

# UPDATE

No. 3 Date 02/05/14 Week 1 Term 2

Welcome back for Term 2! A special welcome to all our new families.



***Autumn Fair, Autumn Fair,  
Everybody in town'll be there.  
So come on to the STA Autumn Fair.***  
(Chorus: STA Autumn Fair Song)

The Day has almost arrived! One more sleep! Tomorrow we open our school and welcome each other and other families in our local community to the STA Autumn Fair. We do this with a real sense of hospitality, fun and purpose. The Autumn Fair is a wonderful demonstration of the amazing good will, generosity and service that exemplifies this community.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to everyone for your dedication and hard work. It's worth remembering that amongst all the work, thought and activity generated by the Autumn Fair that the children see it as a very special event in their lives and it's occurring in their school! I have been reminded constantly about this over the course of the week as I have been chatting with them.

We pray for fine weather and a wonderful Autumn Fair – a chance to connect, chat and enjoy each other's company. Thank you again for your hard work and generosity of spirit.

**Committee:** Sonya Leehy – 0400 641 274; Holly Murphy – 0414 617 586; Kim Down – 0403 325 188

## ANZAC Day

Last Friday more than 90 of our students attended the ANZAC Day March and Wreath-Laying Service in Springwood. As always our students look smartly-dressed with many wearing medals honouring family members.

ANZAC Day is not a day to glorify war, but rather seeks in some way to raise our minds and hearts to the service of many who have given themselves selflessly for us. This is the same example demonstrated by Christ as he washed his disciples' feet, the same example he gave to us on the cross at Calvary. May we always recognise, support and remember those who over the years have defended our freedoms and way of life.

Thank you to all the members of the Student Representative Council who led the school contingent and laid the wreath, the students from right across the school who marched, many for the first time, and to the families who encouraged them to attend.

*“...for it is in giving that we receive, and it is in service to others that we become more like Christ. Amen.”*

## Royal Couple Visit Winmalee

As you would no doubt be aware, during the recent holiday break the Blue Mountains received a brief visit by the Royal couple, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. During their time visiting Winmalee they attended a luncheon and tree planting function hosted by the RFS at the Girl Guide Hall.

During the luncheon, the Duke and Duchess spent time at each table. I was fortunate enough to spend a generous amount of time speaking with the Duchess at our table, which included Mayor of the Blue Mountains, Mark Greenhill, Deputy Mayor Brendan Luchetti (also teacher at McCarthy) as well as our State and Federal members of Parliament. During our conversation, the Duchess showed great interest in the school, asking particularly about the students and teachers and concerned about the events of the bush fire day last October.

The Duchess also spent time speaking with the 3 high school student representatives, including Madeleine Delany from St Columba's. Once again, the Royal couple were able to relate on a personal level to these students, chatting with them in a relaxed and engaging manner.

At the end of our conversation I thanked the Royals for their generosity in visiting the Blue Mountains at this time and in showing practical support for the local community, particularly for the young people. **Serge Rosato, Principal**



**STA Girl Guides**



**ST THOMAS AQUINAS  
NEWS**

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Parish Priest:  
Father Paul Slyney  
p: 02 4754 1052

*Love one another*

## Student Awards

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



Larissa An U	Cem Damarguc	Eve Hurley	Taya Moore	Steffani Sroczynski
Breanna Banks	Penelope Edmonds	Kayla Hurley	Cameron Morris	Antonio Todarello
Montana Barry	Summer Faulkner	Brianna Leehy	Kiera Natter	Alayna Williamson
Elysia Burchall	Kate Harrison	Ella Maurer	Abby Oag	Tahlia Woolley
Brianna Collins	Eadi Hazell	Bella McSpadden	Jordan Pagitz	Alex Young
Mitchell Crouch	Henry Hinchliff	Dylan Mitchell	Mia Rodemark	Benedict Zierholz
Sienna Curley				

## Diocesan Cross Country

Congratulations to the following students who were successful in gaining a place at our school Cross Country (held last term). These students will now go on to compete at the Parramatta Diocesan Cross Country, to be held next Tuesday, 6 May, at Eastern Creek Raceway. We wish you all the best!

