Dear Parents, Staff and Children

It is fitting that our Newsletter this week is distributed at the end of Catholic Schools Week (CSW). Catholic schools enrol about 20 per cent of Australian school students. There are 615 Catholic Primary and Secondary schools across NSW and the ACT, providing quality education in a faith-centred environment. The main aim of CSW is to raise public awareness of the wonderful opportunities that Catholic schools provide, and to celebrate our history, our distinctiveness and our many achievements.

So how is St Augustine’s making a difference? “Making the Difference”? You can see tangible signs all around you - welcoming atmosphere, family orientation, justice, compassion, understanding, truth, forgiveness, academic excellence - the list can go on and on. Children, staff and parents can relay stories to you that will give testament to these signs. We see it in the relationships that form, in the words that are spoken, in the deeds that are done. We see it in ourselves and in those around us.

Based on the teachings of Jesus Christ and supported by family and Parish Church, we make a difference by …

- Giving an active witness to our faith through prayer, worship and relationships with others.
- Offering a range of opportunities and experiences while encouraging each child to develop to the best of their abilities.
- Offering children the chance to achieve excellence in learning, to learn the discipline and skills necessary to survive in and contribute to today’s world and to believe in themselves and have real hope for the future.

As shared with the large contingent of parents who attended our enrolment information evening on Wednesday night, Catholic schools teach the same curriculum as government schools. Expectations of achievement and conduct are high. With a strong focus on the individual, our broad curriculum caters for a wide range of interests and abilities. Our school’s focus on personalising the learning has seen some significant shifts in the way learning takes place.

In wanting the best for our children the staff of St Augustine’s are working hard to provide diverse learning opportunities to meet the needs of our students. One of these opportunities is the provision of an enrichment visual arts program for Term Two. Selected students in our senior grades will be participating in a series of visual art tasks, which will be displayed at an Art studio at the end of term. The launch of this art exhibition will be held at Cr8 Events on Friday 29 June (more details later) with the exhibition being on display during that weekend.

Parents are also part of life long learning and we are helping to support new learning for parents. Each Wednesday this term we will be hosting a series of workshops in the LARC (9:00 am—10:00 am) for parents interested in learning more about KnowledgeNET (see the photo inside our Newsletter). This particular program is central to communication and showcasing learning at our school. Please consider coming along. As always I encourage you to share the St Augustine’s story with your family and friends. Our doors are always open to share our learning with you. Please come and visit.

Peace and Best Wishes, Jake

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YEAR K 2013 ENROLMENTS
Kindergarten enrolments for 2013 open on Monday 7 May. All current and new families can collect an enrolment package from the school office.

The enrolment period closes on Friday 18 May and enrolment forms are to be returned to the school office.

As of now there are 615 Catholic Primary and Secondary schools enrol about 20 per cent of Australian school students. There are 615 Catholic Primary and Secondary schools across NSW and the ACT, providing quality education in a faith-centred environment. The main aim of CSW is to raise public awareness of the wonderful opportunities that Catholic schools provide, and to celebrate our history, our distinctiveness and our many achievements.

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COMING EVENTS

**MAY**

7 Kindergarten enrolment period commences
8 Yr 4 Breakfast 7:30—8:15 am
8 Yrs K-2 Chicken Burger lunch
8 Yr 6 to Coffs Coast Careers Expo at Race Club
9 A Grade Inter-School Chess Comp at St Aug
Parent KnowledgeNet workshop 9am
10 B & C Grade Inter-School Chess Comp at Coffs Hbr Primary School
11 Mothers’ Day Stall
Mothers’ Mass 9:15 am in the Church
Diocesan Cross Country at Murwillumbah
15-17 NAPLAN
16 Parent KnowledgeNet workshop
17 Yr 1 Liturgy 10:20 am in the Church
18 Newsletter Day
Yr 6 Grade Mass 9:15 am in the Church
Yr 1 Open Classroom Learning Journey 9:30 am
22 ICAS Computer Skills Comp
23 Parent KnowledgeNet workshop
National Simultaneous Story Telling
29 Yr 5 Breakfast 7:30—8:15 am
Yrs 3/4 Chicken Burger Day
30 Diocesan Rugby Gala Day at Coffs Harbour
Parent KnowledgeNet workshop
Cameron Stelzer visit

PLEASE REFER REGULARLY TO OUR CALENDAR ON KnowledgeNET FOR UPDATES.
MOTHERS’ DAY MASS
St Augustine’s will celebrate Mothers’ Day with a Mass in the Church at 9:15 am on Friday 11 May. All welcome to come along. All mums and grandmothers are welcome. Please come and sit with your children. The children begin to move into the Church at 9:00 am and the best place to meet is on the Church steps.

