



# OUR PLACE ST AIDAN'S SCHOOL

Term 2 Week 5 Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2017

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As we fly through the term, it becomes clearer and very obvious that our students at St Aidan's are very blessed indeed.



*It Takes a Village*

They are happy, healthy children surrounded by very talented teachers, generous resources, expert learning support and beautiful facilities with our parish church on site and easily accessible.

Thank you to our parents who prepare the children so well for their schooling. Every minute spent with them on homework, reading, counting, social interactions, etc ..... provide valuable and necessary learning experiences and opportunities to assist their ongoing growth.

**Our parents, teachers, families, parish and our school community members all assist the students' learning on a daily basis.**

**It Takes A  
Whole Village to  
Raise A Child**

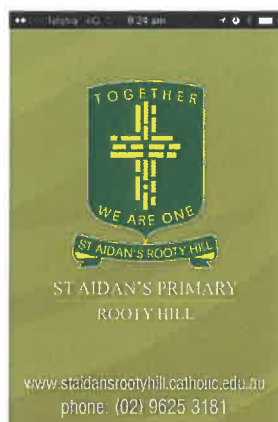
www.project.com 588 572 075 (4M5101)

- African Proverb

# KINDERGARTEN... here I come!



Enrolments and interviews for Kindergarten 2018 are now well underway. Various parent meetings and orientation days for students will take place in terms 3 and 4. Please call in at the office and pick up an enrolment form between 8:15am and 3:15pm Monday to Friday. Please tell you family and friends that now is the time to enrol for 2018!



## ST AIDAN'S SKOOLBAG APP

Do you know of any school families, aunties/uncles, grandparents ...who want to **receive regular updates, reminders, newsletters, etc?**

**It is a crucial way of communicating with the parent / school community. Please tell them to go to the App Store and download the ST AIDAN'S SKOOLBAG app asap.**



GBW:vt

23 May 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

Today (Tuesday), the Federal Government introduces into Parliament its new schools funding bill. In the past weeks, I have become disheartened by the ongoing war of words between the Catholic education sector and the Federal Government about what the new model will mean for Catholic systemic schools. It has become bitter with senior government ministers calling the Catholic leaders 'dishonest'. This kind of language achieves nothing.

The debate has become so hostile because despite it being three weeks since the new model was first announced, the Catholic sector, which educates 1 in 5 students across the country, still does not know what the new arrangements will mean for their schools, particularly in the long-term. This is giving rise to rumours of big fee increases as early as next year. When things are not clear, people become anxious. It does not need to be this way.

Government funding of Catholic schools does not mean that Catholic schools end up receiving more funding than government schools. When the funding provided by state and federal governments is combined with school fees and other sources of income like local fundraising, Catholic schools end up receiving around the same overall funding as government schools. Not more - around the same.

The main problem with the new model is the proposed change to how schools will be allocated funding. The government wants to fund each school according to its suburb's individual's Socio Economic Score (SES) rather than averaging out the SES scores for all Catholic schools. This is suggesting that everyone who sends their child to a Catholic school in a suburb that has a comparatively high SES can afford to pay high fees. This is wrong.

Bishop Vincent and I have no wish to place additional financial pressure on families, many of whom are already struggling to meet cost of living pressures. Regardless of where they live and the school they send their children to, parents should not be expected to absorb the kind of fee increases written about in newspapers in the past week.

Equity and fairness should sit at the heart of any funding model. The Catholic sector and the Federal Government should be able to sit down in a constructive and respectful environment to ensure that the new model is fair for all.

While I appreciate the challenges of arriving at a model that everyone can be happy with, I am hopeful that sensible debate will follow in the days ahead. Government funding should never be taken for granted, but neither should Catholic school families. I will continue to take up the issue of funding fairness with our elected representatives - local, state and national. I ask you to contact your local member and make your view very clearly known as well.

It is time to change the game. We need agreement on a model that provides clarity, fairness and certainty for all government and non-government schools.

Yours sincerely

**Gregory B Whitby**  
Executive Director  
Catholic Education  
Diocese of Parramatta



# The Power of Prayer

The month of May is dedicated to our holy Mother Mary and our school is awash with blue as we dedicate our prayers and intentions to Her. Students have joined in our morning rosary, which is a devotion in honour of the Virgin Mary.

