

DATES FOR TERM FOUR 2014

Wednesday 26th November	9:15am Infants Mass lead by kindergarten
Friday 28th November	Staff Development Day (no classes)
Wednesday 10th December	Student reports sent home to parents
Monday 15th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 8:45am KLA Awards K-5 ◆ 5:00pm Graduation Mass and Awards ceremony for year six
Tuesday 16th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 8:45am KLA Awards K-5 ◆ Year six disco and pizza lunch
Wednesday 17th December	9:15am Thanksgiving Mass
Thurs 18th & Fri 19th December	Staff Development Days (no classes)

DATES FOR TERM ONE 2015

Tuesday 27th January	Staff Development Day (no classes) Mathematics Assessment Interviews
Wednesday 28th January	Staff Development Day (no classes) Mathematics Assessment Interviews
Thursday 29th January	8:40am Years one to six commence and finish at 2:55pm
Monday 2nd February	8:40am Kindergarten 2015 commence and finish at 2:55pm

**\$5.00****MEAL DEAL DAY****TUESDAY 2ND DECEMBER****PAYMENT DUE BY FRIDAY 28TH NOVEMBER** Chicken Dinosaurs**Sauce choice**

- Sweet chilli
 Sweet & sour
 Tomato
 BBQ

 Bottle of water

Child's name _____ Class _____



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From the Principal

Dear Parents,

Two weeks ago students from Kindergarten, Year One and Year Two took part in a half day of tabloid sports. The children thoroughly enjoyed the many activities and had a great time with their classmates. The benefit of this type of sporting activity is that children are actively participating for the entire time as opposed to sitting on the sideline watching others.

Many parents came along to watch and cheer. This helped to create a very happy atmosphere amongst the community. Thanks again to the parents who assisted on the day. Their names were listed in the 'hall of fame' in the previous newsletter. Thank you to Mr Julius and Miss Quinlivan for facilitating the event and to all teachers for their support and enthusiasm.

Last Tuesday the final Kindergarten 2015 orientation was held. The parent meeting was very informative and well received by the parents. Congratulations to the thirteen students from year four who performed a violin recital lead by Mrs Bronwyn McColl. Congratulations also to our School Captain, Vanie Barcelon and Vice Captain, Anthony Gagliardi who addressed the parents and spoke clearly and sincerely about their seven years at St Aidan's. I believe this cohort of Kindergarten children will ease smoothly into school life next year.

As has been mentioned many times to parents in newsletters during the year, the students at St Aidan's are following the EMU (Extending Mathematical Understanding) program for learning numeracy.

A significant part of this numeracy program is for each teacher to conduct a Mathematical interview with each child in their class at the beginning of the school year. Each interview takes approximately 30-40 minutes. These interviews are known as MAI's or Mathematics Assessment Interviews. As you can imagine conducting interviews for each child in a class will take up to 20 hours.

In order for teachers to have the time to hold these interviews and have them completed by the end of February we have decided to hold two of our staff development days at the beginning of 2015. Teachers will conduct interviews during the day on both these staff development days 27th and 28th January. There will be some interviews conducted during and after school time in the first weeks of school. Therefore, in 2015 school will commence as follows:

- Thursday 29th January for Years one to six
- Monday 2nd February for Kindergarten

The idea is that parents will book an MAI (Mathematics Assessment Interview) for their child/children. Children will need to be brought to school at the designated time and collected approximately 40 minutes later.

All interviews will be booked 'online' through a specific program. Parents who may have a problem booking their children's interviews 'online' may do so at the school office. Teachers will allocate interview times for the 27th and 28th January and for the afternoons of other days in the first few weeks of term.

This process will operate on a first in first served basis. If you are quick to complete your bookings you should be able to book multiple interviews for your children either at the same time or close to the times. Each family will receive a 'how to' sheet next week. This will have the details of the website to use and instructions for booking interviews. The school app will alert you to any further details. It is hoped to have the app available in the week commencing 24th November.

As this is the first time we have booked interviews electronically there may be some tricky issues. I ask you to be patient and we will do our best to ensure things work out for each family.

Next Friday, 28th November is a Staff Development Day. There will be no classes for students on this day.

The next few weeks are extremely busy as we head towards the end of this school year. Thank you in anticipation for your support.

