

NEWSLETTER

Dear St Thomas Aquinas Families,

Today brings to conclusion Term 2 and also the first semester of the school year. The ten weeks of Term 2 has provided many notable learning events for students supplementary to their daily curricula learning. These have included:

- Anzac Day March & Wreath Laying Ceremony
- Mother's Day Assembly and Picnic
- Weekly Assembly (various classes presenting)
- Mother's Day Stall
- Easter Liturgy
- Diocesan Cross Country
- Rugby League (Years 3-6)
- Police Cyber Safety Talk (Stage 3 students)
- Principal's Morning Tea
- **Anaphylaxis Training**
- Open Day Tours
- AFL Visit
- NAPLAN Online (Years 3 & 5)
- **School Photos**

Looking back on TERM 2 2019

During this week students, parents and teachers have been meeting to celebrate the individual effort and achievement that students have made with their learning during the First Semester of school. The involvement of students in the Family Learning Conferences is incredibly powerful and beneficial. It helps students to better identify their own learning needs, articulate these in conjunction with their teachers and parents and plan how their future learning will address these needs.

encourages your child to believe that they are indeed unique learners capable of developing their abilities and improving with consistent effort.

Ultimately our shared endeavour as parents and teachers is to help nurture in our students a love of learning that builds resilience through GROWTH.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL - cont'd

2019 STA Colour Run

Inaugural STA Colour Run

One of the highlights of this term was undoubtedly the STA Colour Run. The aim of the Colour Run was to host a day for our community to come together, have fun, be active and raise funds for a school project – playground adventure equipment.



Colour Run - cont'd

By any measure our first Colour Run was amazing! The event was officially opened by our Colour Run mascot, Sven Johansson, who lead the children in the first combined colour release. Following this, each class made their way through the array of exciting inflatables, challenging obstacle course and each of the colour stations manned by parents.

Lunch for the students, staff and helpers was generously provided via the COON cheese truck, which travelled from Victoria to be at STA for the day. To conclude the day of fun and festivities our students were able to relax after lunch down inside the hall with a special movie presentation.

The STA Colour Run has raised approximately \$23K towards our school project. We are currently seeking out tenders for the adventure playground. Thank you to our entire STA community for your overwhelming support. A special note of thanks to Cheree Brown (Colour Run Coordinator), Deb Breytenbach, Paula Mecham and all the happy helpers on the day. We also thank Johann Breytenbach for securing the COON Toasty Sandwich Truck for us free of charge – THANK YOU!

Congratulations to our Colour Run fundraising prize winners, announced at today's assembly:

1st: Ben Gomez, 2nd: Patrick Payens, 3rd: Justin Sykes,

4th: Hunter Stephenson. Winning Class: 4G.

Until next time,

ARosato

Sergio Rosato Principal



Italian Pasta

Last Friday Grades 3 & 4 students walked to St Columba's Catholic College to take part in the Annual Pasta Day as part of their study of Italian. This year Signora Jenni Wurf was able to secure the services of former My Kitchen Rules chefs Monique, Martino and Luciano, to demonstrate making gnocchi. All students were then able to practice making their own gnocchi dish to taste.

Our sincere gratitude to:

- St Columba's College in making their amazing commercial kitchens available on the day for 160 of our students;
- The SCCC Home Economics coordinator, teachers and students who assisted so generously on the day;
- The Principal, Paul Ryan, and the staff of the College for their beautiful hospitality;

The amazing MKR chefs Monique, Martino and Luciano for making the cooking experience so
joyful and engaging for our students.





Principal's Morning Tea for Effort in Learning

On **Tuesday 4 June** and **Friday 5 July**, the following students, nominated by their teachers attended the Principal's Morning Tea for Effort in Learning hosted my Mr Rosato and Ms Smith. Congratulations to each student for your effort, attitude and persistence.



