

# NEWSLETTER

No. 4 Date 11/04/13 Week 11 Term 1

Dear St Thomas Aquinas Families,

As the first term of this school year draws to a close we would like to thank you for your ongoing support, hard work and good will as we work together as co educators of your child.

We commenced our school year with two touchstones in mind. The first of these is how can we better live out our school motto daily:

## **How can I make a positive difference in what I say and what I do?**

The second touchstone is an acknowledgement of the many and varied God-given talents, passions and gifts that each child has and the need for our educational endeavours to spark and develop these holistically in each student.

## **It's not how smart you are – It's how you are smart.**

It's worth noting a few of the events and educational experiences that have taken place thus far this year and to celebrate these opportunities.

These include:

School swimming carnival, drama classes by an actor for Grades 5 & 6, filming of promotional video at STA, numeracy training for staff, Ash Wednesday liturgy, Principal's Morning Teas for Effort in Learning, Autumn Fair planning, mufli days, Meet-the-Teacher evenings, Nepean Zone & Diocesan Swimming carnivals, school band commenced, junior and senior school choirs, Foundation Day parade/float and choir performance, weekly Assemblies, SRC Induction Ceremony, Aspect Art Show, Italian Bocce competition, school singing practice, Early Years Assessment testing, Holy Week liturgies – Palm Sunday, Last Supper, Crucifixion, At The Tomb & Resurrection, Italian, music, library & physical education lessons (weekly), school Cross Country, Parish Masses, Girls' Soccer, Touch Football, Kindy Fun Run and hat day, cuppa & chat, Kinder/Year 6 buddies, Mini Vinnies group (social justice group), Reading Buddies program, Chess Club .....not to mention all the varied and engaging learning and teaching in classes throughout the school.

We look forward to a great term ahead – wishing all a safe and happy term break.

God Bless,

*Rosato*

Sergio Rosato  
Principal

## **STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY – MONDAY 29 April (Week 1 Term 2)**

Parents please note that the **first day of Term 2 will be Pupil Free** as the staff will be using the day for Curriculum Planning. Therefore, **students will commence Term 2 on Tuesday 30 April.**



### **Principal's Morning Tea**

Yesterday we hosted the second morning tea for the term acknowledging student effort in learning. The 40 students nominated by their teachers joined Mr Rosato for a special morning tea. Each of the students nominated is congratulated for their dedicated and consistent effort.

Breanna Banks  
Lukas Banks  
Mackenzie Barglik  
Nicholas Boere  
Lily Brosnan  
Mia Cini  
Grace Costigan  
Texas Down  
Elizabeth Duncan  
Samuel Edwards  
Peter Ellis  
Annabel French  
Jack Fuge  
James Galluzzi  
Caitlin Graham  
Amber Lovric  
Aemon Marshall  
Emily McMaster

Jake McSpadden  
Grace Miller  
Sophie Milsom  
Kiera Natter  
Matthew Nutland

Tommy Okladnikov  
Ellie Penserini  
Anna Porter  
William Rogers  
Grace Sato

Lucas Sawyer  
Lachlan Steadman  
William Turner  
Justin Williams  
Ryan Woods



*Love one another*



## **ST THOMAS AQUINAS NEWS**

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Springwood 2777  
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w: [www.staspringwood.catholic.edu.au](http://www.staspringwood.catholic.edu.au)

Parish Priest:  
Father Paul Slyney  
p: 02 4754 1052

## FROM THE REC (Religious Education Coordinator)

### Praying the Angelus

Over 43,000 students and 4,500 staff in Catholic schools as well as Catholic Education Office and Chancery staff in the Diocese of Parramatta will pray the Angelus each day to join in the beautiful tradition of prayer as a sign of 'unity, reverence and dignity'. Bishop Anthony Fisher OP said 'While the Angelus will only take a few minutes to pray each day, it is an important reminder that there is more to life, much more, than the toil of everyday routines.'

