Dear Parents, Staff and Children

Last Friday was World Teachers’ Day. This wasn’t an event that captured the attention of the media or the wider community but never the less it was a day for teachers to celebrate what they do and to reflect on their vocation. As educators we are constantly reminded that we make the biggest difference to our students’ learning outcomes. Yes, there are other factors that come into play but the role of the teacher is significant.

At St Augustine’s School we have been on an incredible learning journey. Along with your children, we see ourselves as learners and we seek new ways to improve our practice and to support our students in more effective ways. I’ve listened to our cohort teams share the excitement when their students have made progress and have achieved new goals. Teachers bring students to see me each day to tell the story of their improvement. It’s something I really look forward to.

The recent Parent Satisfaction Survey saw great acknowledgement of our teachers. Please come and see your child’s teacher if you have any concerns at all. Your partnership is valued. We may not always agree but having strong communication will benefit all, especially your child. Sometimes it may seem easier to send an email but if something is concerning you a face to face conversation is far more productive. Issues can be resolved much quicker when we get together and listen to one another.

I encourage you to continue to be partners in your child’s learning. Your school experience is vastly different to your child’s. The education model is not one you have experienced so taking an active part in your child’s education will help demystify things for you.

I recently read a blog about learning. As a parent and a teacher I found this thought provoking. It was titled, “10 Things (Some) Parents Should Unlearn…”

- Learning is best measured by a letter or a number.
- Product is more important than process and progress.
- Children need to be protected from any kind of failure.
- The internet is dangerous for children.
- Parents and teachers should discuss students without the learner present.
- Homework is an essential part of learning.
- The school is responsible for the child’s entire education.
- Your child’s perspective is the only one.
- Learning looks the same as when you went to school.
- Focus on (and fix) your child’s shortcomings, rather than their successes.

Whether you agree, disagree or challenge one or more of these points there is certainly food for thought there.

Finally, I encourage you to support the P and F to ensure the School Fete is a success. A very small number of parents come along to the monthly meetings and the events that run during the year are often left to these few. We are counting on our families to donate items and to give a hand on the day. All money raised goes directly to benefit the children.

Leanne Feltis
Assistant Principal

COMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER
4  P & F Social Bowls Afternoon
6  P & F Meeting 7:00 pm in the LARC
7  Year K 2013 Parents Wine & Cheese Night
8  Year 3 Excursion to Brelsford Park
9  Year K Creation Liturgy and Learning Journey in classrooms from 9:15—10:55am
10 Year 6 Mothers afternoon at Shearwater
13 Years K-2 Chicken Burger Lunch
   Year 2 Liturgy and Learning Journey in classroom 9:15 am
   Year 6 Transition Day—JPC
14 Year K 2013 Orientation morning
   B Grade 3 Person Chess Tournament
15 Year 4 Liturgy in classroom 10:20 am
21 Year K 2013 Orientation morning
   JPC Orientation Day for Year 6
22 Year 6 Public Speaking Competition final
   Year 3 Liturgy in classroom 10:20 am
   Bedtime Stories
23 Diocesan Summer Sports Trials at Grafton

23 SCHOOL FETE
27 Years 5/6 Chicken Burger Lunch

DECEMBER
3-7 Year 6 Camp
4  P & F Meeting 7:00 pm in the LARC
5  Swimming Time Trials
   Year 5 Liturgy in the Church then Learning Journey in the Classroom
   Years 2-4 Nativity Pageant
7  Giving Mass 9:15 am in the Church
Parents may be interested in this worthwhile website. It explains about coming to school, changing grades, and being open to change [http://www.nlnw.nsw.edu.au/parentb.htm](http://www.nlnw.nsw.edu.au/parentb.htm)

**YEAR K CREATION LITURGY & LEARNING JOURNEY—FRIDAY 9 NOVEMBER**

Parents, carers and friends are invited to our Year K Creation Liturgy which will be held in the hall at 9:15 am followed by the Learning Journey in the classrooms. Please bring a piece of fruit to have with your child in the break.

