Dear Parents, Staff and Children

“The time goes so fast that there are days when the person who says it can't be done is interrupted by the person who is doing it.”

The end of the school year is a special time for all of us, although it is a bit difficult to believe that our final day has arrived so quickly. It is a time to celebrate with our students for all that we have accomplished, and to acknowledge our devoted parish and school staffs who have worked hard on our behalf this year. It is a time to review all of the ways in which we have been successful, and a time to begin making plans to build on that success in new ways that will positively shape our future.

Our students have had a remarkable year (have you purchased your Year Book yet?), and none of this could have happened without a committed and enthusiastic staff. Our teachers and staff members are willing to give freely of themselves to provide many opportunities for our students to take on different challenges and enjoy new experiences. We have an outstanding school staff, and I am honoured to be working with them. I am also grateful for the support from Fr Paul and the parish staff members who so graciously supported our activities and events this year.

I would also like to express heartfelt appreciation to our families for whom we are very thankful. It is because of your dedicated presence, your time and energy, your prayers and your generosity that our school community thrives. We are very fortunate to have families who provide us with unwavering support of these endeavours. “Thank you” for your steadfast partnership in the education of our students. To the families leaving us, we wish you all the best and thank you for your contributions to our school.

At St Augustine’s, a sense of community and pride is evident in everything that we do. You notice it immediately. You feel it as you walk across the playground or attend a school function: the quality, the tradition, the pride, and the history of being “family”. Whether in the classroom or on the playground, participating in a community service project or performing at our assemblies, our students’ pride for their school and for themselves shines through. From their active leadership in Student Council and their intellectual drive in academics, to their spirit of unity and resilience in athletics, and their resolute faith in God, our students make us stand back in wonder and delight. They make hope, love and zeal a reality in this parish community. Our progress and our desire for continuous improvement are because of them. They make me proud to be the principal of this school.

And so to our students I would like to say, “thank you” for another amazing year. My hope is that the light within each of you will continue to shine brightly. May our God bless each and every one of you, and may He keep you always in the palm of His hand.

I wish all of our families a safe, restful and wonder-filled Christmas holiday!

Peace & Best Wishes

Jake

FINAL DAY FOR TERM FOUR
The last day of Term Four for 2012 will now be Thursday 20 December, so that we can meet our obligations under new industrial legislation, to provide a half-day holiday in lieu of the Coffs Cup Race Day. This decision, in consultation with the Catholic Schools Office, the Parish Schools Board and our other local Catholic Schools, will provide least disruption and inconvenience to parents rather than finishing half-way through the day on Friday.

COMING EVENTS
DECEMBER
18 School Speech Day 9:15 am
19 Year 6 Graduation Mass 5:30 pm and Year 6 Graduation Dinner 7:00 pm
20 FINAL DAY OF TERM FOUR

JANUARY
30 First day of school for Years 1-6

FEBRUARY
6 First day of school for Year K
CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve (Monday December 24)
6:00pm Coffs Harbour  St Augustine’s
6:00pm Woolgoolga  St Francis Xavier
6:00pm John Paul College
8:00pm Coffs Harbour  St Augustine’s
Midnight Coffs Harbour  St Augustine’s
Midnight Sawtell  Mary Help of Christians

Christmas Day (Tuesday December 25)
8:00am Coffs Harbour  St Augustine’s
10:30am Glenreagh  St Paul’s
9:00am Woolgoolga  St Francis Xavier
9:00am Sawtell  Mary Help of Christians

RE AND MINISTRY NEWS

GIVING MASS
Last week students, parents and staff joined with Fr Shelwin to celebrate our annual Advent Giving Mass. Each year our school gives to the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal at this Mass and Chapter President Bob Gorman and his staff were in attendance to receive the students donation. The beautiful singing at this Mass reflected the passion with which the students felt for their sacrifice.

YEAR 6 GRADUATION MASS
We are counting the sleeps to the Year 6 Graduation Mass and Dinner next Wednesday. Year 6 have returned from camp with a quiet zeal to finish their Primary School days in a positive and uplifting way.

INDUCTION OF STUDENT COUNCIL
A timely reminder that the 2013 St Augustine’s Student Council will be inducted at a special Liturgy in St Augustine’s Church on Friday 1 February 2013 at 12 noon.

Congratulations to the newly elected 2013 Student Council. The Year 5 students elected the following students and the school community congratulates them on their appointment.

School Captains: Ciara Barry  Brock Symons
Vice Captains: Siena Bordignon  Joey Guy
Grace Beech  Adam Bain
Tess Bohringer  Darragh Duggan
Emily Busby  Lachlan Golding
Sophie Nolan  Ben Schultz

CENTENARY MASS
Bishop Jeffery Jarrett will officiate at the St Augustine’s School Centenary Mass in St Augustine’s Church on Monday 4 February 2013 at 9.15am. Bishop Jarrett will then ring the traditional school bell to officially commence the St Augustine’s School Centenary and a year of celebration.