The Angelus is a simple prayer recalling the Incarnation - the gift of God's Son - and dates back to the 12th Century with St Anthony of Padua encouraging the practice of reciting the Hail Mary three times a day. It was in the 16th century that the form of the Angelus known today with the ringing of the bells was fixed. The ringing of the bells is more than a call to prayer, they represent the prayer itself. Three bells ring throughout each of the three verses with nine bells throughout the final prayer.

Therefore, our school will pause to pray the Angelus each day just prior to lunch (approx. 1.15pm). The teachers will spend time with the students familiarising them with this prayer. If you are in our school at this time, for example: assisting in the classroom, you are welcome to join us in prayer. **Coley White**

#### The Angelus

**V** The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.

**R** And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

*Hail Mary, full of grace,*

*The Lord is with thee.*

*Blessed art thou among women*

*And Blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.*

*Holy Mary, Mother of God,*

*Pray for us sinners now*

*And at the hour of our death.*

**V** Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

**R** Be it done unto me according to thy word. (Hail Mary...)

**V** And the Word was made Flesh.

**R** And dwelt among us. (Hail Mary...)

**V** Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.

**R** That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

#### LET US PRAY

*Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts;*

*That, we to whom the Incarnation of Christ,*

*Thy Son, was made known by the message of an Angel,*

*May by His Passion and Cross, be brought to the glory of His Resurrection.*

*Through the same Christ our Lord.*

*Amen.*



Scan with your smartphone or tablet for more information.

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

## ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

### Staff News

#### Robert Mullen

As most would know our Sports Teacher Robert Mullen recently underwent a bone marrow transplant. He is now recovering at home with the help of his wife, Kathy and family and doing very well.

Robert and Kathy wish to pass on their heart-felt gratitude to this community for your ongoing prayers and good wishes.

#### Leukemia Foundation - World's Greatest Shave

In support of Robert and Leukemia research we will be hosting a *World Greatest Shave Event* next term on Tuesday 7 May at 12.30pm in our school hall.

One of Robert Mullen's best friends, Sharon-Anne Marmara and her son have formed a team and will have their head shaved on this day. Families wishing to make a donation to this worthy cause can do so by going to <http://www.worldsgreatestshave.com> and then click sponsor a shaver – type in Sharon-Anne Marmara (her team name is Rob's Rebels). Any support will be much appreciated. A former student Riley Millar will also be joining this shave event and been gaining sponsors as part of another team.

At this stage Robert Mullen has indicated that he is intending to attend this assembly on Tuesday 7 May and support the cause. An invitation is extended to all to attend if you are able.

#### Deborah Orford

Mrs Orford, our Learning Support teacher, is currently on sick leave and undergoing treatment for her illness. We extend our love and support to Deb and wish her a speedy recovery. School families wishing to send cards or messages to Mrs Orford can do so via the school office.

#### Jeanette Noonan

We welcome back Mrs Noonan who is returning from maternity leave next term in a part-time teaching capacity in 1H (2 days per week and 1 day in other areas).

#### Kylie Williamson

Mrs Williamson will be working with the Learning Support team whilst Mrs Orford is on sick leave.

## 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!



Alex Bagatella	Lucy Cunningham	Ebony Kent	Michael Papatotiriou
Jackson Bagatella	Audrey Ellem	Teneka Kime	Ariella Smith
Tobey Barr	Harry Elliott	Benjamin Lewsley	Millie Ticehurst
Makayla Boere	Grace Fowler	Eamonn Luchetti	Dayne Vassallo
Lily Brosnan	Harry Ghata	Chiara Major	Hannah Ward
Georgia Carter	Harry Gilchrist	Kaseko Mgaza	Georgia Weston
Cameron Cassidy	Sasha Grahovac	Grace Miller	Jack Wicks
Oliver Clancy	Amy Harvey	Olivia Mountain	Alfie Williamson
Grace Costigan	Isabel Hill	Kiara Nugent	Chelsea Willingham
Ashley Crighton	Henry Hinchliff	Billie Papatotiriou	Laurence Wynn-Jones
William Crighton	Alana Kenn		

## Student Excursion Medical Forms

Thank you to all those who have already returned their forms. Please return your form to school (even if there are no changes) as soon as possible. Thank you. **Office Staff**



### Italian Forum

Earlier this term the children in Year 4 competed in our annual bocce competition which is part of the cultural component of their Italian studies. It was observed that the children demonstrated a considerable degree of skill for bocce and many of the games were very close.

