



PROUILLE NEWS

1 December, 2009

Term 4 Week 7 2009

Dear Parents,

Last weekend we moved into a most exciting time of the year; we celebrated the First Sunday of Advent. The Church has designated the four weeks preceding Christmas as The Season of Advent; a time to “prepare the way” for the coming of Jesus at Christmas. Advent is hopefully not just a time for us to prepare by putting up the Christmas tree!

I was speaking to my sister, Abigail, last week and she mentioned how their parish/school families are “preparing the way”.

Each family is encouraged to set up their Christmas tree now *without* any decorations on it. Whenever someone in the home does an ‘act of random kindness’ (ARK), they are invited to put a decoration on the tree. The idea is that when acts of service, sacrifice, or kindness are done, our children can add a decoration to build up the Christmas tree of kindness ... I wonder how many of us will have to go out and buy extra decorations before Christmas Day!

“Thank You Early Afternoon Tea for Parent Helpers”

As stated so clearly in the last newsletter, 2009 has been a year where so much has been achieved at Prouille and so much of the success of the year is due to our supportive parent body. To express thanks to all parent helpers, Prouille staff members warmly invite everyone to a very early afternoon tea at school on **Friday 11 December 1.30 pm** (followed by the usual 2.30 pm whole school assembly).

A separate flyer/invitation is attached to this newsletter ... Please complete the RSVP slip for catering purposes. I look forward to seeing many of you there!

Stage One Class Structures - 2010

Last Friday, I spent much of the day meeting at the Catholic Schools Office (CSO) with senior CSO staff discussing enrolment and staffing numbers at Prouille for 2010.

In September 2009, Senior CSO staff agreed that Prouille’s staffing allocation would be confirmed in November based on the “up to date” evidence of 2010 student enrolment projections.

Last Friday, Br Tony Whelan, agreed that our 2010 student enrolment projections justify an additional teacher/class for next year.

Thus, the 2010 Stage 1 grouping will have four classes (ie Year1, Year 1, Year 2, Year 2).

Playground Equipment

I am keen to hear comments from more parents re the proposed new playground equipment (see images in school office) – by tomorrow please.

NB: Due to the close proximity to the fence and other restrictive OH+S reasons, the proposed equipment is primarily designed for K-4.

Students’ Talent Quest

Several parents have enquired about dates for the Student Talent Quest that is being organised by Year 6:

K-Yr 2: Monday 14 December 11.20 am – 12.45 pm

Yrs 3-6: Tuesday 15 December 11.20 am – 12.45 pm

Philip Ledlin (Principal)

Prouille Catholic School
5 Water Street Wahroonga
Phone: (02) 9489 3233
Fax: (02) 9489 3954
mail@prouillewhrnga.brokenbay.catholic.edu.au

Father Steve Hume (Parish Priest)

Holy Name Parish Church
35 Billyard Avenue Wahroonga
Phone: (02) 9489 3221
Fax: (02) 9489 7801
www.holynamewahroonga.com.au

Assemblies in Term 4

Whole school assemblies in Term 4 will be at 2.30 pm on Fridays.

St Leo's Catholic College Wins Prestigious Teaching Award

St Leo's Catholic College, Wahroonga has won a Highly Commended Award for Excellence by a School and its Community at the Australian Awards for Teaching Excellence.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Education Julia Gillard presented Debbie Buscall, Principal of St Leo's Catholic College, with the award at Parliament House, Canberra last Thursday, 29 October, 2009. This is the first time St Leo's has won such an award.

The award is wonderful recognition for the great work the entire school community has put in to improving the school in various ways over the past eight years. The College undertakes regular evaluations of its academic, spiritual, cultural and religious programs in order to focus on continuous improvement and how to best respond to the needs of students, staff, parents and the community.

The citation from the Award reads:

"St Leo's Catholic College has broadened its thinking and ways of working with young people and their parents to become a vibrant and challenging learning community with a reputation for innovation and excellence.

The success of the College's wide ranging reform is evident in significant and sustained improvement in academic performance. Student engagement and retention has increased with students seeing their education as more meaningful, interesting, challenging and worthwhile and student behaviour reflects the positive environment.

The College's approach to renewing learning and teaching has been strongly evidence based with particular focus on innovative curriculum and pastoral care programs, introduction of information and communication technology and relationship building among the whole school community".

"Congratulations are extended to staff, parents and students as this achievement reflects the commitment of all to the achievement of excellence on all aspects of College life," said Tony Gleeson, Assistant Principal at St Leo's.

