



PROUILLE NEWS

17 November, 2009

Term 4 Week 5 2009

Dear Parents,

After our recent P+F AGM (Parents and Friends' Annual General Meeting), several people commented to me that 2009 has seen some remarkable achievements and we need to celebrate them. I note that 2009 has indeed been successful because of the dedication, creativity and support from our Parent body, School Staff and the wider Parish; suffice to say, 2009 has been one of the most rewarding years of my teaching career.

What will we have achieved by the end of 2009? (major achievements)

- New Strategic Plan 2009-2012
- New School Vision
- New model of learning – emphasis on a K-6 approach in all KLAS
- Developed our understanding of what constitutes a "balanced Literacy block" (established "agreed practice" K-6)
- Restructured all extra-curricular and specialist timetables to reclaim teaching and learning time in the morning Literacy Block
- Developed our understanding of how to best integrate ICLT (Information, Communication and Learning Technology) into teaching and learning
- Formed lasting professional learning relationships with CSO (Catholic Schools Office) and neighbouring schools (OLPS-West Pymble, Corpus Christi-St Ives, St Agatha's-Pennant Hills)
- Commenced process of strengthening/"depthing" our Dominican heritage and school identity
 - "Parish Renewal" led by Dominican religious
 - Created Prayer/memorial Garden
 - Established Dominican traditions re Grandparents'/Special Friends' Day (Dominican Rosary Beads/Lily etc)
 - Designed separate "Dominican" units of work for all classes K-6
 - Developed Dominican links with Santa Sabina College-Strathfield
 - Developed Dominican links with St Lucy's
 - Leadership Team attended Dominican Conference in Adelaide
 - Preparation for our 60th Anniversary memorial
 - New School Colour House Banners steeped in Dominican symbolism (Term 4)
 - Three panel mural steeped in Dominican symbolism (Term 4)
- Developed strong ties with St Lucy's School
 - Developed social ties with St Lucy's staff
 - Yr 4 Buddy Programme
 - Friday integration programme (Yrs 5 and 6)
 - Involvement in Prouille's liturgies etc (visa versa)
- Complete revamp of School Website (ready by end of this term)

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- Upgrade of our computer resources to include at least 5 computers (notebooks) in every classroom (\$22421.30 P&F funded, \$4000 School)
- Complete upgrade of "take home readers" for K,1,2 and a huge injection of funds into Guided Reading materials K-6 (\$9000 P&F Funded, \$5000 School)
- Electronic Whiteboards and data projectors installed into every classroom K-6 (installation to commence today – to be completed in next two weeks) (\$38621 P&F funded, \$65000 BER)
- Playground Equipment with "soft-fall" (to be temporarily installed in lower playground) ... This announcement may come as a shock because CSO only informed me last Wednesday that they now do not want to utilise BER Funding (Federal Government funding) for refurbishment work around Prouille's Yr 4,5,6 block. CSO has found "approval" for Playground Equipment that must be temporarily installed before Christmas ... Yes, I am frantically racing around getting quotes and consulting with teachers to ensure this project is secured. (Interestingly, purchasing playground equipment was favourably discussed at the recent P+F AGM – Parents interested in being part of this "rushed project" are invited to come and see me asap)



Family Christmas Celebration at Prouille- TOMORROW

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. Entertainment during the picnic will be provided by a performance by the band from approx 4.45 pm – 5.15 pm.

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!!!



Working Bee Thanks

There was indeed a wonderful spirit of community at last Saturday's Yr 3 working bee. Once again, Martin Bowesman led the team of helpers and so much was achieved:

- Safety paint on steps
- "Set" memorial plaques in our Prayer/Memorial Garden
- Mulch spreading
- Blowing, gardening cleaning ... and so much more

I love coming to school during the week immediately after a working bee!

Assembly

Our Friday Assembly this week will be at **2.30 pm**.

More P+F Appointments

Thank you to Lauren Montgomery and Penny Delmage who have agreed to share the role of P&F Parish Liaison. Great news for us as a school within our Holy Name Parish!

P&F Planning Meeting – Monday 30 November at 7.30 pm

There will be a Planning Meeting for P&F Executive and Committee members on Monday, 30 November, at 7.30 pm in the Staff room.

Two Important Surveys

Following on from discussion and queries at the recent P+F AGM, Parents are invited to complete two very, very brief surveys attached to this newsletter. These two surveys relate to:

1. Should Prouille introduce an intensive 2 week "Learn to Swim Block" at the end of 2010 (the final 2 weeks of Term 4)?
2. If Prouille introduced a second language into our curriculum, what would be your two preferred languages (French, German, Italian, Mandarin or Spanish) ... NB tuition would be an additional fee and lessons would be run by a private provider on Prouille's premises before or after school.