After many exciting games, our **Bocce Champion** for **2013** was Anna Porter (4B) and the runner-up was Sophia Minale (4B). **Equal third** were Benjamin Williamson (4/3C), Alison Lovric (4/3C), Tia Foley (4N), Lachlan McGrath (4N), Lachlan Maurer (4N), Estelle McLellan (4B) and Caleb Blick (4B).

Many of these children also played in an exhibition match against the teachers this week. **Jenni Wurf, Italian Teacher**

## Annual School Cross Country - 2013

Last week we held our annual school cross-country run. We were blessed with a cool dry day, well suited for running and having fun with friends. It was wonderful to see so many students participating with such enthusiasm and joy – supporting one another, having a go and doing their individual best. We are fortunate as a school to be able to run our cross-country on such a beautiful site enabling parents and other spectators to cheer on the runners. Thank you to our Sports Teacher Ann Gippel, who organised this event. Our gratitude also goes to the parents who helped in various ways on the day.

The 2013 School Cross Country champions are as follows:

<b>12/13yr Boys</b>	Tommy Okladikov	<b>12/13yr Girls</b>	Chiara Major
<b>11yr Boys</b>	Michael Christof	<b>11yr Girls</b>	Drew Eade
<b>10yr Boys</b>	Owen Harris	<b>10yr Girls</b>	Georgie Purcell
<b>7/8/9yr Boys</b>	Riley Barglik	<b>7/8/9yr Girls</b>	Olivia De La Harpe

These along with approximately 40 other students will go on to compete at the Zone Cross Country next term. Congratulations and best wishes to you all at Zone.

## Kindergarten 2014 – Enrolment Period Now Open

Enrolments for Kindergarten are now open – please advise family and friends of this fact. Enrolment packs are available from the school office. The official enrolment period for Kindy closes on Friday 31 May. Late enrolment will be considered based on availability of places.

As in recent years there will be guided tours of the school conducted by the Principal and Assistant Principal for families seeking enrolment. This year these tours will take place on the following days:

<b>Friday 10 May: 9.30am &amp; 2.15pm</b>	<b>Thursday 23 May: 9.30am</b>
<b>Friday 17 May: 9.30am</b>	<b>Tuesday 28 May: 9.30am</b>
<b>Tuesday 21 May: 2.15pm</b>	<b>Thursday 30 May: 9.30am &amp; 2.15pm</b>
<b>Wednesday 22 May: 9.30am &amp; 2.15pm</b>	

These school guided tours will commence from the school office

## AFL Clinics

These clinics will be held at the school in Term 2. The clinics run for 6 weeks and will be held after school. The total cost is \$45. More information will be sent home soon.

## ANZAC Day March & Wreath-Laying Ceremony 2013

A reminder to all our families that our school will be participating in the march and wreath laying ceremony at this year's Springwood ANZAC Day.

All students who wish to participate are asked to **meet Mr Rosato and Mrs Llewellyn at the Springwood Fire Station at 10.00am on the day**. The march will then proceed to the Memorial in Buckland Park, where a service will follow. Students are asked to wear full **winter** uniform, including school hats.

## Summer to Winter Uniform Changeover

A reminder to parents and carers that students are to wear Winter Uniform when school resumes for Term 2. Students wear Winter uniform for both Terms 2 & 3. For further details regarding uniforms please refer to the Parent Handbook located on the school web site.

*Love one another*

## St Thomas Aquinas Autumn Fair – Saturday 4 May 2013

Preparations are slowly coming together for the big day! Thank you to all those who have so generously donated items so far. We now ask that any **craft items** (finished or unfinished) please be returned to the school as soon as possible. For more information phone Kim on 0403 325 188.



Please note that families can now book online to assist on various stalls. This can be done via <http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au> **The event code is MYHJR**

Remember the Autumn Fair is only 3 weeks away! We need everyone's help to make it a success.

