

ST LUCY'S SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

MERRY May

JOY | COMMUNITY | COURAGE | TRUTH



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

It has been a very busy lead up to Advent anticipating Christmas and the end of the year as some health restrictions on operations have eased. The students have enjoyed a rich variety of events including Graduation of Year 6, Advent liturgy, Santa visit and photos (thanks to our Westfield friends), Concerts and Awards and class parties, Oakhill 'Day' visit, C3 Church hampers and a variety of class-based excursions.

Thanks to our staff for their herculean efforts this term and year as we all ploughed on during lockdowns and all sorts of challenges of learning from home and helping our whole community stay connected.

Thanks also to you our parents for your support, flexibility and attention to keeping us all safe if your child or young person had any flu like symptoms at any stage through this year by keeping them home and getting tested. Thank you also for your appreciation of the School's decision to stay open regardless of what this year might have thrown at us.

Finally, being allowed to have parents in numbers on site to attend our Concerts and Awards events (even if only a representative from each family with others Zooming in) was truly delightful. Seeing many of you face to face at a social distance enjoying the delight of the students performing live and actually having parent conversations for the first time since Parent Information Night back in March. What a highlight and wonderful way to finish this extraordinary year!

Finally enjoy Christmas and this special time of remembering the birth of our Saviour Jesus who came to save us from our sins and give us hope for the future. Enjoy your family, stay safe, rest if you can and let us do it all again next year in what we hope will be a less challenging 2021.

David Raphael Principal MOVING K-12
TOWARDS K-12

09 December 2020

2021 DATES

Monday 1st February
Students return

Friday 5th February
Opening School Liturgy*

Thursday 18 FebuaryParent Information Night*

Thursday 25 February
IEP Evening

Friday 26 February
IEP Day - Pupil Free Day

Friday 5 March
High School Open Day

Thursday 1st April
Last day Term 1

* To be confirmed in 2021









END OF YEAR AWARDS

St Lucy's School Values Award for TRUTH

We seek to understand, respect and believe in **Truth**Joshua Lawrence-Slater - Solstice
William Fitzgibbon – Pulsar
Talha Tanzeel - Meteor

St Lucy's School Values Award for COURAGE

We act with **Courage** to inspire risk taking for growth Luke Hughes - Eclipse Dov Kresner - Meteor Ruby O'Brien - Galaxy

St Lucy's School Values Award for JOY

The Spirit is ever present here as we embrace the **Joy** of moments Maye Akra – Venus
Molly Greer - Pulsar
Scotty Roberts - Nova

St Lucy's School Values Award for COMMUNITY

We foster **Community** through connections, relationships, and collaboration

Chloe Yuen - Star

Holly Clarke – Asteroid Maggie Noonan - Orion

The St Dominic Prize for:

Building community joyfulness generosity to others inclusion.

Rafa MacPherson – Titan Jacob Hillard – Saturn Hugo Hayler – Moon Nathan Banks - Meteor

The Sheila Flynn Prize for:

Love of beauty, compassion for those who are hurting, self-expression through art, music, drama, dance or writing, prayer and contemplation

Elliott Chislett - Stardust Sophie Elder – Star Anna Bray – Stellar Oscar Osborne - Mars

The St Albert the Great Prize for:

- Curiosity and exploration
- Love of nature and fascination with aspects of nature
- Wisdom

Albertus Magnus was a Dominican who became a doctor of the Church. He was renowned for his knowledge in theology and shared this through many appointments as a lecturer in many European universities. One of his students was Thomas Aquinas. He was also fascinated with biology and became a highly sought after mediator.

Luca Cohen - Galaxy Dylan Ainscow – Asteroid Claudia McWilliam – Aquarius

The Antonio de Montesinos Prize for:

- lustice
- Speaking out for others in need
- Publicly expressing what is right
- Courage

Antonio de Montesinos was a Dominican Friar in Hispaniola who gave the first modern speech of social justice, demanding that rich mine and plantation owners stop abusing their Indian workers or slaves.

Sydney Cameron - Stardust Sam Nemcich – Moon Matthew McArthur – Venus

The Rose of Lima Prize for:

- Care and compassion for others
- Love of God
- Prayer and faithfulness
- Integrity

St Rose of Lima is the patron saint of Latin America and the Philippines. She rejected her own beauty in order to serve God through service of others. She lived a life of self-denial and compassionate giving to others.

