



St Mary's Rydalmere Newsletter

Term 2 Week 4
12th May 2010
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DIARY DATES

TERM 2

Tues-Thurs **Naplan Testing—Yrs 3 & 5**
11-13 May

Friday **STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY**
14 May **'PUPIL FREE DAY'**

Sat/Sun **Confirmation Sessions**
15-16 May **10:00am—3:00pm**

Mon-Wed **Year 6 in Canberra**
17-19 May

Tuesday **Sydney Writers Festival**
18th May

Tuesday **P&F Meeting—7:00pm**
18th May

Friday **Year 5 Bathurst Excursion**
21st May

Friday **Confirmation @ 7:30pm**
21st May

Wednesday **Kinder 2011 Interviews**
26th May

Wednesday **YEAR 6 GRADUATION**
26th May **SAUSAGE SIZZLE**

Thursday **Kinder 2011 Interviews**
27th May

Friday **Kinder 2011 Interviews**
28th May

FRIDAY 14TH MAY
"PUPIL FREE DAY"

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE...

Dear Parents,

This Sunday sees the end of the Easter Season with the celebration of the Ascension of our Lord into Heaven. This feast can be understood in terms of resurrection. Jesus rose from the tomb and ascends into heaven, earth is where he leaves from and heaven is where he goes to. Over the last few weeks we have read from scripture accounts of Our Lord's appearances to his disciples and the manner in which he breaks bread with them in the same way we celebrate the Eucharist at mass.

Last Friday we celebrated Mother's day with our breakfast and Mass. Thank you to all those who assisted with the organisation of the celebrations and the gift stall. It was a great day in honour of our mums and the endless love and energy they share with us throughout our lives. It is also a great occasion to pray to Our Lady, our school and parish patroness who watches over us all at St Mary's.

By now all children should be in their winter uniforms. It is important that we encourage our children to wear their uniform with pride. This would entail polishing their shoes, and ensuring that shirts are tucked in and that their ties are worn correctly. It is important that all clothing is labelled including hats. Your support in this manner will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you to everyone for your attention to the safety issues raised in our last newsletter. Safety of our children during the busy morning and pick up time in the afternoon is our major priority. Could I encourage parents dropping children off in the morning in Myrtle Street to insist on the children exiting the cars on the kerb side with their bags in hand instead of having to walk behind the car to retrieve them from the boot. It is important that drivers remain in their seats and leave once their children have left the car to ensure a smooth transition through the "Kiss and Drop" zone.

This week children in Years 3 and 5 are completing the NAPLAN tests in Literacy and Numeracy. Over the three days the children will be assessed in the various strands of mathematics, reading, language conventions and writing. Results for your children will be available mid Term 3.

Next week our Year 6 children will be going to Canberra for three days. During their trip they will visit several points of interest associated with their study of democracy and government. We wish our school leaders and their teachers a safe and most enjoyable trip.

Tony Hughes
PRINCIPAL



LOST PROPERTY - IMPORTANT

We are only 4 weeks into Term 2 and already have a huge amount of lost jumpers and jackets in the lost property bin. If your child has lost an item, please take a look in the lost property bin located under the stairs in the shelter shed. Any items without a name on them will be given to the Clothing Pool.

STAGE 3 TOUCH FOOTBALL GALA DAY

On Friday 30th April eighteen Year 6 students—nine girls and nine boys attended the Stage 3 Touch Football Gala Day.

Both teams played 5 games each. All students displayed great sportsmanship by respecting and encouraging each other. The boys' team won 3 and drew 2 games. The girls' team won all of their games and won their pool! They are now proud owners of a gold medal. Congratulations to all athletes! Thank you to the parents who assisted on the day. Your help is truly appreciated.

P&F MEETING - Tuesday 18th May

There will be a P&F Meeting on Tuesday 18th May at 7:00pm in 6M (old Library). At this meeting some teachers will be presenting information on the Seasons for Growth program. It is an educational program for students who have experienced loss through death, divorce or separation of someone close to them. Any interested parents are more than welcome to come along to the meeting.

