



PROUILLE NEWS MEMO

TERM 4 WEEK 2 2009

27 October 2009

Dear Parents,

I just passed through one of the busiest weeks of my life and have acquired an even greater respect and admiration for families with young children who have one parent at home "doing the lot". For the first time in my marriage (20 years this December) my wife took up the offer to have a family reunion holiday with her sisters. She worked tirelessly in the weeks before the reunion to make my job easier; a detailed daily schedule of instructions, all meals laid out and washing/ironing set and ready for the week (spoilt eh!). The children at home "pulled their weight" quite well, but it was still a non-stop grind that's left me empathetically admiring parents who do this "solo grind" on a regular basis.

It's great to see you back, Lea!

Sacrament of Confirmation this coming weekend

Please join me in prayer for all our Sacrament of Confirmation candidates who will be Confirmed this coming Saturday at 10 am. Thank you to Fr Steve, our Sacramental Co-ordinators/facilitators, our teachers and importantly all parents who are "leading the way".

Staff Development Day (SDD) last week

Last week, Prouille staff participated in an outstanding SDD on "Integrating ICLT (Information, Communication and Learning Technology) into Literacy". We had four main presenters who inspired all present:

- Karen Hughes: Classroom teacher – St Kieran's Catholic Primary School, Manly Vale
- Paul Davis: Catholic Schools Office (CSO)
- Jane Emmerig: Prouille Catholic Primary School (Yr 2)
- Chris Trotter: Prouille Catholic Primary School (Yr 5)

It is critical for me to stress that ICLT resources are only a tool to assist in teaching and learning. At the SDD we continued our learning around how to best integrate ICLT into our teaching. Essentially, finding the best way we can assist students to engage in learning with a wide variety of appropriate resources is the key to getting students to reach their individual potential; resources alone are not going to result in a marked improvement in learning. Prouille School is on about "effective pedagogy" (commonly called "best practice").

One "tool" we were exposed to at the SDD was the Interactive Whiteboard (Electronic Whiteboard). It seems likely that Prouille will be investing extensively in this tool for 2010. Importantly, any teacher working with an Interactive Whiteboard needs extensive professional development and support to ensure the "tool" brings about appropriate improvement in the classroom.

I will discuss briefly some "possibilities" re ICLT development at Prouille for 2010 at the up and coming P+F Annual General Meeting (P+F AGM) - Monday 9 November – 7.30 pm.

Prouille School turns 60 in 2010!

I keenly invite interested staff and parents to a meeting re designing / creating a special memorial for Prouille in 2010 to mark the significant celebration of 60 years as a school. A date for this meeting is set for Monday 2 November at 3.30 pm. If you are unable to attend, you can simply come and see me afterwards to get a summary of "progress". I am hoping that any proposed memorial will be rich in Dominican symbolism; additionally, I am hoping it can be moved and utilised in our new school.

Year 6 2009 Gift to the School

It is a tradition at Prouille that the Year 6 class raises funds for a gift for the school. After deliberation and consultation, the Year 6 gift to the school will be new colour house banners. I thank Year 6, Mrs Vardy, and Mrs Freidman who have been busy ensuring this gift will indeed be "special".

Sr Elizabeth Helwig from Santa Sabina College, Strathfield, is also assisting the school to ensure our banners have appropriate Dominican symbolism.

Rest assured that students, staff and parents will see a proposal before banners are sent off for production.

Critical message re Privacy and Confidentiality

Parents are respectfully reminded that it is inappropriate and indeed against school policy to discuss the social or academic progress of any student other than their own to anyone. Parents are a most valuable resource for teachers in the classroom, but it is critical that this matter re student confidentiality is upheld. Thank you.

Importantly too, school staff have high professional expectations re the way we discuss sensitive matters amongst each other.

School Book Lists and Stationery for 2010

School Book Lists and Stationery for 2010 are presently being revised with the purpose of making it more cost effective for parents. As per discussion at a P+F Meeting earlier this year, I stated that Prouille School will most likely commence using the well known computer programme, "Mathletics". I am now confirming this will be adopted in 2010. For classes that previously had a Maths homework text book, this will now be deleted from lists for 2010.

Kindergarten 2010 Orientation:

Following is a copy of the note sent to all Kindergarten 2009 families last week.

I strenuously urge and warmly invite all parents from all grades to come to the Orientation Morning, Friday 6 November, to share in the "welcome" for our new K2010 families.



Letter to Kindergarten 2009:

This is a special request from the P+F and the School for assistance in welcoming the new Kindergarten 2010 families to Prouille.

