

NEWSLETTER

Week 2 Term 2 – 29/04/2021

Welcome Back!

Welcome back to Term 2 to all our students and families. A special welcome to two new families who joined our school community this term - Kelsey in Year 2 and Sophie in Year 5. We also welcome Mrs Toni-Maree Costigan who has joined our Diversity teaching team. Mrs Costigan will be working with our Kindergarten to Year 2 students and teachers.

Mrs Dianne Khalifeh, who is currently one of our Diversity teachers, will be on leave throughout Term 2 due to health issues. We keep Mrs Khalifeh in our prayers and look forward to her return in Term 3.

I hope that all our students, families and staff were able to enjoy the lovely weather that we were blessed with throughout the holidays and had an opportunity to spend time with family and friends.

Kindergarten Enrolment 2022

This term we have commenced our 2022 Kindergarten interviews of both siblings and new families. It has been a wonderful opportunity for our visitors to take a tour of the school and observe the students engaged in quality learning tasks. The 2022 Kindergarten students have been very excited about their visit and are looking forward to returning for Orientation later in the year.

If you are enrolling your child into Kindergarten in 2022 or have a family friend who is interested in enrolling into St Thomas Aquinas, please contact the school office on (02) 4723 3800 for an application form as soon as possible.

Applications are also being taken for Grades 1-6 for 2022.



St Thomas Aquinas Primary Springwood
Enrol now for 2022 Call for a personalised tour

Mothers' Day Stall - Wednesday 5 May (Week 3)



Our students will have the opportunity to purchase something for that special mother figure in their lives at our upcoming Mothers' Day Stall on Wednesday 5 May. **Gifts range from \$2 - \$10 each.** The Mothers' Day Stall is a **cashless** stall and orders must be **prepaid by Monday 3 May. Payments can be made on the Qkr! app.** Students will be given a token with the value of the payment to take to the stall to select their gifts.

Please remember to pack a **reusable bag** for students to take their gifts home. If any student is absent, the stall will be available during lunchtime on Thursday 6 May.

Helpers: If you are able to spare some time on the day **from 9am to 1.30pm** to help run the stall it would be really appreciated. Please contact the office to put your name down.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY - TERM 2 (Week 7)
Monday 31 May 2021
(Pupil Free Day - students do not attend school)

SPORTS NEWS

School Cross Country - Kindergarten to Year 6

After two failed attempts due to poor weather conditions, our school Cross Country for 2021 finally took place on Wednesday 21 April! The day was wonderful and sunny, not too hot and perfect conditions for running. Our students came dressed in a variety of house colours and this rainbow of students was full of excitement and brought it to the starting line at each and every race. There were some great achievements that took place on the day with many of our students showing their will to exceed their personal best.

Our **top six place winners** in each age group will compete in the Parramatta Diocesan Carnival on Tuesday 4 May at the Sydney Motor Sport Park at Eastern Creek and each participant will now be allowed one parent/carer as spectator. We wish all of these students the very best of luck on the day and look forward to hearing about their results.

Place	8/9 Years Boys	8/9 Years Girls	10 Years Boys	10 Years Girls
1 st	Jack Blattman	Olivia Morgan	Leo Donahue	Violet Baker
2 nd	James Hicks	Amelie Hucknall	Lincoln Croft	Mia Withers
3 rd	Tyler Davies	Poppy Jenkins	Xavier Curley	Sophia Mangon
4 th	Lennix McSpadden	Claire Thomas	Darcy Ryan	Lillian Borg
5 th	Cooper Daniel	Stella Donahue	Alfie Cook	Elyse Peat
6 th	Romeo Siciliano	Indyana Duffy	Ryder Lopez	Lila Hagelburg
Place	11 Years Boys	11 Years Girls	12/13 Years Boys	12/13 Years Girls
1 st	Eli Schroeder	Chloe Blattman	Ben Gomez	Ruanii Claudino
2 nd	Tom Withers	Jessica Sharp	Brydan McLeod	Sophia Cantwell
3 rd	Dylan Cantwell	Emily Daw	Cisco Borberly	Sienna Mathew
4 th	Thomas Jenkins	Ava Tallon	Angus Wills	Annalise Lia
5 th	Hugo Koutsonikolis	Charlotte Priest	Harvey Jones	Grace O'Brien
6 th	Liam Costigan	Bonnie Butler	Oliver Toth	N/A