POSITION VACANT

Volunteer receptionist for the Parramatta office of Natural Fertility Services - one Wednesday night each month beginning June. Hours are 5.30pm-9.30pm (sometimes less). Own transport essential. Duties include greeting clients, making appointments, receiving payments, issuing receipts and some filing. Essential knowledge of and ability to use Microsoft Outlook. If you are interested please call (02) 9630 7404 on Mon, Wed or Thurs between 9.30am-2.30pm or leave a message at other times.

PENTECOST SUNDAY—23RD MAY

Return to the Upper Room – Day of Prayer & Praise with Charismatic Mass. Including: Stephen Kirk and band, President of the Catholic Fraternity Matteo Calissi on DVD, founder of the Missionaries of God's Love Fr Ken Barker MGL, and Kristen Toohey, Manager of Receive the Power LIVE. Time: noon – 5pm. Our Lady Queen of Peace, 198 Old Prospect Rd, Greystanes.

TERM 2
STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

This is a reminder that this Friday 14th May is a Staff Development Day. This will be a **pupil free** day.

OOSH WILL BE OPEN

OOSH will be open on Friday 14th May. For those families needing assistance, please call Maureen on 9638 2401.

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

In the next day or so you will be receiving a note regarding this year's Athletics Carnival which will be held on Friday 4th June at Wyatt Park, Auburn.

The cost of this event would normally be \$7.00 per student. However, for Years 2-6 we have subsidised this by using the money you had already paid for the buses at this year's Cross Country (which were never used). Therefore, the cost of the Athletics Carnival for Year 2-6 students will be \$2.00. Kindergarten and Year 1 will pay \$7.00 as per normal. Thank you.

HEADLICE

Please be aware that we again have numerous cases of headlice throughout the school. Can you please take the time to check your child's hair, and if necessary treat them. Children should not return to school unless all lice and eggs have been removed from their hair. For more information on how to treat them, please go to www.health.nsw.gov.au.

**PEER SUPPORT**

Last week in Peer Support the children had to identify their strengths. They explored the importance of curiosity, kindness and teamwork. Through different activities the children were able to recognise which strengths they possess. They realised how important it is to use their strengths in different situations.

There will be no Peer Support this week due to the NAPLAN testing.

FAITH JOURNEY...

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM—CONFIRMATION

Please keep in your prayers all the children across the school and parish who will be preparing for their confirmation on the weekend. This is an important time in their lives as they receive this sacrament and we should support them as a school and parish community. Our sacramental group this year will be confirmed on Friday 21st May at 7:30pm. If you are free, you are more than welcome to come along.



MOTHER'S DAY MASS

Thank you to our Year 2 students and teachers who led our Mother's Day Mass last Friday. Thanks to all our mums, grandmothers, aunts, sisters and friends who joined us. I hope that everyone had a lovely Mother's Day.



Simon Stennett
Religious Education Coordinator

THANK YOU...

A huge thank you to all of those parents / grandparents who helped to wrap presents or sell them at our Mother's Day stall. The wrapping night was so well attended that what at first appeared to be a monumental task was completed in a very short time. Yet more wonderful people donated their time to make our Mother's Day stall a success, with various people rotating through the morning, while others donated coffee to keep the workers sustained on what turned out to be a miserable day. And finally, what an event our breakfast turned out to be. Despite issues with the coffee machines, all of the attendees appeared to enjoy the goodies our wonderful families provided, with several taking the opportunity to enjoy breakfast with friends. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mrs Lynne Campbell the winner of our free raffle this year, and also express my thanks to all of the staff at St Mary's who endured a disruptive morning in order to make all of our mums happy on their special day. Your contribution to the event was greatly appreciated, and made all three events run smoothly.



Kind regards, Jennene Gillies (Mother's Day Stall Coordinator)

TRIPLE ZERO AWARENESS...

