



St Mary's Rydalmere Newsletter

Term 3 Week 2

Wednesday 25th July 2012

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE...

Dear Parents,

Over the last three weekends many of our Year 3 children have made their First Holy Communion. This is an important time in their lives as it's the first time they have received Jesus through the Holy Eucharist. This special gift as part of their sacraments of initiation is embedded in the love and grace that God shares with us all. Thank you to the parish sacramental team, led by Diane O'Shea, Fr Peter, Sr Christine and the support of Miss Boidin our REC, as well as the parents who assisted in the preparation of the children over several months. Please continue to pray for these children as they continue to live out their faith and their love of God and others.

Welcome back to the second semester for 2012 and the commencement of Term 3. I trust you all enjoyed the holiday break with your children. We welcome Miss Ida Orlandi who has joined the staff for the remainder of the year. Miss Orlandi will be teaching Year 3 with Mrs Queixalos and Mrs Dixon. We also have several teachers on long service for the first few weeks of the term. We welcome Mrs Ferris [Yr 1], Mrs Pearce [Yr 4] and Mrs Tarfon [Yr 6] to our community and trust they will enjoy their time with us over the next few weeks.

There are an ever-increasing number of students who are carrying mobile phones with them. Children with phones are asked to hand them into the office each morning and collect them on their way home in the afternoon. It has come to my attention that children are using phones after school for playing games, social networking etc. My concern is that they are doing this whilst they are travelling home and not concentrating on the road whilst they are walking. A child should only have a phone with them at school for safety reasons pertaining to their travel to and from school. It would be greatly appreciated if you could discuss these safety concerns with them and explain that their phone should only be used for emergencies and contacting parents and not for playing games.

This Thursday we will be celebrating Grandparents Day commencing with Mass at 9:15am to celebrate the feast of St Joachim and Anne. Following mass the children's classrooms will be open for Grandparents to visit. At 10:45am morning tea will be held on the Mercy site. After recess we invite our parents and grandparents to join us on the Mercy Site for the dance demonstration. We look forward to seeing you all on Thursday.

Have a great week

Tony Hughes
PRINCIPAL



DIARY DATES

TERM 3 2012

Thursday 26th July	Grandparents Mass
Tuesday 31st July	ICAS English Competition
Tuesday 31st July	Kindergarten Excursion to Sydney Aquarium
Friday 3rd August	Year 4 Excursion to "Rocks Dreaming"
Tuesday 7th August	P&F Executive Meeting 7:00pm
Monday 13th August	EMU Initiative Parent Workshop (Maths) Session 1: 2:00pm Session 2: 7:00pm
Tuesday 14th August	ICAS Maths Competition
Wednesday 15th August	Feast of the Assumption Mass 9:15am
Wednesday 15th August	Year 6 Graduation Sausage Sizzle
Thursday 16th August	Band Concert 6:30pm
Friday 17th August	P&F AGM—9:15am

SPECIAL PHOTO ORDERS

If you would like to order any of the photos displayed in the office window, ie: Captains, Year 6, Band etc, orders need to be in **no later than Friday 26th July**. Please collect an order envelope from the office and return it with correct payment no later than Friday. Thank you.

LIBRARY NEWS...

We still have many new library books, Guided Readers and Multiple Copies that need to be contacted before the children can borrow them. If you are able to contact some books please ask at the office or see me. If you're not confident with contact, there are also many books that can be covered in plastic. All help is greatly appreciated!



Lia Radocchia
Teacher Librarian

DISCOVER OLMC PARRAMATTA

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta would like to invite you to visit the College and see Mercy values in action at our Open Morning Tour on **Monday August 13, 2012**.

Visit www.olmc.nsw.edu.au or phone 8838 1263 to reserve your place or obtain further information.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

July 16	Ben Duguid
July 25	Paul Sheslow
	Elizabeth Hogan
	Angelina Di Piazza
	Carlos Di Piazza
July 28	Kiara White
	Christian Mourched
July 29	Ella Gillies
July 31	Angela de la Roche
August 1	Zane Watson
August 2	Bill El Bayeh
	Tanya Francis
	Bryan Rowlands
August 4	Ben Gosper
August 5	Sophia Bartosiak
August 6	Niamh Gallagher
	Domeniq Mourched
August 7	Raymond Ghalloub

We would like to wish all of these children a very happy birthday!!

GRANDPARENTS DAY THURSDAY 26TH JULY

Mass	9:15am
Open Classrooms	10:15am
Morning Tea	10:45am
Student Performances	11:15am

TSA BAND CAMP – 2012!

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 V 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 performance.

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 avoid missing out on this wonderful opportunity.

FAITH JOURNEY...

Each Grandparent is unique and irreplaceable. As society changes, the role of grandparents changes. But some things about grandparents are constant. Lets take some time to reflect on *Saints Joachim and Anne*.

Joachim and Anne were greatly honoured by God who gave them a daughter conceived without sin who was to become known as the Mother of God! It would seem that they performed their parenting responsibilities with great grace.

We know very few facts about Saints Joachim and Anne. The only recorded stories of them are from an apocryphal gospel dating from the 4th century AD called the Protoevangelium of James. The legend told in this document says that after years of childlessness, an angel appeared to tell Anne and Joachim that they would have a child. Anne promised to dedicate this child to God. Whatever their names or the facts of their lives, we can assume that Mary was raised in a Jewish family home faithful to God and to the religious traditions of her day such that she was led to respond wholeheartedly to God's request with faith. "Let it be done to me as you will."

Their feast day on Thursday July 26 is a day to honour them and all grandparents for their contribution to our lives.

Rebecca Boidin
Religious Education Coordinator



P&F NEWS...

Firstly, thank you to all of those people who have volunteered to help with the baking, set up, and running of the morning tea for Grandparents Day tomorrow. The response has been overwhelming and once again I realise how blessed we are to be part of such a supportive school community.

In Week 5 of this term we will be holding our AGM. All positions will be declared vacant at that time, and we will be asking for volunteers to fill the roles. So if you have been thinking of taking a more active role, now is the time to put up your hand. Some people have already expressed an interest, but at this point we will be looking for a secretary, treasurer and a parent coordinator. If you would like to find out more about any of these positions, please speak to one of the current committee members. In addition to the election of the new committee we will also be completing our biannual review of our funding agreement. A copy of the agreement will be sent home in the weeks leading up to the meeting so that you have time to read it before the day.

The last week of August sees us running our Father's Day celebrations, so we will be asking for your assistance again. A note will be coming out closer to the time listing all of the relevant information. Please remember to send money with your children to purchase gifts at the stall as we are not able to hold gifts to the following day.

Finally, we will be running a "Movie Night" on Friday September 7th so please put the date in your diary. This will be the second time we have run a movie night, and we hope that this one proves to be as popular as our first attempt. Further information will be sent out in coming weeks.



TERM 3 PLANNER