



# OUR PLACE

## ST AIDAN'S SCHOOL

### Term 3 Week 8

9/9/16

## HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT THIS??



Our Kindergarten students starting next Jan/Feb at St Aidan's next year will finish Yr 6 at the end of 2023 !!

They will complete their HSC in October 2028 ! Give another 3-4 years of university and it is now the end of 2032.... **They are looking for their first career job in 2033!!**

Kinders 2017	Yr1 2018	Y2 2019	Y3 2020
Y4 2021	Y5 2022	Y6 2023	Y7 2024
Y8 2025	Y9 2026	Y10 2027	Y11 2028
Y12 2029			



What kind of technology will they be using in the 4<sup>th</sup> decade of this century? **It is not invented yet.**

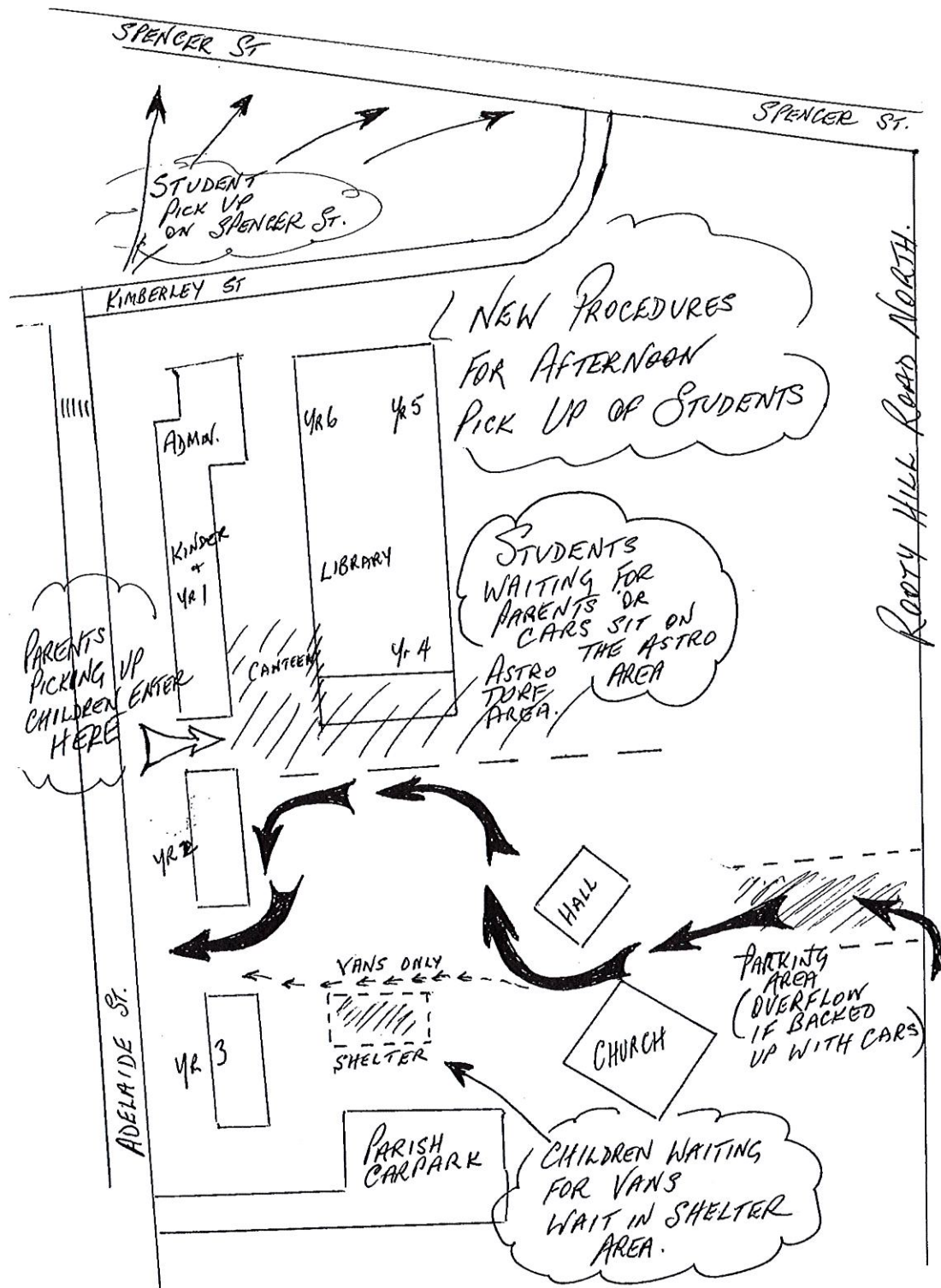
What will **work, leisure, entertainment, medicines, genetics, engineering, education, travel and life** in general be like when our Kinders start their work

career? Many of the careers do not exist .... So how are we preparing our children for this future society?

