

## Term one 2013

Monday 4th February	Kindergarten begin full days i.e. 8:45am to 2:55pm
Wednesday 13th February	Ash Wednesday
Mon 18th to Thurs 21st Feb	'Get to know your child and teacher' interviews
Friday 22nd February	Blacktown Zone Swimming Carnival
Wednesday 27th February	9:15am Opening School Mass
Friday 1st March	Diocesan Swimming Carnival
Mon 11th to Sun 17th March	Catholic Schools Week
Wednesday 13th March	9:15am Infants lead Mass (year two)
Friday 22nd March	Cross Country
Wednesday 27th March	11:30am Stage 3 lead the Holy Week liturgy
Friday 29th March	Good Friday (no school)
Monday 1st April	Easter Monday (no school)
Wed 3rd and Thurs 4th April	School photos
Tuesday 9th April	Stage 3 Girls Soccer Day
Friday 12th April	Last day term one

**TUCKSHOP NEWS**

The tuckshop is open at recess and lunch time Monday to Friday.  
A tuckshop price list will be sent home.

If your child wants a lunch order, please write your child's name, class, order and amount enclosed on a **brown paper bag**. Please do not send plastic bags or envelopes.

No large amounts of money, please. Correct change will be given, however, no responsibility will be taken should the child lose the money. No foreign currency is accepted.

**Credit is not offered at the tuckshop for either staff or students.**

If your child would like to buy an ice block/ice cream, they need to line up with their money at lunch time as these items melt very quickly.



St Aidan's Primary School  
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**From the Principal**

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! Welcome back to the 2013 school year. I hope all students, parents and staff had a relaxed and enjoyable holiday break ready for the year ahead.

Dr. Ricketts, Principal of St. Aidan's continues her leave and will return to school on the 11<sup>th</sup> February. I wish her a relaxed and speedy recovery from knee surgery.

Welcome to Miss Amy McAlister, Miss Yonita Younan, Mrs. Kathryn George (temporary) and Mrs. Ranin Ghazal (temporary). Mrs. Ghazal and Mrs. George have done some regular casual teaching at our school. Miss McAlister and Miss Younan have been teaching casually in the local area. I hope you will welcome these new members of staff. A staff list has also been included in this newsletter.

I also welcome our new students and kindergarten students who commenced this week and wish them the very best.

This year parent/teacher interviews will be held in week four, 18<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> February. The meetings are 'a get to know your child' and take the place of the parent information evening previously held at this time last year. Parents should have received a note this week outlining the details.

During the holidays Miss Moreno's father passed away. Please keep Miss Moreno and her family in your prayers.

Let us always remember that our school motto, 'together we are one' reflects our purpose and our focus.

Yours sincerely,

*Mrs. Christine Leahy*  
Acting Principal.

## REFLECTION

Welcome to 2013. On 11<sup>th</sup> October, 2012 the Year of Grace made way to the Year of Faith which will conclude with the Solemnity of Christ the King on 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2013.

Pope Benedict outlined the purpose of the Year of Faith as: “to give fresh drive to the mission of the whole Church; to lead human beings out of the wilderness in which they often find themselves to the place of life, a friendship with Christ that gives life in fullness.”

The Year of Faith invites everyone in the Church to celebrate and renew their faith - individually, in families, in St. Aidan’s parish and school, in the Parramatta Diocese and globally.

As disciples of Jesus Christ, as members of his Church, how can the Year of Faith be brought to life? How can faith be put into action in the service of others?

How can faith understanding grow in witness to the teaching of Christ and his Church?

Pope Benedict has called all to evangelization; to a renewal of faith and service.

What can be done? What will be done?

*Mrs Silvana Murphy*  
Religious Education Coordinator

## PASTORAL CARE POLICY:

Pastoral care at St Aidan’s Primary School is the responsibility of all staff, and is based on our Mission Statement and our School motto, ‘Together We are One.’

**Student Management** is one aspect of the total care of every person in our school and is based on our belief in Gospel Values and our understanding that all human behaviour is purposeful, as we attempt to satisfy one or more of our needs.

Our policy is also based on the principles of **procedural fairness**.

Procedural fairness is a basic right of all when dealing with authorities. Procedural fairness refers to what are sometimes described as the ‘hearing rule’ and the ‘right to an unbiased decision.’

