



# *St Aidan's Primary School, Rooty Hill*

## *Sharing News and Views*

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*From the Principal*

11<sup>th</sup> November 2011

Dear Parents,

During the past few weeks some students and teachers from years four and stage three have been preparing presentations and work samples to share at an iNet student/educator online conference to be held from 14<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> November.

The theme for the conference is 'learning in the hands of students' and students and teachers were invited to submit resources around this theme. These resources will be published on the online conference website.

The questions addressed by year four and stage three students were:

- How important are new technologies in making learning stimulating?
- What opportunities do you have in school to show how innovative, creative and imaginative you are and how well can you work collaboratively?

Year four contributors were Maddison Ticchio, Michael Darjani, Chantelle Maglalang, Anton Mlinaric, Julia Evangelista, Kayla Hernandez and John El-Ghossein. Their presentation was a keynote presentation that answered the following question from their Challenged Based Learning, 'What significant changes have occurred in our world and how have they affected Australia?'

Stage three contributions were submitted by Patrick Remorozo, Marielle Dominguez and Czarina Quiaem.

Stage three students also submitted a keynote presentation based on their Challenge Based Learning unit of work, 'What is energy and how do we use it?'

Year four teachers, Mrs Hurst and Miss Francica wrote and submitted a paper in response to the question, 'How have you worked with students in your school to provide inspiring, engaging learning experiences which enable students to demonstrate innovation, imagination and successful collaboration with their peers and with their teachers?'

I also prepared a power-point presentation which has been accepted by the conference committee. The title of my presentation was, 'Why and what needs to happen to ensure school leaders and educators are up to the task of preparing students for success in an era of globalization?' My presentation addressed the following questions:

- What has changed about schooling?
- Why do students need 21<sup>st</sup> century skills?
- What does this mean for learning/teaching in 2011 and beyond?
- Working in teams.
- How do we organise learning/teaching to reflect the essential elements of learning/teaching in 2011? e.g. relevance, collaboration, 'just in time learning' etc.
- Some suggested viewing of educational clips from 'you tube' etc.

Preparing and presenting for this international online conference has been a great learning experience for students and teachers and one which I am sure will provide some useful and interesting professional contacts around the world.

Congratulations to our students and teachers on their enthusiasm and efforts in embracing this new challenge.

The first Kindergarten orientation was held last Wednesday. It was lovely to welcome the siblings group to St Aidan's.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

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*Dr. Elizabeth Ricketts,*  
Principal.

## Reflection

Last Sunday's Gospel questions one's foolishness or wisdom. The ten virgins waited for the bridegroom. Some were prepared with lanterns and extra oil while the others arrived with only their lanterns in hand. The message is to 'be prepared,' for no one knows when the last hour will come. Jesus (the bridegroom) asks us to be prepared by doing two things - to love God and to love our neighbor.

Consider what it means to be wise or foolish. A wise person listens and learns and looks ahead. A foolish person doesn't learn from past experiences and looks for the present not the future results.

How good are you at waiting? Are you a naturally patient person, or do you feel your stomach churn with frustration and impatience whenever you have to wait for something? Contemplate how you can best live in a waiting attitude, patient and prepared, calm but expectant and hopeful of a never-ending existence with God.

*Mrs Silvana Murphy,*  
Religious Education Coordinator.

## NAPLAN

Last week's newsletter informed parents of upcoming staff meetings using NAPLAN data to inform the direction of learning and teaching strategies.

NAPLAN is one source of useful data that can inform future teaching. There are other forms of assessment used within our school. These include whole school testing as well as assessments used by classroom teachers and anecdotal records of observed skills and behavior.

These assessment tools also help to grade students on the E-A scale found in our Semester one and Semester two reports. Teachers are busily preparing end of year reports using various assessment data.

When you receive your child's report at the end of the year, many forms of assessment have been used to make an informed decision about their performance.

*Mrs Christine Leahy,*  
Assistant Principal.

## Kindergarten 2012 Orientation

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November at 8:45am**  
(new families to the school)

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November at 8:45am**  
(all students and parents)

## Silver Jubilee Winners

Some time ago several students from St Aidan's participated in a competition for the 25 year anniversary of the Parramatta Diocese. Last Monday the school was notified that Patrick Remorozo from year six won first prize in the Literature section and Ricky Gagliardi and Anjelo Villacorta, also from year six received certificates of commendation. Congratulations and well done boys! This was a great effort and achievement.

## Swimming trials

On Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November St Aidan's will be holding Twilight Swimming Trials at Ripples. Fast, competent swimmers are encouraged to try out. They will need to be able to swim at least 50 metres strongly whilst maintaining correct stroke formation e.g. club swimming and those who take part in competition swimming. Children need to arrive at Ripples by 4:15pm as the first time trial will start at 4:30pm.

