

Term three 2013

Mon 19th August	2:00pm Book Character Parade
Mon 19th and Tues 20th	Book Fair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Monday 19th August 3:00pm - 4:00pm ◆ Tuesday 20th August 8:15am - 9:00am ◆ Tuesday 20th August 2:30pm - 3:30pm
Tuesday 20th August	Netball Gala Day at St Nicholas of Myra
Wednesday 21st August	◆ Voice of Youth Cluster Final for year six ◆ 11:30am Kindergarten leads Assembly in the hall
Thursday 22nd August	Kindergarten excursion to Featherdale Wildlife Park
Friday 23rd August	◆ Number-a-thon test ◆ Diocesan Athletics carnival
Monday 26th August	Staff Development Day (no classes)
Wednesday 28th August	9:15am St Aidan's Day and Father's Mass lead by Stage three
Wednesday 4th September	11:30am Year three leads Assembly in the hall
Friday 6th September	◆ Stage three excursion to Warragamba Dam ◆ Number-a-thon money due
Wednesday 11th September	9:15am Infants Mass lead by year one
Wednesday 18th September	11:30am Stage three Assembly in the hall
Friday 20th September	2:55pm Term three concludes

HOLIDAYS DURING SCHOOL TIME

If you are planning holidays or if your children are on leave (other than sick leave) during school terms, you must complete an 'application for exemption' form before the leave is taken.

This is a legal requirement and therefore this procedure must be adhered to.

Letters from parents are no longer acceptable.

Please realize that any leave taken in school time is a disruption to your children's learning and should be avoided.

BOOK WEEK

Book week occurs this term the week beginning Monday 19th August 2013. During this week, there will be two big events at St Aidan's.

BOOK FAIR

The book fair selling times are as follows:

- ◆ Monday 19th August 3:00pm - 4:00pm
- ◆ Tuesday 20th August 8:15am - 9:00am
- ◆ Tuesday 20th August 2:30pm - 3:30pm



Family and friends are most welcome to share in the magic of buying books.

BOOK CHARACTER PARADE

On Monday 19th August 2013, beginning at 2:00pm the school will be holding a book character parade. Each child is asked to dress up to portray a book character. Students are encouraged to use clothes, props that they have at home.

All parents are invited to attend to see the different book characters on parade. Certificates will be given in each grade. Following the book character parade, the book fair will be open for purchasing books.

I look forward to seeing you at the Book Fair and Book Character Parade.

Mrs Grace Carlo-Stella
Teacher/Librarian.



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

From the Principal

Dear Parents,

Last Tuesday evening all parents were invited to a Technology workshop. The purpose of the workshop was to showcase some of the technologies being used by students at St Aidan's and allow parents the opportunity to use the technologies themselves.

Many technology kiosks were set up in the library, the studio and in the year four learning space. These kiosks included:

- ◆ The use of iPads, chrome-books and laptops
- ◆ Social media samples including face-book and Kick
- ◆ Radio broadcasting including podcasting
- ◆ Hands on activities with the school's Robots
- ◆ Google apps
- ◆ A variety of websites and appropriate apps
- ◆ Roaming kiosks for parent's Q and A



I extend my sincere thanks to Miss Carlo-Stella and her committee of Mrs Woolcock and Mrs Donlan for organising such a great event and to all teachers who came along and staffed the kiosks.

Thank you to the students (see hall of Fame) who attended in order to facilitate the radio broadcasting and robotics and to the thirty five parents who came along to experience some new learning and witness the very important work being done with the integration of technology at St Aidan's.

As mentioned previously this workshop was organised as a response to parents requesting information about the teaching/learning taking place at St Aidan's. (Five reading workshops for parents were held in term two).

It was extremely disappointing that such a small number of parents were able to attend, especially when teachers had gone to so much trouble with the organisation of this event. There are 830 parents whose children attend St Aidan's.

Once again 'thank you' to the parents who did attend. Your positive comments were much appreciated and I am thrilled that your understanding of the learning/teaching occurring at St Aidan's has been enriched. Your support as always was much appreciated.

Thirty nine students participated in the Zone Athletics Carnival last Tuesday. Congratulations to the students for being such good sports and for their enthusiastic participation. Thank you to Mrs Donlan, Mrs Provest and Mrs Polidano (parent helper) for their help on the day.

I remind parents that if you are planning holidays or if your children are on leave (other than sick leave) during school terms, you must complete an 'application for exemption' form before the leave is taken. This is a legal requirement and therefore this procedure must be adhered to. Letters from parents are no longer acceptable. Please realize that any leave taken in school time is a disruption to your children's learning and should be avoided.

The Staff Development Day for this term is on Monday 26th August. St Aidan's staff members will spend the day with Dr Sandy Carroll a scripture scholar of some repute. We will be reflecting on Jesus as he appears in the Gospel of St Luke. There are no classes on this day

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Dr. Elizabeth Ricketts
Principal.



REFLECTION

During the past week, the Church has celebrated two great women of faith – St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop, on the 8th August, and the Assumption of Our Lady, on the 15th August.

St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop, Australia’s first saint, was a strong woman who stood up for what she believed in. A true example of following in Jesus’ footsteps, she lived and worked with the poor and outcast. Like Christ, she too bore a cross; one of excommunication for standing up for her beliefs. In a power play of jealousy, Bishop Sheil had Mary excommunicated, however, this was lifted by the Holy See in Rome and the Bishop also lifted his censure just before he died.

St. Mary is a true inspiration to all Australians and especially to the St. Aidan’s School community, of which she and her Sisters were once a part.