The rosary isn't just a recitation of prayers, but a meditation on the grace of God. As students learn more about the rosary and make more frequent use of it, they come to see how its meditations bring to mind the image of grace not only of the Mother of God, but of Christ himself.

Saint Pope John Paul II had an extremely deep devotion to our Holy Mother and in his apostolic letter, ***Rosarium Virginis Mariae*** (The Rosary of the Virgin Mary), he encourages all families to pray the rosary together and continue to follow the life of Christ, from His conception to His death, and then to His Resurrection and His glory.



Our Staffroom



Our Office



Our students praying the Rosary



Our Classrooms



## Stage 3 is swinging to the beat 🎵

This term, Years 5 and 6 have been tapping away to the beat of salsa music under the expertise of Mr Ray, a professional dance instructor and very good friend of Mrs Poole.

The students have progressed quite quickly and now are well on their way to putting together a dance routine which they will preform later on in the year. The music is so infectious that the students and teachers have thoroughly enjoyed the lessons.

Did you know that learning how to dance taps into student's mathematic skills, improves their balance and coordination? They get to learn about a new culture, improves their mental health, encourages teamwork and improves their social skills as well as being a great form of physical exercise.



Year 6 have been learning about the importance of having a personal mission statement. Using the Nicene Creed for inspiration, students created their own statements to share with the St Aidan's school community.

I am a catholic student attending St Aidan's Primary School. I believe in one God the Father, and in his Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ. I believe that everyone should be heard, no matter who they are, where they're from, or how old they are. One of my main beliefs, is that everyone should have a good education, allowing them an access to a successful future. I believe that anyone, anywhere, should have an education, as the right education can change a young child's life, shaping them into not only a successful human being, but a joyous one.

I hope to one day show kindness and compassion to others and give them care and comfort. I hope to in the future, make a difference in a young child's life, so that they could have the feeling and sensation I get whenever I enter my classroom.

- Sophia

### My Personal Mission Statement

I am a Catholic person who believes in one heavenly God. I try to be the best person I can be. I am a student in a Catholic school, and learn about God and the Bible from my 2 lovely teachers. I believe that it is important to respect and honour God. I believe that it is important to be kind. It is important to respect others in my actions and my words. I hope to be a kind and respectful person. I hope to be like Jesus and follow in his footsteps. I hope to grow up to be an affectionate person.

Shanice

As a young Catholic girl, I wish to be a more generous and compassionate person towards others. I will try to work smarter and harder towards my school work. With lots of hope that this will give me better grades and soon a good job for my family. In the future I want to help other people in poverty by donating things like money, clothes, toys, food and help other children in need of clean fresh water.

When I grow older I want to be a Catholic school teacher. I want to be able to teach other generations about things they must know about respecting each other. If I am not able to become a teacher, or I retire, I would want to help raise money towards **Catholic** charities.

Ella

As a young believer of God the Almighty Father, and a catholic person, I have many hopes, dreams and wishes. I am a student, sister and daughter. I try to be kind, caring and faithful, with everyone around me. I try solving problems on the playground, and I also try to be a good, Catholic leader to our school. My family means the world to me, and I try to help and care for my friends anytime they need it. I also love having a little laugh here and there.

I want to grow as a strong, Catholic person, who keeps believing in wanting the best in my life, and being a humorous, happy person. When I am older, I would love to go to university and study my passions. I would love to have kids of my own one day, and help them grow as kind, Catholic people. I want to become a role model to others, and I would love to become more involved in the Catholic Church.

Clara

# Pilgrimage to the Holy Lands - Israel

## Tabgha – Sea of Galilee – Capernaum – Peter's Primacy - Church of the Transfiguration

Today, we travelled to the Church of the Primacy of St Peter at Tabgha, on the north-western shore of the Sea of Galilee. It is best known for Christ's miraculous multiplication of loaves and fish to feed a multitude. The Church of the Primacy of St. Peter, a small Franciscan chapel that incorporates part of a 4th-century church, is especially important for Catholic pilgrims.



**"Table of Christ" (Latin: *Mensa Christi*) at the altar.**

Delightfully set on the sea, it's built upon the rock where, tradition holds, the resurrected Jesus ate with his disciples and told Peter to "feed my sheep." There's a fragment of a mosaic from the original church that stood here in the fifth century; it depicts a basket of bread flanked by two fish.





