



NEWSLETTER

No. 7 Date: 17/09/2015 Week 10 Term 3

Dear St Thomas Aquinas Families,

This week brings to a conclusion another term of stimulating learning at STA. It has been a term with many and varied opportunities for our students to encounter Christ and to grow in knowledge, faith and love.

The schooling experience needs to have at its core, a focus on building and sustaining healthy relationships – it is through these relationships that children learn best where they find Christ revealed.

Wishing all a safe and restful term break.

Until next time,

S Rosato

Sergio Rosato
Principal

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY - Pupil Free
Tuesday 6 October (after the long weekend)
Students commence Term 4 on Wednesday 7 October.

Grandparents Day

Today our school community had the great joy of hosting our annual Grandparents' Day Celebration. Our students always look forward to this day with such anticipation and the overwhelming attitude that they display is of pride, love and respect. This is reciprocated with such grace by the grandparents.

Our Grandparents Day festivities commenced with a concert in the hall featuring our junior and senior choirs. This was followed by an interpretative display of children's art on the life and mission of Mary Mother of Jesus in each of 22 classes. Following this, was a whole school assembly under the COLA featuring all students singing 2 songs to introduce a shared picnic.

The role that grandparents play in the lives of grandchildren may be different, but they all share an important part in helping to influence in a lasting way, their children's formation. For grandparents, one of the greatest joys in this stage of their lives is being able to nurture a special relationship with a grandchild. In a real way grandparents are the carriers of the light, the footsteps to the past and present.

Wakakirri Awards Night - Sydney Division 1 Finals

Tonight a large number of our students will perform at the Sports Centre, Homebush in the final of this Creative Arts event. Wakakirri is an arts challenge which enables our students to learn through the sharing of stories using drama and dance.

As you are aware, last month we participated in the heats section of this event and our item was acknowledged in the following areas of performance:

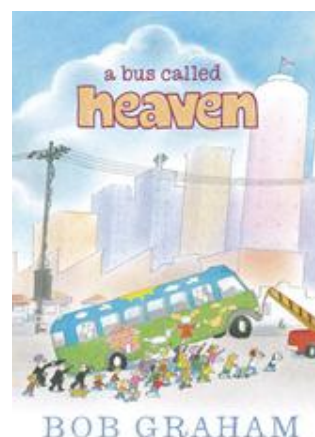
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|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ■ Set change | ■ Amazing moment |
| ■ Individual piece of set | ■ Most sustainable production |
| ■ Combination of dancing and drama | ■ Best Art House Story Award |

Following on from this performance we were selected to perform at the Awards night this evening.

We can be justifiably proud of each and every one of the cast of Wakakirri 2015 for their hard work and passion. On their behalf we are immensely grateful for all involved in this production. Notably, Michelle Nightingale, Karen Bousfield, Blanche Hortense, Bernie Sierra & Beth Carroll, Virginia Fortunat and the many parents who assisted the production team in so many ways.

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www.stthomas.parra.catholic.edu.au | Parish Priest: Father Paul Slyney



***“This
presentation
had a huge
heart”***

Christopher Horsey,
Wakakirri Adjudicator



WALKATHON

Last Friday we were blessed with an absolutely beautiful early spring day for our 2015 Walkathon. Once again there was no denying the spirit of our students and the community who have been eagerly awaiting this day for some time.

Commencing with Year 1 and then followed in turn by each grade; our students, their teachers and volunteer walkers gathered in the hall to warm up by singing our specially composed Walkathon song. After some really enthusiastic singing and final instructions by Avril Llewellyn each grade group in turn set off down through playground Area 4 and out of the Paulwood Avenue gates, then headed north through the picturesque streets to Summerhayes Park before then making their way back to school along Hawkesbury Road.

Our Walkathon catch cry for this year was, "Let's Trek for Tech". It was always envisaged that our Walkathon would be both a fundraiser for learning resources including technology and also a community-building event. Both of these were evident in abundance by the generosity of families supporting students through sponsorship and the many families who were present on Friday in various capacities to assist with the running of the event.

I wish to express my gratitude to all members of our school community who helped to make the day such a well-organised, joyful, successful, safe and uplifting experience. All those who walked with the students, those who were present along the route providing water stops – special mention to grandparents Fran & Bob Blakemore at drink stop 1 for even providing recorded music to keep us going. To those on traffic duty at street crossings, and finally those who cooked and served the BBQ lunch and refreshments back at school.

THANK YOU for your generosity, your enthusiasm and your presence.

Finally I would like to extend a special note of gratitude to Karleen Hutchings, Avril Llewellyn and our wonderful school office staff for working so incredibly hard in helping to coordinate the day. We have one more whole-school rendition on Friday of our Walkathon Song as we work to collect our sponsorship pledges as the term draws to an end. We are indeed blessed.

