Dear Parents and Carers

On Tuesday night at the P&F meeting planning for Stage One of the new play area hit a milestone with the committee’s plans now being sent away to be officially drawn up so that work can begin. The plan will involve major landscaping works in the degraded section of the ‘hill’ area next to the field and will provide a safe and fun environment for the children to play. The committee has investigated designs and concepts from all over the world (via internet) and have agreed on a plan that is quite extensive, covering the area from the eastern end of the Kindergarten rooms up to the bus bay. Once the plans are drawn up, they will be shared with the whole school community. The committee quickly realised that playgrounds are expensive hence the need to stage the project and complete the job as fundraising allows. Updates on progress will be shared via the newsletter as developments happen – watch this space!

Last week all students at the school participated in the next phase of the Proclaim initiative. The focus this year is on student participation, after last year’s parent focus. Proclaim is about reflecting on our beliefs, assumptions and histories and guiding young people into the fullness of life. It is about ensuring everything that makes Catholic education good is identified and allowed to flourish. It’s also about building a Catholic culture that is part and parcel of all that’s good about our school. It’s great that the students have an opportunity to be part of this process.

Evidence of this faith in action is found in the tremendous support shown towards Eve Guy and her family. The next fundraising event for Eve is the School Trivia Night – save the date! It promises to be a great night and is for a great cause. Saturday 12 September, more details coming soon.

A number of parents have asked me about the upcoming Staff Development Day on Monday 17 August. This day has been mandated by the Catholic Schools Office, Lismore as a time when all primary schools across the Diocese focus on implementing the new syllabus documents, as specified by the government. I realise that the timing of this day may be inconvenient for some families but unfortunately this date has been externally set. The purpose of this day is to deeply explore and plan to implement the new Maths syllabus. It is an invaluable time for the whole staff to develop an extensive knowledge of the document in order to ensure every child grows in numeracy. Maths will be a prime focus this year and next year and parent workshops and information nights are planned.

The school has had a suspected case of Whooping Cough (Pertussis) and NSW Health have been contacted. This illness can be very serious, especially for young children, so I would urge every parent to be vigilant in looking out for the symptoms and seeking medical care when needed so that we do not have a serious outbreak here at school. More information can be found at:


I thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Grace and Peace

Peter Watts

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**STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

*** NOTICE ***

There will be a Staff Development Day on Monday 17 August.
There will be no school for children on this day.**
**Catechetical News**

**Go Forth Set The World on Fire!**

Proclaim week has come and gone but the message is still alive and strong. The message is to *Go Forth and Set the world on fire!*

Throughout Proclaim Week it was clear to see that our students are well on their way to becoming faithful stewards of God’s Creation. Each cohort came up with their own pledge, a promise, stating how they would participate in the care for God’s world.

A huge thank you goes out to the students who participated in the Holy Spirit Art Work’s competition. All of our students received a Certificate of Commendation and two of the art works were chosen to be our St Augustine’s winners. Our very own Father Fred judged the Art Work who was very impressed with the display of expertise and devotion the students have for the Holy Spirit. Our winners were Peri Carratt in Year 3 and Holly Simmons in Year 5. Congratulations! Both girls won a $50 voucher from Book World.

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**St Mary of the Cross**

Saturday 8 August is the Feast Day of St Mary MacKillop (1842 – 1909) who is Australia’s first Saint. A statue of Mary MacKillop stands near the playing fields in our school. This week our students have been learning about her inspirational life and how she never gave up. Mary was an important Australian who helped and sacrificed so much for so many people in her lifetime, especially children and the poor.

“Happiness is in making others happy” St Mary MacKillop

*Paddy Dent - Leader of School Evangelisation  
Mary Machatsch – Leader of Catechesis*

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**Staff News**

*Congratulations to Kristy and Siman McPherson on the arrival of their son Benjamin.  
Congratulations also to Robyn and Ben Warren on the birth of their daughter Lacie.*
**P & F NEWS**

**MEETING**
The next P & F Meeting will be held on Tuesday 1 September at 7:00 pm in the LARC. All welcome.  
*Stephen Appleton—P & F Committee President*

**RAFFLE FOR EVE**
The raffle for Eve will be drawn in September. Please return tickets to the office as soon as possible.