4 June 2019

Logan Ballard
Madeline Blacklock
Asher Bogg
Samantha Bourke
Ysobel Chalice
Elliott Chapman
Liam Costigan
Owen Croft
Sienna Curley
Evelyn Dacey
Ashton Davies
Cameron Dempsey

Joshua Duck
Victor Etherington
Kate Giannakis
Jade Gordon
Blake Gough
Ziggy Green
Emma Harrison
Jessie Hicks
Alexis Hodge
Jed Holmes
Ella Hoppe
Amelie Hucknall

Pepper Hughes
Sienna Hughes
Bella Kamnoetboon
Alexander Kerkham
Mavrick Konstantinoff
Abigail Krishna
Thomas Larkin
Luke Malone
Poppy Milroy
Olivia Morgan
Gela Moss

Harrison Newport
Felicity Paul
Jacob Pospischil
Samantha Schroeder
Maddison Syme
Mia Wade-Ferrell
Meike Watson
Chelsea Willingham
Hayden Willingham
Amy Withers
Daniel Woods



5 July 2019

Leilani Abrahall Issabella Ballard Selena Ballesteros Miles Barker Jemima Barnham Annabell Barr Leo Borg Lillian Borg Mackenzie Carey Tyler Chapple Cooper Daniel

Tyler Davies
Benjamin Devitt
Anna Edwards
Levi Friedland-Jaccoud
Jack Fuge
Julian Gouw
Peter Hogan
Emir Hussein
Jessica Kennedy
Liam Keogh

Nicholas Koulouris Abigail Larkin Analise Mafi Joseph Mahns Samuel McGrath Sam Moore Grace O'Brien Milly Okladnikov Alexander Papagianis Erin Phelan

Luke Pospischil Trinity Power Olivia Prior Florence Rooney Casey Ryan Noah Simmons Lachlan Steadman Claire Thomas Oliver Toth Sienna Valentini



Kindergarten 2020 Enrolments

Please inform family and friends that Kindergarten enrolments for next year are currently being accepted. Enrolments for Grades 1-6 for 2020 are also being processed. Please contact the school Enrolment Officer, Kathryn Wacher on 4723 3800 or visit staspringwood@parra.catholic.edu.au



Parish Sacramental Program – First Communion



On Saturday 22 June a number of our students received their First Communion at St Thomas Aquinas Church. We congratulate each of these children and their families on this important day that will remain a memorable day for the children throughout their lives as Christians.

To further celebrate the significance of this sacrament, Sister Monica and Mrs Fortunat hosted a morning tea for the students on the following Monday at school.

May these children continue to seek Jesus to nourish them throughout their lives.



Indigenous Immersion Day

Recently our Year 5 students participated in an Indigenous Cultural Immersion Day. A fabulous learning experience led by Indigenous elder, Russell, from Koomurri Aboriginal Incursions. They explored smoking ceremonies, didgeridoo history, dancing, traditional and face painting.

National Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander Sunday 2019

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday falls on the first Sunday in July (July 7). Whilst providing us with an opportunity to acknowledge our Aboriginal and Torres Strait brothers

and sisters, the celebration also signifies that we are united as one in God's love and care. More information can be found on the NATSICC website (www.natsicc.org.au).

NAIDOC Week 2019

NAIDOC Week this year takes place from 7-14 July. The theme for this year's activities is: VOICE. TREATY, TRUTH, LET'S WORK TOGETHER FOR A SHARED FUTURE.

This theme acknowledges that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have always wanted an enhanced role in decision-making in Australia's democracy. NAIDOC originally stood for 'National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee'. This committee was once responsible for organising national activities during NAIDOC Week and its acronym has since become the name of the week itself.

We will be acknowledging NAIDOC Week at our first school assembly in Term 3.

Spirit in Action Retreat – Stage 3 Students

Last Friday a number of our Stage 3 students gathered after school in the school library for a retreat called, Spirit in Action. The theme of the retreat was "Be not Afraid". Part of the purpose of the retreat was to read and discuss scripture based on this theme. The students also reflected on St Thomas Aquinas Prayer Tantum Ergo which seeks to draw us closer to God through the Eucharist. The students were also able to share a pizza meal together, in community. The retreat afternoon was a time of prayer, reflection, music and companionship. Thank you Mrs Fortunat and Mrs LeBreton for leading the retreat and also to a number of current Year 7 students who returned to STA to assist the teachers and Stage



Exciting news on Wednesday, when our senior school rugby league team played in the grand final of the Panther Trophy against Madang Public School at St Mary's Stadium. In a close contest, the STA Team won the final 24-16. The students played brilliantly, working together as a team and with outstanding sportsmanship. Congratulations to Madang PS for playing a great game and thank you to STA team coach, Chris Chenoweth for management of the team.

