God of all nations, heal all that divides us. Teach us to live together in peace. As our world is one, so our future is one. Give us one heart and one vision. Make us one body in Christ Jesus, filled with the joy of your Holy Spirit. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Dear Parents, Girls and Boys

The School was buzzing last Friday morning as we were joined by many dads, pops, uncles and many important men in the lives of our students to celebrate Fathers’ Day Mass. Our visitors tucked into breakfast, dropped into classrooms and generally enjoyed the opportunity to enjoy some quality time with the children. The Mass was a moving tribute to fathers and the important men in our children’s lives. Fr Raoul was able to coax some interesting descriptions of fathers from the students as he co-authored an acrostic poem with the children as part of his homily. Many thanks to Mrs French and Mr Frazer for the time and energy spent planning and implementing the mass.

A huge thank you also to the team of mums who cooked up breakfast and made sure that all our visitors enjoyed a hearty breakfast. The first team of mums were ready for action before 6.00am while a second team took over a little later to ensure that the catering went smoothly. Thanks also to Mr Ross Ceeney who, once again, opened up the school at a very early hour and made sure that everything was ready and available when required.

I had the pleasure of attending last Monday morning’s Mass with Kindergarten and what a joyful experience it was. Since it was the feast day of Our Lady’s birthday, Fr Raoul taught the children about who Mary is and about the important role she plays in our Catholic tradition. The children were fully engaged throughout the mass and obviously gained a great deal from the experience. I know Fr Raoul and Fr Alex would be delighted to see the same faces on Saturday nights or Sundays to continue what has been happening at school.

Thanks also to all those who made a donation or bought a raffle ticket for Lucy D’s fundraising appeal. Lucy was able to raise a very impressive $723 which will be a great help as she embarks on her representative sporting endeavours.

NAPLAN

Students in Year 3 and Year 5 received their NAPLAN results last week and I know there was much to celebrate. From the school’s perspective, the data that NAPLAN provides is invaluable. We are able to see the areas where our strengths lie as well as the areas where we need to focus our efforts more sharply. This data, along with many other data sets, will be used to inform planning for the future. However, it should also be remembered that the performance of an individual student is a snapshot of a moment in time and many factors are at work on that particular day.

Hats

With the weather beginning to warm up it is essential that all students wear hats outdoors. Teachers will be insisting that students wear their hats during recess and lunch as well as sport and PE lessons. School hats with brims are to be worn during Terms 1 and 4 while school caps can be worn during Terms 2 and 3. Those students who do not have hats will be required to play in designated shady areas. This will curtail their play options but hopefully all our students will get into the hat wearing habit and allow them access to all their play areas.

Absentee Notes

Classroom teachers are now marking class rolls using an electronic, paperless system. It is still a legal requirement that parents / caregivers provide an explanation for any student absence. This is best done by dropping the teacher a brief note outlining when and why the student did not attend school.

I would like to draw your attention to the fact that there is a Fair meeting tonight at 7.30pm in the Hall. Things are really starting to gain momentum and the excitement is starting to build. Additional helpers would still be very welcome so think about lending a hand if you haven’t done so already.

As well, there is information about our 2014 Raffle which is major fundraiser for our school. There are great prizes and it is certainly worth purchasing tickets.

These and other fundraising activities directly benefit the children and are responsible for many of the wonderful resources with which we have been blessed.

Cheers and God Bless

Chris Burns
Acting Principal
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

This Sunday we celebrate the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. The feast of the Exaltation originated in the fourth century with Empress Helena’s discovery of the cross of Christ in Jerusalem. This Sunday’s reading from the Holy Gospel according to John (John 3:13-17) plays ambiguity with the phrase “lifted up”. Jesus is physically lifted up on the cross to die, but those with eyes of faith know that he is really being lifted up in glory to the Father. The text “God so loved the world he gave his only Son” speaks volumes of the enormous sacrifice by our Heavenly Father.

Thank you to everyone who celebrated at our Father’s Day Mass last Friday. A very special thank you to Mr Bowditch (Ruby Year 3), Mr Watson (Arabella-Jane Year 1) and Mr Smith (Hayden Year 5) for sharing with us their thoughtful words on fatherhood.