The other Mary, the Mother of God, is held in highest esteem by the Church. Mary is an inspiration to all Catholics. Her whole life was dedicated to God. St. Luke tells us of her unquestioning faith and love for God. Chosen by God the Father to be the Mother of His Son and to be filled with the Holy Spirit, Mary has been honoured and taken to heaven, body and soul. The feast of the Assumption is celebrated on the 15th August.

These two great women inspire us and lead the way to God’s unending love.

Mrs Silvana Murphy
Religious Education Coordinator

EXPLANATION OF SYLLABUS DOCUMENTS FOR PARENTS

The Australian Curriculum and how it is delivered through the NSW Board of studies syllabuses
Parent guide for English and Mathematics

The following is a helpful guide, which outlines what the new documents contain.

English

- ◆ Students develop their language skills through activities involving speaking and listening, reading and writing, and viewing and representing.
- ◆ They learn about language and literature through working with a wide range of print, spoken, visual, media, multimedia and digital texts.
- ◆ They interpret and express their views on what they hear, see and read.
- ◆ They create written and digital texts, and deliver formal and informal presentations.
- ◆ For the first time, there will be a requirement that students experience a range of texts, including Australian works, multiculturalism, Aboriginality and Australian identity, and Asian perspectives.
- ◆ There is an increased emphasis on grammar and the teaching of quality literature.

Mathematics

Students develop their mathematical knowledge, skills and understanding through a range of learning experiences across:

- ◆ Number and Algebra, e.g. whole numbers and fractions and decimals
 - ◆ Measurement and Geometry, e.g. length, area and time
 - ◆ Statistics and Probability, e.g. data and chance.
- They develop their problem-solving skills and mathematical reasoning and communication.
Students in Stage 3 develop a deeper understanding of Statistics and Probability.

Mrs Christine Leahy,
Assistant Principal.

LITERACY MATTERS

Reading aloud and thinking aloud

- ◆ Good readers unconsciously create visual images in their heads while they are reading. It’s all part of the comprehension process.
- ◆ While you are reading to your child, think out loud about the images you see or the questions that may arise. This means explaining the ideas, pictures, questions, and connections that go through your mind as you read a passage.

Mrs Lisa Hurst
Lead Literacy Teacher & Coordinator.

NUMERACY NEWS

Most calculations that are carried out each day are done in our heads. The methods used to work things out mentally are often different from the written method.

One of the early ways in which children learn to add two numbers mentally is to start with the larger number and count by ones to add the second number. This is effective when dealing with small numbers. As children begin to deal with large numbers, they develop a range of ways other than counting by ones. One of the interesting things about mental calculations is that we do not all think the same way.

How can parents support this learning at home?

- ◆ Ask your child how they mentally worked out the answer to a question. Explain how you would work it out mentally
- ◆ Ask how much change he or she should receive when purchasing an item.
- ◆ Encourage your child to estimate the cost of two items when shopping.
- ◆ When playing games that involve dice, replace the dice with ones that have numbers on them.
- ◆ If watching a game involving two teams, ask your child to work out mentally the difference in the scores.

The next newsletter will include activities to promote children’s understandings of patterns and algebra.

Mrs Jodie Donlan
Lead Numeracy Teacher.

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

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS		
KC	Jonita Solomon	Nickolas Goro
KH	Ella Bijac	Eric Meilak
1C	Sarah Wisam Nissan	Sam Gabarda
1G	Paula El-Ghossein	Immanuel El-Rab
2F	Montana Saric	Halouf Gafour
2M	Edwin Liberty	Ella Capili
3B	Ruth Joseph	Jeremy Rahman
3G	Neil Swin	Chloe Bazina
4H	Stacey Debulos	Sebastien Belleza
4Y	Alexi Bonete	Anthony Gloria
5M	Daniel Villanueva	Milla Sagurit
5S	Yustina El-Rab	Dencel Vargas
6D	Sarah Price	Theia Debulos
6W	Joshua Rahman	Hannah Plaatjes

Congratulations to the following students who attended the Zone Athletics carnival

Marta Abicic	Paolo Adriano	Mary Akinba	Anei Anei
Robert Apostol	Cyril Asuncion	Britnee Azaglo	Vanie Barcelon
Alexi Bonete	Kristina Bonic	Kirsty Conna	Chenae Cruise
Michael Darjani	Emmanuel De Vera	Awein Akol	Jenny El-Bacha
Gianni Fragomeli	Rayanna Franco	Prince II Gonzales	Prince Martin Gonzales
Elyza Lagare	Julian Lapus	Kobe Maireriki	Thomas Meniconi
Joshua Moussa	Martin Nikic	Elyza Paulate	Hannah Plaatjes
Kyle Polidano	Jeremy Rahman	Tre Roberts	Jye Skarski
Alexander Taco	Sophie Taylor	Maddison Ticchio	Alexandra White
Tiffany Wu			

BABY NEWS

Congratulations to Maria Halatanu and her family on the birth of their baby girl, Vai.
Congratulations to Angelica and Rodney Patterson and their family on the birth of their baby boy, Elijah.



Thank you to the following students who attended the IT Expo last Tuesday evening.

Marta Abicic	Stephanie Derjani
Hannah Plaatjes	Alexandra White
Michael Darjani	John El-Ghossein
Kayla Hernandez	Julia Evangelista
Robert Apostol	

Thank you to Mrs Polidano who assisted at the Zone Athletics Carnival last Tuesday.



IT EXPO 2013