**ABORIGINAL PARENTS MEETING**
The Aboriginal Parents Meeting will be held on Thursday 13 August at 12 noon at school. All welcome.

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**SAVE THE DATE**
Saturday 12 September 2015

**TRIVIA NIGHT**
At St John Paul College  
In support of the Guy family  
Babysitting available at the College for children over 4 years of age.

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**COMING EVENTS**

**AUGUST**
10 Rosary Makers visit Yr 4  
11 ICAS Maths Competition  
13 Aboriginal Parents Meeting 12 pm All welcome  
14 Yr 3 at Parish Mass 9:15 am  
Class 6F—Cake Stall fundraiser (page 7)  
17 STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY—NO STUDENTS AT SCHOOL  
18 Yrs 3/4 Chicken Burger Day  
21 Yr K & Yr 6 at Parish Mass 9:15 am  
26 Book Week Character Parade  
Newcastle Permanent Maths Comp  
28 Feast of St Augustine  
Yrs K-6 at Parish Mass 9:15 am  
MUFTI DAY for Fathers’ Day Stall  
Class 6P—Cake Stall fundraiser

**SEPTEMBER**
1 Yrs K-2 Chicken Burger Day  
Yr 3 Learning Journey in classrooms 2:00 pm  
P & F Meeting 7:00 pm in the LARC  
4 Yr 1 & Yr 5 at Parish Mass 9:15 am  
Fathers’ Day Stall—gifts $4 each  
Yr K Excursion—Big Banana/Carobana/Park  
10 Yrs K-2 Sports Carnival  
11 Yr 2 & Yr 4 at Parish Mass 9:15 am  
12 TRIVIA NIGHT AT JPC 7:00 pm  
18 Yr 3 at Parish Mass 9:15 am  
Class 6C—Cake Stall fundraiser  
LAST DAY OF TERM 3

**OCTOBER**
6 STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY—NO STUDENTS AT SCHOOL  
7 FIRST DAY OF TERM 4 FOR STUDENTS

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**CANTEEN ROSTER**

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**17.08.2015**

| **Mon** | STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY—SCHOOL CLOSED |  |  |  |  |
| **Tues** | J Bourne, D Olutayo, N Savige |  |  |  |  |
| **Wed** | G Franklin, M Murphy, S O’Reilly, M Santana |  |  |  |  |
| **Thur** | M De Satge, N Ferrett |  |  |  |  |
| **Fri** | P Crawford, P Duffy, H Gallatly, W McLean, J Roach |  |  |  |  |

**CANTEEN NEWS**

Canteen helpers are always required. Help is needed for three hours from 9:00 am until 12:00 noon once every four weeks. Grandparents are very welcome also. If you are able to help in the Canteen on any day please call us on 66521204.

*Barbra Symons & Alicia Betland—Canteen Managers*
**SPORT NEWS**

**Lismore Diocese Athletics Carnival**
Today children from St Augustine’s represented the Clarence Zone in Port Macquarie to qualify to compete in the Lismore Diocese Athletics Carnival. Results will be in the next Newsletter.

**Clarence Zone Age Champions**
At the Clarence Zone Carnival held early this term St Augustine’s was successful in having three Age Champions. Congratulations to:

- Laila McDonald 11yr Girls Age Champion
- Lachlan Marle 11yr Boys Age Champion
- Alexandra Harrison 12yr Girls Age Champion

**Saturday Basketball**
Saturday Basketball has begun with St Augustine’s teams competing in the competition. If you want to start a team or join a team please contact the school.

