



UPDATE

No. 2 Date: 10/05/2016 Week 3 Term 2

St Thomas Aquinas School Springwood Turns 95!



St Thomas Aquinas Primary School

Whole School - 2016

Principal: Mr S. Rosato



advancedlife

This year marks the 95th anniversary of the opening of the first Catholic school in Springwood.

St Thomas Aquinas Parish School was opened in 1921 with a total enrolment of 24 students in the old church building located on Macquarie Road. The Sisters of St Joseph (order founded by St Mary of the Cross MacKillop) administered and taught at the school from its opening until 1976. The school relocated to its current location on Hawkesbury Road in 1982 adjacent to St Columba's Catholic College. The school now has a total enrolment of 615 students.

Recently we marked this milestone with a whole school photograph involving all students and staff. Our current Kindy and Year 1 students will be part of the centenary celebrations in 2021!

From little things, big things grow!

Cross Country

On Tuesday, 3 May 47 students represented our school at the Diocesan Cross Country held at Eastern Creek Raceway. All students participated to the best of their ability and demonstrated good sportsmanship on the day. The following students will be participating at the NSW Catholic Primary Schools Cross Country Championships (NSWCPSCCC) at Eastern Creek on Friday, 17 June 2016:

Riley Barglik
Keeli Brown
Olivia De La Harpe

Abbey Gomez
Luca Goudis

Molly Peake
Mia Watson

Clare Williamson
Lachlan Williamson

Congratulations and we wish you all well!

Robert Mullen, Sports Coordinator and Ann Gippel, Support Teacher

Mothers' Day Stall

Our school Mothers' Day Stall, held on 5 May, was a great success with students purchasing lots of goodies for those special mother/grandmother figures in their lives. We wish to thank Sonya Leehy, Meredith Kenn, Meredith Carey and the team of generous parent helpers who made the stall possible on the day. We hope all mothers had a wonderful day on Sunday.

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a: 168 Hawkesbury Rd Springwood 2777 | p: 02 4754 2554 | f: 02 4754 3562

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

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 2

Sadie Albury	Max Friedland-Jaccoud	Alana Kenn	William Moore
Riley Barglik	Arabella Fuge	Elizabeth Kerkham	Tess Morris
Montana Barry	Ruby Fuhrmann	Jordan Kime	Gela Moss
Chloe Blattman	Chloe Galluzzi	Ella Langan	Issac Moss
Lily Boersma	Matilda Gauci	Zoe Langan	Abbey Murphy
Ayla Bogg	Harry Gilchrist	Brady Leehy	Luke Redmond
Elysia Burchall	Jade Gordon	Annalise Lia	Lachlan Roberts
Lucas Collins	Lucy Hall	Bridget Lloyd-Williams	Florence Rooney
Sienna Curley	Joshua Harrison	Maddison Machon	Eli Schroeder
Ashton Davies	Xavier Haynes	Luke Mathew	Annabelle Scurr
Billy Dean	Peter Hogan	Ryan May	Benjamin Synnott
Marius Edmonds	Pepper Hughes	Lachlan McAlpine	Conna Taylor
Luke Edwards	Sienna Hughes	Macklin Miall	Daniel Woods
Isla Field	Kayla Hurley	Samuel Moore	Sophie Young
Noah Francia	William Hurley		

Week 3

Zachary Batcock	Rowan Davies	Talyka Kime	Hamish Richards
Isabella Bonnici	Claire Debien	Oscar Kirton	Grace Ryan
Lillian Borg	Matilda Debien	Matthew Kwiedor	Lorraine Santos
Samantha Bourke	Leonie Ellis	Thomas Larkin	Jack Savage
Addison Bradshaw	Jake Gordon	Odette Laurent	Anastasia Sawyer
Nathan Broadhead	Blake Gough	Isabelle Leet	Jamie Sharp
Emily Burke	Samuel Graham	Genevieve Miruzzi	Archer Sproule
Bonnie Butler	Kate Harrison	Angelika Okladnikov	Lilli Thompson
Mackenzie Carey	Finton Hazell	Ellie Penserini	Baiden Tom
Thomas Chapple	Cameron Hickey	Trinity Power	Gabriel Valle
Ruanii Claudino	Nyah Hutchings	Cameron Purcell	Tristan Wade-Ferrell
Sienna Curley	Erin Kenn	Henry Re	William Wright

Book Club

Orders for **Issue 3 Scholastic Book Club** are **now due**. Parents can order online using the LOOP – a fast and convenient way to make your purchases. Please check that order forms are filled out correctly including both the child's name and class. Credit card payments must be made online first and the receipt number needs to be recorded on the order form.



Cuppa & Chat

Our next Cuppa and Chat for this term will be on **Tuesday 24 May from 9.10am in Sr Monica's room**. All parents are warmly invited. Come and meet other parents. Please remember to sign-in at the Office first.

