



St Agnes Catholic High School

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email: stagnes@parra.catholic.edu.au

SCHOOL WEBSITE: www.stagnesrootyhill.catholic.edu.au

Follow us on FACEBOOK: [StAgnesRootyHill](https://www.facebook.com/StAgnesRootyHill)

to truth through love

Diary Dates

26 May

Loyola Trade Centre
Information Night 5pm

27 May

Yellow Day - Australia
Biggest Morning Tea

29 May

Year 8 Reflection Day
Stage 5 Music excursion

8 June

Queens Birthday

10 June

Year 8 Music Fretwork
incursion

15 June

Year 8 Science Incursion
Year 7 Drumming
Incursion

16 June

Year 8 Science Incursion
Year 7 RE Excursion

17 June

Year 8 Science Incursion

18 June

Year 10 Western Sydney
Careers Expo

19 June

Careers Expo Morning

22 June

Year 10 Brainstorm
Incursion

22 May 2015

True Beauty

A woman was asked what she used to make her complexion so beautiful and her whole being so bright and attractive. She answered:

I use for my lips, truth

I use for my voice, kindness

I use for my ears, compassion

I use for my hands, charity

I use for my heart, love

I use for any who do not like me, prayer.

We live in a world that promotes attractiveness that is solely based on physical appearance, a world which delights in scandal and a world where permissiveness has been taken so far that there is little left to permit.

Christianity must stand out as being counter to such narcissistic, self indulgent and shallow culture.

One of the most beautiful people of the late 20th century was Mother Teresa of Calcutta. Beyond her outward appearance of a small, wrinkled, hunched and elderly woman shone a radiance and beauty that even complete strangers were able to recognise in an instant. Mother Teresa lived a life of truth, kindness, love, prayer and hope.

This is the life we are each called to as Christians in order to fulfill our true purpose as disciples of Jesus.



Peter Brogan
Principal



Staff members show appreciation to their mothers on 11 May

**St Agnes
Catholic High School**

Evans Road

Rooty Hill

Ph: 02 8882 0700

Fax: 02 8882 0790

**St Clare's
Catholic High School**

175 Buckwell Drive

Hassall Grove

Ph: 02 9835 2466

Fax: 02 9835 2539

**Loyola Senior
High School**

91 North Parade

Mt Druitt

Ph: 02 9832 4455

Fax: 02 9832 1839

From the Assistant Principal , Mr Peter Regan

As we travel to and from school, we are mindful of our surroundings and the safety of all members of our community. I have included a few tips to remember as we commute between home and school.

- Stay alert, and keep iPods turned off, so you can hear what's going on around you.
- Make sure that you never walk away from parents or friends without telling them first.
- Avoid talking to people you do not know especially when parents are not around.
- If you think someone is following you, cross the road or go to a place with lots of people around, like a bus stop or shop.
- When travelling by bus, try to use bus stops on busy roads.
- Keep mobile phones and other valuables out of sight.
- Don't be afraid to speak up if they feel they might be in danger.

Teaching and Learning

We are learning every day and growing individually, and as a community. I would encourage our students to speak out if they see things happening in our school which are not consistent with our values. It is not good enough to be the silent observer. Each of us needs to take responsibility for making our school a place where every member feels welcomed and accepted. Once we accept the responsibility for changing ourselves, we will begin to see changes in our community and ultimately in our world.

Picking up and dropping off students before and after school

I would like to remind parents that double parking anywhere is against the law but more particularly very dangerous within a school zone. It is important that parents and visitors to school follow the road rules regardless of how inconvenient this could be at times. As you would be aware our site is extremely busy. Parents are asked not to drop off, or pick up, their children in the car park from 7.30 am to 3.00 pm. The gate will be closed so we can maintain the safety of our students. Everyone's cooperation in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Communication

It is crucial for all parents/guardians to be involved in their child's learning. You may have a question or a query regarding homework, attendance, motivation, or study techniques, just to name a few areas. If you would like any information regarding your child's education, you can send a message in your child's diary, email (pregan@parra.catholic.edu.au) or call me (8882 0701) during school hours.

