



St Mary's Rydalmere Newsletter

Term 1 Week 2

3rd February 2010

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DIARY DATES

TERM 1 2010

Friday 5th Feb	Kinder Party in the Park From 3:30pm
Friday 5th Feb	Communi-Tea Café 9:00–10:00am Under the Marist COLA
Monday 8th Feb	Parent Information Night Year 5 @ 6:30pm
Tuesday 9th Feb	Parent Information Night Year 2 @ 6:30pm Year 6 @ 7:30pm
Tuesday 9th Feb	Year 6 Graduation Meeting (after info meeting)
Wednesday 10th Feb	Parent Information Night Year 4 @ 6:30pm Year 3 @ 7:30pm
Thursday 11th Feb	Year 1 @ 6:30pm Kinder @ 7:30pm
Friday 12th Feb	Opening School Mass 9:15am
Friday 12th Feb	Kinder & Year 5 Assembly 2:20pm in the Hall
Friday 12th Feb	Commencement Party "Parents Only" 7:00pm
Wednesday 17th Feb	Ash Wednesday Mass Yrs 3-6 9:15am
Wednesday 17th Feb	K-2 Ash Wednesday Liturgy in classrooms

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE...

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to start of the new school year, especially any new families who have joined our community over the break. I hope you all enjoyed Christmas and the opportunity to spend some time with your families without the rigours of deadlines, routines and timetables that tend to rule our lives. Welcome also to our new Kindergarten children who begin a new chapter in their lives as they begin their primary education.

In recent weeks, the Sunday Gospels have revolved around the writings of St Luke recounting Jesus' presence at various places and events. In Sunday's Gospel, Luke reminds us of Jesus' fishing encounter with Simon Peter. St Luke through his account of the fisherman's poor fishing efforts on the Lake of Gennesart reminds us of the faith Our Lord's apostles had in him. Jesus reminds Simon Peter and the others on board through a "fishing" image that they were now "fishers of men and women". This was a simple phrase that defined the role of the apostle's preaching the word of God and encouraging those to pursue their faith and spiritual growth during our Lord's ministry on Earth and following his death and resurrection.

Each morning at assembly our school community comes together in prayer and on a Monday we sing the national anthem. It is important that as adults we model the respect that our school prayer and the singing of the anthem deserve. Therefore I would encourage all our parents who attend our morning assembly to join in and refrain from speaking during the assembly. Your co-operation in this respect would be greatly appreciated.

As we return for the new school year, could I please encourage all parents to observe all the parking signs, school zone speed limits and drop off and pick up procedures that enable our children to travel safely to and from school. It is imperative that parents who utilise the Pick Up and Kiss Zone of an afternoon observe all the signs and parking protocols. Please do not stop across the Children's Crossing Zone in Pine St or "clog up" the roundabout at the intersection of Pine St and Park Rd. Police are often patrolling the area and will book motorists who do not observe these safe practices. The safety of our children depends on all of us observing these protocols.

As you may have noticed, the building project has commenced. FAL Developments have been awarded the contract and have commenced work on the new learning spaces on the Mercy site. Refurbishment of classrooms and the construction of the new toilets on the Marist Site have been delayed due to application problems. Please observe all signage on the Mercy site in regards to entering both the school yard and our OSHC centre.

An information evening for parents will be held on Tuesday 16th February commencing at 7pm outlining the building and refurbishment works. During this session we invite you to join myself, the school leadership team and representatives from the Parramatta Catholic Education Office to discuss our new learning spaces. All parents are welcome to attend.

Have great week!



NEW WEBSITE ADDRESS

Please note our new website address is www.stmarysrydalmer.catholic.edu.au
We are currently in the process of updating the site with 2010 information.

CHILD PROTECTION COURSES

We will be holding our Child Protection courses on the following dates:

Monday 8th Feb 7:30pm—Staffroom

Tuesday 16th Feb 9:30am—Staffroom

Wednesday 17th Feb 2:30pm—Staffroom

Remember, if you want to help out at school, you have to complete this course every two years.

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, especially Tuesday, so if you can offer your time, it really would be greatly appreciated.

PARENT TRAINING FOR TUTOR READING PROGRAM

A note went home on Monday asking for parent helpers for our Tutor Reading Program. Training is provided. If you are able to assist please complete the form that was on the note and return it to the office by Wednesday, February 10th. Training will be held on Tuesday 16th February at 9.00am in the staffroom and Wednesday, 17th February at 2.00pm in the staffroom. You will only need to attend one of these sessions. You will need to attend this year's training session even if you assisted last year.