FROM THE REC (Religious Education Coordinator)

STA 2016 Religious Education – Prayer Booklets and Prayer Kits

Recently all school families received a small prayer booklet "God is with us". In addition, each class commenced a roster for students to take home a prayer kit overnight. These initiatives are offered as a means of engaging all families with the school's Religious Education goal to improve our knowledge about prayer. Another relevant resource, which students and their families may wish to access from home, is the website 'Understanding Faith'. This Australian source has a wide variety of materials for students including videos and interactive activities. Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta has secured access for all students and their families for 2016. Details for accessing the site are:

<http://understandingfaith.edu.au>

(Select Primary Login)

Username: ceo.parra.1982

Password: 2016.ceo.parra

**We will all improve our knowledge
about prayer**

Mini Vinnies Knitting Tutors Needed

This term the Mini Vinnies student group will be participating in the annual St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal by knitting blanket squares. The Mini Vinnies group meets during Wednesday lunch break (1.20pm – 2.00pm). If you are able to give some time to help students with their knitting please contact Joanne Toohey via the school office. Please note, you will need to have current Working With Children approval. Thank you in anticipation of your support for this social justice activity. **Joanne Toohey, REC**



Sr Monica and Home Visits

"I apologise to families who have returned their letters re home visits and have not yet been visited. I will be unable to do so until Term 3. I am having a full knee replacement next week; this means it will be some weeks before I am able to return to school." **Sr Monica (28/04/2016)**

Since this message was written we have been informed that Sr Monica's operation was successful and that she is recovering well. We look forward to seeing her on her return.

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COMMUNITY NOTICES



COME ALONG AND ENJOY THIS RIDE DAY

FOR KIDS AGED 8-14 OF ALL ABILITIES

Where: Western Sydney University,
Werrington North Campus

Date: 14th May, 2016

Time: 10am-2pm

Entry Fee: \$5- one parent & one rider
\$10- per family

Equipment: bring your own bike or helmet or use one of ours. Tagalong bike available



REGISTRATION BY 29th April, 2016

Call: Gateway 1300 316 746

E: admin@gatewayfamilyservices.org.au

Entry Fee can be paid by direct deposit or cash (to office) or cheque

NB: a parent/guardian must accompany riders
Parking available- site map provided on registration.

For More Information: Kerry or Stephen at Gateway

Gateway Family Services

70 Old Bathurst Rd, East Blaxland

PO Box 3016 East Blaxland 2774

E: admin@gatewayfamilyservices.org.au

W: www.gatewayfamilyservices.org.au

- Bike maintenance tips
- Training & tips for riders
- Displays & resources
- Prizes for all entrants
- Lunch provided with Entry Fee



Discover – Self-discovery weekend for Young Women (18-35): 13 – 15 May

A self-knowledge weekend on identity and personality, dignity, womanhood, personal ideal, vocation and mission. Contact Sr Julie via email: juliebrcar@gmail.com or call 0408 7380334 - Mount Schoenstatt Spirituality Centre, 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa.

FAMILY ACTIVITY AFTERNOON at St Canices, Katoomba

On Saturday 21 May, 2016 our parish is hosting a 'Family Day' and BBQ lunch in the church hall at St Canices, Katoomba (behind the church). You are invited to bring your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews & friends - everyone is welcome! Our day will start with a BBQ lunch at 1pm, then from 2pm-5pm the Sisters from the Leaven of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Oath Brothers (Oblate Apostles of the Two Hearts) will provide activities and catechists for all children. Our Theme of the Day is Mother Mary. There will also be a talk for the adults to enjoy.

Please join us as we learn more about our Catholic Faith, while having fun watching a live puppet show and enjoying games and activities that will help our young ones appreciate their faith. For more details please contact Jacaue Harsh on 0405 600 155.

FREE TENNIS DAY



WINMALEE TENNIS CLUB
SUMMERHAYES PARK, WINMALEE
Sunday 22nd May
10.00am to 2.00pm

Prize Giveaways Raffle* BBQ*
Ball Machine Hit the Target
Coaching Free Play Hot Shots
Devonshire Tea* Face Painting*

* Small Fee for Breast Cancer Network Australia Fundraising



Winmalee Tennis Club welcomes everyone from Kids to Adults so bring your friends, your family and the neighbours!