Sacrament of Confirmation 2012
To be eligible for Confirmation children must be baptised, be attending Mass with their parent/s every Sunday and be between the ages of 7 and 15.
* May 21 - Parent Information & Enrolment Meeting, 7:00pm at the Curran Centre.
* From May 28 - 5 week program commences.
* July 23 - Sacrament of Confirmation. This will correspond with the Bishop’s Parish visitation.

Please save these dates.
Enrolment forms can be collected from the Parish Office. You will need to bring your child’s Baptism Certificate to collect the form. For more information call Rebecca on 6651 0000

YEAR SIX GRADE MASS
Year 6 will celebrate their Grade Mass in the Church on Friday 18 May at 9:15 am. All welcome.

YEAR ONE LITURGY
Year One will celebrate their special ‘Jesus is Our Light’ Liturgy on Thursday 17 May at 10:20 am in the Church. All welcome.

TONGA BACK PACKS
Pictured below are the Tongan students with the back packs our school gifted to them. Thank you to all families who contributed.

ANZAC DAY
Thank you to all the families who marched with the school on ANZAC Day. You really made the school proud and the Diggers loved you.
SPORT NEWS

DIOCESAN CROSS COUNTRY
Good luck to the following students who will be competing at the Diocesan Carnival on Friday 11 May at Murwillumbah: Zac Hart, Nathan Zawadzki, Tianna Mayer, Maddie Mayer, Joel Guy, Regan Dougherty, Jack Canning, Sophie Scott, Ben Burridge, Thomas Burridge, Tess Bohringer, Peter Dougherty, Claudia Stocks. Keep up the training.

RUGBY 2012
St Augustine’s took part in The Essential Energy Rugby 7’s MNC Final on Wednesday. After winning their first three games St Augustine’s went down to Tyalla in the Semi Final. Well done on a great effort boys. Thank you to the Coach Chris Martin and the parents who drove the boys to the Competition.

FRIDAY NIGHT RUGBY 2012
Registration form and money can be handed into the school office for the Friday Night Rugby competition. This week there is training and skills from 6:00 – 7:30pm. Competition begins the following week.
We are still looking for a parent to Coach our Year 5 Team. If you are interested please contact the school office.
Information can be found about the Friday Night Competition at http://www.coffsjuniors.rugbynet.com.au/

MECCANO
If anyone has some Meccano that they no longer want, the school would welcome a donation for use by children with additional needs.

MUSICA VIVA

‘The Sousaphonics’ ran music workshops with students from Years 1-6. all classes were well prepared by Mrs O’Sullivan and gained a lot from the performance.

CENTENARY 2013
Parents are encouraged to attend our Centenary 2013 planning meeting on Tuesday 15 May at 7:00 pm in the LARC. A number of key events have already been planned but we still need some more conversations on how to celebrate our 100 years of Catholic Education. Please come along and share in the discussion.

YEAR SIX CAKE STALL FUNDRAISERS
Year 6 students will be holding cake stalls to raise money for their end of year gift to the school on the following dates:
Thursday 10 May (6C) Thursday 21 June (6H)
Thursday 26 July (6P)
All children will be able to purchase items at lunchtime. Year 6 parents can call Kelly O’Carroll on 55525850 for more info.

LARC MATTERS
This Term we have many events to mark the National Year of Reading in our school. The month of May sees the focus of ‘Books You Can’t Put Down’. Children are invited to complete a ‘Books You Can’t Put Down’ slip (available from the LARC) to notify other students of a book that absolutely held their attention and they didn’t want to stop reading...for anything! Come and see Mrs Madden for a slip to complete and go on display in the LARC.

As another NYR opportunity, it is with great excitement that we announce a return visit from the author/illustrator Cameron Stelzer on Wednesday 30 May. Some of you will remember his visit from two years ago where ‘The Stroogle’ became a household name! He is returning this year for a visit with Years K-3 and with a new book. This will be all new for Kindergarten and Year 1, so they are in for a fantastic treat. More information later. There is no cost for this great opportunity.

Don’t feel too disheartened, Years 4-6, as we have a special guest coming for you later in the year. Her name is on our author wall. More info at a later date.
‘Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes’ will be our NYR focus for June.

See you in the LARC - Mrs Madden—Teacher Librarian

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM
An opportunity for students to learn how to sing and use their voice is now offered as part of the Instrumental Music Program. Information and enrolment forms can be collected from the office.

