

DATES FOR TERM FOUR 2014

Friday 17th October	School Disco: K-2 4:00-5:30pm Years 3-6 5:30-7:00pm
Wednesday 15th October	9:15am Primary Mass lead by year five
Tuesday 21st October	◆ Basketball Gala Day ◆ Meal Deal Day
Wednesday 29th October	9:15am Staff Mass K-6
Friday 31st October	International Teachers Day
Saturday 1st November	All Saints Day
Sunday 2nd November	All Souls Day
Tuesday 4th November	Kindergarten 2015 Orientation (siblings)
Tuesday 11th November	◆ Remembrance Day ◆ Kindergarten 2015 Orientation (new)
Wednesday 12th November	9:15am Primary Mass lead by year six
Tuesday 18th November	Kindergarten 2015 Orientation (sibs & new)
Wednesday 26th November	9:15am Infants Mass lead by kindergarten
Friday 28th November	Staff Development Day (no classes)
Wednesday 10th December	Student reports sent home to parents
Monday 15th December	◆ 8:45am KLA Awards K-5 ◆ 5:00pm Graduation Mass and Awards ceremony for year six
Tuesday 16th December	◆ 8:45am KLA Awards K-5 ◆ Year six disco and pizza lunch
Wednesday 17th December	9:15am Thanksgiving Mass
Thurs 18th & Fri 19th December	Staff Development Days (no classes)

CHINA TOWN MEAL



4 Spring Rolls
2 Dim Sims
Sauce
Bottle of Water

\$5.00

MEAL DEAL DAY TUESDAY 21ST OCT

PAYMENT DUE BY FRIDAY 17TH OCTOBER 2014

- 4 Spring Rolls
 2 Dim Sims

Sauce

- Tomato
 BBQ
 Sweet & sour
 Sweet chilli

- Bottle of Water

Child's name _____ Class _____



St Aidan's Primary School
1-5 Adelaide St, Rooty Hill NSW 2766
Telephone: 9625 3181 Fax: 9625 5612
<http://www.staidansrootyhill.catholic.edu.au>
staidans@parra.catholic.edu.au
Radio 97.5fm
Twitter @AidansSt

From the Principal

Dear Parents,

Welcome to term four. Students and staff came back to school refreshed after a relaxing holiday, which was even more enjoyable due to the beautiful weather.

As we commenced this the final term for 2014, students were reminded yet again that 'they come to school each day to learn'. This is the very important message that we state each day as the students go to class.

If children are to learn effectively they need to:

- ◆ Arrive at school on time
- ◆ Get sufficient sleep each night
- ◆ Attend school each day unless sick
- ◆ Eat healthy meals and snacks
- ◆ Be attentive and listen carefully to staff and each other
- ◆ Ensure their behaviour in the learning space and on the playground is appropriate and respectful of others.
- ◆ Complete their learning tasks, including homework in the time specified
- ◆ Be challenged and motivated to want to learn.

Many children arrive late to school each day. Some families are consistently late for school and children can miss up to fifteen minutes each morning. This equates to seventy-five minutes per week which is MORE than one day's numeracy block.

Parents we need your help in getting your children to school on time each day.

Learning at St Aidan's is very serious business and every minute of lost learning can have an ill effect on your child's learning outcome.

The final amount raised in last term's Spellathon was \$12,491. This was somewhat less than the previous year, however it will be used to provide new sporting equipment and class readers for the children. The winning classes for 2014 were Year 4M and Kindergarten H. Both classes will enjoy a pizza lunch as a reward for their industrious efforts. The individual prize winners can be found in the 'Hall of Fame'

We were very saddened by the recent death of Mrs Angela Cooper's (part time year six and Kindergarten teacher) father. Mr Reardon had been ill for just on twelve months and died peacefully during the holidays. I am sure you join with me in offering our sympathy, thoughts and prayers to Mrs Cooper during this very sad time.

Mrs Michelle Provest (teacher's assistant) is undergoing surgery at the end of next week and will be absent from school for at least two weeks. We wish Mrs Provest all the best and will keep her in our prayers during the next few weeks.

Mrs Silvana Murphy (year four teacher and Religious Education Coordinator) has been appointed as Religious Education Coordinator to St Patricks Blacktown in 2015 and therefore after thirteen years will be leaving St Aidan's at the end of 2014. We will farewell Mrs Murphy at the Mass of Thanksgiving in December. The newly appointed Religious Education Coordinator for St Aidan's will be Mrs Miray Khoury. Mrs Khoury will commence in January 2015.

It is hoped that many children will attend the Disco next Friday 17th October. Tickets are \$5 per child and money raised will be sent to those less fortunate than us.

I trust that all parents will make a big effort to get children to school on time each day. Remember 'every minute counts'.

Please check the term dates included in this newsletter

Thank you for your continued support for what promises to be another busy term.

Yours sincerely

Dr. Elizabeth Ricketts
Principal.

Take care of yourself and don't work beyond your strength.

Saint Mary MacKillop

In this issue...

- From the Principal
- Spiritual Reflection
- What is a Syllabus?
- Literacy Matters
- Numeracy News
- Prayers
- Hall of Fame
- Diary dates
- What Matters Writing Comp.
- Diary Dates
- Meal Deal

REFLECTION

The four Gospel writers had to keep their followers faithful to Christianity. A huge force to discredit their teaching came from the four religious sects in Judea at the time. These did all in their power to discredit Jesus and his followers. They were the Pharisees, Sadducees, Essenes and Zealots. Of these the Pharisees were the most powerful.