On Friday 6 November it is the special Kindergarten 2010 Orientation Morning at Prouille!

It has become a Prouille tradition that the present Kindergarten families welcome the new Kindergarten families by doing 2 things:

- 1. Providing Morning Tea*
- 2. Providing a spirit of "welcome"*

If you are unable to attend the morning Orientation for K2010, you can still drop a plate of food off before school starts.

Any parents who are able to stay at school after the whole school morning assembly on Friday 6 are warmly invited to meet in the Hall immediately afterwards. Essentially, it will be terrific if some "established" parents can make the new families welcome.

At about 10.15 am, all parents will move to St Thomas' Playground for morning tea. Again, it will be appreciated if parents from our present Kindergarten classes can setup, serve and "welcome".

(The students for K2010 will rejoin their parents at 10.30 am, and this will be the end of the Orientation Morning.)

Wishing you every best blessing.

Philip Ledlin



The Holy Rosary at School in October/ November

Following is a list of the Decades being prayed in class this week:

Luminous Mysteries

Monday: The Wedding at Cana
 Tuesday: Jesus' Proclamation of the Kingdom of God
 Wednesday: The Transfiguration
 Thursday: The Institution of the Eucharist

Sorrowful Mysteries

Friday: The Agony in the Garden

Assemblies in Term 4 (Please note the times/dates carefully):

PLEASE NOTE THE DATES/TIMES FOR AFTERNOON ASSEMBLIES BELOW

- Friday 30 October – Week 2 Term 4 ASSEMBLY AT 2.30 PM
- Friday 6 November – Week 3 Term 4 ASSEMBLY AT 9.00 AM (with Kindergarten Orientation)
- Friday 13 November – Week 4 Term 4 ASSEMBLY AT 2.30 PM

P+F Social – “Are You Smarter Than A 5th Grader?”

Looking forward to seeing you all at the coming P&F function, “Are You Smarter Than A 5th Grader?”, in the Prouille Quadrangle on Saturday, 7 November, at 7.15 pm (for 7.30 pm Start).

Yours sincerely,

Philip Ledlin
Principal

IMPORTANT DATES		
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28.10.09	Wednesday	6.30 pm – Holy Name Church – Confirmation practice – One parent must attend with child.
30.10.09	Friday	International Teachers' Day. 2.30 pm – Whole School Assembly.
31.10.09	Saturday	10.00 am – Sacrament of Confirmation at Holy Name Church.
2.11.09	Monday	3.30 pm – Meeting to design Prouille's 60 th Anniversary Memorial .
4.11.09	Wednesday	North Shore Principals' Cluster Meeting. League Tag Day.
6.11.09	Friday	9.00 am – 10.45 am - Orientation Morning following Whole School Assembly to be held at 9.00 am.
7.11.09	Saturday	7.15 pm for 7.30 pm Start – “Are you smarter than a 5 th Grader?” – to be held in the Prouille Quadrangle.
9.11.09	Monday	7.30 pm – P&F Annual General Meeting in the Hall – All welcome.
10.11.09	Tuesday	Basketball Gala Day – The Brick Pit, Thornleigh. 1.00 pm – Lunchtime Recital in the Hall.
11.11.09	Wednesday	10.45 am – Remembrance Day Assembly – Yrs 4 & 5 co-ordinating.
13.11.09	Friday	9.00 am – 10.00 am – K2010 Playgroup Session 1. 2.00 pm – Education Committee meeting - “open to all” committee. 2.30 pm – Whole School Assembly.
14.11.09	Saturday	1.00 pm – 5.00 pm - School Working Bee – Yr 3 co-ordinating.
17.11.09	Tuesday	Milo Cup – Koola Park, Killara.
20.11.09	Friday	9.00 am – 10.00 am – K2010 Playgroup Session 2.
16.12.09	Wednesday	Whole School End of Year Mass. Last day of Term 4 for Prouille students.
17.12.09	Thursday	Staff Development Day – Pupil Free day.
18.12.09	Friday	Staff Development Day – Pupil Free day.

TERM 1 2010 DATES

27.01.10	Wednesday	Staff return for 2010.
28.01.10	Thursday	Years 1-6 students – First day of Term 1 2010.
29.01.10	Friday	Kindergarten students – First day at Prouille – <u>until 12.30pm only.</u> (Please note 12.30 pm for K2010 on 29.1.10 – <u>NOT</u> full day as per error in recent T4 Parent Calendar)
01.02.10	Monday	Kindergarten students start full time at Prouille.
01.04.10	Thursday	Last day of Term 1 2010.