Mrs French, A/Religious Education Coordinator

LARC NEWS

Indigenous Literacy - Big Book Swap

A huge thank you to everyone for your generous donation of books for our Big Book Swap. We have raised close to $300!! There are still a number of books left so if your child missed out on the day or would like to purchase another book, they may do so during lunch time on Thursday (tomorrow), Monday and Tuesday. What a great effort!!

Thank you to those wonderful parents who have been covering books. We still have a great number of books that need covering and this will be on-going throughout the year, so if you can help we would love to hear from you. You can take the books home and covering materials are provided – even if you only take ten books, it makes a big difference and ensures our children have access to constant new reads. We are very fortunate to have so many new books but in order to maintain their lifespan we need to cover them before the children use them. I look forward to hearing from you.

Many thanks, Chris Higgins (Teacher Librarian)

NEW PROFILE MEETING DATES

Rescheduled meetings with Mrs Wallace will be held on Tuesday the 16th of September. A note has been sent home nominating the allocated meeting time. Please check your child’s bag.

YEAR 2 PIRATE DAY

Year 2 Pirate Day will be held on Tuesday 16th September. Year 2 students are encouraged to come to school in pirate gear. Parents are welcome to come into the classrooms from 2.30pm.

WAKAKIRRI

Another big congratulations to all Wakakirri cast and crew. We were notified yesterday that we received all the following awards for our performance at Riverside Theatre; Best combination of Dance and Drama, Best Creative Movement, Best Well-Rehearsed performance, Best Set Design and Best Adapted Story!!!

Good luck to everyone for the Wakakirri State Finals next week. Please remember that all permission notes and costumes should have been returned, if you have not done this please return them TOMORROW.

Anyone wishing to order a finals DVD will need to do this online through the Wakakirri Website (no more DVD orders will be taken through school).

WANTED

Wanted for Kindy creative arts...egg cartons and any paper, cardboard etc off cuts. Also wanted are matchbox type cars and accessories. Thank you in advance.

The KidsMatter “Kids” team have done a great job with our board display in the quad - well done!

Families and children with disabilities

A family who cares for a child with a disability is faced with many challenges. These challenges can affect the whole family or particular individuals within it. For example, social isolation often affects families who have a child with a disability. Friends and extended family may find it difficult to understand and support the family’s situation. Time for catching up with friends or going on outings may be severely reduced as family members strive to meet the child’s additional needs.

For parents and carers, the challenges often include working out how to access the right services for their child, and dealing with the roller coaster ride of emotions that can accompany parenting a child with a disability. There may be a range of challenges associated with caring for your child’s additional needs on a day-to-day basis. These may include managing the challenging behaviours of some children with disabilities, the need to administer daily treatments, helping children with self-care (eg bathing, dressing and eating), advocating for your child’s needs, and making sure there are facilities that can accommodate your child’s needs when you visit places outside the home (eg wheel chair access). Having a brother or a sister with a disability can affect siblings in different ways. They may feel a range of emotions – jealousy for parents, the child with the disability, guilt for complaining about the strains that the child with the disability puts on the family, or joy when their brother or sister accomplishes something new for the first time. Siblings may sometimes get teased about their brother or sister with a disability. Having a break and spending time with friends can be really helpful for siblings. Being able to talk about their feelings and getting support from parents, school and/ or support services is also really important.

AFTER SCHOOL SPORT

Applications for After School Sport Term 4 are due this Friday. Please collect an application form from the office or Ms Dickson.

SURFING - Years 5 and 6

TYING FOOTBALL/CRICKET - Years K-4

SCHOOL BANKING

The volunteer mum who collates the banking each week has requested that the monies placed in each child’s bank book be kept separate from other sibling’s money.

MERIT AWARDS

MRS BURKE
Ashleigh V and Ashton C

MRS COTTERELL
Harrison J and Rylee S

MS DICKSON
Lachlan G, Genevieve K and Tenielle W

MRS FOLEY
Archie J, Jon-Tanna H, Eliza P and Amelia S

MR FRAZER
Lani B and Alexah M

MRS THURLOW
Emma F and Alexis G

MISS TONNET
Maddi S, Cooper J, Elyana K and Harper T

MRS VAIL
Olivia O, Grace P and Evan H
**FAIR MEETING**

Our fair meeting will be held tonight at 7:30pm in the school hall. We hope to see as many parents there as possible to show their support and to give a helping hand.