Invoices have been sent out this week for Term 2 lessons. There are still a number of Term 1 fees outstanding and this is after several requests for payment have been made. We would appreciate you bringing your account up to date without any further delay to ensure we can meet our financial commitments to this program. If you have any questions in relation to your Invoice please contact Tess Langler in the School Office.
**CANTEEN ROSTER**

07.05.2012  
**Mon**  N Al-Athami, B Jones, M Switzer  
**Tues**  H Murray, D Olutayo  
**Wed**  S Grimmond, H Shepherd, L Wood  
**Thur**  N Anning, A Betland, M Felton  
**Fri**  C Cowling, P Duffy, E Fitzgerald, D Larsen, J Mannall  

14.05.2012  
**Mon**  N Al-Athami, A Millward, J Sharp  
**Tues**  C Bailey, D La Rosa  
**Wed**  M Bulloch, J Jenkins  
**Thur**  K Lakiss, K-A McCormack, K O’Carroll  
**Fri**  E Dow, J Mannall, J Schultz

**CANTEEN NEWS**  
Canteen helpers are always required. Help is needed for three hours from 9:00 am until 12:00 noon once a month. If you are able to help in the Canteen on any day please call the office on 66521204.  
Barbra Symons and Magda Brouwer—Canteen Managers

**OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE**  
**VACATION CARE**  
Welcome back to all our students and families for another exciting term. Please remember to complete a Booking Sheet for Term Two if you have not already done so. We do not assume you will automatically need care if a form has not been previously completed. If you filled in a form for last Term and did NOT include an end date we assume it ended when Term One ended.

Vacation Care was enjoyed by all students and educators with our excursion to the movie ‘The Lorax’ being the highlight for the children and any equipment needed. We would love to see you there.

The children at Vacation Care received a great compliment from Busways! We always have the same nice driver who makes sure he is on time and stops in the safest spot possible. Our driver is very impressed with our children’s behaviour on the bus (no fighting over seats, keeping spots free for educators, immediately buckling up when sitting and being polite and safe) this makes his job so much easier and he wanted us to know.  
SO, WELL DONE CHILDREN FOR BEING SAFE AND CONSIDERATE PASSENGERS ON THE BUS! This is a credit to you all.

During After School Care we program a set time in which the children get the opportunity to do their homework under our guidance and assistance from 4.30-5.00pm. We would very much appreciate it if you could consider these times when picking up your child as to not disturb those children still concentrating on their homework.

Active After School Care sport commenced this week. Please make sure you have filled in the permission form to enable your child to participate in the activities on Tuesday and Thursday under guidance of Community Coaches. This hour of active sports is conducted free of charge and this term includes Soccer and Basketball. The children will not necessarily play a game of soccer/basketball but will play a variety of skills games related to those sports. For those children enjoying this activity we ask parents to consider your child’s enjoyment and if possible pick your child up at the end of the session (4:15 - 4:30pm).

We have just a couple of ‘housekeeping’ matters to keep in mind for next holidays:

- A number of families did not complete Enrolment Forms before care was required. This is a legal requirement and no child will be accepted into care without an Enrolment Form. Staff will call you to collect your child immediately if attending ASC as you will not be able to leave your child at Vacation Care without an enrolment form.
- Booking Sheets for all sessions MUST be completed.
- If you wish to change the session time that was originally booked, please ensure an email is sent to Tess at tlangler@lism.catholic.edu.au or a revised Booking Sheet completed. This saves a lot of administration time, thank you.
- Another reminder please for families to keep their accounts up to date. This is to ensure your placement at OSHC / Vacation Care is kept. If you need to discuss any matter regarding your account, please call the School office and speak to Tess.

At Present the Administrator and Coordinator of OSHC are reviewing and rewriting all Policies and Procedures in accordance with the new Guidelines and Regulations. We would like parents/carers to come forward and read/review these policies to endorse them. Could you please contact Brigitte if you are interested in assisting to make our Service one that truly reflects the needs of all children and their families.

**PLAYGROUP**

Playgroup for Term 2 started last Wednesday 2 May and we look forward to seeing all families there again this term. Families from outside the St Augustine’s School community are most welcome to also come along. The cost is $3.00 per family. Booking is not required but please make sure you write down your contact details upon arrival and payment of the fee. We welcome all input you have regarding the set-up of the room, the activities set for the children and any equipment needed. We would love to see you there.

Brigitte Klinkers—OSHC & Playgroup Coordinator  
tlangler@lism.catholic.edu.au  0417 666494
ENROLMENT FOR YEAR 7 – 2013 – From 07/05/2012 to 25/05/2012

Enrolment applications for Year 7 - 2013 are now open at John Paul College.

All Year 6 students will be given an application package to take home for completion. Please check with your child that they have this application. The application will also be available on the College webpage – www.jpc.nsw.edu.au

The following is some information designed to make the process clearer for you:

1. The completed application form must be handed in person to the office at John Paul College during school hours.

2. The closing date for applications is Friday 25th May 2012.

3. A non-refundable application processing fee of $25.00 is payable when lodging the application. This will be receipted directly to you when the application is handed to the office staff. Applications will not be accepted until the processing fee is paid.

4. All sections in the application must be completed or the application will not be accepted by the office staff for processing.