Beanie Day

3 students.

Today we hosted a "Wear a Beanie to School Day" to conclude the term. The wearing of beanies by students and staff was a small act of solidarity

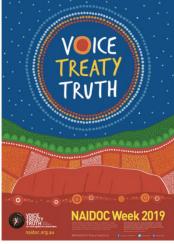
and love towards one of our Year 2 students who has been undergoing chemotherapy over the last 12 months.



Whilst chemotherapy is good in killing cancer cells it can also damage normal, healthy cells. This can lead to various side effects. One of these side effects can be hair loss. Hair loss often occurs when the chemotherapy medicine interrupts the growth of cells in hair follicles. Hair loss is usually temporary and the child's hair will start to regrow when the chemotherapy treatment ends.

Hair loss can be a traumatic part of receiving chemotherapy treatment especially for children who often don't like to appear different from their friends.

The photo shown is of Class 2D and their gesture of love and kindness prior to the Beanie Day – Love One Another.





Student Awards

Congratulations to the following students, who received Merit Awards at the School Assemblies listed below. Well done on your efforts everyone – keep up the good work!



Week 5

Owen Adorini
Paul Anderson
Skye Boyden
Emily Burnett
Alyssa Cantwell
Dylan Cantwell
Enrique Caraballo
Mackenzie Carey
Elliot Chapman
Ruanii Claudino
Amelia Crouch
Anthony Daw

Emily Daw
Joshua Duck
Anna Edwards
Callum Gibbons
Audrey Godsell
Ziggy Green
Mia Harrison
Alexis Hodge
Payten Holmes
Elise Hurley
Evelyn Iles

Harrison lles
Kayden Jeffers
Charlotte Kennedy
Lachlan Konwerski
Jack Leahey
Angela Lin
Preston Mamo
Summer Mamo
Imogen Mathew
Liam McGrath
Sunnee Murtikos

Trinity Power
Brooklyn Rawlings
Sophie Rayner
Lachlan Sakey
Archer Sproule
Leonardo Tan
Millie Ticehurst
Baiden Tom
Jack Waters
Ethan Windeisen
Tom Withers

Week 7

Annika Adorini
Myles Albury
Selena Ballesteros
Miles Barker
Jacob Britton
Michael Broadhead
Nathan Broadhead
Cooper Brown
Lara Buhs
Bella Cantrell
Antoinette Caristo
Deanna Caristo
Lilly Chalice

James Chalmers
Thomas Chapple
Alannah Collins
Ashton Cooper
Mia Cooper
Lincoln Croft
Amelia Crouch
Ben Giannakis
Michael Graham
Sam Graham
Emily Hall
Ben Harrison

Mia Harrison
Payton Henson
Cameron Hickey
James Hicks
Koby Kime
Lachlan Konwerski
Connor Leahey
Ruby Lister
Maxwell Lovric
Orlando Magagna
Benjamin Mathew
Piper Mathieu

Samuel McGrath Olivia Morgan Bailey Nugent Bethany Paul Anneke Prineas Tyson Ramires Jessica Sharp Natasha Springett Helena Sypka Delilah Valle Grace Wardle Billy Wright

Week 8

Violet Baker Issabella Ballard Logan Ballard Ethan Banks Montana Barry Tyler Bateman Violet-Rose Bentley Luke Clunes Sienna Curley Ashton Davies Joe Fitzpatrick William Ghata Ben Giannakis Thomas Harris Mikaela Horner Amelie Hucknall Oscar Kirton Hugo Koutsonikolis Thomas Larkin Patricia Lia Ryder Lopez Finn McCaffery Brendan McMaster Mikayla Mercieca Peter Moore Ava Murphy Jett Murtikos Felicity Paul Erin Phelan Bonnie Phuntsok Skyler Pick Jake Ramires Jack Reynolds Marshall Rivers Ruby Roberts River Rodemark Taiyana Rondo Cooper Sams Noah Simmons Brooke Thomas Clair Thomas Mieke Watson Hayden Willingham Kitty Wyld Andrew Young