At St Aidan's, we strive to make sure the students are well prepared for this challenging future ....

# IT STARTS NEXT MONDAY

## Afternoon Dismissal Procedures







Students wait  
for their parent's  
car on the  
**GREEN** area.

Cars enter  
through the  
driveway  
between the  
church and hall.

Cars exit through  
the driveway  
between

Yrs 3 & 2



### **VANS-**

Please move  
straight to the  
shelter area in  
the picture.

Students will  
be waiting for  
vans in this  
area.

Parents walking  
into the school  
enter in the  
gate between  
Kinder & Yr2



DISCO TONIGHT!!

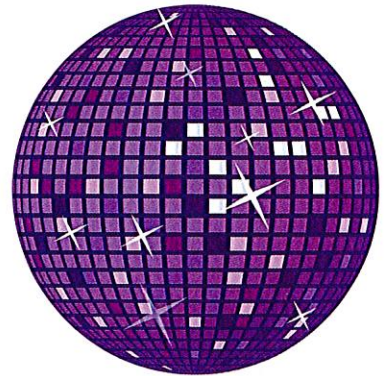
# St Aidan's Fluro Disco

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2016

Infants: 4.30pm – 6.00pm

Primary: 6.15pm – 7.45pm

Tickets: \$5.00 (please pay by Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September)



Come dressed in your brightest fluro gear, enjoy great music, win some prizes and dance the night away.

All proceeds will go to *Christ the King Academy, Antiquera, Bohol, Philippines.*



Dates Coming Up

# DISCO THIS AFTERNOON/ EVENING

Mon 12/9

New car parking procedures start

Gate opens at 2:30pm

Tues 13/9

St Aidan's Voice of Youth rep competes in public speaking regional competition.



Best wishes to our year 6 student, Nipulma...., who will be competing in the diocesan Voice of Youth semi-final in public speaking next Tuesday.



## Kinder Assembly

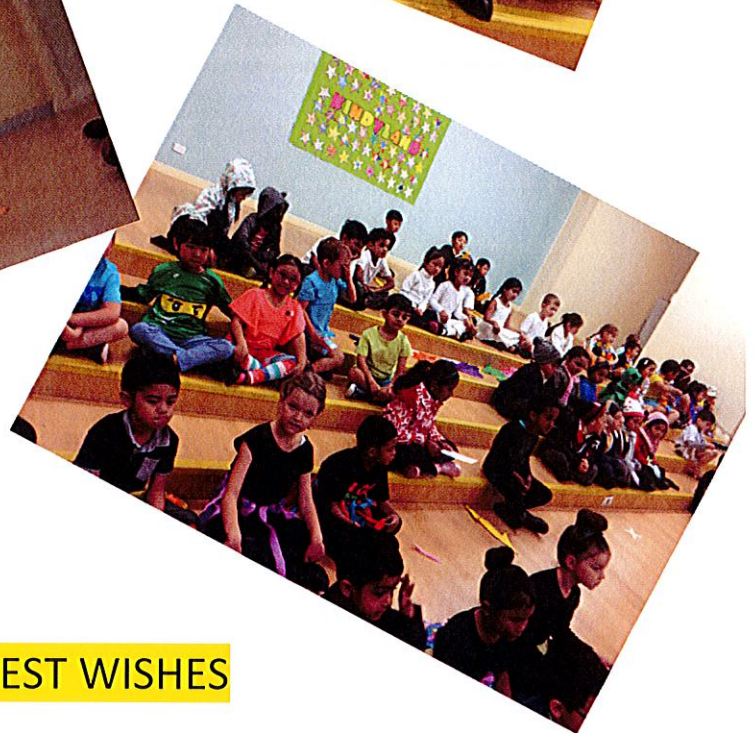


Congratulations to our delightful Kindergarten students on their entertaining assembly last Wednesday. The littlest people in our school have only one term left before they move into bigger grades and they were very confident speakers and entertainers.





## Kinder Assembly



## CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES

Miss Hall, our Kinder teacher, will soon be getting married! Today is her last day of school before becoming Mrs Lance. We wish Prue and her soon to be husband, Guy, all the best for the wedding and for their joy filled future together. You are welcome to attend the ceremony:

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September at 1:45pm at St Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, 582 Victoria Road, Ryde.**



## Moving grades in Wk 10

To better align our K-6 learning across the school, we intend to move some grades and the library in the last week of this term.

Year 3 will be moving to the present library space while the library will be upstairs in the present yr 1 space. This will then become a **Resource Centre** with learning areas, discovery workplaces, digital learning and teacher resources all together in the one area.

On ground level, Kinders will stay while Yr 1 move to the present Yr 2 space. Yr 2 will relocate to the empty Yr 3 space. All infants will then be at ground level while Stage 2 (Yrs 3 & 4) and Stage 3 (Yrs 5 & 6) are together in the other building.

