

## St Aidan's School Diary Dates

Wednesday 13th June	11:15am Kindergarten assembly
Monday 18th June	9:00-9:30am Pre-school reading in the Library
Wednesday 20th June	9:15am year one leading infants Mass
Friday 22nd June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School reports sent home to parents</li> <li>School Disco (Inf.4:00-5:30; Prim 5:30-7:00)</li> </ul>
Mon 25th-Thur 28th June	Parent/Teacher Interviews
Tuesday 26th June	Stage 2 Boys Soccer Gala Day
Wednesday 27th June	11:15am year three assembly
Friday 29th June	2:55pm term two concludes
<b>Term three 2012</b>	
Monday 16th July	8:45am term three begins

## General News

### Woolworths Earn and Learn

Thank you for sending the sticker cards to school. Our total at the moment is 4,700 points!!!

### Coles Support for Schools

Coles will be starting their program from 12th June until 24th August. Start collecting Coles vouchers!!!

### Captivate 2012 Showcase

The annual CAPTIVATE showcase presents the culmination of the work of the various combined Parramatta Diocesan Catholic schools ensembles in music, drama and dance. From 20th to 30th June at Nagle College 58A Orwell St., Blacktown South in the Presentation Hall. Further details [www.parra.catholic.edu.au/captivate](http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/captivate)

### Rollercoasters—a curriculum for children of change

Group activities for children aged 6-11 who are experiencing and struggling with family separation, parents' divorce, family changes.

Six Tuesdays: 7th August to 11th September 2012.

Time: 4:00pm-5:15pm. After school.

Venue: CatholicCare 51-59 Allawah St., Blacktown

Bookings: Phone 9933 0222 to reserve a place

Cost: \$5 per child per session (includes a snack)

Topics covered: Everything is different; Is it my fault? I wish everything was back to normal; I am so mad!; How can I manage?; What have I learned?



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St Aidan's Primary School  
 Rooty Hill

Sharing News & Views

## From the Principal

Dear Parents,

The K-12 Technology in Education conference that I attended last week with Miss Carlo-Stella and Mrs Hurst was a very worthwhile experience in many respects. The keynote speakers, Alan November [www.novemberlearning.com](http://www.novemberlearning.com), Stephen Heppell [www.heppell.net](http://www.heppell.net), Sir Ken Robinson [www.sirkenrobinson.com](http://www.sirkenrobinson.com), and the Executive Director of Schools Parramatta Diocese, Greg Whitby ([bluyonder.wordpress.com](http://bluyonder.wordpress.com)) spoke passionately about learning and teaching and the need for schooling to be relevant to students. This of course means that whole systems which include staff are able to design appropriate learning experiences for students in order to equip them with the skills to learn in a rapidly changing world.

The use of technology was a major part of all discussions, however as I have said to parents many times, the technology by itself will not make a difference. Instead it is the integration of technology with well-designed personalised learning experiences that will have a significant impact on the students.

From time to time parents may have concerns they would like to raise with myself or other members of St Aidan's staff. As advised in the past, there are appropriate procedures to be followed when raising concerns or complaints. These procedures can be found in the 'complaints handling policy' which is located on the school's website. [www.staidansrootyhill.catholic.edu.au](http://www.staidansrootyhill.catholic.edu.au) or parents may obtain a copy from the school office.

I remind parents that the pre-school story time is held each Monday morning immediately after the morning assembly. This is a wonderful way for pre-schoolers to be inducted into life at St Aidan's and an opportunity for them to borrow from the extensive range of literature available.

Student reports will be sent home on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June and as you know parent/teacher interviews will be held the following week. Parents are reminded that they need to choose times to meet with the appropriate teachers in order to discuss their children's progress.

Students are looking forward with enthusiasm to the disco on Friday night 22<sup>nd</sup> June. Parents are urged to be on time to collect their children. Tickets for the disco will not be sold on the night and only St Aidan's students will be permitted to enter the hall.

As you are aware tomorrow (Friday 8th June) is a Staff Development Day. There will be no classes.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Elizabeth Ricketts.

**REFLECTION**

Pentecost Sunday began ‘The Year of Grace’. The Catholic Catechism states, “Grace is *favour*, the *free help* that God gives us to respond to his call to become children of God.”

In his Pastoral Letter, ‘Faith in our Future’, Bishop Anthony wrote:

“Grace might be said to be our experience of God especially of his free and undeserved gifts- gifts like our very existence, our being redeemed by Christ, our participating in His word and Sacraments in the Church.