Paddy Dent - Coordinator: Ministry
Michelle Scott - Coordinator: Religious Education Curriculum

**P & F NEWS**

**BOWLS AFTERNOON – Sunday 4 November**
Tickets are $10 per head with all proceeds going to the school. The event is on at the C.EX Club and starts at 1pm and will finish at 4pm. Please note, this is not an event for children.

**FETE RAFFLE**

Raffle tickets were sent home this week. Wonderful prizes—Ipod, Model Me Studio, Bunnings prize etc!! Tickets are $2 each. More tickets available at the office.

**FETE—CAKE STALL**

Students in Years K-2 will be given a cake box to take home and decorate. The theme for the decoration is ‘Summer Time’. On Fete day morning, the children are asked to bring in the cake box with something inside it to sell at the Cake Stall. Prizes will be awarded in each year level for creative cake boxes.

**FETE—CRAFT STALL**

Please send in your donations of handmade goods such as sewing, knitting, crocheting, jewellery, baby singlets, bags, cards etc by Monday 10 November to the office. Please contact either Carolyn Perkins at cperkins@lism.catholic.edu.au or Kyanne Kachel at kkachel@lism.catholic.edu.au for information.

Scott Bohringer—P & F Committee Secretary

---

This Term our Early Stage One Teachers will be participating in a program of personal development focusing on speech and language difficulties. The program is funded by the Federal Government and is called More Support for Students with Disabilities (MSSD) and will be facilitated through our school by Virginia Taylor, local Speech Pathologist and St Augustine's parent. We welcome Virginia and look forward to the knowledge and expertise she will share with us.

**INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM**

Invoices for Term 4 were sent home last week. Payment for music tuition is due by 3 December. Some families still have outstanding fees and these must be settled without any further delay please. **ALL fees MUST be paid by the due date. Thank you.**

**HEALTHY LUNCH BOXES**

Our lunch period begins at 10:55 am and this is the time for children to eat their lunch. We encourage the children to eat a sandwich or another healthy option at this time. Added to their lunch box should be some fruit for fruit break and a healthy snack for recess. Of course water is the best drink to pack.

Increasingly we are finding children bringing packaged foods such as chips and sweets that have a high sugar and salt content. Often children eat these things before their lunch. The green bin is often filled with uneaten pieces of fruit and sandwiches. The staff do their best to monitor eating times but we ask parents to carefully consider the food that is packed for their children. Behaviour in the classroom and on the playground can be an issue when children are not eating the right foods.

Example of ‘Spin the Bottle’ and ‘Tombola’ items.
SPORT NEWS

Knowledge.NET
Have a look at the sports pages on knowledge.NET. Photos, draws, results and general information is uploaded for you to show your parents. Don’t forget to check how your Teeball team is going.

CLARENCE SUMMER SPORTS TRIALS
Last Wednesday many St Augustine’s children tried out for the Clarence Zone Summer Sports Trials which included Basketball, Cricket, Touch Football and Tennis.

Congratulations to the following children who will now attend the Lismore Diocese Trials to be held in Coffs Harbour on Friday 23 November:

Basketball
Teagan Mayer, Siena Bordignon, Malina Kama, Lil Potter, Noah Dalton

Cricket
Brock Symons, Kieran Cunningham

Touch Football
Caden Ward, Jack Canning, Oliver Canning

Tennis
Regan Dougherty

SWIMMING TRIALS FOR 2013
As part of our PDHPE program, Swimming Time Trials are being held on Wednesday 5 December 2012. Children between the ages of 8 and 12 who are strong swimmers and would like to qualify to represent St Augustine’s School at the Zone Swimming Carnival in 2013 will need to attend time trials at Coffs Harbour Olympic Pool on Wednesday 5 December 2012. The trials will begin at 11:30 am and finish at approximately 2:30pm. Students will be categorised into Junior, 11 Years and Senior age groups. Participants can compete in the following events:

- Open Age 100m freestyle
- 50m freestyle, backstroke, butterfly and breaststroke
- 200m Junior / Senior Medley

A permission note will be sent home with the children soon. We will also be looking for some assistance from parents and carers, so please let the office know if you are able to help on the day.