New Fire Rating Scale

As an outcome of the interim report of the *2009 Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission*, a new fire rating scale has been recommended and adopted nationally. Details of the new scale are outlined on *page 8* of this *Fire Risk Control Guide*.

The new scale now includes a 'Catastrophic' rating (Code Red), which indicates that there is a forecast of catastrophic conditions associated with a very real likelihood of major loss of life and property.

The new scale escalates as follows:

Low-Moderate ► High ► Very High ► Severe ► Extreme ► Catastrophic

Both 'Extreme' and 'Catastrophic' fire danger days will be associated with total fire bans.

Once a 'Catastrophic' rating is reached, it is the recommendation of bushfire authorities (the Rural Fire Service and the NSW Fire Brigade) that residents **do not stay** with their properties.

Yours sincerely,

Philip Ledlin
Principal

There was

a blind girl who hated herself because she was blind.
 She hated everyone, except her loving boyfriend.
 He was always there for her. She told her boyfriend,
 "If I could only see
the world, I will marry you."

One day,

Someone donated a pair of eyes to her.
 When the bandages came off, she was able
 to see everything, including her
boyfriend.

He asked her,

'Now that you can see the world, will you marry me?'
 The girl looked at her boyfriend and saw that he was blind.
 The sight of his closed eyelids shocked her.
 She hadn't expected that.
 The thought of looking at them the rest of her life
led her to refuse to marry him.

Her boyfriend

left in tears and days later wrote a note to her saying:
 'Take good care of your eyes, my dear, for before
they were yours, they were mine.

This is

how the human brain often works when our status changes.
 Only a very few remember what life was like before, and who
was always by their side in the most painful situations.

Life is a**Gift****Today**

before you say an unkind word – Think of someone
who can't speak.

Before

you complain about the taste of your food – Think of someone
who has nothing to eat.

Before

you complain about your husband or wife – Think of someone
who's crying out to GOD for a companion.

Today

before you complain about life – Think of someone who went
too early to heaven.

Before

whining about the distance you drive – Think of someone who
walks the same distance with their feet.

And when

you are tired and complain about your job – Think of the unemployed,
 the disabled, and those who wish they had your
job.

And when

depressing thoughts seem to get your down – Put a smile on your face
 And think: you're alive and still
around.

(Thank you for this story, Trudi)

IMPORTANT DATES

2.12.09	Wednesday	1.45 pm – Mary Rajca in Hall – talk about Peru. 3.30 pm – 4.30 pm – Free Funnet “Try it out’ day at Prouille.
3.12.09	Thursday	Principals’ Meeting. 1.00 pm – Chess Tournament. Sale of Peruvian gifts.
4.12.09	Friday	Year 2 Excursion – “Active Lifestyles” – Sydney Olympic Park. Sale of Peruvian gifts. 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. Glow products on sale at door (approx. \$1.50 - \$3.00).
8.12.09	Tuesday	9.30 am – 11.00 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. 1.30 pm – Thank You Early Afternoon Tea for Parent Helpers. 2.30 pm – Whole School Assembly.
14.12.09	Monday	11.20 am – 12.45 pm – K-2 Talent Quest.
15.12.09	Tuesday	11.20 am – 12.45 pm – Yrs 3-6 Talent Quest.
16.12.09	Wednesday	<u>9.15 am</u> - 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.
28.01.10	Thursday	Uniform Shop opens from 8.45 am – 9.30 am & 2.45 pm – 3.30 pm. Please note: NO full fitouts without an appointment.
30.01.10	Saturday	9.00 am – 12.00 pm – Water St Netball Registration at Prouille.

<u>TERM 1 2010 DATES</u>

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*

Holy Name Christmas Eve Mass

We will be having several practices in the weeks leading up to Christmas:

- 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm Tuesday 15th December (everyone except musicians and singers)
- 10:30 am – 12 pm Monday 21st December (everyone except musicians and singers)
- 10:30 am – 12 pm Tuesday 22nd December (musicians and singers)

Mass is on Christmas Eve, Thursday 24th December, with carols starting at 4:30 pm and Mass starting at 5 pm. We will need everyone involved to arrive around 4 pm to set up.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Please contact **Hayley – 9489 4701** or **Jane - 9449 4998** – with any enquiries.

Any parents who are keen to come along and help are very welcome.



*O Emmanuel, Jesus Christ,
desire of every nation,
Saviour of all peoples,
come and dwell among us.*



Last Sunday saw the beginning of Advent, and the beginning of a new Church Year, Cycle C. The importance of the Season of Advent remains to focus on the coming of our Lord. Advent derives from the Latin word “adventus”, meaning “coming.”