**Fifth Century Mosaic**

Next door at Kibbutz Ginosar, there's an impressive little lakeside museum containing the recently excavated remains of the **"Jesus Boat"** — a typical fisherman's boat from the first century A.D. The boat survived because it was covered with mud, preventing its total decomposition. Discovered in 1986, archaeologists dug it up quickly and then submerged it in a chemical bath for seven years before finally allowing it to go on view. Perhaps the Apostles Peter and Andrew were working on this kind of boat when Jesus called them to follow him.



**"Jesus Boat"**





Then we were extremely fortunate to have had the extraordinary opportunity to join in mass on a boat in the middle of the Sea of Galilee celebrated by Bishop Vincent. While Jesus was born in Bethlehem, just south of Jerusalem, he grew up in the north in Nazareth, near the Sea of Galilee. The Jordan River dumps into the north end of the lake, that's where there's the most oxygen in the water and consequently the most fish. During the time of Christ, the economy around the Sea of Galilee was

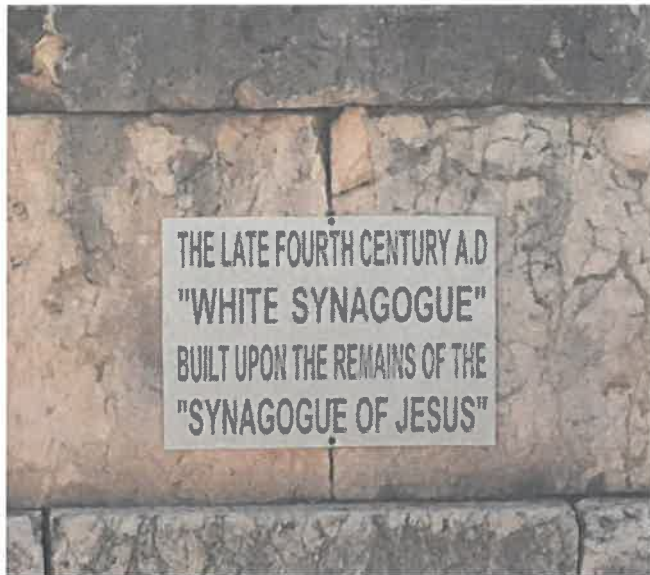
fishing. This is where Jesus assembled his band of disciples, turning fishers of fish into fishers of men.

Celebrating mass in a boat on the Sea of Galilee with Bishop Vincent and Father Chris de Souza.



Standing on the bank of the Sea of Galilee. This place is truly biblical

Then we stopped at Capernaum, which is mentioned twice in the New Testament, once as the home of Peter, Andrew, James and John, as well as the dwelling place of Matthew the tax collector. The second time Capernaum is referred to is as one of the three cities where Jesus spent time preaching and performing miracles.



**Inside the Synagogue with Bishop Vincent**





**The original house of Saint Peter that he inherited after his mother in law became a widow.**



**Saint Peter's house is located under the Church of the Beatitudes that is next to the original city of Capernaum**

Then a visit to the Church of The Transfiguration of Jesus is an event reported by the Synoptic Gospels in which Jesus is transfigured upon a mountain (Matthew 17:1–9, Mark 9:2–8, Luke 9:28–36). Jesus becomes radiant, speaks with Moses and Elijah, and is called "Son" by God.



**The Church of the Transfiguration**



**A painting inside the church depicting the scene where Jesus speaks to Moses and Elijah**



**A stained glass window with a pair of peacocks, which symbolise resurrection and eternal life**

## **Reflection**

As a Christian, gazing out over the fabled Sea of Galilee and imagining Jesus walking on the water, I became more emotional than I had imagined I would be. Closing my eyes, I let the song of pilgrim group singing in the distance, the sound of the gentle waves hitting the side of the boat, and the breeze off the lake come together in a touching, personal moment. What a day !!



Dear Parents and St Aidan's Community,

Did you know that breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer among women in Australia? In 2009, there were 13,668 new cases of breast cancer in women and 110 new cases in men. One in eight women will develop breast cancer in their lifetime and the five-year survival rate for Australian women diagnosed with breast cancer is 89%. There have been so many families and individuals affected by this disease, not only in our country but also in our small community here at St Aidan's.

