Dear Parents, Carers and Staff Members

What A Great Start to the New School Year!

Happy 2014! It is both an exciting and an anxious time as we start these first few days of school. We welcome each and every one of our students and hope they all had a fun-filled Christmas break with a lot of different activities that allowed them to explore their interests, relax under the sun, and re-energise their enthusiasm for this new year of learning.

As adults, we remember our own first days of school where we met our new teacher(s) for the first time, started the adjustments to new routines and schedules, and refreshed our friendships with hellos and smiles. This was typified on Wednesday when we welcomed our 100 Kinders, their parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts, extended family members and friends to school for their first day.

As the professional educators at St Augustine’s we strive to ensure a very successful transition and we take pride in the many wonderful academic programs and activities that we provide throughout the year. We work diligently to ensure that we address a wide range of student interests and skills. We thank you for giving us your greatest gift and we take that responsibility very seriously.

At St Augustine’s this year, we will be looking at student performance on assessment measures in all we do including the use of technology and digital citizenship. We will be discussing these at length in our staff meetings, special parent workshops, P & F meetings, and on other occasions as the opportunity arises. However, we recognise that there is more that defines the success of each student. We are working to provide an environment that will allow each student to grow academically, emotionally, and physically in a comfortable surroundings of support and guidance.

We are cultivating partnerships with parents, community members, and our Parish to enhance the relationship of learning new ideas, the relevance of contributing and creating for the benefits of all society, and the rigor of exploring new concepts and solutions. Our culture of learning is shifting to a future of continuous engagement and participation in understanding, questioning, and construction of new possibilities.

This Newsletter contains a wealth on information to help orient us for the new year. Please read it carefully and contact your class teacher for any clarification or further information. Communication is a critical factor in achieving success and keeping informed is a high expectation each parent should strive for. Please note the communication flyer attached to this Newsletter.

We welcome our new families to this phenomenal school and we welcome back the many families who have been such a strong part of our daily success. Have a great start of the school year. I am glad that you are here.

Jake
CATEchetical News

STUDENT COUNCIL INDUCTION

The official commencement of the school year began with a Mass affiliated by Father Paul Winter on Friday 31 January. All students from Years One to Six were a part of this celebration and witnessed the new student council being sworn in to their new roles as leaders of our school. We would like to announce our new leaders, and wish them every success in being faithful followers of the Gospel and positive role models for all students at St Augustine’s.

School Captains - Jaida Smith, Thomas Anderson
Vice – Captains - Poppy Smyth, Liam Berg
Student Council - Tia Bohringer, Ky Birmingham, Lilly Cook, Charlie Catling, Zachary Clarke, Paulini Kaidrokia and Lil Potter.

Making Jesus Real (MJR)

Making Jesus Real has become an important part of our positive daily routines at St Augustine’s, where the children are encouraged to mirror Jesus as much as they can, in all they do and say, and to behave in a Christ like way.

To elaborate:
Manners Monday – Always use good manners.
Cheers Tuesday – Smile and be thankful.
Winking Wednesday – Wink at someone to brighten their day.
Thumbs Up Thursday – Give a thumbs up to someone to show them recognition.
High Five Friday – Give a High Five to someone to congratulate or demonstrate friendship.

Parents - now you know the MJR daily themes, you may adopt this in your household!
So…. a big “High Five” to all of you!

parents

New Executive

Our new P & F Executive:
President—Stephen Appleton
Treasurer—Helen Parr
Secretary—Scott Bohringer

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 4 March at 7:00 pm in the LARC. All welcome.

Waterslide Night

Friday 14 February—5:00—7:00 PM
To get the new school year off to the best possible start the P & F is hosting a night of watersliding on Friday, 14 February, at the Big Banana Water Park.

So get your swimmers on, grab your towel, your sunscreen, grab Mum or Dad, tell grandma, mention it to granddad, and maybe even your brother or sister might be interested.

The sun will be out and the water will still be oh so cool. The P&F will be running a sausage sizzle and drink stall so that's dinner taken care of.

Wristbands are $10 for each slider and they will be sold by Mr Appleton and the student council before school each morning next week outside the Canteen.

