This week’s suggested strategy, in the spirit of Pope Francis’ joyful and action-orientated pastoral approach is:

*Take a walk in the park and allow God to speak to you through nature: sunshine, an evening breeze, the sounds of children playing.*

Dear Parents, Boys and Girls,

**Bishop Peter**

Last Thursday evening a number of our staff attended the Diocesan Opening Schools Mass at Waitara. It was the first Mass celebrated by our new Bishop. In a letter to parents joining our Diocesan Schools community Bishop Peter states:

“I encourage you to continue to make a commitment to be an active part of your children’s intellectual, moral and spiritual formation not only through their school community but through the local parish community as well. I believe a strong partnership between home, school and parish will provide support networks not just for each child, but for each family as well. Please be assured that your family and school community is in my prayers.”

**Year 6 Leadership Day**

The development of leadership qualities is an important part of life at St John Fisher and is very evident at the many school events where we all benefit from their involvement.

Our Kidsmatter Coordinator, Mrs Higgins has been working with Vicki McCudden from St Cecilia’s and myself to develop a Leadership Day this Friday. We will be assisted with volunteer students from St Peter’s who will lead the groups on the day. The students will attend Mass in the morning and then listen to Fr Raul, myself and then our past student Jacob McCudden, who captained the North Sydney Bears SG Ball Team last year and is now in the Under 20 squad for Souths.

There will then be time for collaborative group work and reflection on their own leadership skills. We look forward to a great day.

**Social Media**

This term the children are learning about Cyber Safety in their LARC lessons. I think it timely to remind parents that it is essential that they closely supervise the use of the internet especially on mobile devices, and that sites including Facebook and Instagram are for people 13 years or older. There was an incident this week that highlighted just how inappropriate it is that children have access to these sites as they are not at an age to understand the implications of their actions. I have spoken to the children in Years 4 - 6 today to outline these points and to stress that there is to be no attempt to communicate with any staff members through the internet.

**Afternoon Drive through Pickup**

If we continue to block Hansens Road in the afternoon we will be forced to stop afternoon drive through pickup. If all people can do the following simple things there will be no problem:

- Do not get out of your car. Practise how the children get in with their bag and put on their seat belt. If they are not able to please do not do drive through yet.
- Have your family name clearly visible for the teacher.
- Parents of students in Year 3-6 without younger siblings are not to be picked up through drive through until 3.25 pm.

**Grease**

Today the students from Year 5 and 6 will be attending a performance of Grease from the students of St Peter’s Catholic College Tuggerah. It is great for the children to see the opportunities they will have at their local Catholic High School.

**Staff Development Day**

Please remember that there will be Staff Development Day on Friday 27th March. The teachers will be working on developing detailed and engaging Mathematics programs incorporating the new Syllabus. Thank you for organising alternate supervision for your children on the day.

**P&F News**

Many thanks to our hardworking social/fundraising committee who have begun collecting the generous contributions from parents/guardians for the Sport-a-thon.
We are looking to use the money to develop the area outside Kindergarten as well as some fitness equipment on the top playground and portable goals. Please be sure to contribute.

Please keep an eye out for information on an event for dads, granddads and the special men in the children’s life. The P&F are organising Barefoot Bowls at Mingara on Saturday March 28th. I hope to see you there.

We are looking to host an informative session on Playful Parenting in our hall on Thursday 26th March from 9.30 - 10.30. All are very welcome and you are very welcome to bring along friends and family who are not involved with St John Fisher.

Sport-a-thon / Cross Country
Last Friday was a very successful day and it was such a pleasure to see so many people enjoying our improved top playground area. On your behalf I offer a huge thank you to Mr Welsh who put an enormous amount of thought and preparation into holding the event at school in a safe and effective environment. Thanks also to Mr Pobjie and Ms Dickson who did a lot of work behind the scenes as well as all the teachers who kept the children stimulated with fun activities through the day.

Congratulations to all the children who worked so hard on the day and good luck to all those who will be going off to the Central Coast Cross Country at Adcock Park on the 1st May.

Congratulations to Lily M who participated at the Central Coast Swimming competition last night. Well done Lily.

I wish you all a very happy St Patrick’s Day for next Tuesday.

God Bless

Barry Shanley
Principal

LARC NEWS

Last Thursday night I attended the launch of ‘The World Through Picture Books’ international exhibition at Erina Library. As we arrived we were greeted with live classical music and beautiful food!

‘The World Through Picture Books’ exhibition will be on display at Erina Library from 2nd to 26th March and features books from 36 different countries. Erina Library is the only venue in Australia to host this exhibition.

A panel of librarians from each of the participating countries submitted up to 10 titles that were suitable for children 0-11 years old.

