



# OUR PLACE ST AIDAN'S SCHOOL

Term 1 Week 8

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2017

## QUALITY CATHOLIC SCHOOLS SURVEY – QCS

Next week we survey the community about the culture of the school.

All teachers, staff and two grades of students will be asked to fill in a survey. Also sixty families, selected at random by CEO, will be invited to complete a survey. These families will receive a large envelope next week.

## Twitter and Facebook for St Aidan's

Why not have a look at our new Twitter and Facebook accounts and see some photos / news on school events and check out the amazing learning that is happening at St Aidan's.

Twitter:

[@StAidansRH](https://twitter.com/StAidansRH)

Facebook:

[St. Aidan's Primary School, Rooty Hill](https://www.facebook.com/StAidansPrimarySchool)

# CAR PARK SAFETY CONGRATULATIONS

THANKS AGAIN TO ALL OF OUR DRIVERS/ PARENTS  
FOR YOUR ONGOING CO OPERATION AND PATIENCE

to ensure every student is safe of an afternoon.

By taking the dozens of cars of the surrounding streets, we believe students are much safer from the chaotic congestion and poor driving / parking decisions of some previously experienced by our families.

Also, many mums have benefitted by having babies and little ones asleep in their car rather than having to wake them in the extreme heat or rain to enter the site for pick up of children.

## Reminders:

- Continue to be slow and safe at all times
- Continue to encourage your child to remain on the verandah until the car is stopped and a teacher escorts them to the car
- Gates open at 2:30pm so all cars are stopped / parked by the time any students begin to move in readiness for dismissal.



## KINDER ENROLMENTS FOR 2018

We have now started the process of enrolling for Kinder 2018. Interviews begin next week with various parent meetings coming up in terms 3 & 4. Amazing how fast it comes around eh??

Please call in at the office and pick up an enrolment form or tell your family and friends. The school office is open from 8:15am to 3:15pm for enrolments.

## BREAKFAST CLUB AT ST AIDAN'S VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Did you know that we provide breakfast for any students who need it each day?

Thanks to the generosity of our mums, we have 2 people assisting each morning. However, we need more volunteers....

**If you are free to assist regularly for one morning, please contact the school office.**

## STAFF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING DAY

**Mon, April 24<sup>th</sup>**

**The day before ANZAC day...  
Term 2 starts on Wed April 26th**



## PREPARATION FOR THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The students have now attended three after school Sacramental classes in preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation in Week 11 this term.

During these sessions, the students were able to explain the key elements in the program such as:

- What is sin?
- Why do we need to follow God's commandments?
- Explain that this sacrament provides us with an opportunity to acknowledge our mistakes, our estrangement from God and his Church, and our need for conversion and forgiveness
- Explain that sincere sorrow for sin is the most important element for celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation

A huge thank you to all our wonderful and committed staff especially Mrs Bear, Mrs Lance, Mrs Power, Mrs Taylor, Miss Di Bartolo, Mrs Armstrong, Miss Dellenty and Miss McAlister. Our dedicated teachers go above and beyond their responsibilities to ensure that the faith formation of our students is at the forefront of their learning.







# Jesus is the Living Water for the world

The woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, 'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?' (John 4:28-29)



**Praise be to God who calls us and raises us up  
through deep waters into new life !**

## Reflection on the Gospel of John 4:5-42

Imagine you are going about your business, gathering water at the community well as you do every day, and on this day you encounter a prophet. While you are at the well together, Jesus draws upon your deep connection to this source of water to help you understand what he calls the **'living water.'**

The encounter starts with a simple request: **'Give me a drink.'** Beyond your expectations, it ends with you proclaiming this man Jesus as the long-awaited Christ. Now that's a day to remember! Water is one of the ancient human symbols, and indeed one of Christianity's fundamental sacramental symbols. It quenches our thirst; it sustains our crops and livestock. In its absence life cannot flourish, but in its overabundance it can cause death and destruction.