St Augustine’s 2014

City Centre Quality Inn Charity Golf Day

When: Sunday 30 March at Coffs Harbour Golf Club.
4 Person Ambrose with Morning (7am) and Afternoon (12.30pm) starts.
Get a team together and participate in a great day out on the course.
For Further Information please contact the school office or you can contact the Event Coordinator, Steve Ryan, direct on 0402 898571.

Stephen Appleton—P & F Committee President
**LARC Matters**

It has been a beautiful, calm start to our year. I am so proud of our students and their intent to start the year learning and reading well.

Firstly, our Summer Reading Club has wound up. Over 50 students returned their Summer Reading log. So much reading...it was fantastic. Whether you read 5 books or 50 books all that reading has made for an enjoyable summer and an improvement of your reading skills. Well done everyone who participated! Congratulations to **Russell Cole** of Year 5 who was the lucky winner of our enormous prize.

The LARC has a goal this year. The goal is for every student to bring their library bag to every library lesson. A library bag is an essential part of school equipment. I have discussed with every class about how a library bag is as important as a sports uniform on sports day or school shoes and a hat. Every child has the responsibility to remember school equipment. Please ensure your child has a suitable cloth library bag on their library day. Perfect library bags are for sale in the LARC for $5. They are rubber lined, strong and lovingly home sewn. Pop in if you are not sure of what type of bag is suitable for your child.

We have a visiting author, Mr Phil Kettle, in Week 4. I am very excited about this author. Many children will be familiar with his work.

See you in the LARC

Annie Madden—Teacher Librarian

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**2014 KINDERGARTEN DADS’ WELCOME**

A Kindergarten dads’ welcome will be organised for March at a date to be fixed. Watch this space for more information.

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**STUDENT BANKING**

Student Banking (Commonwealth Bank) will now be processed on Thursdays. Please send your child’s banking to school on Thursdays.

If you would like to open an account for your child please visit any Commonwealth Bank branch with identification for you and your child or phone 132221 to open a Youthsaver account over the phone.

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**COMING EVENTS**

**FEBRUARY**

11 Parent Information Night 7:00 pm  
12 Dance Fever  
13 Clarence Swimming Carnival—Grafton Yrs 2-6 Rugby training  
14 Yr 4 Grade Mass 9:15 am in the Church  
18 Parent Workshop—Cyber Safety 7:00 pm in the hall  
19 Dance Fever  
20 NRMA Bus Safety Yr K  
20 Author visit—Phil Kettle Yrs 2-6 Rugby training  
21 Newsletter Day Yr 2 Excursion to Butterfly House & Honey Place  
26 Dance Fever Winter Sports Trials—Woolgoolga  
27 Yrs 2-6 Rugby training  
28 Diocesan Primary AFL trials

**MARCH**

4 P & F Meeting in the LARC 7:00 pm  
5 Dance Fever Ash Wednesday Mass Yrs 3-6 9:15 am Ash Wednesday Liturgy Yrs K-2 9:15 am  
6 Yrs 2-6 Rugby training  
7 Diocesan Swimming Trials—M hurwillumbah Yrs 3-6 Swimming program commences Newsletter Day

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**CANTEEN ROSTER**

**FEBRUARY**

10.02.2014  
Mon J McConchie, S Small  
Tues H Murray, D Olutayo, K Taylor  
Wed L Wood  
Thur M De Satge, N Ferrett  
Fri P Duffy, H Gallatly, J Roach

17.02.2014  
Mon K Apps, M Switzer  
Tues G Bull  
Wed M Bulloch, J Jenkins  
Thur K Allen, K O’Carroll, L Rowthorne  
Fri J Arnold, J Arragon, E Dow, P Duffy, J Roach

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**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

BASKETBALL AND RUGBY
The rugby and basketball competitions will begin in Term One. If your child is interested in playing in these competitions or parents can coach or manage these teams please contact Mrs Kama on rekama@lism.catholic.edu.au

The 2014 Basketball Primary School Summer competition will begin on Saturday 22 February. Nomination forms are available from Mrs Kama’s office.

CHBA and Wildcats will be holding a sign-on day for new and old players to register as individuals, re-register a team or for new players to find a team. It will be held on Saturday 8 February from 2pm – 6pm at Sportz Central.

VOLUNTEER COACHES AND MANAGERS
St Augustine’s has many teams that play a variety of sports throughout the year. Unfortunately we sometimes cannot accommodate all of these teams if there are not enough coaches or managers.