**K-2 Sports Carnival**
The K-2 Sports Carnival will take place on Thursday 10 September on the school grounds. The carnival will begin at 9:00 am and finish by approximately 2:30 pm. In preparation for the carnival the children will begin practising running and ball games during their Thursday sport time. If you are able to assist, support or help on the day please contact your class teacher.

Yours in sport
Dan Hammond—Sports Coordinator
Kristy McDermid—Sports Administrator

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**St Augustine's Enviro Warriors**
Every week around twenty students from across the grades meet to discuss the issues in our school. With Cool Australia’s EnviroWeek at the end of this month we have joined other schools from across Australia to help take care of our environment. We have chosen to be Waste Warriors and have named ourselves the St Augustine Enviro Warriors. We have made it our mission to inform our peers about the using the correct bins.

One issue that has been quite disturbing to the Enviro Club is the state of the schools bins. Every lunch time and recess it is sad to see the cross contamination of our bins. We have found plastic wrap in the green and yellow bin - this contaminates the bins and unless they are fixed the contents will end up in landfill.

As a group we have decided to inform our fellow peers on how to use the bins correctly. Over the last few weeks we have been busy creating videos that will be published on KnowledgeNET School Notice Board and the Enviro page on KnowledgeNET that will help to provide you and your children with information on how to dispose of our rubbish correctly.

You can visit our EnviroWeek profile at:


Taking care of our Environment starts with ALL of us. Enviro Warriors Out!!!

Mrs Catling and the Enviro Club.
**CURRICULUM CORNER**

**2015 ICAS Competition Results**

**Digital Technologies**
This year, 23 students participated in the Digital Technologies Competition. Three Distinction, ten Credit, two Merit and eight Participation Certificates were awarded. Congratulations and thank you to all the students who participated.

- **Distinction:** Joss Cowling (Yr 3); Jessica Harrison (Yr 4); Saarang Baba (Yr 5).
- **Credit:** Ainhoa Appleton, Jonathan Gilliland, Jayda Kachel, Maya Loader, Mia White (Yr 4); Trinity Kachel, Kieran Murray (Yr 5); Nicholas Bulloch, Russell Cole, Tyler Kooyman (Yr 6)
- **Merit:** Saavan Baba (Yr 3); Finn Murray (Yr 6)

**Science**
Thirty students participated in the Science Competition. One High Distinction, one Distinction, nine Credit, three Merit and 16 Participation Certificates were awarded.

- **High Distinction:** Saarang Baba (Yr 5)
- **Distinction:** Kieran Murray (Yr 5)
- **Credit:** Riley Carniato, Alexandra Nealand (Yr 3); Oskar Cragg, Jessica Harrison (Yr 4); Patrick Browne (Yr 5); Ailish Barry, Nicholas Bulloch, Alyssa Golding, Oscar Pike (Yr 6)
- **Merit:** Trinity Kachel (Yr 5); Russell Cole, Olivia Goeldner (Yr 6)

Congratulations to all these students.

**National Literacy and Numeracy Week 31 August - 6 September**

**About the Week**
National Literacy and Numeracy Week aims to raise community awareness of the importance of literacy and numeracy skills for all Australian students. Throughout this week we recognise and celebrate the achievements of parents, teachers, principals, and members of the wider community who are making a difference to the development of literacy and numeracy skills in our students.

**Engaging in your children’s education**
Parents and carers can have a big impact on their children’s education. Over 40 years, research tells us that how well children do at school has a lot to do with what happens at home. Parents are the first and most important influence on a child’s attitudes and values toward school and learning. By creating a home environment that encourages a continuous love of learning from an early age, you can help your child to achieve positive outcomes throughout their schooling and beyond.

Being excited about National Literacy and Numeracy Week and engaging with your child as they take part in the Week’s activities is one way to foster this love of learning.