### Reminders:

- **Autumn Fair Mufti Day TOMORROW – Friday 12 April.** Children come dressed as an animal and bring a gold coin.
- **Cake Decorating Competition entries due TOMORROW.**
- **Show bag collating TOMORROW – volunteers needed.**

### Lost Property

As we approach the end of the term we ask parents to please check the lost property box for any items your child may have lost at the school over the past few weeks. Smaller items of jewellery and toys may also have been handed into the office during the term.



### DIARY DATES

<b>2013</b> <b>TERM 1</b> <b>Week 11</b>	<b>Friday 12 April</b>	Stage 3 Touch Football – selected students Autumn Fair Mufti Day  <b>Term 1 Concludes</b>
<b>TERM 2</b>	<b>Monday 29 April</b>	<b>STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY – Pupil Free</b>
	<b>Tuesday 30</b>	Term 2 Commences for students 3.40pm Staff Meeting 5.00pm Autumn Fair Walk-around Meeting
	<b>1 May</b>	9.30am Parish Mass – Year 2 attending Greg Alexander Rugby League Competition – selected students
	<b>2</b>	Lolly wrapping for Autumn Fair
	<b>3</b>	
<b>Saturday 4 May</b>		<b>AUTUMN FAIR</b>

### DATES TO REMEMBER:

**NAPLAN Testing for Years 3 & 5 from 14 – 17 May**  
**Pupil Free Day – Tuesday 11 June (day after Long Weekend)**  
**School Photos - Wednesday 7 August**  
**Grandparents Day - Friday 13 September**

### COMMUNITY NEWS

**Pudding Day at Norman Lindsay Gallery:** These school holidays, **Sunday 14 April, 10.00am – 4.00pm.** Come and celebrate Children's Literature in the home of the Magic Pudding. The day will include talks and workshops, book signings, prizes for the best costumes, face painting, games and entertainment, plenty of food and a Pudding Hunt! Join Emily Rodda, John Marsden, Cartoon Dave and Laurie Forth plus those sneaky Puddin Thieves for a day of family fun! Tickets: \$15 each (or \$50 for any group of 4). Norman Lindsay Gallery, 14 Norman Lindsay Crescent, Faulconbridge. Bookings: 4784 3832 (Gifts 'n' Things). Program available at: [www.normanlindsay.com.au](http://www.normanlindsay.com.au)

**Nepean Hockey Association School Holiday Hockey Clinics:** For children aged 5-12 years these clinics are run by qualified Hockey NSW staff and are based around fun and giving participants a chance to learn new skills through a series of games in a safe environment. Held **23 and 24 April (registrations close 19 April)** at **Nepean Hockey Complex, O'Connell Street, Kingswood**, from **2.00pm-5.00pm** both days. **Cost: \$75 per child** (includes Hockey Pack), **\$50 without pack.** **Children need to bring mouth guard, hockey stick, shin guards, 2 water bottles and snacks** (if you do not have your own hockey stick and shin guards we will provide them for you on the day). Hockey Pack includes: T-shirt, Pop-up Goal, Medal and Hockey Australia DVD.

**Anzac Day Family Day:** Josh's Bistro, located within the Springwood Country Club (golf club) will be holding this family day on **Thursday 25 April from 11.00am – 3.00pm.** Activities include an octopus jumping castle, craft tables and a lucky dip for the kids. Enjoy lunch at the Bistro while watching the kids have fun with all the activities. All kids meals come with a lolly bag. In the event of wet weather, activities will be held in the function room. Bookings not essential, but to secure a table please phone Josh's Bistro on 0413 811 056.

### Sent Home Recently:

- Medical Permission Reminder note – selected students
- Autumn Fair Volunteer Online Booking Information sheet
- Autumn Fair Face Painting note to Years 5 & 6 (brown)
- Premier's Reading Challenge note – Yrs K-2 (lilac)
- Premier's Reading Challenge note – Yrs 3-6 (purple)
- Kindergarten Fun Run note (pink)
- Autumn Fair News No. 7 (brown)
- Senior Choir Autumn Fair note (mauve)
- Junior Choir Autumn Fair note (green)
- ANZAC Day March note

*Love one another*

