



# St Mary's Rydalmere Newsletter

Term 3 Week 2  
28th July 2010  
Website: [www.stmarysrydalmere.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stmarysrydalmere.catholic.edu.au)

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## DIARY DATES

### TERM 3

<b>Wed-Fri 28-30 July</b>	<b>Year 5 Camp Blue Gum Lodge</b>
<b>Monday 2nd August</b>	<b>Life Education Commences</b>
<b>Tuesday 3rd August</b>	<b>ICAS English Competition</b>
<b>Wednesday 4th August</b>	<b>YEAR 6 GRADUATION CAKE STALL</b>
<b>Thursday 5th August</b>	<b>Zone Athletics Carnival Parramatta</b>
<b>Friday 6th August</b>	<b>Life Education Concludes</b>
<b>Tuesday 10th August</b>	<b>Kindergarten Excursion to Sydney Aquarium</b>
<b>Sunday 15th August</b>	<b>Assumption Feast Day</b>
<b>Monday 16th August</b>	<b>Years 3/4 Sport with St Patricks Marist</b>
<b>Tuesday 17th August</b>	<b>ICAS Mathematics Competition</b>
<b>Wednesday 18th August</b>	<b>Maths Olympiad</b>
<b>Wednesday 18th August</b>	<b>P&amp;F ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING—7:00pm</b>
<b>Saturday 21st August</b>	<b>Tournament of the Minds</b>
<b>Tuesday 24th August</b>	<b>NETBALL GALA DAY</b>

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE...

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the start of Term 3. I trust you all enjoyed the break with your children. During the holidays I hope all parents took the time to read through their child's report with them, discussing their strengths and identifying areas of improvement for the second half of the year.

It is with sadness that I announce that both Derek Rose and Lynne Campbell will be leaving St Marys in the next week or two. Mr Rose has accepted a position as Band Master at St Patricks College Strathfield in the Music Department. Derek has been our Music Teacher for the last five years and in this time has served our community with a great passion for music and teaching. We thank him for the gifts and talents he has shared with both staff and students over the years. We wish him every success and happiness in his future endeavours. Mrs Campbell has accepted a fulltime position as office secretary at St Michael's South Blacktown. For the last nine years "Miss Lynne" has worked in our office looking after students, parents and teachers in numerous ways. Her dedication and commitment in all she has done for our community will be sadly missed. We wish her every happiness in her role at St Michael's.

Next week our term calendar will be sent home to all families. Please take note of our P&F Association Annual General Meeting which will be held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> August [Wk 5] at 7:00pm. I encourage a representative from all families to attend this meeting and take an active role in supporting our school community. At this meeting elections will be held for our new committee for 2010 /2011. Over the next week or so, why not consider taking on a role and becoming a part of our wonderful P&F. At the beginning of each term, it is a timely reminder to take care when dropping off and picking up your children in the morning and afternoon. All members of our community have a responsibility in ensuring our children are safe whilst travelling to and from school. Please take the time to exercise safe and sensible parking and driving habits around our school precinct each day. Taking responsibility to ensure our children's safety will be appreciated by all members of the school community.

Have a great fortnight!

Tony Hughes  
PRINCIPAL



**CHILDREN'S PARISH CHOIR**

Practice for the children's parish choir will recommence on Friday 30th July at 3:15pm in the church.

**Please note the day and time change.**

This practice we will be focusing on preparing to sing at our Father's Day Mass on Sunday 5th September at 9:30pm.

**If you have not joined us as yet, now is a perfect time to come and thank God for the gift of your father using the gift of your voice.**

Any questions, please contact Anne Marie Lyons on 0410 299 681 or 9638 2245 or Marifel Jacobs on 0411 037 107.

**HANDY WITH A NEEDLE?**

Drama Club is preparing a play about Mary MacKillop and would like some help to sew a 'Brown Joeys' habit to fit one of our Year 6 students. If you can help, please let Mrs Greenaway or the office staff know. Thanks.

**Catholic School Parents Forum:**  
**Learning for Today's World**

**Wednesday 1 September 2010**  
**7.00 pm for 7.30pm - 9.00pm**  
**(Tea and coffee served on arrival)**  
**Holy Spirit Primary**  
**7 Todd Row, St Clair**

Q & A panel-style format. Panel includes Executive Director of schools, Greg Whitby, a principal, teacher and parent from the Parramatta Diocese and educators from outside the diocese.

**Topics**

- What does contemporary learning and teaching look like?
- How can personalising student learning cater to the diverse needs of all students?
- How does teacher collaboration improve teacher quality?
- How does contemporary learning impact on the learning environment? (eg. need for flexible learning spaces, acoustics, classroom management)
- Does the educational research support this approach?

**RSVP and submit a question online by**  
**25 August via [www.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au)**

**YEAR 6 GRADUATION CAKE STALL**

Year 6 will be holding a Cake Stall on Wednesday 4th August to help raise money for their end of year celebration.

They will have cakes, slices, jellies and lots of other treats available for you to buy. Located in front of the canteen, the cake stall will be open recess and lunch, so save up that pocket money, and bring it along to treat yourself to something yummy!!

**ICAS SCIENCE COMPETITION**

Congratulations to the 30 students who participated in the Science International Competitions and Assessments for Schools. Our school received 1 Distinction, 10 Credits and 19 Participation Certificates. A great effort from everyone!

