



# OUR PLACE ST AIDAN'S SCHOOL

Term 4 Week 5

11/11/16

## REMEMBRANCE DAY TODAY



We remember the men and women from all wars who have died in the service of Australia.

**LEST WE FORGET !**

This morning we had a memorial liturgy to acknowledge this special day when the guns stopped in 1918.

Mrs Khoury, our Religious Education Coordinator, led us in prayer as we remembered the enormous sacrifice, horror and hardship of war. We pray that our children may never have to experience this in their lives.





The 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month achieved a special significance in the post-war years. This was the moment when conflicts ceased on the Western Front. This year 11th November marks the 98th anniversary of the Armistice, which ended the First World War (1914–18). Each year on this day, Australians observe one minute's silence at 11 am, in memory of those who died or suffered in all wars and armed conflicts. Today's liturgy was in honour of all those brave men and women who sacrificed their lives in order to preserve our freedom. We are extremely fortunate to live in an open-minded nation that embraces all nationalities. Marking Remembrance Day will provide our students with an opportunity to be reminded about what it is to be truly Australian.





## ***In Flanders Fields***

In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place: and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.  
We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.

**John McCrae (1872–1918)**

## Dates Coming Up:

**Friday 18/11**

Staff Professional Learning day. We will all be off the school site on this day so please do not send children since there will be no one available to care for them. Sorry for the inconvenience this causes to families.

**Mon 12/12**

**St Aidan's Christmas** celebration. All welcome!

Starting 5:45pm with the children performing from 6:30pm onwards.



**Wed 14/12**

Year 6 Farewell Liturgy/ Social. (evening)

**16/12**

Last day of the school year.



## DATES FOR 2017

\*Students starting date for K-6

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2017\*

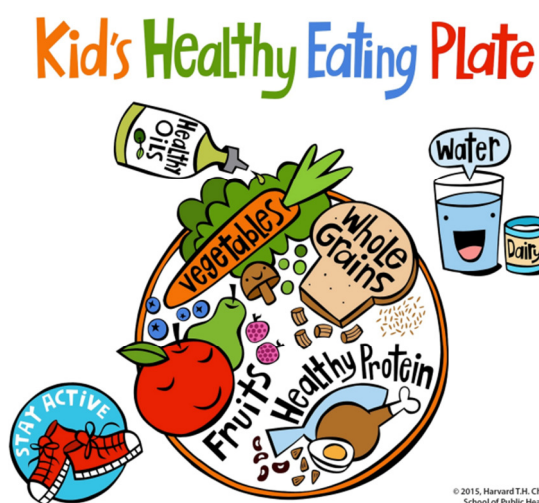
Holidays	School Closes	School Resumes
Autumn	Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> April	Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> April
Winter	Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> July
Spring	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September	Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> October
Christmas	Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	