Samara Macklin – Titan Natasha Wong – Aquarius Eva Quinn – Nova

The St Catherine Prize for:

- Compassion
- Outreach to others beyond immediate circle
- One who struggles with their demons and overcomes them
- Peace: one who seeks to bring peace and unity

Catherine of Siena entered the Dominican Family in her late teens, and became a renowned mystic writer. She was an advocate for the poor and sick, often visiting homes and hospitals to care for them. Catherine also became a peace activist, and was instrumental in restoring the Papacy to Rome during deeply factional times.

Heidi Foxall – Luna Owen Evans - Solstice

The Thomas Aquinas Prize for:

- Love of knowledge and learning
- A searcher for truth, a thinker
- Love of God
- Humility
- Respect for and valuing of others

Thomas Aquinas was born into a wealthy family but sought a life of dedication to the Dominican Order of Preachers, studying theology and becoming a prolific writer. He challenged many writings of other theologians at the time.

Mia Morrisey – Calypso Joseph Oh – Pulsar Leif Courtney – Solstice Lachlan Simpkins - Orion

The St Martin de Porres Prize for:

- Inclusion of all, especially those who are excluded by others
- Compassion to the sick, the needy
- Good citizenship
- Courtesy

Martin de Porres grew up in extreme poverty after his dad left him, his mum and sister when Martin was very young. As a result, Martin was sent to work and gain a trade at the age of 7. He volunteered at a Dominican Monastery in his early teenage years, later taking his vows and becoming a Dominican. Throughout much of his life, Martin experienced racist taunts and mistreatment, which encouraged him all the more to become an advocate for the downtrodden, showing much compassion and care for one and all.

Caitlyn Shin – Calypso Addison Williams - Stellar

Award for improvement:

Alexander Crowley - Luna Luke Di Staso – titan Bradley Chien – Saturn Jamie Hunter – Eclipse Sebastian Murray – Nova Harvey Tomicki – Orion

The Principal's Award for Leadership:

- 1. Karuka Uthayakumaran
- 2. Patrick Sweeney
- 3. Campbell Dietz

Student Leaders 2020

- 1. Poppy Botheras
- 2. Xavier McKie
- 3. Rachel Stewart

Student Leaders 2021

- 1. Poppy Botheras
- 2. Xavier McKie
- 3. Rachel Stewart









congratulations graduates

— CLASS OF 2020—





























THANK YOU OAKHILL COLLEGE

A big thank you to Oakhill College for visiting St Lucy's last week and delivering Christmas gifts to all our students! The classrooms were filled with so much joy and we all enjoyed watching the video that was made full of lovely messages and Christmas carols.

We are sad we couldn't come to Oakhill College this year but look forward to seeing you in 2021.



THANK YOU C3 CHURCH

A massive thank you to our wonderful friends at C3 Church Wahroonga, who have once again shown tremendous generosity to our community. This year, 50 hampers were kindly donated to bring some Christmas cheer to some very deserving families within our school. We are so blessed to receive such a gesture and are very grateful for the constant support and compassion we receive from the C3 Wahroonga community!



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND PASTORAL CARE



For Christians, we are now in the second week of the Season of Advent. Advent comprises the four weeks preceding Christmas. This time enables us to prepare and wait in anticipation for the gift of Jesus which we celebrate at Christmas time. In the busy-ness of our lives that generally occurs at this time of year, let us focus on the key messages that Advent brings: that of joy, peace, hope, faith and love.

One way through which you may wish to do this, is to use the following links to suggested 'kindness calendars' which are made available during Advent:

 $https://www.coffeecups and crayons.com/random-acts-christmas-kindness-printable-advent-calendar/\\ http://maketodayhappy.co.uk/tag/kindness-advent-calendar/$

Whole School Advent Liturgy: Last Monday, 30th November, we began our week with a beautiful Advent Liturgy that was prepared and provided by the Stardust Staff and Students. This liturgy took place within classrooms and involved the bringing forth of special and significant symbols of Advent. The children loved seeing the Advent Wreath and Nativity Scene, as well as singing some much loved Advent songs – no doubt there is much excitement in your households, too!