For More Information contact 4754 1586 or 0418 432 974
email: winmaleetennisclub@hotmail.com

Winmalee Tennis Club
In conjunction with Blue Mountains Tennis Association



PENRITH OBSERVATORY: Astronomy Night – Dr Jill Rathborne: Saturday 14 May 2016 (7.00 pm – 9.00 pm)

The evening will include a presentation from our guest speaker Dr Jill Rathborne, a 3D astronomy movie, a tour or the dome area and an opportunity to view the night sky through the observatory's telescopes. Dr Jill Rathborne is a research scientist with the CSIRO, and is part of the international group that is setting up the Australian part of the most powerful telescope in history in outback Western Australia, the Square Kilometre Array (SKA). **Cost:** \$18 adult, \$12 child/concession and \$50 family. **Bookings are essential:** To book and pay for tickets visit westernsydney.edu.au/observatory

Ubuntu: The African Children's Choir High School Graduate Tour

The African Children's Choir (ACC) is coming back to the Blue Mountains and Penrith — this time with Ubuntu, a troupe of gifted high school graduates, presented by the charity Kwaya Australia. The ACC educates some of the poorest children in Africa to university level, helping them break the cycle of poverty and become leaders in their communities. See africanchildrenschoir.com. **Drum and dance workshop:** Lawson Public School, Adelaide Street, Lawson. Wednesday, May 18, 7.30pm. Adult \$18, child under 16/concession \$12, family (two adults and two children) \$48. **Katoomba concert:** Katoomba High School, Martin Street, Katoomba. Thursday, May 19, 7.30pm. **Springwood district concert:** Springwood High School, Grose Road, Faulconbridge. Friday, May 20, 7.30pm. **Penrith district concert:** Nepean Creative and Performing Arts High School, 115 Great Western Highway, Emu Plains. Saturday, May 21, 7.30pm. **Blue Mountains and Penrith concert tickets:** Adult \$20, concession \$15, child under 16, \$12, family \$50. **Book at** www.kwaya.org. **Inquiries:** Brendan O'Reilly, phone 0437 347 657.

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Parking Matters

Parents are reminded that the **'kiss and drop' zone** in the church driveway is to be used as a **drop-off point only** and therefore is a **no parking zone at all times**. If a parent wishes to park and walk their child, they must use the marked parking spaces in the church car park. Similarly, there should be no cars waiting in this drop-off zone in the afternoon to pick-up a child. Whilst it is a safety issue, it also causes lengthy traffic delays along the church driveway.

Students must not be walking unaccompanied to the church car park or any other area on the parish site. All children should be collected in person and accompanied and supervised closely by parents/guardians to motor vehicles. The practice of having children wait for parents on kerbs adjacent to the car park is also potentially dangerous.

THIS IS A SAFETY ISSUE – THERE IS A HIGH VOLUME OF PEDESTRIAN AND VEHICLE TRAFFIC IN THE AFTERNOON.

Whilst this may be slightly inconvenient, it is far better than jeopardising the safety and well-being of people. Thank you for your support with this matter.

PARISH NEWS

Parish Family Groups

The local Springwood STA parish is establishing a new Family Group on 22 May. Family Groups exist to assist people in the Catholic community to get to know one another better - something we are encouraged to do in the Gospels! A Family Group gets together every now and again in low cost or no cost outings that group members organise! **Come along to the Parish Church at 10:30am on Sunday 22 May if interested.** All enquiries to Dennis Farrar on 0425 209 840.

Electronic Devices and School

Families are reminded that electronic devices should not be brought to school. This is for cyber-safety and to avoid devices being lost or stolen.

DIARY DATES

2016 TERM 2 Week 3	Wednesday 11 May	Year 6 Camp 8.30-11.00am School Band 8.30am Staff Briefing NAPLAN Tests for Years 3 & 5
	12	Year 6 Camp NAPLAN Tests for Years 3 & 5
	13	Year 6 Camp NAPLAN Tests for Years 3 & 5 (catch up) Year 5 Excursion to Riverside Theatre - <i>The Peasant Prince</i>
Week 4	Monday 16 May	School Band 12.30pm Pentecost Liturgy 3.40pm Leadership Meeting
	17	3.40pm Staff Meeting
	18	8.30-11.00am School Band 8.30am Staff Briefing 9.15am Open Day Tour 9.20am Parish Mass – Year 4 & K6A attending
	19	8.30am Staff Prayer 9.15am Open Day Tour
	20	Mini Olympics
Week 5	Monday 23 May	School Band 12.30pm Assembly – 6C presenting 3.40pm Leadership Meeting
	24	9.05am Cuppa & Chat <i>Captivate Choir</i> Rehearsal 2.15pm Open Day Tour 3.40pm Staff Meeting
	25	8.30-11.00am School Band 8.30am Grade Meetings 9.20am Parish Mass – Year 1 attending
	26	8.30am Staff Prayer Stage 3 Girls Soccer – selected students
	27	9.15am Open Day Tour 2.15pm Open Day Tour

Sent Home Recently:

- Camp Checklist for Year 6
- *The Peasant Prince* Excursion Permission note for Year 5
- Term 2 Parent Calendar (on Skoolbag app)
- Chess Excursion Permission note (Mt Riverview) - selected students
- Chess Excursion Permission note (Werrington) - selected students



Scan with your smartphone or tablet for more information.

www.staspringwood.catholic.edu.au

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