



St Agnes Catholic High School

ph: 8882 0700 fax: 8882 0790

email: stagnes@parra.catholic.edu.au

to truth through love

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

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

12 February 2016

Welcome to the 2016 Academic Year.

We welcome all of our new families and students to the St Agnes Community and encourage you to make the most of the opportunities here at St Agnes.

Our start to the year has been filled with enthusiasm, excitement and great promise of things to come. At our assemblies we discussed the importance of developing a growth mindset in all facets of our lives, continually seeking to exceed our previous personal bests.

Pope Francis has declared 2016 an Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy. Pope Francis calls on us all to grow stronger and more effective as witnesses of our faith. It is therefore a year of renewal in our lives; a renewal of our commitment to bring witness to God's love for us through example and action. It is a challenge, but one which we can rise to. We can demonstrate Christ's compassion and love for us each day, by treating each other with respect and ensuring that we work to make those people isolated in our communities, not just feel welcome, but that they truly belong.

It is my deepest wish that your time here at St Agnes will prepare you to be young men and women that will make a difference in our world.

"I present, therefore, this Extraordinary Jubilee Year dedicated to living out in our daily lives the mercy which the Father constantly extends to all of us. In this Jubilee Year, let us allow God to surprise us. He never tires of casting open the doors of his heart and of repeating that he loves us and wants to share his love with us."

*Misericordiae Vultus
Pope Francis 2015*



Diary Dates

19 February

Opening School Mass

23 February

School Photo Day

26 February

Swimming Carnival

11 March

Yr 9 Brainstorm Incursion

14-16 March

Year 7 Camp

21 March

Year 7 Vaccinations

Year 7/2017 Information Evening

25 March

Good Friday

28 March

Easter Monday

30 March

PASS (B line) Surf School

6 April

PASS (A line) Surf School

8 April

Term 1 Concludes

2016 Term Dates

Term 1 27.1.16 - 8.4.16

Term 2 26.4.16 - 1.7.16

Term 3 18.7.16 - 23.9.16

Term 4 10.10.16 - 20.12.16

Phillip Stewart

Phillip Stewart

Acting Principal

The safety and well being of your child is our highest priority.

- School hours are from 8.15am - 2.25pm. Supervision is ONLY provided between the hours of 7.40am - 3.00pm. We request your cooperation in not having your children at school outside these hours of supervision
- Vehicles are NOT permitted in the school car park. Please park on Evans Road.
- We encourage parents to use the drop-off and pick up areas outside the school and not to stop for extended periods of time. We recommend that if you pick up your child on Evans Road you instruct your child to cross at the designated crossing point. Please be aware of our neighbours and do not park across their driveways.



FROM THE ACTING ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Welcome back to 2016 and to the exciting new school year that lies ahead.

To our new students and new families we look forward to working very closely with you throughout the year and showcasing all that we pride ourselves on here at St Agnes. Not only will we strive to provide students with the opportunity of accessing the highest quality of teaching and learning experiences, but we will continue investigating and developing the latest educational practices and strategies.

We will continue to offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities outside of the classroom. This is to encourage all students in their ongoing development and exploration of their array of many talents. I would strongly urge all students to get involved with one or more of the extra-curricular activities outlined below to not only help foster their own gifts, but to play a part in establishing and growing our St Agnes school spirit.

Religious Celebrations: Students can take an active roll in celebrating their faith through the planning and participation in significant moments including Prayer, Masses and Liturgies.

Student Leadership: Students can lead a Portfolio team looking to introduce initiatives on behalf of the student body to create new opportunities for all students.

Peer Support: A pastoral initiative that connects our Year 10 students with our Year 7's to assist in a smooth transition from primary to high school.

Sport: St Agnes has a proud history of developing highly skilled young sportspeople and successful sporting teams. We compete in a weekly representative competition through our association with the PDSSSC.

Debating: This is a very popular option for those students with the confidence and quick-thinking ability to communicate their ideas. We have been quite successful in this area in recent years.

Choir and Band: We are blessed at St Agnes with a range of highly talented musicians and singers. Students have many opportunities to display their talents including Performance Evenings, Recording Sessions and our Religious Celebrations.

Clubs and Committees: Special interest groups are always on offer where students can come together and connect with other students with similar interests. E.g. Chess Club, Anime Club, Homework Club, Year Book Committee, Formal Committee, etc.

'Bring It On': A dance group extravaganza that sees St Agnes compete against other schools. This is a high energy, fun filled opportunity not to be missed.

Fundraising: Students can help plan for and contribute to a range of fundraising activities in order to provide for those less fortunate than themselves.

Good luck with all that you set out to achieve throughout the year and remember you only get out what you put into it. So be sure to get involved with all that's happening at St Agnes in 2016 and all we ask is that you try your best.

