Dear Parents, Staff and Students

There have been many times when I have felt extremely proud of our school. This week has been no exception and I wanted to share some of the wonderful feedback I’ve received.

I have the privilege of interviewing families who wish to enrol their child at St Augustine’s. Families moving to Coffs Harbour are looking for the best possible education setting. As we walk around the school on the orientation tour, people are impressed with what they see and hear as the students and staff relate their experience and share the story. Their comments affirm what we are trying to achieve here at St Augustine’s.

Year 6 have been enjoying great weather at Lake Ainsworth throughout the week. This camp opportunity is a time of real growth for the students as they experience new learning and perhaps step outside their comfort zone. It’s also an opportunity to develop social skills and make friends with students from Mary Help of Christians and St Francis Xavier Primary Schools – friends they will meet up with in Year 7. The Year 6 teachers have been so proud of the way our students have conducted themselves. The Lake Ainsworth staff love hosting our students.

Last Friday’s Fete was a great example of our school community coming together, working side by side to put on another successful Centenary event. Such a day is only a success when parents come forward and give a helping hand. Many of you were here working for most of the day and of course still around when the packing up had to be done. Thank you for your efforts. The children had a wonderful time as there was so much to do and see. Our coordinator Tennille (“I love an event”) O’Rourke-Cox did a fantastic job and had great support from the P and F executive.

The invitation to become involved in your child’s school is always there. Sometimes we think about volunteering but may forget or think that someone else will do it. Investing in your child’s school is one of the best things you can do. It will be a rewarding experience and you will get to know many people along the way.

Speaking of the Fete, a volunteer from the Lions Club made a point of finding me to say how impressed she was with the manners our children showed. She couldn’t get over how polite they were (without having to be reminded!). It was great to hear this feedback and another proud moment.

Whilst still on the topic of feeling proud, we wish our Chess team well today. The four boys are leaving camp early to fly to Sydney to play in the final of the NSW Inter-School Chess Country Championships. Should they win they have the opportunity of playing The Kings School for the state title. So to Lachlan, Adam, Brock and Noah – you have done us proud regardless of the result and we know you will give it your absolute best, as you always do.

On Thursday 12 December we are holding our last Centenary event, a Wine and Cheese night. You are most welcome to come along. In particular, we would love to see all those who have volunteered to help us throughout the year so we can thank you once again. We will also launch our new Strategic Plan on that night. Copies of this plan will be available for you so you can see the evidence of our 2013 School Review and Development and what our goals are for the next five years.

Leanne Feltis
Assistant Principal
CATECHETICAL NEWS
Just a reminder that our Giving Mass will be held on Friday 6 December at 9:15 am. It is to mark the beginning of Advent and to remember those who are less fortunate. The St Vincent de Paul Society will be attending this special Mass to accept a gift of Charity from St Augustine’s School.

Don’t forget also, that this Sunday is the first Sunday of Advent. When you are at Mass you will see the first candle lit. The children have been preparing for this at school and going to Mass will enrich the experience as we lead them into a true and meaningful Christmas. The four candles symbolise the first weeks before Christmas.

The first candle signifies **Hope**: as we wait in Hope for the Birth of the Saviour. The second, signifies **Preparation**: to “get ready” for the special event of Christmas. The third candle is pink and is the candle of **Joy**: joy that Christ the Saviour is born and the fourth, is the candle of **Love** signifying the Love that God shows us by giving us His only Son. There is even a fifth candle on some wreaths, which is white and can be placed in the middle. The white candle reminds us that Jesus is pure in heart.

NATIVITY - Rejoice with us this Christmas!
The school choirs and the Year 6 drama group will be performing ‘Rejoice with us this Christmas’ on Thursday 5 December at 7:00 pm in the school hall. All welcome.

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Without you our Fete would not be successful.
If you are keen to join the 2014 Fete Committee or even have an idea that you feel strongly about please email Tennille at torourke-cox@lism.catholic.edu.au and give her your details - many hands make light work, so the more the merrier.

**TOMBOLA AND SPIN THE BOTTLE DRAW WINNERS**
Keira Loy, Marjorie Shipman-Middleton, Nathan Williams and Centaine O’Carroll. Thank you to all the children who brought in items for these two stalls.

