

ST AIDAN'S SCHOOL DATES FOR TERM ONE 2016

Tuesday 15th March	Meal Deal Day— <i>Beasty Burger</i>
Thursday 17th March	9:00am Lenten reflection for parents
Thursday 24th March	Holy Thursday
Friday 25th March	Good Friday (no classes)
Monday 28th March	Easter Monday (no classes)
Tuesday 29th March	All students K-6 return following Easter break
Mon 4th—Thurs 7th April	Parent/teacher meetings
Friday 8th April	Term one concludes. School closes for Autumn holidays.

C.A.R.E.S. Open Day

Auto Place x Peter Brock Drive,
Prospect.

Tuesday 19th April 2016
10am to 2pm.

Come along during the school holidays and ride in a safe environment with real traffic lights. Bring your own bike and helmet. FREE face painting. Parking on site is free.

Bring a picnic, sausage sizzle and drinks. Adult supervision required.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT PROGRAM

CCSS Solo Parent Services is commencing a Bereavement Support Program for men or women who have suffered the death of their spouse or partner. It will be held on Tuesday fortnights commencing on 05th April, with an Information session and Overview of the Program. The Program will run fortnightly until Tuesday 12th July. Time: 10.30am - 12.30pm. Venue: CCSS 38 Prince St, Blacktown. Cost: \$5.00 per session. For further information / Registration Essential: Call Rita on 8822 2222 or Email: soloparentservices@ccss.org.au

St Agnes Catholic High School

A Years 7 – 10 co-educational school

Information Evening
Monday, 21st March 2016
5.30 pm to 7.30 pm

- Information for Year 6 students and their families
 - Come and meet the staff and students
 - View student work and displays
 - Guided tours of the school conducted by students
 - Information Session commences at 7.00 pm
 - 2017 enrolment information and packages available
- Other Year group enquiries welcome

Now enrolling for 2017

at Evans Road, Rooty Hill
(PO Box 24, Rooty Hill NSW 2766)

Phone: 8882 0700 Fax: 8882 0790
Email: stagnes@parra.catholic.edu.au
Website: stagnesrootyhill.catholic.edu.au



St Aidan's Primary School
1-5 Adelaide St, Rooty Hill NSW 2766
Telephone: 9625 3181 Fax: 9625 5612
<http://www.staidansrootyhill.catholic.edu.au>
staidans@parra.catholic.edu.au

Radio 97.5fm
Twitter @AidansSt

St Aidan's App in iTunes and Google Play: St Aidans Primary Rooty Hill

St Aidan's Primary School Rooty Hill Sharing News & Views

OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOL A GENUINE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

'Our Catholic school is a genuine community bent on imparting over and above an academic education, all the help it can to its members to adopt a Christian way of life' (Extract, The Catholic School)

If we are accepted with our limitations as well as our abilities, community gradually becomes a place of liberation.

Discovering that we are accepted and loved by others, we are better able to accept and love ourselves.

So, community is a place where we can be ourselves without fear or constraint. Community deepens through mutual trust among its members.

A community is only a community when the majority of its members are making the transition from 'the community for myself' to 'myself for the community'. The heart of community is forgiveness.

In spite of all the trust we may have in each other, there are always words that wound, self promoting attitudes, situations where susceptibilities clash.

Working together implies a certain cross, a constant effort and an acceptance which is daily and mutual forgiveness.

We should not seek the ideal community. It is a question of loving those whom God has set beside us today.

We might have chosen different people, people who are more cheerful or intelligent; but these are the ones that God has given us.

(Extract, 'Community and Growth' by Jean Vanier)

*Lord our school
is like a huge
jigsaw
with each of us a
unique piece.
With your
guidance
and our
determination
we can come
together as a
positive
Christian
community.
Lord, give us the
generosity to
do so.
Amen*

From the Principal

Dear Parents,

As you are aware this past week has been a celebration of catholic schools in NSW. On Sunday 6th March three of our student leaders, Kyle Polidano, Kyra Barcelon, Latasha Brewty, Mrs Leahy and myself along with representatives from seven other catholic schools in the Mt Druitt area attended a special Mass at Holy Family Emerton. Each year at this time these schools come together to celebrate Catholic Schools Week and give thanks for all those involved in Catholic Education.

Year three students and teachers from St Aidan's prepared a beautiful liturgy last Wednesday that was attended by many parents. It was also a wonderful opportunity for parents to visit the learning spaces and observe their children at work. Thank you to the many parents who came along to show their support for the work being done in Catholic schools, especially at St Aidan's.

We were pleased to welcome Mr Ian Smith Director of Religious Education, Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta to our celebration.

...Principal's letter continued over the page

From the Principal (continued)

In the first newsletter for 2016 there was an explanation of the St Aidan's 'homework' policy. The purpose of homework is that it is a continuation of the work being done in class. It is NOT a punishment and it is to be completed by the child perhaps with assistance from a parent. Homework is given from Monday to Thursday each week.