FIRST COMMUNION
Congratulations to those boys and girls who made their First Holy Communion last weekend. The pride on your faces and your parents and grandparent’s faces told the story! Well done!

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.

ALTAR SERVERS
Parish Priest Fr Paul Winter has made a special invitation to those boys and girls who celebrated their First Holy Communion last week to become Altar Servers. If you are interested, please see Mr Dent.

NATIVITY PRESENTATION
On Wednesday afternoon our students in Year Three and Year Four presented the Nativity through song, poetry and action. Under the direction of Mrs Wendy O’Sullivan, our Music teacher, with the support of members of the Instrumental Music team, the children entertained the school community, providing a fitting finale to our school’s music program (except for special performances at our Speech Day presentation on Tuesday). One of the highlights included a solo by Sophie Ryan. Check our school’s twitter (@sapscoffs) and facebook page (http://www.facebook.com/staugustinesschool) for more photos.

LARC MATTERS
It has been an exceptionally busy year in the LARC with many celebrations for the National Year of Reading. Our school Year Book showcases these events. The NYR has wrapped up with our final event being ‘Bedtime Stories’ which was held on Wednesday evening in the LARC. Congratulations to the 30 students from Year 3 and 4 who were selected to join in this celebration as an acknowledgement of their efforts in reading and in the LARC activities.

Three students from Year 5 were the sole participants in the Primary Research Project this year. This competition uses research skills to complete the project. The girls gave up two weeks of lunch times as well as home time to complete the project. Congratulations to Holly Devitt and Ellie Waters for their fantastic efforts with a Merit Award. Special Congratulations to Lauren Hutchinson who, for the first time in recent years at St Augustine’s, has received a High Distinction Award. Well done to all of you.

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. Participants are invited to read any book in the holidays. Every five books give you a chance in a draw for a great prize of books and other activities. Keep your eye open to facebook, twitter and the school OPAC page (accessible from the school home page) to see some times the LARC will be available to swap your holiday reading books.

Thank you to my Year 5 Library Monitors this year. A lot of students started with good intentions, but it takes a special kind of dedication to be the lone survivor still shelving books at the end of Term 4. So, special congratulations go to Emelia Clement for being a most dedicated Library Monitor.

See you in the LARC—Mrs Madden—Teacher Librarian
SPORT NEWS

SWIMMING TRIALS FOR 2013
Congratulations to all swimmers who participated in the Swimming Trials on Wednesday 5 December at the Coffs Harbour Olympic Pool. We had 81 children, with 45 races to complete in two hours. A BIG thank you to Mr Dent, Mrs Third and Mrs Sprowles for crowd control, marshaling and ensuring the races went smoothly. A BIGGER thank you and special mention to our wonderful parents who volunteered their time during the trials: Starter Sean Golding, Head Timer Leigh Golding and Timers Ruth Harrison, Paul Harrison, Kylie Marle, Melissa Bulloch, Judy Arragon, Louise Gibbons, Ian Carrett, Jane Lo Tam, Kerrie-Anne Van Ryswyk and Kristy Aylward.

Congratulations to all the children who have qualified for the Zone trials to be held in 2013. Names will be announced on KnowledgeNET, it was pleasing to see so many young children confident and capable in the pool.

RETURNING UNIFORMS
It is that time of year again when we do a stock take of the school sport uniforms. It seems we may be a couple of singlets, jumpers, shorts, socks short in our sets, if anyone has any St Augustine’s basketball or rugby uniforms at home please send them into the sports office to be counted.

BASKETBALL AND RUGBY 2013
If you are interested in playing basketball or rugby for St Augustine’s or you have a team already playing that wants to remain in the competition in 2013, please see Mrs Kama in the sports office to make sure you don’t miss out.

CONGRATULATIONS
Bailey Morgan and Joshua Guy have both been selected in The Centre of Excellence Program for football (soccer). This program has been designed to identify talented young players in regional areas such as the North Coast to provide them with the opportunity of exposure to elite coaching techniques and training disciplines. The program runs over summer and requires the boys to train twice a week leading up to a weeklong camp in Armidale where the boys will be joined by other under 12 and 13 boys & girls chosen in the Centre of Excellence Program. From this camp a team will be selected for the National 2013 FFA Junior Championships Under 13s and the Japan Under 12 tour group. This is a great exposure for both boys and a huge opportunity for them to show their talents against other highly skilled players. This year Bailey was also awarded the Player of the Year for the Under 11 North Coast Representative Team. Congratulations and well deserved results from the dedicated hours you put into football and the other sports you both achieve in.

