



OUR PLACE

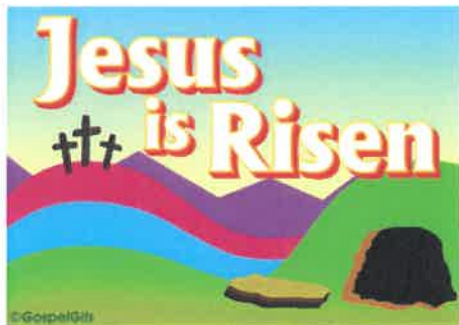
ST AIDAN'S SCHOOL

Term 2 Week 1 Friday 28th April 2017

Welcome back all families and staff to our new school term. Welcome back to Miss Brown who was married during the holidays and is now Mrs Harris.

At the end of last term we celebrated Grandparents day. What a beautiful celebration from the mass to the wonderful morning tea. Many families made this a very special day indeed. Following are some of the images captured on the day. Thank you to all who helped make it such a beautiful day.

I hope everyone enjoyed their family time especially around Easter. Part of Greg Sunter's commentary from Liturgy Help about Easter also makes us think about this special time of year for all Christians.



'The discovery of the empty tomb – although so simply told – is an astounding event that completes the Paschal Mystery: the passion, death AND resurrection of Jesus. Whilst Christ's willingness to go to his death on the cross was an extraordinary statement of God's love for humankind, it is his rising again from death that offers all Christian people hope. It is the second disciple – the one whom Jesus loved – who is the first to grasp the meaning of what has happened inside the tomb. The gospel tells us that upon entering the tomb and seeing Jesus' burial cloths lying there, 'he saw and he believed'. Unlike the later encounters with the risen Lord, this disciple recognised the truth and significance of what he saw in the empty tomb. He didn't need to see the risen Lord to believe. Perhaps it is he that

we today can best identify with. Not in a position to physically encounter the risen Christ, we are capable of seeing the signs of his resurrection and continuing presence in the world and choose to believe.'

Staff returned on Monday to work again on our three school goals in formation, numeracy and literacy. There was rich discussion on multiplicative thinking, programming for religion and strategies for comprehension. These valuable discussions will continue throughout the term.

Accompanying this newsletter is a flyer about the measles epidemic in Western Sydney.

NAPLAN letter to parents.- Year 3 and year 5 only

Next Wednesday 3rd May is a parent meeting regarding the school's sports uniform. Layla Morcos from Lowes was to be joining us but is unable to attend the meeting. The meeting will still go ahead as discussions need to be finalised. We will meet in the stage 3 area at 6pm. All are welcome.



ANZAC Day occurs on 25 April. It **commemorates** all New Zealanders killed in war and also honours returned servicemen and women. The date itself marks the anniversary of the landing of New Zealand and Australian soldiers – the **ANZACs** – on the Gallipoli Peninsula in 1915.

On Wednesday year 4 lead the school in the ANZAC day service. Following are some pictures from that service. It is important that parents also speak to their children about important days like ANZAC day so they understand the significance and importance of the day. Thank you year 4.



Morning Supervision

Just a reminder parents that teacher supervision of children does not commence until 8:15am. The gates will be opened in the mornings at 7:30am. Children who arrive before teacher supervision begins are reminded to sit quietly on the seats outside the meeting room and not play with any equipment until supervision begins. If there is any emergency or anything you would like to discuss with us please contact the office for further information.

**A PARENT MEETING WILL BE HELD
ON WEDNESDAY 3RD MAY AT 7:00PM
RE THE SCHOOL UNIFORM.
*ALL WELCOME.***



A special thanks to Wendy Ward from Classroom Catering for the \$54.60 donation to Project Compassion from the pancake fundraiser. We appreciate the support and have added the donation to our school community's response. Thanks for the generosity of all families who contributed.

Price Rises

Unfortunately, there have been price increases for both school hats and library bags.

**School hats now cost \$15.00 each.
School library bags now cost \$7.00 each.**

Grandparents Day/Easter Raffle/Disco on the Green/ANZAC Day memorial



DATES COMING UP

Wed 3rd May – 7:00pm Parent Meeting re School Uniform

Tues/Wed/Thurs May 9th, 10th, 11th – NAPLAN Yrs 3&5

Fri 12th Mother's Day celebration

Sun 14th HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

SPORTS DAYS FOR TERM 2

Kindergarten – Friday; Year 1 – Friday

Year 2 – Monday; Year 3 – Monday

Year 4 – Friday; Year 5-Monday

Year 6 - Tuesday

Confirmation at St Aidan's Church

Parent information evening:	Wednesday 10 th May 7:30pm Mary MacKillop Hall
Registration:	Sat 13 th -Sun 14 th May 2017 Sacristy in the Church after all Masses
Parent instruction evening:	Wednesday 17 th May 7:30pm Mary MacKillop Hall
Children's sessions:	Sunday mornings 8:30am Mary MacKillop Hall 21 st May, 28 th May, 4 th June, 11 th June, 18 th June
Practice sessions:	Monday 19 th June 2017 & Thursday 22 nd June 2017 7:30pm in the CHURCH (Confessions will be available during practice sessions)
Sacrament administered:	Wednesday 27 th June 7:00pm in Church Thursday 29 th June 2017 7:00pm in Church



Being on Time

Attendance is not just about being at school but also about being on time. Being late 5 minutes a day equals 25 minutes over a week, 250 minutes a term or 4 hours per term, or the equivalent of 3 ¼ days per year and over the schooling years is equivalent to one whole term of missed learning time. When a student arrives late they have often missed the introduction to a lesson and they've missed time socialising with their peers.

