



OUR PLACE ST AIDAN'S SCHOOL

Term 4 Week 9

9/12/16



WISHING OUR STUDENTS AND THEIR
FAMILIES A VERY HAPPY AND JOYOUS
CHRISTMAS

From the staff at St Aidan's



Christmas Mufti



Next week, children may wear Christmas Mufti e.g. they may start wearing tinsel on their hats, sparkly/flashing badges, Christmas items etc. They continue to **wear their uniform until Wednesday 14th December**. Then on Thursday 15th and Friday 16th they may wear full Christmas Mufti e.g. Christmas T-shirts, Christmas hats etc.



THANK YOU TO OUR WONDERFUL TEACHERS HERE AT ST AIDAN'S

Many people do not fully appreciate the enormous dedication and responsibility required of teachers nowadays.

It really is a very demanding vocation and ministry in Catholic education yet it is always rewarding when you see the daily delight in children's eyes.

Fortunately we are very blessed at St Aidan's to have a staff who are exceptional in so many ways. The **generosity, professionalism, expertise and commitment to students** is truly amazing. We could not possibly achieve the high standards we set for ourselves without the "magic" of these learning practitioners.

The **quality and capacity of the teacher** is the most crucial factor in achieving learning success for students. Therefore, we educators continually learn about learning and constantly strive to improve our teaching practice.

THANK YOU to the St Aidan's staff for your love of the children and your commitment to learning.

You are **THE KEY** to the
great success we enjoy.

We also say farewell to a number of staff members
who have contributed significantly to the
St Aidan's school community.

Grace Carlo-Stella

Helen Grady

Angela Cooper

Nancy Fajloun

These people have generously given their time, talents and expertise to assist the students over many years.

Nancy will be travelling to England to teach for a year while the other teachers have new employment much closer to their homes. We wish each of them good fortune and good health in the years ahead.

At our thanksgiving mass today, we prayed for all 4 people and thanked them for their very valuable contribution to St Aidan's and to your children.





STAFFING 2017

CLASS TEACHERS 2017

Kindergarten Red	Taryn Quinlivan
Kindergarten Blue	Prue Lance (Hall)
Year 1 Red	Jacinta Di Bartolo
Year 1 Blue	Amy McAlister
Year 2 Red	Kelly Upton
Year 2 Blue	Joanne Morgan
Year 3 Red	Jessica Chetcuti
Year 3 Blue	Christine Dellenty
Year 4 Red	Alana Brown
Year 4 Blue	Kathleen Power
Year 5 Red	Cris Poole
Year 5 Blue	Therese Bear
Year 6 Red	Ashleigh Armstrong
Year 6 Blue	Miray Khoury

Preparing for Christmas



Extended holidays early 2017

If your child will not be returning to school on **Monday 30th January 2017** due to overseas/family holidays, please pick up a form from the school office next week.

It is very important that the school has a record so that a place is kept for your child



DATES COMING UP:

Sun 11/12

3rd Sunday of Advent

Mon 12/12

5:30pm Children start to arrive in preparation for our Christmas celebration

6:00pm Concert start

Tues 13/12

School and supervision as usual but with a 9am start for classes.

9:00am-**Meet Your Teacher** – students will spend from 9:00am-1:30pm with the 2017 teachers in readiness for next year. It will be an exciting opportunity for students to interact with the new teacher in preparation for the new year.

Wed 14/12

Year 6 activities during the day and Yr 6 Liturgy and Social in the evening

Fri 16/12

Last Day for students (Mufti Day)

DATES FOR 2017:

Fri 27/1/17

Staff return

MAIs start for K-6 (see associated item in this newsletter)

Monday 30th January

Students start K-6 for the new school year.








REPORTS COMING HOME TODAY

If your child gets a “C” on the report card,
then that is what is expected from a
successful student in this grade.

The chart below might give you a better insight into
the expectations of the grading system used in
Australian schools.

To put the A-E Standards-Based Reporting Scale into perspective, it is helpful to look at the analogy below for driving a car.