Girls AFL

Congratulations to an excited Madeline Blacklock of 5P who was selected to represent the Metropolitan West team at the NSW Girls 12 Years & Under AFL Primary All-Schools Trials. Madeline will compete on Friday 7 May at the Blacktown International Sports Park in Rooty Hill and we wish her all the best. Well done Madeline and we are all excited for you too.

MacKillop Trials Selection – Congratulations

Boys Rugby Union

Congratulations to Owen Croft, Year 6, who was chosen to represent the Parramatta Diocese team at the MacKillop Rugby Union Trials. He will travel to Forbes to compete on the 20 and 21 June. This is such a great outcome and we wish Owen the very best when he travels to compete in this event. Great effort Owen!

Touch Football

Congratulations to Sienna Mathew of 6C, Bella Ticehurst of 5L and Luke Clunes of 6C who were selected to be part of the MacKillop team for touch football earlier this week. These talented students will represent the Parramatta Diocesan at the MacKillop trial held at The Kingsway, St Marys on 28 May 2021. We wish all these students the very best of luck and can't wait to hear more from you all.

2021 ANZAC Day Prayer Service

On Monday 26 April our Student Representative Council lead the St Thomas Aquinas School Community in commemorating ANZAC day with a prayer service.



*They shall grow not old,
as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them,
nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun
and in the morning
we shall remember them.
We shall remember them.
Lest we forget! Lest we forget!*



Winter Uniform - Term 2

Parents are reminded that all students are to wear their **full winter uniform** by **NEXT MONDAY, 3 May 2021 (Week 3)**. Please refer to our Parent Handbook for uniform details. The winter uniform is available from **The School Locker** online at: <https://theschoollocker.com.au/schools/st-thomas-aquinas-primary-school>

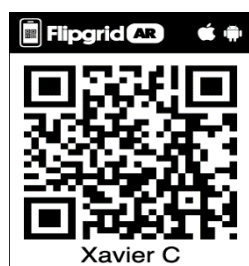
NAPLAN

NAPLAN is a point-in-time assessment that assesses students' literacy and numeracy skills in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. The tests are constructed to give students an opportunity to demonstrate skills they have learnt over time through the school curriculum. It also allows parents or carers to see how their child is progressing in literacy and numeracy against the national standard and compared with their peers throughout Australia. At the classroom level, NAPLAN provides additional information to support teachers' professional judgement about student progress.

NAPLAN tests will occur across the testing window from **Tuesday 11 May to Friday 21 May**. As it is an **online** format, where parts of the test have audio output, it is essential that all children have **working headphones** for each day of the test. The children will also be reminded of this by their class teacher.

Digital Technologies in Year 4

This term, Year 4 will be engaging in some new learning around algorithms and the importance of algorithms being specific when creating apps in their Digital Technologies unit. Last week they tested their algorithms on 'Robot Espiritu' and discovered that making a vegemite sandwich isn't always that easy! Have a look at some of their reflections about their new learnings around algorithms. We look forward to sharing their new learnings over the coming weeks.



Year 5 Pioneer Village Excursion

On Tuesday 20 April the Year 5 students went on an excursion to the Australiana Pioneer Village, Wilberforce. We learned about how Australians lived in the 1800's. Our main objective was: "How does Australia's colonial past shape our present and direct our future?" There were many different aspects of colonial life that the students learned about.



Blacksmith-

Inside the Blacksmith's shed, we saw how the blacksmith used an open fire source called a forge and an anvil to shape the metal that was used to create tools and cutlery for the town. We learned that the blacksmiths were very important to villages because they were in charge of the town's supply of tools and cutlery.

