



# PROUILLE NEWS MEMO

## TERM 1 WEEK 3 2009

10 February 2009

Dear Parents,

### Why Lord?

Last weekend saw Australia suffer one of the worst natural disasters on record. I have been astounded by the extraordinary generosity and outpouring community spirit in the devastated communities in Victoria. In the face of overwhelming tragedy, I am awestruck by the face of Christ amongst the people. I'm unfortunately one of those people who has moments of weakness and asks, "Why, Lord?" ... I am somewhat comforted by the words my mother commonly says:

*"Life is a mystery to be lived - not a problem to be solved."*

I know the Prouille community is joining in prayer and other modes of support for our fellow Australians in need.

### Swimming Carnival:

Congratulations to Mrs Tamone, the staff of Prouille and all the parents / friends who banded together to make last week's swimming carnival such a brilliant success.

I commend every child for their exemplary sportsmanship and behaviour; this is perhaps the main reason the day was so successful. It was truly a day when Yr 6 leadership shone ... I particularly congratulate our Yr 6 Colour House leaders!

I congratulate every child who participated in the carnival; I particularly congratulate the following champions:

### **PROUILLE SWIMMING CARNIVAL 2009**

<b>JUNIOR GIRL CHAMPION</b>		<b>3<sup>RD</sup></b>	<b>ANGELA SLATTERY</b>
		<b>2<sup>ND</sup></b>	<b>SARAH VARDY</b>
	<b>JOINT</b>	<b>1<sup>ST</sup></b>	<b>KATIE AUSTIN &amp; EMILY AUSTIN</b>
<b>JUNIOR BOY CHAMPION</b>	<b>JOINT</b>	<b>3<sup>RD</sup></b>	<b>JAMES MANDLA &amp; SEAN MCCORMACK</b>
		<b>2<sup>ND</sup></b>	<b>RYLEY DELMAGE</b>
		<b>1<sup>ST</sup></b>	<b>DECLAN MONTGOMERY</b>
<b>SENIOR GIRL CHAMPION</b>	<b>JOINT</b>	<b>3<sup>RD</sup></b>	<b>CHLOE VARDY &amp; MADDISON DEAN-JONES</b>
		<b>2<sup>ND</sup></b>	<b>BETHANY GREEN</b>
		<b>1<sup>ST</sup></b>	<b>SHANNON ASHTON</b>
<b>SENIOR BOY CHAMPION</b>	<b>JOINT</b>	<b>3<sup>RD</sup></b>	<b>NATHAN MANDLA &amp; MICHAEL CROUCH</b>
		<b>2<sup>ND</sup></b>	<b>JARED PEJKOVIC</b>
		<b>1<sup>ST</sup></b>	<b>MATT KELLY</b>
<b>INVITATION 50 Metre GIRLS</b>		<b>1<sup>ST</sup></b>	<b>SHANNON ASHTON</b>
<b>INVITATION 50 Metre BOYS</b>		<b>1<sup>ST</sup></b>	<b>MATT KELLY</b>
<b>CHAMPION HOUSE</b>		<b>4<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>JENNINGS – RED – 203</b>
		<b>3<sup>RD</sup></b>	<b>O'BRIEN – BLUE – 216</b>
		<b>2<sup>ND</sup></b>	<b>RAWLINGS – GREEN – 222</b>
		<b>1<sup>ST</sup></b>	<b>CRAWFORD – GOLD - 258</b>
<b>SCHOOL SPIRIT AWARD</b>		<b>1<sup>ST</sup></b>	<b>RAWLINGS – GREEN</b>

### **Water Play Day for Infant Classes**

On Friday 20 February, our Infant classes will have a “Water Play” afternoon at school. Children in K, 1, 2 need to bring the following on Friday 20 February:

- Wear full sport uniform with swimming costumes underneath
- Hat
- Towel
- Suncream
- Spare shirt (ie T-shirt)

### **Critical news for every family re safety:**

I understand that it is ‘custom and practice’ at Prouille for parents to phone the school before school commences if their child will be absent from school.

I STRENUOUSLY REMIND ALL PARENTS OF THE CRITICAL IMPORTANCE OF THIS PROCEDURE.