If you are interested in sport and would like to be involved as a volunteer coach or manager please contact me so we can put your time to good use. Thank you in advance.

POLDING TRIALS
Today a number of our students travelled to Newcastle to trial for the Polding Teams for Basketball and Tennis. On behalf of St Augustine’s we would like to wish these students the best of luck and congratulate them on their success so far.

AFL Diocesan Trials
The AFL Diocesan Trials are open for any student in Year 5 or 6 who has suitable skills in the sport of AFL. Parents are invited to nominate their child for the Diocesan AFL Trials to be held at Grafton on Friday 28 February 2014. To nominate, you must do so on the online form and submit it on or before Tuesday 18 February (deadlines are strictly enforced).

Parents of appropriate, interested students should go to http://sport.lism.catholic.edu.au (Diocesan Sport Website). On the home page, left hand side at bottom, click on Online Registration Diocesan Sport then click on Diocese of Lismore Primary AFL Trials Grafton 28 February 2014 under Primary events (not to be confused with a number of Secondary events soon to be listed there).

If you have problems with this registration please contact Mrs Kama on rekama@lism.catholic.edu.au

SWIMMING TRIALS
The St Augustine’s Swimming Trials were held on Monday 9 December at the Coffs Harbour Olympic Pool. Successful children qualified for the Clarence Zone Swimming Trials in Grafton next week.

The following children were named aged champions at these trials:

8yrs Girls – Alexis Felton
8yrs Boys – Cooper Marle
9yrs Girls – Jayda Kachel
9yrs Boys – Archie Budd
10yrs Girls – Trinity Kachel
10yrs Boys – Lachlan Marle
11yrs Girls – Alyssa Golding
11yrs Boys – Nicholas Bulloch
12yrs Girls – Paulini Kaidrokia
12yrs Boys – Jack Canning
13yrs Boys – Thomas Anderson

To see the list of students who will travel to Grafton for the Clarence Zone Trials on Thursday 13 February 2014, please go to KnowledgeNET in the sports section.

Congratulations to these students on their performance so far and good luck in Grafton.

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.
Collecting Children Before 3:00 pm
Please be aware that for students the school day finishes at 3:00 pm. Music lessons, sport and other activities should not be organised before this time. It’s important that children are not leaving class early but finishing the day’s learning at the designated bell time. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.

CHICKEN POX
There have been some reports of chicken pox in the school. Please consult your doctor should you have any concerns.

NSW SCHOOL TRANSPORT
SCHOOL SAFETY TIPS
The link below takes you to Transport for NSW school safety tips for parents and carers. Please make yourself familiar with this information.


DRIVE THROUGH ZONE
Thank you for your cooperation in the pick-up areas after school. Staff find it extremely helpful when families have their surname displayed on the sun visor of their car. Students are then called and are placed in cars far more quickly. Please phone the office if you would like some assistance with this.

A reminder NOT to park and hold up traffic in this zone. This causes a bank up on Albany St and drivers stopping in the “NO STOPPING” zone risk receiving a hefty fine. If you are not driving through you will need to park and walk to collect your child. The children are not allowed to walk through the zone to go to cars.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM 2014
We welcome back all our existing students and new students to the Instrumental Music Program for 2014.

We are looking forward to a productive year and we are excited to launch our new School Orchestra. The Band and string ensemble will combine this year.

Rehearsals for the School Orchestra will be held in the hall on Mondays from 3:15 - 4:00 pm. Our Mixed Ensemble Group for students from Years 7-12 will continue from 4:00 - 5:00 pm on Monday afternoons. Although this group will solely focus on previous students who were involved in our program and who want to keep playing, we encourage all Year 6 students to stay and join in after the School Orchestra.

Lessons commence next week (Week 3). All students have received notice of their official lesson day, time and room via their instrumental note.

Please contact Rachael Kama via the school office for any other enquiries.

MUSIC ACCOUNTS
Any student who has an outstanding account from 2013 will not be able to participate in the program this year. Please pay any outstanding accounts immediately.

For any enquiries, please contact Dot Trevaskis or Sione George at the school office.
SHOP FOR SCHOOLS PROMOTION

Help us Shop for our School & Win a Classroom of iPads!