John Cruickshank





FROM THE TEACHING & LEARNING COORDINATOR

Students have received their individual timetable and are to be commended on the positive start they have made to the 2016 academic year. Copies of student timetables, as well as equipment lists for 2016, are available on the school [Moodle](https://moodle.stagnes.edu.au). (bit.ly/stagnes)

Years 7-10 Assessment Handbooks which outline the school policy in regards to the completion and submission of assessment tasks, as well as the assessment schedules for each subject, will soon be available on Moodle. It is a good idea to go through the Assessment Handbook with your child and ensure that they are aware of assessment expectations and submission dates for tasks.

Students in Years 9 & 10 will have the opportunity during Week 3 to see me regarding possible changes to their elective subjects for this year. A reminder that there is no guarantee students will be able to make any changes. Changes can only occur if there is a vacancy in another elective class they wish to move to.

All students should be setting realistic learning goals that they plan to achieve this academic year. This is best done on a semester basis and involves students identifying subject areas they have experienced past difficulties in and examining ways they can improve and achieve their personal best in. If students do not have good study habits, it will be hard for them to achieve. Trying to implement the 10 study habits below could see students learning capacity grow.

1. Keep your study desk and materials organised and tidy.
2. Schedule in your study time and stick to it!
3. Set short-term goals for each study session and reward yourself when you meet those goals.
4. Read the chapter of information that will be covered the following day. Write down any questions you have that pertain to that subject.
5. Make it a point to try and use new terms and concepts in order for them to really sink in.
6. Do not study for hours on end. Study for 45 minutes and then take 15 minutes off.
7. Try and correspond your class notes and textbook/online information.
8. Make sure to cut out all distractions when studying: phones, TV, iPods, surfing the net, loud areas, etc.
9. Go to bed after you study. Your brain will mull over what you just learned while you sleep. There will be a good chance you will remember it when you wake up.
10. Keep a positive attitude about your studies. If you find yourself dreading your studies, change your attitude and think how exciting it is to learn something new!

I hope that all students enjoy, participate and succeed in their studies this year.

Laurence De Martin

HOMework CLUB

Do you need a hand with homework?
Has an assessment or assignment got
you stumped?
What about getting some handy study
in!
Just need a quiet place to study!

Come along to Homework Club
in the library
Every Tuesday afternoon
2.30-3.30pm

A mobile App that allows communication between the school and parents and students through smartphones and smart devices.

Skoolbag
Complete communication solution



How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

For iPhone and iPad users:

1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. You will see your school appear, click "Get" then "Install".
4. The app is FREE to download.
5. When installed click "Open".
6. Select "On" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.



For Android users:

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device.
 2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
 3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
 4. Click the "Install" button.
 5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
 6. Click "Open" when installed.
 7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
 8. Toggle the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.
- Please Note: Some brands of Android phones need the setting in "Notification Manager" changed to "Allow" instead of "Notify" in order for the push notifications to work. The phone must also be running at least version 4 system software to run the app.



For Windows 8.1 Phone and Windows 8.1 or 10 device users:

1. Go to the Windows Store on your 8.1 Windows Phone or Windows 8.1/10 Device.
 2. Search for "Skoolbag" in the keyword app search.
 3. Install the Skoolbag app.
 4. Find your school either by using the keyword search or location service.
 5. Click the "Pin" icon to pin the school tile to your Windows Phone Home screen.
 6. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
 7. Toggle the Push Categories that are applicable to you by tapping the on/off switch.
- Please Note: The Skoolbag Windows App is for 8.1 version Windows Phones, or Windows 8.1 and 10 devices.



Find out more at www.skoolbag.com.au

Don't forget to like us on Facebook!



FROM THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Welcome to 2016, which at this stage is looking to be quite a busy and productive year for all at St Agnes Catholic High School.

Formation Goal for 2016

The formation goal for St Agnes for 2016 will be

To gain a deeper understanding and response to scripture through prayer.

We see that as scripture is central to our faith. It is of importance to strengthen our understanding of Scripture and its connection to everyday life. In prayer, using the scriptures as a basis from which connections can be made.

To help achieve this both staff and students will be reading the Gospel of Luke in its entirety in homeroom classes. At this stage we will start in week 5 and continue into Term 4. Once having read the passage of the day, students will be asked to reflect upon specific questions, which are:

- What is the scripture saying?
- What is the message and key teaching?
- How can this be applied to life?

At different times throughout the year students will be asked to write answers to these questions and at times reflect upon the answers. Through reading the Gospel it is hoped that we are able to come to know Jesus more deeply. Students and teachers will be invited to attend scripture groups to talk further on the subject. This will be offered throughout the year.

Any parents wanting to participate in scripture groups are more than welcome. Please contact me to advise of your interest on 8882 0711.