If your child wishes to participate please contact the school office for the relevant form.

*Mrs Maureen van Reyk,*  
Sports Coordinator.

## Students returning 2012

Whether your child is returning next year or not we ask all families to return the 'Students returning 2012' form as soon as possible so classes can be organised for 2012. Thank you to all those families who have already returned the form.

## Student Validation

By now all families would have received their student validation forms.

These forms need to be returned to the school office, with or without changes. Thank you to the families who have already returned their forms.

If you have not returned your form please do so as soon as possible. Thank you for your cooperation.

*Mrs Blaga Wakeling,*  
Office Manager.



Prayers are requested for Carlos and Kayla Montenegro and their family. The children's grandmother died recently.

# Hall of Fame

*Congratulations to the following students who will receive an Achievement Award.*

KG	Clara Michael	Gabriella Lapus
KH	Christian Ramos	Diya Dinesh
1M	Liam Gungab	Elyza Lagare
1W	Noeline Swin	Kayne Papworth
2H	Christina Abi-Chemouni	Corey Simmons
2J	Laszlo Mendoza	Awein Akol
3C	Alice Zammit	Yustina El-Rab
3M	Bethennie Llagas	Helepiko Uhatafe
4F	Theia Debulos	Trudie O'Neill
4H	Sarah Joson	Joshua Rahman
5B	Marielle Dominguez	Czarina Quiaem
5M	Dana Mallouk	Jason Johnson
6D	Taban Dau	Joshua Ackroyd-Mosbey
6M	Naomi Nuque	Jacob Rodriguez

## Silver Jubilee Art and Literature Competition

Congratulations to Patrick Remorozo who came 1<sup>st</sup> place in Literature

Congratulations to Anjelo Villacorta and Ricky Gagliardi

who received certificates of commendation.



## Term four dates for your diary

Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Kindergarten 2012 Orientation 8:45am (new families)
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Year three leading Primary Mass 9:15am
Mon 21 <sup>st</sup> -Fri 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Kindergarten, years one and two 'Learn to Swim'
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	Kindergarten Orientation 2012 8:45am (all students and parents)
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Twilight Swimming Trials
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Kindergarten leading Mass 9:15am
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Reports to parents
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Year six Graduation Mass 5:00pm
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Year six disco 11:00am – 2:00pm
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Last day of school for students

### *Supervision of students and punctuality*

A reminder to parents that the supervision of students at St Aidan's is between 8:15am and 3:25pm each day. The gates are opened at 8:15am each morning when supervision commences.

Parents are very welcome to come into the playground before and after school, however it is requested that parents sit or wait on the silver seats in the parent waiting area. Preschoolers must stay with parents at all times. Your cooperation in this matter will assist teachers in the effective supervision of the students.

Parents are requested to come to the front office from the front gate, not to the 'children's window' accessed via the playground. This is a child protection issue and your cooperation is appreciated.

**All parents are asked to ensure that their children arrive on time for school each morning i.e. before 8:45am.**

### *Minister Peter Garrett's National Conversation with Parents*

Watch and participate as parents come together to talk to the Minister for School Education, Early Childhood and Youth, Peter Garrett, about the Australian Government's School Reform Agenda.

Date: Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2011

Time: 1:30pm

<http://ministers.deewr.gov.au/garrett/peter-garrett-live-qu-14-november-2011>

Click on the 'test here' link for DEEWR theatre – live stream test for launch webcasting.

### *Rooty Hill Outside of School Hours*

Address: 113 Rooty Hill Road North, Rooty Hill 2766

Before school care – 6:15am – 9:00am (breakfast provided) \$16.00

After school care – 2:30pm – 6:30pm (afternoon tea provided) \$19.00

Vacation care – 6:30am – 6:30pm (breakfast and afternoon tea provided) \$45.00

Rooty Hill Outside of School Hours (OOSH) services provide before and after school care for primary students during the school term, and holiday care during the school holidays.

The Centre provides a range of recreational activities in a safe enjoyable atmosphere. Children can choose what they would like to do, from sport, art and craft, group games or quiet play.

The service provides healthy and nutritious snacks for the children.

The Centre recognises the new Quality Framework, 'My Time Our Place'.

The Centre is a community based service, managed by a parent committee.

Rooty Hill OOSH has its own mini bus to transport children to and from school.

Families are more than welcome to pop in to the Centre to have a look around. Please phone to make an appointment. Telephone 9625 3397.

*St Aidan's Primary School: 1-5 Adelaide Street, Rooty Hill NSW 2766*

*Telephone 9625 3181 FAX 9625 5612*

*<http://www.staidansrootyhill.catholic.edu.au>*

*Radio 97.5 fm*