



PROUILLE NEWS MEMO

TERM 4 WEEK 4 2009

10 November 2009

Dear Parents,

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend and contribute to yesterday's P+F Annual General Meeting. At this meeting, we celebrated the successes of 2009 and we acknowledged everyone who is assisting to make Prouille community an even better place.

Thank you to all the newly elected P&F Executive and P&F Co-ordinators for 2010:

Co-Presidents:	Jenny Bell & Angela Schulz
Treasurer:	Paula McCormack
Secretary:	Clare O'Connor
Diocesan Parent Representative	Sally Butel
• Auditor:	John Kelly
• Class Parent Representatives:	
(Kindy – Year 2)	Julie Kelly
(Years 3-4)	Lara Lenehan
(Years 5-6)	Sally Oong
• Social Committee:	Simone & Stuart Quirk
• Parish Liaison:	To be advised
• Book Club Co-ordinator:	Trudi Sommers
• Ground/Maintenance Co-ordinator:	Martin Bowesman
• Webmaster:	To be advised

Thank you sincerely to all outgoing P&F Committee members for your mighty contribution to Prouille in 2009; indeed, some committee members are sincerely thanked for many years of service on the P&F.

Parents are able to get a copy of any Committee Reports or my Principals' Report from the school office on request.

My Principals' Report includes a "proposal" for 2010 for which I have received some positive feedback.

This proposal is particularly for "dads" or "influential men in students' lives" ... The reason for directing something at men is thanks to all the research on "Boys' Education" and the importance of 'men' in the lives of young girls and boys. I stress that this is not because men are more special, it's sadly because the influence of men in children's lives has been diminishing in recent years!

Proposal: *"Play and Display Night"* – ie "dads" or "influential men in students' lives" have an 8 week window to create something special with their child/ren. You can work on a project that involves a long term goal. For example, make a billy-cart, make a model, restore something, build a vege' garden at home, write a book, write a song or a play, do a fitness programme, do a series of bush walking adventures etc etc etc ... if you'd like to do something for the school such as make a "friendship seat" or paint a mural you can simply come and see me to arrange access etc. Essentially, the ideas are endless. After 8 weeks, everyone gathers at school one evening to "show", "share", "play/display" projects and enjoy a sausage sizzle.

In light of the project idea outlined above, I was fascinated to read an article in The Australian last week by prominent child psychologist, Michael Carr-Gregg. I've been guilty of falling into the trap that he addresses below; whilst I can see that Carr-Gregg is striking a blow at many of us, I see complete sense in getting a balance in our parenting role. Like the proposal above re the "Play and Display Night", we have to be actively involved in our children's lives in a balanced and fun way in a spirit that truly allows the child to develop to be the best person they can be in an environment that allows them to enjoy "play" and extra-curricular/sport activities ... we need to be careful not to completely mould our children the way we want them to be in an environment that we (as parents) construct.

Kids encouraged to play now or pay later (*The Australian* - November 04, 2009)

Michael Carr-Gregg, a founder of the National Coalition Against Bullying, said depression had emerged as the "common cold" of adolescent psychology; but childhood play and rough-and-tumble helped shield teenagers against stress.

Dr Carr-Gregg said children who were given the freedom to play in their infancy were more likely to grow up with the resilience to cope with the trauma of family breakdowns, abuse, or parental alcoholism that often led to teenage depression.

"Play is the psychological inoculation against depression long-term," Dr Carr-Gregg said. "We're hard-wired to play. In essence, the instinct to play is as instinctive as it is to breathe in mammals. Children will never develop their potential if we stop them from playing."

"At the pre-school level, children engage in dramatic play and learn who is a leader, who is a follower, who is outgoing, who is shy," he said. "They also learn to negotiate their own conflicts."

"It's as if we adults have become impatient with the concept of play," he said. "You get a lot of kids now whose parents are very time-poor. They have a hurried childhood, rushed around between activities like organised sport and French lessons. It's trophy parenting – vicariously living through your child."

Dr Carr-Gregg also said that over-protective and controlling parents were creating a generation of wusses. "Adults are now worshipping at the altar of occupational health and safety," he said. "It's risk-averse parents who are going to have children with no imagination, no capacity at all to be creative and innovative."

"I've seen neglect amid affluence," he said.

"Teenagers are living in these emotional silos of huge houses, and they grow up on MSN and Facebook with not a lot of emotional input from mums and dads. They raise themselves."

I wish you all well in finding "balance"!



Family Christmas Celebration at Prouille

**All students K-6 will be performing next week for all families on
Wednesday 18 November – 3.30 pm onwards.**

Please do not be late and risk the chance missing your child/ren perform in St Lucy's Creative Arts Centre. Simply come to Prouille School and walk to the back of our property and enter through our back gate that opens to St Lucy's School ... But make sure you allow time to be seated ready for a 3.30 pm start.