Why not begin the New Year by helping our school win a Classroom of iPads or share in some fabulous prizes to kick start our fundraising for the year? From Saturday 18 January 2014, when doing your shopping including groceries, petrol and fashion be sure to shop at Park Beach Plaza for your chance to win big for our school!

Park Beach Plaza, The Coffs Coast Advocate and 2CS are generously offering Coffs Coast School’s the chance to share in a total of $20,000 worth of prizes plus this year are giving your family the chance to win a $500 worth of groceries every week just by shopping at Woolworths!

Mums, Dads, Grannys, Granddads, family and friends - you simply need to shop at any store at Park Beach Plaza, present your docket to the Customer Service Desk located outside near Noni B and nominate St Augustine’s School.

The value of the dockets will be added to St Augustine’s School point tally, for example if you spend $150 our school will receive 150 points. The school’s with the highest point tally (divided by the number of students enrolled at our school**) will win 1st, 2nd and 3rd place and share in the fantastic prize pool of cash and goodies.

Be sure to look out for shops displaying a “Shop for Coffs Coast School’s Triple Point Poster” if you shop at these stores you will receive bonus triple points for our school’s tally to the value of your shopping docket!

The winning schools will be announced in the Coffs Coast Advocate on Wednesday 26 March, 2014 and if we are lucky enough to win Radio 2CSFM will be broadcast live and host a FREE breakfast from our school as we celebrate winning a Classroom of iPads on Wednesday 26 March 2014!

♦ A Classroom of iPads can be transferred to $10,000 worth of technology available at JB Hi-Fi.
♦ ** Full terms and conditions can be found at www.parkbeachplaza.com.au

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** Full terms and conditions can be found at www.parkbeachplaza.com.au
Welcome back to St Augustine’s Outside School Hours Care for 2014.

We would like to congratulate and introduce our new Coordinator Miss Sarah Tisdell. Thank you for your support and for making her feel welcome in her new role.

Vacation Care
A wonderful and busy time was had by all over our Vacation Care period for the January holidays. There were lots of fun, games, excursions, activities and many good times shared with friends. The staff and children all had a fantastic time.

After School Care
As Term One 2014 kicks off we are reminding parents to ensure that their children are booked into OSHC. Bookings from 2013 do not roll over into the New Year so please get your 2014 bookings in prior to your children attending OSHC. Booking sheets for 2014 are available from the OSHC room or from the school office. It is essential to advise OSHC if your child/ren is booked to attend After School Care but is absent from school and/or not attending for that day. Please notify Educators by calling 0417 666 494 before 1:00 pm. This will alleviate Educators spending additional time looking for your child at roll call.

Active After School Care Sports
Active after school care sport is continuing this year on Tuesdays and Thursdays each week. For Term One, children will have the opportunity of participating in either dance or soccer. All children who attend OSHC on either a Tuesday or Thursday must participate in at least one of these nominated sports and commit to doing this sport every week for seven weeks. It’s a great way for children to get active and try something new.

Invoices
Invoices are being sent home this week and need to be brought up to date. It is important that the account is not in arrears especially from the 2013 year. It is vital to the operation and continuation of the service provided that the fees are paid and the accounts up to date. As part of the enrolment, and the accounts payment policy in the enrolment application, it is important that accounts are finalised within seven days. Future bookings may not be taken where fees are in arrears. Your attention to this is appreciated.

CONTACT DETAILS:
Sarah (Coordinator OSHC & Facilitator Playgroup) 0417 666 494
Linda (Administrator OSHC) lrick@lism.catholic.edu.au 6652 1204

Playgroup
At this stage, we are unable to facilitate the Wednesday morning Playgroup. The expansion of the school’s Instrumental Music program means that the OSHC room and the hall are fully booked. We apologise for this change.

2013 SCHOOL YEAR BOOK
There are limited copies of the 2013 school year book available at the office for $20 each.
In accordance with our 2014 - 2018 Strategic Plan we will be focusing on e-Learning and technology this year. We plan to hold three meetings to highlight our commitment to digital citizenship.

Our first meeting will be around the topic of cyber safety and will be facilitated by Andrew Burgess from the Catholic Schools Office. This is a great opportunity for parents and carers to become more informed on current issues around digital technology. This meeting will form the basis for ongoing meetings. It will take place at 7pm on the 18th February Week 4 - Term 1, in the school hall.

