



# St. Aidan's Primary School

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[www.staidansrootyhill.catholic.edu.au](http://www.staidansrootyhill.catholic.edu.au)

## Newsletter

### Term 1 Week 4

*"Creating faith-filled, curious, self motivated and excited learners who are meeting the challenges of being creative contributors and innovative problem solvers....."*

### School goals 2018

- Every student will **apply critical thinking and analysis skills** to Scriptural passages (3 Senses)
- Every student will **apply critical thinking and analysis skills** as they read more complex texts
- Every student will **apply critical thinking and analysis skills** to visualisation tasks and challenging **multi-step** mathematical problems

You will notice that the common theme in all of our goals is the development of...

## CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS.

Good questioning as highlighted below will challenge your children to think differently and to think critically and creatively.



Our teachers are always looking to challenge students' thinking!! We need them to be innovators, inventors, creators... not conformists...



# The Ultimate Cheatsheet for Critical Thinking

Want to exercise critical thinking skills? Ask these questions whenever you discover or discuss new information. These are broad and versatile questions that have limitless applications!



## Who

- ... benefits from this?
- ... is this harmful to?
- ... makes decisions about this?
- ... is most directly affected?
- ... have you also heard discuss this?
- ... would be the best person to consult?
- ... will be the key people in this?
- ... deserves recognition for this?

## What

- ... are the strengths/weaknesses?
- ... is another perspective?
- ... is another alternative?
- ... would be a counter-argument?
- ... is the best/worst case scenario?
- ... is most/least important?
- ... can we do to make a positive change?
- ... is getting in the way of our action?

## Where

- ... would we see this in the real world?
- ... are there similar concepts/situations?
- ... is there the most need for this?
- ... in the world would this be a problem?
- ... can we get more information?
- ... do we go for help with this?
- ... will this idea take us?
- ... are the areas for improvement?

## When

- ... is this acceptable/unacceptable?
- ... would this benefit our society?
- ... would this cause a problem?
- ... is the best time to take action?
- ... will we know we've succeeded?
- ... has this played a part in our history?
- ... can we expect this to change?
- ... should we ask for help with this?

## Why

- ... is this a problem/challenge?
- ... is it relevant to me/others?
- ... is this the best/worst scenario?
- ... are people influenced by this?
- ... should people know about this?
- ... has it been this way for so long?
- ... have we allowed this to happen?
- ... is there a need for this today?

## How

- ... is this similar to \_\_\_\_\_?
- ... does this disrupt things?
- ... do we know the truth about this?
- ... will we approach this safely?
- ... does this benefit us/others?
- ... does this harm us/others?
- ... do we see this in the future?
- ... can we change this for our good?

# Dates Coming Up-

Sun 25/2 2nd Sunday of Lent

Mon 26/2

Commonwealth Games rep visit on Monday morning/ Scott Wilson  
8:35am

Tues 27/2

\*Paper Plane competition **8:20am**

\***Parent Forum** @**1:50pm in the MPR**

(Multi Purpose Room /meeting room). The bottom gates will be opened early so parents can park down by the Parish Centre and walk up. We finish by the bell time for dismissal.

Wed 28/2

\***9:15am primary grades Mass** led by Yr 6 (Kinders attending with their buddies from Y6)

\* **Parent Forum** @ **6pm** - in the space between Yrs 5 & 6 for one hour and repeating the agenda items of Tuesday afternoon's meeting.

Fri 2nd March

\***Learning Showcase**

**8:45am to 9:30am All welcome to come along and celebrate great learning at St Aidan's during Catholic Schools Week. (Further details later in this newsletter.)**







## SHOWCASE OF LEARNING

Launching Catholic Schools Week@ St Aidan's

**Next Friday, 2nd March**

Parents and family and visitors are welcome to visit our beautiful learning spaces to see the children in action.



**Start- 8:45am** Time to settle and take attendance.

**Finish- varies....eg** Kinder needs a much shorter time so the little ones don't become anxious and unsettled. However, higher grades have more work and presentations to share.

### **PARENT MEETINGS (next week)**

**Tues 27/2 @1:50pm-2:50pm (Meeting Room)**

**& Wed 28/2 @ 6pm- 7pm (outside Y6)**

The same agenda will be discussed at each mtg so parents have greater opportunity to attend one or the other.

#### **Agenda:**

- Sport uniforms evaluation
  - Mothers day stall
  - Maths & visualisation
- Staff Professional Learning day (Mon 30th April)
  - Seesaw
- 2018 goals & critical thinking

***Hope you can join us at either meeting !!***

# Kinder Teachers Visiting Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Primary St Mary's

**When?** Next Wed morning for an hour  
Investigating other creative ideas to further engage and educate our Kinder students.