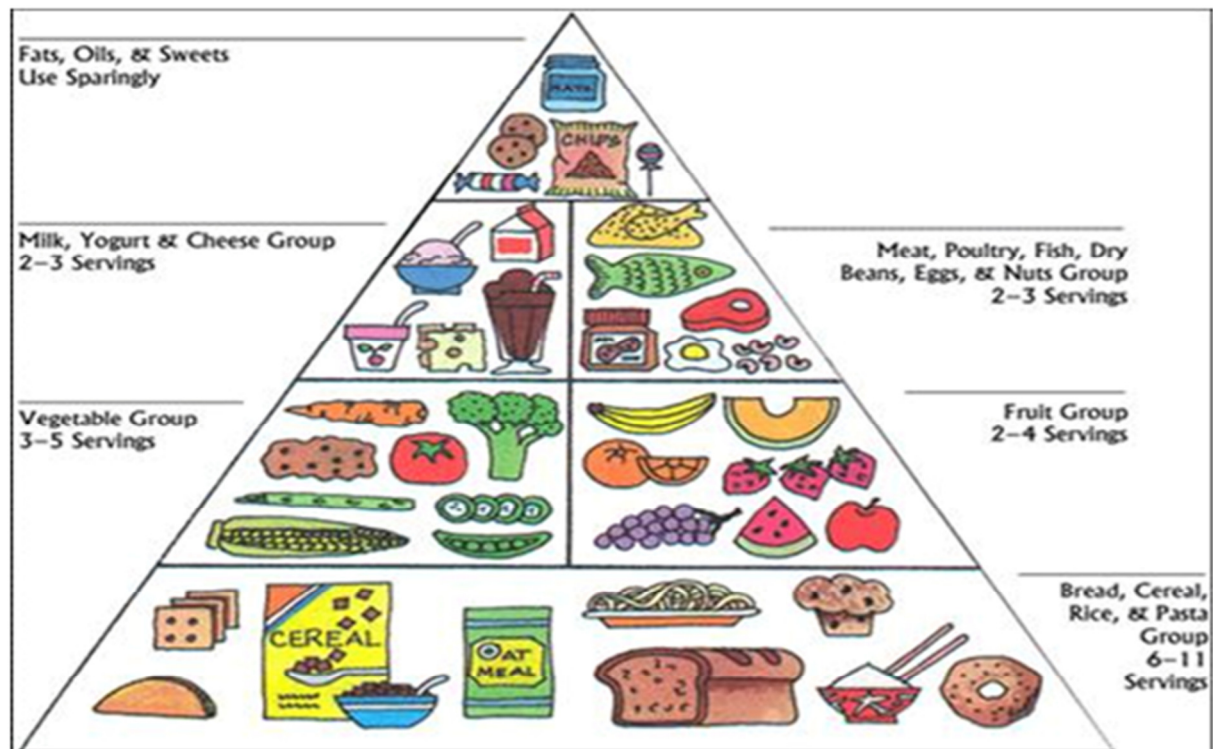


## HEALTHY FOODS FOR KIDS

We have many students have multiple bags of chips and other not so healthy foods at recess and lunch.



Next year, we will introduce **'Crunch and Sip'** whereby students are able to eat nutritional fruit during the morning class session.



This will hopefully encourage a taste for healthier food!



## How many serves of fruit and vegetables do kids and teens need?

All of us need to eat a variety of different coloured fruit and veggies every day – both raw and cooked. The recommended daily amount for kids and teens depends on their age, appetite and activity levels – see table below.

Recommended serves of fruit and vegetables by age

Age	Fruit		Vegetables	
(years)	(serves/day)		(serves/day)	
	girls	boys	girls	boys
2-3	1	1	2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
4-8	1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	4 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	4 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
9-11	2	2	5	5
12-18	2	2	5	5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>

Note: One serve of fruit is 150 grams (equal to 1 medium-sized apple; 2 smaller pieces (e.g. apricots); 1 cup of canned or chopped fruit; ½ cup (125ml) 99% unsweetened fruit juice; or 1½ tablespoons dried fruit).

One serve of vegetables is 75 grams (equal to ½ cup cooked vegetables; ½ medium potato; 1 cup of salad vegetables; or ½ cup cooked legumes (dried beans, peas or lentils)).



# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S SUMMER READING CHALLENGE



## EXPAND YOUR IMAGINATION BY READING THIS SUMMER

These summer holidays, I am once again launching my Summer Reading Challenge and encouraging all students to read, read, read!

Students can read anything they like to enter the challenge, whether it's a comic, play, piece of poetry, book, e-book or graphic novel. This year we have made the challenge easier to enter by removing the minimum number of books to read and provided students with more chances of winning a prize.

## HOW TO ENTER

It's simple! Students just need to read something they enjoy and tell us in 50 words or less why they loved it.

The more material a student reads, the more times they can enter the reading challenge and the more chances they have of winning one of four iPad minis. More information can be found on the Parramatta Diocesan website. [www.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au)

## ***Parent Helpers for 2017***

Are you interested in being a parent helper in the classroom in 2017? I would like to invite parents who would be interested in helping in the classroom to a literacy and numeracy training afternoon. The workshop will outline classroom expectations of reading, writing and numeracy and expectations of the parent helper. There will also be discussion and short video clips of what the reading, writing and numeracy looks like in the classroom. The meeting will be held in the **meeting room on Wednesday 23rd November at 3pm**. Please contact the office if you are attending.

## ***Child Protection for Volunteers***

### **Building Child Safe Communities – New procedures reminder for volunteers**

Volunteers make a significant contribution to students and our community. As part of our new 'Building Child Safe Communities' initiatives, we request the following from volunteers:

These can be accessed by visiting the Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta homepage

<http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au> then scrolling down to 'Volunteers and Contractors – click here'.

Please contact your school if you require any assistance. We thank all volunteers for their continued support.



## **NOT RETURNING TO ST AIDAN'S IN 2017??**

We have some families moving interstate and elsewhere. Thank you for your contribution to St Aidan's.

Please make sure you inform the school office ASAP. Thank you.



