

Term Four 2012

Wednesday 17th October	9:15am Year two lead infants Mass
Wednesday 31st October	9:15am Year four lead primary Mass
Thursday 1st November	All Saints Day
Friday 2nd November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ All Souls Day ◆ STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY—NAPLAN analysis (no classes)
Tuesday 13th November	Kindergarten 2013 Orientation
Wednesday 14th November	9:15am Year one lead infants Mass
Tuesday 20th November	Kindergarten 2013 Orientation
Tuesday 27th November	Kindergarten 2013 Orientation
Wednesday 28th November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 9:15am Year three lead primary Mass ◆ Year seven St Agnes Orientation
Wednesday 5th December	Year seven St Agnes Orientation
Thursday 6th December	Year five visit St Agnes
Wednesday 12th December	Reports go home to Parents
Friday 14th December	11:30-1:00pm Talent Quest
Monday 17th December	5:00pm Year six Graduation Mass
Tuesday 18th December	Year six disco
Wednesday 19th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 9:15am End of year thanksgiving Mass ◆ Last day of school for all students
Thursday 20th December	Staff Development Day (no classes)
Friday 21st December	Staff Development Day (no classes)

POST-SEPARATION RECOVERY PROGRAM

If you have been through the very difficult and painful experience of the breakdown of your marriage relationship you may find "The Recovery Program" a great help as you try and pick up your life again and plan for a new future. Over a seven week Program you will be supported, guided and enriched by the Recovery Program that deals with topics and issues specifically pertain to your situation. We begin this Program on Wed. evening 17th Oct. at the Diocesan Assembly Centre, 1-5 Marion St. Blacktown. Further details and registration with Sr Eileen Quade 99330205 or eileen.quade@ccss.org.au



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12th October 2012

**St Aidan's Primary School
 Rooty Hill**

Sharing News & Views

From the Acting Principal

Dear Parents,

A warm welcome back to term four for all students, parents and staff.

As you are aware, Dr. Ricketts, our Principal, is on leave for the first two weeks of this term. We wish her a relaxed and well-earned break.

I hope you enjoyed your holidays and took the opportunity to explore new places around Sydney or even beyond.

Last term, the NAPLAN results were distributed to parents. The St. Aidan's Staff will analyze these results over the coming weeks. The results will guide our learning and teaching as well as our planning for 2013.

The St. Aidan's Staff has always scrutinized results and planned accordingly. The only difference this year is that the system will now have a coordinated approach.

During the holidays, Mrs. van Reyk and myself, attended the Australian College of Educational Leaders 2012 National Conference in Brisbane entitled: 'An Inquiry Mindset: Unleashing New Ideas for the Conceptual Age'.

There were three keynote speakers, Daniel Pink, Lee Crockett, and the Rev. Tim Costello.

Daniel Pink is the author of four provocative books about the changing world of work. He spoke about the brain and the left side, which controls logic and order and the right side, which controls creativity and imagination. Education needs to be balanced so both sides of the brain are used.

Lee Crockett is an international authority on teaching students the skills they need to succeed in the 21st century. He spoke of the five areas of fluency that students needed: media fluency, information fluency, solution fluency, creativity fluency and collaboration fluency and what that meant for educational leaders.

As chief executive of World Vision Australia the Rev. Tim Costello has driven the organization to be one of the most fiscally successful and brand-recognized in the country. He spoke about the importance of global citizenship that educational leaders need to enhance in each student. There was great opportunity for discussion and sharing of ideas.

I would like to welcome Mrs. Ranin Ghazal (nee Burbar) in year one for this term. She has replaced Mrs. Katherine Kovacs who left to have her baby.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Christine Leahy
 Acting Principal.

REFLECTION

In this Year of Grace and Faith, it is important to remember that we are Church, the channel of God's grace.

Father Brian Gleeson CP states: "**The Church**, is Christians together, the community of the followers of Jesus. Vatican II teaches that the Church is always in need of reform, renewal, and interior conversion. (*Decree on Ecumenism* #6 & #7).