A main reason for this is to protect the many children who walk to school (ie when a child says “Goodbye” at home at 8:30 am in the morning, teachers need to know that they have arrived safely or if they are absent ... Similarly parents, of course, need to confidently know that their child has arrived at school safely).

If a child does not arrive at school and there has been no phone call made by a parent to the school, the teacher will inform the office and a phone call will be made to the home.

Parents need to remember that the phone call does not take the place of an “absent note” for teacher records. (Providing a note with the reason for the absence is a legal requirement.)

In 2008, our local bus company informed Prouille School that it was not able to drop students out the front of the school in the morning in Water Street due to traffic congestion issues. They deemed it suitable and safe to do the morning drop off around the corner in Cleveland Street (this was because of the short walk with only one supervised road to cross). Similarly, after the Catholic Schools Office Whole School Review of Prouille in 2008, one recommendation was to have no teacher supervise the morning bus as it was deemed suitable and safe for students to walk the short distance.

Commencing tomorrow morning (Wednesday 11 February), there will be no teacher to meet the bus in Cleveland Street. After my observations over two weeks, I am convinced that this is an appropriate action. I stress that this decision will not affect the afternoon pickup bus that does require teacher supervision for important safety reasons.

Finally, I stress the importance of parents phoning the school if their child is not attending on a school day (eg if a child is sick).

### **Date confirmation re Staff Development (SDD) in Term 2:**

I can now confirm that Monday 4 May 2009 will be a SDD (Pupil Free Day). On this first of four CSO (Catholic Schools Office) approved Pupil Free days in 2009, all staff will be working at Santa Maria Del Monte School, Strathfield. Del Monte has an extraordinary collection of Dominican memorabilia and the community is steeped in the Dominican tradition (Prouille School was founded by the Dominican Sisters). At this SDD, Prouille staff will work on developing a new School Vision and deepen our understanding of our Dominican heritage.

I will advertise the other three SDDs for 2009 ASAP.

### **Date change for the Sacrament of Confirmation 2009:**

The Office of the Bishop has informed Prouille School that the Sacrament of Confirmation will be changed from 20 September 11.00 am to **Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October 10.00 am**

### **“How can parents assist with Literacy in the classroom?”**

At the end of the 2008 school year, Prouille School offered a brilliant opportunity to parents re Parent Education – “How can parents assist with Literacy in the classroom?” ... Unfortunately less than 10 parents were able to participate in 2008.

I am absolutely thrilled to announce that the 3 sessions presented Term 4 2008 will be repeated on the following dates:

- 1. Wednesday 4 March 9.00 am to 10.30 am
- 2. Wednesday 11 March 9.00 am to 10.30 am
- 3. Wednesday 18 March 9.00 am to 10.30 am

I strenuously urge all parents to seriously consider attending these excellent workshops. Not only will they assist you to appreciate teaching and learning in the classroom, it will also assist you to understand your child's learning at home. The Presenter will be Mrs Wendy Bean.

**Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) 2009:**

I am very impressed to hear that Prouille School students participated in the PRC 2008 in droves! I thoroughly recommend this worthwhile programme for every student K-6 in 2009.

I thank Mrs Neilson and Mrs Plasto for rigorously encouraging all students K-6 to participate in 2009. Please see the attached note to all families re PRC 2009.

IN 2009, STUDENTS MUST REGISTER ON LINE AT HOME ... PARENTS WITHOUT INTERNET ACCESS AT HOME MUST CONTACT MRS NEILSON OR MRS PLASTO IMMEDIATELY. REGISTRATION IS DONE ON LINE AT HOME, BUT STUDENT PROGRESS IS MONITORED AT SCHOOL.

**Drop off / Kiss Goodbye for infants - (particularly Kindergarten):**

I thank all Infant parents for assisting the Kindergarten Teachers to make a smooth transition into class in the morning. There was one day last week where a chain-reaction crying spree happened before class. In order to facilitate an effective "goodbye" in the morning, I ask parents to assist with the following procedure:

Parents are most welcome to come down with their child/ren to the lower playground in the morning before school, but at the first bell they must "kiss goodbye" and then move immediately up the side passage (not through our seated assembly area) right up to Water Street. (At the first bell, students know it is time to move to lineup ... the second bell indicates time for teachers to take students to class.)

