



St Mary's Rydalmere Newsletter

Term 1 Week 2

2nd February 2011

Website: www.stmarysrydalmere.catholic.edu.au

1 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere

Ph: 9684 4044 Fax: 9684 2262

Email: stmarysrydal@parra.catholic.edu.au

DIARY DATES

TERM 1

Wednesday 2nd February	Kinder 9:00–12:30pm
Thursday 3rd February	Kinder 9:00–12:30pm
Thursday 3rd February	Communi-tea Café Morning Tea 9:00–10:00am
Friday 4th February	Kinder 9:00–12:30pm
Friday 4th February	Kinder Families Afternoon Tea Upjohn Park 3:30pm
Monday 7th February	Kinder Full Day
Monday 14th February	Parent Information Evening Year 1–6:30pm Stage 3–7:30pm
Tuesday 15th February	Parent Information Evening Kinder–6:30pm Year 4–7:30pm
Wednesday 16th February	Opening School Mass 9:15am
Wednesday 16th February	Parent Information Evening Year 2–6:30pm Year 3–7:30pm

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE...

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the 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 throughout the term. Welcome also to our new Kindergarten children who begin a new chapter in their lives as they begin their primary education.

Over the last few weeks the church has celebrated the Christmas season and the birth of Christ. During the early weeks of January the liturgical calendar has focussed on the Baptism of our Lord and the beginning of Christ's ministry as both a teacher and preacher of the Good News. It is most appropriate at the commencement of the academic year that we reflect on this aspect of Jesus' ministry and the impact and influence it has on both teachers and students in regards to their vocation in life and education respectively. As a school community Christ is our shepherd, our saviour and teacher whom we aspire to, learn from and be inspired by, as we work and learn together in Christ's name. We ask the blessings of our Lord and Lady as we begin our new school year.

Each morning at assembly our school community come together in prayer and to sing the national anthem on Monday morning. 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 our daily prayer and the singing of the national anthem and refrain from speaking during the assembly. I would ask that parents assemble under the Marist COLA for morning assembly. Your co-operation in these matters 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, 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 each 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 the way we all observe these protocols.

The building programme is drawing to a close with the library and Marist storage facilities due for completion by the end of February. I would like to thank FAL Constructions, Thomson Adsett Architects and our CEO building facilities manager Rob Worthing for all their efforts in bringing the refurbishment and building programme to its conclusion. Thank you to the staff, parents and students for their resilience and patience over the last fifteen months.

Have a great week!
Tony Hughes
Principal



SPORTS DAYS

Children need to wear their sport uniform on the following days:

Kinder	Tuesday & Thursday
Year 1	Tuesday & Thursday
Year 2	Wednesday & Friday
Year 3	Tuesday & Friday
Year 4	Tuesday & Thursday
Stage 3	Tuesday & Friday

PARENT INFORMATION EVENINGS

We will be holding Parent Information Evenings on the following dates. It is important that you attend these meetings, as teachers will be explaining what your children will be doing this year in class, and also hand out information regarding your child's year.

Monday 14th Feb	Year 1 @ 6:30pm Stage 3 @ 7:30pm
Tuesday 15th Feb	Kinder @ 6:30pm Year 4 @ 7:30pm
Wednesday 16th Feb	Year 2 @ 6:30pm Year 3 @ 7:30pm

BOARD OF STUDIES PUBLICATION

We have received copies of the 'Parents Guide to the NSW Primary Syllabuses' from the Board of Studies. This publication helps parents understand their child's progress through primary school and outlines what must be taught in each of the Key Learning Areas. Copies are available at the school office for interested families. Kindergarten families will receive a copy at the Parent Information Evening on Tuesday 15th February.

ATHLETE'S FOOT—TOP RYDE

The Athlete's Foot store at Top Ryde are donating \$5 to St Mary's for every pair of school shoes purchased.

PRE-LOVED CLOTHING POOL

The Pre-Loved Clothing Pool will be open this Friday 4th February from 8:30–9:30am. If you have any items of clothing you would like to donate to the clothing pool, please drop them into the school office. Thank you.

**GUITAR LESSONS**

If your child is in Year 3 and above, and is interested in having Guitar Lessons this year, please contact Michael Sheridan on 0413 559 784.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT AND ANTI BULLYING POLICY

Our 2011 Positive Behaviour and Anti-Bullying policy can be downloaded from the school's website. Enclosed with this Newsletter is an information sheet regarding our Anti-Bullying procedures and a parent tear off slip. Please read the sheet and if required, return the tear off slip at your earliest possible convenience.

AFTERNOON PICK UP & KISS

We are looking for parent volunteers to help with our pick up and kiss zone in the afternoons. Earlier this week a form was sent home asking for volunteers. If you can help out in any way, please return the slip to the school office ASAP so we can organise the roster.

CHILD PROTECTION COURSES

In order to assist with Pick Up & Kiss, school excursions or working in the classrooms, you will need to complete the Child Protection Course. If you completed the course last year, you are covered for this year. We will be holding courses early this term, alternatively, you can do the course online via the Parramatta Diocesan Website www.parra.catholic.edu.au/childprotection. Once you have accessed the site, click on Child Protection Training and follow the prompts 'for Volunteers'.

DO YOU WANT TO BECOME AN ALTAR SERVER?

Here is your chance for 2011. If you have received your First Holy Communion and would like to become an Altar Server please attend our first training session to be held in the Church on Monday, 21 February either after school 3.15pm-4.15pm or early evening 5.00pm-6.00pm. This will be the only opportunity to join this year. Hope to see you there! Enquiries phone Sr. Christine 9858 5569.

~ **ERMINGTON
UNITED** ~



***SOCCER DIVISION
Boys and Girls
From 4 to Seniors***

**Sunday 6th February 2011
10am to 2pm**

at George Kendall Riverside Park
Trumble Ave Ermington
**Contact Wayne Kelly 0418 436 753
Sue Garrett 0405 480 343**

FAITH JOURNEY...



Welcome back to what should be a wonderful year together.

I will be Acting Religious Coordinator for Term 1 while Mr Simon Stennett is on Leave from school. This year will see the introduction of the 'New Roman Missal.' This will see a change in the text and responses used during Mass, and they will be marked by a heightened style of English speech and a grammatical structure that closely follows the Latin text. The change will occur slowly throughout the year and we will be working closely with Father Peter and the parish to implement these changes into our school liturgies.

OPENING SCHOOL MASS

This year's Opening School Mass will be Wednesday, 16th 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.



Rebecca Boidin

Acting Religious Co-ordinator

P&F REMINDERS...

COMMUNI-TEA CAFÉ MORNING TEA THURSDAY 3RD FEBRUARY

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. Please join us from 9:00am under the COLA area on the Marist site. Everyone is welcome!!



KINDY IN THE PARK FRIDAY 4TH FEBRUARY

All Kindergarten families are invited to come down to Upjohn Park from 3:30pm and enjoy an afternoon of fun. BYO everything...



COMMENCEMENT PARTY 2011 FRIDAY 11TH MARCH

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 now!!!