Every school, every learning space and every group of students are totally different and unique. But there is always something new to learn to improve our support for student learning needs.

Mr Langford & Mrs Leahy will also attend.

# High Schools are now Enrolling!!!



**ENROLLING NOW**

**ST AGNES CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL  
ROOTY HILL**

**INFORMATION EVENING**

MONDAY 5 March 2018  
School tours 5.30pm - 6.30pm  
Information session 6.30pm - 7.30pm

To find out more, call 8882 0700 or visit [www.stagnesrootyhill.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stagnesrootyhill.catholic.edu.au)



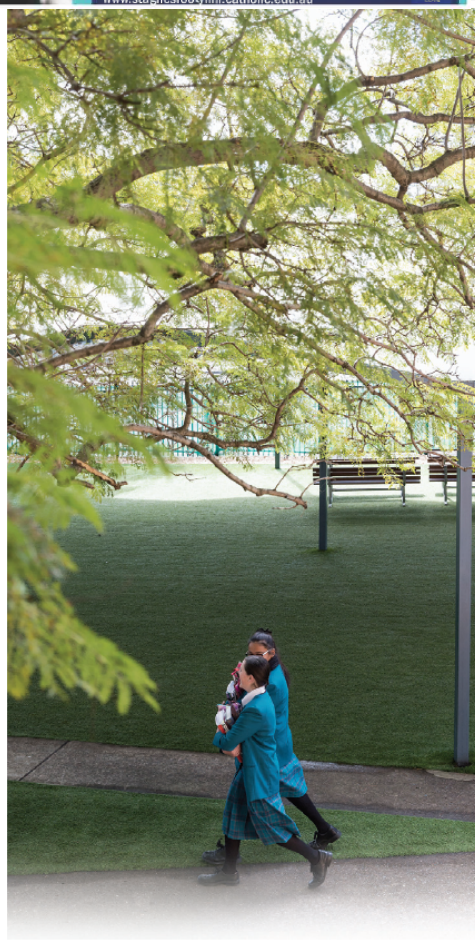
**ST AGNES CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL  
ROOTY HILL**

Our school provides a learning environment of challenge, discovery and innovation designed to encourage each student to achieve their personal best.

We are committed to providing highly qualified teaching staff, pastoral care, a wide range of co-curricular activities, strong values and high expectations to support each student grow academically and spiritually.

Come along to our Information Evening or contact us for more information.

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[www.stagnesrootyhill.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stagnesrootyhill.catholic.edu.au)



## ENROLLING now for 2019

Catherine McAuley is a Catholic girls' secondary school, located at Westmead. Our broad curriculum encourages young women to pursue independent lifelong learning.





# PROJECT COMPASSION

## FOR A JUST FUTURE

### First Week of Lent

Janaki is a young entrepreneur from Nepal, who has turned her life around. Growing up in a world of poverty and disadvantage, coupled with a forced marriage at the age of twelve, she was in a very vulnerable position. Even more so when her husband died just two years into their marriage. With the help of a Caritas Australia supported program she is now running her own successful sewing business and has become an inspirational community leader.

**Please donate to Project Compassion 2018 and empower vulnerable young people like Janaki in Nepal to build a just future for themselves, their families and their communities.**

**A Just Future starts with your support!** You can donate through Project Compassion boxes/envelopes.



# PROJECT COMPASSION

## FOR A JUST FUTURE

YEAR OF  
YOUTH | 2018



Caritas  
AUSTRALIA

The Catholic agency  
for international aid  
and development

PLEASE GIVE  
GENEROUSLY

[www.caritas.org.au](http://www.caritas.org.au) 1800 024 413

#projectcompassion

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT – Weekend 17/18 February

### Scripture Readings: Gen 9:8-15; 1 Pet 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15

Reading the scripture at the **Literal** sense and then identifying **Scriptural** aspects and then finally how does it **Apply** to my life?

#### How does Jesus' message impact my life and the lives of other people today?

All our readings last weekend reminded us of the faithfulness of God and God's desire that we participate and be in relationship with all creation.

The second reading from the first letter of St Peter highlights Jesus' mission: to lead us to God.

In the Gospel story of the tempting of Jesus in the desert, a version of which is proclaimed every year on this first Sunday of Lent, we learn of Jesus' 'stay' in the wilderness. In biblical times the wilderness or the desert is often 'code' for a time of searching, even challenge. If we think about the desert, we imagine a dangerous place, a lonely place where people get lost and confused. The wind blows and the whole landscape changes. It is also the place where our God who is ever faithful and always present speaks into our hearts in the silence and loneliness of our own desert experiences.