Surveys must be returned to the school office by Friday 27 November – Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Philip Ledlin
Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

18.11.09	Wednesday	3.30 pm – Christmas Celebration Concert – Bring a picnic to share after concert. Venue: St Lucy's Creative Arts Centre. (Walk to the back of our property and enter through or back gate that opens to St Lucy's School.)
20.11.09	Friday	9.00 am – 10.00 am – K2010 Playgroup Session 2. Year 5 only – Mufti Day – bring lollies/soft drink for Yr 6 Graduation Supper. 2.30 pm – Whole School Assembly.
22.11.09	Sunday	2.00 pm – Prouille String Concert.
25.11.09	Wednesday	6.00 pm – Piano Concert – in the Hall.
30.11.09	Monday	7.30 pm – Planning Meeting for P&F Executive and Committee members in the Staff room.
4.12.09	Friday	Prouille Students' Disco at St Lucy's School Hall – Cost \$10 per child. Kindy-Year 2: 5.00 pm – 6.45 pm: Years 3-6: 7.00 pm – 8.45 pm.
8.12.09	Tuesday	9.30 am – 11.00 am – Uniform Shop Stocktake – Volunteers required. 6.30 pm – Year 6 Graduation Mass.
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 12.30pm only.</u>
01.02.10	Monday	Kindergarten students – first full day 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*

R.E. NEWS

A Guiding Prayer

*Dear God,
 May the sun shine on all of us;
 May the stars guide us to safety;
 May the trees blow for us a path to peace and happiness;
 May we thank you for our wonderful world.
 Amen.*

This was a prayer that was shared with me by one of our students in Year 3, Jack Negline-Smyth. It was so beautifully written and expressed, that I felt it appropriate to include within our newsletter, particularly at this time of year, when we are surrounded by such natural beauty. One of our staff members remarked during staff prayer this week on the beauty of the jacaranda trees and their gentle reminder that Summer is near. Indeed, during this month of November, as we remember those loved ones who have died, the signs of hope and promise surrounding us in nature provide a nurturing and comforting reminder that their spirit lives on within, and around, us.

Year 3 Parish Mass

Thank you to the children, parents, brothers and sisters who were involved in the Parish Mass that took place last Sunday at Holy Name. It was a truly moving Mass due largely in part to the resounding notes of the bugle as played by Mr Stephen Johnson (Ella, Abby and Olivia). Thank you also to Mrs Armstrong, Mrs Haines and Mrs Chivers for their co-ordination and preparation of the children for this special occasion.

Remembrance Day Liturgy

Last Wednesday the community of Prouille was thoughtfully reminded of the significance of this day and its ongoing call for peace in our world. Mr Trotter and the Year 5 students, along with Mr Johnson and Fr Steve, led the community in a very respectful, dignified manner. The tone of the liturgy was truly touching, and the hope for a world where love reigns was the key message as symbolically represented by the release of white helium balloons into the sky. Thank you to Mrs Ryan (Connor and Charlotte) who so kindly assisted in the Remembrance wreaths that we placed within the sacred space.

Book of Remembrance

Some families have been enquiring as to how they can contribute the memory of a loved one to our Prouille Book of Remembrance. This book was introduced this year as a way to remember those we have lost, and will be brought out into the Prayer Garden every day during November, which within the Church is known as the month of Remembrance. Please send in with your child the name of the person you would like to be placed into the Book of Remembrance. Please attention the envelope to me so that I can organize it for you.

Commemorative Plaques

This weekend, at the Year 3 Working Bee, we will be organising for the commemorative plaques of Mrs Fox, Mr Gannon and Mrs Mandla to be placed alongside their commemorative plant we have within the Prayer Garden. Thank you to Bridget Vardy and Martin Bowesman for their thoughtful dedication to seeing this through.

R.E. NEWS (Cont.)

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Hampers and Gifts

Last week all families would have received a note outlining our annual appeal in support of the wonderful work and charity of the St Vincent de Paul Wahroonga conference. Thank you to those of you who have already expressed an interest in purchasing a gift for someone in need this Christmas. We have over 60 people that we are providing for by way of a hamper and gift, so your generosity is much appreciated and warmly welcomed.