When Jesus then speaks of living water, the woman can almost feel the cool, crisp water refreshing her body after a long drink. Is this what it's like to experience this living water Jesus speaks of?

What are our lives transformed for? For our own salvation? Yes, but not only that. Through Jesus' example, we know this transformation is expressed in transformative action in the world, for its sake and for the sake of our brothers and sisters. Giving witness through our lives is a necessity. Indeed, salvation comes in sharing our experience of the **"living water"**.

## Discussing the Gospel with your family

How does your own experience of the ancient symbol of water help you to understand Jesus as **'living water'**?

What is the challenge for us today? In what ways does today's Gospel shed light on our interactions with people from different cultures, nationalities and religion?

## ST AIDAN'S YEAR 6 & KINDY BUDDIES

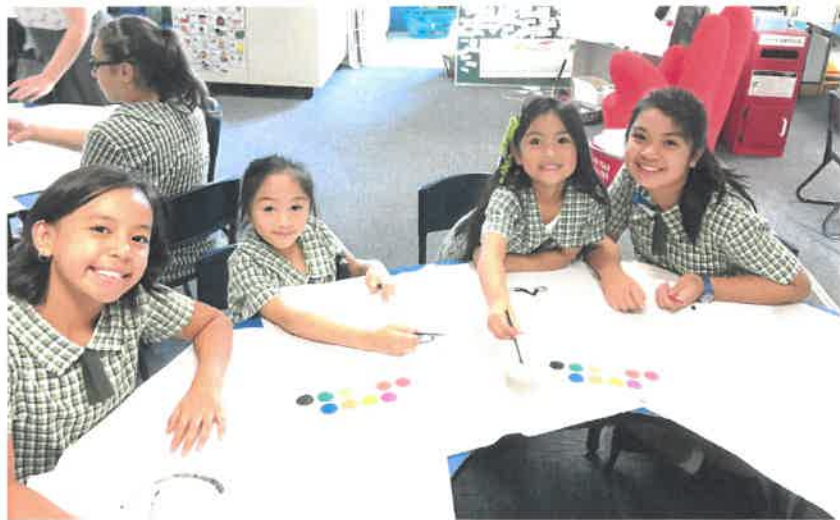
On Monday the 13th of March, students from 6-Blue joined the Kindergarten Blue students and both classes painted a portrait of their buddies' faces using watercolour paints. In 6-Red however, the Kinder Red students went to paint in the Year 6 classroom. This experience provided the Year 6 students and their buddies an opportunity to spend some quality time together and get to know their buddies better.

Everyone had so much fun painting their partners, and they all created wonderful paintings. After the painting session finished, Year 6 students and their Kindy buddies played duck, duck, goose before sitting down to eat their lunch together.

*By Heleana and Beatrix*













Attendance is a major focus for St Aidan's this year.

**EVERY LEARNER, EVERY DAY** is our school slogan for 2017. It is our combined responsibility **to have our children at school every day and on time.**

**Week 2 attendance level 77.8%**  
**Week 3 attendance level is 75.9%**  
**Week 4 attendance level is 84.2%**  
**Week 5 attendance level is 80%**  
**Week 6 attendance level is 79.4%**  
**Week 7 attendance level is 84.1%**  
**Week 8 attendance level is 84.8% (OUR NEW P.B.)**

**Attendance level target for all  
Diocesan schools is 90%**

Our school needs your help to improve this level. Please remember to plan holidays in the school holidays not during the school term. Incentives for 100% attendance are now in place. Students have received an attendance sheet that is stamped each week if they have been at school. The children receive a sticker if they have been at school. The children receive a sticker if they have been at school with 100% attendance after five weeks and a certificate at the end of the term for 100% attendance.