Yours sincerely

 Dr. Elizabeth Ricketts
 Principal.

See the hand of God in all that happens.

Saint Mary MacKillop

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REFLECTION

The St. Vincent de Paul Society is holding its annual Christmas Appeal.

This organisation provides an admirable service, by caring for and assisting those less fortunate than ourselves in the St. Aidan's community.

Throughout the year, the St. Vincent de Paul Society assists people with food parcels; provisions of furniture; payment of bills and visits to the sick and lonely.

As part of the school's Social Justice Program, the families of St. Aidan's support St. Vincent de Paul each Christmas by donations of food and gifts.

You are invited to send your donations (no nut products please) to assist this worthy cause from Monday 24th November through to Thursday 4th December 2014.

What better way to prepare for the coming of the Lord, than by sharing with those less fortunate than we are.

Thank you for your continued generosity. It will be appreciated by many.

Mrs. Silvana Murphy
Religious Education Coordinator.

SCHOOL SPORT

Every student in the school participates in one hour of weekly sport with their grade. The Diocese of Parramatta offers a range of gala day sporting activities for schools in the primary grades.

Schools may nominate to enter the gala days if they wish. When our school is successful entering a team into the gala day competitions, students are informed that selection trials will take place. The selection trials are an opportunity to choose our best teams.

The popular sports such as soccer and basketball are hotly contested. These gala days are hosted during school time. The gala days give our students a great opportunity to mix with other schools and students.

Mrs. Christine Leahy
Assistant Principal

LITERACY MATTERS

Children learn by example. If your child sees you reading and writing at home they too will want to do the same. Reading and writing need to be positive experiences. Read with and to your child and then talk about the book. The more you discuss the book with your child the better their understanding.

Mrs Christine Leahy
Assistant Principal.



NUMERACY NEWS

The EMU program will continue to be implemented in 2015 with all students completing a Mathematics Assessment Interview (MAI) in the first few weeks of term one 2015.

This interview will be conducted by the homeroom teacher or support teacher. Students will complete a variety of mathematical tasks based around the Counting, Place Value, Addition and Subtraction; and Multiplication and Division domain.

The assessment will give the teacher insight into their understanding in each domain and their reasoning skills. From this assessment each student will be assigned a growth point for each domain.

Growth points will be used by the homeroom teacher or support teacher to develop lessons and activities to suit the needs of the students and will allow for easy monitoring of understanding throughout the year.

More information about the Mathematics Assessment Interview (MAI) will be provided throughout the term. In the next newsletter I will explore activities you can do with your child over the holidays to maintain and develop their mathematical understanding.

What Mathematics will you **notice, discuss and explore** with your child this week?

Miss Prudence Hall
Lead Numeracy Teacher.



RESOURCE FEES NOW DUE FOR 2015

Resource fees of \$135 per student are now due.

If you have a kindergarten child starting at St Aidan's next year please pay the remaining resource fees as this money is now due.

SCHOOL TIMES FOR 2015

The school bell will be sounded at **8:40am** each day.
Recess will be from 10:45am to 11:15am.
Lunchtime will be from 1:15pm to 1:55pm.
School finishing bell will sound at 2:55pm.

Please ensure that your children are at school before the bell rings at 8:40am.



Friday 28th November is a Staff Development Day—NO CLASSES FOR STUDENTS

ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS

KC	Shyla Cruise	Mikayla Mostoles
KH	Helen Piliae	Terence Maglalang
1C	Harmony Lord-Romero	Zak Tanedo
1T	Patelesio Mafi	Alexis Makedonas
2M	Peter Warwick-Smith	Marcus Brewty
2Q	Ruby Jenson	Lizelle Liwanag
3B	Gabriel Espino	Amir Gum
3U	Dominique Penarubia	Lance Regala
4D	Jaira-Lynn De Vera	Jdyn Espino
4M	Ayvah Brillante Lareza	Arjae Quibuyen
5P	Jonas Capili	Anthony Gloria
5W	Gian Montecillo	Sarisha Sant
6B	Myron Torralba	Johnathan Prince
6C	Masham Angara	Rosa Juco

KINDERGARTEN 2015 ORIENTATION PHOTOS