Mr Peter Regan
Assistant Principal

If you stop in a 'No Stopping' area - Fine from \$311 + 2 demerit points



You must not stop your vehicle on a length of road or in an area in which a No Stopping sign applies.

No Stopping includes when the vehicle is not moving but the engine is still running.

If you stop on or near a 'Pedestrian Crossing' - Fine from \$415 + 2 demerit points

You must not stop or park your vehicle on or near a pedestrian crossing to drop people off or pick them up.

If you stop in a 'Bus Zone' - Fine from \$311 + 2 demerit points



You must not stop or park your vehicle in a bus zone for any reason.

This includes when the vehicle is not moving but the engine is still running.

If you are Double Parked - Fine from \$311 + 2 demerit points

You must not stop your vehicle or park in the middle of the road to drop people off or pick them up. Always stop or park legally and safely at the edge of the road or in a parking area.

From the Teaching & Learning Coordinator, Mr Laurence De Martin

Year 10 Subject Selections

Students in Year 10 will soon be faced with the difficult decision of choosing subjects to study for their final two years of schooling.

One of the best pieces of advice to give students is to choose subjects that they are good at, interested in and may use in the future.

When considering which course to study, students should explore the content of a course. Will they be required to submit a major work or perform as part of their exams?

On the BOSTES (previously known as The NSW Board of Studies) website, there is a wealth of information for students to access that may help answer their questions.

I encourage all students to view the link below, as the more information they can get regarding the HSC, the easier their decision will be in forming their pattern of study for Years 11 & 12.

https://studentonline.bos.nsw.edu.au/go/seniorstudy/hsc_subject_selection

Western Sydney Careers Expo

On Thursday 18 June all Year 10 students will be attending the Western Sydney Careers Expo which will be held at Sydney Olympic Park.

The expo is the biggest education and careers event in the Western Sydney area and provides resources and information for tertiary courses, career and employment options, the HSC, study strategies, and much more.

A feature of the Expo is the seminar program with presentations on a course, career and study advice, employment opportunities and key HSC subjects.

Students will receive invaluable career related information that will help them make more informed decisions as to their career choices.

Laurence De Martin
Teaching & Learning Coordinator



MOBILE PHONE HOSPITAL
Westpoint, Blacktown

iPhone & iPad REPAIR

The Mobile Phone Hospital, located in Westpoint, Blacktown, have special pricing on all iPad and iPhone repairs for St Agnes students.

Pricing
iPad 2, 3 and 4 - \$84
iPad Mini is \$129 and iPad Air - \$149.
iPhone 4 and iPhone 5 - call for special price
(You must show your School ID Card or a letter from the school)

How to redeem special pricing:
1. Contact: Neel on 96768850
2. Email: blacktown@mobilephonehospital.com.au
3. Visit: Shop No. L02, K203 (Level 2)

Price includes a 6-month warranty on their workmanship, please confirm with Neel at the time of repair.

From the Religious Education Coordinator, Ms Julie Atkins

It has been a shock to my system starting back at school this term in Week 4. I have just returned from a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and Italy of which I was fortunate to travel with a great group of pilgrims from schools within the Parramatta Diocese.

We started our pilgrimage in Jordan where we travelled to Mt Nebo; Mt Nebo is the place where Moses saw the Promised Land for the first time. On top of this mountain I looked down upon the wild, rugged terrain and thought about the difficulties that Moses would have faced there so many years before. We were able to look out and see the Promised Land, but unlike Moses we knew we would make it there. Many of our pilgrim destinations were on mountaintops, like Mt Nebo, Mt Nabor and the Mount of the Beatitudes. We had our 'mountaintop moments' but always knew that we would soon head back to the valleys in which we live and work.



