Dear Parents, Boys and Girls,

**The Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Grandparents Day**

This Friday is a day we have been looking forward to for a number of years now. I could not think of a more appropriate Feast Day to celebrate the place of our loving Grandparents and Special Family members in our life than that of the mother of Jesus. Of course all parents and carers are also very welcome.

- 9.15 am - Mass in Hall
- 10.00 am Approximately - Classroom visits
- 10.40 am - Morning Tea near Hall
- 11.00 am - Wakakiri Performance

**Parish Spring Fair**

It would be wonderful to see many of the families from the school supporting the Parish at the Parish Fair at St Peter’s College Tuggerah this Sunday at 9.30am. Please see the information further in the newsletter.

**Funday / Book Parade / Wakakiri**

Friday 22nd August will be a great day for the children. To make life simpler for parents we are putting two events on the one day.

Children can dress up as their favourite book character to celebrate Book Week and we will have a Book Parade at 9.00 in the morning in the hall. Parents are very welcome to stay for this.

Each year the children in Year 6 hold a Funday where they work in groups to organise fun activities for the children. They will do this for the children in K-2 in one session and the children in 3-5 in another session. We ask that each child brings a gold coin to go towards the Year 6 present to the school.

At 2.00 pm we will be putting on the Wakakiri performance for the students. Parents are welcome to attend.

**Goodstart Preschool LARC Visit**

Recently we welcomed a group of children from Goodstart Tumbi Umbi. They came to our LARC for the morning and worked with the children in Year 3. We were pleased to receive the following feedback. “A special thank you to the Year 3 students for being awesome buddies to our preschool children last Tuesday. Each child felt very special and admired the children’s reading skills as they read them stories.” Well done Year 3.

**Sports Update**

This week we passed on the Central Coast Athletics Championship Awards to Lucy D and Joel S. Brilliant achievements. Congratulations also to Thomas M, Chet R and Parker R who were selected to represent Polding in the softball team.

**Staff Development Day**

Thank you for organising alternate supervision for your children last Friday. The staff spent a very solid day of learning in regard to the new English syllabus and worked to integrate the changes in the syllabus into the teaching and learning programs.

**God Bless**

Barry Shanley
Principal

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS**

This coming Sunday will be twentieth Sunday of the church Year A. Matthew’s Sunday Gospel tells us of the great faith that a Canaanite woman had in Jesus. Jesus rewards the strong faith of this woman by healing her sick daughter. Interestingly this reading takes on even more significance considering that it comes on the Sunday after the feast days of 2 women that also displayed great faith in Jesus, these two women of course being Mary MacKillop and Mary the mother of Jesus.
Procession

The students from St. John Fisher will be celebrating the Assumption of the Virgin Mary Mass on Friday the 15th of August at 9:15am. At this mass we will also be acknowledging and celebrating the important role that grandparents play in our lives.

If you have a photo of a Grandparent that you would like to be included in a special reflection for this mass please email that photo to me by 9am Thursday the 14th of August. My email Address is scot.frazer@dbb.org.au.

St. Cecilia’s Centennial Mass
St. Cecilia's is celebrating a Centennial Mass on Friday the 22nd August at 7pm in St. Cecilia’s church. The students from St. John Fisher will be leading the Gospel Procession for this Mass. We need some students to participate in this Gospel Procession. These students will practise this Gospel Procession at school and then will present the procession at this mass. Please contact me ASAP if your child is able to assist.

Fr. Vlad’s Farewell Mass and Family Fun Day
There will be a special mass to farewell Fr. Vlad at 10:30am on Sunday the 24th of August in the hall at St. John Fisher School. After mass the parish will be conducting a Family Fun Day in the grounds of the school. Families are encouraged to bring a picnic lunch!

Scot Frazer, Religious Education Coordinator

LARC NEWS
Stay Connected! BOOK WEEK IS NEXT WEEK! Here are some dates for your diary!
15th August: Children’s Book of the Year Awards announced
18th-22nd August: Book Week – Theme: “Connect to Reading”
19th August: Wyong Shire Library visit for Kinder and Yr 1.
“Connect to Reading” during “The Reading Hour” 2014
In Book Week-Tuesday 19th August 6-7pm
“Connect” and scan the qr code (or go to http://www.readinghour.org.au/) to find out more about “The Reading Hour”

Indigenous Literacy Day
In week 8 this term we are going to celebrate Indigenous Literacy day on Thursday, 4th September. As part of this we would like to support the Indigenous Literacy Foundation - an organisation which aims to improve Literacy and Numeracy for Indigenous children. We are holding a “book swap” on Thursday, 4th September and ask children to bring in a book they no longer read and which is in good condition. All books will be displayed and for a gold coin donation children can choose another pre-loved book to keep. Books can be brought in from today.