Following is the homework timeframe for each grade:

- ◆ Kindergarten and year one 20 minutes
- ◆ Year two 25 minutes
- ◆ Years three and four 30-40 minutes
- ◆ Years five and six 40-50 minutes

The content of the homework is:

Kindergarten

- term 1 practise sight words 5 minutes. Reading 10 minutes. Practise numeracy goal.
- terms 2-4 writing (story writing) 10-15 minutes. Reading and numeracy as for term one

Years one to six

- reading each night sight words for some students
- writing Mondays and Wednesdays.
- numeracy Tuesdays and Thursdays

It is expected that writing and numeracy will be a continuation of the work being done in class. Numeracy may also include practise of the student's goal and number facts for quick recall. Please contact your child's teacher should you have any questions or concerns about homework.

As you are aware parent/teacher interviews will be held in the last week of term. On Friday 18th March, each family will receive notification as to how to book a time for these interviews. Please see the school secretaries for further information or clarity.

Pope Francis has called us to 'care for the earth in a special way', *Earth Hour* is a way to be pro-active. Since 2007 *Earth Hour* has grown from a national to a worldwide environmental campaign, spreading to more than 162 countries. This year an estimated one in three Australians will take part in *Earth Hour* on Saturday 19th March 2016. For further details visit <http://earthhour.org.au/home>



Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Dr. Elizabeth Ricketts
Principal.

MESSAGE FOR THE JUBILEE OF MERCY

"Merciful Like the Father"

The Church is celebrating the Holy Year of Mercy, a time of grace, peace, and joy. It is meant for people of all ages from all nations. There are no walls, which can prevent the Father's mercy from reaching and embracing us. The Holy Door is now open in Rome and in all the dioceses of the world. The Jubilee is an opportunity for families to visit these churches to pray and celebrate the significance of The Holy Door. 'This is the door of the Lord where the just may enter' (Psalm 118:20)."

Mrs Miray Khoury
Religious Education Coordinator.



Literacy Matters

Spelling

This year the St Aidan's literacy goal is for:

All students to improve their spelling by a minimum of one year's growth on the NSW BOS writing continuum as evidenced by a variety of data sets (classroom assessment, English Syllabus capabilities, student writing samples, EYA and Naplan data).

Spelling is valued in society. Teachers aim to help children understand that spelling correctly helps to communicate meaning. At school, spelling is taught as children learn to read and write. Children develop confidence when they 'have a go' at spelling words in their writing. Learning to spell is a complex process which takes place over all stages of schooling.

The 2016 Premier's Reading Challenge for K-6 begins on Monday 7th March and closes Friday 19th August. All students are encouraged to participate in this wonderful challenge. Students will receive their log-on details during the week. Books included in the challenge will be available from the school library for the students to borrow.

The URL to be used to access the site is <http://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc>.



Mrs Christine Leahy
Assistant Principal/Lead Literacy teacher.

Numeracy News

Studies have shown that children's learning is enhanced when there are effective partnerships between home and school. It is important for parents to play an active role in this partnership.

I encourage you to start looking at the maths around your home environment and allow your child to also notice, discuss and explore the maths.

NOTICE the mathematics: Look around the home environment and world- notice shapes and fractions, the use of measurement around the house, different numbers we can read and write etc.

DISCUSS the mathematics: Talk to your child at the maths you notice, encourage them to discuss what they notice and ask questions. Where else have you seen this? I wonder what 100g looks like?

EXPLORE the mathematics: Allow your child to further explore the mathematics. Encourage them to look for other examples around them or work out solutions to different problems.

This process will allow you to interact with your child and develop a love for mathematics.

In the next newsletter I will continue exploring ways you can help your child with Mathematics in 2016.

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

Miss Prudence Hall
Lead Numeracy Teacher.

School Fees

School fees for term one were due by **Monday 7th March**. Please contact me for further information on (02) 9625 3181.

Mrs Blaga Wakeling
Office Manager.

Hall of Fame

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

ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS		
KH	Sophia Jorge	Charles Saturnino
KQ	Orlando Gorgise	Tiffany Vicedas
1M	Isabella Bell	Ethan D'Cruz
1S	Julian Lintag	Cecilia Nguyen Nguyen
2D	Shelbilise Teuma-Manaog	Chloe Favor
2U	Gabriella Mark Danials	Methuki WannArachchi
3C	Olivia Bottom	Reuel Velasco
3D	Raylene D'Cruz	Zak Tanedo
4B	Arirei Beia	Jacon Tandoc
4P	Jordana Jacobs	Jimmy Johnson
5B	Simone Ramos	Meagan Smith
5P	Saphenatta Fuimaono	Byron Skarski
6C	Rita El-Ghossein	Fiona Vicedas
6K	Bol Dak	Simon Issa