**VOLUNTEERS**

Can you spare 1-2 hours of your time to help out on fair day? Or are you happy to run a stall that’s already organised? If so please contact Kate on 0439 478 979 or fill in the slip below and return it to the office.

**FAIR VOLUNTEER**

NAME: ___________________________  CONTACT NUMBER: ____________________________

I would like to help out by working on a stall / running a stall

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**2014 MAJOR RAFFLE**

Coming home today are the 2014 Major Raffle tickets. Each family at the school receives a booklet to sell, this way we all do our part towards this Major Fundraiser. We are raising funds for updated technology for classrooms, as we all know technology can easily become out-dated, and we want to make sure our children can have the most recent technology for their learning. Without holding fundraisers such as this it will not happen, as funds from fees and diocese is well spent elsewhere.

There are six fantastic prizes, so tickets are easy to sell. So take them to work, to lunch, your neighbours and watch them sell quickly. Once sold please return with your money in an envelope with child’s class and name. And of course there will be extra books at the office and early bird prizes.

Good luck, and thank you for your support.

Rebecca Blake, SJF P&F President

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**FATHER’S DAY**

Thank you to all the parents who assisted with the Father’s Day breakfast last week. It was lovely to see so many dads, uncles and grandparents there.

**ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS - ONE WEEK TO GO!!**

Sales close next week. Go online, type in the address below and give your details, including payment. Choose the pickup option and your book will be sent home from school with your child.


If you have any questions, contact Kelly Lukic on 04503833217.

**FAMILY PORTRAITS**

Times are still available on 16th October 3:30-8pm. To secure your session, please return $20 in an envelope marked ‘Family Portraits’ to the office with the slip below indicating your preferred times. Bookings close on 18th September.

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**FAMILY PORTRAITS AT SJF - THURSDAY 16TH OCTOBER**

Name: ___________________________ Mobile: ___________________________

Email: ___________________________

Youngest child’s name & class: ___________________________

  o I have included $20 to secure my booking

Please indicate your preferred times ranked in order (1-5)

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<th>3:30 - 4:00</th>
<th>4:00 - 5:00</th>
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*Sessions are allocated 10-15mins each.

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**CAANTRAIN ROSTER**

**FRIDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER**

Bianca Callela  Trudy Romero  Tracey Shaw  Sally Durman

**MONDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER**

Hayley Munday  Sallianne Tucker

**WEDNESDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER**

Lyndall McDonald

**FRIDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER**

Venessa Sims  Alison Hoolihan  Colleen Templeton  Melissa Mackett

**FREE PARENT & CARERS SEMINAR**

Parenting Gifted / High Ability Children

Intensity  Sensitivity  Over-excitability

How do these characteristics impact on learning at home and school, and on wellbeing?

Fiona Smith - Psychologist & Director of Gifted Minds & Dr Helen van Vliet PhD - Former Senior Lecturer ACU

Plus introduction of Diocesan Gifted / High Ability Parent information by Kerrie Besgrove CSEO Education

Thursday 11 September 7.30 - 9pm

MacKillop Catholic College, Warnervale

ALL WELCOME – NO COST RSVP

DPC website: www.brokenbayparentcouncil.com

Proudly sponsored by the Diocesan Parent Council (DPC)

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**CALENDAR 2014**

**SEPTEMBER**

| 12 | Mass - Year 2 |
| 15 | Mass - Year 1 |
| 16 | Year 2 Pirates Day |
| 19 | Mass - Year 3 |
| 19 | Last Day of Term 3 |

**OCTOBER**

| 7 | Return to School in Summer Uniform |
| 10 | Waratah Shield Cricket Boys Yrs 5&6 |
| 16 | Scholastic Book Club Orders Due |
| 17 | Family Portraits 3.30-8pm |
| 26 | Family Portraits 3-9pm |

**NOVEMBER**

| 7 | Staff Development Day |

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**WYONG PARISH MASS TIMES**

St Cecilia’s: Daily Mass: Mon-Sat 8am

Weekend Masses: Sat Vigil 5pm, Sun 7.30am & 9.30am.

Reconciliation: St Cecilia’s: Sat 8.30am & 4.30pm

St John Fisher: Daily Mass: Mon & Fri 9.15am Tues & Thurs 8am

Sunday Masses: Sat Vigil: 5pm, Sunday 8.30am & 5pm (6pm DST)

Reconciliation: St John Fisher: Sat 4.30pm

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