

DATES FOR TERM FOUR 2015

Tuesday 1st December	◆ Meal deal day—turning Japanese ◆ Year 3 visit St Agnes to see Nativity play
Thursday 3rd December	Year 5 visit St Agnes for Technology Day
Wednesday 9th December	Student Reports go home to parents
Thursday 10th December	11:15am school Talent Quest final (parents of finalists will be personally invited)
Monday 14th December	* 8:40am KLA Awards kindergarten to year five * 5:00pm Year six Graduation Mass and Awards
Tuesday 15th December	* 8:40am KLA Awards kindergarten to year five * Year six disco
Wednesday 16th December	9:15am Thanksgiving Mass
Thursday 17th December	Staff Development Day (no classes)
Friday 18th December	Staff Development Day (no classes)

** MAI meetings will be held on Wednesday 27th January and Thursday 28th January 2016. (as per your individual appointment day & time)*

** Years one to six begin on Friday 29th January 2016.*

** Kindergarten 2016 students begin on Monday 1st February 2016.*

St Aidan's Church First Confession Program 2016

- ◆ Parent information evening Wednesday 17th February 2016 (7:30pm Mary MacKillop Hall)
- ◆ Registration 20th and 21st February 2016 (Mary MacKillop Hall after all the weekend Masses)
- ◆ Parent instruction evening Wednesday 24th February 2016 (7:30pm Mary MacKillop Hall)
- ◆ Children's sessions Sunday mornings 8:30am Mary MacKillop Hall as follows:
28th February; 6th March; 13th March; 20th March 2016
- ◆ Practice sessions Monday 21st March and Thursday 24th March 2016 at 7:30pm in the Church
- ◆ Sacrament administered Monday 4th April and Thursday 7th April 2016 at 7:30pm in the Church

All enquiries: St Aidan's Church (02) 9625 8404.

Blacktown City Libraries Summer Reading Program 2015-2016

Summer school holidays are coming soon with plenty of time to relax, play—and read!

Following the huge success of last year's Summer Reading Program (810 children reading 13,125 books), Blacktown City Libraries is running this year's program "Everyone Reads" from Monday 23rd November to Friday 29th January 2016.

Each child participating must be a member of the library. It's free to join the library. If you are aged 12 or under, you can be part of the fun. Register at any Blacktown City Libraries branch and you will be given a reading record to fill out. For every ten books you read, you will have your name displayed in the library on the hero Wall of Fame. Once you have read 10 books, you will be invited to attend a presentation ceremony in March 2016 to receive an official certificate and a giant lollipop as well as enter a luck door prize competition.

For details visit www.libraries.blacktown.gov.au



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**St Aidan's Primary School
Rooty Hill
Sharing News & Views**

From the Principal

Dear Parents,

As you are aware the St Aidan's community packed seventy-eight large bags of toiletries for Xmas treats for the homeless. Last Monday the bags were delivered to *Share the Dignity* a reputable charity who supports the homeless of Sydney. The lady who received the gifts was overwhelmed and full of gratitude for the generous gifts donated by St Aidan's families and staff. A 'shout' was posted on the Facebook page of *Share the Dignity*. You might like to have a glance.



The class finals for the upcoming Talent Quest were held this week and next week the grade finals will take place. As mentioned in memo that was sent to parents the Grand Final will be held on 10th December. Parents of finalists will be invited to attend.

Next Tuesday year three students and teachers will be visiting St Agnes High School to experience the annual Nativity play. This promises to be a great experience for our year three students. Year five students and teachers will also visit St Agnes on Thursday for a Technology Day. The students will explore programs such as: inspiration; pivot animation; iMovie and garageband. This is a marvellous opportunity for our year five students to interact with students and spend time in a high school environment. I am most grateful to St Agnes Principal, Mr Peter Brogan and his staff for their generosity in providing these opportunities for our students.

Letters were sent to each family regarding the booking of times for children's Mathematical Assessment Interviews (MAI's). As mentioned, the easiest way to do this is 'online' however should you experience difficulties with this process the St Aidan's office staff will be able to assist. You would recall these interviews from earlier in 2015 and also the triad meeting held with parent/teacher/child to discuss your child's numeracy goal. This was a very powerful and positive learning experience for all concerned and it will be repeated in 2016. **A gentle reminder that the booking site will close on 4th December 2015.** Please attend to this NOW to ensure your child's interview has been secured.

The annual K.L.A. awards for Excellence (years 1-5) will be presented at the morning assemblies on 14th and 15th December. Year six will receive their awards at Graduation Mass. Parents of children receiving awards will be notified beforehand to enable them to be present at the assembly.