Sacramental Program

In 2015, in conjunction with St Aidan's Parish Rooty Hill, St Agnes offered its students the opportunity to participate in a Sacramental Program. In 2016 we are happy to announce that the program will be offered again starting toward the end of Term 1. Notes have been sent home with all Year 7 students and students in Years 8 - 10 can collect a note from the student office. Please return this note to advise of your interest in participating in this program.

The program itself covers the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation. The Sacraments themselves will hopefully be incorporated into school masses but if this is not possible we will organise for them to be held in conjunction with the local parish.

For further information, please contact me on 8882 0711.

World Youth Day (WYD) 2016

We are excited to announce that this year we have three pilgrims attending WYD in Poland. Miss Valleri and Mr Sadsad, along with Year 10 student Martin Mangahas, have been nominated to attend this amazing event.

To assist in sending our pilgrims to Poland we will run a number of fundraising events throughout Terms 1 and 2. A Mufti Day was held today to assist them with their travels.

Our three pilgrims will share their experiences of the lead up to WYD, experiences during WYD and also how being a pilgrim in Poland affected/changed their lives because of WYD.

We wish them all the best in their lead up to WYD.



The Year of Mercy

In 2015 Pope Francis announced an extraordinary year of Mercy. This year of Mercy runs from December 2015 to November 20, 2016 with the theme being: 'Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful' (Luke 6:36).

The following is an excerpt from Australian Catholics: Faith and Life website, which gives more detail as to the meaning of the Year of Mercy.

The experience of God's mercy is a fundamental part of our Christian faith. It is the belief that Jesus Christ our judge is, before that, our merciful liberator.

Christianity proclaims that Christ died on the cross and rose from the dead so we could be absolved from the consequences of our sin - the ultimate merciful act: 'Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends' (John 15:13).

The three great Abrahamic faiths (Judaism, Christianity and Islam) share this central belief: that a moral and authoritative God chooses mercy over punishment. Ancient Judaism sacrificed animals to obtain mercy. In Islam's annual pilgrimage to Mecca, the high point is wuquf, when pilgrims stand on the Mount of Mercy at Arafat and seek absolution for sin.

Should you want to read further please click on the following link.

<https://australiancatholics.com.au/article.aspx?aeid=45906#.VrFEqGR94eq>

Julie Atkins



Ash Wednesday



My choice
to give up
for Lent
is



Whats yours?



FROM THE SCHOOL COUNSELLOR

Starting Secondary School

Starting secondary school is a time of change and uncertainty, which places new demands on young people. Being the youngest in the school when they used to be the eldest, getting used to new subjects and teachers, as well as forming new friendships are just some of the challenges our new Year 7's face while settling into our St Agnes community.

Whilst most Year 7's will take these new experiences in their stride it is natural to experience some difficulty, particularly as it's accompanied by the potentially unsettling transition from childhood to adolescence.

It helps to remember the **3 P's** to assist your child to settle in:

1. Patience - Be patient and understanding in the early weeks. Brush up on your listening skills as you help your child to adjust. Talk to your child about change and reassure them that it is normal to feel nervous in new circumstances. Let them know that many of the difficulties they face will be temporary.

2. Positive Attitude - Confidence is catching so make sure you see this transition time as an exciting challenge that you and your child can handle rather than an event to be feared. Ask them about their new subjects or interesting activities they are doing, and try to shift their focus to the positive aspects of school. Encourage them to discuss 'settling in' problems with the Learning Advisor, Assistant Stage Coordinator or Stage Coordinator. All these people have many great strategies to help your child settle into school and are more than happy to help.

3. Process their day - Some young people may come with fairly exaggerated accounts of secondary school and may not always paint a fair picture. They can be sensitive to many things, which they would have shrugged off in primary school. It helps if you can listen without judgment and show a real interest in their new school.

Although secondary school may seem a little foreign to those used to the relative intimacy of primary school, one aspect is the same - outcomes for students are maximised when schools and parents work together in the best interest of the student.




Most importantly, talk your child's new school up, rather than talking it down as kids of all ages take their cues from the most significant adults in their lives - their parents and carers!

Finally, please don't hesitate to contact me if I can assist your child in any way.

Paul Smith


Email: paul.smith@parra.catholic.edu.au

PH: 8882 0710

UNDERSTANDING TRAUMA AND ABUSE

The Child Protection Counselling Service (CPCS) invites you to attend a 5 week evening group program to explore the impact of early trauma on child development. Topics covered will include attachment relationships, emotion regulation and therapeutic parenting tips.





Venue: Springfield Cottage
Cnr Glebe Pl and Springfield Pl, Penrith

Dates: Tuesday evenings
6pm - 8pm
1st March - 29th March 2016

Cost: Free!
Light supper provided

For further information and to reserve your spot, please call Cindy or Jen at Springfield Cottage on 4734 2512.