A-E Standards-Based Reporting Scale					
Years 1-6	E	D	C	B	A
Formal Terms	Limited achievement	Basic achievement	Sound achievement	High achievement	Outstanding achievement
Descriptions	Experienced difficulty	Did OK	Celebrate this work	Beyond expectations	Amazing achievement
Looking at this like a driving licence.	<p>A person on their L plates must always be accompanied by an experienced driver.</p> 	<p>A person on their P plates drives independently but is still learning and developing their skills.</p> 	<p>A person who has their full driver's licence is independent to drive on their own without restrictions.</p> 	<p>An advanced driver can navigate through many obstacles and has extra skills.</p> 	<p>A Formula One driver strives for excellence - conquering one challenge and then moving on to the next and even bigger challenge.</p> 

MAIs 2017

Keep an eye out!

MAIs (Mathematics Assessment Interviews) will be conducted in 2017 on Friday 27th January from 10:30am-3:30pm and throughout week 2 (30th January- 3rd February) from 7:30am-8:30am and 3pm-4:30pm.

Your child will bring home a note next Tuesday (13th December) outlining instructions on how to make an interview time and the teacher they need to book in with.

If there are any questions or concerns please give the school office a call!



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THE EASY WAY TO BOOK
SCHOOL INTERVIEWS

Now you can book school interviews for the times that suit *you*. Simply enter the event code and press "Go".

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ST AIDAN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Christmas Concert

Monday 12th December 2016



We are looking forward to an exciting evening!



Below are a few details for the concert.

5:30pm –Arrival and set up picnic blankets/chairs

5:45pm—Students seated with their class teachers

6:00pm—Concert begins

8:00pm—Concert concludes



- ◆ Please have your child dressed in the clothing which relates to their class item.
- ◆ Baked goods, drinks, ice-blocks and glow sticks will be on sale. Please bring coins on the night if you wish to buy.
- ◆ Raffle tickets will be on sale until 5:45pm. Prizes proudly donated by Doves Jewellers, St Marys.
- ◆ Please advise your child's teacher in writing if he/she will not be attending St Aidan's Christmas concert.



Merry Christmas

When? Monday, December 12th

Band Start? 5:15-5:30pm

Students? Move to their classrooms about 5:30-5:45pm

Time ? Concert starts at 6:00pm

Place? St Aidan's playground

Performance Order:

- Nativity scene 6pm
- Grade performances
 - Year 4
 - Year 2
 - Year 3
 - Kindergarten
 - Year 5
 - Year 1
 - Year 6

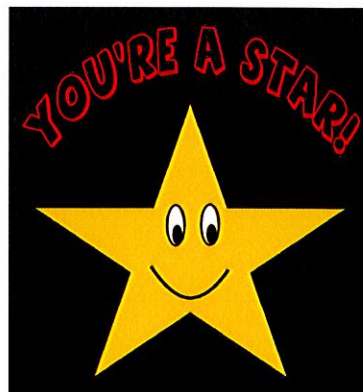
PARKING

We intend to open the bottom playground for parking because of the large numbers expected. Hopefully we will have some helper parents to assist the safety and coordination of this area. It will no doubt fill up quickly so **please be patient and safe at all times**....there will be many families and children moving around the area. Otherwise, if parking in the local area, **PLEASE DO NOT UPSET OUR NEIGHBOURS BY PARKING ACROSS DRIVEWAYS.**

