Dear Families,

Last week we held our Parent-Teacher Meetings for Kinder to Year 6. I would like to sincerely thank all parents who took up the invitation to attend the meetings to find out about your child’s learning for 2015. I know that it is not always easy with young families to come out at night but hopefully you found this opportunity to meet with your child’s teacher both informative and beneficial. I would like to also thank the teachers for their preparation and commitment in organising these meetings for you. Soon you will have the opportunity to meet individually with teachers to discuss any goals, concerns or queries you may have regarding your child’s education and urge you all, if possible, to avail yourself of this opportunity.

CLASS PARENTS
This year we are again looking to have a Class Parent for each class. It is a wonderful way to increase the number of people involved in our school. Being a class parent involves being part of a friendly, helpful group of parents who are available to lend a hand when needed and organise others to assist. Class Parents’ duties include welcoming new families to the school, building community and being a point of contact for parents in the class for information about different school activities.

A big thank you to those brave people who have already offered to be class parents. We really need a class parent for all classes for this to work. Mums or dads are welcome. If you are interested in helping out and becoming a Class Parent, please complete the form at the end of the newsletter and return to the school as soon as possible.

GREYHOUND NIGHT FUNDRAISER
On Tuesday night last week I had the pleasure of attending my second Greyhound Race Meet as part of the Parent Forum Fundraiser held at Lismore. I had a wonderful night and enjoyed the company of those who were able to join us. A big thank you for the fantastic efforts of our Parent Forum - Naomi Robinson, and Tracey Bodley and to all who provided sponsorship for the individual races. It was yet another exciting experience this year, where the children and I chose our dogs based on coat colours and names, Mr Cocciola looked at statistics and form. The children appeared to be the big winners of the night with their lucky picks. Thanks again to all involved.

OPENING SCHOOL MASS
At our Opening School Mass on 13th February, the 2015 School Captains Daniel Westerman and Nella Bradford (absent due to sporting commitment), and Vice Captains Jonathon Robinson and Lily Fisher received their leadership badges and made a special pledge to live the Gospel values.

Also Student Representative Council Members, Sports’ Captains, Year 6 Leaders and Mini Vinnies President and Vice President were commissioned and received their leader’s badges.

During the Mass each class received a lighthouse place in their classroom on their Prayer Space.

The lighthouse will continually remind our students to let their light shine throughout 2015 and always be available to light the way for others.

Congratulations to our 2015 Student Representative Council (SRC):
Year 2: Olivia Hayden and Adrian Westerman
Year 3: Byron Moss and Sky Oldham
Year 4: Elleigh Jamroz and Billy Bradford
Year 5: Faith Stewart and Zac Campbell
Year 6: President Lilli Sheen and Vice President Leilani Mangan

Megan Boyd for Jeanette Wilkins
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MATTERS from Megan Boyd

LESSONS FROM POPE FRANCIS:
This year we will continue with our reflections on the wisdom of our Pope Francis. Pope Francis spends time speaking about how we can love Jesus and one another more. His wisdom is profound so in an effort to share his wisdom with our school community. I have decided to continue to share some of our Pope’s message to the world in our school newsletter.

Each week I will include some of the thoughts and reflections from the book “Lessons from Pope Francis” by Angela Burrin.

Week 1: God’s love for us is so great!
Week 2: We are all called to be friends with Jesus
Week 3: Open our hearts to the Holy Spirit
Week 4: God never tires of forgiving you
Week 5: Jesus gives himself to us in the Eucharist
Week 6: Learn to pray every day
Week 7: Take care of people in need
Week 8: Use your manners—say thank you and sorry!

LESSONS FROM POPE FRANCIS WEEK NINE:
“Mary is our Mother and she loves us!”

Jesus, Mary, and his disciples were invited to a wedding in Cana. During the celebration, Mary realised there was a problem. She said, ‘Jesus, they have no more wine.’ He replies, ‘My hour has not yet come.’ But Mary said to the servants, ‘Do whatever he tells you.’

Jesus told the servants to fill six stone jars with water. Then he said, ‘Pour some out and give it to the head server.’ The water had become wine! Mary was being kind towards the bride and groom and their guests.

Pope Francis wants us to remember that Mary is also our Mother.

She is our Mother and she loves us so much. Let us allow ourselves to be watched over by her… Never forget, young friends: The Virgin Mary is our Mother, and with her help we can remain faithful to Christ.

One day when Pope Francis was speaking to the crowds, he took out a small white medicine box. Do you know what was in it? It was a rosary! He said he wasn’t a pharmacist, but the fifty-nine little pills strung together were great spiritual medicine.

Do you have a rosary? It is a wonderful way to talk to Mary and to think about the life of Jesus, her Son. Perhaps a few times a week you could say a decade of the Rosary as a family for the intentions of Pope Francis.

Pope Francis wants me to know that Mary loves me!

SHROVE TUESDAY (Pancake Day)
Thank you to the families of our Year 3 and Year 5 students for providing pancakes that were sold at school on Shrove Tuesday. The monies raised will be donated to our Catholic Fundraising Agency, Project Compassion.