Stage 3 will soon be refurbished after discussions about furniture to suit the learning.

Apple TVs soon to be installed in stage 3 with other spaces receiving these later in the year or early new year.

Hopefully this will better align our school for improved learning with significant learning impact.



**GRANDPARENTS DAY-**

**FRIDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> SEPTEMBER**

GRANDPARENTS  
fill the world  
with LOVE

Our students would love to show off their school and learning spaces to our grandparents. Please book them in for **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23<sup>rd</sup>**, the last day of this term.

It should be a great day for the children and their nana, pop, grandma, grandad, nonna, granny, dida, opa, lola, lido, tata, grandpop, nanny, oma, granpa.....





## WYD – Krakow, Poland



Before we knew it, the week of World Youth Day in Kraków, the city of mercy was upon us.

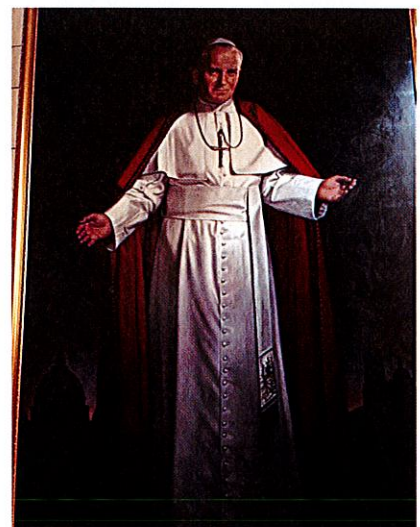
Things began on Tuesday with a very Aussie flavour. The Australian gathering was held in an arena. 3000 Australian pilgrims from all states and territories joined together in prayer, testimony and song. We heard a lot about what Mercy is, and how we can receive mercy as well as give mercy in our everyday life.

Later that day was the opening mass held at a big park called Blonia Park. The persistent rain wasn't enough to dampen our spirits as we joined approximately 500,000 young people to officially open World Youth Day 2016.

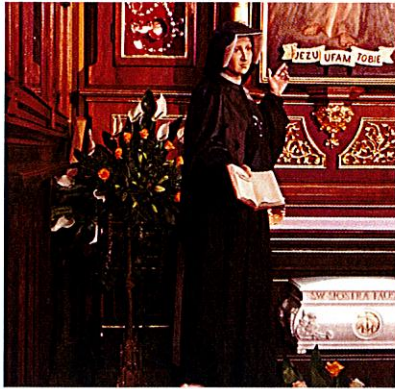
On Wednesday, we attended our first catechesis session. Catechesis sessions are aimed at further educating young people about their faith. We enjoyed music, adoration with the Blessed Sacrament, testimony from young people, a keynote speaker and finished with holy mass. We heard from Archbishop Timothy Dolan from New York. He spoke to us about the importance of praying to Mary as an intercessor for Jesus. He also reminded us that the time for mercy is NOW. He reflected on the way people tend to procrastinate when it comes to their faith and challenged us to use World Youth day as a time for making decisions.

Later that evening, we attended various events around the city in a youth festival. The majority of the Parramatta Pilgrims attended a concert by Father Rob Galea. He is a well-known priest/musician who lives in Melbourne. We sang, danced and prayed together with a strong sense of unity among the pilgrims.

Thursday was a very special day of the week. In the morning, we set out to visit the shrines dedicated to Saint John Paul 2 and Saint Faustina. These Polish saints held strong beliefs in the mercy of God. Saint John Paul 2 displayed great mercy in 1981 when he was shot. Instead of holding a grudge he showed amazing forgiveness when he visited this man in prison. Saint Faustina was said to be one of the first Saints to pray to the miraculous Divine Mercy painting. A replica of the original is in her chapel today. In her life she displayed a tremendous sense of devotion to our Lord Jesus Christ and consistently recited the phrase: **'Jesus, I trust in you'**.







Later that day we were privileged enough to witness the arrival of Pope Francis. He was welcomed by almost two million young people. He addressed the crowd and reminded us about Jesus' undying love for each of us. He challenged us to welcome Jesus into our lives. He also said how in times of struggle and when we fall we should look up and we will see the hand of Christ reaching out for us.

Friday afternoon we were back at Blónia park for a reflection on the stations of the cross. This was really well done as each station was enacted by a different group and related to our lives today. They used acrobatics, interpretive dance, acting, singing and music to recreate the main message of each station of the cross.

Saturday presented us with a physically challenging yet rewarding day. Our group had made a decision to walk from our accommodation to the venue for the final mass. With all our gear for the sleep out among the stars we set off on a mini pilgrimage within our World Youth Day pilgrimage. The walk was 22km in length and we covered that in 7 hours with many rest stops along the way. We arrived at our destination for the night Campus Misericordia. Throughout the afternoon we heard many testimonies from people from different parts of the world.