Dan Hammond—Sports Coordinator

CHESS NEWS—Chess Three Person Team Event
St Augustine’s School entered three teams in the A Grade Competition of this event, played at Coffs Primary School last Wednesday. Many exciting games were played, some surprise results were experienced and all of our players enjoyed the day. Congratulations to the nine players who represented our school so well. St Augustine’s 1 and St Augustine’s 2 came first and second respectively. St Augustine’s 3 played very well and enjoyed the challenge of A Grade competition. Our winning team is now invited to represent Coffs Harbour in the Country Championships in Sydney in late November. Congratulations to the following students:

St Augustine’s 1: Lachlan Golding, Adam Bain, Brock Symons
St Augustine’s 2: James Maybank, Noah Dalton, Coby Heffernan
St Augustine’s 3: Jared Massaad, Lachlan Clarke, Connor Martin

We are looking forward to the B & C Grade competitions for this event, which will be held in the St Augustine’s Hall on Wednesday 14 November. We have a large contingent of 11 three player teams entered. Good luck to all.

Stephanie George—Chess Coordinator

CURRICULUM CORNER

Maths Olympiad
Congratulations to our Year 5 and 6 students who made up the team of 30 for this year’s Maths Olympiad. This problem solving competition is truly a challenging one and it’s a credit to these students for persevering throughout the year. Brock Symons, Year 5, was placed first in the team. Ciara Barry and Joseph Barker were placed in the top 10% of all students.

The top 25% consisted of Noah Dalton, Caydn O’Connell, Lachlan Golding, Joshua Guy, Molly Cains, Claudia Charles and Connor Martin. Other members of the team were Jacoa Bailey, Jesse Ferrett, Bree Knight, Ruby Batay, Claire Brown, Alexander Hill, Will Vignes, Brigitte Boyse, Sienna O’Carroll, Matthew Parsons, Faith Scully, Nathan Thomas, Blake Southam, Dheeraj Adusumalli, Darcy Ryan, Tahseen Sarwar, Dominic Vorreiter, and Adam Bain.

Newcastle Permanent Maths Competition
Brock Symons has done it again! Brock was placed equal first in the Year 5 Division. Tahseen Sarwar was also placed highly in the Mid North Coast Region. Along with Joseph Barker, these boys attained a High Distinction.

Year 5 Distinctions were awarded to Brigitte Boyse, Adam Bain, Dheeraj Adusumalli, Ciara Barry, Lachlan Golding, Jann Griffin, Lauren Hutchinson, Tom Morison, Jacoa Bailey, Noah Dalton, Lily Goodacre and Joel Guy.

In Year 6 there were 9 Distinctions. These went to Connor Martin, Sienna O’Carroll, Caydn O’Connell, Jesse Ferrett, Claudia Charles, Faith Scully, Dominic Vorreiter, Bree Knight and Alexander Hill.

Stephanie George—Coordinator Pedagogy
Canteen Roster

November

05.11.2012

Mon  P Duffy, C Jourdant
Tues  N Al-Athami, D Craig

Wed  HELP!!! HELP!!! HELP!!!

Thur  N Anning, M Dowden, J Golding
Fri  H Brindle, B Dougherty, J Roach, B Symons
     L Zawadzki

12.11.2012

Mon  R Mott  HELP!!!
Tues  N Al-Athami, K Apps, R Kennedy
Wed  K Close, S Hartsuyker  HELP!!!
Thur  M De Satge, N Ferrett, M Waugh
Fri  M Batson, L Budd, D Budd, J Roach, B Symons

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

School Banking

Our School participates in the Commonwealth Bank School Banking program to help our children develop essential saving skills and to raise funds for our school.