Every God-given opportunity is a grace from life itself to our family and friendships, from work and leisure to our participation in all that is true and good and beautiful.”

May your year be filled with the grace of God.

*Mrs Silvana Murphy,*  
Religious Education Coordinator.

**NAPLAN 2012**  
**E-A scales—what do they mean?**

E-A scales are used in the upcoming semester reports that will be sent to parents on 22<sup>nd</sup> June. Each ‘letter’ represents how your child was graded within the year. The E grade means a child has required assistance to complete the task. The D grade means the child had only basic understanding of the task. The C grade means the child had sound understanding of the task. The B grade means the child had competent understanding of the task. The A grade means the child has excellent understanding of the task.

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 1 and Semester 2 reports. Teachers have prepared semester one reports using various assessment data.

When you receive your child’s report at the end of the term, many forms of assessment will have been used to make informed decisions about his/her achievements.

This information on assessment was taken from the NSW English Syllabus document.

*Mrs Christine Leahy,*  
Assistant Principal.

**PHOTOGRAPHS**

From time to time children may be photographed at school and on excursions. These photographs are used by the school for a variety of reasons which include local newspapers or publications by the Catholic Education Office.

If you do not want your child photographed for any reason please inform Dr Ricketts as soon as possible.



**BABY NEWS**

Congratulations to Viliami in 1K, Sione in KG and the Vunipola family on the birth of a baby boy, Donald.

Congratulations to Alyssa in 6D, Jake in 3B and the Alcala family on the birth of a baby boy, Zachary.

Congratulations to Belle in 4H, Rodel in 2F and the Jueco family on the birth of a baby girl, Rosella.

**PERSUASIVE TEXTS BY KINDERGARTEN**

Following are two excellent examples of persuasive text:

**Why children should do work around the home.**

I agree that children should do jobs around the home.  
Firstly, children need to help around the home to keep the house clean.  
Secondly so no one will slip over.  
Thirdly it is important to help one another.

For all these reasons I believe children should do jobs around the home.

*Adrian Salazar.*

**Why we need school rules**

I believe that we need school rules.  
Firstly I think that school rules are needed for safety.  
Secondly it is important that we need school rules to learn.  
Thirdly we need rules to play together well.

For all these reasons I believe that we need school rules.

*Sione Vunipola.*

**YEAR ONE EXCURSION TO GLENMORE DAIRY FARM, 29TH MAY**

Some thoughts about the year one excursion:

I liked when we saw a big milk tanker on the way to the farm.  
*Shanice Caster.*

I really liked milking the cow because I have never milked a cow before.  
*Edwin Liberty.*

Making our own butter out of cream was fun and it tasted yummy!  
*Gabrielle Romero.*

We learnt about the different parts of the cow. They were huge!  
*Arjun Dileep.*

I loved patting the calf. She was only two days old. We wished we could bring her back to school.  
*Sarah Batula.*

Did you know that cows have four stomachs but we only have one.  
*Jon Rhys Timbol.*

We learnt that Holstein cows are the most popular dairy cows in Australia.  
*Mischa Vella.*

I liked learning about Famer Gavin’s farm. He milks the cows at 4 O’clock each morning and 3 O’clock each afternoon.  
*Clara Michael.*

**Hall of Fame**

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

ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS		
KC	Lizelle Liwanag	Benjamin Stanford
KG	Isabella Gatmaitan	Ken Labiga
1C	Bella Teuma-Manaog	Kostya Makedonas
1K	Jasmine Cardines	Farrell Cruz
2F	Marc Gabarda	Akon Akok
2H	Khrystian Sangil	Krizzie Santos
3B	Kaira Francisco	Emilio Seguban
3M	Stacey Debulos	Ryan Maniago
4A	Shenna Sambat	Joshua Fuamatu
4H	Yustina El-Rab	Jayden Wills
5H	Jay Ng	Alyanna Nuque
5M	Maddison Ticchio	Alexander Taco
6D	Mary Barcelon	Andrew Barker
6W	Czarina Quiaem	Russ Sulit

A big thank you to the following ladies who helped with the year one excursion:-  
**Mrs Abicic, Mrs Manaog.**



Pre-schooler, Alexander enjoys reading time with Miss Carlo-Stella.  
**Bring your pre-schooler to the next session on Monday 18th June at 8:50am!**

**Friday 8th June—Staff Development Day (no classes)**  
**Monday 11th June—Queen’s Birthday holiday**