The way in which we prepare for our Lord’s coming is two-fold. In one way, we look forward to the celebration of our Lord’s Birth at Christmas. In another way, we recall those reminders in Scripture, and in our Creed, that our Lord will come again to judge the living and the dead, and that we must be ready to meet Him.

Often at this time of year, we see within our churches symbolic reminders of the Season of Advent. The colour purple or blue is seen, and the use of an Advent Wreath or Southern Cross helps us “count down” the weeks until Christmas.

The wreath is a circle – it has no beginning or end. Symbolically, within our own lives, we participate in the eternity of God’s plan of salvation whereby we hope to one day share in the eternal life of Heaven.

The green plant-life symbolizes the new life Jesus gave us through his passion, death and resurrection. The purple candles symbolize penance and preparation, and the pink candle symbolizes the same reasons, but highlights the “half way mark” of Advent as it is lit on the Third Sunday. The light of the candle represents Christ, who came to show us the way, the truth and the light.

During Advent, let us prepare ourselves for the joyous occasion that is the celebration of the Coming of our Lord, Jesus.

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal



Thank you for your outstanding response to the 2009 Christmas Appeal! Your generosity is overwhelming, highlighting the beautiful nature of this community. The quality gifts and hamper items that have been contributed will greatly benefit the Whalan families we are supporting.

It would be very helpful if all gifts and hamper items be brought in to school by **Monday 7th December**. For those bringing in gifts, we ask that they be placed within the office, so as to be allocated to the correct family’s hamper at a later date.

The packing of hampers is to take place in the hall on **Thursday 10th December**. More information will be given later if you are interested in assisting with this.

If you would like to assist in the delivery of the hampers, Mr David Brett has called for volunteer drivers to accompany him out to Whalan on Sunday 13th December. If you are interested in this, could you please complete the required form at the end of this newsletter and send it in as soon as possible, so I can forward your details onto David.

Candela Stall

We welcome Mrs Mary Rajca on Wednesday 2nd December, who will speak to the children and staff in the hall at 1.45 pm. This is a talk that we would invite all parents to come and hear. It is a wonderful fundraising initiative to support as all proceeds (every single cent) goes directly to the Candela community of Peru. The Mission Prefects and SRC representatives will assist in the selling of the goods at our own Peru Stall during lunchtime Thursday 3rd December and Friday 4th December. The cost of the handmade goods usually range from \$2 - \$10. We thank you for your support with this.

Prayer Garden Mural

Within the next week or so, you will notice the inclusion of a beautiful three-panelled mural that will be displayed within our Prayer Garden. The mural is the creation of Mr Michael Ford (Year 6 teacher) who combined a number of Dominican symbols and elements to reflect a place of serenity, hope and faith. This will help to complete the Prayer Garden, which is a beautiful space regularly used by all members of Prouille.

Book of Remembrance

This year we began the Prouille Book of Remembrance which has been placed within our Prayer Garden throughout the month of November. This special commemorative book will remain within the school, so feel free to request a contribution to the book as the year continues. It will be publicly displayed each November.

Year 6 Graduation Mass and Celebration



This special night is fast approaching! Thank you to all who have been assisting in helping make both the Mass and Celebration truly memorable for our Year 6 students. Thank you to Fr Stephen, Mr Ford, Mrs O'Brien and the Year 6 students, as well as the parents and students of Year 5.



There will be some added aspects to this evening to help enhance the culmination of what has been a truly special journey for our Year 6 students. I thank in particular Mr Ledlin, Adelaide F and Stephanie R for assisting me with one of these inclusions.

We look forward to welcoming those people who will be in attendance at Holy Name Church on **Tuesday 8th December at 6.30 pm.**

House Colour Banners – Year 6 Gift 2009

You may have already seen an example of the design and creation of the four House Colour banners that have been made by the Year 6 students as part of their farewell gift to the school. The examples are within the School Office for you to see, and will be presented to the community at the End of Year Mass on Wednesday 16th December. The process for the banner choice and symbolism was indeed one that involved the collaboration of all Year 6 students, and was facilitated by Mr Ledlin, Mr Ford and myself. In the next newsletter, I will include a description of each banner as written by our current House Colour Captains. A huge thank you to Mrs Lee-Anne Plasto whose creative talents helped personalize the symbols chosen by the Year 6 students. These banners will indeed be a wonderful legacy from both the Year 6 children and Mrs Plasto when they leave us at the end of the year.