Whole School Outreach Initiative

Recently, we contacted The Grange at Waitara to enquire as to how we might be able to extend the Christmas Spirit to the people within their care. As a result, we received a list of 27 people for whom each child at Prouille will be delegated one to create and make a Christmas card. These cards will then be packaged up and delivered by the Mission and Liturgy prefects on Thursday of Week 8. The children have indeed responded beautifully to this gesture and will enjoy the opportunity of bringing the joy of Christmas into someone's life.

Reconciliation Years 3-6

Fr Steve has kindly offered to enable each of the children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the lead up to Christmas. Each class has been provided with a day and time for this to take place between now and the end of term.

Wishing you peace and blessings.

Vanessa Dillon (R.E. Co-ordinator)

NSW UNIVERSITY MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

Congratulations to all students who participated in the recent University of NSW Mathematics Competition. Only 45 students competed, but over one-third performed well above State average.

High Distinction

Yvette Williams 5T

Distinction

Stephanie Sardinha 3AC

Luke Antoun 4H

Freya Osterberg 4H

Jacqueline Truong 4H

Olivia Mueller 5T

Credit

Alexander Krahmalov 3AC

Faith Felipe 4H

Jack Hill 4H

Logan Knight 4H

Prudence Luttrell 4H

Kate Nicol 4H

Michael Crouch 5T

Maddison Dean-Jones 5T

Adam Hajje 5T

Natalie Oong 5T

Neema Safaie 5T

Kymerlee Street 5T

Alessia Antoun 6F

Tanya Armstrong (Assistant Principal)

SPORTS NEWS

Basketball Gala Day

Last Tuesday four teams represented Prouille at the Cluster Basketball Gala Day. All of our teams did extremely well placing in the divisions. Special mention to our Senior Boys and Senior Girls who once again were absolutely amazing. The results are as follows:

Senior Girls 1ST

Senior Boys 1ST

Junior Girls 3RD

Junior Boys 3RD

Thank you to all the parents who assisted in coaching and managing the teams.

Milo Cup Cricket Day

On Tuesday a Senior Boys and Senior Girls Cricket team will be participating in the Milo Cup at Koola Park, Killara. We wish our cricketers all the best!!

Louise Tamone (PE/Sport Teacher)

YEAR 5 MUFTI DAY

To support Year 5 fundraising for the Year 6 Graduation Dinner, Year 5 students are allowed to wear appropriate Mufti and sensible, covered footwear next Friday 20 November. In return for wearing mufti, each Year 5 child is asked to contribute 2 x bags of lollies and 1 x 2 litre bottle of soft drink for the Year 6 Graduation Dinner.

AUSTRALASIAN PROBLEM SOLVING – MATHEMATICAL OLYMPIAD 2009

During Terms 2 & 3 thirteen students from Stage 3 competed in the 2009 Maths Olympiad. Each student should be commended for the way in which they worked to further develop their problem solving skills in the weekly P.E.P. sessions.

Using a variety of strategies, the children faced the challenges of each of the five Olympiads with a positive attitude and a strong commitment to the task.

Yvette Williams was the top scorer in our team. Despite missing one Olympiad while travelling overseas, she still managed to be a “Top 25% Achiever” in the 2009 Olympiad.

Also receiving a special award was Nathan Khoudair. He was awarded an Encouragement Award from A.P.S.M.O. for his exceptional effort and improvement in problem solving.

Our other representatives were Vanessa Andersen, Emma Andrews, Shannon Ashton, Jonathon Crouch, Michael Crouch, Adam Hajje, Kasia Kopec, Olivia Mueller, Natalie Oong, Robbie Szafranek and Chloe Vardy.

Congratulations to all our students for their personal achievement.

Linda O’Brien (P.E.P. Co-ordinator)

WORKING BEE THANK YOU

The fourth and final working bee of the year was a great success with over 40 people representing Year 3.

We

- Installed 3 posts in the Prayer Garden and the mounted 3 memorial plaques
- Painted steps to office, and concrete edges besides path to rear playground
- Scrubbed clean all metal benches in assembly area
- Relocated all ‘eWaste’ from Archive room to separate storage area
- Taped frayed carpet edges in school hall
- Recovered all balls from the roof of the demountables
- Mulched the area to the side of the tennis court
- Cleaned out the drains
- Weeded garden beds, trimmed the hedges, and blew / swept all the leaves

The families who came along to help were: Gannon; Sella; McCormack; Weaver; Asnicar; Lenehan; McGrath; Cass; Choi; Betteridge; Slattery; along with a multitude of children.

I would also like to say ‘Thank You’ to Cynthia Keithly, who stopped by to deliver 2 trays of tasty muffins, and an urn of chilled water.