Very experienced tour guides brought the gospels to life for us and explained their culture and the geography and history of the area, which gave us a deeper understanding of the location.

My challenge is to bring the 'mountaintop moments' to both staff and students at St Agnes, while we carry out our daily valley lives, and to draw our St Agnes community to a deeper understanding of Jesus Christ.



One of the most comforting things we found on our pilgrimage is that we found parts of home (Australia) on our journey. At the top of Mt Nebo we were greeted with an Australian Wattle tree. Crossing the border between Jordan and Israel we were surprised to see Eucalyptus and Bottlebrush trees. With home being so far away it was nice to feel that we were not as far removed as we thought.



We finished our pilgrimage in Assisi, the birthplace of St Francis. This, I think, is my highlight of the pilgrimage although there were many others. The peace and tranquility of Assisi captured me with its simplicity and beauty. We visited many of the places where St Francis lived and prayed as we walked the streets of the ancient town.

I hope, over the rest of the year, to share some of the places that are in the gospels and that were brought to life for me and the many pilgrims who traveled with me.

Peace and all good!!

Ms Julie Atkins

Religious Education Coordinator



*“Mary,
Mother of God,
help me to respond to
God’s call to nurture a
family as you did.
Help me to show love
and care to everyone
around me.”*

Amen

St Agnes Celebrates Mother's Day

On 11th May, St Agnes staff members celebrated Mother's Day by inviting their mother's and grandmothers here to watch their child/grandchild at work, as well as seeing the multicultural students at St Agnes.

Mothers and grandmothers were afforded the opportunity to experience the Franciscan culture we have at the school. At recess, staff members were invited to light a memorial candle for their mothers and grandmothers who have gone to rest, but whose flame will never be extinguished from our hearts and minds. These small candles were lit around the main eternal candle, which formed our sacred space.

Members of the school's acclaimed choir performed 'Gentle Woman' for our mothers and grandmothers under the guidance of the choir coordinators, Mr Weaver and Miss Juarez, while staff and invited guests enjoyed a Devonshire Tea.

All special guests were also given a small gift, a bunch of flowers and a bookmark with the image of St Anne, the Patron saint of pregnant mothers, mothers and grandmothers, on behalf of the community.

A very big thank you to the liturgy team, especially Miss Brogan and Miss Valleri and Ms Green, for making the morning a beautiful experience.



Year 9 Celebrate 'Seder'

On 11th May, students of Year 9 were provided the opportunity, as part of their religious studies, to participate in the Jewish Seder meal. Presenter Ms Jeanie Kitchener (Jewish Board of Education) was floored with, not only with the school's facilities, but also with the students' participation, respect and behavior during the 1-hour celebration.

The Seder meal is celebrated during Passover, which began at sunset on Friday 3rd April and ended at sunset Saturday 11th April. Ms Kitchener went through the role and significance of the meal, explaining the significance of each of the elements linking them back to the Exodus story in the Old Testament. She also described the aspect of the family meal and the role of all family members.

Thank you to Ms Kelly, Mrs Habib, Ms Atkins, Mr Sadsad and Mr Szczgiel for participating in this event with students. I am sure the students will remember this experience for a very long time and can reflect on it when learning about the importance of Inter-Faith Dialogue.

All year 9 are to be congratulated for their behavior and participation in the significant event.

Mr Patrick Madigan
Religious Education Teacher



From the Bishop, Catholic Education Office

Pilgrimage to World Youth Day 2016 in Krakow Info Night

Our Diocese plans to accompany more than 400 young people and students to the next World Youth Day. Two itineraries will take us through Poland and the Philippines before the weeklong celebration in Krakow. In June there will be information nights in five different parts of the Diocese for interested young people, their parents, teachers and clergy running from 7pm-8.30pm.