The Triple Zero Awareness Working Group (TZAWG) is a national body that represents all Police, Fire and Ambulance emergency call-taking agencies throughout Australia. TZAWG's role is to develop and administer programs and activities to enhance community awareness of Australia's emergency call service, Triple Zero ("000").

Children are often callers to the Triple Zero service, whether it is to aid a sick or injured parent, be present at a car accident scene or to report a crime or fire. Unfortunately children are also among the many inappropriate and unwelcome callers to Triple Zero each year, which potentially delays the response to genuine emergencies and can place lives at risk. Teaching children at a young age about the appropriate use of Triple Zero not only helps curb unnecessary calls, it also prepares them to react positively in their own emergency situation and potentially save lives.

To assist this learning process, the TZAWG has developed an on-line computer game, the **Triple Zero Kids' Challenge**, specially designed to provide primary school-aged children with the knowledge and confidence needed to deal with emergency situations. Using nine different scenarios and positive reinforcement children learn how to access help in an emergency by the appropriate use of Triple Zero along with important lessons in safety. We will be encouraging the children to go on line and have a look at this site not only at school but also at home.

CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS...

Once again our plans to have our annual school Cross Country at Upjohn Park were altered due to the weather conditions! In spite of the heat we held the Cross Country on the familiar course at Rydalmere Park.

We extend a special thank you to all of the parent helpers. Our school events could not happen without you!

Each student who completed the course received a point for their colour house.

Students who came 1st, 2nd or 3rd received a ribbon and all students who came in the first six places have been given championship points towards their Age Athletics Championship Trophy. Congratulations to the following students who are our representatives at the Diocesan Carnival.

12 year olds

1 st Place	Matthew Arciuli	Eliza Gittany
2 nd Place	Justin Frain	Helaina Bayeh
3 rd Place	Joon Young Bak	Georgina Gibson
4 th Place	Brad Davoren Whereat	Jessica Blanchard
5 th Place	Aidan Lee	Alana Mastroianna
6 th Place	Rhys Rogers	Caroline Nowak

11 year olds

1 st Place	Jack Pettit	Chelsea Loughrey
2 nd Place	Jonah Lin	Erin Hann
3 rd Place	Theo Tsoromokos	Tammy Sortwell
4 th Place	Brant Hird	Georgea Mae Bampton
5 th Place	Jacob Jenner	Beth Clinton
6 th Place	Curtis Bayeh	Lucinda Rowe

10 year olds

1 st Place	Mitchell Moses	Monique Moussa
2 nd Place	Lachlan Mayfield	Mia Mylonas
3 rd Place	Mason Douglass- Hanna	Antonya Fernando
4 th Place	Matthew Mazzaferro	Sidonie Thomas
5 th Place	Damien Lai	Niamh Gallagher
6 th Place	Thomas Gittany	Sarah Donaghy

8/9 year olds

1 st Place	Luke Gosper	Jenna Comacho
2 nd Place	Timothy Greig	Thalia Lake
3 rd Place	Tahn Henley	Lauren Suffling
4 th Place	Gianni Puglisi	Joanna He
5 th Place	Jacob Wahbe	Ellie Hann
6 th Place	Marcus Spinetti	

The winner of the Colour House Trophy was Mackinnon –Red. Well done to all of the Mackinnon participants!

Diocesan Cross Country

On Thursday 29th April, St Mary's was represented at the annual Diocesan cross country by 45 excited athletes. This squad had been training hard and put their training to the test on the challenging course. All athletes finished the course and most of those who had run the course in previous years attained a personal best! Congratulations to the first timers, they responded well to the challenge.

Special congratulations to Chelsea Loughrey who came 2nd and Eliza Gittany who came 6th, both of these students will represent the Parramatta Diocese at the Inter-Diocesan Carnival on the 11th June. We wish them luck for their next run. A special thank you to all of our parent helpers- these events can only occur with your continued support.

Congratulations and thank you to all athletes for their great attitude, behaviour and efforts!

Thanks for a fantastic day!

Margaret Brewster