The second meeting will have a more school-based focus where we will consult and work with carers on school policies and user agreements around technology. It will be held at 7pm on the 25th March Week 9 - Term 1, again in the school hall.

The third meeting will coincide with the long awaited return of the School Social. These meetings will be held with carers during the social times. There will be opportunity for discussion and conversation around the school’s future plans in the area of technology and will also be an opportunity to meet and talk with other parents and teachers.

The dates for the socials and coinciding parent meetings are as follows:

- Year 1 & 2  14th May - 7pm
- Year 3 & 4  21st May - 7pm
- Year 5 & 6  28th May - 7pm

Kinder will have a social and a reading / technology focus on 12th March.

We look forward to your thoughts and participation at these important meetings which we hope are building blocks towards developing digital citizens of the future - your children!

Naomi Loader  
Leader of Learning  
e-Learning

Dan Hammond  
Leader of Learning  
Parental Engagement
**Parish Picnic/Breakfast**

You are invited to join with fellow parishioners at a Parish Breakfast/Picnic. Come and meet new friends and renew old acquaintances. Invite another parishioner to join you. We hope this will be a wonderful success with many parishioners able to be present for even a short period of time.

**When:**  Sunday 16 February 2014

**Where:**  Jetty Foreshores Picnic/Playground Area

**Time:**  10.00am onwards

**Bring your own food to barbeque, drinks etc....**

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**THE GREEN SPOT**

Lunch Box Ideas!

**Chicken Soft Tacos**

Pack a container with avocados mashed with lemon juice; top with a layer of shredded Monterey Jack before sealing. Fill 2 small whole wheat tortillas with shredded rotisserie chicken and sliced romaine lettuce and store in resealable plastic bags. Assemble at lunch.

**The simplest Way to drink the right amount of Water**

The start of a new school year in the middle of Summer reminds us of the importance of drinking water regularly. We should all aim for 2 litres a day, which may sound like a lot – but remember you get water from both drinking and eating the right foods.

Here are some tips to help you and your family remember to stay well hydrated:

* Carry a water bottle with you whenever you go
* Mix 125ml of 100% fruit juice with sparkling water for a treat
* Add tinned or fresh fruit pieces to ice block moulds for a snack

Getting the right amount of water is important all year round, but crucial as we begin a new school year in the heat!

*Alex Shaw—Coordinator*
GENERAL SCHOOL INFORMATION

Bell Times

- The morning bell goes at **8:50 am**. Students should not be dropped to school before 8:15 am as no supervision is provided. Students who arrive between 8:15 and 8:30 am must place their bags at the classroom and line up in the canteen area. Supervision begins at 8:15 am but the children cannot play until after the 8:30 am bell. If students arrive after 8:30 am they are to place their bags at the classroom and are then able to play in their allocated area.
- Lunch time is from 10:55 am until 11:40 am.
- Recess time is from 1:40 pm until 2:00 pm.
- School finishes at 3:00 pm each day.

Absences

- **Absence from School**: School is important and students should only be absent if they are ill, if there is a family crisis or for cultural reasons. If your child is absent, please phone the office in the morning. If you are unable to phone please send a note to the class teacher when your child returns to school with the date and a reason for the child being away, for example: due to illness.
- **Late Arrival**: It is important your child is not late to school. If your child arrives at school after 8:50 am parents must accompany them to the office. A late note will be given to the child to take to class. This is recorded as a ‘part absence’ in the class roll.
- **Timed Absence**: If your child is to be collected during the day for an appointment parents must go to the office and a ‘part absence will be recorded. If possible, appointments should be made outside school hours.
  - Please avoid collecting your child before the 3:00 pm bell.
  - If your child will be absent for a period of over 10 school days, please obtain an ‘Application for Exemption from Attendance at School’ form from the office.

Pick Up Areas

- Parents collecting children should wait in the Gordon St or Albany St areas where the children walk to from class with their teachers. Please note Albany St is a DRIVE THROUGH zone and parents are asked not to park and block the flow of traffic.

Bus Travel

- Application forms are available from the office.

Notes

- Many notes will be sent home from school, please read these notes and return if necessary. These notes contain a lot of important information.

Changes to Routines

- Often there are changes to your child’s afternoon routine. Especially for younger children we ask that if this occurs you send a note in with your child to notify their teacher of the change. This will assist in getting your child to the correct place.