Well known musician and entertainer (in children's liturgical circles), Andrew Chinn, will work with all classes during the day on Wednesday 18 November preparing a little Christmas concert that will be presented to the community at 3.30 pm.

Immediately following the concert there will be a picnic for everyone ... so ... please bring a basket of picnic goodies to share after the concert in St Lucy's grounds.

Parents need to be assured that Prouille Staff will look after all students immediately after school and ensure everyone moves safely to St Lucy's. It is recommended that you pack an extra "treat" in your child's lunch box on next Wednesday to eat before the 3.30 pm concert.

If your children normally attend After School Care, they will participate in the performance and will then be taken back to After School Care by school staff.

Otherwise, at about 4.30 pm when the formalities are over, Parents must take responsibility for their child/ren. If any child is in a position where no parent can attend the celebration, parents are asked to arrange for a buddy family to assist or to contact your child's teacher to make "care" arrangements.

Any student unable to attend the celebration must inform their child's teacher immediately. Thank you.

Important safety rules for students and visitors:

- No Prouille students or visitors to our celebration are permitted on any of St Lucy's equipment.
- When we enter St Lucy's grounds on Wednesday, students are not permitted to return to Prouille grounds unless accompanied by a parent/carer (eg to go to the toilet etc).

*I really think this is going to be a fantastic celebration ...
I look forward to seeing you there!!!*



Kindergarten 2010 Orientation Day

Thank you sincerely to all parents who assisted to make K2010 Orientation Day at Prouille last week such a success. To all the Kindergarten families and all parents from all grades who catered, served and provided a spirit of welcome, I sincerely thank you. To all the school staff who assisted with the enormous organisational role, I sincerely thank you too. Finally, I have to commend all Prouille students (particularly Yrs 5 and 6) who played a major role in making sure all our new children for 2010 felt "special" and "welcome" on the day.

The Holy Rosary at School in October/ November

This is the final week of praying the Holy Rosary at School. Following is a list of the Decades being prayed in class this week:

Glorious Mysteries

Monday:	The Ascension
Tuesday:	The Descent of the Holy Spirit
Wednesday:	The Assumption of Mary
Thursday:	The Coronation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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

PLEASE NOTE THE DATES/TIMES FOR AFTERNOON ASSEMBLIES BELOW:

Friday 13 November – Week 4 Term 4 ASSEMBLY AT 2.30 PM

I will announce the time for our Week 5 Assembly in the next newsletter.

4.

Congratulations to our Prouille Ensemble

Last weekend our Prouille Ensemble performed at the Opera House (it doesn't get much better) ... Congratulations, Moira and your "team"; I've only heard terrific reports!

Great throwing, Vanessa Andersen!

Congratulations to Vanessa who recently performed at Polding Level in "Field Events - Shot Putt". Can you believe she threw 8.51m!!!

Yours sincerely,

Philip Ledlin
Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

11.11.09	Wednesday	NO CHOIR this week. 10.45 am – Remembrance Day Assembly – Yrs 4 & 5 co-ordinating.
12.11.09	Thursday	Bishop/Clergy/Principals' Meeting.
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.
18.11.09	Wednesday	3.30 pm – Christmas Celebration Concert - Bring a picnic to share after the concert. Venue: St Lucy's Creative Arts Centre. (Walk to the back of our property and enter through our back gate that opens to St Lucy's School.)
20.11.09	Friday	9.00 am – 10.00 am – K2010 Playgroup Session 2.
22.11.09	Sunday	2.00 pm – Prouille String Concert.
25.11.09	Wednesday	6.00 pm – Piano Concert – in the Hall.
4.12.09	Friday	Prouille Students' Disco at St Lucy's School Hall – Cost \$10 per child. K-Year 2: 5.00 pm – 6.45 pm: Years 3-6: 7.00 pm – 8.45 pm Glow Products on sale at door (approx. \$1.50 - \$3.00).
8.12.09	Tuesday	9.30 am - 11 am – Uniform Shop Stocktake – Volunteers required. 6.30 pm – Year 6 Graduation Mass.
11.12.09	Friday	End of Term Lunchtime Sausage Sizzle hosted by Yrs 3 & 4 parents.
16.12.09	Wednesday	Whole School - End of Year Mass at Holy Name Church. 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 12.30 pm only.</u>
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*

Choir News

Please note: There will be **NO CHOIR this Wednesday**.

Violin News

Congratulations to the following students who played so well at the Opera House last Sunday in the annual Suzuki Graduation Concert: on violin - Kymberlee Street, Deanna Kwok, Angela Slattery, and Matthew Slattery; and on viola – Yvette Williams.

The concert was wonderful and, as well as violin and viola, included great performances by cello, piano, flute, choir and even the Concert Hall organ.

