



St Mary's Rydalmere Newsletter

Term 1 Week 8

Wednesday 16th March 2011

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DIARY DATES

TERM 1

**Wednesday
16th March** **Fete Meeting
7:00pm in the Staffroom**

**Monday
21st March** **School Cross Country**

**Tuesday
5th April** **Stage 3 Girls Soccer Gala
Day - Aquilina Reserve**

**Friday
8th April** **Stage 3 Touch Football Gala
Day - St Mary's**

**Friday
8th April** **Term 1 Concludes**

ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

~ OPEN DAY ~

For 2012 Enrolments

Monday 28th March

9:15–10:45am

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE...

Dear Parents,

Last Thursday saw the launch of our Project Compassion campaign for 2011. My thanks to Year 4, their teachers and Miss Boidin for preparing our liturgy launch.

This year we are endeavouring to encourage our children to realise the need to reach out to others in need and make a significant difference in their life. The children's fundraising efforts throughout Lent will aid those communities in Third World countries who require the bare necessities of life to survive from day to day. Apart from the almsgiving activities, the children will study these countries, their people and culture. They will hopefully gain a better understanding of the needs of these people and better appreciate what we have in our own "backyard".

On Monday 28th March we will be conducting an open morning and tours for 2012 Kindergarten enrolments between 9:15-10:45am. During this time prospective parents will be escorted on a tour of the school and its facilities by our Year 6 students. Mrs Gosper and I will also be on hand to answer any questions parents may have regarding their child's pending enrolment. Enrolment forms and an information package will be available on the morning. Inquiries regarding vacancies in Years 1-6 will also be addressed on the day. If you know of any friends, neighbours or extended family looking to enrol their children, in any grade, encourage them to come along on Monday week and take a tour of the school.

The library will reopen this week for borrowing in a new location, after twelve months in hibernation. Many thanks to Mrs Radocchia, Mrs Karam and the parents who have assisted in re-establishing this integral resource within our school. The library will be temporarily closed during week 10 as storage cupboards and pin boards will be installed as part of the refurbishment. The library will also be used as a meeting place for our school community.

You may already be aware that we have had several issues with the new toilets in regards to the use of liquid soap by the children. The liquid soap is being misused which is wasteful, expensive and dangerous if someone slips and falls. As a result of this, small cakes of soap have been put in the cubicles for the children to use. It would be greatly appreciated if parents could discuss with their children various aspects of "bathroom etiquette" that they could practise both at home and school. Everyone has a responsibility to keep our toilet facilities clean and safe. Your support in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

As the end of the term approaches, a reminder that Term 1 school fees are now due. If you are having difficulty in meeting these financial commitments please contact the office so an appointment can be made to discuss these matters confidentially. Thank you to those families who have already spoken to me in this regard.

Have a great week!

Tony Hughes
Principal



FETE MEETING

There will be a Fete Meeting **TONIGHT** from 7:00pm in the Staffroom. Everyone is more than welcome to come along!

DIOCESAN SWIMMING UPDATE

On Friday 4th March twelve children represented St Mary's and the Cumberland Zone at the Diocesan Swimming Carnival. Five students have made it through to the Inter-Diocesan Swimming Carnival to be held on Monday 21st March. Congratulations Justine Kim, Timothy Greig, Claude Sortwell, Jin Woo and Nathan McNamara. We are extremely proud of your achievements and wish you all every success at the upcoming carnival.

**SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY**

Just a reminder that our school Cross Country is being held on Monday 21st March at Upjohn Park. If you haven't returned your permission note and money, please send it into the office ASAP. These are now overdue.

SCHOOL FEES

Term 1 school fees are now overdue. Please pay any outstanding fees to the school office as soon as possible.

PRE-LOVED CLOTHING POOL

The Pre-Loved Clothing Pool will be open this Friday 18th March 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.

**THANK YOU**

Our 'Rubbish Free Day' yesterday went extremely well. We would like to thank all parents for their cooperation.

PRAYER GROUP

Holy Name of Mary prayer group is held every Wednesday, in the Church, after morning Mass. During Lent, we will be holding the Stations of the Cross. Everyone is welcome to come along and join us at this special time of year.

VACATION CARE

The St Mary's OOSH Vacation Care program is available from the school office.



**EASTWOOD RYDE NETBALL
ASSOCIATION Inc
2011 Junior Skills Program**



All girls and boys aged between 5 and 8 years of age who would like to learn the basic skills of netball while having lots of fun, are invited to join us at the Eastwood Ryde Netball Association's Net Set Go Program in 2011.

Venue: Brush Farm
Lawson Street, Eastwood

Program Start Date: Sat 30th April, 2011

Program Finish Date: Sat 4th June, 2011

Time: 9.00am – 10.00am

Cost: \$60.00

Registration Days: Sat 2nd & 9th April
9am – 11.00am at
Brush Farm

For further details, please contact:
Marilyn Latham
Coaching Convenor
Eastwood Ryde Netball Association
Email: wandmlatham@bigpond.com

LIBRARY NEWS...

PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE 2011

Our school is now registered for the Premier's Reading Challenge 2011. If your children would like to participate this year they can commence recording now. Books from the reading list will soon be available from our very own library, however, you can still use your local public libraries or your own personal libraries to access the books.



Children who have completed the challenge before can upload their records using the same user log in and password as last year. If you have lost these details you will need to see me at school Monday-Wednesday or email me at

lradocchia@parra.catholic.edu.au and I will forward the details to you as soon as possible.

Students who have never participated in the challenge will need to see me to register.

Once you have your log in details you will need to:

1. Go to the website <https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>
2. Log on using the correct password
3. Go to Student Reading Records
4. Enter the PRC ID and title of book and select Add
5. Once you have completed the Challenge, you will need to inform me so that I can validate the record.

Remember that children doing the **K-2 challenge** must read 25 books from the list and 5 of their own choice. Children doing the **3-4 and 5-6 challenge** must read 15 books from their respective lists and 5 of their own choice.

If you have any problems please come and see me. Good luck to all and remember, the record to break this year is 120!

Lia Radocchia - Teacher Librarian

SCHOOL LEADERS...

IMPACT STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Recently our school leaders attended the Impact Student Leadership Conference at Sydney Olympic Park. Run by a professional organisation, with many other schools attending, the day provided our students with many strategies to help them discern how they can make a difference. They focused on the 'High Five Leadership Principles' - generosity towards others; recovery from setbacks; involving others; prioritising time; and careful thinking with a view to action. They looked at 4 key areas within our school and determined the one area they thought needed particular attention. Our school leaders have been inspired by the conference and have begun looking at ways to make a difference this year. Mr Hughes will meet regularly with them to help them achieve their goals.

