Gracious God, through the presence of your Spirit and the unity of the church, you hear and answer us. 
Strengthen in us the gift of prayer and deepen in us the gift of faith. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Dear Parents, Boys and Girls

Thankyou for lunch!
The school staff enjoyed a very tasty lunch last Friday provided by the P & F. Many thanks to Kelly Lukic who dropped lunch in on behalf of the P&F and the school community. The thoughtful gesture was in recognition of World’s Teachers Day and the hard work that the school staff undertake daily to educate our students.

Parent Council talk
The Diocesan Parent Council (DPC) are recognising our vibrant diocesan parent community with an end-of-year celebration with brilliant guest speaker Dan Haesler. Often all our focus is on our children’s wellbeing - but what about our own? On Monday 27 October, Dan will be presenting on the issues around personal wellbeing. Citing research from the field of Positive Psychology, Dan will encourage you to think about yourself for a change! An entertaining and inspiring speaker, Dan will give some practical strategies that will boost your wellbeing almost immediately!

I recommend you give consideration to attending this free evening. It is being held at the Catholic Schools Office Pennant Hills. Your invitation with relevant information can be found later in the newsletter. All parents and carers are welcome and there is no cost. To assist with catering please RSVP via the DPC website www.brokenbayparentcouncil.com.

PAT
During this week and next, students from Years 2 to 6 will be involved in online testing to provide teachers with detailed data on their students’ progress. The assessments are known as PAT (Progressive Achievement Tests) in Mathematics and Reading and are designed by Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER). On completion of the test, teachers have immediate access to detailed performance data which they will use to inform their teaching for the rest of the term. The results will also contribute to the body of data that teachers use to prepare comprehensive end-of-year reports.

Campus Improvement
A great deal of work has been going on around the school for quite some time now to develop school facilities and surrounds. I would like to acknowledge the efforts of Ross Ceeney, our marvellous maintenance man who puts his heart and soul into every project. Where ever you look around the campus you will see evidence of Ross’s hard work and commitment to improving our school.

Waratah Shield Cricket
Congratulations to the school cricket team and Mr Edwards for qualifying for the semi-finals of the Waratah Shield. To do so they had to defeat OLR Wyoming and OLR The Entrance. The team played extremely well in both games while displaying high levels of sportspersonship and fair play. At one point the whole team applauded an opposition player who prevented a certain four with a fine piece of fielding. Amongst many highlights of the day was a double hat trick to Brayden B and a huge six over the pavilion to Chet R!

Fair
Preparations for the School Fair are powering ahead. If you haven’t already done so please consider lending a hand at some stage during the day. There are stalls still needing some support so any assistance would be greatly appreciated. There is a slip within that can be returned with your offer of assistance.

Don’t forget to get any outstanding raffle tickets in by this coming Friday. The prizes are amazing so keep in mind that you’ve got to be in it to win it!

Cheers and God Bless

Chris Burns
Acting Principal

R.E. NEWS
The biblical image of ‘weeds among the wheat’ (Mt 13:24-30) is used repeatedly by Pope Francis in Evangelii Gaudium (Joy of the Gospel).

Jesus put before them another parable:
The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, "Master, did you not sow the good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?" He answered, "An enemy has done this."
The slaves said to him, "Then do you want us to go and gather them?" But he replied, "No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let them both grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, collect the weeds first and blind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn."

From this passage we are asked to understand that the master is fully aware of the ‘evil planted’ in his field but he is not fixated on it. He remains focused on what is the best course of action that will protect the ‘good seed’ and allow for fruitful harvest. The master sees the bigger picture; he trusts in a future beyond the immediate problem. He is patient.

Some ways we can ‘tend the field’ within each of us:

- Be thankful for God’s blessings. Keep a gratitude journal.
- Ponder a little bit of Scripture each day.
- Stay close to the sacramental life of the Church.
- Don’t feed your mind junk food. Be discerning about what you read and view.

Mrs French
Religious Education Co-ordinator

SACRAMENT OF FIRST EUCHARIST 2014
The time has come for all children in years 3 or above who have already received the Sacraments of Confirmation and Reconciliation to enrol in the sacramental program to receive the Sacrament of First Eucharist and share in God’s universal meal. Parents/Guardians are required to attend one of the Enrichment/Registration Evenings commencing at 7.30pm:

Tuesday 14th October: SJF Mass Centre Hicks Lane, Tumbi or Wednesday 15th October: St Cecilia’s Church.

Our Sacramental Program has been re-structured to further enhance the faith development of the children. As this is a Family/Parish based program, we have introduced some activities which will assist in the spiritual growth of the children.

A copy of your child’s Confirmation certificate if confirmed in a parish other than Wyong. $30 (cash) to cover for program costs. Please note the dates in our Sacramental Booklet handed out in the beginning of the year have now been changed to incorporate our new program.

CRICKET REPORT
Last Friday, 10th October, the St John Fisher Open Boys Cricket team played in the opening two rounds of the Waratah Shield, a 20/20 competition. Our first match was against OLR Wyoming. Bowling first, we were able to bowl Wyoming out for 12; Brayden B 4/1 (including a double hat trick), Chet R 3/0, Aiden S 2/0, Mark S 1/0. Our batting was very impressive and we were able to secure a win with a score of 4/86; Mitchell L 17, Will H 10.

