



St Mary's Rydalmere Newsletter

Term 1 Week 10

1st April 2009

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DIARY DATES

TERM 1 2009

**Friday
3rd Apr** **Stage 3 Touch Footy Gala Day**
POST PONED due to wet weather

**Thursday
9th Apr** **Term 1 Ends**

TERM 2

**Tuesday
28th Apr** **Term 2 Commences**

**Friday
1st May** **Easter Mass**

**Tuesday
5th May** **Diocesan Cross Country
Eastern Creek**

**Wednesday
6th May** **Mothers Day Gift Wrapping
7:00pm**

**Thursday
7th May** **Mothers Day Stall**

**Friday
8th May** **Mothers Day Breakfast 8:00am
Mothers Day Liturgy 9:15am**

**Tuesday
12th May** **NAPLAN Testing Begins
Years 3 and 5**

**Friday
15th May** **Stage 3 Boys & Girls Touch
Footy Gala Day**

**Friday
15th May** **CONFIRMATION**

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE...

Dear Parents,

This Sunday we celebrate Palm Sunday, heralding the start of Holy Week, the most significant event of the Church's liturgical calendar. As we head towards the weekend and the last few days of Lent, we need to reflect on the ways in which we have reached out to those in need not only overseas, but in our local community and family. The events of Holy Week remind us of our faith and the suffering that our Lord endured for us all. I would encourage all our families to attend the Holy Week ceremonies on offer in the Parish over the next week. Children from our school will be part of the Good Friday ceremonies commencing at 10am.

Last week during Catholic Schools Week our school community conducted our own Caritas canteen that saw our children donating money to purchase essential items necessary for villagers in underdeveloped nations around the world. This outreach activity highlighted one of the most important aspects of catholic education for our community. Be sure to check out the signs on our boundary fences that the children made last week that highlight our children's perspectives of our school and catholic education.

As the term draws to the end, I would like to thank all our parents and parishioners who have supported our school community throughout the term. Our new kindergarten students are about to complete their first term of "big" school, with our year six students well entrenched as our leaders for 2009. On the sporting field, many of our students have represented our school at various levels in sports such as cricket, swimming, soccer and touch football. The community also responded in a manner that certainly reflects our school motto of "Care and Respect" through your overwhelming generosity in donating necessary resources for schools in Victoria that were damaged or destroyed in the horrific fires in February. Your time, enthusiasm and generosity is greatly appreciated by both staff and students.

School will close for the term on Thursday 9th April for the Autumn break. School will resume on Tuesday the 28th April. The St Mary's O.O.S.H will be open for vacation care during the holiday break. Bookings can be made on 9638 2401.

If the weather turns cold at the beginning of next term, children are allowed to wear their winter uniform. All children are to be in their full winter uniform by Week 3, Monday 11th May.

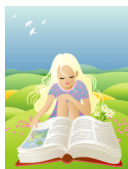
May the blessings of Easter be with you and your families as we celebrate the suffering and resurrection of our Lord. May your faith be renewed during this holy time of the year. Enjoy the break with your children.

Tony Hughes
PRINCIPAL



LIBRARY NEWS: VOTE & WIN!!

Kids, when you vote for your favourite book in the Angus and Robertson's **Kids' Top 50** (<http://kidstop50.com.au/>) you could win yourself a prize, and the school that registers the most votes wins a complete set of the top 50 books! So ask an adult if you can go online and vote as many times as you like. There is also a link to this site on Cenet—The Library Page.



Good luck and happy voting!!

Lia Radocchia—Teacher Librarian

ATTENTION YEAR 6 and 5 PARENTS

For those parents enrolling their child into High School, please find below the dates of the Sacraments your child completed:

Year 6

Reconciliation	11 November 2005
Confirmation	19 May 2006
First Communion	Sat 17 June 2006
	Sun 18 June 2006

Year 5

Reconciliation	17 November 2006
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We hope this makes the enrolment process easier for you.

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

We still have a lot of outstanding contact information forms. If you haven't returned this form, please do so ASAP as we need to update our system. Thank you.

POSITION VACANT—CEO**Website Communications Coordinator**

The Diocese of Parramatta is seeking a highly motivated Website Communications Coordinator. You will be web savvy, well organised and enthusiastic, able to handle multiple tasks and with a good understanding and knowledge of the online environment. You will have a **relevant tertiary qualification in communications, media studies, marketing or a related discipline—or demonstrated equivalent skills, knowledge and experience**. A minimum 2 years' experience in a related field. For a full role description go to the "Employment" link at www.parra.catholic.org.au. Applications close 5pm on Friday 10th April.

SWIMMING NEWS

Last Thursday Claire Goddard, Aaron Cooke, Jordan Cooke and Blake Meyer represented the school by competing in the Inter Diocesan Swimming Carnival at Homebush. They all swam extremely well and showed wonderful sportsmanship. Well done!!

WET WEATHER REMINDER

Just a quick reminder, if it is pouring rain at the time of afternoon dismissal, we will cancel the Pick Up and Kiss zone. Signs will be hung of the fences around the school informing you of our decision. Parents are to collect their children from under the shade area. Thank you.