CONGRATULATIONS NIPULMA

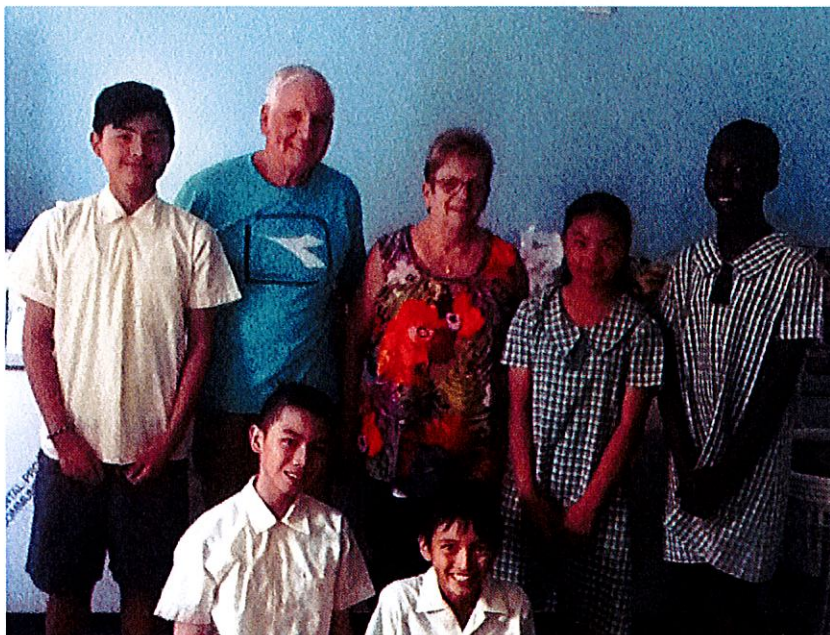


Nipulma received her **GOLD AWARD** for the Premier's Reading Challenge recently.
A great achievement! Well Done!



MASS OF THANKSGIVING

On behalf of the St Aidan's School community and Mr Alan Ruff, President of the Saint Vincent de Paul Society, Rooty Hill, we would like to thank you for your generous donations. The amount of food collected was overwhelming and a true testament of the generosity of our families. The recipients of these food hampers will be reminded that God's mercy is alive and active in all of us.



Time For Giving (Poet: Julie Hebert)

If there is a time for giving,
Christmas is surely it.
We love to see that others,
Receive what they feel fit.

It doesn't need to be presents,
Food and clothes help too.
This time of year sparks neediness,
Christmas isn't as great for them as you.

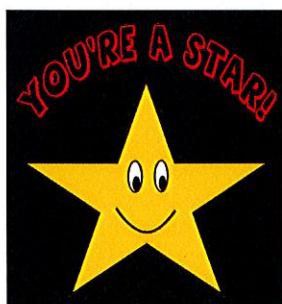
But you can make a difference,
Everyone can do that too.
May those who can use the help,
Receive what they ought to.



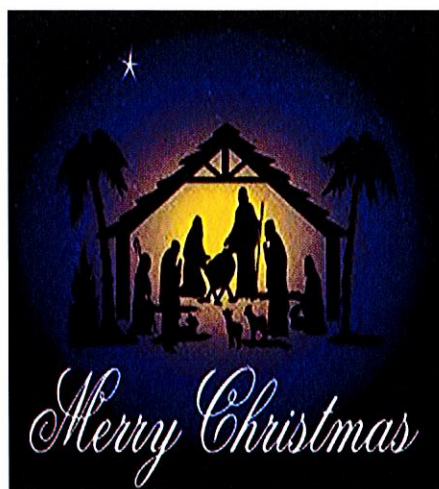
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Mass Times at St Aidan's Church 2016



Christmas Eve Saturday 24th December

- 6:00pm Vigil 'Children's Mass'

Christmas Day Sunday 25th December

- 11:30pm Carols 12:00 Midnight Mass
- 7:30am, 9:00am and 10:30am Mass

YEAR 6 LITURGY AND FAREWELL SOCIAL

Our Year 6 students are in the last days of their time in primary school. After seven years, they prepare for BIG school and beyond.

Yr6 Farewell- Liturgy & Social-Wed 14th Dec at
5:30pm

Families and teachers will gather in the church to pray for our students now moving onto High School. We thank God for the many blessings over the years.

At 6:30pm, students will move to the hall for a gathering to celebrate their successes and say farewell. This will conclude at 8:00pm.

On the morning of the 14th, the Yr6 students will be decorating the hall and undertaking some fun activities. Students wear their school uniform during the day and may be picked up at 12 noon to prepare for the Liturgy and social at 5:30pm.

CLASS OF

©2016 by page 1/1

BYOLT (Bring Your Own Learning Technology)

During term 4, many students took up the school's invitation to bring their own iPad or Mac laptop to school for their own personal use in learning.