5. All relevant documents must be attached to the application including:
   a) A copy of the Baptismal Certificate if the applicant is stated as Catholic
   b) A copy of the Birth Certificate
   c) A copy of the Medicare Card
   d) A copy of the applicant’s latest school report (if this is not available at the time of lodging the application please bring a copy to the interview)

6. All applicants and their parent/guardians will be required to attend an individual interview with the John Paul College Enrolment Committee regardless of whether they come from a feeder school, already have siblings at the College etc. This gives the applicant and their parents a one on one interview where they can ask any questions pertinent to their individual needs.

7. An interview does not indicate or suggest a place being offered. Places will be offered to successful applicants at a later date.
Keeping kids safe in a cyber world

Social media sites have taken cyber bullying and harassment to a new level. Here’s how to keep your kids safe when online.

Cyber bullying is one of the biggest, safety issues facing young people today. Bullying and harassment online is now commonplace. For instance, over a third of teenage girls have been sexually harassed via the Internet.

The emergence of social media sites has seen cyberbullying go to a new level. Messages and images can now spread like wild fire reaching a huge potential audience in the time it takes to upload an image or shoot off a text message.

Once the family home offered young people an escape from schoolyard bullies. Now the cyber world is so invasive that their bedrooms offer no guarantees of safety any more.

The cyber world is enticing. Young people have always wanted to escape from their parents’ world. In the past they hung out in shopping centres and pool halls. Parents tried their best to keep an eye on where their children were and what they were doing.

The online world is now the shopping mall of the 21st Century. Parents have the same responsibility to help kids stay safe in the online world as they do in the real world. ‘Stranger danger’ and accompanying safe behaviours are just as relevant in the online world as they are in the real world.

Parents should use the same offline preventative strategies to maximise their children’s online safety as they’ve always used. These strategies include: teaching children about the right way to behave online; don’t let them spend all night in the cyber world; and ask questions about what they are doing and where they go when they’re online.

Parents need to remind kids that things in the online world can spin out of control very quickly. A written message or an image can be circulated electronically so rapidly that the scope and scale of cyber bullying can be greater than any other form of bullying.

The following seven key messages form the basis of an online safety strategy for kids. They should be taught to kids so they become second nature, just as the messages about stranger danger were absorbed by an earlier generation.

1. Respect others. Make kids aware that what they send can offend. Discuss with kids the types of messages and images that can cause harm to others when sent. Teenagers often walk a fine line with what they do and say to each other offline, yet it’s relatively harmless. The same type of behaviour online however can be a different story.

2. Think before you send. Remind kids cyberspace is a very public and permanent forum. A text message or image sent to just one person can be passed to a potentially unlimited number. Once they are sent they’re almost impossible to erase and take back.

3. Treat online passwords like your house key. Teach kids to keep passwords guarded at all times. Young people can be incredibly trusting of each other, which is to be encouraged. However there are some things, such as online passwords that they don’t share, not even with their best friend.

4. Block bullies. Teach kids to block bullying messages. They can filter out messages and addresses online. Similarly, they can block text messages from bullies as well.

5. Don’t reply to harassment. Bullies can retain proof of your response, which can further be spread around. Besides responding to bullying behaviour often simply encourages the bully to continue.

6. Save the evidence. If kids are bullied they should keep the pictures and offending messages. These can be used as proof if the bullies are brought to justice.

7. Tell someone. The insidious part of bullying is that kids on the receiving end often don’t seek help, as they think there’s something wrong with them. Talk with kids about going to a trusted adult, when they feel their rights or safety have been violated. They should with your help report online bullying to the appropriate service provider.

Sticking the proverbial head in the sand regarding kids’ use of communications technology is no longer an option for parents. Savvy parents need to learn as much as they can about children’s and young people’s online lives so they can respond to situations appropriately.
RAISING KIDS THAT COPE
BUILDING AN OPTIMISTIC MINDSET IN CHILDREN

This seminar will be helpful to parents and others who work with or support children.

DATE: MONDAY 4th JUNE
TIME: 7.30pm - 9.00pm
LOCATION: St Augustine’s School
Gordon Street,
COFFS HARBOUR
FREE!
BOOKING: ph: 1300 557874 or
email: parents@ism.catholic.edu.au

About the presenter ...
Ruth Fordyce works at Alpha Psychology Services, in Sydney. She works closely with Clinical Psychologist Lyn Worsley, who developed the Resilience Doughnut model. Ruth has facilitated workshops around Australia in the area of resilience.

Research has found that an optimistic thinking style is associated with higher levels of well-being.

Optimism also helps to protect people from developing depression or anxiety during times of adversity.

This seminar will:
- examine the key aspects of optimistic thinking
- look at some practical ways that we can foster optimism in children
- consider how the language we use can have a powerful effect in helping children to see a way forward through their difficulties

Find out more about Ruth at our website below.

Website: www.theresilencedoughnut.com.au