**CONGRATULATIONS...****PRINCIPAL AWARDS****TERM 1 WEEK 8**

KB	Liam Watson and Kiara White
KM	Holly Lowery and Ashleigh Stevens
1L	Eliza Arathoon and Thomas Scrivener
1P	James Mastroianni and Lana Bannister
2G	Marcus Spinetti and Abbey Christie
2L	Daniel Schokman-Love and Matthew Worsley
3R	Mitchell Moses and Matthew Mazzaferro
3S	Nathan McNamara and Callum Breakwell
4B	Dominic Gibson and Jesse Nguyen
4Q/A	Madeleine Botto and Jacob Adams
5J	Caroline Nowak and James Morton
5M	Chloe Meyer and Georgina Gibson
6C	Tom Churchyard and Tomi Bosnjak
6E	Elizabeth Dick and Christophorus Mualim

CARE AWARDS**TERM 1 WEEK 8**

KB	Katie Smillie and Elissa Bayeh
KM	Trieu Dinh and Jarod Elias
1L	Junning Lloyd and Joel Crouch
1P	Emily Tsigounis and Paul Sheslow
2G	Joanna He and Gianni Puglisi
2L	Chelsea Gruber and Jurgen Martinez
3R	Rebecca McCaughey and Prissillar Thipasabsaprang
3S	Kaitlyn Salter and Srishti Das
4B	Matthew Brady and Seong Min Lim
4Q/A	Raphael Purnama and Nicola Elias
5J	Tammy Sortwell and Michael Nardone
5M	Luci Rowe and Brad Davoren-Whereat
6C	Elisha Lai and Michael Purnama
6E	Tiarna Smille and Nicholas Tutill

FAITH JOURNEY...

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM ENROLMENT

If you would like to enrol your child in this year's Confirmation and First Holy Communion Sacramental Program, enrolments will be taken at this Sunday's 9:30am mass. Enrolments will not be taken after this.



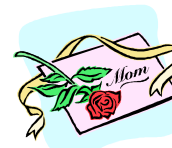
HOLY WEEK AND EASTER CELEBRATIONS

Throughout next week, grades will gather to reflect on the feast days of Holy Week. On Good Friday, April 10th, the students of St. Mary's will lead the parish community at 9:30am to commemorate the crucifixion of Christ. This is a wonderful privilege and responsibility for the children and we encourage all families to join us on Good Friday.

When Term Two commences, we will celebrate Easter with a School Mass on Friday 1st May. Please make a note of the date so that you may be able to come along.

MOTHERS DAY LITURGY

As Mother's Day is early in Term Two, you may want to make a note that we will celebrate our Mother's Day liturgy on Friday 8th May. We will send home more specific details next term.



HOLY WEEK PROGRAMME

<u>Ceremonies</u>	Holy Thursday:	Mass of the Lord's Supper – 7.30pm Adoration & Night Prayer till 10.45pm
	Good Friday:	Stations of the Cross – 9.30am Celebration of the Lord's Passion – 3pm
	Holy Saturday:	Easter Vigil – 7.00pm
	Easter Sunday:	Masses – 7.30am & 9.30am
<u>Reconciliation</u>	Tuesday, 7th April:	2 nd Rite – 7.30pm
	Good Friday:	After Stations of the Cross
	Holy Saturday:	4.30pm-5.30pm

Please note there will be **no Mass** on **Holy Thursday morning**. The Easter Vigil Mass will begin at 7pm on Saturday, April 11. This Mass is the high point of the Easter celebrations.

STAGE 3 SOCCER GALA DAY...

On Tuesday 17th March a group of Year 5 and 6 girls went out to Rooty Hill to compete in a Soccer Gala Day. Even though it was an extremely hot day, the girls played really well, and chalked up a few wins along the way. They showed great sportsmanship and represented the school in an exemplary manner. I would like to thank the parents who took the time to come along and support the team. A great day was had by all!!!



CURRICULUM UPDATE...

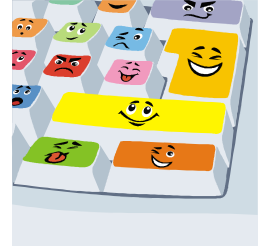
CYBER SAFETY

It is hard to believe the pace at which society is changing. No sooner do we buy a piece of technology than it is superseded by something that can do the job in more detail and in half the time. Games are getting more involved and communication more simple.

Technology has made great and wonderful changes in our lives but as with anything, there are some downsides.

While there are some unbelievable benefits to using the Internet, we also have to understand that in doing so, we are potentially inviting a billion strangers into our homes.

Just as you would not be happy with your child going home with a stranger, you need to protect them from those on the Net.



Safety Tips

- ⇒ All technology with internet access should be used in common areas of the home where there is an adult to supervise.
- ⇒ If a child encounters unsuitable material on the Net have a procedure in place to deal with it.
- ⇒ Primary school age children do not need private passwords for the chat rooms or IM accounts. You should know what your children are chatting about.
- ⇒ Primary age children do not need to be on social networks like Facebook, but if they are, monitor their page.
- ⇒ Talk to your children about the dangers that they could encounter on the Net.

For more information visit the following site

http://www.acma.gov.au/WEB/STANDARD..PC/pc=INT_PUB_CONTENT_PARENTS

CARITAS CAFÉ...

St Mary's Rydalmere celebrated Catholic Schools Week by raising awareness and funds for Caritas.

Year 4 students hosted a Caritas Café, where we sold tokens which were worth various amounts of money. Students from Kindy to Year 6 were invited to purchase a token with an image of a banana tree plantlet worth \$1.30; seedlings worth \$10; chickens worth \$20; a program to support young Indigenous Australians worth \$50; a bike worth \$80; and a seed tray worth \$100.

As students bought their tokens they were placed on a board for the school community to view.

We raised \$481.55 which means we've bought a banana tree plantlet, 2 seedlings, 2 chickens, 2 seed trays and a bike!

After the Café we all participated in a liturgy which allowed us to reflect on how we can make a difference.

