\*\*Save the Date - Thursday, February 13th at 9:00am or 3:30pm \*\***

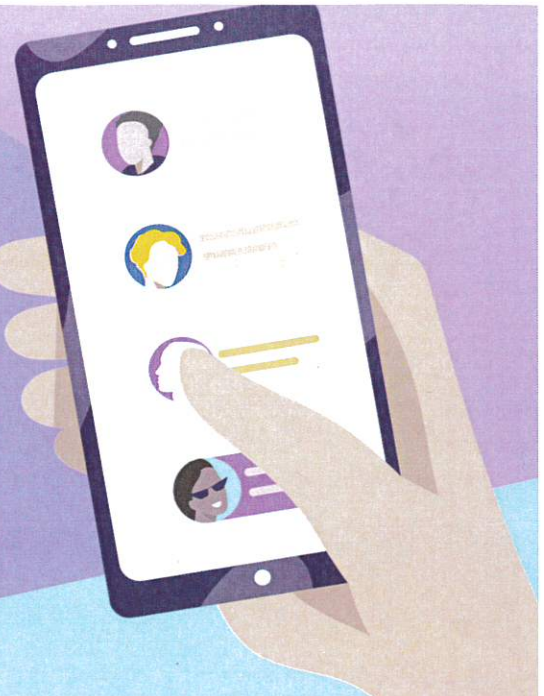
We invite all parents interested in volunteering at our school to attend one of the scheduled meetings. Opportunities for involvement include:

- Reading and Mathematics groups
- Excursions
- Incursions
- Physical Education events
- Music events



# PARENT & CARER PRESENTATION

We are here to help you prepare your kids for their future not our past



Here is just some of what we will cover:

- Terms and Conditions Explained - Get to know what you're signing up for.
- Safeguard Your Personal Data - Understand the importance of keeping personal information private in this age of GenAI and other emerging technologies.
- Nurturing Respect - Online Relationships in the Age of Sextortion, Sexting, Image-based Abuse.
- Spotting Online Grooming - Learn how to identify potential threats, and what to do.
- Scams, Hoaxes, Deepfakes, and Misinformation - Understanding how to differentiate between fact and fiction.
- Better Group Chat Management - Strategies to keep group chats enjoyable and drama-free.
- Say no to Cyberbullying and yes to Building Online Resilience.
- How to share photos online with respect for our kids privacy.
- Protect Against Identity Theft.
- Legal Responsibilities Online.
- Safe and respectful Online Gaming.
- Create a Positive Online Presence.

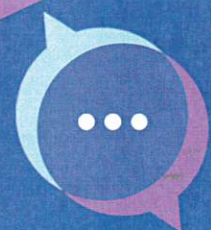
Join us and learn to thrive online with safety, responsibility, and joy.

[safeonsocial.com](https://safeonsocial.com)

DATE: 19<sup>th</sup> February

TIME: 6pm

Please note this presentation is for ages 18+



**safe on social**  
education and consulting



⊕ STARTS FEBRUARY 12

# REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN!

We're thrilled to announce the return of AUSSIE HOOPS and eagerly look forward to welcoming our youngest players back!

**REGISTER TODAY**

- 🏀 **Suitable for 5 - 8 year olds**
- 🏀 **Wednesdays 4 - 5pm**
- 🏀 **WSAC Show Court 1**
- 🏀 **New Coach Mark Chynoweth**
- 🏀 **\$85 for 7 sessions**



Sign up today at

[www.playhq.com/basketball-victoria/register/486091](http://www.playhq.com/basketball-victoria/register/486091)