



# *OUR PLACE* *ST AIDAN'S SCHOOL*

Term 3 Week 10

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23/9/16

THANKS...and.... THANKS!

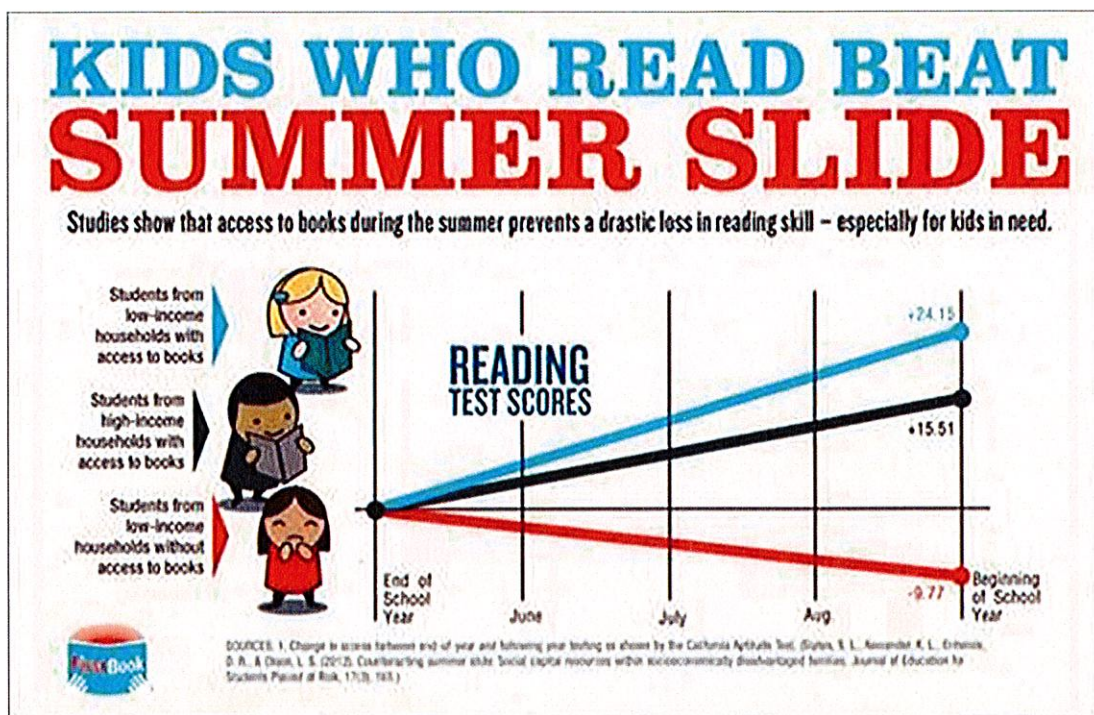


Thanks so much for the warm welcome I received at St Aidan's this term. The community (parents, students, teachers) have been very supportive and full of acceptance. The students are delightful and a real credit to you.

Thanks also for your obvious commitment to ensuring your children...our students ...are keen to learn and are very respectful at all times. They are full of life and love to learn.

# LET'S NOT HAVE A LEARNING SLUMP!

As we break for school holidays, it's a great idea to continue your child's learning in fun and appealing ways.



Penrith City Library, for example, have extensive resources and holiday activity programs that children are invited to join.

Reading a little every day helps maintain the fantastic growth that happens during the school term.

There's numbers and patterns all around - how many number patterns can you see in the environment? Get them to use their maths when shopping.

Visiting interesting places and having rich conversations are all great ways to build your child's verbal and literacy skills.



# GRANDPARENTS DAY SUCCESS!

What a wonderful day as the St Aidan's students hosted our grandparents.



The students showed off their class spaces and their learning.

The liturgy was then held outside and thankfully the weather was good. We prayed





for our parents and their own parents.... our grandparents. We also thanked them for the vital role they play in the lives of our St Aidan's students.

The morning tea was full of goodies and thanks to all the families who sent in the delicious treats.







Overall, a great day for all concerned.



# BYOLT (Bring Your Own Learning Technology)

At St Aidan's, we are rapidly moving towards students using their own Learning Devices in class to assist their learning.

While we have good technology resources across the school, the aim is to have EACH STUDENT have continuous access to digital learning.

One answer is BYOLT.... (Bring Your Own Learning Technology)...whereby students are able to bring their own devices (ie iPad, iPhone, laptop or whatever) to school.

These are used SOLELY for learning...never to be used for anything else and certainly not for the playground. This is common practice in high schools and increasingly in primary. We are yet to start the journey.

Come along to the meeting on Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> October (7pm on the first week of next term) to discuss the BYOLT plans and how it might be implemented.

Please remember that students will still have normal access to the school's range of learning technologies and that no student will be disadvantaged because of the financial struggle to afford technology. Those who are able to BYOLT will simply complement what is already accessible for every grade student.

## DATES COMING UP:

Mon 10/10

First day of term 4.