**Date Change for next P&F Meeting:**

The next P&F Meeting will be at 7.30 pm on Monday 16 March (not Monday 9 March).

**"Class Parent" Representatives urgently needed:**

The School and P&F urgently need a "Class Parent" representative for the following years: Year 1, Year 3 and Year 6. Please contact the School Office if you can assist.

**Time Change for all Working Bees 2009:**

The 2009 Parent Calendar advertises Working Bee times as 10.00 am – 1.00 pm. The new times for all Working Bees 2009 are 1.00 pm – 5.00 pm.

**It's Academic:**

Congratulations to all our Yr 6 students who participated in the Television Competition Game Show, "It's Academic" last week.

Please join me in congratulating our students who came 2<sup>nd</sup> place overall.

The Prouille community can enjoy this "prime time" viewing on Channel 7 at 4 pm from 9 – 13 March.

**Chess:**

On Mondays at Lunch time (12:45 pm -1:40 pm) some students will participate in a chess programme (9 February - 6 April) ... A note re "Expressions of Interest" went home to parents last week.

**Yr 3 "In-school Excursion":**

To support teaching and learning in Yr 3 this Term, the Zoomobile will visit Yr 3 Monday 16 February.

**Wonderful Baby News!!!**

Congratulations to Caroline and Douglas Smith (and Jamie Yr 1) on the safe arrival of a new baby daughter / sister, Lily Anne Patricia.

**Messages of appreciation:**

Thank you to Andrew Robson for the generous donation of 12 refurbished computers for Prouille School.

**Family Details - "Student and Family Validation Form"**

All families must return this form with changes where appropriate as soon as possible. Please note that this form should be signed and returned even if all information is correct.

**Deadline for Newsletter Items:**

Newsletter items are due by 9.00 am on Monday mornings.

Yours sincerely,

Phil Ledlin  
Principal

<b>IMPORTANT DATES</b>
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11.02.09	Wednesday	No Choir – due to the Opening Mass. 9.15 am – Whole School Opening Mass at Holy Name Church. Last day for Book Orders. 7.00 pm – “Meet the Teacher” Evening.
16.02.09	Monday	The Zoomobile will visit Year 3.
17.02.09	Tuesday	7.30 pm – Parish Sacrament of Reconciliation Parents Meeting in the School Hall.
18.02.09	Wednesday	Principals’ Meeting in the morning.
19.02.09	Thursday	Year 6 to Year 6 Camp at Challenge Ranch.
20.02.09	Friday	Year 6 return at end of Year 6 Camp. Kindy, Years 1 & 2 – Water Play Day.
21.02.09	Saturday	7 pm – P&F Twilight BBQ Spit in the school grounds. Cost: \$25 per person.
23.02.09	Monday	9.30 am – 10.00 am – Principal from St Leo’s College visiting Years 3-6.
25.02.09	Wednesday	10.30 am - Ash Wednesday – Whole School Liturgy in school grounds.
26.02.09	Thursday	5.30 pm – Diocesan Schools Staff Mass.
27.02.09	Friday	“Clean Up Schools Day”.
28.02.09	Saturday	1.00 pm – 5.00 pm – First Working Bee 2009 – Kindy & Year 6 Families.
04.03.09	Wednesday	9.00 am – 10.30 am – Session 1 for Parents: “How can parents assist with Literacy in the classroom?”
11.03.09	Wednesday	9.00 am – 10.30 am – Session 2 for Parents: “How can parents assist with Literacy in the classroom?”
18.03.09	Wednesday	9.00 am – 10.30 am – Session 3 for Parents: “How can parents assist with Literacy in the classroom?”

**Special Reminders:**

- **No Choir tomorrow – due to the Opening Mass.**
- **Opening School Mass – Wednesday 11.2.09 – 9:15 am**

The previously advertised date for our Opening School Mass (12.2.09) had to be changed to Wednesday 11.2.09 - 9:15 am.

- **Meet the Teacher Night (for parents) – 11.2.09 – 7:00 pm**

All parents are strenuously urged to attend the “Meet the Teacher Night” next Wednesday 11.2.09 (7:00 pm). The evening will commence with a Whole School Meeting in the School Hall at 7:00 pm for 20 minutes, then each teacher will present two identical 20-25 minute sessions re 2009 class routines, curriculum issues etc (in their classrooms).