Week 9

Ryder Astle Madeline Blacklock Leo Borg Lachlan Brown Elysia Burchall Jessie Diekmann Leonie Ellis Harry Fitzgerald Julian Gouw Charles Hicks

Week 10

Larissa An U
Alina Ascencio
Samantha Bourke
Bonnie Butler
Bella Cantrell
Cindy Cantrell
Max Carroll
Tyler Chapple
Annabelle Clark
Alfie Cook
Emilie Dempsey

Peter Hogan Kiara Kanigowski Jessica Kennedy Liam Keogh Annalise Lia Alana Mathew Ryan May Ryan Mills Matilda Nassif Lachlan Newport

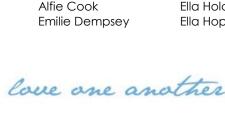
Madeleine Devitt
Dominique Dewhurst
Leo Donohue
Noah Edwards
Baxter Ellem
Niamh Fagan
Isabella Faithful
Peter Godsell
Charlotte Harrison
Ella Holdsworth
Ella Hoppe

Ella North Olivia O'Brien Jacob Pospischil Luke Pospischil Alana Prior James Rafter Ari-Kai Rawlings Brooklyn Rawlings Eli Schroeder Patrick Seymour

Harvey Jones
Harry Kitching
Peter Koulouris
Archie Lamont
Abi Larkin
Alex Lopez
Jessica Mace
Madison Moore
Abigail Richards
Mia Rodemark
Isabella Smith

Lachlan Steadman Ava Tallon Sienna Valentini Aiden Wade-Ferrell Romilly Wade-Ferrell Tyler Walker Lola Whitsun-Jones Heidi Willingham Angus Young

Noah Smith
Oscar Smith
Hunter Stephenson
Emily Stewart-Rowley
Hugo Strickland
William Valentini
Caitlin Vears
Sienna Verriere
Jack Waters
Mia Withers
Jessie Wronski



Year 5 Gold Day

On Thursday 4 July, Year 5 celebrated the end of their Australian Colonies Unit with their annual "Gold Day". The rain did not dampen our enthusiasm or spirits as we experienced many types of games and leisure activities that were common in this era. The students had previously demonstrated their knowledge of the 1800's with group presentations on various aspects of life in Australia during the 19th century. Topics presented included: the types of jobs across the classes, food eaten by all inhabitants of Australia at this time, clothing, housing styles, transportation and games.



We participated in colonial dancing, many games and an exciting goldrush on our very own gold fields Many fortunes were made! The Year 5 teachers were very impressed with the behaviour and participation of our students and are confident that much learning was had by all. *Michelle Nightingale, 5N Teacher*

Year 3 Wild Life Zoo Sydney Excursion

love one another

Year 3 had the opportunity to get up close to many varied and interesting Australian animals during their excursion to Wild Life Zoo at Darling Harbour on Thursday. From commanding cassowaries to delightful devils and curious koalas they learned about the habits, habitats and life-cycles of many amazing creatures. Highlights included seeing Rocky the crocodile up close (from behind glass), walking through the kangaroo enclosure and seeing many amazing nocturnal creatures being active 'at night'. So many thanks to the wonderful parent helpers for making it such an enjoyable day. *Annabelle Leroy, 3L Teacher*



School Bus Travel and Opal Cards

The bus companies that service our school have informed us that <u>as of Term 3</u>, school children are **required to have an Opal Card to travel on the bus to and from school**. Bus Drivers have the right to refuse to let children on the bus who do not have their Opal Card with them. The following link can be used to apply for the relevant card.