## SUPERVISION

- Gates are opened and teacher supervision begins at 8:15am
- Parents may escort their children onto the playground but are required to wait in the parent waiting area (silver seats) near the year four classroom due to child protection
- The bell is rung at 8:45am—students walk quietly to lines
- After assembly parents are asked to move out of the playground through the gate between year two and Kindergarten or the gate near the church
- The gates are locked promptly once parents leave
- In the afternoon the dismissal bell rings at 2:55pm. Parents may wait in the parent waiting area or park legally and wait at Kimberley Park for student walkers to meet them
- Supervision of students finishes at 3:25pm promptly.

## LITERACY MATTERS

A child’s success as a reader begins much earlier than the first day of school. Reading, and a love for reading, begins at home. Each fortnight the ‘Literacy Matters’ feature will offer easy ways for you to help your child to become a successful reader.

If your child comes across an unknown word during reading, **pause** before saying the word. This gives him/her an opportunity to work out what the word is. If he/she cannot work out the word, provide **prompts** by asking what is in the picture, what sound the word begins with and what would make sense in the sentence. If your child still cannot work out the word, say the word and ask him/her to read the sentence again. **Praise** your child’s efforts.

This is the ‘**Pause, Prompt, Praise**’ method of helping your child to read.

*Mrs Lisa Hurst*  
Lead Literacy Teacher  
Coordinator.



## SCHOOL BAGS, HATS ETC.

The St Aidan’s school bag, hat and library bag are a compulsory part of the school uniform.

These items are available from the school office: School bag - \$42.00; hat - \$12.00; library bag - \$6.00. Sunglasses may be ordered at the office for \$10.00 each. Please ensure that your child is equipped with the correct items of school uniform.

## SCHOOL FEES/RESOURCE FEES

The Catholic Education Office Parramatta will post school fee invoices to each family approximately 8<sup>th</sup> February. Please note that these include the resource fee for 2014. *Please be advised that resource fees for 2014 will be \$130 due to increases in resource costs.*

Prompt payment of these fees would be appreciated. Please contact Mrs Wakeling if you have any queries **after** you receive your statement on 9625 3181.

## HOLIDAY FORMS

It is a requirement that special holiday forms need to be completed at least two weeks before you travel as the Principal approves all leave. The forms are kept at the school office.

## St Aidan’s Primary School Staff Term One 2013

Mrs Rosemarie Corpus	Kindergarten C
Miss Prudence Hall	Kindergarten H
Mrs Marie Cutajar	Year one C
Mrs Ranin Ghazal	Year one H
Miss Angela Francica	Year two F
Miss Amy McAlister	Year two M
Mrs Therese Bear	Year three B
Mrs Kathryn George	Year three G
Mrs Lisa Hurst	Year four H / Coordinator
Miss Yonita Younan	Year four Y
Mrs Silvana Murphy	Stage 3 – Year five M / Religious Education Coordinator
Mrs Diana Saleh	Stage 3 – Year five S
Mrs Jodie Donlan	Stage 3 – Year six D
Mrs Kate Woolcock	Stage 3 – Year six W
Mrs Christine Leahy	Reading Recovery/Assistant Principal
Mrs Grace Carlo-Stella	Teacher/Librarian & LTST—Monday, Tuesday and Friday
Mrs Maureen van Reyk	Learning & Literacy Support/Coordinator
Mr Anthony Julius	RFF/Learning Support
Mrs Allison Matthews	Literacy Support—Monday and Tuesday
Mrs Julie Hermsen	Literacy Support—Monday to Friday
Mrs Helen Grady	Literacy Release, Tuesday and LT Release, Thursday
Mrs Angela Cooper	Numeracy Release, Monday and REC Release, Thursday
Mrs Bev Sherwin	School Counsellor
Mrs Wendy Brown	Teacher Assistant
Mrs Michelle Provost	Teacher Assistant
Mrs Jenny Chivers	Teacher Assistant
Mrs Blaga Wakeling	Financial Administrator
Mrs Carol Newell	Secretary
Mrs Tricia Zammit	Secretary
Mr Hayden Charter	IT trainee (CEO) Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
<b>The Leadership Team</b>	
Dr. Elizabeth Ricketts	Principal
Mrs Christine Leahy	Assistant Principal
Mrs Silvana Murphy	Religious Education Coordinator
Mrs Maureen van Reyk	Coordinator
Mrs Lisa Hurst	Coordinator



### Photos

If you do not wish to have your child’s photo published in the newsletter or in any CEO brochures, please advise Dr. Ricketts in writing.

### Change of address/phone numbers

It is important that the school has up-to-date records for the safety of your children. Please notify the school office if you have changed your address, phone number, mobile numbers or emergency contact details.