Altar Servers: All Saints’ Woodburn
Saturday, 28th February at 6 pm: Sarah Biffin, Jordan Biffin, Alec Robinson and Tayla Ferguson

MAKING JESUS REAL—MJR Awards
Lewis Irwin: for helping Lacie with her hat! Nominated by Mrs Lowrey
Bella Stanley-Jones: For helping others happily! Nominated by Mrs Boyd

PARENT LENTEN PROGRAM GROUP
This year we are offering the opportunity for parents to participate in a Lenten Prayer group on Thursdays at 10.30 am. The group will meet in the school Meeting room for an hour to participate in the ‘Rich in Mercy’ program, starting this Thursday, 26th March, for the next five weeks as we journey through Lent. It will be a wonderful opportunity to pray, reflect and support each other. Sr Janet and Megan Boyd will lead the groups.
**LENT 2015**

During Lent, God invites us to come back to him and to his way of love and service to others. At Mass on Ash Wednesday, 18th February, our foreheads were marked with a cross drawn with ashes to remind us that life passes away on earth. The Cross is a sign of hope that we will live by the Gospel and try to be Jesus to others! In our busy lives, we may lose our way and let priorities shift from God’s priorities to our own less important and sometimes self-serving ones. Lent is a time for positive action so that the coming celebration of Easter will be more meaningful for us as individuals and families.

---

**GROWING FOOD FOR LIFE**

**1st Week of Lent Project Compassion: Eric and Ma from Fiji**

Twenty-five years ago, married couple Eric and Ma worked hard, but their farm was unprofitable. They had a very limited income and diet, until they took a training course at the Tutu Rural Training Centre (supported by Caritas Australia). Using the skills they learnt there, the couple have built a successful family life, and a thriving farm that provides them with a healthy diet and sustainable source of income.

Your donation to Project Compassion helps people in isolated areas of Fiji gain the skills they need to grow food for life.

www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion  1800 024 413

---

**PARISH FAMILY SCHOOL MASS—**

**Saturday, 7th March, 6 pm**

On Saturday, 7th March, there will be a Parish Family Mass at St. All Saints’ Church Woodburn at 6 pm. This will be a wonderful opportunity to build community in this the Year of Proclaim for Students.

This term we invite our Early Stage 1 and Stage 1 families (Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2) to help lead this Mass. We will need students to read, act our the Gospel and to be part of the Presentation of the Gifts and other responsibilities.

There will be a social opportunity after Mass at the school with a PIZZA supper provided for all in attendance.

As we need to know names of children, prepare for the Mass and organise catering, could families please indicate if your family is able to attend on the reply slip in this Newsletter.

Thank you for your consideration and support in this matter.

---

**SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2015**

An invitation is extended to families wishing to enrol their children into the 2015 Sacramental Program. The following Sacraments will be celebrated this year:

- Penance/First Reconciliation (Year 3)
- Eucharist/First Holy Communion (Year 3)
- Confirmation (Year 2)

Students in other grades (Year 4 and Year 6) who have been Baptised may join the Sacramental Preparation classes.

There will be a Parent Information Meeting for the Sacrament of Penance on Wednesday, 25th February at 6 pm. This evening will commence with a simple meal of soup and bread rolls. Children do not need to attend this first meeting. Father Richard Foley requests that at least one parent from each family attend this meeting.

If you would like your child to enrol in the Sacramental Programs please indicate on the reply slip in this Newsletter and return to school by Monday, 23rd February.
# STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

**TERM 1—Week 3**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Student</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kinder</td>
<td>Dylan Harrington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Charlotte Kinsella</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Sunny McLean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jack Oldham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Siabh Rigley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Jack Sullivan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Blake Allan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>T’Ahna Allen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Victoria Mohammed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stephanie Bell</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CONGRATULATIONS!**
ZONE SWIMMING CARNIVAL POSTPONED

Due to extreme weather warnings for last Friday, the Zone Swimming Carnival will now be held tomorrow, Tuesday, 24th February 2015.

WELCOME!

Last week we welcomed Tawyn Thomson to our Year 2 class. We also welcomed her parents, Yasmin and Corey, to our school community, and trust their transition to St Joseph’s will be a happy and successful one.

HEALTH DETAILS RECORD AND PERMISSION NOTE FOR SCHOOL EVENTS

Please return completed green Health Details and Permission Note for 2015 (one for each child) as soon as possible.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Happy Birthday wishes from the school community to Brock Ayers and Mrs Lowrey who celebrated their birthday this week.