We are pleased to offer School Banking for the students however we have decided not to participate in the School Banking Rewards Program in 2013. We are happy to continue School Banking in the traditional way by encouraging our children to create regular saving habits.

We understand that children are currently collecting tokens to redeem them for the reward items available. Please ensure that your children redeem their tokens for reward items as soon as possible. Children will need to redeem their tokens by Wednesday 5 December, 2012 so that items can be ordered and received prior to the end of this school year. The items currently available include:

* Dollarmites Money Boxes - Addy, Pru, Pat and Cred
* Book Light
* Pen Pod
* USB Drive

To redeem these items, simply place ten tokens in your child's bank book along with a note stating which item is requested. School Banking day is every Wednesday. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

Sione George—Banking Officer

Order Form

St Augustine's School Year Book 2012

Student’s name: _______________________________  Student’s class: _______________________________

No. of copies: _______________________________  Amount enclosed: _______________________________

Please return this slip and money in an envelope by 23 November to qualify for the discounted price of $15.00

(All orders after 23 November will be charged at $20.00)

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.
OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE
Starting Monday 5 November 2012 we will trial a new routine to facilitate the large number of children now attending care. The routine will ensure less ‘transitions’ during the afternoon so the children are happy and engaged while in our care. In practice, this means children will enter the OSHC room, grab a snack and start their homework straight away, once this is done…the fun begins.
If you do NOT want your child to do homework please send me a quick email. Children who are to complete homework need to ensure their homework folders are in their bags. We’ve discussed the new routine with the children and very positive feedback has been received.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Monday/Wednesday</th>
<th>Tuesday/Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3pm</td>
<td>Roll/attendance check, tidy up of bags, hand washing and afternoon tea</td>
<td>Roll/attendance check, tidy up of bags, hand washing and afternoon tea</td>
<td>Roll/attendance check, tidy up of bags, hand washing and afternoon tea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.15pm</td>
<td>Homework time, drawing, board games, quiet time</td>
<td>Homework time, drawing, board games, quiet time</td>
<td>Indoor and outdoor time, free play, ball play, in-house movie……it’s kid’s choice Friday J</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 3.45pm | Active games outside or in hall. OSHC room open for ‘quiet-time’ for those who need it. | Active After School Care Sport
Yr. K & 1: Tues - eye/hand coordination ball games. Thu – yoga
Yr. 2-6: Tues - Circus skills/hoops with. Thu – basketball.
OSHC room will be open for ‘quiet-time’ for those who need it. | |
| 4.45pm | Indoor & outdoor free play (kid’s choice and weather permitting)               | Indoor & outdoor free play (kid’s choice and weather permitting)               |                                                                        |
| 5.20pm | Tidy/clean up                                                                   | Tidy/clean up                                                                   | Tidy/clean up                                                       |
| 5.30pm | Dancing, computer time, storytelling or reading                                 | Dancing, computer time, storytelling or reading                                 | Dancing, computer time, storytelling or reading                      |
| 6pm    | Closing                                                                         | Closing                                                                         | Closing                                                              |

This routine is subject to change if needed.
Please see the separate flyer attached to this Newsletter advising of a new fee structure for After School Care and Vacation Care.

We are in need of laptops/Ipads at OSHC in order for the children to do homework. If you are thinking of buying a new one, please keep OSHC in mind when discarding the old one…we would love to have it! Or if you want to donate a new one….we will be happy to let everyone know you did!

Please remember if you change your address, contact phone numbers or emergency contacts, please let OSHC know in writing (tlangler@lism.catholic.edu.au). Thank you.