I am asking each and every one of you to dig deep and please donate and sponsor me as I endeavour to raise at least \$1500 to support the National Breast Cancer Foundation. The school will have several fundraising activities to support this fundraising as listed below:



**Week 6 - Crazy Beanie Day (Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June)**

**Students will design and wear a crazy beanie (\$2 donation) – one student from each grade with the best beanie will win a prize from the canteen.**



On Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June, I will also be shaving my head to raise money for research into Breast Cancer. A donation page has been organised through the National Breast Cancer Foundation and you can click the link below to donate to this very worthy cause. You are also welcome to give the money in directly at school.

I hope that you can see it in your hearts to give even a small amount to show that we as a community really care.

Thank you

Cristina Poole (Year 5 Teacher).

<https://nbcf-hostyourown.gofundraise.com.au/page/CristinaPoole>



NATIONAL  
BREAST CANCER  
FOUNDATION

# Numeracy News

## Problem Solving in Year 1.

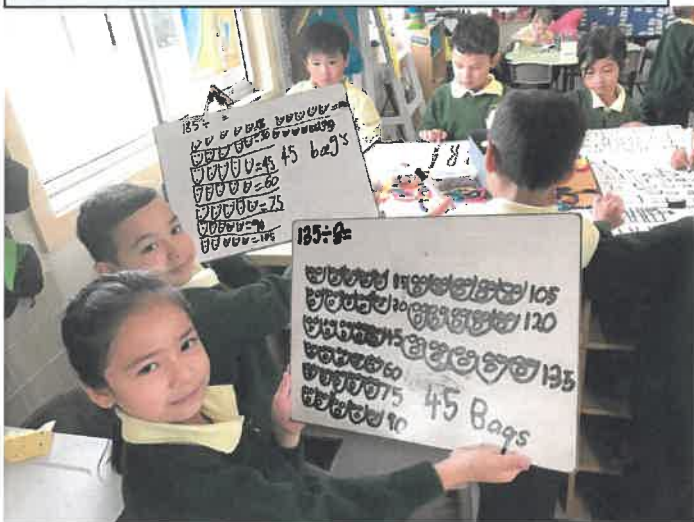
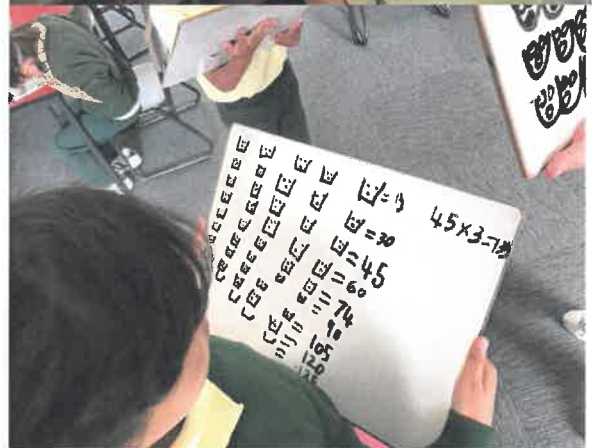
135 cookies were shared into lunch bags so that there were 3 cookies in each lunch bag. How many lunch bags will I need?

Students were sent off to have a go at the problem by themselves first, before coming together and talking about how they could use to solve the problem.

This was a challenging task, but the students had a good go at it and eventually got the answer in the end. Keep up the hard mathematical thinking Year 1!

*I know  $15 + 15 = 30$ . Then I skip counted by 15s to get my answer. I needed 45 bags.*

*Layla Year 1*







## Dates coming up...

- Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June – CRAZY BEANIE DAY  
(*\$2.00 donation for Breast Cancer Foundation please*)
- Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June – Kinder excursion to Calmsley Hill
- Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June – Kinder (ONLY) “Farm” dress up day
- Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June K, 2, 4 & 6 Dental Assessments (*a note will be sent home to parents*)



Congratulations to Viliami Vunipola in Year 6 who made it into the Parramatta Diocesan Rugby Union team.

The team will travel to Forbes on Sunday 25th June and participate at the NSWCPs rugby trials for selection into the Mackillop team.



We are all so proud of your dedication and determination. Good luck in Forbes!

Year 6 students have a new Sports shirt with their names printed on the back!

These shirts may be worn on **TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS** **ONLY** together with their Sports uniform (shorts/trackpants. Jacket, white socks and sports shoes, school hat).





