



St Mary's Rydalmere Newsletter

Term 3 Week 4

13th August 2008

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DIARY DATES

TERM 3

Friday 15th Aug	Assumption Mass— 9:15am School Picnic Upjohn Park— 12:00pm
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Monday 18th Aug	Years 3 & 4 Touch Football with St Pats 9:00-10:45am
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Wednesday 20th Aug	Character Book Parade 9:30am
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Wednesday 20th Aug	P&F Annual General Meeting 7:30pm in the Library
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Friday 22nd Aug	Diocesan Athletics Carnival Rooty Hill
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Friday 22nd Aug	Year 3 Assembly 9:15am
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Wednesday 27th Aug	UNSW Competition - Computer Skills
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Friday 29th Aug	Year 5 Excursion to Bathurst
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STAFF
DEVELOPMENT DAY

TERM 4

OCTOBER 13

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE...

Dear Parents,

This Friday we celebrate the feast of the Assumption of our Lady. This is a day of festivities whereby our School and Parish celebrate our Community feast day. This is a holy day of obligation whereby we acknowledge Mary's assumption into heaven body and soul. Pope Pius XII encapsulates the feast in the following statement- *"having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory."* Mary was transported into Heaven with her body and soul united. The feast day recognizing Mary's passage into Heaven and is celebrated as **The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.**

Parents and friends are invited to join us for Mass on Friday morning at 9:15am followed by our school picnic at Up John Park from 12:00pm.

Last Friday we celebrated the feast of Blessed Mary MacKillop with a whole school liturgy. Thanks to Year Six for leading the community in prayer. This year celebrates the 99th anniversary of blessed Mary's passing. With the centenary of her death next year we continue to pray for her canonization as Australia's first saint. Our school band, ably lead by Miss Sharon our band leader, also performed on the day with a series of pieces the children have been learning throughout the year. Congratulations to these wonderful musicians!

Please note in your calendars for Term 4 our next Staff Development day will be held on Monday 13th October [first day Term 4]. The teachers will continue their professional development in the Quality Teaching Framework with Wendy Mamosa from Newcastle University.

Last week was a busy one in regards to representative sport. Congratulations to all those children who represented St Marys at the zone athletics carnival and the netball gala day held up at Penrith. Thank you to the teachers and parents who assisted on both these days. A special thank you to Mrs. Tutt, for coordinating both events. Yesterday author Richard Tulloch visited our school as part of Book Week celebrations. Richard shared his stories with the children and experiences as a children's author, actor and writer. Richard answered questions posed to him by the children regarding his career and the pros and cons of being an author and performer. Thanks to Mrs Radochia for organizing this most interesting and entertaining excursion. We look forward to next week's character book parade.

Have a great week!

Tony Hughes
PRINCIPAL



P&F ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our next Annual General Meeting will be held on **Wednesday August 20th 2008**. At this meeting we will be electing a new Committee. We enclosed a Nomination Form in our last Newsletter. If you wish to nominate someone for a position, please fill out this form and return it to the office no later than Friday 15th August. If you have misplaced your form, we have spares in the office. Thank you.

\$20,000 SPORTS GRANT

If you purchase any product from the **Wonder White Bread** range from Woolworths between 4/8/08–30/8/08 you can enter St Mary's Primary School into the draw to win a \$20,000 sports grant. You can enter up to 5 times a day, by either SMS'ing your name and 'St Mary's Primary Rydalmere' to 1972 2223 or enter online at www.wonderschool.com.au. You need to keep your receipt in case you win. For more information, please contact Rachel Hogan on 0400 880 839.

CLOTHING POOL

The Pre-loved Clothing Pool will now be open on **Friday from 8:30am–9:30am**. The dates for the rest of the term are below:

Friday 15th August

Friday 29th August

Friday 12th September

Friday 26th September

We are asking for volunteers to work on a roster basis. If you are able to offer an hour of your time, please contact MaryLou on 9613 8914 or leave a message at the office.

**TSA BAND CAMP—2008**

To all band members—Yes, it's that time of year again! Notes for camp were sent home 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.

**AFTERNOON DISMISSAL**

Just a reminder, to make it easier on everyone, can you please wait in the playground at afternoon dismissal NOT on the ramp.

TRIVIA NIGHT

When: Saturday 30th August

Where: St Patricks Marist College, Dundas



Tables for the Trivia Night are selling fast, so if you want to come along and join in all the fun, please put your name down at the office or call Sue Thomas on 0403 576 490.

LIFE HAPPENS—FATHERS FORUM

How would you overcome the death of your child? What would be the effects on your family? Paul Field, Manager of the Wiggles, will share his personal experience on Wednesday 27th August at 8:00pm at the Holy Spirit School Hall, North Ryde (enter car park from Cooney St). Come along and listen to Paul and then have a friendly chat to other fathers while enjoying a cool refreshment. RSVP by Monday 25th August to Martin Mulcare (9801 7544 or Mulcare@optusnet.com.au), Bill Calleja (9889 2550) or Alan Boyle (9801 7790).

SYMPATHY

Our sympathy goes to the Azize family, David in 2L and Catherine in KM, whose grandfather passed away last week.

