



# St Mary's Rydalmere Newsletter

Term 4 Week 8

Wednesday 28th November 2012

Website: [www.stmarysrydalmere.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stmarysrydalmere.catholic.edu.au)

Twitter: #StMarysRydal

1 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere

Ph: 9684 4044 Fax: 9684 2262

Email: [stmarysrydal@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stmarysrydal@parra.catholic.edu.au)

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE...

Dear Parents,

Next Sunday heralds the beginning of the new liturgical year and the commencement of the Advent season. This lead up period to the birth of Our Lord is a time of reflection, preparation and repentance. These four weeks also allow us to focus on the readings from the Old Testament as we reflect upon the events leading up to Jesus' birth and the anticipation and hope that this would bring to God's people.

At this time of the school year we say farewell to the staff leaving St Mary's and welcome those who will be joining our community in 2013. We say good bye and best wishes to Mrs Michelle McDonald (St Agatha's Pennant Hills), Mrs Victoria Cole (St Michaels Meadowbank), Mrs Jan Schroder (Our lady of the Angels Rouse Hill), Miss Ida Orlandi and Miss Adele Abraham (St Francis Xavier Arncliffe). The school community is appreciative of their commitment and efforts during their time with us over the years. A change in staff results in an injection of enthusiasm, ideas and talent that will invigorate the character and energy of a school community. We welcome Miss Pauline Kaszubowski, Mrs Michelle Jarrett, Mr Troy Loudon, Mrs Amanda Gierick and Miss Emma O'Brien to St Mary's in 2013. We trust our new teachers will enjoy their time with us in the future.

Student reports will be distributed to parents on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December. If you have any concerns regarding your child's report, be sure to make an appointment with their teachers before the end of the year. Student / Teacher class allocation will be finalized over the next fortnight. Teachers and classes for 2013 will be announced on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December at the "Meet the Teacher" session.

Our annual intensive Swimming Program commenced on Monday. The children have settled into their ability groups for the duration of the program. If you have any concerns during the program, please contact your child's classroom teacher or myself.

Last Friday each family would have received a copy of our uniform and grooming policy together with an accompanying letter. It is important that at all times we encourage our children to wear their uniform correctly and with pride. Children not wearing the uniform correctly will be issued with reminder notes acknowledging what aspects of the uniform or their grooming that needs to be addressed. Your support and encouragement in ensuring your children wear the correct uniform will be greatly appreciated.

Have a great week!

Tony Hughes

PRINCIPAL



## DIARY DATES

### TERM 4 2012

<b>Tuesday 4th Dec</b>	<b>Kinder 2012 MAI Testing</b>
<b>Wednesday 5th Dec</b>	<b>Kinder 2013 MAI Testing</b>
<b>Friday 7th Dec</b>	<b>Swimming Program Concludes</b>
<b>Monday 10th Dec</b>	<b>New Children Years 1-6 Orientation Afternoon 2:00pm</b>
<b>Wednesday 12th Dec</b>	<b>Andrew Chinn Christmas Concert—7:00pm</b>
<b>Friday 14th Dec</b>	<b>Year 6 Children Fun Day in the City</b>
<b>Monday 17th Dec</b>	<b>Award Ceremony—9:00am</b>
<b>Monday 17th Dec</b>	<b>Year 6 Graduation Mass 7:00pm</b>
<b>Tuesday 18th Dec</b>	<b>Swimming Carnival Years 2-6</b>
<b>Tuesday 18th Dec</b>	<b>Tabloid Sports Years Kinder—1</b>
<b>Wednesday 19th Dec</b>	<b>End of Year Mass 9:15am</b>
<b>Wednesday 19th Dec</b>	<b>Parent Thank You Morning Tea 10:00am</b>
<b>Wednesday 19th Dec</b>	<b>Year 6 Graduation Dinner</b>
<b>Wednesday 19th Dec</b>	<b>School Concludes for Students</b>

**NATIONAL ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

We would like to give a big congratulations to Rebekah Meafou who this week competed at the National Athletics Championships in Adelaide. Rebekah came 4th in her individual Shot Put event and 2nd in the Shot Put Relay Team event. Well done Rebekah - we are all very proud of your wonderful efforts!

**GUITAR LESSONS FOR 2013**

Our guitar teacher, Mr Michael Sheridan, is now taking enrolments for guitar lessons in 2013. If your child is interested in learning to play the guitar, please call Michael on 0413 559 784.

**FUNNIEST HOME VIDEOS**

Thank you to everyone that voted for Kelly Stevens' (KC) video on Funniest Home Videos. Kelly made it to the Grand Final and was lucky enough to win second prize—two (2) cars!! The Stevens family would like to thank everyone that voted for Kelly 's video and also thank everyone for their well wishes.

**SCHOOL FUNDING**

A website providing information to schools and parents on how to become involved in a range of activities to oppose the NSW Government's School funding cuts has been set up. The web address is:

**[http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/school\\_funding](http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/school_funding)**. Please feel free to visit this website for more information.

**SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

The permission envelope, payment and events form for the Swimming Carnival are due this Friday 30th November. **NO late event forms will be accepted.** If you haven't returned the forms as yet, please do so ASAP. Thank you.

**BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS**



November 28	Natasha Ball
November 29	Larissa Laguzza
December 1	Katelyn Johnson
December 2	Mark Wahbe
December 5	Jaime Camacho
December 6	Patrick Bayeh
December 7	Stephanie Blanchard
	Bernhard Tandean
	Christopher Swadling
December 8	Teagyn Ward
December 9	Therese Davidson
December 10	Joel Hallit
	Ethan Lee
December 11	Olivia Marshall
	Luke Noy

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

**PRINCIPAL AWARDS TERM 4—Week 7**



<b>KC</b>	Luke Marnan and Christopher Padden
<b>KL</b>	Sanjana Norris and Cooper Frain
<b>1C</b>	Nicole Pitchfork and Katelyn Johnson
<b>1M</b>	Michael Lowery and Liam Hardman
<b>2K</b>	Elijah Seruvatu and Emily Radford
<b>2M</b>	Cameron Menin and Bryan Rowlands
<b>3O</b>	Nourien Tanaz and Stephanie Brooks
<b>3Q/D</b>	Olivia Marshall and Gabriela Villena
<b>4A</b>	Bethany Botto and Katie Pan
<b>4E</b>	Jade Brandis and Isabella Schembri-Green
<b>5J</b>	Lizetta Sison and Clare Kuys
<b>5M</b>	Abbey Christie and James Furolo
<b>6M</b>	Monique Moussa and Leslie Lee
<b>6R</b>	Taesung Jung and Chris Swadling

**CARE AWARDS TERM 4—Week 7**



<b>KC</b>	Arabela Martinez and Catherine Lim
<b>KL</b>	Raymond Ghalloub and Jonas Pellegriti
<b>1C</b>	Banjamin Fairall and Hannah Jalil
<b>1M</b>	Therese Davidson and Jonathan Xiao
<b>2K</b>	Ashlee Liwanag and Tinashe Musukutwa
<b>2M</b>	Patricia Tipones and Mia Ezy
<b>3O</b>	Trinity Tecala, Joshua Nakhil and Isabelle Joseph
<b>3Q/D</b>	Michael Lee and Elissa Bayeh
<b>4A</b>	Jack Callaghan and Alexandria Padden
<b>4E</b>	Emily Tsigounis and Jayden Camacho
<b>5J</b>	Georgia Hogan and Shaun Cassidy
<b>5M</b>	Alex Cutler and CJ Flore
<b>6M</b>	Jonathan Choi and Bjorn Tandean
<b>6R</b>	David Azize and Marion Brandis

# FAITH JOURNEY...

## IMPORTANT DATES

With the end of year fast approaching, we have some wonderful celebrations coming up over the next few weeks. Please make sure you mark these dates in your diaries....



### Andrew Chinn Christmas Concert

On Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December, religious songwriter and singer, Andrew Chinn, will be visiting our school to be a part of our Christmas celebrations. Andrew's songs, such as "These Hands", "Together As One", "Many Roads, One Journey" and "In the Beginning" are used in classrooms and liturgies around Australia, New Zealand, the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom. All children will be involved in the concert. More information will follow in a note within the next week.

### Year 6 Graduation Mass

Please keep the Graduating Class of 2012 in your thoughts and prayers as they begin to prepare for their Graduation Mass which will be held on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December commencing at 7:00pm.

### Our End of Year Mass

We will be celebrating our End of Year Mass on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 9:15am. We ask that you join us on this day to give thanks for the wonderful school year we have shared together.

### ST VINCENT DE PAUL'S HAMPER APPEAL

Once again we will be supporting the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Hamper Appeal. We ask that each family donate packaged and preserved food that would be appropriate for a festive meal. A small sacrifice from our weekly shop this fortnight will go a long way to brighten the lives of someone in our local parish community who needs our love and support this Christmas. All donations are to go to the classrooms.



## IMPORTANT NOTICE

A reminder that if your child is **NOT** returning to St Mary's next year, you need to send in a note informing us of this ASAP. Could you also please include the school they will be attending. This information is then forwarded to the Catholic Education Office.

Also, if your child is not starting back at school on the first day of Term 1, Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January, can you please inform the school office.



## FREE One Day Workshop for PARENTS/CARERS Of School Age Students on the Autism Spectrum

**Workshop: 2012NSWPC11**

**Location: ROOTY HILL**

**Thursday 6th December**

The Positive Partnerships initiatives have been developed and delivered by Partnerships between Education and the Autism Community (PEAC) and funded by the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations through the Helping Children with Autism package.

### What will you learn?

As a result of participating in the workshop as parents/carers you will gain:

- a greater understanding of the impact of autism on your child, both at school and at home
- knowledge about how to develop effective parent, school and teacher partnerships
- specific strategies on how to:
  - \* advocate for your child
  - \* support your child's participation at school
  - \* develop an awareness of ongoing learning needs
- information about your local school system's processes
- opportunities to network and share strategies with other parents/carers and key community members
- opportunities for discussion around a range of topics relevant to students with an ASD and their families

Some key community representatives that support families living with autism will be identified and invited to participate in the workshop with a view to supporting a community focus beyond the workshop.

### Workshop details

**Venue:** Rooty Hill RSL,  
55 Sherbrooke Street, Rooty Hill, NSW 2766

**When: One- Day Workshop**  
9.00 a.m - 4.30 p.m (**Registration from 8.15am**)

----- **Registration opens 6 weeks before the workshop, and closes 2 days prior.**

***Registration may stay open until one day before the workshop if spaces are still available, but we strongly recommend that you register as soon as possible.***

***You will receive a confirmation of your registration.***

**Online registrations preferred:** please go to the website [www.positivepartnerships.com.au](http://www.positivepartnerships.com.au).

**Only complete the following form if you do not have access to the internet** and fax or mail to: Fax: 02 9451 9661;; Mail: *Positive Partnerships, ASPECT, PO Box 361, Forestville NSW 2087*

**Positive Partnerships Info Line number: 1300 881 971**



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Education, Employment  
and Workplace Relations**

**peac**  
Partnerships between  
Education and the  
Autism Community

Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect)  
Autism SA  
Autism Queensland  
Flinders University SA  
[www.positivepartnerships.com.au](http://www.positivepartnerships.com.au)