EVERY LEARNER, EVERY DAY is our school slogan for 2017. It is our combined responsibility **to have our children at school every day and on time.**

Attendance is a major focus for St Aidan's this year.

Week 1 attendance level is 84.9 (A NEW PB!!!)

**Attendance level target for all
Diocesan schools is 90%**

COME ON ST AIDAN'S WE CAN GET TO 90%!

Janet Colusso
Acting Assistant Principal.

Calling all writers in Years 5 and 6

2017 NSW Storytelling Competition for students in Years 5 & 6

DO YOUR STUDENTS LIKE TELLING STORIES? CAN THEY CAPTURE AND ENTERTAIN AN AUDIENCE? IF THE ANSWER IS YES, THEN ENTER THEM IN THE AUSTRALIAN STORYTELLING COMPETITION FOR THEIR CHANCE TO WIN SOME GREAT PRIZES!

This is the 8th year the competition is being hosted by the Australian Storytelling Guild (NSW) Inc www.storytellersnsw.org.au. Over this time they have viewed entries of high quality from State and Independent schools that showcase young people's love of language and literature. This is an opportunity for:

2017 Storytelling Competition
for students in Yrs 5 & 6
Hosted by Australian Storytelling Guild (NSW)



- students to develop arts literacy skills, self esteem and win wonderful prizes.
- the school to encourage children to participate in an educational activity that is fun and supports development in skills across a number of Key Learning Areas.

CLOSING DATE FRIDAY MAY 19TH 2017

FREE ENTRY

What to submit.

A video storytelling performance of a **published** or well crafted **original story** that takes between 2 and 6 minutes to tell.

Students are encouraged to tell the story in their own words to capture the essence of the story rather than learn the story word for word. For this competition we are not accepting poetry or rhymed stories.

Conditions of entry

- Storytellers may be filmed performing either in front of a live audience or directly to the camera
- Filming should show the performer in a full body or half body shot so that the arms and hands are visible
- Stories are to be told, not read
- The story is to be no longer than 6 minutes
- Consideration should be given to pace and tone of voice, expression and gesture
- Please send your video file on a USB stick to The Australian Storytelling Guild (NSW)

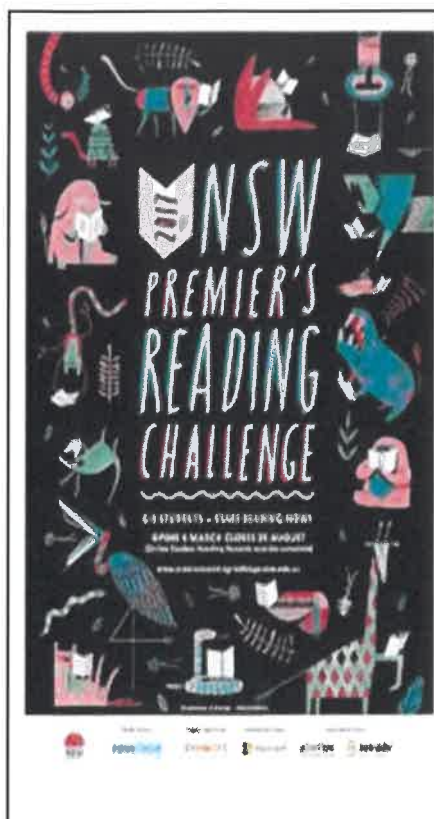
Deadline All entries must be postmarked by Friday 19th May 2017 or earlier

Judging The quality of the performance will be judged, not the quality of the video or filming technique

- Finalists will be notified by 2nd June 2017
- Finalists will be invited to present their story at the Sydney Storytelling Conference family concert June 17th 2017
- All participants will receive a certificate of participation via email.

Prizes for the competition: 1st place \$150, 2nd place \$100, 3rd place \$50

Literacy at St Aidan's



PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

To improve literacy amongst our students we encourage them to read every night. One way is through the Premier's Reading Challenge in which St Aidan's is participating. The Reading Challenge promoted by the NSW Premier, began on March 6th and closes August 25th. It is open to students from K-9. Children in K-2 are encouraged to read 30 books over the 5 months. 25 books to be chosen from the reading lists and 5 books that are free choice. Children in yrs 3-9 are encouraged to read 20 books over the 5 months. 15 books to be chosen from the reading lists and 5 books that are free choice.

In the coming weeks kinder students will come home with their login. For those children who have previously participated in the Challenge their login will be the same. If they don't remember their login please advise their teacher. They can log their reading books at home or at school.

KINDER ENROLMENTS FOR 2018

We have now started the process of enrolling for Kinder 2018. Interviews are underway with various parent meetings coming up in terms 3 & 4.