An exciting day of music!

Moira Hutchinson (Violin/Viola/Cello Teacher)

Sports News

League Tag Gala Day

Last Wednesday all Year 3- 6 participated in a League Tag Gala Day at Cliff Oval. This touch football Gala day was run by North Sydney Junior Rugby League.

Congratulations to all of the children who enthusiastically displayed their new skills with many showing great elusive running and speed. Special mention to our Year 6 girls, 5/6 Boys, Year 4 girls and 3 / 4 Boys who were undefeated in their games.

The Year 5 girls lost their Grand final narrowly, the 3 / 4 boys drew their semi and Year 4 girls won their Grand Final.

The Year 4 girls and the Year 6 girls (a wildcard entry) will now proceed to the district finals later in the term.

Many thanks to all the parents who generously gave up their time to enthusiastically support our teams by managing and coaching on the day.

Thanks to all the Class teachers for whom without their support the children would not have been able to enjoy this opportunity.

Louise Tamone (PE/Sports Teacher)

Uniform Shop News

Uniform Shop Stocktake - Tuesday 8 December - 9.30 am -11 am - Volunteers Needed!!!

Our final stocktake for 2009 requires helpers to count stock. Very simple job and morning tea is supplied! If you can help out for part or all of the stocktake, please contact **Sally Asnicar** on **0417 224 769**, or email pinnacle@hotkey.net.au. Thanks!

Fit-outs for Kindergarten Children of Existing Prouille Families

Please note if you already have children at Prouille and have a child starting Kindergarten next year, it is still best to make an appointment with Uniform Shop to fit him or her with their uniform. We like to devote a full half hour to each child to fit them out properly. If you come along during normal opening hours, we are very busy with other people to serve around you.

At Orientation Day on Friday, fit-out times were offered to all families with children starting at Prouille next year. If you missed the opportunity to make an appointment, please contact **Aniuska** on **0408 227 114** and arrange a suitable time. Thanks for your understanding.

Volunteers

Thanks to all our wonderful Uniform Shop Volunteers who have helped out this year (and in many cases, previous years!)

We always welcome extra Volunteers, so if you can spare 45 minutes once a week, fortnight, month or term, please let us know! It's a great way to meet parents from all years, and learn all about the uniform. You also get treated to lunch at the end of the year! If you would like to help out in 2010, please contact **Sally Asnicar** on **0417 224 769**, or email pinnacle@hotkey.net.au

Nomination for the Young Sports Performer Award – Amy Pejko

Ex-Prouille student, Amy Pejko (Jared 6F), has been nominated for the Young Sports Performer Award (“The Age”, “Sydney Morning Herald”, “WA Today”, “Brisbane Times”) :

Amy Pejko



Amy Pejko has put high jump in the spotlight, following her stunning silver medal at the IAAF World Youth Championships at Bressanone, Italy, in July. The Cherrybrook athlete from Sydney cleared a new personal best of 1.85metres on her first attempt, to finish equal second with Russian Mariya Kuchina and just behind the victor, Alessia Trost of Italy, who cleared 1.87m.

Please show your support for Amy as it could mean the difference between her going overseas and competing or not next year. Ask your friends and family to support her too! This is the first time that Amy and her family have had the opportunity of any financial support to this degree, as many other athletes are partially or fully funded by sponsorships and/or fund raising by schools/clubs, etc.

Please go the link below and register your vote by 23 November.

<http://www.performerawards.com.au/>

Thank you for your support.

Year 5 Wine & Cheese Night

Year 5 Wine & Cheese Night – this Friday 13 November – at the residence of Irene & Michael Dean-Jones. **RSVP 9487 5503** or **Irene@hollywoodforhire.com**

Pink Ribbon Day - Thank You

Thanks to those people who bought Pink Ribbon day merchandise. We raised \$100.00.

Fiona Wright

REMINDER – 4TH Prouille Working Bee – Year 3 – “National Recycling Week”

This Saturday 14 November 2009 from 1 pm – 5 pm

Our fourth and final Working Bee for 2009 is fast approaching. As this is National Recycling Week, we will also be providing a collection point to recycle all your old mobile phones.

Prior to leaving phones for recycling, to protect your privacy, please ensure you delete any personal and/or confidential information, such as contacts, pictures, addresses, etc.

For more information on mobile phone recycling and National Recycling Week:

<http://www.mobilemuster.com.au/>

<http://recyclingweek.planetark.org/>

Please make an effort to come to this working bee if you can. You get to meet other parents and the children have great fun playing. Your help also saves the school money and gets jobs done to improve the school environment for our children and their teachers.

Each working bee ends with a BBQ – parents, grandparents and children are all welcome to attend.

Any time you can spare would be appreciated.

Martin Bowesman (P&F Grounds & Maintenance)