BARGAIN FRIDAY SHOPPING DAY

On Friday 15th August Christ the King School at North Rocks are holding a Bargain Shopping Day from 8:30am to 5:00pm. There will be a huge variety of grocery items for sale, with brand names such as Palmolive, Colgate and Cussons just to name a few. Everyone is welcome to come along and pick up a bargain.

ST PATRICKS FOOTY—YEARS 3&4

Children in Years 3&4 will be going to St Patricks Dundas on Monday 18th for Touch Football. They are to wear their sports uniform on this day.

NOW AVAILABLE ON CENET

Drama @ St Mary's

See what each class is doing this term. Do a live performance survey with your child.

SPORTING NEWS...

ZONE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL – 6TH AUGUST– OLYMPIC PARK BLACKTOWN

Last Wednesday, on a very cold morning, 43 children headed off to Blacktown Olympic Park for the Cumberland Zone Athletics Carnival. The squad need to be congratulated for their wonderful behaviour, outstanding support for each other, and their fantastic effort. Here are the results:

Elizabeth Dick	Long Jump	Georgia Robson	Junior Relay
Taylor Fogg	Shot Put	Erin Hann	Junior Relay
Tahlia Fraser	800 meters	Georgina Gibson	Junior Relay
Chelsea Loughrey	800 meters	Chelsea Loughrey	Junior Relay
	100 meters	Madeline McEwan	Senior Relay
	200 meters	Tahlia Fraser	Senior Relay
Matthew Meafou	Long Jump	Clare Staunton	Senior Relay
Monique Moussa	Shot Put	Rhiannon Holten	Senior Relay
Clare Staunton	100 meters		
	100 meters		
	Long Jump		
Jacob Swan-Mearns	Shot Put		

All of these children will now compete at the Diocesan Carnival on 22nd August. We wish them good luck!!

**Special Thank You's**

Mrs Meafou and Mrs Davoren for spending the whole day helping with shot put. It was freezing and your help was greatly appreciated.

Mrs Pettit and Mrs Arciuli for preparing morning tea for all officials—the hot drinks were definitely needed.

Mrs Staunton and Mr McEwan for taking around extra drinks after lunch.

Mrs Caruana who was the chief time keeper—the scarf, gloves and several coats suited you!!

Mrs Brewster—the official announcer and assistant to the organisers.

Miss Boidin—for being the non stop 'jill-of-all-trades' helper.

Mr Stennett—for driving to and from the park with essential deliveries all morning.

The carnival would not have run as smoothly without all the assistance from St Mary's staff and parents – well done!!

NETBALL GALA DAY—7TH AUGUST—PENRITH

On Thursday at 7:30am 8 teams of netballers headed off to Penrith for the St Nicholas Gala Day. The teams were very excited and enjoyed the day—not to mention running through the rain storm to the buses. The children were also involved with 2 weeks of before school and lunch time training—a massive thank you to all our coaches for giving up their time and sharing their expertise. A special thank you to Mrs Crismale for organising 4 umpires late on Wednesday night. Congratulations to all the teams. The only official results we currently have is for the Junior Boys Team—Luke, Angelo, Matt, Nicholas, Amicus, Dominic, Michael, Justin and Brad for winning their division.

**WEEKEND SPORT**

Congratulations to Dundas Shamrocks Under 12's for making straight into the Grand Final. Gook luck Under 10's with the eliminations next week!!



KINDY GO TO THE AQUARIUM...

Wow, what a day. Last Friday Kindy went on their exciting excursion to Sydney Aquarium. When they first arrived, they sat down near the water to eat their lunch. After this they went for a little walk around.

Next Kindy went through the 'sharks mouth' and into Sydney Aquarium. Here they saw lots of different sea creatures. They saw everything from sharks, jellyfish and octopus to crocodiles, stingrays and starfish.

Kindy then caught the Rivercat back to Rydalmere wharf. After they finished afternoon tea, they all walked back to school. A great day was had by all!!!



RICHARD TULLOCH VISITS US...



The author Richard Tulloch visited us on Tuesday and a great time was had by all. He kept us entertained with his hilarious stories and his comic characters from cockroaches to brown felt hats. I have never heard so many belly laughs in the library before!!



FAITH JOURNEY...

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

This coming Friday is the Feast Day of the Assumption. On this day we honor Mary's commitment to do God's will and her sharing eternal life with Jesus her son. On such an important occasion of Our Lady, our school will mark the day by celebrating mass together and later sharing in a school picnic at Upjohn Park. It would be wonderful if you could join us. Mass is at 9:15am and our picnic lunch will be at midday at Upjohn Park.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2008–2009!

Please keep your ear to the ground if you would like your child to be included in the Sacramental Program for this year and next. The first Sacrament is Reconciliation. A parent information evening and enrolments will be organised for mid to late September. Specific dates are yet to be confirmed.

The Sacraments are the heart of our faith and vital for a full life in Christ. Throughout the past two years, parents have at times expressed their disappointment at not having their child enrolled in the program and not receiving Reconciliation, Confirmation or Holy Communion. If your child has not received any of the Sacraments and are in Year 2 and above, please seriously consider their inclusion this year. If you have any concerns or questions regarding the program or about the Sacraments, please contact me at school.



LITURGICAL GOWNS

A BIG thank you to the mums who have contacted me regarding sewing. We are trying to organise liturgical gowns for our younger students to be used in Mass and celebrations. If you are able to help, please let me know. Thanks, Simon.