Donations also kindly received from 3 families.

My apologies if I have missed anyone from the list.

That was the last working bee for 2009. I would like to thank everyone for their contributions to the school through the working bees held during the year, and look forward to your continued support in 2010.

Keep watch for details of our next working bee.

Grounds & Maintenance Committee

SOCCER CLUB NEWS

Dads -Tuesday Nights - 6 A Side Soccer

Come and join the Prouille Dads for a friendly 6 aside kick around. Any standard welcome, no experience required. Standard ranges from beginner to international (well, some of us have played overseas anyway).

Time: Tuesday evenings 6:30 for 7pm start till Dark.

Location: Glade Oval Koora Ave Wahroonga.

We have 4 teams - red, white, yellow, blue - and no subs so bring a few coloured shirts.

Price: ...it's FREE.

Can't make it every time? Don't worry - this is casual and numbers flex to accommodate attendance.

Just turn up or contact Andrew McCallum (andrew.mccallum@cfal.com.au or newbrunrod@bigpond.com) and we will fit you in.

P&F NEWS

Reminder – Prouille Family Fun Raffle Tickets – Return Tomorrow

Please return these raffle tickets tomorrow. The raffle will be drawn at the conclusion of the concert tomorrow afternoon.

Jenny Bell (P&F Co-President)

THE COMBINED CHURCHES & KU-RING-GAI COUNCIL



**FREE - in Bi-Centennial Park, West Pymble
SATURDAY 12 December 2009**

free candles - family-friendly - no smoking - no pets
from 6 pm: children's face-painting - mini-farm - jazz group
bring a picnic or buy food there - St Ives Lions' sausage sizzle
- gelato - Asian food - tea/coffee - soft drinks

from 7.30 - 9.30: stage program "Let's celebrate Christmas"
Jazz Factory - OLPS school choir - Johnny Burns - Soulfood
plus choir and band from the Combined Churches

2009 - Year in Review

DPC Parent Forums held in Northern Cluster

- ◆ “Beyond Bratz, Britney and Big Brother” - Danielle Miller.
- ◆ “Children’s Understanding Grief & Loss” - Gay Camden

Plus Annual Diocese Leadership Evening for P&F Teams and 2009 Keynote Address & AGM

Thank you to all the DPC Reps from schools in the Northern Cluster. Your commitment and enthusiasm at each terms meeting is absolutely fantastic and plays an important role in keeping the parents in your schools up to date on relevant issues that affect the education of our children. Many thanks to outgoing reps for your time and dedication to the Diocesan Parent Council (DPC).

For information on all parents forums; Keynote Address “Happy Kids – Happy Families” ; the DPC; Family Camps; Email Newsletter *ConnectingU*; Parenting & Education Issues ; Parent workshops; Support material for P&F Teams and much more visit the DPC website ...

www.brokenbayparentcouncil.org

or contact Cathie parentcouncil@dbb.edu.au

*The **Diocesan Parent Council** represents **all** parents of children attending Catholic Schools in our Diocese. Each school’s P & F Assoc. has representation on their **DPC Cluster Parent Council.***

*Each Cluster has members on the DPC **Executive Team.***

Your School Community Your P&F Your DPC

SURVEYS AT PROUILLE SCHOOL

SURVEY # 1: LEARN TO SWIM BLOCK
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Should Prouille introduce an intensive 2 week “Learn to Swim Block” at the end of 2010 (in the final 2 weeks of Term 4)?

CIRCLE ONE CHOICE ONLY

- A: Yes, I think Prouille should have an intensive 2 week programme for all children K-6

- B: Yes, I think Prouille should have an intensive 2 week programme, but ONLY for Yrs K,1,2 and it can be offered for any non swimmers in Yrs 3,4,5,6

- C: No, I think swimming lessons are the responsibility of families to do outside of school hours and I do not see the value in having a “Learn to Swim Block” in school time

MY CHILD/REN IS/ARE IN THE FOLLOWING CLASS/ES IN 2009 (Please circle below)

K Yr 1 Yr 2 Yr 3 Yr 4 Yr 5 Yr 6

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SURVEY # 2: SECOND LANGUAGE LESSONS
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If Prouille introduced a second language into our curriculum, what would be your two preferred languages (French, German, Italian, Mandarin or Spanish) ... NB tuition would be an additional fee and lessons would be run by a private provider on Prouille’s premises before or after school..

CIRCLE TWO CHOICES ONLY

- French

- German

- Italian

- Mandarin

- Spanish

Please return Surveys to the School Office by Friday 27 November – Thank you