Happy Hanukkah! Just as Christians celebrate the coming of Christmas through the Season of Advent, our Jewish friends are also about to enter a special and significant festival, that of Chanukah which begins on the 10th December. Chanukah is the Jewish eight-day, "festival of lights," celebrated with a nightly menorah lighting, special prayers and blessings, as well as the enjoyment of special foods. The Hebrew word Chanukah means "dedication," and is thus named because it celebrates the rededication of the Holy Temple.

End of Year Family Mass, Baptisms and Farewell Fr David! We recently gathered together to celebrate the year that has been 2020! This special Family Mass took place at Holy Name Church and saw a number of staff, students and families gather in prayer and worship.

This Mass was made all the more special by the Baptism of Jordan and his older brother, Levi! Additionally, we were able to thank and farewell Fr David who will take up his new appointment as Parish Priest of Our Lady of Dolours, Chatswood in January. We were able to present Fr David with a beautiful painting and personally designed priest's stole. A thank you message on behalf of the St Lucy's community was also shared:

Dear Fr David,

You have indeed impacted many lives throughout your time here in Wahroonga. Your association with St Lucy's, which began over 13 years ago, has deepened into a beautiful relationship and connection. Many who enter the St Lucy's community often comment on how quickly and significantly it draws them in... it is indeed a unique place that is all the more enriched by the beauty of the children, the inspiration of the families and the selfless dedication of the staff.

You have become part of the heart that beats within our place. You have laughed with us, you have danced with us, you have guided us, you have cried with us, you have responded to us, you have listened to us...but most importantly you have truly come to know and love us.

At our recent Year 6 graduation you said that Love is Listening. That each of our students have their own internal song which they each know and harness. It is listening to their song, and learning their song, and singing their song with them, that we come to express our love for them.

You have indeed listened to our collective song here at St Lucy's. You have learnt the tune by heart and you have sung it with us many times over. Most significantly, in listening to this song, you have heard the melody of its tune, and you have seen the beauty which comes in the harmonising of it.

Thank you for the Joy which you have shared in, the Community which you have pastorally fostered and served, the Courage which you have honoured and the Truth which you have revealed in your relationship with us, and sought in the connections you've made with us.

To express our gratitude we could think of no better way than to present you with some gifts which indeed reflect the artistic song of our students. We have an artwork that all the children have contributed to, and another gift which has also been personally designed and created.



End of Year St Lucy's Liturgy: On our last day with students, each class held our End of Year St Lucy's liturgy in their classroom. St Lucy's Feast Day falls on December 13th. The theme of the liturgy was 'light' which was the basis upon which we reflected on the wonderful year it has been, and the 'light' that has been cast upon this special community! Thank you to the Mars Staff and Students for providing and preparing this special liturgy for us to facilitate.

Farewell to Mrs Leanne Ledlin: This year we thank and farewell a number of staff and students who will be taking their gifts into other settings across many areas of life in 2021. One person who deserves a special acknowledgement and expression of thanks is Mrs Ledlin. Mrs Ledlin has been a wonderful colleague and educational assistant at St Lucy's for the last 16 years. She has played a massive role in ensuring the love of reading was nurtured in each of our students through her dedication and passion for literature, as shown in her role as Library facilitator. Her library lessons and Book Week celebrations were a regular highlight within the life of our community each year, and her Book Week costumes were always a hit! As well, she has always shown dedication, compassion and tremendous amounts of care to the students and families she has encountered throughout her time here. We send her our every best blessing and we wholeheartedly thank her for the gift she has been for our community for so many years!

Thank you and Farewell to Ms Sue Bevan: We were recently able to express our gratitude and warmest wishes to Sue, the current Principal of Prouille, Wahroonga, who is leaving her community at the end of this year. Sue has been a wonderful supporter of St Lucy's, especially these past few years with the two classes we have had onsite at Prouille. We were able to present her with a lovely artwork which the students had created as a memory of our connection and friendship.

C3 Community Church Wahroonga: We have been so wonderfully supported throughout the year by our friends at C3. They have provided four shopping trips for parents and carers, food hampers and supplied beautiful Christmas hampers for families within our community. We were able to personally thank them on Sunday evening at their end of year Christmas gathering, and to express gratitude for their generosity, thoughtfulness and friendship which we know will continue throughout 2021 as well.