### Being on Time

Attendance is not just about being at school but also about being on time. Being late 5 minutes a day equals 25 minutes over a week, 250 minutes a term or 4 hours per term, or the equivalent of 3 ¼ days per year and over the schooling years is equivalent to one whole term of missed learning time. When a student arrives late they have often missed the introduction to a lesson and they've missed time socialising with their peers.

**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.**

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

**Week 1 attendance level is 84.9%**  
**Week 2 attendance level is 82.9%**  
**Week 3 attendance level is 85.7% (OUR NEW PB!!!)**  
**Week 4 attendance level is 83.9%**  
**Week 5 attendance level is 85.2%**  
**Attendance level target for all**  
**Diocesan schools is 90%**

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



# Learn to Swim at SGAC!

## WESTERN SYDNEY'S LEADING AQUATICS & GYMNASTICS VENUE

- Progressive, 14 level Learn to Swim program.
- Purpose built, heated learn to swim pool
- Assessments every 8 weeks to ensure all students are improving.
- FREE Race Nights for all students in stroke correction programs.
- Holiday Intensive Program
- Fun, family & community oriented environment.



"Before coming to SGAC Isaac was terrified to even enter the water. Now he absolutely LOVES swimming! He's soaring and doing freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke & even butterfly! Thank you SGAC!"

**BRING IN YOUR NEWSLETTER TO SGAC RECEPTION  
AND RECEIVE YOUR FIRST LESSON FREE!**

(02) 9851 5811 | [SGAC.COM.AU](http://SGAC.COM.AU)  
12 North parade Rooty Hill  
(right next door to Rooty Hill RSL)

**SGAC**  
AQUATICS





# St Aidan's Primary School – Term 1 – Summer 2017

***Eat Fresh: Healthy Body, Healthy Mind!***

## Every Day Hot Food

Chicken Nuggets	each \$0.70
Chicken Nuggets	6 for \$4.00
Party Pie	\$1.00
Corn on the Cob	\$1.00
Hash Browns (3)	\$1.50
Garlic Bread	\$2.00
Sausage Roll	\$3.00
Hot Dog with Sauce	\$3.00
Chicken Fingers (6)	\$3.50
Pancakes (2)	\$3.50
Traveller Pie	\$3.50

<b>Burgers</b>	
Chicken Burger	\$4.00
Beef Burger	\$4.00
Veggie Burger	\$4.00
Add cheese to any burger for	\$0.50
All Burgers include salad	

<b>Wraps</b>	
Salsa Wrap	\$4.50
Chicken Caesar Wrap	\$4.50
Sweet Chili Chicken Wrap	\$4.50
Nemo Wrap	\$4.50
Lamb Kebab Wrap	\$4.50

<b>Pasta &amp; Rice (Homemade)</b>	
Butter Chicken & Rice	\$4.00
Pasta Bolognese	\$4.00
Lasagne	\$4.00
Fried Rice & Chicken Wings (2)	\$5.00

**Order Your Lunch Online**  
Orders can be placed before 9:00am  
[www.flexischools.com.au](http://www.flexischools.com.au)



## Sushi Roll

(Available Tues, Wed, Thur)	
Chicken & Cucumber	\$3.50
Chicken Teriyaki	
Tuna & Cucumber	

## Sandwiches

AVAILABLE IN WHITE OR MULTIGRAIN  
WRAP OR ROLL ADD 0.50c TO SANDWICH PRICE

Vegetable, Jam, Devon	\$2.00
Tomato, Cheese	\$2.50
Tuna or Egg	\$3.00
Leg Ham, Chicken or Salmon	\$3.50
Salad Sandwich	\$3.50
Lettuce Tomato, Cucumber, Beetroot & Carrot	
Salad with Devon or Cheese	\$3.90
Salad with Tuna or Ham	\$4.20
Salad with Chicken or Salmon	\$4.50
EXTRAS – Including Toasting	\$0.40

## Salad

<b>Bowl</b>	
Fresh Fruit Salad	\$2.50
Garden Salad	\$3.00
With Ham or Tuna	\$3.50
With Salmon or Chicken	\$4.00
Chicken Caesar Salad	\$4.50
Pasta Salad	\$3.00
<b>Box</b>	
Fresh Fruit Salad	\$4.00
Garden Salad	\$4.00
With Ham or Tuna	\$4.50
With Salmon or Chicken	\$5.00
Chicken Caesar Salad	\$5.50
Pasta Salad	\$4.00