But that's not the whole story. Through the grace (graciousness) of God, we have been made by Baptism members of the body of Jesus Christ, extensions of himself in place and time. Each is called and sent by him, and each is empowered by his Spirit, to live and work for that better world that is 'the Kingdom of God', a society of justice and love, peace and joy.

Jesus Christ, in fact, depends on us to be who and what we are. We are his eyes, ears, heart, hands and feet to everyone else. So we keep learning from his teachings and example just how to embody him. So we also look to great fellow-disciples like St Mary of the Cross, to show us the way. In short, we are together a sign and instrument of Jesus Christ, God's grace in person."

As such let us remember to treat each other with love and dignity.

Mrs Silvana Murphy
Religious Education Coordinator.

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### NAPLAN

The release of the NAPLAN data has started an initiative by the Catholic Education Office that requires close scrutiny of the data by schools.

Part of this initiative is the development of an action plan for professional learning of all staff to be completed by the end of the term. This will be a focus of some staff meetings in term four.

The Staff of St. Aidan's had begun this process at the end of term three. Weeks two and three will see further development of the professional learning required to implement our action plan. More details will follow in future newsletters.

Mrs Christine Leahy  
Assistant Principal.

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LITERACY MATTERS

Listen to your child read every day. The reader your child brings home from school should be an easier text for them to read for pleasure and to help build their fluency and confidence. Here are some ideas you can use when reading with your child:

- ◆ Look at the cover, title, pictures and talk about what the book might be about
- ◆ Talk about the story so far and what might happen next
- ◆ After reading, talk about the story and ask questions
- ◆ Talk about the pictures and how they add meaning to the text.

Mrs Lisa Hurst
Coordinator.

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### STUDENT DATA VALIDATION

All families would have received a Student Data Validation form from the Catholic Education Office. Please complete and return this form to school as soon as possible. Whether there are any changes or not the form needs to be returned to school. Thank you.

Mrs Blaga Wakeling  
Secretary.

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Parents are reminded that the opening hours for St Aidan's School are as follows:

- 8:15am Gates are opened. Supervision of students commences.
- 8:45am Assembly bell.
- 2:50pm Lower gate in Adelaide Street is opened for parent waiters.
- 2:55pm Dismissal bell.
- 3:25pm Supervision of students concludes.

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

ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS

KC	Maria Halatanu	Marcus Brewty
KG	Sebastian Frias	Nicholas Limpiado
1C	Rjay De Leon	Dominique Penarubia
1K	Cooper Brooks	Elissa El-Bacha
2F	Theresa Maksymowicz	Ayvah Brillante Lareza
2H	Elyza Lagare	Samuel Meilak
3B	Jake Alcala	Sarisha Sant
3M	Ruben Alcala	Ayak Tong
4A	Helepiko Uhatafe	Simonette Lagare
4H	Awein Mawein	Raden Adviento
5H	Mary Ocampo	Wol Tong
5M	Christian Bacaoat	Sophie Warwick-Smith
6D	John Piliae	Chaithra Sumesh
6W	Shannon Ward-Underhill	Rose Putt

Thank you to Mrs Darjani and Mrs Abi-Chemouni who assisted with the year three excursion at the end of term three.

Mamre Good Living Festival - Sunday 21st October

The Mamre Project, is a charitable sponsored work of The Sisters of Mercy, Parramatta, established in 1985 to serve the community of Western Sydney. Mamre is located at St Marys, on a 200acre heritage farm originally owned by Rev. Samuel Marsden, colonial farmer, minister and magistrate and has been in operation for more than twenty years.

Mamre provides training and employment services to youth at risk, people with a disability, people returning to the workforce and refugees. We aim to provide people with the tools they need to empower their lives through the provision of appropriate training and education, both personal and vocational, job creation, and support business development.

Mamre Good Living Festival is conducted each year as one of our annual fundraising events. The festival is held on the third Sunday in October, this year that will be **Sunday 21st October**.

All proceeds raised at the festival support our many programs enabling us to continue our great work with in the community.