**TSA BAND CAMP—2010!!**

Yes, it's that time of year again!! Pull out your best swimmers for the waterslide, your grooviest PJ's for the pyjama disco and get into training for the staff vs students beach volleyball match!. (Oh, and you should probably practise your band music too!)

Whilst most kids come to camp for the excitement of new friends, fun activities and a weekend away, the real benefit is in the valuable experience (both musical and social) gained from such intensive time spent in such a highly musical environment. With over 8 hours of face-to-face tuition over the weekend, there is over a term and a half worth of 30 minute lessons to be had! Camp is also a valuable experience for students that may be losing interest in music and need a boost of enthusiasm and practice to get them to a level where they can enjoy their music and practice.

Notes for camp should have been received late last term outlining details including cost, venue, times and dates. If your child did not receive this note or you need another copy, please call TSA on 9651 7333. Permission notes, along with deposit, need to be returned ASAP to secure your child's place at camp.



## FAITH JOURNEY...

### MARY MACKILLOP

2010 marks a very important year for the Australian Catholic church. In October, Mary MacKillop will be canonised and officially recognised as Australia's first saint. Schools across the diocese will be preparing for and celebrating this event across a number of weeks. Next week schools will be reflecting on the life of Mary as it is the week marking the anniversary of her death 101 years ago. Schools will be fundraising in support of the Sisters of St Joseph. This money will be used to help the sisters who are responsible for the canonisation celebration as well as preparing resources for schools to support the day.



Our school will gather in the church for a liturgy on Tuesday at 2:20pm. This will be led by our Year 3 students. Through the week classes will be learning about Mary and reflecting on her life in their prayers. We will conclude the week by having a mufti day on Friday with a gold coin donation. Further information will go home early next week.

Mr Simon Stennett  
Religious Education Coordinator

## ATHLETICS CARNIVAL RESULTS...

### 8 Yrs Boys

Champion: Jacob Cotsinis  
Runner Up: Gregory Grugan

### 9 Yrs Boys

Champion: Timothy Greig  
Runner Up: Luke Gosper

### 10 Yrs Boys

Champion: Mitchell Moses  
Runner Up: Michael Gibson  
Damien Lai

### 11 Yrs Boys

Champion: Jonah Lin  
Runner Up: Jack Pettit  
Nicolas Foster

### 12 Yrs Boys

Champion: Justin Frain  
Runner Up: Matthew Arciuli

### 8 Yrs Girls

Champion: Holly McNamara  
Runner Up: Thalia Lake

### 9 Yrs Girls

Champion: Rebekah Meafou  
Runner Up: Lauren Suffling

### 10 Yrs Girls

Champion: Monique Moussa  
Runner Up: Mia Mylonas

### 11 Yrs Girls

Champion: Chelsea Loughrey  
Runner Up: Erin Hann

### 12 Yrs Girls

Champion: Georgina Gibson  
Runner Up: Eliza Gittany



~~ CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THESE CHILDREN ~~



## Support St Mary's Rydalmere McCAIN School Veggie Patch

*St Mary's Rydalmere urges families to  
keep donating points for its School Veggie Patch*

St Mary's has registered for the McCain School Veggie Patches program, but sadly we are off to a slow start. We are urging our local community, businesses and families to show their support by donating points for the St Mary's veggie patch.

Every barcode from McCain frozen vegetable or McCain Purely Potato packs purchased will provide points that St Mary's can redeem for gardening tools, seeds and equipment such as wheelbarrows, water tanks and compost bins for their school veggie patch.

"This is a great opportunity for our students to be involved in an educational program that aims to teach children about the benefits of healthy eating in a fun, outdoor environment," Mr Hughes said. McCain School Veggie Patches will allow St Mary's to play an active role in engaging children in an interactive and entertaining way to learn more about the foods they eat, and the world around them.

"Involving children in the process of growing, harvesting, cooking and even buying vegetables is a great way to get them excited about eating veggies," said Nicki Anderson, Marketing Director, McCain Foods Australia and New Zealand.

"The McCain School Veggie Patches program equips students with invaluable knowledge and hands-on experience that will continue to grow with them well into the future."

To show your support and earn points for your local primary school, simply collect barcodes from any pack of McCain frozen vegetables or McCain Purely Potato and either drop them into the school office, or send in a stamped envelope with the name, town and state/postcode of your chosen primary school to:

McCain Veggie Patches  
72 Christie Street  
St Leonards NSW Australia 2065

To find out more about School Veggie Patches, please visit the website [mccainveggiepatches.com](http://mccainveggiepatches.com)

## P&F TRIVIA NIGHT—COMING SOON..

This night has been organised to support our new School Library!

We are all looking forward to the completion of the building works and the return of our Library. The P&F Committee are organising a Trivia Night to assist with the funding of the refurbishment for the library.

Along with a fabulous night of competition, we are hoping to hold a raffle. If you would like to donate a prize to be used either for the raffle or on the night, it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Sue Thomas on 0403 576 490 if you can help out.

### P & F Annual General Meeting

**Wednesday 18th August 2010  
7:00pm**

**Everyone is welcome to come along to this very important meeting,  
where a new 2010/2011 Committee will be voted in!**