**How you can get involved**
Through National Literacy and Numeracy Week parents can join with their children and the school community to participate in fun literacy and numeracy activities. Information about St Augustine’s participation in this important week will be published on KnowledgeNET and in the Newsletter. You may like to check out the website as well - [https://www.literacyandnumeracy.gov.au/](https://www.literacyandnumeracy.gov.au/)

*Stephanie George—Leader of Learning: Administration/Curriculum*
A reminder to parents paying school fees by three instalments
(and not using our Direct Debit Request facility)
- the third and final payment for 2015 is due and payable by 1/09/15.

If you are using our Direct Debit Request facility, your final instalment for 2015 will be automatically deducted from your account on 1/09/15.

Please call on 6651 0000 if you have any queries or are unsure of your payment plan agreement. Thank you.

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Prize Draws:
All who honour their school fees agreement and who have paid their accounts in full by the due dates will be entered into a prize draw each January. (All who have a direct debit arrangement which is kept up to date will automatically be entered into the draw.)

**Novotel Coffs Harbour Pacific Bay Resort** have generously donated:
- One night’s accommodation in a Resort Room for two adults including a full buffet breakfast in Charlie’s Restaurant

**Commonwealth Bank** have generously donated:
- $100 Youth Saver account with the Commonwealth Bank School Banking program

We are very grateful for the wonderful support given to us by Novotel Coffs Harbour and Commonwealth Bank School Banking Program. Thank you.
YEARS 6 CAKE STALLS

The Year 6 Graduation Committee will be holding three cake stalls this term to raise funds for the Graduation dinner.

6F - Friday 14 August
6P - Friday 28 August
6C - Friday 18 September

Children in these classes are requested to bring in items that can be sold individually such as patty cakes, muffins or mini muffins, biscuits or pre-cut slices. Items are to be brought in to school on the morning of your class’s nominated date.

Prices will range from 20c up to $1 per item and will be on sale to all students at lunch time on these dates.

A big thank you to Brett & Kerry Howarth for donating an electric scooter for Year 6 students to raffle soon.
**LARC Matters**

In Week 6, St Augustine’s will be celebrating Book Week with hundreds of other schools across Australia. This national event is designed to celebrate all things wonderful about books and, in particular, Australian books and authors. On Wednesday of that week, August 26, we will be having the annual **Book Character Parade for Years K-2**. Children are invited to come dressed as their favourite book character. The only criteria is that it is a character from a book (not movie unless it is also a book), and **the student is clear on who they are and from what book**. Some families love dress up time, but please do not feel compelled to be too complex. I always stress to the students that a simple costume (such as Billie B Brown, Hey Jack, Zac Power, Charlie or Lola etc) is just as fun as a complex costume.

*See you in the LARC, Annie Madden—Teacher/Librarian*

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**Interschool Chess Competition**

St Augustine’s entered six teams in the Interschool Chess Competition, hosted by Sawtell Primary School on Thursday 16 July 2015. Two teams played in A Grade, one in B Grade and three in C Grade. All students played enthusiastically and represented our school with pride.

A Grade Team 1 – Finn Murray, Lachlan Lewis, Adam King and Kieran Murray - came second on the day. Finn Murray was awarded best player for the tournament.

The competition was played in a spirit of cooperation and friendliness, with more experienced players happy to help out beginners. Special thanks go to Mr Dent for supervising the students on the day, Mr Maddox for organising the competition and Mr Pike for his help with scoring.

*Mrs George—Chess Organiser*
**THE GREEN SPOT**

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**The simplest way**

**...to add vegies at brekky time.**

Kids who eat breakfast have higher levels of energy, alertness and concentration.

You might be surprised how easy it is to sneak vegies in at breakfast time.

Here are a few ideas:

- Toast topped with cooked mushrooms, fresh tomatoes, baked beans or creamed corn
- Chop and add left over vegies to an omelette or savoury pancake

Eating vegies at brekky will help your kids eat their 5 serves of vegies a day!

For more information visit

www.eatittobeatit.com.au
or join us at facebook.com/eatittobeatit

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**Live Life Well @ School**

Finding it difficult to fit in 60 minutes of physical activity a day with your children? Then consider the following three areas -

- **Transport**
  Try some active ways to get to places with your children, for example, walk to school, ride to the park together on weekends or scooter to the shops.