**RAFFLE WINNERS—CONGRATULATIONS!**
First prize—iPad - Kelly McArdle
Second prize—iPod Touch - Eadyn Lory
Third prize—iPod shuffle - Matilda Lloyd

**‘SCHOOLS OUT FOR SUMMER’ WATERSLIDE NIGHT**
To mark the end of Term a waterslide night will be held on Friday 20 December at the Big Banana at 5:00 pm. Tickets will be available from the office soon. The next waterslide night is booked for Friday 14 February 2014.

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

Something mysterious is coming to the LARC. Students who love reading need to be on the lookout for clues about what’s coming. Something you should be very excited about. There are posters and clues being posted on KNet and on the LARC windows. Keep watching!

**LARC OPAC**


Have a look to see clips, messages, new books and other things. There is always something there for you about reading and all things about the LARC. ‘Diary of a Wimpy Kid:8’ features at the moment and it is coming to the LARC soon. Also some great search engines for kids are there for you to discover too.

*See you in the LARC*

Annie Madden—Teacher Librarian

**STUDENTS LEAVING SCHOOL**

If your child/children will not be returning to our school in 2014, please contact the office and complete a Termination of Student Enrolment form. Our school office and the Parish Office require two weeks notice of a termination of enrolment.

**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.

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**COMING EVENTS**

**DECEMBER**

3  Yr 1 Learning Journey 9:15 am in classroom
5  P & F Annual General Meeting 7:00 pm in the Library
6  School Nativity Concert 7:00 pm in the hall
9  Advent Giving Mass 9:15 am in the Church
17  Reports go home
18  Parent/Teacher Learning Conferences commence
20  Swimming Time Trials
17  Annual Speech Day 9:15 am
18  Yr 6 Graduation Mass 5:30 pm
18  Yr 6 Graduation Dinner 7:00 pm
20  Last day of Term 4 for students

**JANUARY**

29  First day of Term 1 for Years 1-6

**FEBRUARY**

5  First day of Term 1 for Kindergarten

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**CANTEEN ROSTER**

**DECEMBER**

02.12.2013
Mon  E Joyce, R Mott
Tues  G Bull, R Kennedy
Wed  S Hartsuyker  HELP!!!
Thur  C Blackett, M Felton, N Smith
Fri  J Arragon, D Budd, L Budd, J Roach, K Taylor

09.12.2013
Mon  J McConchie, S Small, M Switzer
Tues  H Murray, D Olutayo
Wed  S Grimmond, L Wood
Thur  M De Satge, N Ferrett
Fri  C Cowling, P Duffy, E Fitzgerald, H Gallatly, J Roach

16.12.2013
Mon  K Apps, J Sharp, N Smith
Tues  C Bailey, G Bull
Wed  M Bulloch, F Gilliland, J Jenkins  HELP!! HELP!!
Thur  K Allen, K O’Carroll
Fri  J Arnold, E Dow, R Neal, J Roach, J Schultz, K Taylor

**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

KnowledgeNET
Check out the 2013 Sports News page on knowledgeNET. This page has current information and what’s happening this week. It also has important dates for Term 4. If you have information you would like to place on this page please contact Regan Kama at the school.

Rugby, Football (Soccer), Basketball and Netball Uniforms
Please return all uniforms to Mrs Kama as soon as possible as these uniforms are required for future games. The basketball competition is now in the finals stage so please give your uniforms to your manager on your last game day so the manager can return the full set to the school. Thank you.

Rugby and Basketball Competitions
The rugby and basketball competitions commence at the beginning of Term 1, 2014. 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

Swimming Trials
The St Augustine’s swimming trials will be held on Monday 9 December at the Coffs Harbour Olympic Pool from 12 noon. These trials are to qualify for the Clarence Zone Swimming Carnival to be held in Grafton in 2014.

Thank you to the parents who have volunteered to support and assist us on the day. I will contact you via email closer to the date to confirm your availability.

Titans Visit
On Wednesday the Gold Coast Titans NRL team came to St Augustine’s to talk to our Year 3 to Year 5 students about Titans “Tackling Bullying”. This new program has been created to focus on bullying throughout primary and high schools. The Titans players talked to students about personal experiences. Students identified signs of bullying and discussed ways of solving the issues using positive techniques. The different types of bullying were also outlined and the effects they have on students both in and out of school.

Polding Cricket
Girls Representative
Congratulations to Chloe Rose who will now represent St Augustine’s in the Polding Cricket team that will now compete in the NSW PSSA Competition in Barooga (in the Riverina region) in Term 1, 2014. Congratulations and good luck.