Please call in at the office and pick up an enrolment form or tell your family and friends. The school office is open from 8:15am to 3:15pm for enrolments.

Numeracy News

Welcome back to term 2!

This term I will give parents insight into how Mathematics is taught at St Aidan's by sharing stories and pictures of all the hard mathematical thinking happening in each classroom!

But first... What does Mathematics look like at St Aidan's?

We have some non-negotiables when it comes to teaching Mathematics at St Aidan's. These are based on the Parramatta Diocese Focus 160 approach that all schools within the diocese must follow.

*We teach Mathematics for 60 minutes each day.

*We call each Mathematics lesson a **NUMERACY BLOCK** and within each numeracy block there are 3 sections (*warm up, rich/open ended task and reflection*).

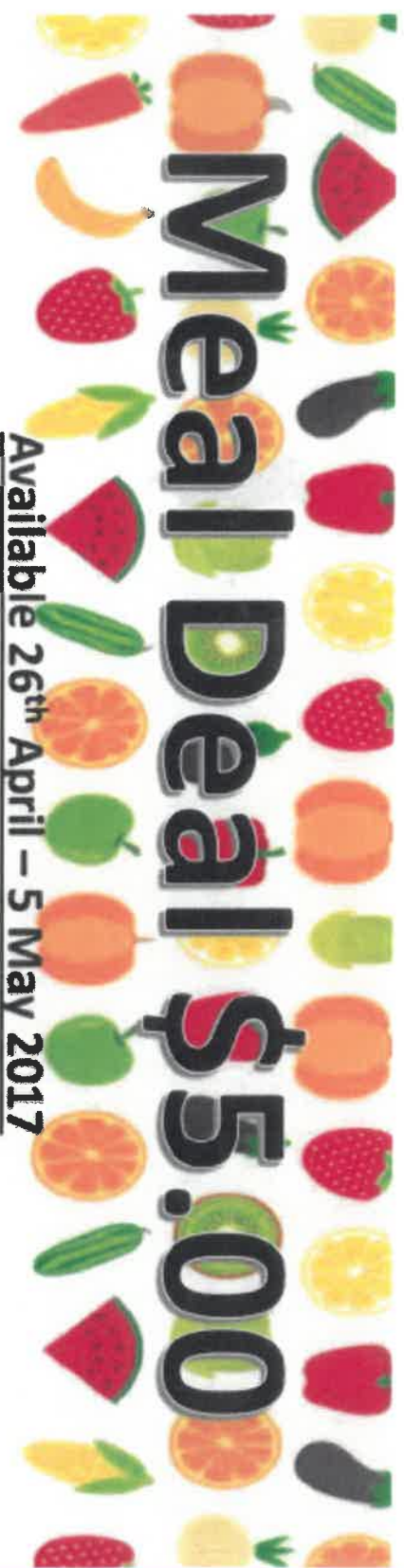
Warm up: 10-15 minutes. This is a time where students deepen their understanding of number with a focus on counting and manipulating collections of objects.

Rich/Open ended Task: 30-40 minutes. During this time children are engaged in a rich or open ended Maths task. They are involved in thinking and doing the Mathematics.

Reflection: 10-15 minutes. During this time children share their thinking and 'tune in' to the Mathematics learnt throughout the lesson.

If you would like to know further information about the teaching of Mathematics at St Aidan's or you would like me to address a particular area of Mathematics you can contact me through my school email address plance@parra.catholic.edu.au





Meal Deal \$5.00

Available 26th April – 5 May 2017

Meal Deal 1

- Salad Wrap
- Sparkling Water
- Frozen Orange Wedges



CLASS
ROOM
CATERING

Meal Deal 2

- Bento Box
- Sparkling Water
- Cool Stix



Measles outbreak in western Sydney

There is currently an outbreak of measles in South Western and Western Sydney, with at least 9 people having acquired the disease in the region during March 2017.

The reported cases include children and infants who have attended childcare centres and secondary schools. There is potential for the measles outbreak to spread further as the infected young people have large social networks both within and outside of their schools, and some have travelled on public transport whilst infectious. Measles is highly infectious and anyone who isn't vaccinated is at risk of infection if they have had contact with an infectious case.

Immunisation is effective in preventing measles. It is important for everyone to ensure that they have received at least two doses of measles containing vaccine (MMR). Infants and young children are vaccinated with measles containing vaccine at 12 months and 18 months of age. Older children and adults born during or after 1966 should ensure that they have been vaccinated with two doses of vaccine. Unless people are certain they have had two doses of measles vaccine, they should visit their GP as soon as possible for free measles vaccination.

The first sign of measles is usually a high fever, a runny nose, cough, and red, watery eyes. The rash usually starts on the face and upper neck and spreads over the body, hands and feet. The rash lasts for 4-7 days.

People with measles symptoms should seek medical advice as soon as possible phoning the emergency department or GP beforehand, stay home from work or school, and limit other activities to avoid exposing other vulnerable people, such as infants, to the infection.

Further information about measles can be found on the NSW Ministry of Health website at:
<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/factsheets/infectious/measles.html>



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