TEEBALL
Don’t forget to look at KnowledgeNET and see how your teams went in the competition, congratulations to you all.

Dan Hammond—Sports Coordinator

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM
Children in Years 1 to 4 have been given a “Expression of Interest” form following demonstrations by Miss Kama and tutors. If your child would like to join the Instrumental Music Program in 2013, please complete this form for an Enrolment Form to be sent home. All forms must be sent back to the school office by Tuesday 18 December.

Invoices for families are still outstanding after several reminders have been sent home. In order for us to meet our financial commitments (and the continuation of your child’s lessons in 2013) can you please ensure your account is settled in full by Tuesday 18 December. If you have any concerns, please speak to Tess. Thank you for your help.

The Instrumental Handbook expresses that all students can only hire an instrument for a maximum of 12 months, therefore, all hired instruments need to be returned by Tuesday 18 December.

String Ensemble and Band will be performing at Speech Day next Tuesday. Also a reminder there will be no afternoon practice next Tuesday or Wednesday due to end of year functions. We thank all our Year 6 students for supporting these ensembles and to ensure they continue to perform and embrace their music interest. Band and String Ensemble will be extended to Year 7-9 JPC students in 2013. For more information on any of these matters, please contact Miss Kama. Thank you.

IMMUNISATION AND BIRTH CERTIFICATES
Recently a letter was sent home to some families who have not supplied the above certificates. As a matter of urgency, can you please forward to the school office copies of your child’s Birth Certificate and Complete Health Record (Immunisation Record from Perth). Please note it is a legal requirement that these records be on file at school and After School Care (if your child attends).

SCHOOL YEAR BOOK
Our full colour issue celebrating:
* Our students * Artwork * Photos *
* Sporting Achievements Educational Achievements
* Memories of 2012
* $20.00 each
AVAILABLE NOW AT THE OFFICE
**Canteen Roster**

**December**
17.12.2012

**Mon**  
K-A McCormack, M Switzer

**Tues**  
N Al-Athami, H Murray, D Outlay

**Wed**  
S Grimond, L Wood  **HELP!!!**

**Thur**  
N Inning, A Betland, M Felton

**January 2013**
30.01.2012

**Wed**  
M Bulloch, J Jenkins  **HELP!!!**

**Thur**  
K O'Carroll  **HELP!!! HELP!!!**

**Fri**  
M Batson, E Dow, J Roach, J Schultz,

**JANUARY 2013**
04.02.2013

**Mon**  
P Duffy, C Jourdant

**Tues**  
N Al-Athami, D Craig

**Wed**  
**HELP!!! HELP!!! HELP!!!**

**Thur**  
N Anning, J Golding  **HELP!!! HELP!!!**

**Fri**  
B Dougherty, J Roach, L Zawadzki

**Canteen News**

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

_Wendy McLean—Canteen Manager_

**Vacation Care**

2 January to 29 January 2013

The program for Vacation Care is now available from the School Office and OSHC or the link attached: [http://bit.ly/TGoL2m](http://bit.ly/TGoL2m)

Please complete a Booking Sheet and return by either email or fax (6651 3230) as soon as possible to ensure your child is on the Roll and no late booking fees are charged to your account. Thank you.

**Outside School Hours Care**

The Centre will be closed from 6pm 20 December and re-open with Vacation Care at 8am on 2 January 2013. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

**Bookings for 2013 Must Be Made On The Appropriate Booking Form. No Bookings Are Carried Over to 2013.**

**Medications**

A letter has been sent to families who have children needing medication at After School Care/Vacation Care. If you have not responded to this letter, can you please do so as a matter of urgency to ensure your child’s safety is maintained. Thank you.

**Certificates—Birth & Immunisation**

As a requirement of current regulations, After School Care/Vacation Care must hold a copy of the Birth Certificate and Immunisation Certificate for each child. A letter has been sent to families who have these certificates outstanding. Can you please ensure a copy of these documents is given to the School Office without delay to ensure we comply with current regulations. Thank you for your help with this matter.

As previously mentioned from 1 December, 2012 a new procedure for bookings will take effect due to staff increases as a result of the non-receipt of prior bookings/cancellations. Details of the bookings and fee structure were sent out with the last school Newsletter and OSHC Newsletter enclosed with an earlier invoice.

**Accreditation**

The Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) has been lodged and we now await the next step of the Accreditation process. We will keep you posted when we know a date for our inspection.

**OSHC Tree**

The children will be making an OSHC tree during our Summer Vacation Care and After School Care in Term One 2013. This ‘tree’ will be covered with leaves containing each child’s photo, their likes, dislikes, wishes and other information that makes them unique (as they are). Please give your child a photo (or they can draw one) when they attend care so we can start making this unique OSHC tree.