Jackson Bagatella	Jessica Ellis	Chiara Hill	Cameron Morris	Daniel Salisbury
Riley Barglik	Peter Ellis	Katelyn Jones	Ethan Muller	Micah Segedin
Mollie Bauerhuit	Gabriel Esquivel	Molly Jones	Liam Murhpy	Hayli Shiels
Patrick Bourke	Bethany Evans	Ethan Jordan	Mitchell Owen	Jorja Teuma
Thea Breytenbach	Tia Foley	Hayley Jordan	Molly Peake	Benjamin Tracey
Aliyah Brown	Tom Gawthorne	Caitlin Leach	Tom Peake	Isaac Wardle
Charlotte Brown	Abbey Gomez	Bridget Lloyd-Williams	Zoe Peters	Ellie Watson
Michael Christof	Xavier Gonzalez	Zoe Long	Anna Porter	Harry Watson
Patrick Costigan	Luca Goudis	Jake McSpadden	Emma Pospischil	Cameron Winfield
Nathan Della-Libera	Owen Harris	Grace Miller	Georgie Purcell	

## NAPLAN Testing for Years 3 & 5

These tests will be held in Week 3 this term as follows:

**Tuesday 13 May** – Language Conventions and Writing tests

**Wednesday 14 May** – Reading test

**Thursday 15 May** – Numeracy test

**Friday 16 May** – Catch-up tests

**Save the date:**  
**STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY**  
**Tuesday 10 June**  
***This day will be pupil free.***

## DIARY DATES

<b>2014</b> <b>TERM 2</b> <b>Week 2</b>	<b>Monday 5 May</b>	9.05am Cuppa & Chat 12.30pm Assembly – 1N presenting 3.40pm Leadership Meeting
	<b>6</b>	Diocesan Cross Country at Eastern Creek – selected students 3.40pm Staff Meeting
	<b>7</b>	8.30am Staff Briefing 9.20am Parish Mass – Year 6 and Kindergarten attending 1.20pm Ensemble practice at St Columba's
	<b>8</b>	8.30am Staff Prayer
	<b>9</b>	<b>9.30-10.30am Open Day Tours</b> <b>2.15-3.00pm Open Day Tours</b>
<b>Week 3</b>	<b>Monday 12 May</b>	Year 6 Camp 12.30pm Assembly
	<b>13</b>	Year 6 Camp NAPLAN Testing 3.40pm Staff Meeting
	<b>14</b>	Year 6 Camp NAPLAN Testing 9.20am Parish Mass – Year 1 attending
	<b>15</b>	8.30am Staff Prayer NAPLAN Testing
	<b>16</b>	NAPLAN Testing (catch-up) Drama Sessions (K-2) <b>9.30-10.30am Open Day Tours</b> <b>2.15-3.00pm Open Day Tours</b>

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

**Moving on Strong and Helping Children by Returning to Play – Bushfire Recovery Initiative:** Prepared by child consultant Barry Palm, this initiative is designed as a guide for teachers and childcare staff to support children after the bushfires. Topics covered include: Knowing of and recognising trauma and grief in children; Relationships and Recovery: Listening to children; Behaviour is a child's language; Understanding children's behaviour to give attuned communication; Drawing and insights into the inner world of children. Held **Wednesday 7 May from 3.00pm-5.00pm** at **Mt Victoria Public School Library**. Afternoon tea provided. Bookings essential. RSVP: Phone Blackheath Area Neighbourhood Centre on 4787 7770.

**Springwood East Timor Support Group Trivia Night:** **Saturday 17 May from 7.00pm for 7.30pm start** at **Springwood Sports Club**, Macquarie Road, Springwood. Join us for an entertaining evening with quizzical moments, laughter, fun and games with a warm community feel. **Tickets \$15, tables of eight.** Tickets available from Pam Gorman – Phone: 4754 1160 or email: [timortrivia@gmail.com](mailto:timortrivia@gmail.com)

**Sent Home Recently:** • Diocesan Cross Country Permission Note – selected students

- Autumn Fair More Helpers Request (gold)

*love one another*