Information courtesy of the Queensland Department of Education and Training

MOST STUDENTS ATTEND SCHOOL EVERY DAY

It's important that children are at school all day, every day

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Ok reasons to stay home from school	sick	natural disaster	It's NOT OK to skip school to shop, sleep in, finish an assignment, go on holidays	

EVERY DAY AT SCHOOL COUNTS

Missing even 1 day can make a difference

1 day off school each fortnight = Missing more than a year of learning over 12 years

Each day's learning builds on what has been learnt before

Good attendance starts in Kindergarten
It's where good habits begin

ATTEND ALL DAY, EVERY DAY

each 1% increase in student attendance may relate to 2-3 NAPLAN scale score points*

WHAT PARENTS CAN DO

- Get involved in your child's school
- Promote the importance of school
- Get to know the teacher
- Go to school events
- Read the school newsletter
- Be organised at home
- Supervise homework
- Ask about your child's day
- Encourage to help at school

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

26 February 2016

Mt Druitt Swimming Centre
Mount St, Mt Druitt

Students are to make their own way to the pool in readiness for roll call at 8.15am



STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION FOR 2016

THE SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM

ACTING PRINCIPAL	Mr Peter Regan	8882 0703
ACTING ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL	Mr John Cruickshank	8882 0701
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR	Ms Julie Atkins	8882 0711
TEACHING AND LEARNING COORDINATOR	Mr Laurence De Martin	8882 0713
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COORDINATOR	Mr Usman Khan	8882 0712
COUNSELLOR	Mr Paul Smith	8882 0710

TEACHING & LEARNING COORDINATORS

Religious Education	Ms Julie Atkins
English	Mr Brian Doran
Mathematics	Mr Laurence De Martin / Mr Gavin Hilder
Science	Mrs Pam Kehal
HSIE & Connected Learning	Ms Bonita Carlin
CAPA/LOTE	Mrs Anneke Reemst
Emerging Technologies	Mr Damien McGuire
PDHPE	Mr Greg Devine
Learning Support	Ms Joanne Penna
TAS	Ms Sue Roberts
Connected Learning	Ms Bonita Carlin
Sport	Ms Claire Moxham

PASTORAL CARE TEAM

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Stage Coordinator			
Elizabeth Gale	Elizabeth Gale	John Cruickshank	John Cruickshank
Assistant Stage Coordinator			
Christopher Chavez	Patrick Madigan	Gavin Hilder	Tahlia Gannon

LEARNING ADVISORS

1. Anneke Reemst	Linda Hicks	Jeunelle Juarez	Bonita Carlin
2. Jubilee Bedi	Guy Tyler	Barbara Kelly	Richard Szczygiel
3. Pam Kehal	Robert Weaver	Denise Davidson	Shanti Chand
4. Chelsea Brogan	Alicia Doueihi/Connie Rana	Nikki Valleri	Vijay Krishna
5. Daniella Libri	Sarah Beckett	Harry Sadsad	Suzan Habib
6. Rajend Singh	Brian Doran	Kelly Padayachee	Mary Quinteros
7. Claire Moxham	Aroona Naidoo	Melissa Devine	Nicole Tomich / Sarah Bickford
8. Josiah Raad	Christopher Azzopardi	Joanne Penna	Rachel Vincent

Additional Teaching Staff: Nicole Hicks, Raj Kumar, Jane Rutkin, Susan Roberts, Shobna Shyam, Greg Devine

SUPPORT STAFF

Business Manager	8882 0702	Mrs Kelly Pickett
School Fee Secretary	8882 0706	Mrs Lorraine Bailey
Principal Secretary	8882 0703	Mrs Bernadette Shalala
Reception	8882 0700	Mrs Donna Missio, Mrs Susan Hagarty, Mrs Lorraine Phillips
Student Office (Absences)	8882 0707	Ms Natalie De Luca, Mrs Annette O'Keeffe
Uniform Shop	8882 0708	Ms Cherie Borthistle
Canteen Manager	8882 0709	Mrs Diane Clifton
Library Assistants		Mrs Sharon Berman, Ms Hanna Brogan
Food Technology Assistant		Mrs Nola Balzan
Science Assistant		Ms Cherie Borthistle
Maintenance Staff		Mr John Frederic
IT Assistants		Mr Rizek Alquare & Mr Hayden Van Vlimmeran

Teachers Aides: Mrs Maree Copping, Ms Janet Green, Mrs Sandra Shaw, Mrs Maria Vella, Mrs Stella Libra



WHO DO I CONTACT FOR.....

The list below should assist you in knowing who to contact with questions about the school or your child's education.