**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.

Also, a note went out last week regarding the collection of your child from the Mercy site. If you would like to collect your child directly from the Mercy site, please return the form ASAP to the school office.

PRE-LOVED CLOTHING POOL

The pre-loved clothing pool will be open this Friday 5th February from 8:30am to 9:30am. Below are the dates the Clothing Pool will be opening for the rest of Term 1.

- Friday 19th February
- Friday 5th March
- Friday 19th March
- Friday 2nd April

**STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY**

A reminder that there will be a Staff Development Day on **Friday February 19**. This is a "pupil free" day.

**CHILD RESTRAINT LAWS****KEEPING KIDS SAFE IN THE BACK SEAT**

On 4 November 2009, former NSW Premier Nathan Rees and Minister for Transport David Campbell announced the introduction of new child restraint laws for children up to seven years of age.

Summary of changes

From 1 March 2010:

- ✦ Children younger than six months must be secured in a rearward facing restraint.
- ✦ Children aged between six months and four years must be secured in either a rear or forward facing restraint.
- ✦ **Children aged between four years and seven years must be secured in forward facing child restraint or booster seat.**
- ✦ Children younger than four years cannot travel in the front seat of a vehicle with two or more rows.
- ✦ **Children aged between four years and less than seven years cannot travel in the front seat of a vehicle with two or more rows, unless all other back seats are occupied by children younger than seven years in a child restraint or booster seat.**

FAITH JOURNEY...



WHAT A YEAR AHEAD!!

2010 is set to be a very exciting year for our faith. Later this month, the new Bishop for the diocese, Bishop Anthony Fisher will be installed. More exciting though will be the long anticipated canonisation of Australia's first saint, Blessed Mary MacKillop. We have a large number of students who will be serving at mass for the first time, and our parish is also looking at developing a youth choir. So whether it be a nationwide, diocesan or local event, there are plenty of exciting developments in store for us.

OPENING SCHOOL MASS

Next Friday 12th February our school will celebrate our Opening School Mass at 9:15am. During this Mass, we will have the blessing of our school leaders and colour captains, the blessing of class candles and also of our new staff. This will be the first time that our Kinder students will attend Mass as part of our school community. Please feel welcome in joining us for this important occasion.



Simon Stennett
Religious Education Coordinator

PARRAMATTA DIOCESAN TEAM SPORT TRIALS

Years 5 and 6 children with representative experience are invited to the Diocesan Team Sport Trials for the following sports:

Tennis	Diving	AFL	Hockey	Netball
Rugby League	Soccer	Touch	Rugby Union	Cricket

Player profile sheets and dates on when they will be held can be collected from the school office. Completed forms are to be returned to Miss Boidin no later than **Monday 8th February**. It is the parents responsibility to transport their children to the trials. The trials will take place either half days, full days or after school. There will be costs involved.

Note: There are a maximum of two (2) places per school available in the boys cricket and soccer teams and girls netball team.

If you have any questions, please see me.

Rebecca Boidin
Sports Coordinator

P&F REMINDERS

Fri 5th Feb **Comminu-Tea Café 9:00–10:00am**
Why not take a bit of time for yourself, and come along and have a cuppa and a piece of cake with other new and old parents. Everyone is welcome!



Fri 5th Feb **Kindy "Party in the Park"**
All kindergarten families are invited to come down to Upjohn Park from 3:30pm and enjoy an afternoon of fun. BYO everything...

Fri 12th Feb **Commencement Party 2010**
This is the event of the year!! All parents are invited to join us for an evening of good food, great music and a whole lot of fun. Remember, this is a 'parent only' event, so organise those babysitters!

COMMUNITY NEWS...



*** ERMINGTON UNITED SOCCER & NETBALL ***

Registration Day

Sunday 7th February 2010

10:00am–2:00pm

George Kendall Reserve, Trumble Avenue, Ermington

All ages and skill levels are welcome!!



DUNDAS UNITED JUNIOR RUGBY UNION **REGISTRATION DAY**

Saturday 13th February

Sturt Street Reserve, Telopea 11:00–1:00pm

Under 6's to Under 17's

For more information call 9631 5369 or 0425 224 270

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

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



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

[Www.aspagroup.com.au](http://www.aspagroup.com.au)