REMINDER

- ❖ *Prouille Newsletter is now available on our website: www.prouille.com.au*
- ❖ *Prouille Parents & Friends' Newsletter available online at www.prouillepandf.com.au*
- ❖ *Uniform Shop opens Tuesdays 8.45 am – 9.30 am & Thursdays 2.30 pm – 4.00 pm*

Library Matters

As the year comes to a close we still have a very large number of overdue library books. Please encourage your children to search for them at home, in the classroom and in their desks. Overdue notices will continue to go home and unfortunately we will reach the stage where children with long overdue books will be unable to continue to borrow. As we all know the end of the year is a busy time for everyone and especially the library. If you have a spare moment or two, either after drop off in the morning until 9.20 am or from 2.00 pm on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday we could use your help, even 10 minutes can make a huge difference.

Thank you for your continued support.

Jo Neilson & Lee-Anne Plasto (Teacher Librarians)

Literacy Resources – Optional Purchase

There are some Literacy Resources available for purchase (optional). A copy of the Order Form will be going home today. The books are available for viewing in the School Office.

Sports News

NSW PSSA Track & Field

Good Luck to Vanessa Andersen (5T), who will be representing Polding in the State Track & Field Championships at Homebush on Wednesday.

Louise Tamone (PE/Sports Teacher)

P& F Annual General Meeting – 7.30 pm on Monday 9 November

All Parents and Carers are warmly invited to the:

**P&F ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
MONDAY 9 NOVEMBER
7.30 PM IN THE SCHOOL HALL**

A complete agenda will be in next week's newsletter, but if you have any issues or concerns or you are interested in joining next year's P&F committee please contact us at: president@prouillepandf.com.au.

Many thanks.

Prouille P&F Executive

Book Club

A quick reminder to get your Book Club orders in by Wednesday 4th November.

Thank you.

Any enquiries contact: **Trudi Sommers - Book Club Coordinator (9487 1990).**

Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?

NEW FACTS:

- Only two more weeks till the big night – yes that's November 7!
- A healthy number of RSVP's received but still require more. Ideally table allocation to be complete prior to November 7
- Questions are chosen
- Competition building for "Best Dressed Table"
- Rumour has it that hits on Channel 10's *Are you smarter than a 5th Grader* website spiked this week

OLD FACTS:

- Teams of 10 advisable
- All KLA's will be covered
- Notes with RSVP slip available in office

Thank you to all those who have returned their RSVP's.

Looking forward to seeing you all on the 7th for a night of fun and academia!!

The P&F Social Committee

Melbourne Cup Reminder

Giddyup! Tickets have been purchased for all those attending, but we are able to secure some extra tickets. If you would like to join us at Asquith Leagues Club 11 am-3 pm, 2 course lunch, glass of bubbly, sweeps, live entertainment and the Race on the Big Screen TV for \$18, please contact Sally Asnicar **NO LATER THAN TUESDAY EVENING, 27 OCTOBER.** Final tickets will be purchased on Wednesday 28 October. Thanks! Please call **Sally on 9989 8808 or call/text me on 0417 224 769.**

Community News

- **Swim safe Classes starting soon – NSW Govt. Sport & Recreation (Pamphlets in Office)**
Swim safe classes for preschoolers and school-aged children help youngsters learn important ways to be safe and enjoy our pools, rivers, beaches and lakes.
The intensive nine day programs give wonderful results, and are great fun as well!
Plus, family discounts make Swim safe affordable for all the children in the family.
Sport and Recreation runs Swim safe classes in pools all over the State, including somewhere near you. Swim safe has been going for more than 30 years, with more than 15,000 people attending classes each year. Swim safe instructors are nationally qualified and screened for their suitability to work with children.
Prices for nine lessons are \$57.30 for school-aged children and \$43 for preschoolers (Prices exclude pool entry fee).
For further information or to make a booking, phone 13 13 02 or visit www.dsr.nsw.gov.au

2010 KEYNOTE ADDRESS & AGM

"Happy kids – Happy families"

Presented by Maryanne Vorreiter –

NSW Project Officer – *Mindmatters*

Monday 9th November 7.30 pm – 9.30 pm

Keynote Address begins at 7.30 pm

followed by AGM and supper

Sacred Heart Parish Hall

Cnr Bobbin Head Rd, Pymble

For further information or to RSVP:

Cathie 9847 0340 or parentcouncil@dbb.edu.au

www.brokenbayparentcouncil.org

All Welcome – No Cost

All are welcome - parents don't have to have children in a Catholic School to attend.

To assist with numbers please RSVP if you can, however we appreciate the unpredictable nature of family life, so please feel free to come along on the night even if you have been unable to RSVP.