Welcome Fr Paul Durkin and Others! In 2021, we will have the opportunity to warmly welcome a number of new faces at Prouille and Holy Name Church! The newly appointed Parish Priest for Holy Name, Wahroonga, is Fr Paul, who is currently the Parish Priest at St Agatha's Pennant Hills. Fr Paul will resume his new position 'down the road' in mid-January. Additionally, we look forward to welcoming the new school leadership team for Prouille in 2021 – Ms Genevieve Smith (Principal), Mrs Sharon Kelly (Assistant Principal) and Ms Samantha Sheather (Religious Education Coordinator)! We have been blessed with many wonderful leaders in our neighbouring school and parish over the years, and know that Fr Paul, and the new Prouille school leadership team, will indeed become wonderful friends of the St Lucy's community!

Wishing you every blessing for Christmas and the coming New Year!

Vanessa Dillon

Classroom Teacher - REC

SANTA'S VISIT TO ST LUCY'S





END OF YEAR CONCERTS





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PDHPE NEWS

THANK YOU to all of our wonderful swimming volunteers!

Our students have had such a wonderful time in the pool this term thanks to the generous contribution of your time and energy in the pool.

We have had everything from freezing cold and wet days to scorching afternoons so we thank our volunteers for getting in the pool no matter the conditions and always doing so with a smile and plenty of enthusiasm!

We hope everyone has a wonderful holiday period and a fun and safe time in and around the water and we look forward to seeing you all back in the pool in 2021!

Here is a link you may be interested in:

https://autismswim.com.au/2017/03/17/benefits-swimming-beyond-pool/

Julia Murphy PDHPE Teacher













CONGRATULATIONS



A big congratulations to our High School Student
Lachlan Simpkins who was the winner of the under 18's
International Day of People with Disability Northern Sydney
Art Competition. Well done Lachlan on this wonderful
achievement!



Congratulations to the following winners of the St Lucy's 2020 raffle:

1st Prize: Keith Townsend
2nd Prize: Emma Lees
3rd Prize: Brian Owler
4th Prize: Mely Triono
5th Prize: Louise Booth
6th Prize: Kelly Garcia
7th Prize: Kristina Dodman
8th Prize: Scott Roberts
9th Prize: Michelle Nemich
10th Prize: Julia Olivares
11th Prize: Jack Tsai

Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets this year!

CREATIVE ARTS NEWS

Congratulations to all of our students for their participation in our End of Year Concerts 'Across the Universe'! I'd like to say a big thanks to the Creative Arts Team for supporting these events.

We are looking forward to the January Holiday Program which is now FULLY BOOKED.

If you would like to add your child's name to the waiting list, please email me at alip@stlucys.nsw.edu.au.

Alessandra Picone Head of Creative Arts

EXPLORATION EXHIBITION

To celebrate the 2020 International Day of People with Disability you can view our virtual exhibition opening by Cr Jennifer Anderson Mayor of Ku-ring-gai which also features videos produced by our talented artists. Here is the link: https://www.krg.nsw.gov.au/Council/News-and-media/Latest-news/Exploration-exhibition-opens

During the exhibition dates 3-17 December the gallery at Ku-ring–gai Arts Centre is open for viewing Monday - Friday, 10am - 4pm. Due to Covid-19 restrictions bookings are essential and can be made by calling 9424 0310. All visitors will be asked to sign in, hand sanitise and only 8 people maximum per booking to ensure social distancing in the gallery.

Following the exhibition at the Arts Centre there will be a limited exhibit at Gordon Library and Ku-ring-gai Council offices from 21 December to 29 January 2021.



kmc.nsw.gov.au/exploration

NSW VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

We would like to give thanks to the following volunteers who were nominated earlier this year in the 2020 NSW Volunteer of the Year Award for the Upper North Shore and thank them for their ongoing support during a very different year.

Unfortunately due to COVID restrictions we cannot present these Certificates in person, however they will be delivered to you by mail. We would like to acknowledge each and every volunteer in mentioning their names below.

Alison S Peter W Michael B Bill G Emma G Michelle Mc Kim R Catherine S Suzanne R Pam K Grahame S Karen P Chris W Lee W Stephanie W Shanan H Emma C Brian H Louise H Nadine N Anusha M Dean H June Y Robyn B

Cassandra Brading
Volunteer Co-ordinator