The Australian librarians selected 10 beautiful picture books.
1. Possum Magic - Mem Fox and Julie Vivas
2. Wombat Stew - Marcia Vaughan and Pamela Lofts
3. There’s A Hippopotamus On Our Roof Eating Cake - Hazel Edwards and Deborah Niland
4. Big Rain Coming - Katrina Germein and Bronwyn Bancroft
5. Edward The Emu - Sheena Knowles and Rod Clement
6. Who Sank The Boat - Pamela Allen
7. Pete The Sheep - Jackie French and Bruce Whatley
8. Magic Beach - Alison Lester
9. The Lost Thing - Shaun Tan.
10. The Little Refugee - Ahn Do and Bruce Whatley

Christine Higgins (Teacher Librarian)

SLINKY AWARD
Last week’s Slinky Award went to 4R. Well done Year 4, a great effort. Thank you for caring for our beautiful school environment. This is our last week of Slinky Awards.

PROJECT COMPASSION
The class raising the most money last week was 4R. They raised $43.25. Please stop to remember all the families in the world that are helped through Caritas Australia. Please encourage your child to go without something and to donate the money to Project Compassion. We have 3 more weeks to collect money.

DANCE FEVER CONCERT - TUESDAY 31ST OF MARCH
Calling all parents and friends!
Please come along and watch our student performances! We are looking to use the classroom and portable goals. Please be sure to contribute.

I am doing the Canteen Roster for term 2, if you would like to join or need to make a change please fill out the form below.

CANTINEEN ROSTER TERM 2 2015

I ____________________________ am able to volunteer Monday / Wednesday / Friday (please circle). My contact number is: ____________________________

Also I will be selling fish cocktails on Fridays for the remainder of Lent for those children who would like to abstain from eating meat. 5 fish cocktails for $3.
A big thank you to all the mums for dropping in and helping in the canteen last Friday and to Mrs McKenna for running to the bank to get change. The St John Fisher spirit was shown once again. Thank you.

**PLAYFUL PARENTING**

Please find enclosed with the newsletter a flyer on the Playful Parenting Workshop which is being held at SJF on Thursday, 26th March from 9.30 to 10.30am.

**MERIT AWARDS**

**MRS AMOR**
Bonnie-Lee B, Halle B, Thomas M and Jennifer L

**MRS BURDETT**
Lucy D

**MRS BURKE**
Matthew K

**MS DICKSON**
Fletcher S, Emma L and Nicholas S

**MR EDWARDS**
Joshua M and Brody A

**MR FRAZER & MRS POWELL**
Harry B, Cooper J and Arabella W

**MRS FRENCH**
Chase L

**MRS NEWCOMBE**
Emily M, Taylah W, Savannah M and Noah L

**MRS RODGERS**
Jake C, Ashtyn C and Hannah M

**MRS THURLOW**
Cate M, Ronan B, Lisitao P, Harper T and Isabella D

**MRS VAIL**
Samuel T and Sahara O

**SPORT AWARDS – MR POBJIE**
Lani B, Charli W, Jordan G and Ashton W

**CELEBRATING CATHOLIC SCHOOL WEEK**

An information evening for Year 7 enrolment for 2016 is being held on Monday, 16th March. Sessions run from 4:00pm, 4:30pm, 5:00pm, 5:30pm and 6:00pm in the College Hall. Bookings are not necessary. A tour of the College campus will follow each information session. Enrolment application packs will be available at each session.

**P&F**

**SPORT-A-THON SPONSORSHIP MONEY**

Thank you to all the families who have returned their sponsorship money. To be in the draw for two $50 Event Cinema Gift Vouchers please ensure your sponsorship money and card is returned to school by this Friday. The voucher will be drawn at next Monday’s assembly.

**DAD’S BAREFOOT BOWLS - SATURDAY 28TH MARCH**

Please tear off the slip on the flyer in today’s newsletter and return to the office. RSVP by Friday 20th March.

**REMINDER:** Kindy Mum’s Night Out this Friday at Mingara.

**SOCIAL/FUNDRAISING EVENTS FOR 2015**

On Friday 20th March the Social and Fundraising Committee are meeting at Mingara’s Roasted Berry Café at 9am to discuss and plan events for the year. Everyone is welcome, especially any new Kindy parents. If you would like to come please text Kelly on 0450833217. We would love to see you there.

**CALENDAR 2015**

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<td>Sport-a-thon Money Due</td>
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<td>Knitting for the Needy 9am</td>
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<td>Kindy Mums – Dinner at Mingara</td>
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<td>Special Grade Mass Year 4</td>
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<td>Knitting for the Needy after Yr 4 Mass</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Dad’s Barefoot Bowls RSVP due</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Social &amp; Fundraising Meeting 9am Mingara</td>
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<td>Mass Year 3</td>
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<td>Playful Parenting Workshop 9.30-10.30am</td>
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<td>Good Friday</td>
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**WYONG PARISH MASS TIMES**

St Golec’s: Daily Mass: Mon–Sat 8am

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

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

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

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

Reconciliation: St John Fisher: Sat 4.30pm

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