



TERM FOUR 2013

Wednesday 11th December	Students reports sent home to parents
Mon 16th and Tues 17th December	8:45am KLA Awards (Kindergarten to Year five)
Monday 16th December	5:30-7:00pm Year six Graduation and Awards
Tuesday 17th December	Year six disco and farewell
Wednesday 18th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 9:15am Thanksgiving Mass ◆ 2:55pm students finish for 2013
Thursday 19th December	Staff Development Day (no classes)
Friday 20th December	Staff Development Day (no classes)

TERM ONE 2014

Tuesday 28th January	Staff Development Day (no classes)
Wednesday 29th January	8:45am Students in year one to year five return
Thursday 30th and Friday 31st January	8:45am to 12:00 noon Kindergarten 2014 (half days)
Monday 3rd February	Kindergarten begin full days (8:45am to 2:55pm)

St Aidan's Parish Church
Christmas Season dates and times

Tuesday 24th December	7:00pm Children's Vigil Mass 11:00pm Christmas Carols
Wednesday 25th December	12:00am Midnight Mass 7:30am, 9:00am and 10:30am Christmas Day Masses
Thursday 26th December	9:15am Mass
Monday 30th December	9:15am and 7:00pm Mass for the Holy Family
Tuesday 31st December	9:15am and 6:00pm New Years Eve Mass
Wednesday 1st January 2014	9:15am and 7:00pm Mass for New Years Day



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Dear Parents,

As this is the final newsletter for 2013, I would like to take this opportunity of thanking each of you for your support, enthusiasm and interest during the year.

We are indeed blessed at St Aidan's with the majority of our parents taking their role as 'partners' in the education of their children very seriously.

During 2013 there have been a number of times when parents and teachers have needed to discuss children's learning/behaviour and in just about every instance there has been excellent support from parents. This support certainly enhances the partnership between home and school and ensures more effective learning for the students.

Fourteen parents have worked as 'parent helpers' in the learning spaces this year. We are most grateful to these parents for their generous assistance and for giving of their time to support not only their children but also other students. To Mesdames El-Ghossein, Polidano, Saunders, Manaog, Oraha, Allen, Abicic, Rodriguez, Gatmaitan, Korzeniecki, Ereira, Nau, Lithgoe-McEvoy and Maksymowicz: A sincere thank you. St Aidan's community salutes you!

The following teachers are leaving St Aidan's at the end of this year.

- ◆ Mrs Maureen van Reyk who has been a learning support teacher for eighteen years and a coordinator for the last four years will be moving to Sacred Heart Mt Druitt
- ◆ Mrs Lisa Hurst has been a teacher here for ten years, a coordinator for the past two years and the Lead Literacy teacher for the past three years is moving to Holy Angels Rouse Hill
- ◆ Miss Angela Francica has been teaching for four years in years four and two and is moving to Trinity, Kemps Creek
- ◆ Mrs Jodie Donlan, who has taught year six for the past three years is moving to Bethany Catholic Primary Glenmore Park. Mrs Donlan was acting coordinator for one year, sports coordinator and lead numeracy teacher in 2013.
- ◆ Mrs Ranin Ghazal who has been working temporarily at St Aidan's this year is expecting her first child in May 2014.

On your behalf I thank these teachers for their dedication and hard work during their time at St Aidan's and wish them every success and happiness at their new schools. In recognition of their years of service to our school, there will be a special presentation to Mrs van Reyk and Mrs Hurst at the Mass of Thanksgiving on 18th December.

Mrs Julie Taylor (year five teacher) is having surgery today and will not be returning to school till 2014. We wish her a speedy recovery and a promise of prayers.

As mentioned in the previous newsletter there will be presentation of K.L.A awards to students in Kindergarten to year five on Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th December at 8.45am in the assembly area. Parents are very welcome to join us for these presentations.

The annual awards are given in each KLA for excellence. The timetable for presentation is as follows

Monday 16th December:

Religious Education; English; Mathematics; Science & Technology; Human Society & Its Environment; P.D, Health, P.E; Creative Arts

Tuesday 17th December:

Sport; Consistent effort; Robotics; Radio Committee; School Spirit; Principal's Award.

On Monday evening of 16th December, the year six students, their parents and members of St Aidan's staff will come together at a special Mass and Graduation ceremony. It is always a little sad to say goodbye to our students, however they will now commence a new chapter in their lives as they embark on the challenges of High School. I wish each of the year six students every blessing and happiness and a promise that we will remember them with fondness.

The following families are leaving St Aidan's at the end of this year. Farewell to the Bonic, Conna, David, Diocera, Franco, Galea, Hernandez, Joson, Langan, Ocampo, Ong, Price, Soriso, Ticchio, Umali, Ward-Underhill, Ackroyd-Broadbere, Andaya, Adriano, Asuncion, Bacaoat, Ball, Dominguez, Ilagan, Joseph, Jueco, Meniconi, Moussa, Ng, Quisumbing, Rempillo, Taco, Tomas, Torrisi, Le and Cruz. Thank you and best wishes for the years ahead.

School closes for the summer holidays on Wednesday 18th December. St Aidan's reopens in 2014 as follows:

Tuesday 28 th January	Staff
Wednesday 29 th January	Students in year one to year five
Thursday 30 th January	Kindergarten. (Half day for 30 th and 31 st January only)

Once again thank you for your support this year. I hope to see many of you at the Mass of Thanksgiving on Wednesday 18th December. On behalf of the staff I wish each of you and your families a blessed and happy Christmas and a relaxing and safe holiday.