Sergio Rosato

I'm Walkin' –

STA Walkathon Song 2015

(Chorus)

*I'm walkin', down to Winmalee
And I'm talkin' about you and me
I'm hopin' that you'll come back to me.
I'm happy as I can be.
I'm waitin' for your company
I'm hopin' that you'll come back to me.*

(Verse)

*What you going do along the way?
Re-hydrate and shout hooray!
I'm going to walk as safe as can be
With my friends and company.*



Walkathon 2015



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Student Awards

Congratulations to the following students, who received Merit Awards at last week's and this week's School Assemblies. Well done on your efforts everyone – keep up the good work!



Week 9

Ryan An U
Jordan Banks
Olive Borbely
Addison Bradshaw
Tia Cross
Luke Crouch
Erin DeBono
Baxter Ellem
Katelyn Ellis
Isla Field
Ruby Forsyth
Tyler Frost
William Ghata

Benjamin Giannakis
Xavier Gonzalez
Sasha Grahovac
Gwendolyn Henderson
Elise Hurley
Hayden Keogh
Harry Kitching
Bridie Knibbs
Jack Kuypers
Matthew Kwiedor
Bridie Le Breton
Jack Leahey
William Lister

Bridget Lloyd-Williams
Shyelo Malim-Martinez
Eliza Manners
Vincent McLaren
Chelsea Micallef
Sophia Minale
Genevieve Miruzzi
Patrick Moore
Olivia Morrissey
Olivia Mountain
Freya Mylne
Jacob Pospischil

Siobhan Rafter
Addison Schobbe
Samantha Schroeder
Bronte Tracey
Isabella Valle
Aiden Wade-Ferrell
Madisyn Walton
Chelsea Willingham
Daniel Woods
Tahlia Woolley
Lola Wyld
Darian Zunic

Week 10

Isaac Bailey
Eliza Barr
Caleb Blick
Lily Boersma
Olivia Byrnes
Antoinette Caristo
Luke Clunes
Jacob Danks
Britney Dorman
Texas Down
Mischa Evans
Sienna Evans
Cooper Golby

Emilia Gosling
Luke Harrison
Mariella Hill
Audrey Hodgins
Nyah Hutchings
Dylan King
Peter Koulouris
Zoe Langan
Isabelle Leet
Aiden Machon
Maddison Machon
Aemon Marshall
Lincoln McLoughlin

Jake McSpadden
Addison Miller
Christopher Oliver
Gigi Orobello
Tobie Payens
Christian Ramos-McNeil
Ari-Kai Rawlings
Sophie Rayner
Riane Santos
Bridie Shingles
Mayah Shore
Ariella Smith

Lachlan Steadman
Maria Todarello
Nathan Treble
Klara Trinajstic
Demir Vassallo
Chantelle Wakeling
Genevieve Wakeling
Matthew Ward
Cameron Waters
Tom Withers
Sarah Wydmuch
Darian Zunic

Student Sporting Success

Congratulations to Matthew Hurley (6M) on being invited by Tennis Australia to play tennis in the under 13's at the Champion of Champions in Bathurst last weekend. His coach is Andrew McLeod from Springwood World of Tennis. Well done Matthew!



Sacramental News - Confirmation

We pray for the children and the families who received the Sacrament of Confirmation last night (Wednesday) at St Thomas Aquinas Church. May these children experience the grace of the Holy Spirit as they receive God's Holy Spirit sacramentally.

Penrith Netball Gala Day

On Wednesday, 9 September, four teams from St Thomas Aquinas represented the school at the Penrith Netball Gala Day. There were teams from most primary schools in the Parramatta Diocese.

All teams played well and conducted themselves with fairness. The 8-year old girls were champions in their division, drawing one game and winning all of the rest. Congratulations! The 9-year girls, 10-year girls and 12-year boys won some, drew some and lost only a few.

We are thankful for our four umpires who volunteered for the day. We are also thankful for the parent helpers, Ms Kime, Mrs Rafter, Mrs Moore and Mrs Down who helped with managing the teams on the day and the many parent supporters who cheered the teams on. Congratulations to all students involved. **Mrs Tanya Graham and Mrs Sarah Dignam**



Uniform Changeover

Parents are reminded that students are to wear **Summer Uniform** when school resumes for **Term 4**. CEDP Sports Jumpers and Hoodies may only be worn with sports uniform. For further details please refer to the Parent Handbook located on the school website.

Parish Bush Dance & Free BBQ – Saturday 19 September, 6.30pm – 9.30pm

Join the Richmond Players Bush Band for an evening of dancing sponsored by Catholic Care Social Services Springwood Drop-in Centre, 4751 4956 or www.ccss.org.au and Parish Family Groups. **Free sausage sizzle from 5.30pm**; dancing commences 6.30pm. All welcome!

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Students Not Returning for 2016

The school is currently interviewing families for enrolment for 2016. Places are limited in some grades. To enable the school to plan appropriately we would appreciate families of students in Grades K-5 who are not returning in 2016 to please notify the school **in writing as soon as possible**. Your timely attention to this matter would be much appreciated as the implications regarding staffing and resourcing by the Catholic Education Office stem from accurate enrolment numbers.