Next Sunday commences the season of Advent. During Advent we prepare for the birth of Jesus. It is generally a very busy time of year with many things coming to an end as well as planning gifts and special celebrations for Christmas. Perhaps during Advent we can 'take stock' of things and remember what the season is really about.

Thank you for your continued support as we come to the end of a very exciting and successful year.

Yours sincerely

Dr Elizabeth Ricketts
Principal.

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION

The Coming of our Saviour

This Sunday marks the beginning of the Advent season. It is also the beginning of a year long relationship with Jesus based on the Gospel of Luke.

During the season of Advent, Christians across the world prepare for the celebration of the arrival of the Lord into our world through the birth of his Son, Jesus Christ.

The liturgical colour of the season is purple.



Mrs Miray Khoury,
Religious Education Coordinator.

LITERACY MATTERS

Writing at home.

- ◆ Have your child label things that he or she designs or makes.
- ◆ Compile a photo album or scrapbook with your child and have him or her write captions for the photos and pictures, or encourage your child to keep a diary of special events, e.g. a holiday diary.

Mrs Christine Leahy
Assistant Principal.

DIRECTOR'S SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2015/2016

The Executive Director's Summer Reading Challenge has begun for this year. Entries close 5th February 2016. The prize for the most books read by the closing date is an iPad mini. Register online for the challenge at: www.parra.catholic.edu.au

ENCOURAGING THE BEHAVIOUR YOU WANT IN YOUR CHILD

Get down to your child's level.

Kneeling or squatting down next to children is a very powerful tool for communicating positively with them. Getting close allows you to tune in to what they might be feeling or thinking. It also helps them focus on what you are saying or asking for. If you are close to your child and have their attention, there is no need to make the child look at you.

Mrs Christine Leahy
Assistant Principal.

NUMERACY NEWS

Infants, Middle and Upper Primary

Look for arrays around your world. Take photos or draw pictures to share on the maths window.



We are looking forward to seeing your child's hard thinking!

What mathematics will you **notice**, **discuss** and **explore** with your child this week?

Miss Prudence Hall,
Lead Numeracy Teacher.

As mentioned in previous newsletters, the 2016 resource fee of \$142 and an excursion fee (cost to be advised) will appear on the first fee statement sent to parents in February 2016.

WORLD YOUTH DAY RAFFLE TICKETS

WYD raffle tickets were sent out to all families earlier this year. Please send back the ticket stubs with the correct money as soon as possible. Thank you for supporting this worthwhile endeavour.

Hall of Fame

Congratulations to the following who have been listed in the *Hall of Fame* this fortnight.

ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS

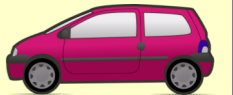
KB	Juliana Ioane	Ronell Matti	KH	Leo JohnNissan	Denise Nicolas
1C	Mielle Paulate	Devesh Sharma	1M	Ethan Cameron	Laila Sanchez
2D	Russell Alpas	Annahat Sidhu	2U	Akok Anei	Matthew Ereira
3B	Jemimah Cirera	Immanuel El-Rab	3Q	Koko Adriano	Kacey Alvarado
4D	RJ De Leon	Brooke Elson-Gill	4K	Angelo Delfinado	Dominique Penarubia
5P	Latasha Brewty	Kenyon Aquino	5W	Ethan Lord-Marsden	Arabelle Remorozo
6B	Gerard Mantua	Angelica Patterson	6C	Angeline San Pedro	Sarisha Sant

Year six Blacktown Council writing contest 2015 participants

Ida-Laura Ioane	Alyzza Manalo	Jonas Mendoza
Aleksandra Favor	Angeline San Pedro	Dominique Byrne
Emilio Seguban	Sebastien Belleza	Jeremiah Warwick-Smith
Jordan Schembri	Ruben Alcala	Stacey Debulos
Bianca Fragomeli	Marianna Al-Najar	Kaira Francisco
Ruth Nool	Kirsten Maglalang	Christina Abi Chemouni



PARKING IN THE PARISH CAR PARK



There have been a number of complaints regarding drivers blocking cars, double-parking and blocking the driveway.

Drivers are requested to show care and concern for the safety of everyone.

The car park is for the parish so please park properly in the spaces provided. No blocking cars, double-parking or blocking the driveway/father's roller doors.

When exiting the car park please drive slowly and perhaps give a short 'beep' of your car horn to alert pedestrians who may be crossing the driveway.

Your cooperation is appreciated.