Reconciliation

Last week Fr Steve and Fr Martin came and celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation with Year 4H. This week they will celebrate with Years 5 and 6, and Year 3H and 3AC will receive Reconciliation the following week. This is especially lovely at this time of year, as Advent reminds us of the need to seek forgiveness for the mistakes we have made.

Wishing you peace and blessings.

Vanessa Dillon (R.E. Co-ordinator)

SPORTS NEWS



Broken Bay Summer Trials

Congratulations to Vanessa Andersen (5T), who has been selected in the Broken Bay Tennis team for 2010. Special mention also to Isabella Sharpe (5T), who has been named our First Reserve.

League Tag Finals

On Tuesday a Year 4 and a Year 6 girls team will represent Prouille at the North Sydney League Tag Finals at Cliff Oval. We wish them the best of luck!!!

Louise Tamone (PE/Sport Teacher)



PROUILLE'S ANNUAL SCHOOL DISCO - THIS FRIDAY, 4 DECEMBER - ST LUCY'S SCHOOL HALL



Kindy – Year 2 Disco from 5 pm-6.45 pm: Years 3-6 Disco from 7 pm-8.45 pm

- All children must be checked in and out.
- Glow products will be for sale at the door - we have items for \$1.50, \$2 and \$3.
- Please enter St Lucy's from the FRONT OF THE SCHOOL, but DO NOT DRIVE INTO THE CARPARK.
- Please park on Cleveland Street and walk your child into St Lucy's school grounds.

THANK YOU to all those of you who have kindly volunteered to help.

We need an **ARMY** of parents to help with the following duties:

- set up tables and chairs (about 7 tables). St Lucy's is providing all chairs and tables;
- help check the kids in/out;
- sell glow products;
- keep the kids off the play equipment outside (this is most important) ;
- heat up the nuggets in the kitchen and transfer to trays for serving, and make sure kitchen is left as we find it;
- help with serving pizzas, nuggets and drinks;
- supervise the toilet area bag up the rubbish;
- put all the chairs and tables etc away at the end of the evening and make sure everything is clean and tidy; and
- generally keep the kids in line to ensure they ALL have a fantastic time!

Spontaneous dancing and joining in is also recommended, but not essential!

Any questions, please email me pinnaclelscapes@optusnet.com.au. Many thanks, Sally Asnicar.

NETBALL NEWS

Water St Netball - Current Funnet girls and boys welcome.

New Kindies 2010 especially welcome.

We are holding a free **Funnet 'Try it out' Day** on Wednesday 2nd December 3.30 pm to 4.30 pm at School. Please come along.

RSVP for numbers to Glenda Sella: 9980 1783 or email glenda.sella@optusnet.com.au.

For more information, please feel welcome to contact Glenda.

NetSetGo – The next Funnet NetSetGo course will be held after school during term 2, 2010, at Prouille school, with the special NetSetGo Coach. This will be a great introduction to netball skills and teamwork for all players. It's also a great way for Kindies, and their parents, to make friends.

Water St Netball Registration Day for 2010 - Join us for a sausage sizzle!

Water St Netball Registration Day is **Saturday 30th January 2010** from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm at Prouille Primary School, 5 Water St, Wahroonga. All teams including Funnet, Netta, 8s, 9s, 10s, 11s and 12s, as well as Cadets and Masters register on this day. It is the first Saturday of Term 1, 2010.



ENSEMBLE NEWS



Congratulations to the String Ensemble for their wonderful performance last Friday at McQuoin Park, an aged care facility.

Your playing was greatly enjoyed by all present, with the audience singing along in fine voice (and not just for the carols!) and obviously revelling in every moment of your performance. The Christmas carols you prepared were also greatly appreciated.

You were all a credit to Prouille! Well done!

Thank you also to our helpers – Mrs Slattery and Mr Eugene Dit Rochesson.

Moira Hutchinson (String/Ensemble Music Teacher)

PROUILLE SOCCER CLUB

Players who have not already returned their soccer shirts please return them to the school office by Monday 7th December as we will be conducting our yearly stock take shortly.

Please contact **Megan Mooney** on **9989 8098** for any enquiries.



SUMMER SWIMMING CLASSES

HEATED POOLS

Bush School; Lady Davidson Hydro Pool



Book now for Holiday & Term Classes

Contact Chris Curran: curran100@gmail.com

KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE

This free course for parents/carers includes topics such as:
 Tips for raising happy children; Tips to enjoy parenting; Creating a safe relationship with your child;
 Keeping your child safe in your home; Keeping your child safe from abuse;
 The effects of abuse on children; Parenting strategies, etc.