The students and families who chose not to take up this offer continued to share the growing number of technology devices we now have at St Aidan's. We will be continuing this process of accessing technology for learning into 2017.

Our school is an 'Apple preferred' school. That means Apple products will suit our network. Android devices will need 'Windows Pro' to be compatible with the school WiFi network. The devices are not allowed on the playground.

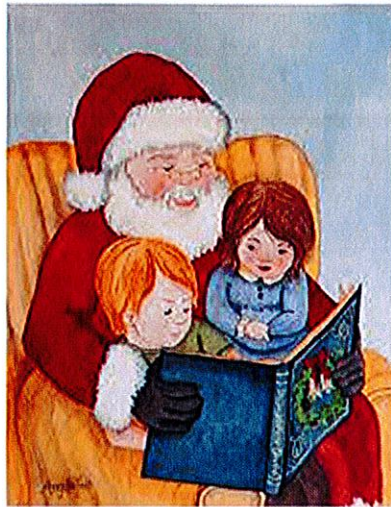


JUST AN IDEA

You might like to include an iPad or laptop in the Christmas stocking this Christmas for use in the classroom next year.

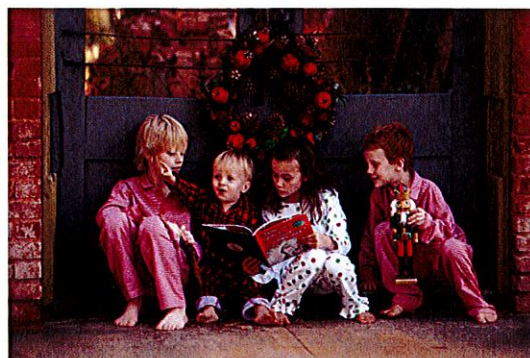
READING SLUMP

PLEASE encourage your child to read EACH DAY and to engage with letters, sounds, numbers or whatever is age appropriate for your child(ren).



PLEASE TRY TO AVOID THE SIGNIFICANT LEARNING SLUMP SOME STUDENTS EXPERIENCE OVER THE LONG HOLIDAY BREAK.

..... A little effort and time will make a HUGE difference to their learning progress and performance when they return in February, 2017.





St Aidan's Christmas Raffle

Prizes donated by

Doves Jewellers St Marys Village Shopping
Centre

Prize drawn: **Monday 12th December (at the Concert)**



1st Prize – Ellani 'tree of life' Sterling silver Pendant and earring set valued at \$280

2nd Prize – Pandora Silver bracelet

and charms valued at \$195

3rd Prize – Sekonda 'his and hers'

watches valued at \$119

In addition there will also be

4 x \$50 gift vouchers to win!