https://www.opal.com.au/en/about-opal/opal-for-school-students/















Catholic Out of School Hours Care (COSHC) – Anticipated in 2020

STA anticipates offering COSHC, a before and after school care facility, commencing in 2020 pending final approval from Catholic Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP). A number of COSHC centres are currently operating in schools in the Diocese offering a caring environment for families in need of a convenient before and after school care or vacation care facility. Staffing, licencing and compliance of centres is facilitated by CEDP in collaboration with the host school. Watch this space for further updates.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Soccer 4 Tots Kids Soccer Program: Registrations are open for Kids for Tots Soccer Program for boys and girls aged 3-5 years old. Children learn and develop the fundamental basics of soccer in a positive, friendly and fun environment; improve and enhance motor and co-ordination skills; boost children's confidence, social and sportsmanship skills in an educational environment using colours, shapes and number identification throughout the program. Qualified coaches with WWCC. Classes run for 1 hour. For more information **phone Max on 0419 147 353** or visit the **website** at www.soccer-4-tots.com or email to tots4soccer@gmail.com

Kids with Courage: This exciting program to build resilience in primary age children who are struggling with issues at school, home or with peer relationships, will be held at Springwood Uniting Church on **Monday from 4.00pm to 5.30pm commencing 5 August to 16 September 2019.** Kids with Courage is a **7-week program** which includes drama, puppetry, hands-on activities and small group work. It builds on the strengths of the child and develops emotional intelligence in the face of life's struggles. Children have an opportunity to explore feelings, set goals and interact with peers and find positive ways of making changes. The program is sponsored by Springwood Uniting Church. **Phone 4751 3951 to book a place for your child.**

Come and Try Rugby School Holiday Camp Blue Mountains: On Monday and Tuesday, 8 & 9 July 2019, rugby players aged between U6-U14yrs are invited to participate in the Trytime Rugby School Holiday Camp at Lapstone Oval, Lapstone from 9am to 3pm both days (drop-off available from 8am). Players of all levels are encouraged to attend this camp. Specialist coaches will work with all players to further enhance their specific skills, whether they are new to the game or have played for a number of years. Players receive Trytime training top, specialised team and individual positional coaching from highly qualified coaching staff, nutritious morning tea (please supply lunch for your child), a great enjoyable and fun experience. For more information and to register please go to www.trytimerugby.com/camps or phone Mike Cross on 0416 142 451 or email to m.cross@trytimerugby.com.

Stronger Families Alliance School Holiday Calendar: There are so many free and low-cost activities in the Blue Mounatins this school holidays for local families, children and teens. Go to the **Stronger Families website** at www.strongerfamilies.net.au and search our new calendar. Like us on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/strongerfamiliesalliance.

New All Ages School Holiday Event – HubCon/Blue Mountains Pop Culture Expo: Blue Mountains Theatre is excited to present a brand-new event for the Blue Mountains – HubCon, a pop-culture festival of particular interest to youth, taking place in the July school holidays. Of particular note, is the special discussion with multi award-winning author Jennifer Rowe (Emily Rodda) celebrating Deltora Quest – her bestselling fantasy youth novel series, to be followed by a book signing/meet & greet opportunity on Friday 12 July at 1.30pm. For full event details visit the event website at www.hubcon.com.au, Facebook link: https://www.facebook.com/HubConBlueMountains/ and Celebrating Deltora Quest Facebook event link: https://www.facebook.com/events/447491022462290/.

"Becoming a Calmer and Happier Mum" Workshop: Springwood Neighbourhood Centre Cooperative Ltd is hosting this motivational morning workshop with Wendy Gilroy on Saturday 27 July at Springwood Sports Club, 83 Macquarie Road Springwood, from 11.00am to 1.00pm (registration from 10.30am). Cost: \$45 per person - 2 hour workshop including relevant materials and morning tea. Special available: Bring 2 friends (full price) and you pay only \$35.00 – Ticket Code: Relax. For direct debit payment details contact: events@sncc.org.au. Limited seating. Register online via www.sncc.org.au or in person at our Centre at The Hub.