The Caritas Australia Project Compassion story this week tells us of Janaki. Her story suggests that she too has experienced a time of wilderness in her life. She grew up in a world of poverty and disadvantage in Nepal and was forced to marry at an early age.

Janaki made a number of choices that put her on the path to a better future. She joined a youth club where she took part in training and was encouraged to follow her dream of having her own sewing business. She took a loan from the youth club to purchase her first sewing machine and two years on, Janaki is living a life of independence and influence. She has 11 sewing machines and is running her own business, as well as teaching others how to sew. She is considered a role model in the community.

Janaki was committed to following her dream of having her own business. With the supportive relationships of Caritas Australia's partners, Caritas Nepal and Ekata Foundation Surkhet, Janaki gained the confidence and the skills that empowered her to support herself and her family. In the words of her mother Khima, "due to her we are able to live a happy life."

The Project Compassion theme is '**A Just Future**'. For Janaki and others in her community, a just future started with empowerment.

Janaki's story reminds us of the words of Pope Francis when speaking to young people he said, 'let us not be satisfied with a mediocre life. Be amazed by what is true and beautiful, what is God.'



On Wednesday, 23 students along with myself and Mr Pakulski completed a one hour training session where the students took up the call to follow Christ's mission and were trained to become altar servers. We are very proud of these young men and women who will serve at our upcoming school and parish masses. Their enthusiastic response and dedication to their role is a true testament of how our school is immersed in the teachings of Jesus Christ.

**Congratulations to the following students:**

**Briyanna Azaglo; Gabriel Mata; Cecilia Nguyen; Alisha Prasad; Bridget Taylor;**

**Charles Montecillo; Tristan Fegradoe; Helen Piliae; Andrea Plaatjes; Allegra Trimboli;**

**Gabrielle Cabantog; Katrina Knezevic; Simor Amor; Ethan Timbol; Caterina Mifsud;**

**Teresa Bouchmouni; Raylene D'Cruz; Leon Jordan Brillante; Jordan Azaglo**

**Elisha Matta; Ryan Shrestha; Peter Warwick-Smith; Maxine Galang; Jordana Jacobs.**





# SPORT NEWS



A big week in Year 4 with many great sporting achievements.

Congratulations to James Schofields, Hayden Bell and Shyla Cruise on making it through to the State Championships for athletics. We wish them all the best.

Also congratulations to Allegra Trimboli and Noah Troutman. They both achieved amazing results at the ISKA tournament for taekwondo and karate.

If you have any sport news you would like to share, please send it to Mrs Power or Mrs Harris on

[kpower4@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:kpower4@parra.catholic.edu.au) or [aharris11@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:aharris11@parra.catholic.edu.au)

# Catholic Schools Week



## Showcase of Student Work

On Friday, March 2nd, parents and grandparents are invited to the learning spaces to see their child(ren)'s work from the first few weeks of school.

This 'open' classrooms K-6 is our school's introduction to Catholic Schools Week. Book in the date!



# BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS! WE LOVE BOOKS!



## Enjoyment

Through our discussions with and observations of children, we soon have an idea of what they will enjoy. Because enjoyment is a key purpose for reading, we have some foundation to begin our selection of reading texts. We can ask, of any book we put in our classrooms, 'Will children enjoy reading this book? Will they enjoy it enough to want to read it again?' Some 'purpose-written' reading scheme texts are ruled out immediately by this simple test.



## Meaning

The making of meaning is central to the act of reading, and so meaning should be central to the texts we offer young readers. It is not difficult to recognise those books - particularly among 'caption' books or reading scheme material - where it is not central, or where it is supplied only by the illustrations.





# MEAL DEALS!



ONLY  
**\$5.00**

## MEAL DEAL ONE

EGG & LETTUCE ROLL

JUICE POPPER

FRESH POPCORN

## MEAL DEAL TWO

MEATBALL SUB ROLL

JUICE POPPER

FROZEN CORDIAL CUP

AVAILABLE FROM MONDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY – FRIDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> MARCH, 2018

Order your child's lunch  
online before 9am!

Register at -  
[flexischools.com.au](http://flexischools.com.au)

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# Did you know

Your child's best learning time is the start of the school day just a little bit late doesn't seem much but

He/she just missing,

That equals ..

Which is ...

and over 13 years of schooling that's ...

10 minutes per day

50 minutes per week

Nearly 1.5 weeks per year

Nearly half a year

20 minutes per day

1 hour 40mins per week

Over 2.5 weeks per year

Nearly 1 year

Half an hour per day

Half a day per week

4 weeks per year

Nearly 1 and a half years

1 hour per day

1 day per week

8 weeks per year

Over 2 and a half years

every learner  
every day 



Catholic Education  
Diocese of Parramatta