Labelling items

- PLEASE LABEL EVERYTHING SO LOST ITEMS ARE EASILY RETURNED TO THEIR OWNER.
Lost Property

- Lost property is stored in two white tubs and placed outside the Drama room each day.

Food

- We have a crunch & sip break each morning. The children need a small piece of fruit or vegetable each day for this. The children cannot get through big apples etc in this time unless they are cut into portions.
- Please ensure your child can open the containers and packets you send to school. The teacher on duty needs to give their attention to all the children and this is difficult if they are busy opening many packages.
- Kindergarten children - Ensure all food is wrapped as we don’t take the big lunch box out for lunch. The children take from their lunch box what they are going to eat. If a sandwich is unwrapped it can be difficult for the child to manage. Small containers are fine but the large lunch boxes stay at the classroom.

Uniform

- Please refer to the school uniform guidelines.
- School uniforms can be purchased at Cabu’s Uniform Shop, West High Street. School hats ($30) and sports shirts ($20) can be purchased from the school office. Only school hats may be worn.
- It is the school rule that all students wear their hair tied back if it is longer than their shoulders, their earrings are studs or sleepers and they are not to wear nail polish or stick on tattoos.
- Please note school shoes must be black polishable leather or leather-like. No suede and no skate shoes allowed. Sports shoes should be predominantly white.

Birthday Cakes

- Many parents like to bring in a treat to celebrate a birthday. As some children suffer with allergies this can be tricky so do not feel you have to send in anything. However, if you want to send in cake it must be cupcakes and enough for the whole class. Please do not send a whole cake. Please speak to your child’s teacher about this.

Toys and Digital Devices

- The school rule is there are NO toys allowed at school. Students should not bring digital devices such as iPods and phones. If a student needs a mobile phone after school it should stay in their school bag and not removed until after school.

Canteen

- Lunch orders are to be written on a paper lunch bag (not an envelope) with a name and class. Students are to take their lunch orders to the canteen window prior to the morning bell at 8:50 am.
- If your child has canteen money we ask that it be sealed in a snap lock bag or something similar with their name on it. Students are only to buy themselves something from the canteen and not their friends.

Library Day is:
Yr K & Yr 4 - Monday Yrs 1 & 2 - Tuesday Yr 6 - Wednesday
Yr 3 - Friday Yr 5 - Thursday

School Banking Day (Commonwealth Bank) is Thursday.

Sport Day is Thursday for Yrs K-2 and Friday for Yrs 3-6.
The compulsory years of schooling

Did you know that if a student misses as little as eight days in each school term, by the end of primary school the student will have missed over a year of education?

In New South Wales, all children from six years of age are legally required to attend school or be registered for home schooling. After they complete Year 10 and until they turn 17 years of age, students then have the following options. They may also be in:

- full-time further education and training (eg TAFE, traineeship, apprenticeship)
- full-time, paid employment of an average of 25 hours per week; or
- a combination of both of the above.

Children are expected to attend all school activities, on time. Regular attendance helps your child:

- develop the skills needed to access the world of work and other opportunities
- learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- make and keep friendships.

Parents are asked to limit the times their children arrive late to school or leave early. Your child’s school will have procedures to follow when this situation cannot be avoided.

What if my child has to be away from school?

If your child has to be absent from school, you must tell the school and provide a reason for your child’s absence. To explain an absence parents and carers may be required to:

- send a note to the school, or contact the school via fax or email, or
- telephone the school, or
- visit the school.

The school will inform you of the required procedures for contacting the school.

A small number of absences may be accepted by the Principal. For example, if your child:

- has to go to a special religious ceremony
• is required to attend to a serious and/or urgent family situation (e.g., a funeral)
• is too sick to go to school or has an infectious illness.

If you consider that it is in your child’s best interests to be exempted from the legal requirement to attend school you must discuss this with the Principal.

Under certain circumstances the Principal can grant your child leave (no form required) or they will provide you with an ‘Application for Exemption from Attendance at School’ form and assist you to complete it. The Principal will consider your application and decide whether to grant a ‘Certificate of Exemption from Attendance at School’.

Principals can grant exemptions from school attendance for 100 days or less in a 12 month period. However, if the request for absence from school is over 101 days the application must go through the Catholic Schools Office to the Minister. Parents intending to seek an exemption must give the Principal at least a full term’s notice of the request.