Short absences	Telephone the school in the morning by 9.00 am on 8882 0744. Advise the Homeroom Teacher, by letter, within three days of the beginning of the absence. <i>A medical certificate is required for absences of more than 3 days.</i>
Absences longer than 1 week	Illness - telephone the school and send a letter to the Stage Coordinator. Extended /planned absence - a letter and Application for Exemption from Attendance (AEO) to the Principal, giving at least 2 weeks notice. AEO available from the office and from our website.
Academic Progress	Subject Teacher Teaching & Learning Coordinator Learning Support Teacher Assistant Principal
Assessment Tasks & Examinations	Teaching & Learning Coordinator
Bullying	Depending on the nature and severity: · Homeroom Teacher/Subject/Teacher/Assistant Stage Coordinator · Stage Coordinator · Counsellor · Assistant Principal · Principal
Complaints	Depending on the nature and seriousness of the complaint · Stage/Assistant Stage Coordinator (pastoral / general issues) · Teaching & Learning Coordinator (curriculum_ issues) · Assistant Principal · Principal
Personal, Family and Pastoral Care Matters	Homeroom Teacher Stage Coordinator Counsellor Assistant Principal Principal
Discipline Matters	Teaching & Learning Coordinator (subject matters) Stage Coordinator (general matters) Assistant Principal Principal
Lost Property	Student Administration Office
Finance (Fees)	Business Manager or School Fees Secretary
Uniforms	Stage Coordinator (management) Uniform Shop Manager (purchasing)

BECOME A
PERMANENT PART
OF OUR HISTORY.
PURCHASE A
CLAY PAVER

DID YOU KNOW...

St Agnes turns 55 in 2017.

We invite you to become part of our history by purchasing an individual clay paver and have your family name inscribed on it. It will be placed together with our 50th Anniversary pavers in our Garden Altar.

Individual Paver \$35 (max. 34 characters)

Order forms and payments can be made at the Reception Office.
For further information phone 8882 0700.



2016 SCHOOL FEES

School Fees for Term 1 are due on Monday 7 March 2016.

CEO mailed statements week commencing 8 February 2016 with Flexible Payment Option paperwork for options to pay weekly, fortnightly or monthly.

If parents are suffering financial hardship please contact our Business Manager, Mrs Kelly Pickett on 8882 0702 as soon as possible.

The table below shows the breakdown of school fees at St Agnes Catholic High School. Fees are divided into three equal amounts, invoiced in Terms 1, 2 & 3. Payment is due 28 days from the statement date unless an arrangement is made with the Finance Department. **2015 fee arrangements must be renegotiated for the 2016 school year.** Overdue fees may be referred to a collection agency as instructed by the Catholic Education Office

PER YEAR	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Diocesan Fees (A)**				
Diocesan School Fee	\$1968	\$1968	\$2184	\$2184
Diocesan Building Levy	\$735	\$735	\$735	\$735
School Fees				
Resource Fee	\$615	\$555	\$555	\$555
Activity Fee	\$132	\$144	\$228	\$138
Overnight Excursion	\$300	Nil	Nil	\$120
PASS Elective Fee	Nil	Nil	\$96	\$96
TOTAL (2016)	\$3750	\$3402	\$3698*	\$3828*

*Students in years 9 and 10 will be charged separately for excursions that relate to their elected subjects.

**Additional charges apply for families who are not Australian Residents - further information available from the school office.

A. Diocesan Fees

These fees are set by, and collected on behalf of the Diocese of Parramatta and are passed onto the Catholic Education Office. They are directed towards supplementing Commonwealth and State Grants (which cover about 80% of the running costs of the schools) for the payment of teacher's salaries, general running costs associated with the school and the administration of the Catholic Education Office Parramatta.

Sibling reductions for Diocesan School Fees only apply to those children attending Systemic schools in the Diocese of Parramatta and St Dominic's College at Kingswood or systemic schools in the Archdiocese of Sydney and Dioceses of Wollongong and Broken Bay.

PER YEAR	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
1st child	\$1968	\$1968	\$2184	\$2184
2nd child	\$1476	\$1476	\$1638	\$1638
3rd child	\$984	\$984	\$1092	\$1092
4th child	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Fee Statement /Payment Dates

Term	Statement Date	Final Date for Payment
1	8 February 2016	7 March 2016
2	29 April 2016	30 May 2016
3	21 July 2016	22 August 2016

Accounts for fees are issued in Terms 1,2 and 3. It is anticipated that no other fees will be payable for 2016 (with the exception of elective subject excursions).



COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

At St Agnes we believe parents and community members play an important role in their children's education and a strong partnership between them and the school enriches the learning experience.

There are many formal and informal opportunities for the school to communicate information and share student's progress with our parents:



Website: www.stagnesrootyhill.catholic.edu.au/home

Our school website is the main avenue for all communication and is constantly updated with notices, reminders, news stories, galleries, events, school notes and more!



FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/StAgnesCHSRootyHill

'Like' our official St Agnes Catholic High School Facebook page for instant reminders, notices, news stories, photos as they happen.



School Newsletter

Our Newsletter is published fortnightly on even weeks (2,4,6,8,10) of each term. The newsletter is sent out via email and is placed on our website under the [News & Events tab](#). If you do not receive the newsletter email, you can subscribe on [our website](#)!

Parents who have changed their email address or need to update their email addresses can complete this via the school website by clicking on 'Newsletter Signup' on the [homepage](#) and filling in the details. Ticking the box 'Receive Announcements' will ensure you receive any message sent via email.



YouTube Channel www.youtube.com/user/StAgnesCHSHotShots

Subscribe to our YouTube channel and get notifications when new videos are available on the channel



Skoolbag

Skoolbag is a mobile App that communicates news/events directly from St Agnes to your mobile phone or ipad. Click here to download [Skoolbag](#).



Phone: 8882 0700

Our Administration Office is open from 8.00am to 3.00pm, Monday to Friday. The office staff can be contacted for any information regarding your child's education or if you would like to make appointments with any staff member.



Email: stagnes@parra.catholic.edu.au

We can be contacted via our official email address for all of your questions and queries.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

23 February 2016

All students have been given an order form or order online at <http://www.advancedlife.com.au>



Our Canteen operates with one paid supervisor and the rest of the food preparation and service is done by a valued group of volunteers. We seek to recruit some parents to provide much needed support and assistance on Thursdays and/or Fridays.

Working as a volunteer in the Canteen is an excellent way of getting to know other parents, the teachers, and the school environment.

We welcome any member or friend of the family of enrolled students who could help. Please contact Diane on 8882 0709 if you can volunteer. (Please note: All volunteers need a Working with Children's Check.)



SCHOOL OPAL CARD

All eligible students should now have received their Opal Pass. If you require a pass and have not applied for one please do so via the [Transport NSW website](https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/home) (<https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/home>). Once your application is complete bring the form in to have it authorised by the school and it will be sent to the Transport Department. Your Opal Pass will be sent to your home address.



SCHOOL TERM BUS PASS (For students who live equal to or less than 2 kilometres in a straight line (radial) distance from their home address to school and the walking distance from home to school is equal to or less than 2.9 kilometres).

If you do not qualify for free travel, you may be eligible to purchase a School Term Bus Pass, which offers travel on buses between home and school at a discounted rate for the whole school term.

If your travel is in the Opal network you can apply online by clicking in the 'Apply now' button on the [Transport NSW website](https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/home). If your application is successful, your School Term Bus Pass will be in the form of a School Opal card.

A School Term Bus Pass is valid for travel between the registered home address and the school on school days only, via the most direct route.

A School Term Pass can be purchased for one or more terms in the school year. The current cost is \$52 (including GST) per term (price is correct at the time of publication and is subject to change).

If your application is successful, travel for the number of terms purchased will be loaded onto a School Opal card. Please keep your School Opal card if you wish to purchase more terms, as your existing card will be updated.

If your travel is outside the Opal network you should check with your local bus operator to see if a School Term Bus Pass is available.

LOST/STOLEN CARDS

To report a lost or stolen School Opal Pass visit <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/reportPass>. (A card replacement fee may apply.)

To report a damaged card phone 131 500 or email concessions@transport.nsw.gov.au quoting your name, address and school. (A card replacement fee may apply.)

TROUBLE TAPPING ON/OFF

If you are having problems tapping on/off, or if an error code comes up please email concessions@transport.nsw.gov.au stating your name, address and school and details of the problem and/or error code.

MEDICAL CONDITION ALLOWANCES

If you believe you have a medical condition or other special circumstances that inhibits you walking to school you should complete and submit an [SSTS medical report](#) form with your application. If you're in the Opal network and are applying online, you can attach this completed form electronically as part of the online process.

Initial applications on medical grounds may be approved for up to 12 months with a certificate from your general practitioner. Subsequent applications require a more comprehensive report from a medical specialist demonstrating how the student's medical condition prevents him/her walking to and from school. Subsidised travel on medical grounds does not apply to a one-off injury or a minor, temporary or irregular condition.

SHARED PARENTAL SITUATIONS

In a shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody), a student is eligible for subsidised travel from both the parents' addresses, subject to meeting the normal eligibility criteria.

A separate SSTS application should be made by each parent (or by the student if aged 16 or over) for each address. Applications for subsidised travel for Friday afternoons and Monday mornings only (to cover weekend access visits) are not eligible under the Scheme.