- **Play**
  Encourage your child to be active through play, for example, make an obstacle course in the back yard that includes running, jumping, skipping, throwing and hopping.

- **Sport**
  Find an organised sport that your child is interested in and encourage their involvement, for example, swimming, soccer, netball or dance.

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**Alex Shaw and Candice Butcher — Coordinators**

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**SAVE THE DATE**

**Men’s and Boys’ Camp 2015** - Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 October

Valla Beach Tourist Park (02) 6569 5555

Please phone the park to make your reservation and mention you are with St Augustine’s School group.

If you are able to donate any prizes for the activities which will be held over the weekend please contact Jeff Cox on 0418 290579. Please contact Jeff for any other information you might require.

More information will be provided closer to the date.
St Augustine’s Primary School is excited to be taking part in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program again this year. In 2013 this promotion provided $9,000.00 worth of educational and sporting resources to the school! You can help by collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn stickers when shopping at Woolworths.

For every $10 spent at Woolworths you will receive a Woolworths Earn & Learn sticker. Pop them onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Points Sheet (available from Woolworths or the school office) and once it’s completed, drop it into the collection box at the school office or Woolworths Park Avenue.

Please note: Stickers on rolls WILL NOT be accepted. Please place your stickers on the Earn & Learn Points Sheets.

The more we collect, the more we can redeem. There are thousands of products available through the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. Products in the range include resources for Mathematics, English, Science, arts & crafts through to sports gear, library supplies and more.

We are grateful for your support and look forward to a successful program.

Talking about IT

Want to know about etiquette for students in the digital age? For an interesting and informative article go to:

http://globaldigitalcitizen.org/etiquette-kids-digital-age

Naomi Loader - Leader of eLearning
You are invited to an ecumenical evening of TAIZE
Music, Candlelight, Scripture, Silence, Prayer

Tuesday 18 August
7:00 pm
St Augustine’s Catholic Church
Gordon Street

ALL WELCOME

Do you love to SING?

Taize music consists of short, beautiful canons and chants sung in 2 or 3 part harmony.
Join us for a rehearsal to prepare for the Taize evening.

Tuesday 11 August
7:00 - 8:30 pm
St Augustine’s Catholic Church
Gordon Street

For more details call:
Maria: 0408 401 405
Collection of school information by the Australian Government under the
Australian Education Act 2013

Dear Parent/Guardian

Collection of information about schools

The Australian Government provides funding to Australian schools under the Australian Education Act 2013. That Act and the associated Australian Education Regulation 2013 require that your child’s school provide the Australian Government with certain information about the school, its financial arrangements, and its student body, in order that the funding is properly calculated and accounted for.

What information is collected by the Australian Government?

The authority that operates your child’s school such as, a state or territory education department, a Catholic Education Office, or an independent school authority, will provide basic information about the school to the Australian Government, such as its name, address, contact details, years of schooling, and number and makeup of its staff.

The authority must provide the Australian Government with information about the school’s finances, including annual audited financial statements and certification that Government funding has been used for proper purposes relating to education.

In addition, the authority will provide certain performance information at an aggregate level, including student attendance rates, student results in the National Assessment Program, and for secondary schools, post-school student destinations; such as going into the workforce, vocational education and training, or higher education.

The authority is required to publish much of this information, and it is also published by the Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) on the myschool web site at www.myschool.edu.au.

The school authority must also provide information to the Australian Government about the makeup of the school’s student body during an annual school census. This is because Australian Government funding varies according to whether students are primary, secondary, receiving distance education, or are overseas students; and is calculated to provide additional funding, called ‘loadings’, for students at educational disadvantage.

The authority must provide information about the number of students attending the school, including the number of:

- primary and secondary students
- full-time and part-time students
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students
- students with disability
- students with low English proficiency
- students receiving distance education
- boarding students
- overseas students.