School-

Many children couldn't afford education, but the children who did were taught quite differently compared to now. They would be struck with a cane if they were being disobedient, had incorrect spelling, they were talking or laughing in class, having messy work, or writing with their left hand because it would smudge the ink! The subjects were also quite different- Maths was called Arithmetic and Science was called Nature Study. The school was a replica of the original

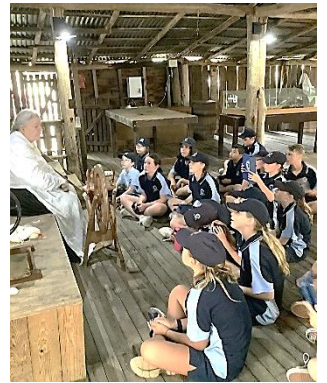
"Marsden Park Public School" from 1889. It started with 10 students (5 boys and 5 girls) but grew to 40 students.

Church-

It was very important to go to church because that was where people socialised. Back then people were very isolated and that was the only time they could see each other. Saturday was also bath night, because the next day they would go to church and they wanted to smell nice.

Shearing Shed-

The shearing shed was important for the village because it supplied most of their wool, cotton and clothing. The workers (men) would start working as soon as they woke up until it became dark. Back then they did not have electricity so that's why they had to stop at the point that could not see. They had a large scissor-like tool to shear the sheep. When a worker was hungry a small boy would come



with food to feed him. The girls and the women would work on the drop spindle, feeding strand by strand through the spindle until it became a thread.

Laundry-

The women would make their own soap, and it would take a long time. They would mix rainwater and ash to make a mixture called Lye, then mix that with meat fat. It would take a long time to make. You would have to go through a lot of boiling and mixing, then have it dry in the sun in a soap mould. The women would then have to scrub all the clothes on a small grate-like tool and would then hang them up to dry.

Churning Butter-

Since there were no shops back then, you had to get all your supplies manually. We learnt about the process of making butter. First you needed to collect cream and salt. Next you needed to put them in a churning bucket and churn them for 2 hours. Wait a bit and you have butter.

Tractor Ride-

The tractor ride was an entertaining learning activity. On the tractor ride we learnt about livestock and other medium to large size farm animals. At the start of the ride there were ewes.

A ewe is a female sheep. Some ewes are for breeding, some are for meat and some are for wool. It's the same with rams. A ram is a male sheep. Next we went on to goats and a ram in the paddock to the right. To the left was a donkey, a mule, and a pony. A mule is the offspring of a horse and a donkey. One fact about a mule is that they cannot breed themselves.



Cottages-

The cottages back then were very small, as it would take a long time to build a bigger house. They mostly had one bedroom and another room that would be used for many purposes, like a dining room, a kitchen, a bathroom, a pantry, and much more. The girls would sleep on the floor in the main room and the rest would sleep in the bedroom. Also - the eldest boy had to empty out the chamber pots in the morning - ew!

Year 5 learned a lot about life in the 1800's from this amazing trip and it has helped unpack our main objective: "How does Australia's colonial past shape and direct our future?" The educators at the village really made it an amazing and real experience and we are grateful for the opportunity to go there.

By Dylan Cantwell, Madeleine Devitt and Nicholas Koulouris from Year 5

2021 School Photos – Save the Date

Our 2021 School Photo Day will be held later this term on **Wednesday 26 May (Week 6)**. Students will need to **wear their full winter school uniform**. Further information and ordering details will be sent home shortly.



Assemblies

Parents will be invited to attend assemblies this term. More information to follow regarding dates and restrictions.