Summer Sports Lismore Diocese Representatives
Last Friday a number of our children trialled for the Lismore Diocesan team. Congratulations to the following children who have now qualified to attend the Polding trials to be held in February, 2014 in Newcastle and Bathurst.

Tennis – Regan Dougherty and Jordan Hunter
Basketball – Tyler Donovan, Malina Kama, Lil Potter, Emily Field, and Madison Howarth
Touch Football – Jack Canning and Oliver Canning

Congratulations and good luck at your next trials.

T-Ball Competition
The next few weeks of sport will be a T-ball competition within our cohorts. Watch KnowledgeNET for the draws, results and photos for the rest of the year.

Sport Enrichment Camp
St Augustine’s has four students and one teacher participating in this year’s Diocesan Sport Enrichment Camp in Woodlawn from 1-3 December. Congratulations and good luck to Noah Dalton, Joel Guy, Siena Bordignon, Sophie Scott and Miss Erin Lyons who will be participating in this great camp.

The Sport Camp is aimed at those Year 6 to 8 students who have clearly demonstrated their capacities to perform at high levels of sporting endeavour. It draws students from a variety of sports. Its purpose is to provide access to ideas, programs, personnel and resources not always available to our students who are talented in sport.
e-Learning News - The Easy Guide To Socialising Online

The Australian Government website (below) has some excellent information about commonly used social networks and details about what each application does and also how to report inappropriate behaviour. It is a very useful site and something that would be good to share with children who are using sites such as Kik, Instagram, Skype, Snapchat etc.


Naomi Loader

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. Should you be organising lessons for 2014 please keep this in mind. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

NEW ENROLMENTS FOR 2014
If your child would like to join the Instrumental Music Program in 2014, students in Years 1 to 4 will be given an “Expression of Interest” form followed by demonstrations by Miss Kama and tutors during Week 9. All forms must be sent back to the school office by Wednesday 11th December (Week 10).

RETURN OF HIRED INSTRUMENTS
The Instrumental Handbook outlines that students can only hire an instrument for a maximum of 12 months, therefore, all hired instruments need to be returned by Tuesday 17 December.

STRING ENSEMBLE AND BAND
String Ensemble and Band will have their last rehearsal during Week 10 so there will be no afternoon practices during Week 11 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 in Years 7-9 at JPC, please keep in contact with the Instrumental Team next year for 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.

INVOICES & 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) can you please ensure your account is settled in full by Friday 13 December.

If your child is not continuing in the program next year, please make sure you submit a cancellation form before Friday 13 December so that all accounts are up to date.

For all account enquiries, please contact Sione George or Dot Trevaskis in the office.

YEAR SIX GRADUATION DINNER
Parents and carers of Year 6 students are reminded that tickets for the dinner to be held on Wednesday 18 December are to be purchased by Friday 6 December from the office.

ST AUGUSTINE’S CENTENARY MEMORABILIA

GREAT GIFT IDEAS FOR CHRISTMAS
OUR 2013 FETE

What an amazing afternoon! Our school community gathered for the eagerly awaited annual school fete on Friday 22 November. Parents and children have been quoted saying that it was 'one of the best' and that 'was so much for the kids to do.'

Thank you to all the parents and our wonderful teachers who pulled up their sleeves and baked, coordinated or worked on a stall. Without your help our fete would not be such a success. Smiling faces were seen all over the school grounds!

For these and many more images login in to KNET and go to the 2013 FETE ALBUM in the School Gallery under School Area.
PARISH NEWS

COFFS HARBOUR PARISH CAROLS SERVICE

Join us for ‘Christmas in the City’ - a special evening of Carols and Readings to be held on Saturday 14 December at 7:30 pm in St Augustine’s Church. The Carols are being co-hosted by the Parish and the Artes Christi Singers who are touring NSW and QLD throughout December. The evening will feature a wide selection of carols including ‘O Come All Ye Faithful’ and ‘O Holy Night’ as well as Vivaldi’s ‘Gloria’ and Handel’s triumphant ‘Hallelujah Chorus’. Entry by donation ($5+).
All profits support The Vinnies Christmas Appeal  www.christmasinthecity.org.au

VATICAN SYNOD OF BISHOPS ON THE FAMILY QUESTIONNAIRE

A document has been released by the Vatican inviting Catholics in their dioceses everywhere to make known to the bishops their longings and hopes, as the faithful of the Church, for the promotion of the good of the family.