You do not in the first instance need to provide a court order or statutory declaration to Transport for NSW (TfNSW) for shared parental responsibility situations. However, TfNSW in its discretion reserves the right to request these or further evidence documents if required for the purposes of determining eligibility for subsidised travel from both parents' addresses.

TRIM Ref:

NSW SCHOOL VACCINATION PROGRAM

Each year NSW Health works in partnership with schools to offer the vaccines recommended by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) for adolescents as part of the school vaccination program.

In 2016 the following vaccines will be offered:

Year 7 students*

- dTpa vaccine (Diphtheria, Tetanus & Pertussis (whooping cough) as a single dose
- Varicella vaccine (chickenpox) as a single dose; and
- Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccine in a 3-dose schedule at 0, 2 and 6 months (students who commence HPV vaccination in Year 7 but do not complete the course may be offered catch-up doses at school into Year 8)

** The Parent Information Kits contain a consent form, checklist, information sheet and privacy statement that details how personal information will be collected, stored and utilised.*

Parent Information Kits will be sent home to parents/guardians. To consent to the vaccination of their child, parents/guardians are advised to:

- read all the information provided
- Complete the consent form; including **signing their name next to the vaccine/s they would like their child to receive.**
- return the consent form to their child's school **ASAP**
- Ensure that their child eats breakfast on the day of the school vaccination clinic.

Parents/guardians who wish to withdraw their consent for any reason may do so by writing to the school Principal or phoning the school. The Procedure for Withdrawal of Consent is available on the NSW Health website at www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation.

To improve vaccination completion, students will be opportunistically offered any missed doses throughout the year where possible.

Please note that for HPV vaccine only, **parents/guardians must record their Medicare Number (all 10 digits and the 11th number beside the child's name)** on the consent form, as this is required to record the student's information on the National HPV Vaccination Register (for female students only) and link to the National or State Cervical Screening Program.

A Record of Vaccination will be provided to each student vaccinated at the clinic. Parents/guardians should ensure that this record is kept for future reference and should not assume that their child has been vaccinated if they do not receive this Record of Vaccination.

Should you have any further questions or comments regarding this program please call the Immunisation Team on 4734 2022. Further information regarding immunisation is also available at www.health.nsw.gov.au

TOGETHER
ACHIEVING
BETTER HEALTH



UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS

A student's sense of belonging and identity is aided by wearing a school uniform. Pride in the school is often demonstrated by the manner in which a student wears his/her school uniform.

All St Agnes uniform items other than shoes and tights must be purchased at the school uniform shop.

Girls Uniform	Boys Uniform
School skirt (below the knee length)	School grey trousers
St Agnes school blouse	Short sleeved, school shirt, tucked in (long sleeves optional in Terms 2 & 3)
Opaque black tights (turn over socks are optional in Terms 1 & 4)	Standard dark socks
Standard polished lace up school shoes such as 'Neo' (no elevated heels)	Standard polished lace up school shoes such as Roc 'Maggie' or Lynx Utility
School cap	School cap
School jumper (optional)	School jumper (optional)
School Blazer (Terms 2 & 3 and formal occasions)	School Blazer (Terms 2 & 3 and formal occasions)
Plain black scarf (optional in Terms 2 & 3 only)	Plain black scarf (optional in Terms 2 & 3 only)
Plain black gloves (optional in Terms 2 & 3 only)	Plain black gloves (optional in Terms 2 & 3 only)
	School Tie
	Black Belt

SKIRT REQUIREMENTS

Girls are to ensure:

- their skirt button is worn on the left hand side of their waist and the label is at the back of the garment.
- the temporary stitching at the hem is removed to release the pleats.
- the length of the girls skirt is NOT shortened as it is intended that it be worn below the knee.
- skirts are NOT rolled over at the waist as this affects the hang of the skirt.

A few helpful hints to ensure the good presentation of the skirt:

- Skirts need to be dry cleaned, hand washed, or washed on a **wool cycle** only.
- The shape of the skirt holds best if it is hung on a hanger to dry.
- To ensure the pleats fall correctly it is best to press down both the hem and pleats. This works best using a damp cloth when ironing.

SCHOOL BAG

The St Agnes school bag is a compulsory part of the school uniform

WEARING OF SCHOOL UNIFORM

Correct school uniform is to be worn travelling to and from the school while at school and at any formal occasion designated by the Principal. The school uniform should be clean and neat at all times.

SPORTS UNIFORM

- School cap or hat
- School tracksuit
- School sport shirt with crest
- School shorts
- White ankle length School socks
- Clean lace up joggers

GROOMING

Students are expected to keep their hair clean, neat and tidy at all times. Students are to keep their hair off the face and out of their eyes. Long hair below the shoulders should be tied back. All hair accessories are to be black. There are to be no extremes of fashion in hairstyle, cut, colour or accessories. The Assistant Principal will make the final decision on what is extreme.

