

## Term one 2013

Wednesday 27th March	11:30am Stage 3 lead the Holy Week liturgy
Friday 29th March	Good Friday (no school)
Monday 1st April	Easter Monday (no school)
Wed 3rd and Thurs 4th April	School photos (two days)
Tuesday 9th April	Stage 3 Girls Soccer Day
Friday 12th April	Last day term one

## Term two 2013

Monday 29th April	STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY (NO CLASSES) <i>More information to follow</i>
Tues 30th April	STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY (NO CLASSES) <i>More information to follow</i>
Wednesday 1st May	First day term two for students—8:55am

### St Aidan's Catholic Church Reconciliation Program 2013

Information evening: Wednesday 1st May 7:30pm in Mary MacKillop Hall  
 Registration days: Saturday 4th May and Sunday 5th May after each Mass.  
 Parent evening: Wednesday 15th May at 7:30pm in Mary MacKillop Hall  
 Sessions: Sunday 19th May 8:30am in MacKillop Hall  
 Sunday 26th May 8:30am in MacKillop Hall  
 Sunday 2nd June 8:30am in MacKillop Hall  
 Practice dates: Monday 3rd June and Thursday 6th June 7:00pm in the Church.

**Sacrament Administered in St Aidan's Church.  
 on Wednesday 12th June and Thursday 13th June 2013 at 7:00pm.**

Dear Dr. Ricketts,

**Our son/daughter is in year five at St Aidan's School and he/she is interested in learning a band instrument.**

**We understand that there will be a fee of \$130/term and the lessons will be held after school.**

Student's name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's signature \_\_\_\_\_



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## From the Principal

Dear Parents

As you know, this week all Catholic schools in NSW have celebrated 'Catholic Schools Week'. It was lovely to see so many parents at 'open afternoon' yesterday and encouraging to receive so many positive comments about the way students were involved in their learning. Congratulations to the newly appointed student leaders for the gracious way in which they acted as hosts and hostesses during the afternoon. Thank you to the parents and friends who joined the school community for this experience.

Last week some students from years four and five were presented with their badges of office as Liturgy committee members and Library monitors. As mentioned at Monday's assembly students from years five and six were invited to apply in writing for these positions and then a selection process followed. Congratulations to the following students:

#### Liturgy Committee 2013

Kirsty Conna  
 Jenny El-Bacha  
 Sarah Price  
 John El-Ghossein  
 Joshua Moussa  
 Chantelle Maglalang

#### Library Monitors 2013

Justin Mallouk  
 Amanda Pereira  
 Esther Usu  
 Yustina El-Rab  
 Jayden Wills  
 Yannis Clark  
 Milla Sagurit  
 Rosa Belle Jueco  
 Rachel Galacio  
 Anthony Gagliardi

During 2012, I commenced discussions with the Parramatta Diocesan 'Captive' team with regard to establishing a school band. Naturally before students can play in a band they need to have some basic training. As a result of these conversations the following course of action has been negotiated.

Year five students will have the opportunity to learn a woodwind or brass instrument in 2013 with a view to forming a small school band in year six 2014.

The situation would be as follows:

- ◆ Between 10-15 students from year five (or below if necessary) need to be interested in learning a band instrument.
- ◆ There would be a group lesson once per week in a band context at \$130 per term per student.
- ◆ This fee is broken down as follows -
  - \$100 tuition fee
  - \$30 instrument hire fee
- ◆ Students will be able to use 'captive' sourced instruments in the initial stages.
- ◆ Students will be guaranteed a minimum of 8 lessons per term but are taught through the whole term. So, over a year they are guaranteed 32 lessons with the possibility of 38 lessons.
- ◆ Lessons will be held after school possibly on Tuesday from 3.15 -4.00pm
- ◆ All fees will be paid directly to the school at the commencement of each term.
- ◆ Instruments may include: flute; trumpet; clarinet; trombone; saxophone. This is not finalised as yet.

I remind parents that each child in year four is part of a strings program (violin) at no cost to families. This is the second year of the strings program.

Any year five parents interested in pursuing this great opportunity for their children are asked to complete the form at the back of the newsletter and send the completed form to the school office by next Friday 22nd March. As there are limited places for the group lesson, preference will be given in order of application.

Further in this newsletter I have included a list of some of the 'must read' books for children. You may already have some of these in your home libraries or may wish to borrow from the St Aidan's or your local library.

Finally, I am pleased to let you know that St Aidan's now has a school 'App'. Go to the iTunes store and download **St Aidans Primary Rooty Hill**. In a few weeks' time the 'App' will be available for all smart phones. It can be downloaded on the iPad as well however you need to tick 'iPhone' when downloading.

Thank you to Miss Carlo-Stella for organising this for our school. It is an excellent way of keeping up with latest school events, newsletters etc.