DIARY DATES

| | | |
|---|----------------------------|--|
| 2015 TERM 4 Week 1 | Tuesday 6 October | STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY – Pupil Free |
| | Wednesday 7 October | Term 4 Commences for Students |
| | 8 | 8.30am Staff Prayer Year 6 Mufti Day for Year Book |
| | 9 | |
| | Monday 12 October | Diocesan Basketball Championships – selected students Greg Whitby (Executive Director of Schools CEDP) visit 12.30pm Assembly – 1N presenting 3.40pm Leadership Meeting |
| Week 2 | 13 | Year 1 Excursion to Art Gallery 3.40pm Staff Meeting |
| | 14 | 8.30am Staff Briefing 9.20am Parish Mass – Year 6 attending |
| | 15 | 8.30am Staff Prayer |
| | 16 | Diocesan Mission Mass – selected students |

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Jackeroo Ranch Horse Riding Camps: Located at Bingletree Station in the beautiful Turon Valley (in the Bathurst area) Jackeroo Ranch (established 54 years) is running their popular **spring school holiday** horse riding camps. **1st Week: Saturday 19 September – Saturday 26 September, 2015; 2nd Week: Saturday 26 September – Sunday 4 October, 2015.** Shorter stays are possible if camps are not fully booked. These camps are for 'horse mad' children aged 6 to 16 years. Five to six hours per day are devoted to horse activities including a one hour lesson and three hours trail riding – with tuition still being given. As well, campers are taught grooming, saddling, haltering, catching a horse, safety aspects and many other facets of horsemanship. Catered for beginners to advanced riders. We specialise in teaching nervous riders and developing their confidence. Other activities include gold panning, cattle feeding/checking, cattle mustering, camp fires and native wildlife spotting. (The property abounds with kangaroos, wallabies, wombats, wonderful bird life as well as being a working cattle farm and Quarter Horse Stud. There are Poll Hereford calves and Quarter Horse foals now being born.) This is not just a camp, but a wonderful farm experience your child will treasure for ever! Bookings essential. Enquiries please phone Mrs Pattie Hudson on 6337 7173 (nights are best). Further information at www.jackerooranch.com.au

Springwood/Winmalee Girl Guides Car Boot Sale: To raise much needed funds to keep our Guides hall and programs going Springwood/Winmalee Girl Guides will be holding a car boot sale on **Sunday 18 October** at **Springwood/Winmalee Girl Guides Hall, 233-243 Singles Ridge Road, Yellow Rock. Gates open at 8am for 9am start; 2pm finish. Cost: \$10 per boot/table.** To register your car/table please **phone Kylie on 0410 593 959** or email to SWgirlguidessg@gmail.com

Springwood District Athletics Club 2015-2016 Registrations: **Saturday 19 September at Winmalee Shopping Centre, 10am – 2pm.** Season commences Saturday 26 September. Little Athletics is a great way to keep active and meet new friends. We cater for age groups from U5 (Tots) to U17s. Little Athletics offers young people activities and skills that will stand them in good stead for their sporting future. Competition is held on Saturday mornings at Tom Hunter Park in Faulconbridge and runs from September to March. Each week the athletes compete to beat their personal best in a variety of track and field events. Registration can be done online at www.springwoodathletics.org.au or www.lansw.com.au. Once you have registered online you can then meet the committee to finalise your registration at the above session. For more information email sdacsecretary@gmail.com

Adam Crouch Foundation Trivia Night: Help the Adam Crouch Foundation educate our community on **water safety awareness. Saturday 10 October at Springwood Sports Club, Macquarie Road, Springwood, 6.30pm for 7.00pm start.** Includes raffles, fun games, lucky door prizes as well as a selection of delicious warm savouries and finger food. **Tickets: \$60 per person or \$500 for table of 10 people.** For tickets please visit www.adamcrouchfoundation.org.au/trivia/ Enquiries – **phone Kelly on 0412 510 148** or email to events@adamcrouchfoundation.org.au

Get into Cricket with Milo in2CRICKET: Milo in2CRICKET is designed to teach children between the ages of 4-8, the basics of the game in a fun and safe environment. Absolutely no prior experience with cricket is necessary. Springwood Cricket Club at Lomatia Park, Springwood will be running the 10-week in2CRICKET program. **Registrations will be held on Friday 2 October from 4.30pm to 6.30pm at Lomatia Park, Springwood. Cost: \$75 per person** which includes – backpack, drink bottle, bat, ball, hat, t-shirt, plus more giveaways from Milo and Cricket NSW. Further information and enquiries please **phone Adam Thomas on 0414 233 712 or 4751 3855 or email to akthomas2008@bigpond.com**

Sent Home Recently:

- Note to Year 6 re Year Book Mufti Day Postponement (orange)
- Grandparents Day Invitation (purple)
- Fit-Lab Flyer
- Cyber Safety Flyer

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Scan with your smartphone
or tablet for more
information.

www.staspringwood.catholic.edu.au