Staff at St Augustine’s OSHC would like to thank you very much for the trust you give us in looking after and educating your child(ren). We have had a great year and hope to see you during Vacation Care or in Term 1 of 2013 (Don’t forget your booking sheet for Term 1 please!!). For those children leaving us as they are either moving or starting high school, we wish you all luck and happiness.

_Brigitte Klinkers—OSHC & Playgroup Coordinator_

bklinkers@lism.catholic.edu.au  0417 666494
TWITTER - http://www.twitter.com/sapcoffs

Our school has a new twitter account where we tweet about the many wonderful things happening at St Augustine’s School. You can discover our account by entering @sapcoffs into the Connect or Discover section of your twitter page. Don’t have twitter? It’s easy to join and a great way to see what’s happening in our school.

YEAR 6 RESILIENCE DOUGHNUT WORKSHOP

During the last two weeks of term our Year 6 students are participating in a Resilience Doughnut workshop facilitated by Mrs Kyanne Kachel. The workshop is aimed at making students aware of their own personal strengths that they can refer to when they experience a difficulty. This is a timely activity bearing in mind their upcoming transition to High School. Whilst we can never be protected from hard times, the Resilience Doughnut aims at giving students skills to prepare them for such events. We want our children to be able to ‘survive and thrive’ in the face of adversity. An information sheet will be sent home with the Year 6 children after completing the workshop.

If you have any questions please contact Mrs Kachel.

FAREWELL TO WENDY MCLEAN AFTERNOON TEA

Our wonderful Canteen Manager, Wendy McLean, is hanging up her apron and moving onto the next phase of her life. Wendy has worked alongside many volunteers during her time at St Augustine’s and we would like to gather to say a thank you and goodbye.

An afternoon tea will take place on Monday 17 December at 2:00pm in the school hall. It would be great to see past and present Canteen volunteers join Wendy on this occasion. For catering purposes, please contact the school office by 10am Monday morning. Thank you.

Leanne Feltis—Assistant Principal

THE GREEN SPOT

St Augustine’s is currently developing and implementing an action plan for initiating a sustainable healthy change in the school called Live Life Well. Live Life Well @ School is a long-term program that aims to get more students, more active, more often, as well as focusing on healthy eating habits.

The program helps develop teachers’ knowledge, skills and confidence in teaching about nutrition and fundamental movement skills as part of the K - 6 Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE) syllabus. As part of our approach we have placed information on KnowledgeNET, Green Spot Newsletter article and introducing programs to get children active during school time.

School Lunch Box Ideas

Snack – half a corn cob (pre-cooked and wrapped)
Lunch – ham, mustard and tomato sandwich, with fruit in season and water.

Watch this space for more great lunch box ideas.

Candice Butcher—Coordinator

SCHOOL BANKING

As previously advised in the school Newsletter and via notes to School Banking students, St Augustine’s School will not be participating in the School Banking Rewards Program in 2013. Tokens will no longer be given to students. School Banking will continue in the traditional way by encouraging our children to create regular saving habits. If you have any queries, please contact the school office.

YEAR 6 INFORMAL SOCIAL GET TOGETHER

A few parents thought it would be nice to have a chance to get together and meet other families whose children will be starting at John Paul College next year.

2012 Year 6 students and their families are invited to meet at the Jetty Foreshores (near kids’ park and bbq shelters - weather permitting) on Sunday 16 December 2012 from 11:00 am.

Come for an hour or two, it's up to you. BYO food, drinks, chairs/blanket & amusements.
Community Celebrations

AUSTRALIA DAY
IN COFFS HARBOUR

Saturday 26 January 2013
In the Botanic Gardens
Commencing at 9am with a Flag Raising Ceremony

Includes Australia Day Awards & Citizenship Ceremony

Keynote Speaker
Katie Pitsis
Young Citizen of the Year 2011
Founder of 'Free Spirit Girl'

BYO Picnic, RUG or CHAIR

PLUS Contemporary Music on stage, Kids activities with costume characters, Aussie games hosted by local girl guides, Bush Poetry, Body Art Display, Face painters, as well as Local Food on offer

Bring along the family and have some fun

COFFS HARBOUR CITY COUNCIL AUSTRALIA DAY COMMITTEE
Phone: 6648 4839
Web: www.chcc.nsw.gov.au

For a chance to WIN the Lucky Door Prize!!!
GOLD Private Ultimate Dolphin Experience (valued at $1200): DOLPHIN MARINE MAGIC - Pet Porpoise Pool Pty Ltd (for 4 participants)
Must be present to claim prize
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