PLAYGROUP
Playgroup at St. Augustine’s is very popular and a get together many parents look forward to each week. With the weather warming up we are looking forward to having more time outside with the children. St. Augustine’s Playgroup is not only for parents/carers and their children from the St. Augustine’s community, it is open to all parents/carers and their under school aged child(ren).
Cost is $3.00 per family and we ask you to bring a small plate to share (either fruit, home-baked goodies, etc) a booking isn’t needed, but please write down your contact details upon arrival and pay the fee. Playgroup is located in the OSHC room (Albany Street entrance) of the school.

Brigitte Klinkers—OSHC & Playgroup Coordinator
bklinkers@lism.catholic.edu.au 0417 666494
Dear Parents, Carers and Children

As mentioned in our school Newsletter, the Vacation Care period was a very busy one for both staff and children. An ongoing issue for Vacation Care and After School Care is the lack of bookings/cancellations received from families. Week One of the holidays saw 19 families and Week Two 13 families lodge late bookings or cancellations. In some instances staff needed to call families to confirm if children would be attending sessions.

From 1 December, 2012 a new procedure for bookings/cancellations will take effect due to staff increases as a result of the non receipt of prior bookings/cancellations. To make the Service cost effective the following charges will apply:

Fee Schedule

1. Permanent and Pre Casual Booking
(Before 6pm Friday the week prior to care needed):
   After School Care: $15.00
   Vacation Care: Half Session: $30.00
   Full Session: $45.00

2. Casual Booking
   After School Care: (After 2pm on day care needed):
   $25.00
   Vacation Care (Before 6pm of day prior to care needed): Half Session: $35.00
   Full Session: $55.00

3. Last Minute Bookings (from 7.30am on the day care is needed)
   Vacuum Care: (Half Session): $40.00
   (Full Session): $65.00

Late Collection Fee
(after 15min of session ending): $15.00

These fees allow us to have the appropriate staffing and resources to meet national standards. Thank you.

Jake Madden
Principal

Children’s Roll

We would like to stress the importance of signing your children IN and OUT of the Service each session. Many families are forgetting this task. As these records are a legal document and may be required at a later date it is essential that all the details are correct. Thank you.

Accreditation

Our Service Approval was granted on 6 September 2012. Staff are now preparing the Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) which must be lodged by 6 December 2012. The current framework requires service providers to develop a quality improvement plan for each approved service. The purpose of the plan is to help identify and prioritise what areas may need improvement. The plans will also inform the assessment and rating process.

The QIP is a continuous and on-going improvement plan. This ensures our OSHC service does not only look at our strengths and what we need to improve when accreditation and assessment is due, but always.

Therefore, it is imperative that we have the HELP of families who use our service to give us input into all areas. So please GET INVOLVED in St. Augustine’s OSHC, get onto our parent committee, decide together which changes are needed, what stays, what resources are needed and how can we generally improve our centre for your children.

My door is always open; you can find me in the OSHC room every Tue, Wed and Thur from 9am and Fri from 10am. Hope to see you soon!

Brigitte

REMINDER

Changes to bookings need to be in writing please, otherwise full fees will be charged for the session missed.
Dear Parents of Years 3-6 students

This year we hope to run a very successful sweets stall. We ask that you help out by making items that can be sold at this stall. Some ideas would be:

- Toffees (the good old-fashioned kind!)
- Chocolate Crackles
- Coconut Ice
- Rocky Road
- Fudge
- Chocolate Hedgehogs
- Meringues
- Marshmallows

Bags of lollies can also be sent in and we will make smaller bags to sell.
ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED AT MEETING

- Meeting Commences 7:00 pm
- Opening Prayer – led by Leanne
- Apologies to the Secretary
- Minutes of previous meeting circulated by the Secretary
- Business arising from Minutes
- Outward & inward correspondence (all copies on committee desk) any business relating to the correspondence and items to be discussed.
- Treasurer’s report and accounts for payment
- Principal’s report and questions
- Event Reports
- Centenary Update
- General Business
- Meeting to close at approximately 8:30 pm
- End of Year Awards