



St Aidan's Primary School, Rooty Hill

Sharing News and Views

From the Principal

3rd February 2012

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year to each of you! Welcome to the school year for 2012. I trust that you and your families enjoyed a relaxing break and had time to spend doing some fun things.

It was great to return to school this week and catch up with students and staff who obviously enjoyed their holidays. I am sure by now you know the names of your children's teachers; however, for your information a list of all St Aidan's staff is included in this newsletter.

I especially welcome each of the new students who have commenced Kindergarten this week and the other new students who have joined other grades.

Welcome to Miss Mariliza Aguas and Mrs Katherine Kovacs (temporary) who have joined the St Aidan's staff this year. Miss Aguas has been teaching for a number of years at St Johns Auburn and Mrs Kovacs has been teaching locally at Holy Family Emerton. Also, we welcome Mr Hayden Charter who is the new IT trainee working at St Aidan's this year. I hope that you will make welcome these new staff members.

The first meeting for parents will be held on Monday 13th February commencing at 7:00pm. This meeting will be an information sharing session with an opportunity to meet teachers. Further details will be sent to you in the next few days.

As always we will be looking for parent helpers to assist in the learning spaces with reading/craft/Maths etc. I urge you to give this serious consideration as your assistance will be much appreciated.

Mrs Leahy (Assistant Principal) has included some important information overleaf about supervision and safety. Please read this carefully so you are fully understanding of our procedures in this area.

I look forward to working with each of you again this year. Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns regarding your children's learning or other related issues.

Let us continue to work together as we aim to provide the best possible learning for the students at St Aidan's. In the words of our school motto... 'together we are one'.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Elizabeth Ricketts,
Principal.

Keep your mind in peace whatever happens
Saint Mary MacKillop 1890

Reflection

Welcome to a new year. The children will begin the first four to five weeks of their Religious Education lessons this year becoming more familiar with Jesus. From kindergarten through to year six the units of work have children interacting with stories about Jesus and stories that Jesus told. They will look at and discuss how Jesus is their friend and how His message is about love- a love for them and for others. These first units of the Religious Education Syllabus: *Sharing Our Story*, aim at allowing your children to share their own life experiences and to link these with the life of Jesus, thus building a stronger relationship with God.

Mrs Silvana Murphy,
Religious Education Coordinator.



News from the Library

The school library has many wonderful resources and many new ones have been added in recent months. This year is the *National Year of Reading* and with the wide range of books and resources in the St Aidan's library, every student will be able to enjoy many opportunities to read. Each student will visit the library each week to borrow books to take home and enjoy reading. Each student is required to have a cloth/vinyl library bag (available from the school office) to bring to school on the day of borrowing. Below is the borrowing timetable.

Borrowing timetable for 2012

Monday/Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Stage 3	Kindergarten	Year 2
(years 5 & 6)	Year 1	Year 3
	Year 4	

There will be more library news in the next newsletter.

Mrs Grace Carlo-Stella,
Teacher/librarian & LTST.



School fees

The Catholic Education Office Parramatta will post school fee invoices to each family around 9th February. Please note that these include the resource fee for 2013. Prompt payment of these fees would be appreciated. Please contact Mrs Wakeling if you have any queries after you receive your statement.



School bags, hats and library bags

The St Aidan's school bag, hat and library bag are a compulsory part of the school uniform. These items are available from the school office: School bag - \$42.00; hat - \$12.00; library bag - \$6.00. Please ensure that your child is equipped with the correct items of school uniform.

Parent helpers

Parent helpers are invited to assist teachers in their classrooms this year. A note was sent home this week listing the times assistance is required. Please complete the relevant section and return it to school by Friday 10th February.

It is a system requirement that all volunteers complete an online Child Protection Training module. This needs to be updated every two years. If you are not sure if you need to redo the training this year, please contact Mrs Newell in the school office and she will let you know. This training can be completed by visiting the following website: <http://ceo-web.parra.catholic.edu.au/asp/volunteerscpmodule/index.asp>

After successfully completing the module, an email notification will be sent automatically to the volunteer's email address and to the school email address. This email is a confirmation that the volunteer has successfully completed the training. For those who are unable to do the training online please contact the school office to arrange a time here at school to do the training.

Mrs Lisa Hurst,
Coordinator.



Change of address/phone numbers

It is important that the school has up-to-date records for the safety of your children. Please notify the school office if you have changed your address, phone number, mobile numbers or emergency contact details.