## Canteen Benko Box

1/2 Sandwich, Chicken Wing, Cheese and Crackers, Kiwi Fruit, Strawberries & 2 Mini Muffins	\$5.00
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## Pick & Mix Box (select 5 items)

2 bread triangles, chicken, ham, tuna, cucumber, cheese, tomato, egg, carrot, beetroot, orange wedge	\$4.00
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**Check with the Canteen for the current Meal Deals \$5.00**

## Snacks

Piece of Fruit	\$1.00
Cookies, Delights, Popcorn, Jumpy's	\$1.00
Assorted Chips	\$1.30
Gingerbread Man 97% Fat Free	\$1.60
Screw Top Yoghurt	\$2.00
Fruit Yoghurt Cup	\$2.00
Banana Bread—Slice	\$3.00

## Drinks

Juice - Poppers	\$1.60
Plain Milk 300ml	\$1.60
with Sippah Straw	\$2.20
Pop Top Juice	\$2.00
Bottled Water 600ml	\$2.00
Flavoured Milk Lite 300ml	\$2.30
Sparkling Water 500ml	\$2.50
Natural, Lime or Berry	
Iced Tea NO SUGAR 500ml	\$3.00
Sparkling Flavoured Water 600ml	\$3.00
Green Apple or Wild Raspberry	

## Ice Blocks

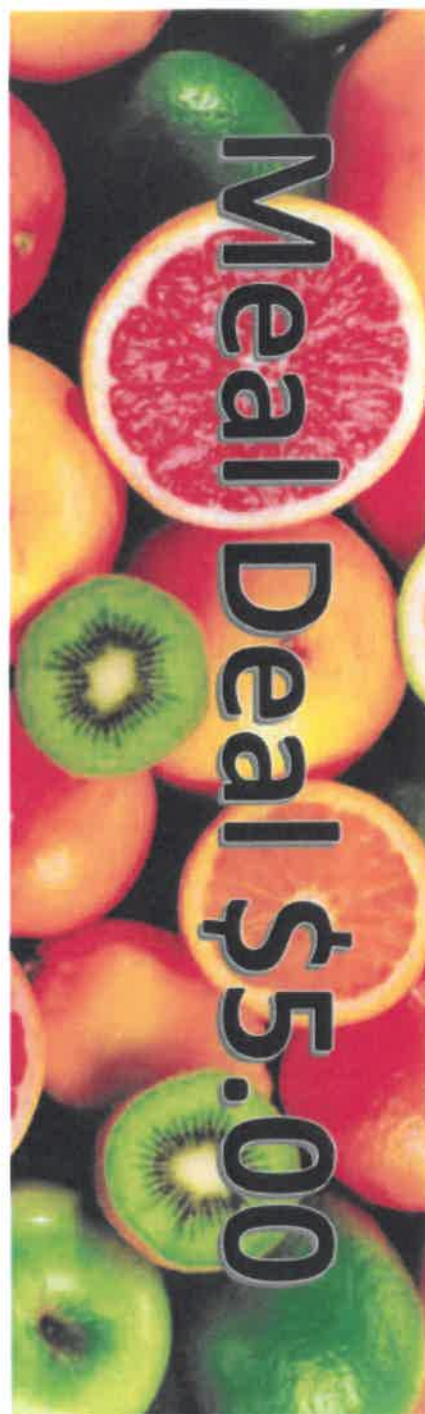
Zooper Dooper	\$0.80
Frozen Juice Cup/ Icy Mony	\$1.00
Vanilla Ice Cream Cup	\$1.20
Paddle Pop	\$1.60
Slushie Cup	\$2.00
Streets Paddle Pop Cup	\$2.20

**Visit the Canteen for ice block specials**

## PLEASE NOTE

- ♦ Recess orders are to be PICKED UP FROM THE CANTEEN.
- ♦ All ICE CREAMS ordered with lunch are given out when the LUNCH BAG IS RETURNED TO THE CANTEEN.





- Meal Deal 1
- Hot Chicken Roll
  - Sparkling Water
  - Jelly Cup

- Meal Deal 2
- Macaroni & Cheese
  - Sparkling Water
  - Milk Pop Ice Block



Available 30<sup>th</sup> May – 16<sup>th</sup> June 2017



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