



St Aidan's Primary School, Rooty Hill

Sharing News and Views

From the Principal

25th November 2011

Dear Parents

As you know there was an excellent response from St Aidan's families regarding the recent Coles and Woolies initiative for school equipment. The amounts expended by parents and friends from our school equated to \$2,451 at Coles and \$1,470 at Woolworths. This meant that the school was able to purchase all new sporting equipment with the Coles docketts and a new set of percussion instruments from the Woolies docketts. Once again thank you for your tremendous support with this initiative. It has certainly been a great saver for St Aidan's.

You might recall in the previous newsletter I talked to you about an international online conference that some of our students and teachers participated in. Collectively we received some positive comments from a variety of educators around the world. This was a new experience for St Aidan's and one that proved stimulating and worthwhile for students and teachers. Hopefully we will share some of these learnings with parents in 2012.

Kindergarten, year one and year two students attended a week of swimming lessons this week. Thank you to the many parents who supported this program. It is just so important for us in Australia that children and adults are able to swim and keep safe in the water. Though it is an additional expense for families getting towards Christmas it is well timed with the summer holidays approaching.

The school year for 2011 is fast coming to a close and teachers are busy finalising student reports and classes for 2012, reading/maths groups etc. Parents are reminded that all school readers and library books must be returned to St Aidan's within the next two weeks. Your help in this will be much appreciated.

The annual Key Learning Awards (KLA) presentations will be held on Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th December at the morning assembly. Parents are welcome to join us for these presentations. Awards are presented for excellence in each KLA for each class as follows:

Tuesday 13th December: Religious Education
English
Mathematics
Human society and its environment
Science and technology
PD/Health/PE

Wednesday 14th December: Creative arts
Sport
Consistent effort
School spirit
Principal's award

It is hoped that each family will support the St Vincent de Paul Christmas appeal that is currently underway at St Aidan's. Mrs Murphy has posted a reminder about this over the page.

Once again thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Elizabeth Ricketts,
Principal.

Reflection

St. Vincent de Paul Society is holding its Christmas Appeal.

This organisation does a wonderful job caring for and assisting the less fortunate families and individuals in the St. Aidan's Parish. Throughout the year the St Vincent de Paul society assisted people with food parcels; provision of furniture; payment of bills and visits to the sick and lonely.

Over the next two weeks the school asks for your assistance to fill the boxes in your child's grade. A list of goodies was sent home on Monday with suggestions of what you could donate.

Christmas is a time of giving and what better way to prepare for the coming of the Lord than by sharing what we have with those less fortunate than ourselves.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

Mrs Silvana Murphy,
Religious Education Coordinator.



Smarter Schools National Partnership

The staff of St Aidan's has focused on the improvement of reading comprehension for all students.

We have been part of the 'Smarter Schools National Partnership' for the Parramatta Diocese, which allowed the staff opportunities for professional learning on this focus.

This week the staff had the opportunity of working with Professor Robyn Ewing from the University of Sydney.

Robyn has worked with the staff earlier in the year and gave many wonderful drama ideas to enhance reading comprehension.

These strategies were effectively utilized in the classrooms especially before writing in the literacy block.

Robyn was part of a program featured on the ABC's 7:30 Report linking the improvement of reading comprehension to drama.

We look forward to gaining more ideas and valuable input from Robyn.

Mrs Christine Leahy,
Assistant Principal.



St Vincent de Paul Appeal

It is that time of year when we count on your continued support and generosity to assist St Vincent de Paul with their Christmas appeal.

Here are a few suggestions of suitable donations:

- Long life milk or custard
- Tins of biscuits
- Christmas lollies
- Tins of salmon, tuna
- Coffee, tea and sugar
- Christmas crackers
- Soft drinks, cordial or juice
- Chocolates
- Candy canes
- Tins of fruit or vegetables
- Jam or jelly
- New toys (*not wrapped please*)

PLEASE ENSURE FOOD IS NOT OUT OF DATE

St Vincent de Paul Society has asked us to let you know that they cannot accept gifts of nuts or nut products.

The school will be collecting items until Friday 2nd December 2011.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Silvana Murphy,
Religious Education Coordinator.



New school hats

The new school hats are now available from the school office. There are four sizes 53cm, 55cm, 57cm and 59cm. **Hats cost \$12.00 each.**



Kindergarten at 'Learn to Swim'

Some comments from kindergarten children after their first swimming lessons...

- Clare "I like back floating."
- Sophia "I like it when I swim on my own."
- Bella "I like doing three strokes and take a breath."
- Jemaine "I like jumping in the water."
- Katherin "I can blow bubbles."
- John Rhys "I can kick my feet in the water."
- Stephen "I like swimming with the ring."
- Beatrix "I was floating on my own for ten seconds."
- Shaun "I can swim all the way to the line."



Hall of Fame

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

KG	Chloe Pickering	Ruiz Bernardo
KH	Jasmine Cardines	Denver Remo
1M	Uriel Allarey	Khrystian Sangil
1W	Phil El-Rab	Jeremy Rahman
2H	Alexi Bonete	Sophia Taylor
2J	Talafaiva Uhatafe	Kobe Maireriki
3C	Caylan Rama	Reuben Rajlawot
3M	Ella O'Neill	Melissa Mlotshwa
4F	Richard Quisumbing	Mary Ocampo
4H	Paola Ong	Gianni Fragomeli
5B	Bailey Hogg	Guillian Leonardo
5M	Marie Delfinado	Shivanjana Lal
6D	Achol Tong	Joanne Carey
6M	Jazzmun Maireriki	Marley Skarski



Term dates for your diary

Wed 30 th November	Kindergarten leading Mass 9:15am
Fri 9 th December	Reports to parents
Tue 13 th December	KLA Awards
Wed 14 th December	* KLA Awards * Year six Graduation Mass 5:00pm
Thur 15 th December	Year six disco 11:00am – 2:00pm
Fri 16 th December	9:15am Mass of Thanksgiving School closes 2:55pm

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## *2012 dates for your diary*

|                                                   |                                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> January                   | Staff members return to school (SDD)                  |
| Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> January                   | Years one to six students begin 8:45am                |
| Tues 31 <sup>st</sup> Jan-Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb | Kindergarten 2012 - half days i.e.8:45am – 12:00 noon |

## HOLIDAY TENNIS CLINICS



◦ STANHOPE GARDENS ◦ GLENWOOD ◦ WOODCROFT ◦ ROOTY HILL

- Award winning tennis school providing quality fully supervised clinics & coaching.
  - Ages 5 to 17 years – beginners, intermediate & advanced students welcome.
  - Prizes & Trophies, tournaments, Free Mc Donald's lunch & presentation on last day
- School term coaching also available at the listed venues*

>> **Stanhope Reserve**  
Majestic Drive, Stanhope Gardens  
>> **Glenwood Tennis Centre**  
Forman Av, Glenwood  
>> **Woodcroft Tennis Centre**  
Woodcroft Drive, Woodcroft  
>> **Rooty Hill Tennis Centre**  
Learmonth Street, Rooty Hill

**Clinic 1 (2011)**  
19<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec

**Clinic 2 (2012)**  
9<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> Jan

**Clinic 3 (2012)**  
23<sup>rd</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> Jan\*  
(excluding 26<sup>th</sup>)

**Cost:**  
\$109 FULL DAY WEEK (9am - 3pm)  
\$ 89 HALF DAY WEEK (9am - 12 noon)  
\$ 99 4 DAYS FULL DAY (9am - 3pm)  
SINGLE DAY - Full \$30, Half \$27

[www.rodfaheytennis.com](http://www.rodfaheytennis.com)

### *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, manager 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*