- Tuesday 26 May - St Thomas Aquinas Parish, Springwood
- Monday 15 June - St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, Parramatta
- Tuesday 16 June - Our Lady of the Angels Parish, Rouse Hill

For more information go to our diocesan WYD website: www.parrawyd.org or contact James Camden - Director of Catholic Youth Parramatta: <mailto:jcamden@parra.catholic.org.au>

Spend a day with the Notre Dame Folk Choir: 30 May

Join inspirational musicians from The University of Notre Dame in the US for a day of live singing and workshops. On their first visit to Australia from the US, the Notre Dame Folk Choir's 50 choristers and instrumentalists will come to St Patrick's Cathedral and will demonstrate how good liturgical music can inspire and nurture faith through a day of workshops, prayer and a concert. From 11.30am-4.30pm. Cost: \$5 per person (cash only, to be collected on the day) Register at: <http://www.parra.catholic.org.au>

Vocation Discernment Afternoon: 31 May

All young men who feel God might be calling them to the priesthood are invited to the Catholic Diocese of Parramatta's Vocation Discernment Afternoon. The afternoon starts at 2pm and concludes with a shared meal at 6pm. The venue is Holy Spirit Seminary is at 31-33 Allen Street, Harris Park. To find out more about priesthood in the Diocese of Parramatta contact the Director of Priestly Vocations, Fr Warren Edwards, tel 0409 172 700 or send an email to: <mailto:vocations@parra.catholic.org.au>

For further information visit: www.parra.catholic.org.au/vocations or www.parra.catholic.org.au/holyspiritseminary

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend

Keep the chill out of your relationship this winter with a weekend together. A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is a *Marriage Enrichment* experience - set in peaceful, picturesque surroundings, away from the distractions of everyday life. During the weekend, couples have a unique opportunity to reconnect, rekindle and refresh their relationship. Give the greatest gift, that of your time alone - invest in your most precious asset..your Marriage!

2015 Weekend Dates - 19-21 June, 11-13 September, 13-15 November

Venue: Mount Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW

To apply contact: Ardell & Bill Sharpe Tel. 02 4283 3435 or wsharpe@bigpond.net.au

This month's Faith at Work DWF Appeal

The Diocesan Works Fund Appeal with the theme 'Faith at Work' is being held in parishes and Catholic schools this month. The appeal gives us the opportunity to act together as a diocesan family to support ministries and services that no single individual or parish can offer. For example, it supports catechists who teach the faith in state schools, seminarians who are preparing for the priesthood, young adults working in youth ministry, prison and hospital chaplaincy, Pre-marriage Education through CatholicCare. Visit the Faith at Work website to see how your donation can make a difference: www.faithatwork.org.au



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www.fivestarshuttles.com

St Aidan's Primary
1-5 Adelaide Street
Rooty Hill
Ph: 02 9625 3181
Fax: 02 9625 5612

Sacred Heart Primary
23 Nelson Street
Mt Druitt South
Ph: 02 9625 8733
Fax: 02 9832 2258

Holy Family Primary
Weber Crescent
Emerton
Ph: 02 9628 9232
Fax: 02 9628 9589

**St John Vianney's
Primary**
17 Cameron Street
Doonside
Ph: 02 9831 1817
Fax: 02 9831 6430

*a diverse
community
learning
together*

From the Counsellor – Mrs Suzan Boulattouf



The internet and mobile phones provide great ways to express yourself and communicate with others. It's important to make sure they're used responsibly so that everyone has an enjoyable online experience.

It's all about respecting yourself and others.