Tue 11/10

Stage 3 Parent Meeting 7pm.

This discussion includes student camps for Yrs 5 & 6 in 2017, refurbishing the learning spaces, BYOLT and student leadership.

Hope you can join us!!

Introducing **BYOLT (Bring Your Own Learning Technology)** at St Aidan's on Tuesday 11/10.

Where? In the meeting room next to Kindergarten.

Hope to see you there!

Tuesday 18/10

Parent Meeting- Discussion points include establishing a St Aidan's Parents Committee in early 2017, uniform committee update.



## KINDER 2017 ORIENTATION

19/10

#1 Siblings who have brothers/sisters at St Aidan's school already

26/10

#2 Non Siblings (brand new to the school)

2/11

#3 ALL Kinder 2017 students.

## Christmas Celebration

Monday evening 12<sup>th</sup> December



\* Last Staff (pupil free) Day-  
Friday 18 Nov \*



# Breakfast at Its Best

One great way to start the day right and enjoy the benefits of breakfast is with cereal.

Cereal is one of the great breakfast choices available because it is typically a low-fat, nutrient-dense food. It's made with grains and provides vitamins, iron and zinc, as well as fibre. And usually at less than 600 kilojoules per serving, it compares favourably to other breakfast options.



Plus, cereal offers variety. So everyone has the chance to eat what he or she loves. Great tasting cereals that you want to wake up to. Cereals that get you up and get you going each day.

Cereal is also good value. For around 80 cents a bowl (including milk), your family can get the benefits of a nutritious breakfast for a fraction of the cost of other breakfast foods.

And perhaps best of all, cereal helps keep mornings simple. It's quick to prepare and easy to eat on the go – even for the busiest of families.

The above excerpt comes from the Kellogg's site. We at St Aidan's have identified that there are a number of students who are coming to school without eating breakfast. As a result the school would like to start a Breakfast Club for term 4. We need support from the parent community to help in this endeavour. The Breakfast Club would start at 8.15 am and finish at 8.40 am. The school has approached Kellogg's to ask for donations and we are awaiting a response. If you are interested in helping could you please let the office know. More updates in our first newsletter back. Thank you to those mothers who have already started helping this week.

*Mrs Christine Leahy*

Assistant Principal.



## **SPRING CLEANING THESE HOLIDAYS??**

Maybe under the bed or out in the garage you will find some pre loved Lego.

## **PRELOVED LEGO**



We are looking at providing more learning activities for our students. Can you imagine a Lego wall and table full of colourful Lego bricks.....?

If you have some preloved Lego that is no longer used or needed, would you consider donating it to the students of St Aidan's? Maybe relatives or friends who have older children may consider donating unused Lego to the students.



Please ask others and send it to the school office.

**It will go from preloved to much loved !**



# Attendance

St Aidan's follows the Parramatta Diocesan guidelines in regards to attendance. School attendance is compulsory for every school age student.

If your child is away a note explaining the absence is required. There is also provision on our school website [www.staidansrookyhill.catholic.edu.au](http://www.staidansrookyhill.catholic.edu.au) for absentee notes to be completed and then emailed to the school.

Absenteeism	Attendance Rate	Educational Risk	Days absent per year	Long term absence (over 10 years)
Regular	90% or more	Low	20 days or less	1 year or less
Emerging	80%-89%	Medium	Between 20 and 40	1-2 years
Chronic	70%-79%	High	Between 40 and 60	2-3 years
Complex	69% or less	Severe	60 days or more	3 years plus

The Catholic Schools Office Diocese of Parramatta has required an attendance target of 93% or higher for every student.

If your child has had more than the expected number of days deemed acceptable then the following process will occur. The school office will contact you in regards to your child's absentee rate. This will be followed with a letter stating that you were contacted. If the attendance is still low you will be contacted for a student attendance meeting discussing how to improve your child's attendance at school.

This is a government driven initiative and must be taken seriously. Each case is different and some children suffer from sickness and also parents take children for extended holidays. Please be aware that this will also mean the process needs to be followed.

If you have any questions please phone the office for clarification.

*Mrs. Christine Leahy,*  
Assistant Principal.



# Canteen News

Canteen Menu remains the same.  
No changes at this time.



*Just a reminder that foreign currency cannot be accepted.*

## Get Started with Flexischools...

### Set up an account for online ordering...

You can set up an account online – it only takes a minute.

1. **Register for Flexischools** by visiting [www.flexischools.com.au](http://www.flexischools.com.au). Add your student, their school and class to get started.
2. **Top-Up your account** via Visa, Mastercard, PayPal or direct deposit.
3. **Make an order** by selecting from the range of options made available by your school and proceed to make payment for the order listed in your order pad.
4. **Review Orders** by logging back in to your Flexischools account. You can set recurring orders, view transaction history or cancel orders via your Flexischools login.



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Skoolbag App - St Aidan's App in iTunes (for all newsletters, alerts etc.)