In our second match, we played OLR The Entrance. We batted first to score a very impressive 132; Chet R 30 (no), Brayden B 33 (no), Mitchell L 28 (no), Mark S 16, Connor S 13. Our team bowled very well to dismiss The Entrance for 8/54; Aiden 5/3, Mitchell L 2/6, Max L 1/5.

Two excellent team efforts. Well done boys, you were wonderful representatives of our school. These two wins now qualify our team for the finals on a date to be advised. I’d like to thank Mrs Bradshaw and Mrs Hale who helped with the scoring on this day.

Adam Edwards

**SJF SCHOOL FAIR**

**SJF FAIR - 11 SLEEPS TO GO!**

**LADIES SHOWBAGS $10 EACH**

**DONATIONS**
Second hand donations can be dropped off to the P&F room on Friday between 8.30-9 and 2.30-3 and next Monday between 8.30-9 and 2.30-3.

Our handmade craft and gourmet jar donation boxes are in the foyer of the office. We NEED gourmet jar donations. Homemade jams, relish and sauces would be really appreciated. Please call Kate on 0439 478 979 if you are able to help.

Anyone wanting to make cupcakes, slices, biscuits and cakes for the cake and cupcake stalls please note that drop off times are 9-12.30 Saturday 25th October in the school hall or the morning of the fair.

Plant donations can be placed outside the LARC (carpark side) at any time from now until fair day.

Please keep the class donations flowing. For all those families that have already donated this week, thank you! Your support is appreciated.

**WRISTBAND & SHOWBAG ORDER FORMS**
Don’t forget to send in your wristband and show bag order forms.

**$10 FOR LADIES SHOWBAGS, SEE FLYER FOR ORDER DETAILS.**
For everyone that has purchased a wristband to date they will be getting sent home Thursday and Friday this week so please keep a look out in your child’s bag.

**PARKING**
Due to safety reasons and needing to keep our car park clear for amusement rides, onsite parking will not be available at this year’s fair. (The only exception being accessibility parking in front of the school office) Please take note of the surrounding on street parking available as well as the two neighbouring child care centres who have given us permission to use their car parks and just a hop, skip and a jump away - Mingara. Please consider our neighbours when parking on fair day to make the day enjoyable for all.

**MERIT AWARDS**

**MRS BURDETT**
Finley T and Zac G

**MRS BURKE**
Harrison J, Aaron S, Ari S, Jaylen S and Blake F

**MRS FRENCH**
Ethan A, Harry B, Joseph B, Ruby B, Georgia B, Mikayla C and Holly J

**MRS RODGERS**
Cairo S, Brayden H, Liam N and Annelise B

**MRS VAIL**
Koby R and Charlotte T
MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK - WE NEED YOUR HELP
Please complete the attached form and return it to the office as soon as possible. Our fair day wouldn’t happen without the support of parents and we still have plenty of spots that need to be filled.

FAIR HELPERS
I would like to help out on fair day by working on a stall.

NAME:__________________________

CONTACT NUMBER:________________

I am available: ALL DAY  9:30-10:30  10:30-12:30  12:30-2:30

SCHOOL BANKING
Rewarding regular savings with precious prizes. The Dollarmites have uncovered the ancient Clam of Fortune. Inside they found these amazing prizes that you could win a share of:

40 x GoPro HERO3 White Edition Cameras
150 x Slip 'N Slide Double Wave Riders

Here’s how to win:
Every deposit you make with School Banking will automatically create one entry for you into the competition. So the more you save, the more chances you have to win (up to a maximum of 6 entries). Competition runs: 20 October–30 November 2014. To find out more, visit commbank.com.au/deepseasavers

P&F
RAFFLE TICKETS DUE THIS FRIDAY
Please make sure all raffle tickets have been returned by this Friday 17th October. The two early bird cash prizes will be drawn at Monday Morning assembly. Thank you for your support.

FAMILY PORTRAITS
Thank you to all of the families who have supported the Family Portrait fundraiser this year. Your reminder slips for your session times have been sent home today. The photos will now be taken in the room next to the music room. This is located in the demountable classroom near the uniform shop. Please arrive 10 minutes early for your session.

Please note that no refunds will be given under any circumstances.

CANTEEN ROSTER
FRIDAY 17TH OCTOBER
Renee Dobson  Ellen Collie  Angie Hart  Carly Nelson

MONDAY 20TH OCTOBER
Liz  Irene Diamandaras

WEDNESDAY 22ND OCTOBER
Jodie Hughes Holland

FRIDAY 24TH OCTOBER
Tanya Thorsen  Karina Nicole  Kristy Davis

CALENDAR 2014
OCTOBER
16  Scholastic Book Club Orders Due
16  Family Portraits 3.30-8pm
17  Mass Year 6
17  Raffle Tickets Due Back to School
17  Family Portraits 3-9pm
20  Mass Year 2
24  Year 5 Special Grade Mass
26  SJF School Fair
27  Mass Year 3
27  DPC - Dan Haesler Seminar
31  Year 4 Special Grade Mass

NOVEMBER
3  Mass Year 1
7  STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY
20  Scholastic Book Club Orders Due