Photos

If you do not wish to have your child's photo published in the newsletter or in any CEO brochures, please advise Dr. Ricketts in writing.



Tuckshop news

The tuckshop is open at recess and lunch time Monday to Friday. A tuckshop price list is also sent home with this newsletter. If your child wants a lunch order, please write your child's name, class, order and amount enclosed on a **brown paper bag**. Please do not send plastic bags or envelopes. No large amounts of money, please.

If your child would like to buy an ice block/ice cream, they need to line up with their money at lunch time as these items melt very quickly.



St Aidan's Student Banking day is THURSDAY

St Aidan's Primary School Staff Term One 2012

Mrs Helen Grady	Kindergarten
Mrs Rosemarie Corpus	Kindergarten
Mrs Marie Cutajar	Year one
Mrs Katherine Kovacs	Year one
Miss Angela Francica	Year two
Miss Prudence Hall	Year two
Mrs Therese Bear	Year three
Ms Cris Moreno	Year three
Miss Mariliza Aguas	Year four
Mrs Lisa Hurst	Year four
Mrs Julie Hermsen	Stage 3 - Year five
Mrs Silvana Murphy	Stage 3 - Year five
Mrs Jodie Donlan	Stage 3 - Year six
Mrs Kate Woolcock	Stage 3 - Year six
Mrs Christine Leahy	Reading Recovery/Assistant Principal
Mrs Grace Carlo-Stella	Teacher/Librarian & LTST
Mrs Maureen van Reyk	Learning & Literacy Support/Coordinator
Mr Anthony Julius	RFF/Learning Support
Mrs Allison Matthews	Literacy Support
Mrs Leanne Vella	Leadership Release – 2 days (year four)
Mrs Angela Cooper	Leadership Release – 1 day (stage 3)
Ms Johanna Mejia	School Counsellor – Friday
Mrs Wendy Brown	Teacher Assistant
Mrs Jenny Chivers	Teacher Assistant
Mrs Michelle Provost	Teacher Assistant
Mrs Blaga Wakeling	Financial Administrator
Mrs Carol Newell	Secretary
Mrs Tricia Zammit	Secretary
Mr Hayden Charter	IT trainee CEO – 3 days

The Leadership Team

Dr. Elizabeth Ricketts	Principal
Mrs Christine Leahy	Assistant Principal
Mrs Silvana Murphy	Religious Education Coordinator
Mrs Maureen van Reyk	Coordinator
Mrs Lisa Hurst	Coordinator

Book covers for students' books

Once your child's resource fee is paid they will be given exercise books to be covered. Parents are asked to cover these books as quickly as possible and send them back to school with their child.

Colour coded book covers are available for purchase for all grades from kindergarten to six. A set of covers costs \$2.00.

While the covers are optional, the colour coding helps teachers and children to find the correct book for each key learning area (KLA). Kindergarten teachers have indicated the correct colours to use with a coloured dot on each book. The colours for year one to year six books are as indicated on the memo sent home this week.

When covering books, parents are asked to also cover books using contact as this will protect the books and ensure they last the distance.

Diocesan News

Faith in our future

How can we serve families better as a Church, build a true sense of belonging, and equip people for Catholic life in the 21st Century? How might we better support our schools and parishes and better meet the needs of our people, especially our children and future generations?

Bishop Anthony Fisher OP invites you to share your vision, suggestions and ideas as we plan for the years ahead in the Diocese of Parramatta.

For information about the consultation event taking place near you, or to have your say online, visit www.faithinourfuture.org.au



Dates for your diary Term one 2012

Monday 7 th February	Kindergarten begin full days i.e. 8:45am-2:55pm
Monday 13 th February	Information meeting for parents 7:00pm
Wednesday 22 nd February	Ash Wednesday 11:30am Mass Yrs. 3-6; K-2 classroom liturgies
Friday 24 th February	Blacktown Zone Swimming Carnival
Friday 2 nd March	Diocesan Swimming Carnival
Wednesday 7 th March	9:15am Opening School Mass & Induction of School Leaders
Tuesday 13 th March	School Photos
Wednesday 14 th March	Assembly Stage three
Wednesday 21 st March	Mass 9:15am (year three)
Monday 2 nd –Friday 8 th April	Holy Week
Thursday 5 th April	Term one concludes 2:55pm
Friday 6 th April	Good Friday

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Radio 97.5 fm