WestWords – Deborah Abela School Holiday Workshop: WestWords is proud to announce that we have managed to secure the enormously popular children's author Deborah Abela to run a school holiday workshop in the Blue Mountains, on Wednesday 10 July from 10am - 4pm at the Lawson Library building, opposite the Lawson Bowling Club, and costs \$22. Numbers are limited to 20, so parents will need to move quickly. Enquiries - James Roy, Blacktown and Blue Mountains Program Manager: james@westwords.com.au or phone 0410 588 201 or contact WestWords on 02 8677 4815, 91B Grose St, North Parramatta, NSW 2151, PO Box 2327, North Parramatta, NSW 1750. Website: www.westwords.com.au



PARISH NEWS

Parish Sacrament of Confirmation

Children in Year 6 or older, who have not yet received Confirmation and have received **Reconciliation and First Communion**, are invited to participate in the parish Confirmation program. The Sacrament of Confirmation will take place on Tuesday 17 September, 2019 commencing at 7pm. The program involves compulsory weekly meetings (of approximately 45-60 minutes duration) where parents and children come together in small groups and runs over 4 weeks from Monday 12 August.

If you wish to participate in the program please come to the two compulsory Parent Meetings on Tuesday 30 July at 7pm and Tuesday 6 August at 7pm in the Church, where you will be given enrolment forms to commence the program. You must attend both meetings. For further information and enquiries please phone the parish office on 4754 1052 or email sta@internode.on.net.

DIARY DATES

2019	Friday	12.30pm School Assembly – K6A presenting
TERM 2	5 July	Term 2 Concludes
Week 10		
SCHOOL HOLIDAYS		
TERM 3 Week 1	Monday 22 July	Term 3 Commences for Staff and Students 3.40pm Leadership Meeting
	23	K6A Commence for Term 3 3.40pm Staff Meeting
	24	8.30am Staff Briefing Aspect Schools Aboriginal Cultural Incursion Kinder – 100 Days of School Celebration Day
	25	School Athletics Carnival – Glenbrook Oval
	26	12.30pm School Assembly
	Monday 29 July	3.40pm Leadership Meeting
Week 2	30	3.40pm Staff Meeting 7.00pm 1 st Parent Meeting for STA Parish Confirmation (Parish Office)
	31	8.30am Staff Briefing 9.30am Parish Mass – Year 2 attending
	1 August	Back up date for Athletics Carnival
	2	12.00pm Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop Mass
Week 3	Monday 5 August	Stage 2 & 3 Cricket Gala Day – selected students 3.40pm Leadership Meeting
	6	3.40pm Staff Meeting 7.00pm 2 nd Parent Meeting for STA Parish Confirmation (Parish Office)
	7	8.30am Staff Briefing
	8	Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop Feast Day Kinder Excursion to Calmsley Hill City Farm
	9	Nepean Zone Athletics Carnival – selected students 12.30pm School Assembly

Sent Home Recently:

- Diocesan Stage 3 Boys Soccer Gala Day Note selected students
- Diocesan Stage 2 Girls & Boys Gala Day Note selected students
- Important Health Notice re Sick Children (purple)
- Wild Life Zoo Year 3 Excursion Helpers Note
- Arts Factor Eisteddfod Excursion Note for Band Students
- Hand, Foot and Mouth Alert Notes (blue & green)
- Invitation to First Holy Communion Morning Tea selected students
 Gospel Reading Note to Year 3 (sky blue)
- Panther Trophy Rugby League Note selected students
- Wakakirri Round 2 Ticket Order Note (Iemon)
- Panther Rugby Reminder Note selected students
- Parish Confirmation Program Note to Year 6
- Principal's Morning Tea Certificate selected students

- Spirit in Action Note selected students
- Pasta Day Note to Year 3 & 4 (lemon)
- FLC Notes
- Year 5 Gold Day Note (gold)
- Impetigo (School Sores) Note (pink)
- Wild Life Zoo Year 3 Excursion Note
- 6H Assembly Change Note (green)
- SWOT Tennis Note
- Beanie Day Note
- Term 3 Calendar (lemon)
- Sports Carnival Note (salmon, buff & white)

Stage 2 Boys & Girls Soccer Gala Day Postponement Note – selected students

We acknowledge and pay our respect to the traditional custodians of this land, the Darug and Gundungurra people, and pay our respects to Aboriginal Elders past, present and future for they hold the traditions, memories and wisdom of Mother Earth.