Yours sincerely

Dr. Elizabeth Ricketts
 Principal.





REFLECTION

Last Sunday was the first Sunday of Advent. This began a new Liturgical Year for the Church- Year A. Throughout the year, the Sunday readings will highlight the Gospel of Matthew.

On each of the four Sundays of Advent, the First Reading will come from the prophet Isaiah. He tells of peace to come and of one sent by God to save us.

Advent is a time of peace and hope. It is a time to be awake and prepare for the coming of Jesus-Emmanuel which means 'God is with us'.

Mrs Silvana Murphy
Religious Education Coordinator.

EXPLANATION OF SYLLABUS DOCUMENTS FOR PARENTS

Parents can help at home with PDHPE

Children need a sound understanding of those things that can influence their health and wellbeing if they are to make informed lifestyle decisions. You can help your child by:-

- ◆ Discussing topical health and social issues together
- ◆ Encouraging your child to discuss their feelings about the emotional, social and physical changes they may be experiencing
- ◆ Showing your child how you make decisions about everyday things
- ◆ Being positive about your child's efforts at all time
- ◆ Correcting any false information your child may have received from friends or the media
- ◆ Talking to your child's teacher to find out more about the school's Personal Development, Health and Physical Education program
- ◆ Showing interest in your child's homework
- ◆ Supporting the school's PDHPE program by encouraging participation in all aspects
- ◆ Encouraging your child to take small steps towards a larger goal. Children who feel confident about being involved in physical activity feel better about themselves in other aspects of life. You can help your child develop physical confidence by—
- ◆ Valuing physical activity as a normal part of family life
- ◆ Encouraging your child to practice movement skills
- ◆ Supporting and broadening your child's recreational interests, e.g. encourage them to pursue and participate in leisure activities with friends.

Mrs Christine Leahy
Assistant Principal.

LITERACY MATTERS

Beginning readers need to know that what they are doing is right so they can keep doing it. We can tell them with simple, specific praises. When your child is pointing to each word as he/she reads say, "I like how you're pointing to the words. That's just what good readers do."



When he/she looks at the pictures to help figure out what a new word is say, "I like how you're looking at the pictures to help figure out that new word." By specific praise, you're helping them to develop good reading habits. This will help him/her become a stronger reader.

Mrs Lisa Hurst
Lead Literacy Teacher & Coordinator.

NUMERACY NEWS

PYRAMID

Getting Ready

- ◆ Discard the face cards and use the aces to represent one

Playing the Game

- ◆ Lay out a pyramid of face up cards with one card at the top, two cards overlapping the bottom edge of that card, three cards overlapping the edges of the two cards, and so on, until there are six cards at the bottom of the pyramid. Only cards that are fully uncovered can be used.
- ◆ Pick up and discard cards with number combinations that equal ten. The easiest version is to discard cards in pairs that add up to ten (2 + 8; 3 + 7; etc) and the ten by itself. Make the game progressively more challenging by allowing any combination of cards that can be strung together in an equation to equal ten, for example
9 + 3 = 2 or 2 x 3 + 4.
- ◆ The game can also be played with the face cards with these values: J is 11; Q is 12; and K is 13 (change the target number to 13 for this version).

Mrs Jodie Donlan
Lead Numeracy Teacher.

SCHOOL FEES AND RESOURCE FEES

Thank you to those families who have finalised their fees. Unless you have a prior arrangement please pay all outstanding fees before Wednesday 11th December 2013. Thank you.

TUCKSHOP NEWS

The tuckshop will be open until **Wednesday 18th December 2013**. This is the last day for students. Tuckshop will reopen on **Wednesday 29th January** when years one to six resume school.



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

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

KC	Samantha McGrath	Caleb Montenegro
KH	Zia Saquing	Abuk Awac
1C	Briyanna Azaglo	Ryan Shrestha
1G	Aaron Shrestha	Angelo Espino
2F	Jasmine Cardines	Shon Rae
2M	Sarah Batula	Damian Mifsud
3B	Pauline Uhatafe	Amory Albanese
3G	Chloe Bazina	Max Usu
4H	Tiffany Wu	Martin Nikic
4Y	Marta Abicic	Emilio Seguban
5M	Ramzel Liwanag	Vanie Barcelon
5S	Bethennie Llagas	Kevin Tolentino
6D	Anastasia Cardines	Samuelle Amor
6W	Jay Ng	Paolo Adriano

KLA AWARDS 2013

KLA Awards will be presented at the 8:45am Assembly to the exceptional students from Kindergarten to year five as follows:

Monday 16th December

Religious Education
Mathematics
English
HSIE
Science & Tech.
PD/Health/PE
Creative Arts

Tuesday 17th December

Sport
Consistent Effort
Robotics
Radio Committee
School Spirit
Principal's Award



Parents and friends are welcome to attend these assemblies and are asked to sit in the designated area for visitors.

THANK YOU

Thank you to the following classroom parent helpers: Mesdames El-Ghossein, Polidano, Saunders, Manaog, Oraha, Allen, Abicic, Rodriguez, Gatmaitan, Korzeniecki, Ereira, Nau, Lithgoe-McEvoy and Maksymowicz.

The School Thanksgiving Mass in on Wednesday 18th December at 9:15am.

All families and friends welcome.



St Aidan's Staff and Students wish you a Happy and Holy Christmas.