- No makeup or nail polish is to be worn.
- Boys must be clean-shaven.

JEWELLERY

In the interest of safety and security, no inappropriate jewellery should be worn. Body studs, chains or bracelets are not permitted. Inappropriate jewellery will be confiscated, secured in the School Office and returned to parents or at the end of the term. Only the following may be worn.

- A simple wrist watch
- A plain gold or silver ring (with no elevations, stones or sharp points)
- A plain gold or silver chain with a Christian cross or Christian medal (to be worn underneath the shirt)
- One pair of plain gold or silver sleepers or small studs without stones, one in the lobe of each ear. (Boys are permitted an appropriate earring in one earlobe only.)

OTHER

Students may wear their sports uniform including tracksuit to and from school on their designated Sports and Double PDHPE days.

In Terms 1 and 4 the tracksuit is optional.

All items of uniform must be clearly marked with student's name.

Parents may be contacted to bring in the correct uniform if students are inappropriately dressed.



OUR PARISH SCHOOLS

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 UNIFORM SHOP

**Opening Hours - Tuesdays between 10.00am and 12:00 noon
during school terms only.**

The uniform shop is closed during school holidays. Students can attend the Uniform Shop at recess on Tuesdays ONLY. Cash, Eftpos, Cheque, Visa and Mastercard is accepted. We do not accept American Express.

PLEASE NOTE: There are NO layby facilities available at the Uniform Shop.

Phone - The direct line to the Uniform Shop is 8882 0708. This phone is answered on Tuesdays between 10.00am to 12.00 noon. Outside these hours enquiries can be made through the school office on 8882 0700. Orders can be left at the School Office which will be filled on the following Tuesday, through the following methods.

- Credit card payments can be made over the phone on 8882 0700.
- Cash, cheque, credit card or EFTPOS payments can be made in person at the Reception Office.
- Send cash, cheque or your credit card details in an envelope with a note detailing what you wish to purchase with your child on Tuesday.

Sports caps, ties, calculators & safety glasses are available for students to purchase from the school canteen at recess and lunchtime on any school day.

A uniform price list is available on our [website](#).

2016 SCHOOL LEADERS

Congratulations to our School Leaders who were formally inducted into their roles at our Opening School Mass today.

School Leaders: Kaela Tavares, Joy Odemwengie, Piadora Rahme, Tony El-Ghossein, Martin Mangahas

Catholic Identity: Miles Ponce, Brianna Raymond, Chad Ofoia, Isaac Jabou

Social Justice: Monica Vave, Gabrielle Norton, Adau Aher, Jeremiah Tukala

Pastoral Care: Aerianne Mojica, Sheryl Galacio, Bethany Mendoza, Carl Blando

Peer Support: Rose Putt, Simran Murthi, Dana Mallouk

Events: Renee Obodoza, Valenteina Mekhail, Ruby Putt, Jasim Siddique, Sean Rhodes, Jasim Siddique, Sean Rhodes

Environment: Alyssa Alcalla, Madeline Sultana, Olivia Putt, Joshua Kelly,

Digital Media: Angela Truong, Sofia Gabarda, Jomiko Cabigting, Edmond Luk

Sport: Theresa Toomalatai, Zachary Turney

House Captains:

Chisholm: Tanya Castro, Mitchell Dodds
Mackillop: Shamone Prasad, Edward Pese

Francis: Kristy Goodwin, Walid Kabir
Xavier: Jasmine Thomas, Ethan Tecson



2016 School Leaders

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



ST AGNES MOODLE

Our Modern Online Digital Learning Environment (Moodle) Community allows our students to continue their learning journey outside of normal class time.

Throughout the year students and parents can view our newsletters, information notes, subject assessment tasks and resources via our [Moodle Community website \(http://bit.ly/stagnes\)](http://bit.ly/stagnes)

Every student at St Agnes has been issued with a unique username and password. You can use your child's username and password to login to our Moodle Community.

Once you have logged on correctly our Moodle Community homepage will be displayed.

Listed on this page are the Year 7 and Year 8 (Stage 4) and Year 9 and Year 10 (Stage 5) courses.

When you click on a course for the first time you can self enroll into that particular course. Located within each course are the specific activities, resources and assessment tasks that are required for successful learning at St Agnes.

Damien McGuire
Emerging Technologies Coordinator

TAX FILE APPLICATION PROCESS

Students can apply for a TFN online and have their identity verified through an interview at a participating Australia Post office. Applying online is the fastest and most convenient way for students to get a TFN. More information on applying online can be found at ato.gov.au by searching for 'QC27248'. If you require any further information you can phone 1300 130 282 between 8.00am-5.00pm Monday to Friday
Watch this video for further information

<http://tv.ato.gov.au/ato-tv/media?v=bd1bdiubkctq5u>