2015 FAMILY RETREAT

All costs covered by the Diocese of Lismore Catholic Schools Parent Assembly

Southern Retreat: SDA Convention Centre, 250 Grassy Head Rd, Stuarts Point—March 28/29
Northern Retreat: Tyalgum Ridge Retreat, 783 Tyalgum Creek Rd—October 24/25

Registration for Southern Retreat due by 13th March

Fun: Evening activities
Games for kids

Family: Relax and enjoy quality family time and activities
Meet and connect with other families

Faith: Fr Gerald O’Collins as Spiritual Director
Meeting you where you are at on your faith journey
Mass, reconciliation, prayer

Information: For more information please contact your Parish School Parent Representative or your Parent Assembly Cluster Organiser:
Jo Kelly (Richmond area) on 0407 706 454

TERM 1 WEEK 6

Monday, 2nd March
Tuckshop
Life Education Van—K-6

Tuesday, 3rd March
Sports Uniform
Life Education Van K-6
Leader of Evangelisation meeting—Mrs Boyd

Wednesday, 4th March
Tuckshop
Library
Life Education Van K-6

Thursday, 5th March
Sport
Parent Lenten Program Group 10.30 am
Diocesan Primary Swimming Murwillumbah
Year 5 visit to Trinity College

Friday, 6th March
Stage 2 Assembly 2.30pm

TUCKSHOP ROSTER

Monday, 23rd February
Juanita Mohammed
Megan Woolley

Wednesday, 25th February
AM: Kerrie Tunsted
AM: Stacey Bradford
PM: Renee Stone
PM: Buffie Scott

Thank you ladies!
**SELECTION OF CLASS PARENT**

The Class Parent is selected by the class teacher in consultation with the Principal and Assistant Principal.

I would like to be considered for the role of Class Parent of my child’s class.

Child’s Name: ___________________________________ Class: ___________

Parent Name: _________________________________ Contact No. ___________________

I have read the role description and believe I can fulfil the role as Class Parent.

**PARISH FAMILY SCHOOL MASS**—Saturday, 7th March, 6 pm

My family will be attending the PARISH FAMILY MASS on Saturday, 7th March.

My child/children’s names are:

______________________________________________ in Year/s ________________

Catering will be required for:

Adults _________ (number)

Children _________ (number)

Name:____________________________________ Signature:____________________

**PARISH SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION ENROLMENT**

I wish to enrol my child/children in the following Sacramental preparation:

Sacrament of Penance: ___________________ in Year _____

Sacrament of Eucharist: ___________________ in Year _____

Sacrament of Confirmation: ___________________ in Year _____

Name:____________________________________ Signature:____________________

**CHILDREN’S EAR PLUGS**

Soft putty ear plugs—for children with ear problems or grommets—are now available from the Woodburn Pharmacy.

**WOODBURN SKATE PARK OPENING**

Sunday, 1st March—4 pm

Official opening by Member for Clarence, Chris Gulaptis, and Mayor of Richmond Valley Council, Ernie Bennett

‘Skate Jam’ organised by Nan and Pop Skate Shop

Barbecue (sausages $2.50)

All welcome! Bring skateboards and bikes!

**ASTHMA & ANAPHYLAXIS TRAINING AT CORAKI CWA PRESCHOOL**

Thursday, 12th March

Coraki CWA Preschool

Cost: $80.00 each

Snacks provided

This training will provide you with a nationally recognised qualification from Macquarie First Aid.

For more information and to book a place, please call Coraki CWA Preschool on 6683 2549.

---

**Crunch & Sip Healthy Snack Ideas**—St Joseph’s Primary is a Crunch & Sip School

Does your school do Crunch & Sip? If yes, you know you have to pack a healthy fruit or vegetable snack for your child to eat each day. It’s easy to get stuck in a rut packing the same Crunch & Sip snack day after day. So, we’ve come up with some ideas you can try. **Try a variety pack!**

To keep your Crunch&Sip snack interesting, try packing it in little boxes or bags. This is a great way to increase the range of fruit and veg they eat, plus it’s quick and simple. The key is being organised. If you like, you can chop and pre-pack the snacks on a Sunday night for the week ahead. Or, when you’re making dinner the night before, just chop a few extra veggies and put them aside. Keep in mind, that some vegetables and fruit will dry out and become unappealing if you chop them too far in advance. Variety packs are a good idea for the following reasons. They:

- Help your child to eat a rainbow of fruit and vegetables
- Enable you to introduce new fruit or vegetables alongside familiar or more accepted ones

**Many other options can be found at the following website:**


Check the website out and talk to your child/ren about what they would like in the way of vegetables (not just fruit) at Crunch & Sip time.

---

**SELECTION OF CLASS PARENT**

The Class Parent is selected by the class teacher in consultation with the Principal and Assistant Principal.

I would like to be considered for the role of Class Parent of my child’s class.

Child’s Name: ___________________________________ Class: ___________

Parent Name: _________________________________ Contact No. ___________________

I have read the role description and believe I can fulfil the role as Class Parent.

---

**PARISH FAMILY SCHOOL MASS**—Saturday, 7th March, 6 pm

Please return as soon as possible

My family will be attending the PARISH FAMILY MASS on Saturday, 7th March.

My child/children’s names are:

______________________________________________ in Year/s ________________

Catering will be required for:

Adults _________ (number)

Children _________ (number)

Name:____________________________________ Signature:____________________

---

**PARISH SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION ENROLMENT**

Please return by Friday, 27th February

I wish to enrol my child/children in the following Sacramental preparation:

Sacrament of Penance: ___________________ in Year _____

Sacrament of Eucharist: ___________________ in Year _____

Sacrament of Confirmation: ___________________ in Year _____

Name:____________________________________ Signature:____________________