✓ Staff Spirituality Day (SDD) - Friday 18th November –  
**NO STAFF WILL BE AT SCHOOL ON THIS DAY**

- ✓ Beginning of Advent - Sunday 27th November
- ✓ Feast of the Immaculate Conception - Thursday 8th December
- ✓ Thanksgiving Mass and Farewell to families, teachers and Year 6 students who are leaving St Aidan's - Friday 9th December @ 9:00am
- ✓ Christmas Concert - Monday 12th December @ 6pm to 8pm
- ✓ Year 6 Graduation Liturgy and Social - Wednesday 14th December @ 5:30 pm
- ✓ Christmas Mufti & Student's last day- Friday 16th December.





Catholic Education  
Diocese of Parramatta

November 2016

## **RELIGIOUS LITERACY ASSESSMENT YEAR 4, 2016**

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Yesterday you would have received your child's individual student report for the Religious Literacy Assessment in 2016.

As part of a Parramatta Diocesan wide assessment of religious literacy, all Year 4 students completed a Part A online assessment in August/September. The students answered 35 multiple choice questions that were drawn from the seven strands of Sharing Our Story: God, Jesus, Church, Scripture, Prayer, Sacraments and Christian Life. The questions related to their learning in Religious Education up to and including Year 4. While the questions were not the same for each student, the assessment was of equal difficulty overall.

In addition to the Part A Online Test, Year 4 students chose how they would demonstrate their learning in relation to the Sharing Our Story unit, 24C9 Reconciliation: God's Forgiveness and Healing as they undertook the Part B Extended Task. The Part B Task was marked locally by teachers at your child's school.

It is important to point out that Religious Literacy Assessment is just one form of assessment in Religious Education. There are many forms of school-based assessment in Religious Education that take place across the school year. To have a full appreciation of your child's development in Religious Education in 2016, it is important to view this report along with the reporting by your child's teacher.

We continue to delight in the goodness and faith of all our children. Together, we are dedicated to their learning, their wellbeing and their continued growth and development as people made in the image and likeness of God.

Yours sincerely,

**Ian Smith**

Director Mission

Catholic Education, Diocese of Parramatta



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**RELIGIOUS LITERACY ASSESSMENT**  
**YEAR 6, 2016**

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Yesterday you would have received your child's individual student report for the Religious Literacy Assessment in 2016.

As part of a Parramatta Diocesan wide assessment of religious literacy, all Year 6 students completed an online assessment in August/September. The students answered 35 multiple choice questions that were drawn from the seven strands of Sharing Our Story: God, Jesus, Church, Scripture, Prayer, Sacraments and Christian Life. The questions related to their learning in Religious Education up to and including Year 6. While the questions were not the same for each student, the assessment was of equal difficulty overall.

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# Attendance

St Aidan's follows the Parramatta Diocesan guidelines in regards to attendance. School attendance is compulsory for every school age student.

If your child is away a note explaining the absence is required. There is also provision on our school website [www.staidansrootyhill.catholic.edu.au](http://www.staidansrootyhill.catholic.edu.au) for absentee notes to be completed and then emailed to the school.

Absenteeism	Attendance Rate	Educational Risk	Days absent per year	Long term absence (over 10 years)
Regular	90% or more	Low	20 days or less	1 year or less
Emerging	80%-89%	Medium	Between 20 and 40	1-2 years
Chronic	70%-79%	High	Between 40 and 60	2-3 years
Complex	69% or less	Severe	60 days or more	3 years plus

The Catholic Schools Office Diocese of Parramatta has required an attendance target of 93% or higher for every student.

If your child has had more than the expected number of days deemed acceptable then the following process will occur. The school office will contact you in regards to your child's absentee rate. This will be followed with a letter stating that you were contacted. If the attendance is still low you will be contacted for a student attendance meeting discussing how to improve your child's attendance at school.

This is a government driven initiative and must be taken seriously. Each case is different and some children suffer from sickness and also parents take children for extended holidays. Please be aware that this will also mean the process needs to be followed.

If you have any questions please phone the office for clarification.

# Canteen

Dear Parents,

Due to a large price increase, "Chicken Fingers" will now be **6 for \$3.50** effective from Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October.

We do apologise for any inconvenience caused by this change.

Lasagne is still available for only \$4.00 each!

A reminder: All lunch orders need to be given to the Canteen lady **before** Recess i.e. 10:30am.

Thank you for your support.

*Classroom Catering.*

## Meal Deal 1 (31<sup>st</sup> October-17<sup>th</sup> November)

- **Ham, cheese & tomato sandwich**
- **Bottle of water**
- **Zooper Dooper**



## Meal Deal 2 (31<sup>st</sup> October-17<sup>th</sup> November)

- **Chicken schnitzel wrap**
- **Juice popper**
- **Zooper Dooper**



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