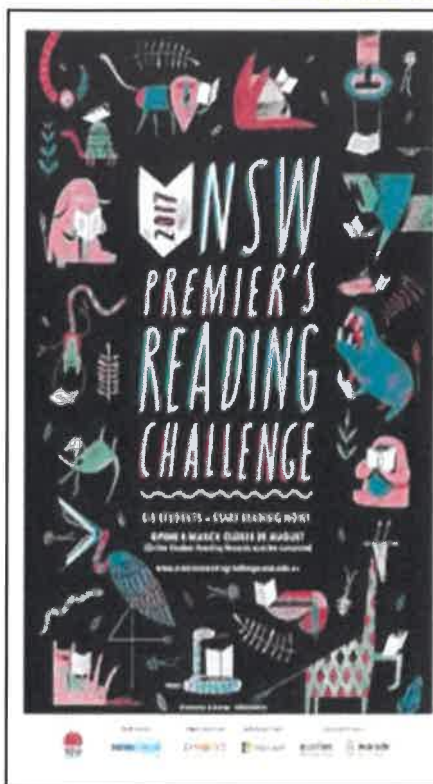
**COME ON ST AIDAN'S WE CAN GET TO 90%!**

**Parents can help their child's attendance by :**

- Being firm. Send your child to school every day unless they are sick
- Develop good sleep and morning routines
- Schedule appointments for after school
- Avoid taking holidays during school terms...**their education is extremely important !**



# Literacy at St Aidan's



## PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

To improve literacy amongst our students we encourage them to read every night. One way is through the Premier's Reading Challenge in which St Aidan's is participating. The Reading Challenge promoted by the NSW Premier, began on March 6th and closes August 25th. It is open to students from K-9. Children in K-2 are encouraged to read 30 books over the 5 months. 25 books to be chosen from the reading lists and 5 books that are free choice. Children in 3-9 are encouraged to read 20 books over the 5 months. 15 books to be chosen from the reading lists and 5 books that are free choice.

In the coming weeks kinder students will come home with their login. For those children who have previously participated in the Challenge their login will be the same. If they don't remember their login please advise their teacher. They can log their reading books at home or at school.

For more information visit the website: [www.premiersreadingchallenge.nsw.edu.au](http://www.premiersreadingchallenge.nsw.edu.au)

As a parent you can help by ensuring that you listen to your child read aloud every night. Help them organise their library bags the night before. Borrowing days are as follows:

Kinder - Friday

Year 4 - Thursday

Year 1 - Wednesday

Year 5 - Thursday

Year 2 - Wednesday

Year 6 - Friday

Year 3 - Wednesday

Children often mimic adult behaviours. Allow your children to see you reading, whether it be a book, a magazine or a newspaper.

Janet Colusso  
Acting Assistant Principal.



# Numeracy News

## What is Place Value?

Place value is the value of a digit in a number (ones, tens, hundreds, thousands etc). Eg. 524 has 5 hundreds, 2 tens and 4 ones.



### PLACE VALUE GROWTH POINTS

0	Not yet able to read, write, interpret and order 1 digit numbers.
1	I can read, write, interpret and order 1 digit numbers.
2	I can read, write, interpret and order 2 digit numbers.
3	I can read, write, interpret and order 3 digit numbers.
4	I can read, write, interpret and order numbers beyond 1000.
5	I can apply my knowledge of place value to solve problems.
6	I can apply my knowledge of place value to solve problems involving fractions and decimals.

### How can I support my child with their place value goal?

- Make connections to numbers around the world- Encourage your child to read and write different numbers.
- Choose 2-3 numbers relative to their goal (1 digit/2 digit etc) and encourage your child to put them in order from smallest to largest.
- Encourage your child to explain their thinking using place value language Eg. how many tens etc.
- Challenge your child to recall the number ten more/less/one hundred more/less from 3-4 digit numbers. Eg. What is 100 less than 1007.

In the next newsletter I will explore the addition and subtraction growth points and share some more practical ideas.