Certificates awarded upon completion of course!

Free afternoon tea!

Where: Centacare Waitara, 29 Yardley Avenue, Waitara

When: Wednesdays **Time:** 12.30 pm – 2.30 pm

Start Date: 10 February for 6 weeks

Leaders: Sharyn Lynch & Laura Hurstfield (Family Support Workers)

Bookings Essential: Call Sharyn on 9488 2400

Community News

- **INCY WINCY - 66 Coonanbarra Road, Wahroonga**

Here is a quick and easy way to get organised and save on the cost of school shoes. Do you remember last year the rush and bother to get your kids organised ready for school? Well here is the reminder! We will even give you an incentive to get organised by offering you **\$10 off each pair of school shoes or sports shoes**. Here are a few reasons in coming to us you'll not only be organised and save money but actually enjoy the experience:-

- There is ample free street parking so no hassle and no fighting for a parking spot
- Our staff are children friendly and love serving your little people
- Strange but true, you can even enjoy the trip by spending time with your family at Wahroonga Park.

Incy Wincy is Wahroonga's leading children's wear store and we care about your family and your children's feet. You can pick up all the great brands like Start Rite, Ecco, Giocatello, Primigi, Achieve New Balance... Simply bring this notice with you when you come in and we will look after the rest. So come in and let us help fit your kids with the perfect school & sports shoe for 2010.

Cassandra and the Incy Wincy Team - Phone 02 9489 3913 | Fax 02 9489 9961

- **CRICKET COACHING CLINICS – BOYS & GIRLS (5-16 YEARS)**

Experienced teachers & coaches; Skills & safety focus; Fruit supplied for morning tea; Written profile for each child; Clinics endorsed by Cricket NSW & Stephen Waugh

Bankstown, Bankstown Oval 6-8 Jan 2010 - 9 am – 1 pm

Parramatta, The King's School 14-16 Dec 2009 - 9 am – 1 pm: 11-12 Jan 2010 - 9 am – 3 pm:
18-19 Jan 2010 - 9 am – 3 pm

Nth Sydney, North Sydney Oval No. 2 11-13 Jan 2010 – 9 am – 1 pm: 18-20 Jan 2010 – 9 am – 1 pm

St Ives, Hassell Park 15-17 Dec 2009 – 9 am – 1 pm: 12-14 Jan 2010 – 9 am – 1 pm:
19-21 Jan 2010 – 9 am – 1 pm

Baulkham Hills, Ted Horwood Reserve 13-15 Jan 2010 – 9 am – 1 pm: 20-22 Jan 2010 9 am – 1 pm

Bookings/Details: 0401 382 409 or 9489 8187 Email: geoff@cricketcoachingclinics.com.au

Website: www.cricketchoachingclinics.com.au

- **WAITARA TENNIS COACHING – SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMPS – TIMES: 9 am – 3 pm Daily**

Waitara Tennis Centre, Park Avenue, Waitara (Daily rate \$40/ Half day \$30)

Camp 1: Monday 21 – Thursday 24 December 2009 Cost: \$110

Camp 2: Monday 11 – Friday 15 January 2010 Cost: \$140

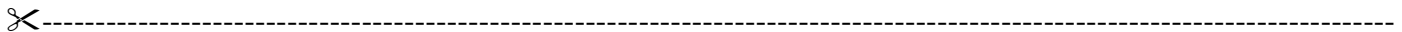
Camp 3: Monday 18 – Friday 22 January 2010 Cost: \$140

A fun week of coaching, skill development and activities that will improve your child's tennis.

Features: Ball Machine, Video Analysis, Coaching of forehand/backhand/serves & volleys, Correct grip/ready position, Footwork & movement training, Fun games/challenges/tournaments, Free BBQ on Friday.

Please book early!! Please make cheques payable to "Waitara Tennis Coaching".

Mark Rawlison: 9489 2713 or 0412 834 336 Alan Stopford: 9980 8003 or 0411 426 554



DELIVERY OF CHRISTMAS HAMPERS



I would like to assist in the delivery of Christmas Hampers to the Whalan Community on Sunday 13th December.

Name: _____

Contact Number: _____



*Prouille Staff cordially invite all parents to a
“Thank You Parent Helpers’
Early Afternoon Tea”
on Friday 11 December at 1.30 pm
(Followed by the usual 2.30 pm
whole School Assembly)
(Please RSVP by Friday 4 December)*



Parent Helpers’ Afternoon Tea

*I will be able to attend the Parent Helpers’
Afternoon Tea on Friday 11 December.*

Name:

