Dear Parents, Carers and Staff

Advent is the season of waiting; waiting to commemorate Christ's coming at Christmas. However, this year seems to have been a year of trying to "keep up" with little time to enjoy the pleasures of "waiting" and the dreaming and contemplation that are its luxuries. Before we know it the trading stores will have convinced us that Christmas is all about helping them to improve trading figures so that in the aftermath they can tell us that it was a good Christmas. What a distraction to the real essence of this important season.

Of course, there can be distractions of another kind when Christmas becomes very much focused on the "me". "Me" being part of a community celebration takes a back seat. This can be exemplified by the small boy who dearly wanted to be Joseph in the Nativity play, but all his pleadings fell on deaf ears. Alas, he became the innkeeper. When the time came for Mary and Joseph to approach the inn and seek entry. The innkeeper received Mary most graciously. However, when Joseph tried to follow Mary into the inn, much to the astonishment of the mums and dads in the audience, Joseph received a push backwards from the innkeeper who declared, "You're not coming in, I wanted to play Joseph and you took my part so clear out."

It's somewhat easy to forgive children for having this egocentric attitude towards life and missing out on the "big picture". Hence, the importance of good modelling from parents and other significant adults so that the real values of important events are not lost. Hopefully, we will create a home atmosphere that downgrades the material aspects of Christmas, embraces the true spirit and meaning of this season and allows Christ to take centre stage.

The presence of the Jesse Tree and more importantly the Advent Wreath prepare us for the great celebrations of Christmas. Its candles remind us that Jesus is the light of the world and that his coming brought new hope to the people. As Christians, we believe that Jesus has come into our world bringing the Good News of the Father's love. He continues to come into our lives, inviting us to live in this way.

As the Christmas period signals the end of our school year, sadly, we farewell a few people from our staff. We have three staff retiring at the end of this year; Mr Brian Wills, Mrs Janelle Meredith and Mrs Denise Cameron. They have been wonderful ambassadors for our school having taught many students and contributed to the success of the school over many years of their service to the school. We wish them all the best in retirement.

We also say farewell to Mrs Brigitte Klinkers, our Outside School Hours Care Coordinator. Brigitte has been coordinating the OHSC program for the last three years and has also facilitated the St Augustine’s Playgroup on Wednesday mornings. We also wish Brigitte all the best in the future. We will be advertising for a new coordinator in January to begin Term One next year. (All expressions of interest in the position should be emailed to me.)

Each year there are a number of families who leave our school either moving towns or their last child has completed Year Six. I thank you for your contributions to our school and wish you all the best.

Finally, to everyone associated with St Augustine’s, I thank you for your generous time, enthusiastic support and continued interest in the life of our school and, in particular, the children in our care. Our Centenary Year has come to a close. We look forward to your continued support in 2014.

On behalf of the staff, have a safe and festive Christmas holiday.

Peace and Best Wishes

Jake
**PARISH MASS TIMES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coffs Harbour</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>8:00 am-6:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woolgoolga</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coramba 1st &amp; 3rd Sunday</td>
<td>10:30 am</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glenreagh 2nd &amp; 4th Sunday</td>
<td>10:30 am</td>
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**CATECHETICAL NEWS**

Wishing you all a Holy and Happy Christmas. In the business of our shopping and Christmas gatherings, let’s help our children to not lose sight of the true meaning of Christmas.

**Christmas Mass times for St Augustine’s Church**

Christmas Eve 24 December - 6:00 pm, 8:00 pm and Midnight.
Christmas Day 25 December - 8:00 am.

**Don’t Forget Jesus**

Christmas is a special time
To reflect on Jesus Christ
The wonder of His lowly birth
Brings meaning to our lives

There really is no other reason
We celebrate this day,
The birth of God’s precious son
And the life, He willingly gave

But so much seems to distract us
In the busy-ness of our lives,
We lose our focus in all the happenings,
Not knowing, we leave out Christ

We lose sight of the true meaning
As we endlessly rush about,
Trying to find that perfect gift,
Seems to cloud our Saviour out

We need to stop and reflect awhile,
Remembering our precious Lord,
His birth, His life and sacrifice
And all that He stands for

For though the world may celebrate,
It seems, though, for other reasons,
Let’s keep in mind that Jesus Christ
Is the true meaning of the season.

© By M.S.Lowndes
Leader of School Evangelisation Paddy Dent
Leader of Catechesis Mary Machatsch

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

**P & F NEWS**

**WATER SLIDE NIGHT**

Our end of year “Schools Out for Summer” Water Slide Night will be held on Friday 20 December at the Big Banana from 5:00 pm—7:00 pm. The P & F will be running a sausage sizzle and drink stall so that’s dinner all taken care of.

Arm bands will be on sale each morning outside the Canteen from 8:15 am—8:50 am. Bands are $10 per participant. Come along and enjoy the end of the school year and to get the summer celebrations off to the best possible start! A splendid time is guaranteed for all!

**ST AUGUSTINE’S BUSKERS’ FESTIVAL**

Next Thursday 19 December from 11:40am—1:40 pm in the school grounds. All welcome! A fundraising event for the St Vincent de Paul Society Christmas Appeal.

**SPORT NEWS**

**BASKETBALL AND RUGBY WRAP UP**

During the year there were a number of teams that wore the St Augustine’s uniform on Friday nights (Rugby) and Saturday’s (Basketball). Thank you to the parents who coached and managed these teams.

Two basketball teams that won their finals recently were the Yr 4 St Augustine’s Fireballs and the Yr 6 St Augustine’s Knights.

The Knights went through the comp undefeated and won a hard fought grand final against MHOC by 12 points. Most of these boys have been playing together since Yr 1 and Steve Dalton has coached the team since then.

Team members are: Joseph Barker, Noah Dalton, Coby Heffernan, Joel Guy, Levi Jones, Ben Martin, Declan Philp, Ben Schulz and Brock Symons. Congratulations to these boys who will now move into the high school competition next year.

The Fireballs also went through the competition undefeated and are looking forward to 2014 where they will all return to play in the Yr5/6 competition.

For photos on the Saturday basketball teams please go to KnowledgeNET/2013Sports.

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**EMAIL ADDRESSES**

If you know of any parent/carer who is not receiving our school emails with Newsletters and notes, please ask them to contact the office and supply us with a current email address.
SPORT NEWS (Cont’d)

Hayden Proctor – Lismore Diocese Representative for 11yrs Rugby League

A sincere apology to Hayden Proctor, whose name was missing from the Lismore Diocese 11yrs Rugby League list in the Yearbook. Hayden travelled to the Polding trials earlier this year after being successful at the Lismore Diocesan trials. Congratulations Hayden!

UNIFORMS

Rugby, Football, Basketball and Netball Uniforms

Please return all uniforms to Mrs Kama as soon as possible as they are required for future games. The basketball competition has finished so please give your uniforms to your manager on your last game day so they can return the full set to the school.

RUGBY AND BASKETBALL COMPETITIONS

At the beginning of Term 1, 2014 the rugby and basketball competitions will begin. If your child is interested in playing in these competitions or parents can coach or manage teams please contact Mrs Kama on rekama@lism.catholic.edu.au.

T-BALL COMPETITION

During this term we have had the Rugby League Development Officers, the Cricket Development Officer and now we are going to play a t-ball competition within our cohorts. Watch KnowledgeNET for the draws, results and photos.

THANK YOU

In our last sport article for the Newsletter, we would like to take this opportunity to say a BIG thank you to our wonderful volunteers who have supported and assisted our staff and students throughout the year.

We have needed volunteers for our carnivals - Athletics, K-2 Sports, Swimming, coaches for our school teams: Rugby, Basketball, Netball, AFL, and Football (Soccer).

Without this assistance and support our children could not participate in the competitions. Again we say a big THANK YOU.

CRICKET

The MILO T20 Blast School Holiday Program is coming to the Coffs Coast on Wednesday 22 and Thursday 23 January 2014. This is an active new cricket sports program that gives girls and boys the chance to play exciting games of T20.

Contact: david.szumowski@cricketnsw.com.au or 0425 297 716

CENTENARY 100 CLUB

The winner of the Centenary 100 Club is “Choices Table” ticket #23. The prize is $5000! Many thanks to everyone who purchased tickets this year.

SWIMMING TRIALS

Our swimming trials were held last Monday at the Coffs Harbour Olympic Pool. Children competed to qualify for the Clarence Zone Swimming Carnival to be held in Grafton in 2014.

Each race was timed and we take the best two times from each category, therefore if you came first you may NOT go to trials if the other heat was faster than yours. Age champions were announced at today’s assembly and the Clarence team will be announced next week.

A big thank you to the parents and teachers who supported and assisted at the trials.

Buying New School Uniforms?

Many parents will be purchasing new school uniforms for their children during the holidays. Please ensure you look at the school uniform policy before you go shopping. Despite what your child may tell you shoes must be leather/leather-like polishable ones. No CANVAS OR SUEDE joggers or skate shoes.

Dan Hammond—Sports Coordinator
## Canteen Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week commencing 16 December</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>K Apps, J Sharp, N Smith</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>C Bailey, G Bull</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>M Bulloch, F Gilliland, J Jenkins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thur</td>
<td>K Allen, K O’Carroll HELP!! HELP!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>J Arnold, E Dow, R Neal, J Roach, J Schultz, K Taylor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week commencing 29 January 2014</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>L Trotman, K White</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thur</td>
<td>K Gilliland, J Golding HELP!! HELP!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>B Dougherty, P Duffy, J Roach, K Van Ryswyk, L Zawadzki</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## 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*

## LARC Matters

The Summer Reading Club will be running again these holidays. Years 2-5 are invited to register with Mrs Madden before school or at lunch. Kinder and Year 1 are welcome to participate if a parent, carer or older sibling can register for them or drop me a note or email as they will benefit most with some support. Participants are invited to read any book during the holidays. Every 5 books gives you a chance in a draw for a great prize of books and other activities. Keep your eyes on facebook and the LARC OPAC page (accessible from the school home page) to see some times the LARC will be available to swap your holiday reading books. And don’t forget to return your reading log in the first week of school next week to be in the draw. The theme this year is INVESTIGATION. But you don’t have to just read mysteries…read anything you like.

If you have an iPad at home here are some great apps your child may like to download and become familiar with to possibly support their learning next year. Most have a ‘lite’ version for free. Your child can probably teach you! Holidays are a great time to be creative with photos and share some experiences via a different medium. **Haiku Deck, Educreations, Simple Mind+, Be Funky and Momentsia** are a great start. From photography to sharing information and then presenting it, these apps are fun and simple to use. Use your holiday photos and events to make great presentations.

Have a wonderful holiday and joyous Christmas.

*See you in the LARC*

*Annie Madden—Teacher/Librarian*

## Coming Events

### December
- **17** Annual Speech Day 9:15 am—11:00 am
- **18** Yr 6 Graduation Mass 5:30 pm
  - Yr 6 Graduation Dinner 7:00 pm
- **20** Last day of Term 4 for students
  - WATER SLIDE NIGHT 5-7pm

### January
- **29** First day of Term 1 for Yrs 1-6
- **31** Beginning Mass & Student Council Induction 9:15 am in the Church

### February
- **5** First full day of school for Yr K

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**CHAUHENNESSY ACCOUNTANTS**

Suite 3, 14 Edgar Street, Coffs Harbour NSW 2450

Telephone. 02 6652 2999  Fax. 02 6652 4694

Email. mail@chpa.com.au  Website. www.chpa.com.au

**2014 OSHC—Co-ordinator Position**

Interested candidates should send a resume and cover letter to Jake (jmadden@lism.catholic.edu.au) before January 10, 2014.
Kids Activities in Coffs Harbour during the school holidays

Looking for something to do during the school holidays?

The Coffs Harbour City Council has a great website that has a variety of activities, attractions and information for your children to be active during the school holidays.


There are also a number of great free things to do due to the wonderful area we live in. Don’t forget our great parks, beaches and bike tracks.

Wishing you a fun, active and safe holiday!

Alex Shaw—Coordinator

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The simplest way
...to add fruit at brekky

This delish recipe will give your kids’ a great start to their day!
It contains one serve of fruit:

**Ingredients**
2 eggs
1 tbsp honey
2 ½ cups low-fat milk
3 ripe bananas, sliced
2 cups self-raising flour
2 tbsp sugar
2 tsp margarine, melted
3 medium apples, peeled, cored and grated

**Method**
In a large bowl beat eggs, margarine + milk. In a separate bowl mix flour and sugar, stir into wet mixture until smooth. Heat oil in a pan over medium heat. Add 2-3 tbsp of mixture, flip when bubbles appear and cook until golden. Serve with banana and drizzled honey. Makes 10.

For more information visit
www.eatittobeatit.com.au
or join us at facebook.com/eatittobeatit

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The simplest way
to create a healthier breakfast

Choose these simple, tasty options for your child’s brekkie to give them the energy to get through the day.

When you make their breakfast tomorrow, have a think about healthier alternatives.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Breakfast</th>
<th>Healthier</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White toast with vegemite</td>
<td>Wholemeal toast with avocado</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flavoured milk</td>
<td>Fruit smoothie with frozen raspberries, honey + reduced fat milk + yoghurt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rice bubbles</td>
<td>Porridge topped with banana + honey</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information visit
www.eatittobeatit.com.au
or join us at facebook.com/eatittobeatit

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NSW Country Chess Champions!
St Augustine’s is celebrating the success of our A Grade Championship Chess Team in the State Finals of the Interschool Chess Competition in Sydney on Friday 29 November. **Lachlan Golding, Adam Bain, Brock Symons and Noah Dalton** have gone from strength to strength as a team, after defeating Westport Primary School in the Zone Final earlier in the year. They have since played Mullumbimby Primary, New Lambton South Primary and St Mary’s Armidale, culminating in a place in the finals against Illaroo Road Primary from Nowra. **The boys won this match in convincing fashion 8-0 which earned them the title of NSW Country Champions.**

Following this match, they played The Kings School, the Metropolitan Champions, for the title of NSW State Champions. Lachlan (Board 1) and Adam (Board 2) were up against two brothers with Chess League rankings in the 900’s. (This is very high!) They did well and learnt a thing or two along the way. Brock’s first match, on Board 3, ended in a draw after 1.5 hours. Well done Brock on a marathon effort. Noah (Board 4) won his first match very quickly and easily. Congratulations Noah! The final score was 6.5 – 1.5 to Kings but the boys can be proud of their high standard of play against a very strong opposition.

This success was even more amazing considering the boys had been at the Year 6 Camp all week, catching the 6:30 am flight from Ballina to Sydney to play in the Finals.

Teachers, organisers, parents and players from the other teams have commented on the sportsmanship, friendliness and skill of our boys. It has been an absolute delight to share in the exciting journey these boys have enjoyed over the past two years and to see them triumph in their quest to reach the State Finals in their last year in primary school. We hope that they continue to play as a team in high school as they have a special bond, enjoying each other’s company and supporting each other throughout each match. They admit that they love the competitive aspect of the game and the success they have enjoyed, but also value the mental challenge that Chess offers. One of the boys quoted a poster seen at the venue, “Chess builds mental muscles”.

The team’s success would not have been possible without the dedicated and skilful coaching of Mr George Gelagin. George has donated many hours of his time to develop the boys’ knowledge and understanding of the game, teaching them strategies and most importantly, supporting them in their positive approach and their team spirit. The boys, their families and the school community are very grateful to George for his part in the team’s success.

Finally, I would like to extend my thanks to Leigh and Sean Golding, Robyn and Mark Bain, Barbara and Paul Symons and Donna and Steve Dalton. These generous parents went to great lengths to ensure the boys were able to participate in all of the matches and particularly in the Finals in Sydney. There were many challenges along the way which only added to the memorable experience for their sons, but which caused some anxious moments for the parents. Many thanks also to Mrs Feltis, Mrs Trevaskis and the wonderful office ladies for their assistance and support.

It has been a successful and exciting year for the St Augustine’s Chess Club. Next Monday will be our last meeting for the year and we will take the opportunity to celebrate with our annual Chess Club Party. All players are welcome to come along to the K-2 Wet Weather Area in the second half of lunch to congratulate our champions, enjoy some party treats and play some games of giant chess and outdoor chess on the tables in the passive play area.

Wishing all our families a happy and holy Christmas and a restful holiday.

*Stephanie George—Chess Coordinator*
2014 OSHC—Co-ordinator Position
Interested candidates should send a resume and cover letter to Jake (jmadden@lism.catholic.edu.au) before January 10, 2014.

Now the Christmas Season’s upon us and Santa is almost here, it’s time for us to take a break and spread some Christmas Cheer!!! On Friday December 20 2013 we close the doors then we’re back on Thursday January 2, 2014. Merry Christmas to all our friends from the entire St Augustine’s Outside School Hours Care Crew!!!

After School Care
Only one more week of After School Care left—the year has flown for sure. We are very appreciative of your trust in us. We’ve enjoyed having the children in our room; playing, learning, being active and spending time with their peers and friends. It is great to see how all children have evolved, have become so familiar with OSHC and to see they feel at home in the OSHC room. We love to think that if the children can’t be at home after school…this is the best place to them to be.

Enrolment forms for permanent bookings for next year are ready for you to fill in at the school office and at the OSHC room. St Augustine’s School and After School Care for Year 1 – Year 6 commences back next year on Wednesday 29 January 2014. After School Care for Kindergarten will commence on Wednesday 5 February 2014.

Active After School Care Sport has finished for the year and we are excited to say it is continuing next year!! We have organised Term 1 and 2 of 2014 already. At the moment we are hoping to have DANCE and SOCCER in Term 1 and ATHLETICS and BASKETBALL in Term 2. This is a great way to introduce new sports to children - they may want to sign up when it’s registration time. We will have registration information at the end of each 7 week AASC sport period.