*Prudence Lance*

Numeracy Lead Teacher.



## **DATES COMING UP**

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March – Year 6 Camp**

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March – Infants Mass K-2 9:15am**

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March – Feast of the Assumption**

## **ANZAC COMING UP EARLY NEXT TERM**



**FINAL TOUR DATE**

**SPirit of ANZAC**  
CENTENARY EXPERIENCE

A free travelling exhibition that tells the story of Australia's involvement in the First World War, featuring artefacts from the Australian War Memorial.

**BOOK FREE TICKETS NOW AT**  
**[WWW.SPIRITOFANZAC.GOV.AU](http://WWW.SPIRITOFANZAC.GOV.AU)**

We will be hosting free children's activities at the Experience from 17 - 21 April. Find out more and register your interest at [www.spiritofanzac.gov.au/sydney/activities](http://www.spiritofanzac.gov.au/sydney/activities)

International Convention Centre Sydney  
15 - 27 APR 2017

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### **Student banking - Thursday mornings**

Simply send your child's Commonwealth Bank book with your child on Thursday morning and enclose the money to be deposited in the yellow Velcro pouch.



HAPPY GRANDPARENT'S DAY!



On Friday the 7<sup>th</sup> of April, St Aidan's will be celebrating our wonderful grandparents with a special whole-school mass.

Year Three would like to ask, if anyone has a photo of their child with their grandparents that they would like to share, please **email** them to Miss Dellenty [cdellenty2@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:cdellenty2@parra.catholic.edu.au).

We would kindly request that all photos are sent to this address by Monday the 20<sup>th</sup> of March.

Thank you!

*From Miss Chetcuti, Miss Dellenty and the Year Three students*



## SCHOOL PHOTOS WERE TAKEN TODAY



For parents wishing to pay AFTER photo day, please go to [www.theschoolphotographer.com.au](http://www.theschoolphotographer.com.au) and select "Click here for Online Payments" button.

Then simply enter details to make an online payment.

OR

Parents can phone The School Photographer on (02) 9674 9824 and they will take credit card payments over the phone. (Note – there is a processing fee of \$5 for phone payments.

OR

Parents can post a money order to The School Photographer, Unit 20, 14-16 Stanton Road, Seven Hills NSW 2147.

**CHEQUES ARE NO LONGER ACCEPTED BY THE SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER DUE TO CHANGES IN BANK POLICY.**

## DO YOU HAVE THE ST AIDAN'S SKOOLBAG APP??



Simply get the app to find out all the news and updates related to the school. If you know of others who have NOT downloaded the app from the Apple Store, please let them know how valuable it is for staying informed.



### **SCHOOL FEES 2017**

School fees for Term one are now overdue. If you have paid, thank you.

If you have taken up the CEO's flexible payment plan BPay Option, please notify Mrs Wakeling on (02) 9625-3181.

## **ST AGNES CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**

St Agnes is accepting new enrolments for 2018. Please lodge your enrolment application as soon as possible.

Phone St Agnes on 8882 0700 for full details.





# Simplify your day

Our school now has Flexischools  
for online ordering and cashless  
payment

From your mobile or desktop:



Flexischools is the fast and secure way  
to order and pay for canteen, uniforms,  
events, excursions, fundraisers & fees.



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Take advantage of this convenient new  
service. Go to **flexischools.com.au**  
and click **register**

◀ LOGIN



REGISTER ▶

**flexischools**

# Meal Deal \$5.00



## Meal Deal 1

- Egg & Lettuce Sandwich
- Bottle of Water
- Piece of Fruit



## Meal Deal 2

- Chicken Burger
- Juice Popper
- Frozen Juice Cup



Available from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March.



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<http://www.staidansrootyhill.catholic.edu.au>  
[staidans@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:staidans@parra.catholic.edu.au)

Skoolbag App - St Aidan's App in iTunes (for all newsletters, alerts etc.)