The Pharisees (rabbis) became the authority as the interpreters of the law and regulators of Jewish life. They coded the Jewish law and formalised the canon of Jewish scriptures. They also established a safeguard against external threats to Jewish life. They achieved this by adding the twelfth benediction into the Tiffilah or synagogue prayer (A.D.85 reform)

The twelfth benediction read: "For persecutors let there be no hope and the dominion of arrogance do Thou speedily root out in our days; and let Christians and minim (heretics) perish in a moment, let them be blotted out of the book of the living and let them not be written with the righteous." (Davis, The Setting)

Anyone not reading this prayer or saying 'Amen' to it was immediately expelled from the synagogue. This for the Christian-Jews meant expulsion. This was hostility from the rabbis, in order to preserve the Jewish traditions. Up until this point the Christian-Jews were welcomed in the synagogue. Banishment from the synagogue led them to meet in homes to pray.

Scholars believe that this was why Matthew's portrayal of Jesus and especially the 'Sermon on the Mount' was a response to what the rabbis had deliberately done.

Mrs. Silvana Murphy
Religious Education Coordinator.

WHAT IS A SYLLABUS?

A syllabus is a document that gives teachers an outline of what students are to be taught in a specific learning area. Each of the seven key learning areas (KLAs) in primary school has a syllabus to guide the learning and teaching in that area.

The allocation of minutes for each Key Learning Area is very specific and set by the NSW Board of Studies. The allocation for Personal Development, Health and Physical Education or PDHPE is 60 minutes for physical activity or sport and 60 minutes for personal development/health per week. These are mandated by the NSW Board of Studies and must not be less than the minimum hours or exceed the maximum hours. Our gala days for other sports in the primary are an extra not part of the required time allocation.

Mrs. Christine Leahy
Assistant Principal

School fees/resource fees are now due. Please ensure these are paid promptly. If you are experiencing difficulties please contact Mrs Wakeling 9625 3181.

LITERACY MATTERS

Since March of this year the students of St Aidan's were part of the Premier's Reading Challenge, which takes place each year and runs until 22nd August.

All of our students were registered for this challenge and it was advertised at the assemblies on Mondays as well as written about in the newsletter. As a result 119 students completed the challenge. They will receive a certificate later in the term. This challenge is worthwhile as it promotes reading and lots of it. Student reading improves with regularity and volume. We will be entering the challenge again next year. Please talk with your child now so they are aware it will be coming up and ready when the challenge begins. Thank you to all parents who supported their children in this wonderful challenge.

Mrs Christine Leahy
Assistant Principal.

NUMERACY NEWS

This term in "Numeracy News" I will explore how the home environment can support mental computation and give insight into what Mathematics will look like at St Aidan's in 2015.

By encouraging children to use one method such as a written algorithm to solve all number problems hinders their capacity to be flexible, use reasoning and think creatively.

Children will become less willing to attempt problems in different ways and may become afraid of taking risks.

What can you do to develop your child's mental computation?

- ◆ Encourage your child to estimate and answer the question mentally (in their head) before using a written algorithm.
- ◆ Encourage your child to consider different ways they could solve the problem rather than using an algorithm.

In the next newsletter I will continue to look at how the home environment can support mental computation.

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

Miss Prudence Hall
Lead Numeracy Teacher.

PRAYERS

Please remember Tristan Fegradoe and his family in your prayers. Tristan's Grandmother died recently. May she rest in peace.



WHAT MATTERS COMPETITION 2014

In May this year, students in years five and six were given the opportunity to enter a writing competition that focused on a topic that mattered to them.

The writing submitted was of a very high standard and are to be congratulated.

Students were awarded a participation certificate and their names are listed in this week's Hall of Fame.

Mrs Janet Colusso,
Coordinator.

Congratulations and thank you to the following students who raised the most money for this year's Spellathon.



Angeli Hate \$300	Byron Skarski \$200	Gabrielle Cabantog \$155	Kyra Barcelon \$148
Jayden Tayag \$130	Kynan McPherson \$125	Jhon Mateo \$122.30	Sean McCarney \$120
Ayvah Brillante Lareza \$120			

Congratulations to the following students who participated in the 'What Matters Writing Competition 2014'.



Mary Akinba	Vanie Barcelon	Amanda Pereira	Shenna Sambat
Dencel Vargas	Daniel Villanueva	Alecksandra Favour	Yustina El- Rab
Milla Rose Sagurit	Elyza Paulate	Dillan Goro	Rachel Galacio
Shayne Cortes	Rita Bouchmouni	Gabriel Cacapit	Majan Almazan
Henry Wu	Simonette Lagare	Myron Torralba	Ruth Nool
Christina Abi Chemouni	Dominique Byrne	Jonas Mendoza	Holly-Anne Ramos

Congratulations to the following St Aidan's students who attended the stage three mixed Touch Football Gala day at Kingsway Touch Fields, St Marys today.



Robert Apostol	Kobe Maireriki	Ruben Alcala	Prince II Gonzales
Jonathan Tandoc	Rhuvan Del Rosario	Bethennie Llagas	Shenna Sambat
Rosamae Celik	Yanis Clark	Rachel Galacio	



Skoolbag - St Aidan's school app.

Did you know that you can complete sick notes and absent notes on the school app? It is a new feature recently installed.

How to send a sick or absent note:

- ◆ Open school app click on the home button at the bottom of the screen
- ◆ Click on *Parent eForms*
- ◆ Choose *absentee note*
- ◆ Enter the information
- ◆ Click submit.

Another new feature is submitting change of details. Follow the above steps, instead of absentee note click on *Change of details*. The app contains a lot of useful information including the school's newsletter, dates, useful information, tuckshop price list and many, many more features.

The app can be downloaded from the iTunes store or Google Play store. Search for St Aidan's Primary Rooty Hill.

The school app is an easy way of keeping up to date with what is happening at your child's school.

Congratulations to the Albanese and Francisco Families who have already used this App.

Ms Grace Carlo-Stella
Teacher Librarian.