Book Club

The first Book Club for Term 2 has been given out to the students. All orders are **due by Monday 10 May** via the loop at www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2021 TERM 2	Week 3	Tuesday 4 May	Primary Diocesan Cross Country – selected students
	WINTER UNIFORM	Wednesday 5 May	Mothers' Day Stall – helpers from 9am – 1.30pm
	Week 4 & Week 5	Tuesday 11 May to Friday 21 May	2021 NAPLAN for Years 3 and 5
	Week 6	Wednesday 26 May	SCHOOL PHOTOS – Winter Uniform – information to follow
	Week 7	Monday 31 May	Staff Development Day (PUPIL FREE)
	Week 8	Wednesday 9 June To Friday 11 June	Year 6 Camp
	Week 10	Friday 25 June	Last Day of Term 2

For Your Information

SPRINGWOOD UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB INC.

"united in sport, uniting the community"

Football4All

SUFC Lyrebirds Team

An inclusive soccer program for children with special needs

- 10 weeks of soccer fun.
- Structured, flexible program of skills, drills and game play.
- Based on Football Australia's KickOff program.
- Run by our dedicated facilitator, **Chris Pyne**, member of the **Australian Paralympic Soccer Team**, the **Pararoos** and experienced local primary school teacher. Chris has experience helping individuals reach their full potential.

Summerhayes Park, Winmalee
SATURDAY 8:30 to 9:30am
MAY 15 - JULY 31, 2021
(no games during the July school holidays)
Open to players 5-16yrs

Register Now @ www.playfootball.com.au

Registration: \$100 per family (registration open all season)
Active Kids Vouchers accepted
Includes Ball, Socks, Shorts
Sausage Sizzle and Drink (after each game)

Contacts and Enquiries:

lyrebirds@springwoodunited.com.au

Club Chairman: Pete Dempsey 0418 182 694



A BETTER START INITIATIVE



2 Upcoming Events:

CARING FOR A CHILD WITH DISABILITY?

Would you like information about the supports available to your child?

Carers NSW is inviting you to a free 'Meet and Greet' workshop for parents and guardians of children with disability or developmental delay aged up to 12 years old.

These workshops provide the opportunity for you to access information about supports for you and your child from a range of local speakers, including:

- ECEI partners (0-6 age group NDIS)
- Local Area Coordinators (7+ age group NDIS)
- Disability Advocacy agency
- NSW Department of Education

You will also have the opportunity to have any NDIS questions answered and to meet other families and share experiences.



EVENT INFORMATION (2021):

WHERE:

Gymea - 15 April
 Liverpool - 27 April
 Ryde - 6 May
 South Coast - 11 May (Online)
 Campbelltown - 25 May
 Grafton - 8 June

RSVP: Registration is essential.
 To register [click here](#).

Venue details will be provided on confirmation of registration.
 A light lunch will be provided.

ENQUIRIES:

P: 02 9280 4744

E: education@carersnsw.org.au

YOUR CHILD'S NDIS PLAN

You are invited to a free info session on how to implement your child's NDIS Plan.

Designed for parents and guardians of children 0-12 with disability or developmental delay who are looking for support with starting or using their child's existing NDIS plan more effectively.

Session topics include:

- Understanding your child's NDIS plan
- How to make changes to the plan
- Plan management
- Self-management tips
- NDIS plan reviews
- Early childhood intervention best practice
- Finding and choosing service providers

If you would like to attend but cannot, please let us know. This will help us to plan future sessions.

2021 EVENTS INFORMATION:

WHEN:

- 17th February: 10.30am - 12pm
- 23rd February: 12pm - 1.30pm
- 10th March: 10.30am – 12pm
- 25th March: 12pm – 1.30pm
- 9th April: 10.30am – 12pm
- 20th April: 12pm – 1.30pm
- 5th May: 10.30am – 12pm
- 20th May: 12pm – 1.30pm
- 4th June: 10.30am – 12pm
- 15th June: 12pm – 1.30pm

WHERE: Online via Zoom

REGISTER:

<https://analytics-au.clickdimensions.com/cn/aosfc/ndisinfo>

CONTACT US: 02 9280 4744
betterstart@carersnsw.org.au