1. Use a **strong password**, a combination of upper and lower case letters, numbers and symbols, eg P@\$w0rd!
2. Use **secure web browsers**, those with https at the start of the URL and a padlock or other indication that it is secure, when sharing sensitive information.
3. Update your **operating system** regularly and make sure you have **antivirus** software installed on your computer and other devices – phones too!
4. Avoid opening or responding to emails from people you do not know and aren't expecting – They could contain a virus or malicious software.
5. Don't give out **private information** over the internet or mobile phones about you, your family and friends. Also think about what information might be contained in photos you share.
6. Only accept **friend requests** from people you know and trust. When it comes to friends and followers online it is not a popularity contest!
7. **Think before you post!** Once you've pressed 'Send' you can't get that back. Who might see that photo, video or comment? Where might it end up?
8. Make sure your social media accounts are set to **private or friends only!** Also make sure you check your privacy settings regularly as they can change without you knowing.
9. Tell your friends to ask for **your permission** before uploading or tagging you in a photo – Make sure you do the same!
10. Don't post **inappropriate or illegal** content - It is impossible to permanently delete digital content once it has been shared.

Most importantly, know where you can go for help! Speak to an adult you trust if something makes you feel uncomfortable online or on a mobile phone. You can also contact:

- Reach Out: www.reachout.com.au
- Bullying. No Way!: www.bullyingnoway.com.au
- Kids Helpline: 1800 55 1800
- Youth Beyond Blue: www.youthbeyondblue.com
- The **website, application or phone carrier** that you were using at the time



SCHOOL FEES

Parents should receive their statements by the end of next week for Term 2 fees. Term 2 fees are due on 25 May 2015.

Parents wishing to make a payment plan, or are in financial difficulty, are asked to contact the Finance Secretary, Mrs Lorraine Bailey, on 8882 0706 or the Business Manager, Mrs Kelly Pickett on 8882 0702

'Bring it On' Performance

OUR PARISHES

St Aidan's
9 Adelaide Street
Rooty Hill
Ph: 02 9625 8404

Sacred Heart
23 Nelson Street
Mt Druitt South
Ph: 02 9625 8847

Holy Family
254 Luxford Road
Emerton
Ph: 02 9628 7272

St John Vianney's
17 Cameron Street
Doonside
Ph: 02 9622 3426

"Bring It On" is a high energy dance event primarily hip-hop focused. It features a diverse range of secondary schools, bringing to the stage 5 minutes of entertaining dance. It is an event that encourages participation in all spheres of life and showcases creativity and immense talent.

With the vision of Bring It On being "Empower Youth" our students have been working with a group of dedicated volunteers who assist the students, as mentors, to encourage the students to realise their full potential both on and off the stage.

Our students will be performing their dance during Heat 1 on Saturday 6th June, 6:30 pm at State Sports Centre, Olympic Park and would like your support.

More information and for discounted tickets visit <http://bringiton.ning.com>

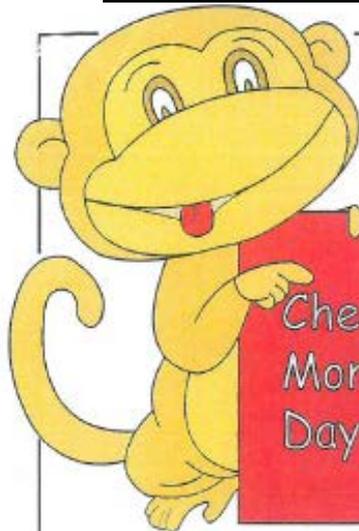


SYDNEY 2015 6TH JUNE
2 HEATS IN 1 SHOW
HEAT 1 X HEAT 2
6:30PM X 8:00PM
1 TICKET FOR BOTH SHOWS

BRING IT ON DANCE
EST 2003

OLYMPIC PARK SPORTS CENTRE
OLYMPIC BLVD HOMEBUSH
KIDS 5-13 \$10
STUDENTS/ADULTS \$15
DOOR SALES \$20
DOORS OPEN 6:00PM

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT WWW.BRINGITONDANCE.COM



**Cheekie
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Enrolling Now!!

- Safe, Fun and Nuturing environment
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Open Monday to Friday 6am - 6pm

To schedule a friendly introduction tour today contact

Patricia Blom on 0469 919 025

Located in a safe family neighbourhood at 101 Hamrun Circuit Rooty Hill 2766

