



St Mary's Rydalmere Newsletter

Term 1 Week 2

4th February 2009

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DIARY DATES

TERM 1 2009

Monday
9th Feb **Parent Information Session**
Year 4 – 6:30pm
Year 5 – 7:30pm

Tuesday
10th Feb **Parent Information Session**
Year 3 – 6:30pm
Year 6 – 7:30pm

Tuesday
10th Feb **Year 1 Meet and Greet**

Wednesday
11th Feb **Parent Information Session**
Kindy – 6:30pm
Year 2 – 7:30pm

Thursday
12th Feb **OPENING SCHOOL MASS**
9:15am

Thursday
12th Feb **Year 1 Meet and Greet**

Friday
13th Feb **STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY**
“PUPIL FREE DAY”

Friday
20th Feb **“Commencement Party”**
From 6:30pm - School Hall

Staff Development Day
Friday 13th February
“PUPIL FREE DAY”

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE...

Dear Parents,

The new school year has commenced with our children and staff returning to St Mary's refreshed and enthusiastic for another busy twelve months. Our new staff, new families and students and of course, our 2009 Kindergarten cohort have made a most successful transition into our school and parish community last week. I wish all members of our community here at Rydalmere a most enjoyable and successful year ahead.

In recent times the educational community across Australia and closer to home in the Parramatta Diocese mourned the loss of an exceptional educator, teacher, researcher, and most important an inspiring and passionate man, Mr Barry Dwyer. Mr Dwyer was well known to many people especially in the teaching community who at some stage in their careers were influenced by his passion for learning and education. Mr Dwyer passed away suddenly last week at home. We keep him and his family in our prayers during this time.

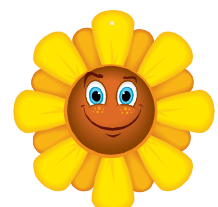
I need to inform you that the NSW/ACT Independent Education Union (IEU) has called a two hour stop work meeting commencing at 8:30am and concluding at 10:30am on Thursday 5th February 2009. The industrial action relates to the current teacher salaries and conditions negotiations between Catholic employers and the IEU. While there may be some interruption to normal teaching activities, I wish to assure you that supervision will be provided for students during the stop work period. You may choose also to keep your children at home until school commences at 10:30am.

Could I encourage all families to attend the Parent Information Evening scheduled for each grade next week. These meetings are a great opportunity for teachers to present the goals, classroom practices, expectations for the year, as well as provide parents with the chance to ask questions or express areas of concern they may have. These are not intended as an opportunity to discuss individual children. If you require to discuss individual issues concerning your child, please make an appointment with the classroom teacher.

“In the same way, all of us, though there are so many of us, make up one body in Christ, and as different parts we are all joined to one another”- Romans 12:5

Have great week!

Tony Hughes
PRINCIPAL



AFTERNOON PICK UP & KISS

We are still looking for parent volunteers to help out with the pick up and kiss zone each afternoon. We have spots available for every day, so if you can offer your time, it really would be greatly appreciated.

Also, this year we will have one minor change. As you know, we sometimes experience bad storms in the afternoons, which makes it hard to get the children to the cars without them, the teachers and parent helpers getting drenched. To alleviate this, if we deem the rain too heavy, we will display signs along the fence around the school, letting parents know that kiss and drop has been cancelled and that they will need to park their car and come across to the playground and collect their children.

**PRE-LOVED CLOTHING POOL**

The pre-loved clothing pool will be open this Friday 6th February from 8:30am to 9:30am. Below are the dates the Clothing Pool will be opening up for the rest of Term 1.

- Friday 20th February
- Friday 6th March
- Friday 20th March
- Friday 3rd April

**SCHOOL CHOIR**

We are holding auditions for the school choir this Thursday in the Music Room. If you are in Years 3-6 and are interested in auditioning for the choir, please meet Mr Rose near the office at 2nd half lunch.

**FOR SALE**

Full size electric keyboard (CASIO CTK-591). Excellent condition. Lots of features and functions. Complete with adjustable stand, microphone and power adaptor. Cost: \$200.00. If you are interested please call Belinda on 0416 040 497.

COMMENCEMENT PARTY

This is just another reminder that due to the Staff Development Day we have rescheduled our Commencement Party to **Friday 20th**



February. It will be starting at 6:30pm, outside the school hall, and remember, it's ADULTS ONLY, so get those babysitters organized. Here's to a great night...

AFTERNOON DISMISSAL

Please remember that the dismissal bell rings at 3:10pm. The children are to wait in their lines until the bell, then the teachers will dismiss them. Also, please remember to help stop congestion, no parents are to wait on the ramp, they are to come into the playground and wait for their children.