Please consider the questions prepared by the Vatican. It is important that we respond to these questions with due consideration, so that our responses will inform our Bishop, the Holy See, the Synod and ultimately, Pope Francis. The survey is now active on the home page of the Diocesan website: www.lismorediocese.org under the heading Church Resources.

Responses need to be supplied by Friday 6 December. In our Diocese, the Chancery Office will collate the responses. The responses will then be forwarded to the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. The Australian Bishops will prepare a national response to forward to Rome.

$5000
COULD BE YOURS!

Each number is worth $100.

Buy your lucky number on your own or get a group together.

Only one number can win!

WHAT’S YOUR LUCKY NUMBER?
**A GRADE CHESS**

Our A Grade Chess Team flew to Sydney this morning to contest the State Finals of the Interschool Chess Competition. Adam Bain, Lachlan Golding, Noah Dalton and Brock Symons made up the team.

The boys were victorious defeating Illaroo Road Public School, Nowra, 8-0 and became NSW Country Champions. What a fantastic achievement!

Results of the State final match against The Kings School, Sydney, will be published in the next Newsletter.

*Stephanie George*

*Chess Coordinator*

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**THE GREEN SPOT**

Aim for at least 30 minutes of physical activity a day.

To maintain health and reduce risk of health problems, health professionals and researchers recommend at least 30 minutes of moderate-intensity physical activity on most, preferably all, days. This is one of the *National Physical Activity Guidelines for Adults*.

These national Guidelines recommend the minimum amount of physical activity you need to do to enhance your health. The four guidelines are:

1. Think of movement as an opportunity, not an inconvenience. Any form of movement is an opportunity to improve your health.
2. Be active every day in as many ways as you can. Make a habit of walking or cycling instead of using the car.
3. Put together at least 30 minutes of moderate-intensity physical activity on most, preferably all, days.
4. If you can, also enjoy some regular, vigorous exercise for extra health and fitness. Vigorous exercise makes you ‘huff and puff’ such as jogging, aerobics and netball.

You can accumulate your 30 minutes throughout the day by combining shorter bouts of at least 10 minutes. Remember, something is better than nothing, but more is better than something.

*Aлекс Shaw—Coordinator*
OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE

After School Care
The end of Term 4 is getting closer and yes, the end of another school year. Time surely has gone quickly! Please keep in mind we still need you to contact OSHC either by calling or texting us if your child is booked in but will not be attending. If your child is absent or has left school early or has alternate arrangements for their afternoon pick up, could you please advise OSHC. Thank you for your cooperation.

Invoices
Reminder invoices were again sent home via your child’s class teacher this week. Payments need to be brought up to date please to help us meet our financial commitments to the Service and provide valuable resources for your children. Some payments have not been made for quite some time for a number of families and payment must be attended to.

Active After School Care Sports is continuing next year!!
We have organised Term 1 and 2 next year 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 information regarding registrations at the end of each seven week AASC sport period.

Vacation Care
The program is out and available from the office or OSHC. Bookings are slowly starting to fill. Please ensure you complete and hand back your child’s booking sheets as soon as possible. As the centre is closed over the Christmas and New Year break there will be no staff available to check any communication either via email or phone message/text between Friday 20 December 2013 6:00 pm and Thursday 2 January 7:30 am. We’ve got a beautiful and exciting program for January with a variety of activities and excursions.

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
THERE ARE STILL 3 WEEKS LEFT TO ATTEND PLAYGROUP!! We welcome all families with children under school age to attend our Playgroup, held in the OSHC room. A $3 per family fee, payable on arrival, applies and we ask you to contribute either a snack (biscuits, cake, etc.) or a piece of fruit towards morning tea. Coffee, tea and hot chocolate will be made for you. Our emphasis at St Augustine’s playgroup is to provide a safe and happy environment for the children so they can play and interact with other children. The weather is warming up so please ensure your child is wearing appropriate clothing, a hat and sunscreen. See you there!

CONTACT DETAILS:
Brigitte (Coordinator OSHC & Facilitator Playgroup)
bklinkers@lism.catholic.edu.au  0417 666 494

Linda (Administrator OSHC)
lrick@lism.catholic.edu.au  6652 1204

ORDER FORM
St Augustine’s School Year Book 2013

Student’s name: ___________________________    Student’s class: __________________
No. of copies: ___________________________    Amount enclosed: __________________

$25.00 EACH