**Evening Timetable:**

- **7:00 pm - Whole School Meeting in the Hall**
- **7:30-7:50 pm: Session # 1 – Yrs K, 1, 2**
- **8:00-8:20pm: Session # 2 – Yrs 3, 4, 5, 6**

NB Teachers will do a presentation at 7:30 pm and 8:00 pm, but their main group presentation is listed at the time above.

- **Don’t Forget – P&F Twilight BBQ Spit – Saturday 21 February at 7 pm in the school grounds.**

**A P&F Request:**

We need a table top truck! If you own or have access to a table top truck and you are not using it on the evening of February 21, we would love to borrow it! Please contact Michelle Le Patourel on 0412 206 540 to discuss further. Thanking you.

The P&F Social Committee

**String Ensemble:**

The String Ensemble will have its first practice on Tuesday 24 February in the school hall. Practices will be each Tuesday, with tuning from 7.35 am.

If you have not yet contacted me about joining the Ensemble, please do so on 9487 2552.

Moira Hutchinson

**Music Lessons:**

Some vacancies still exist for violin, viola or cello lessons. If interested, please complete an application form at the office or contact Moira Hutchinson on 9487 2552.

**Book Club:**

Could all parents please remember to get your Book Club Orders in by Wednesday this week (11 February). Thanks.

Trudi Sommers (Book Club Coordinator)

**Netball Registration:**

Thank you to everyone who registered on Saturday. If you couldn't make it to registration on Saturday and still want to register to play this season, please contact Glenda Sella on 0412 590 112, not Lidia Krslovic as stated in the registration newsletter. Please do not forward any registration papers to Lidia as she is no longer the club's registrar and her address is no longer valid.

We are still in need of 7, 8 and 9 year olds to join our club, so please contact us as soon as possible if you'd like to give netball a go this year.

**Recruitment Drive for Social Netball Team:**

For any Mum/aunts/grandmothers who would like to join a social netball team, we have the team for you! Water St Netball team 2 is the answer. For more details, please contact Sally Oong on 0433 817 114 or email [oongs@optusnet.com.au](mailto:oongs@optusnet.com.au). We play at 3.30 pm from end of March, through Winter, no training, lots of fun and a good way to get fit.

**Community News**

- **St Andrew's Wahroonga Presents: Jazz in Wahroonga Park – Saturday 28 Feb. from 7.30 pm**  
Featuring the highly acclaimed Con Campbell Quartet.
- **Pymble Turramurra Kindergarten:**
  - **Position Vacant** - Pymble Turramurra Kindergarten requires a cheerful, confident person who enjoys working with children to provide a break relief for our staff from 12.00 pm – 2.30 pm Mon – Thurs. For more information and/or to apply please email us at [pymbleturrakindy@bigpond.com](mailto:pymbleturrakindy@bigpond.com)  
Applications close Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February.
  - **Limited Vacancies** - Pymble Turramurra Kindergarten has some limited places for 3 to 4 year olds in our Tuesday / Thursday 2 day group. If you are interested or know of someone who would like to benefit from our Kindergarten program, please ring on 9449 1445 or email us on [pymbleturrakindy@bigpond.com](mailto:pymbleturrakindy@bigpond.com)
  - **The Handley Book is here!** Our long awaited history book has arrived and is available for \$30. It is a beautiful hard cover edition containing lots of photos and class lists to 2008. Please ring Pymble Turramurra Kindergarten for your copy on 9449 1445. Book is available for pick up from 3 pm – 4 pm weekdays.

## HELP REQUIRED FROM K-2 MUMS AND DADS

Many hands make light work and we need yours in the set up for the Prouille BBQ Spit.

If you are a mum or dad from K-2 and have a spare an hour or two on Saturday afternoon of February 21 we would love your help to set up for Prouille's big night.

All help is much appreciated. Time slots are set out below.

If you are able to assist, please fill these in and return to the school office as soon as possible. Thanking everyone in advance for your help.

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### The P&F Social Committee

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Yes I am able to help at following times:

- 1pm – 2pm
- 2pm – 3pm
- 3pm – 4pm