PARENT SURVEY

Thank you to all the families who responded to our parent survey late last year. Your feedback is most important to us in assisting us in improving many aspects of our school community. I am currently collating this information and will present a summary of the data at the Parents and Friends meeting in Week 5 on Wednesday 25th February. It is important to remember that your input into our school community is most valued. If you have any concerns about your children or any aspect of school life, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to see your child's teacher or myself so it can be addressed promptly.

Tony Hughes

**** LIBRARY NEWS ******Chess Club**

If you would like to join the school's chess club, which is held every Monday at lunch time, please register with Mrs Morgan or Mrs Radocchia as soon as possible. Games will begin on Monday 9th February in the Library.

**Borrowing**

Unfortunately there will be no borrowing for the next few weeks as CEO are updating all student information and barcodes. Sorry for any inconvenience. I will keep you informed.



Happy reading!

Lia Radocchia

FAITH JOURNEY...

Welcome back to what should be a wonderful year together. This year Pope Benedict XVI has declared that the Church will observe a celebration in honor of St. Paul the Apostle, one of the great saints and founders of the early Church.

This tireless convert, once a Church opponent, became what some call "the second founder of Christianity," after Christ himself. In our present age, we are often challenged in our faith. St. Paul is a great role model that we can turn to when things are hard. Through the year together, we can keep St. Paul in our thoughts and in our prayers to help guide us over the next twelve months.



OPENING SCHOOL MASS

This year's Opening School Mass will be next Thursday 12th February at 9:15am. We will be welcoming our new Kindergarten students, new students from other grades and our new teachers into our community. Our student leaders for the year will be blessed during the mass and they will also receive their badges. Please come along and join us if you can as we begin our year together.

If you are new to our school and have a question regarding the Religious Education Curriculum, our parish or even our faith, please don't hesitate to contact me so that I can help.

Mr. Stennett
Religious Education Coordinator

SCHOOL NEWSLETTERS...

We are looking at changing the distribution of our fortnightly Newsletter, and would like your opinion on what we are proposing.

There will be three options offered:

1. Website - the Newsletter will be posted on the school website
2. Email - we will email you the fortnightly Newsletter
3. Hard copy - we can send home a hard copy (as per usual)



We thought that in this day and age, most families have computers and email addresses which would make distribution of the Newsletter more efficient (they won't get lost in the bottom of the school bag).

We are really interested in getting parental feedback on this. We have included a tear off slip for you to indicate your preference. Once we have received responses, we will let you know the outcome.

Thanks in advance.



NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

FAMILY SURNAME: _____ **Eldest Child's Class** _____

Website: I am happy to go the website and read the Newsletter

Email: I would like to receive the Newsletter via email
My email address is _____

Hard Copy: I would like to receive the Newsletter in hard copy form, given to my child

COMMUNITY NEWS...



* ERMINGTON UNITED NETBALL *

We have four (4) positions available in our netball team playing for "Ermington United". They will be playing at Brush Farm on a Saturday morning. We are looking for girls aged between 7-8 years to play "Netta". Please contact either Michelle Gruber on 0404 981 467 or Belinda Bruce on 0407 351 973 before tomorrow (Thurs).

DUNDAS UNITED JUNIOR RUGBY UNION REGISTRATION DAY



Saturday 7th February
Cox Park—Evans Road, Dundas
11:00—1:00pm

Under 6's to Under 17's

For more information call 9631 5369 or
0425 224 270

dvjru@hotmail.com
www.dundasjuniors.rugbynet.com.au

FREE Rego...
Just \$15.00 to cover insurance

ALEXANDER DOCKERS NETBALL CLUB

Alexanders are inviting interested players in the following age group/grades to play in the Eastwood Ryde Netball Association 2009 Day Competition at Meadowbank Netball Courts.

Juniors 7-8 years to play in Netta
10 year olds to play graded netball
11-12 year olds to play for grade Div 1 or Div 2



Seniors A,B & C grade players

For more information, please contact Karen Roden on 9659 9570 or 0409 605 491 or email at karenroden@rodenprint.com.au

AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS

Australian Girls Choir

Girls will become more confident as they learn singing, dancing and performing. Our senior performers dazzle the world, but first they entertained their mums and dads. If she likes to sing, dance and play, then let us inspire her to see the world as her stage. For more information visit www.ausgirlschoir.com.au



Aus Girls Dance



All she wants to do is dance!! Fun and funky routines set to popular and current music. Fitness focussed dance class, perfect for girls who just love to move. Based on Dale Pope's RED program (choreographer for Bindi Irwin's KidFitness DVD). For more information visit www.ausgirlsdance.com.au

Call us to arrange a complimentary tryout class!!
Ph: 9922 6733