



St Aidan's Primary School, Rooty Hill

Sharing News and Views

From the Principal

2nd March 2012

Dear Parents,

Last week students from St Aidan's took part in the Blacktown Zone Swimming Carnival. Congratulations to the students who participated with great enthusiasm and sportsmanship.

Two swimmers have been selected to represent the Zone at the Diocesan Carnival today. They were Alexandra White (year six) and Bianca Fragomeli (year three). Well done girls and good luck for your event. We are proud of all swimmers who showed great school spirit and were a credit to themselves and their school.

This year the students in year four will participate in a 'strings' program. The Parramatta Diocese *Captivate* team provides support to schools in the creative arts in particular with Music, Drama and Dance. After much discussion with the team late last year I was able to secure this program for St Aidan's.

The school has purchased nineteen violins and *Captivate* provide the remainder so each student in year four has the use of a violin. The violins remain at school and the students have a one hour group lesson each Friday. There is no cost to parents for these group lessons.

Additional individual lessons may be negotiated at reduced cost at a later date should any students show particular talent.

I am also in discussions around establishing a school band for students in stage three (years five and six). These discussions are in the early stages; however I am hopeful that we will achieve a positive result.

I received some wonderful news this week. Two of our students in year five, Sarah Price and Michael Darjani have been chosen to join the *Captivate* Junior Dance Group. Congratulations Sarah and Michael. I look forward to attending some of your performances. Well done!

Next Wednesday 7th March, we will celebrate the St Aidan's Opening School Mass for 2012. At the conclusion of Mass the newly elected School Captain, Vice-Captain and Sports leaders will be announced and inducted in their roles. It is hoped that many parents and friends will join us in asking God's blessing on our endeavours this year.

I read a brief article this week which discussed how teachers feel about technology enhancing education. I include the link so that you can read it. www.edudemic.com/2012/02/tech-learning/

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Elizabeth Ricketts,
Principal.

Just as you did it to one of the least of these, you did it to me
(Matt 25:40)

Reflection

Last week the Church celebrated Ash Wednesday. Father Alan spoke to the students about Lent as a time to make choices. During Lent we are asked to pray, repent, give to those less fortunate than ourselves or simply do good deeds for others.

This year the St Aidan's Formation goal is to enhance the prayer life of the students. Teachers are doing this in 2012 through Christian meditation.

Meditation is not something new to the Christian experience and it is deeply rooted in Christian tradition. It involves coming to a stillness of spirit and a stillness of body.

All you need to do is:

- Sit still and upright.
- Close your eyes lightly.
- Relax and be aware of your breathing.
- Breathe calmly and regularly.
- Silently begin to say a single word or just listen to your own breathing. The recommended word is MA-RA-NA-THA but even repeating Jesus or God is fine.
- Then sit silently and allow God to speak.

During the season of Lent parents might find the time to meditate with their children.

We do not think ourselves into new ways of living, we live ourselves into new ways of thinking.

Mrs Silvana Murphy,
Religious Education Coordinator.

Opening School Mass and Induction of School Leaders

Wednesday 7th March 2012
St Aidan's Church
9:15am

All families are welcome to attend

Reminder re dismissal

A reminder that the ways students leave the school at the end of the day are as follows:

- Parent waiters
- Walkers
- Vans
- Bus

STUDENTS ARE NOT TO WAIT UNSUPERVISED FOR THEIR PARENTS AT THE SWINGS IN KIMBERLEY PARK.

Parents are asked to be on time to pick up their children. If you know you will be late please phone the school and your children will be supervised on the playground. Parents are to park legally and safely (**NO 'U' TURNS**) and walk into the school to collect their children.

YOUR CHILD'S SAFETY IS OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE ALWAYS.

Mothers Day Stall

St Aidan's school will be holding a Mothers Day Stall in term two on Friday 11th May 2012.

Thank you to the families who have already sent some gifts. If every student buys something from the stall then 413 gifts will be needed.

Some gift suggestions are: soap, ornaments, candles, perfume, loafers, handkerchiefs, photo frames etc. Gifts will be priced \$2, \$3, \$4 and \$5. We would also be grateful for any clear cellophane for wrapping.

Thank you for your continued support.
Mrs Ornella Meniconi – Parent Helper.



School photos

School photos will be taken on **Tuesday 13th March**. Students should be bringing home photo envelopes today. Please tick the appropriate box, enclose the correct money in the envelope and send it back to school as soon as possible **before** photo day. **No change can be given.**

If you have two or more children at St Aidan's School and would like a family photo please come to the school office to pick up a 'Sibling photo envelope' or phone 9625 3181. Only students currently attending St Aidan's School in kindergarten to year six can be photographed.

Baby news

Bol Dak 2H and Dut Dak KC have a new baby sister, Yar. Congratulations to the boys and their family.

Hall of Fame

KC	Koko Adriano	Declan Apps
KG	Airei Beia	Sione Vunipola
1C	Ella Capili	Angelo Delfinado
1K	Taylor Brown	Rafael Velasco
2F	Noelene Swin	Amory Albanese
2H	Latasha Brewty	Kyle Polidano
3B	Aleksandra Favor	Rhuven Del Rosario
3M	Marta Abicic	Kobe Maireriki
4A	Amanda Pereira	Justin Mallouk
4H	Vanie Barcelon	Terence Ng-Lam
5H	Cyril Asuncion	Theia Debulos
5M	John El-Ghossein	Paolo Adriano
6D	Guillian Leonardo	Tony El-Ghossein
6W	Jomiko Cabigting	Ebony Lord-Zarb

Dates for your diary *Term one 2012*

Wednesday 7 th March	9:15am Opening School Mass & Induction of School Leaders
Tuesday 13 th March	School Photos (Students wear full summer uniform)
Wednesday 14 th March	Assembly Stage three
Wednesday 21 st March	Mass 9:15am (year three leading Primary)
Tuesday 27 th March	Stage III Girls Soccer Gala Day
Monday 2 nd –Friday 8 th April	Holy Week
Thursday 5 th April	Term one concludes 2:55pm
Friday 6 th April	Good Friday

Diocesan News

Faith in Our Future

Faith in Our Future is an extensive consultation process of planning for our Diocese. Please get involved and offer your gifts, prayer, passion and vision. To find a consultation session near you or to have your say online visit: www.faithinourfuture.org.au Follow the Pastoral Planning Team on Twitter: @faithparra

Employment opportunities

1. Secondary SRE Educator (part time)

A Special Religious Education (SRE) secondary teacher position is available in the Parishes of Richmond and Windsor in the Hawkesbury Deanery. The position is for 15 hours a week over 4 days during school term. For an information package contact Mr Paul Worthington – CCD Director: tel (02) 9890 4731 (9am-4pm).

Closing date: Monday 19 March.

2. Diocesan Archivist (part time - flexible hours)

The Diocese of Parramatta wishes to employ a suitably qualified and experienced archivist to manage the diocesan archives. This is a part-time position (20-30 hrs/week). This is a one-year contract position with the possibility of renewal for one year. Applicants should obtain a position description and must address the selection criteria.

Closing date: Wednesday 21 March. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted after receipt of their application.

For details of these positions and the application process go to "Employment" on the Diocese of Parramatta's website: www.parra.catholic.org.au

Bishop Anthony on social media

- * Connect with Bishop Anthony Fisher on Facebook.
- * Download the Bishop's homilies and addresses FREE from iTunes.
- * Check out the diocesan Youtube channel: ParramattaDiocese's channel.
- * Subscribe to an RSS feed from Bishop Anthony's page on the Diocese of Parramatta's website: www.parra.catholic.org.au