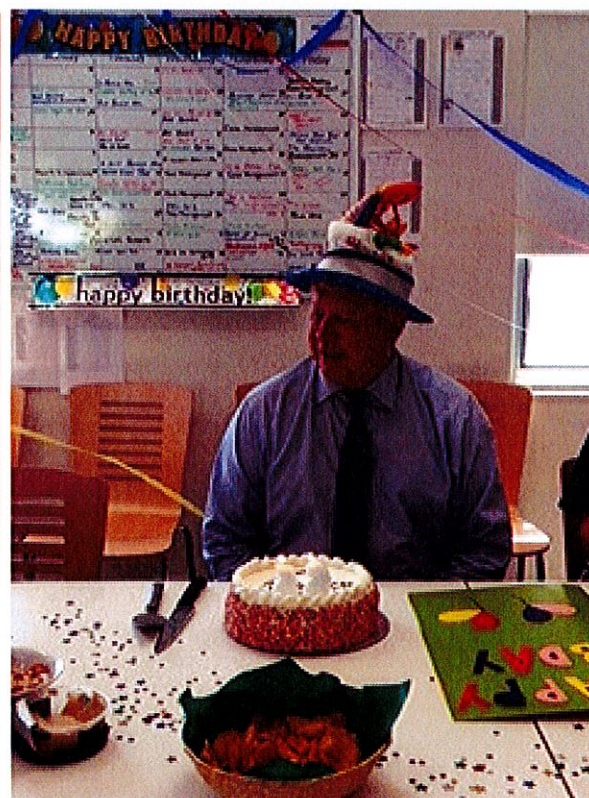
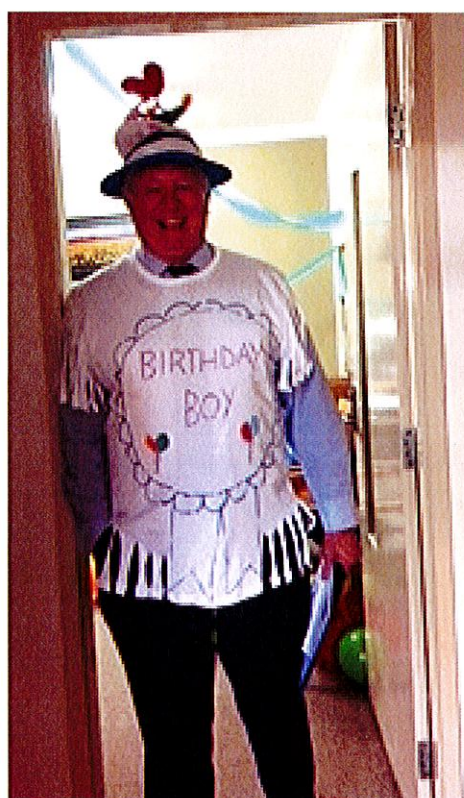
*Tickets will be sold on the playground each morning
near the year 1 classroom (\$2.00/ticket or 3 for \$5.00)*

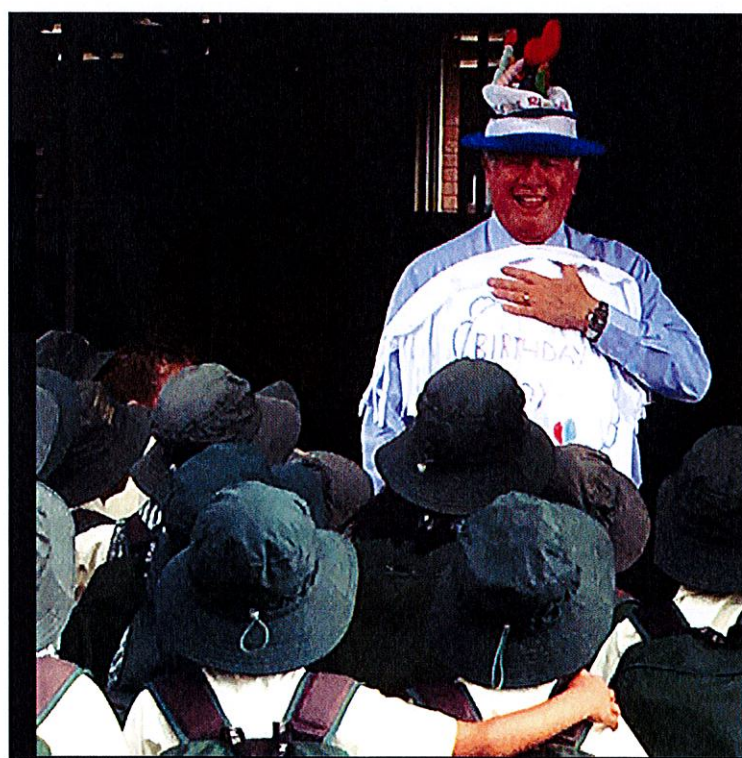
Fundraising for Catholic Missions

If parents/family members mention St Aidan's School at Doves Jewellers, The Village Centre, St Mary's

they will receive 10% off any purchase. *

*We recently celebrated
Mr Langford's Birthday!!!*







EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
Summer Reading Challenge

Read as many books as you can, tell us why you love them, and you could win one of **four iPad minis**

Enter online at www.parra.catholic.edu.au
Entries close 7 February 2017

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**THIS WILL BE THE LAST
NEWSLETTER FOR 2016**



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