Parents, thank you for your continued support as we work together to provide the best possible learning for your children.

Yours sincerely

*Dr. Elizabeth Ricketts*  
 Principal.

**LENT**

Catholic Schools Week celebrated this week has been a celebration of what being Catholic is all about.

In our Catholic Schools, being Catholic means more than learning about the tradition, symbols and rituals of the faith. It means being New Evangelisers, who take action in all that is done: watching; listening; reflecting; sharing and imitating in practice what Christ did. These little signs of faith are seen and heard, not just read about in our schools.

This week has been a celebration of our Catholicity. It will conclude this weekend with the schools in this local area joining the parishes to celebrate Easter.

You are invited to join us this **Sunday, 17th March**, in celebrating Catholic Schools Week at the **8:30am Mass** in St Aidan's Church.

*Mrs Silvana Murphy*  
Religious Education Coordinator

**COMPLAINTS HANDLING**

St Aidan's Complaints Handling Policy follows the Diocese of Parramatta guidelines and ensures complaints are addressed appropriately:

- Complaints will be investigated in a fair and impartial manner.
- A person facing a complaint is entitled to know detailed information regarding the substance of the complaint and to have the opportunity to respond.
- Confidentiality will be observed.
- The complaints management process will be conducted in a manner that is respectful of all parties.
- Persons making a complaint will not be victimized.
- It is expected that complaints are made in good faith and are not vexatious or malicious.
- Complaints will be addressed in a timely manner and complaints will be advised if the matter cannot be finalized within one month.

St Aidan's Complaints Handling Policy can be accessed on the school website:  
<http://www.staidansrootyhill.catholic.edu.au/parents/information-booklet/information-booklet.aspx>

*Mrs Christine Leahy*,  
Assistant Principal.

**LITERACY MATTERS**



It's natural to want to compare your child's reading abilities with those of other children of the same age, but not all children develop reading skills at the same pace. What's important is that you are aware of your child's reading level so that you can choose books and activities that will help him or her improve. Work with your child's teacher and others to improve your child's reading skills.

*Mrs Lisa Hurst*  
Lead Literacy Teacher  
Coordinator.

**NUMERACY NEWS**



Children learn best when they are engaged and involved in mathematical tasks. 'Open-ended' rich learning tasks are rich, real and relevant and are a significant part of the numeracy block at St Aidan's.

These tasks encourage different ideas and strategies. Children in the group engage in the task at their own level. The learning focus is clearly identified so children are aware not only of what they are doing but also the reason that they are doing it.

An example of an addition task in stage one (years one and two) might be, "What two numbers can I add together to make ten?" The task has multiple answers. Some students may still require concrete material to complete the task while others may record by using pencil and paper. Teachers support, question and offer feedback during this time.

The next step for the learning group is what is known as 'reflection time'. This concept will be explained in the next newsletter.

*Mrs Jodie Donlan*  
Lead Numeracy Teacher.

**SCRUNCHIES**

Bottle green scrunchies, ponytail holders and ribbon bow ponytail holders are now available at the school office.  
Prices as follows:



- Two scrunchies—\$5.00
- Two ribbon bow ponytail holders—\$5.00
- Twelve metal free ponytail holders—\$5.00

**SUNGLASSES**



Sunglasses for the students may be ordered at the school office for \$10.00 each. The minimum order of sunglasses the school is able to place is twelve pieces at a time. This may result in a delay of delivery to families.

**HEAD LICE**



Some cases of head lice have been detected in classes.

Please check your child's head for evidence of head lice/nits and use preventative treatment as a matter of course.

**Hall of Fame**

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

**ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS**

KC	Rachael Perillo	Ethan Dinh Vu
KH	Jenny Decena	Matthew Allen
1C	Anjali Sharma	Amire Gorgise
1G	Enrico Villanueva	Airah Paulate
2F	Jenny Le	Farrell Cruz
2M	Zaki Dela Cruz	Michael Piliae
3B	Neil Swin	Ruth Joseph
3G	Kyra Barcelon	Tong Mawein
4H	Dominique Byrne	Vince Malinao
4Y	Disha Prasad	Rhuven Del Rosario
5M	Justin Mallouk	Natarlia Fraser
5S	Melissa Mlotshwa	Helepiko Uhatafe
6D	Samuelle Amor	Gianni Fragomeli
6W	Jade Meilak	Joshua Moussa



**THANK YOU**

A big thank you to Mrs. Nikic who recently purchased new watering cans for the school.

**MOTHER'S DAY STALL—10TH MAY 2013**

St Aidan's School will be having a Mother's Day Stall this year.

Parents are asked to donate gifts to the school valued between \$2.00 and \$5.00. Donations of clear cellophane and new ribbon will also be appreciated.

These gifts will then be sold to the students at the stall on **Friday 10th May 2013**.

A flyer to parents will follow.