Vacation Care
The program ready and available from the office or OSHC. We’ve got a beautiful and exciting program these holidays with a variety of activities and excursions, which ensure the children have an opportunity to have a great time with their friends. Please make sure you have a booking form filled in before Friday 3 January 2014 as there will be no staff taking bookings during the Christmas break. An additional fee of $10 applies for booking within the week of care needed and of $20 if care is needed on the day of booking…So it is worth your while to get organised and check out the beautiful program we’ve got developed in consultation with the children.

The Vacation Care program is a great way for 2014 Kindergarten children to get to know the school, the school premises and their peers and make new friends so please consider booking your child into the program. Enrolment forms are available from the office or OSHC.

Playgroup
The last playgroup of the year will be held at the enclosed play park on Beryl Street (if weather permits) as an end of year party. Please contact Brigitte on 0417 666 494 if you plan to attend on this last day for catering purposes. If the weather doesn’t look good we will have playgroup in the OSHC room as per usual. If you are not sure just call the above mobile number to find out where we are. See you soon! Brigitte

Invoices and Payments for all outstanding Fees for 2013
A huge reminder to all families with outstanding invoices for 2013. Updated invoices will be sent home via your child’s class teacher this week. Payments need to be paid on time and up to date by Thursday 19 December 2013 so that we can meet our financial commitments and enable the service to continue. Some payments have not been made for quite some time for a number of families and payment must be attended to. If you haven’t had an invoice in the last 2 weeks and do not receive an updated invoice please contact the school office. Thank you.

Farewell—This will be my farewell as OSHC Coordinator and playgroup facilitator at St Augustine’s. Due to circumstances I have had to make the hard decision to not continue my job here after this term finishes. I have thoroughly enjoyed being with the children, interacting with the parents and working with this beautiful team of dedicated educators. I will miss everyone very much and would like to say a big THANK YOU to you all for all these years of laughter and (sometimes) tears. It’s been a wonderful time and I would not have had it any other way. I will still be around and you will still find me on the school grounds as one of the mums dropping off and picking up her kids. I might even have time to volunteer at the canteen! So from the bottom of my heart THANK YOU! Brigitte.

Linda (administrator OSHC) lrick@lism.catholic.edu.au 6652 1204
INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM
On behalf of the Instrumental Music team, we would like to thank all students and parents who were involved in our Instrumental Music Program this year. We would especially like to farewell and thank all our Year 6 students for their continuing support and willingness to share their love of music. It has been a wonderful year and we look forward to another full of exciting performance opportunities including the 2014 Musical.

NEW ENROLMENTS FOR 2014
If your child would like to join the Instrumental Music Program in 2014, students in Years 1 to 5 can receive an ‘Expression of Interest’ form from our Instrumental Room (located near the hall). All forms must be sent back to the school office by Monday 16 December.

RETURN OF HIRED INSTRUMENTS
The Instrumental Handbook outlines that all students can only hire an instrument for a maximum of 12 months. All hired instruments need to be returned by Tuesday 17 December. Any students who are not continuing next year, please contact the office and complete a cancellation form before Tuesday 17 December.

STRING ENSEMBLE AND BAND
String Ensemble and Band had their last rehearsal this week. There will be no afternoon practices during Week 11 due to end of year functions. To enable us to continue supporting our junior musical students in Years 7-9 at JPC, please keep in contact with the Instrumental Music Team next year. There will be numerous ensembles and choirs forming from this year’s successful after school JPC band. For more information on any of these matters, please contact Miss Kama. Thank you and have a Merry Christmas.

INVOICES AND PAYMENTS
Invoices for some families are still outstanding. In order for us to meet our financial commitments (and the continuation of your child’s lessons in 2014) please ensure your account is settled in full by Monday 16 December.

For all account enquiries, please contact Sione George or Dot Trevaskis in the office.
2013 SCHOOL YEAR BOOK
Our full colour issue celebrating:
* Our students   * Artwork   * Photos
* Sporting Achievements
* Educational Achievements
* Memories of 2013
* $25.00 PER BOOK
AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICE

CENTENARY
St Brigid’s School Kyogle
1914 · 2014

16TH-17TH AUGUST 2014
Past students, teachers & friends of the school are invited to join us for a weekend of celebrations that include an Open Day, Dinner & Mass.

For more information email cinnamonclark@gmail.com

2014 OSHC— Co-ordinator Position
Interested candidates should send a resume and cover letter to Jake (jmadden@lism.catholic.edu.au) before January 10, 2014.