Happy Reading, Christine Higgins (Teacher Librarian)

FUN DAY 2014: FRIDAY 22ND AUGUST
This year’s fun day will be held on 22nd August. This day is also the Book Week Parade, which is at 9am that morning. All the children will be able to wear their book character costumes and are asked to bring in a gold coin donation.

Mrs Sue Burdett and Mr Brett Perkins (Year 6 Teachers)

WAKAKIRRI
All money for tickets must be in by tomorrow - Thursday 14th August. If money for tickets is not received by this day we will assume you no longer require the ticket and it will be allocated to another family. Riverside theatre has advised us that there are limited tickets for sale directly through their website. If you still require extra tickets you may be able to purchase them this way.

Our performance is only 2 weeks away and we are all very excited. The children’s efforts during rehearsals have been amazing and we should all be so proud of them. We will be having a dress rehearsal for the Grandparents this Friday and again for the rest of the school next Friday.

We cannot thank enough the incredible and tireless efforts of the many parents whom have helped make the many props and costumes. Special thanks must go to Mrs Scullin Brown for her many hours of sewing and resewing (after we changed our minds and added more!!!).

Children will receive a note next week regarding the schedule and requirements for performance day.

Thank you, Wakakirri Teachers

CANTEN ROSTER
FRIDAY 15TH AUGUST
Chantel Gilbey  Ellen Collie  Kristy Williams  Kathryn Hooke

MONDAY 18TH AUGUST
Melissa Lalor  Denise Gerrie

WEDNESDAY 20TH AUGUST
Wendy Dennis

FRIDAY 22ND AUGUST
Sonya Wallace  Wendy Dennis  Danielle Maxwell
What feeling included is all about...

Children come from an endless range of different families, backgrounds, cultures and religions. They also have a variety of interests, learning styles and abilities. Despite all of these differences, everyone should feel included and welcome within their school community. Positive school communities create opportunities for children, families and staff to feel included. They make help and support accessible and find lots of ways to invite people to take up the support being offered. They help everyone benefit from understanding experiences and cultures that may be different to their own.

When children feel included, when they are part of a community that promotes inclusion and respect for everybody, they show more caring and compassion towards others, and they feel safer and more secure. They are also better learners and have better mental health and wellbeing. In a positive school community every face has a place, every voice is valued, and everyone has something to contribute.

School communities from around Australia chose care, compassion, respect, understanding and inclusion as important values for children to understand. These are things that children can learn about. The best learning happens when children see the adults around them putting values like these into practice. Feeling included is important for mental health, and is supported best when diversity is respected and valued.

FREE PARENT AND CARERS SEMINARS

The Diocesan Parent Council (DPC) is hosting two seminars this term. All parents and carers are welcome and there is no cost. DPC website www.brokenbayparentcouncil.com.

On 19th August, Paula Robinson will be presenting her Mental Fitness framework which provides parents with strategies to help children be successful learners by equipping them with good Mental Fitness.

Fiona Smith and Dr Helen van Vliet, on 11th September, will offer parents info and strategies to develop a deeper understanding of the social and emotional needs of gifted/high ability students.

GRANDPARENTS DAY

This Friday is our celebration for Grandparents Day beginning with a special mass at 9.15am, followed by a visit to the classrooms, a performance of Wakakirri and morning tea. We are looking forward to a fabulous turnout.

FAMILY PORTRAITS

This year we have arranged to have Advanced Life Photography come to the school to take family portraits on Friday 17th October from 3pm – 9pm. These will make a great Christmas present or just a beautiful photo for your family to keep. For $20 you will receive a 10"x13" family portrait or A3 pencil sketch, a key ring and a wallet-sized portrait. You may then choose to purchase a larger package if you wish. Flyers will be sent home next week with all the details. Put this date in your diaries!

CALENDAR 2014

AUGUST

15 Grandparents Day 9.15am
15 Whole School Mass 9.15am
18-22 Book Week
18 Mass – Year 3
19 Reading Hour 6-7pm
21 Issue 6 of Scholastic Book Club Due
22 Book Parade 9am
22 Year 6 Fun Day – gold coin donation
25 Mass – Year 5
27 Wakakirri Performance Date
29 Mass Year 6

SEPTEMBER

4 Indigenous Literacy Day – Book Swap
5 Whole School Mass – Father’s Day
8 Mass – Kindergarten
12 Mass – Year 2

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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