One girl that stood out was a young girl from Syria. Her country is in war and she lives her life along with other Christians in constant fear. She spoke of heartbreaking losses of close friends. For us her testimony really made us reflect on the things we tend to worry about in our day-to-day lives. We are so lucky to live in a country free from such conflict and some of the things we worry about pale in significance to people like that. Later that evening Pope Francis joined us for an hour of Adoration with the Blessed Sacrament. It was a truly special occasion to be praying with the Holy Father to Jesus through the Blessed Sacrament.



Saturday night passed on by and we awoke to a very warm sunny morning. We had reached the pinnacle of our pilgrimage, the final mass with Pope Francis. The gospel of the day was the story of how Jesus met Zacchaeus. Pope Francis delivered an amazing homily where he reaffirmed that every single one of us is loved for who we are. Jesus didn't care about what others thought of him dining with a tax collector, nor did it concern him that he was short in stature. Pope Francis reminded us that it



doesn't matter if you have the latest fashion trends, the latest smart phone, these things are not important. What is important is that Jesus loves YOU!

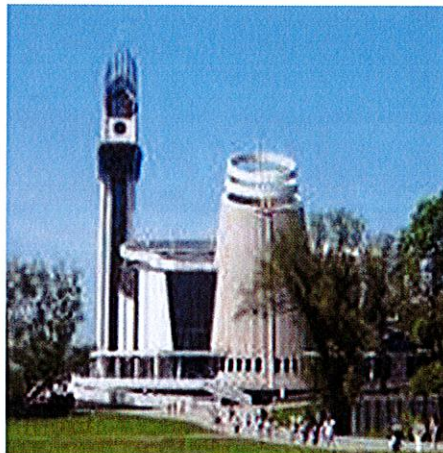
To conclude the final mass, Pope Francis announced that the 2019 World Youth Day is going to be held in Panama, a small country in Central America.

Our pilgrimage concluded on Monday with a diocesan retreat. This was an excellent opportunity for us to reflect on the experiences of the past three weeks. We celebrated mass and spent time reflecting on the amazing opportunities that WYD afforded each pilgrim. We spent our last night in Warsaw before our long flight home. Attending WYD was truly an amazing experience and one I will never forget, especially the people I met and the places I visited. I thank God for each and every grace he bestowed on me during my pilgrimage.

My challenge to you is, "How can you be **the face of mercy to the people in your lives**"?

I would like to thank the school community for their support, well wishes and prayers along the way.

***Mrs Miray Khoury***  
***Religious Education Coordinator***



- Photos:**
1. St Pope John Paul 11's Statue in front of his shrine in Lagiewniki
  2. A portrait of St Pope John Paul 11 inside the chapel
  3. St Faustina's actual coffin and Statue at the Shrine of Divine Mercy
  4. The spectacular altar at the Shrine of Divine Mercy in Krakow's Lagiewniki District
  5. The Divine Mercy Sanctuary in Kraków, Poland is a Roman Catholic basilica dedicated to the Divine Mercy devotion, as the resting place of Saint Faustina Kowalska, canonized on April 30, 2000.



# 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.*



# Transition to Summer Uniform

Over the next two weeks, depending on the weather, Parents can decide which way they want to dress their children i.e. either full Summer or full Winter uniform.

Full Summer uniform will commence from the beginning of Term 4.

## Lead Literacy

Students at St Aidan's write each day for a minimum of one hour.

The more parents talk to their children about the world around them the better equipped they are to write.

Helpful hints for parents include, naming and describing what can be seen on the way to school or on a walk and therefore can become a writing topic.

Reading different types of books also helps the writing process as the reader can use the different techniques to use in their writing.

*Mrs Christine Leahy*

Assistant Principal/ Lead Literacy teacher.



- Many thanks to Mr Manaog and Mr Teuma who assembled the new seats on the playground.
- Thank you to all the parents who assisted at the K-2 Tabloid Sports.



Congratulations to Sanja Surkic in KH and her family on the birth of a baby boy, Samuel.

**Reminder: School Fees are now due.**

**Thank you to all the families who have already paid.**



# Canteen News

When students order any fruit/vegetable items from the canteen they receive a sticker per item (two stickers for carrots and Philly cheese). Collect two character stickers and complete the details on an entry form (available from the Canteen) to redeem a pencil and eraser and to be a part of the major draw!!! **Entries close 16/9/16.**



Road to Rio 2016 Term 3

The following Hong Kong Meal Deals begins Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September and finishes on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September.

- Meal Deal 1 – \$5.00. Chicken & lettuce roll; bottle of water; banana.
- Meal Deal 2 - \$5.00. Homemade noodles in honey soy sauce; plain milk with Sippah straw; frozen juice cup.



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