These exemption regulations also apply for students requesting an absence from school to participate in employment in the entertainment industry, participation in accredited elite sporting programs and for students in Year 10 undertaking a full time apprenticeship or traineeship.

Parents of students who turn 6 years of age during the year and are not enrolled in a school need to be aware they are in breach of the law and should contact a school principal to discuss the situation. This situation can often happen when a child turns 6 later in the year.

What are school Principals responsible for?

It is important to understand that the school and the Catholic Schools Office may take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unacceptable absences from school.

Parents (and sometimes their child) can be asked to attend a meeting with school staff and support personnel from the Catholic Schools Office. The aim of such meetings is to identify support strategies for the child and the family. Other agencies may be invited along to assist if parents agree.

Compulsory Attendance Conferences can be called when attendance continues to be an issue. These conferences are run by a trained convenor. This type of meeting seeks a written agreement from the parents to change the situation.

The new attendance requirements now in operation allow for legal compliance through the Children’s Court by a Compulsory Schooling Order. Finally, if all attempts to address attendance fail, action can be taken in the Local Court and fines levied.
# School Communication Guide

This is a quick guide to the communication channels in our school to help direct inquiries to the appropriate staff members.

The school office phone number is 02 6652 1204

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<tr>
<th>Absence from school</th>
<th>Contact the school office and provide the following information:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>● Your name and relationship to the child</td>
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<td></td>
<td>● Child’s name and class</td>
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<td></td>
<td>● Day and Date of the absence</td>
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<td></td>
<td>● Your phone number</td>
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<td></td>
<td>● Reason for the absence</td>
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<td>● Does your child have an Instrumental Music Lesson?</td>
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<td></td>
<td>● Have you advised OSHC (0417 666 494) that your child will be away?</td>
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<tr>
<th>Academic Difficulties</th>
<th>Class Teacher</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discipline</td>
<td>Assistant Principal - Leanne Feltis</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Leader of School Evangelisation – Paddy Dent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Raising a Concern</th>
<th>Concerns are typically best raised with (in the order listed):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>● Class Teacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>● Pastoral Care Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>● Assistant Principal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>● Principal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Account Enquiries     | School Fee Manager – Cathy Sheridan, Parish Schools Board |
|                       | Instrumental Music – Rachael Kama                            |
|                       | OSHC – Sarah Tisdell                                         |

| General Welfare       | Class Teacher |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arriving Late for School</th>
<th>Children arriving late to school must be brought to the office by their parent/carer.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leaving Early</td>
<td>If possible, do not collect your child before 3:00 pm. Should there be an exceptional circumstance, please go to the office and your child will be called.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enrichment/ Learning Support</th>
<th>Assistant Principal – Leanne Feltis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Additional Needs Team – Kyanne Kachel, Paddy Dent, Leanne Feltis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Prayer Request             | Leader of School Evangelisation – Paddy Dent |

| Instrumental Music Tuition | Instrumental Music Coordinator – Rachael Kama |

| Sport                     | Leader of Learning: Parental Engagement – Dan Hammond |

| School Social Media       | School Facebook Page: [http://www.facebook.com/staugustinesschool](http://www.facebook.com/staugustinesschool) |
|                          | School Twitter Account: [https://twitter.com/sapscoffs](https://twitter.com/sapscoffs) |
Coffs Harbour Showground
PACIFIC HIGHWAY
20th-23rd FEB

WEBERS CIRCUS

"All New"

Show Times

Thursday 20th February 7.00pm
Friday 21st February 7.00pm
Saturday 22nd February 3.00pm & 7.00pm
Sunday 23rd February 11.00am Last Show

Ticket Prices

A Reserve Chairs
Child $14.00
Adult $24.00
B Reserve Chairs
Child $16.00
Adult $28.00
Ring Side Chairs
Child $22.00
Adult $32.00

Features Wheel of Death, Trapeze, Miniature Horses, Dogs & Clown acts and Salsa Dancing.

Fun and laughter for all ages.

Discount

Present this discount coupon to receive a $2 discount on all adult tickets.

Online Bookings: www.weberscircus.com
Phone Bookings: 0448 241 287

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With a Touch of South America

Trick Ponies Wheel of Death Airrobots
Fun Clowns Hula Hoops Russian Swing
Plus Much More Fun For All The Family!