Dear Parents, Staff and Children

For some of you, by the time you read this, our school term will have closed and the spring school holidays will have already begun. Spending holidays with children gives parents a rare opportunity to interact with their children in an effective manner as they are far removed from the tensions and worries of everyday life. Holidays are considered ideal for relaxation and spending quality time with the children.

Holidays are meant for bringing families closer together and are regarded as a temporary exit from the day-to-day grind of life. Holidays provide parents with the perfect platform to concentrate on getting to know better all members of the family unit, especially the children.

Staff News
The spring holidays often bring about changes and these holidays are no different. After 22 years our school Canteen Manager, Mrs Wendy McLean has decided to retire at the end of this year. Congratulations Wendy!

We are happy to announce the appointment of Mrs Regan Kama to our school staff. Regan will support the sports program and be involved in supporting parent involvement in our school. Regan will commence her appointment next term.

School Musical
I am still overwhelmed by the number of emails and personal responses praising the efforts of our school community in performing this year’s musical, Nowhere Boy. The children were brilliant and are a reflection of the talented staff and parents who guided the students towards opening night. I know you will join with me in congratulating our creative arts department (music, drama and visual arts) for their contribution, particularly Wendy O’Sullivan for her vision and ability to oversee the entire operation. The countdown begins – three years until the next St Augustine’s musical!!!!

P&F Survey
Thanks to all parents for completing our online survey. The survey is one way to collect information, however, the best way to ‘get the facts’ about any issue is to talk to the person, rather than merely posting comments hoping readers have an understanding of context and relevant facts.

Good communication has much in common with our school motto of, ‘consideration and courtesy.’ Apart from face-to-face discussions, our school diaries are also effective means of home-school communication. Our school usually has staff at school by 7:00 am and rarely is it ‘lights out’ before 6:00 pm. I believe parents of St Augustine’s students are fortunate to have such immediacy with contacting staff at their child’s school and I encourage parents to make use of this openness and accessibility to staff in the school setting, to review our school website and regularly keep informed by reading the Newsletter.

Communication is at the heart of all relationships. My prayer for the forthcoming school holidays is that all families in our school community are able to put aside the time to have some memorable moments and invigorating conversations with each of their family members; building positive and enduring relationships based on the mutual respect that comes from such intimate relationships.

As parents, spend your time wisely with your children over the next two weeks. We look forward to the many exciting stories and adventures when they return on Tuesday 9 October.

Funding Cuts Announcement
I am very appreciative of the support from our school community in responding swiftly to the NSW Government’s attack on education.

Term Four is just around the corner, and…. before we know it Christmas be here (I note that the retail sector has already hinted the Christmas season is nearly here!!!). We look forward to your continued support.

Peace & Best Wishes
Jake
**RE AND MINISTRY NEWS**

**WEBSITE**

Parents may be interested in the worthwhile website listed below. It explains about coming to school, changing grades, and being open to change.


**GRADE PARENTS**

Special thanks to our Grade Parents for the many times they have helped our school community.

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

**P & F NEWS**

**BOWLS AFTERNOON**

Save the date - Sunday 4 November, 2012

The P & F Committee is delighted to announce we have added another new event to our 2012 calendar. We have teamed up with the Coffs CEx Club to host a social afternoon of lawn bowls for parents and carers. Never played lawn bowls before? You won't be alone, please come along and use this as an opportunity to give it a try for the first time. Expert guidance will be provided. Get a team of four together and come along for a fun, social afternoon. If you are an individual or a couple, that will be fine, you will be placed in a team.

Tickets are $10 per head with all proceeds going to the school. Numbers are limited to 60 so buy your tickets early to avoid disappointment. Tickets will be available from the school office from the start of Term 4. The event starts at 1pm and will finish at 4pm.

Please note, this is not an event for children.

**WATER SLIDE NIGHT - Friday 14 December**

The P & F Committee is thrilled to announce we are returning to the Big Banana Water Slide in December. Timetable, pricing and ticketing details will be provided in October. As usual there will be a P&F sausage sizzle ready to feed the hungry sliders (as well as parents).

Scott Bohringer—P & F Committee Secretary

**FETE—CRAFT STALL**

We are planning to have a ‘better than ever’ Craft Stall at this year’s St Augustine’s Fete and we need your help. We are looking for hand made goods to be sold at our Fete. This could include knitted scarves, beading, jewellery, key rings, crocheting, sewing, scrap booking, photo frames, cards/bookmarks, woodwork/leather work, banners, cushions, painting, flags, room signs, door hangers etc.

If you are able to help could you please contact either Carolyn Perkins at cperkins@lism.catholic.edu.au or Kyanne Kachel at kkachel@lism.catholic.edu.au

Carolyn Perkins/Kyanne Kachel  
Craft Stall Coordinators

**SUPPORT FOR ADULTS DEALING WITH GRIEF**

Are you, or do you know someone who is, suffering from loss through death, divorce unemployment, relationship breakdown, separation, illness or other significant life events? Adult Seasons of Growth Program focuses on understanding the effects of change, loss and grief. The program runs for 2 hours per week over 5 weeks. It is structured as follows:

♦ Information session Wednesday 10 October at 10:30 am and 6:30 pm at the Curran Centre, Coffs Harbour
♦ Followed by 4 x 2 hour sessions
♦ Cost is $25, to cover full cost of program material/manuals

To register or obtain more information please contact Jennifer Tuxford on 0421 177375.

**INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC TUITION**

All fees are now outstanding for the Instrumental Music Program. Please ensure these fees are paid during the holidays by Netbank (include your Account Number shown at the top right of your Invoice) to ensure lessons can continue in Term 4. It would help us greatly with administration if you could attend to this so we are not having to chase families for payments. Thank you.

**STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY**

There will be a Staff Development Day on Monday 8 October (Term Three). There will be no school for children. If you require care for your child/ren please contact OSHC on 0417 666494 as soon as possible.

Bookings are essential on this day as numbers are limited. YOUR CHILD MAY BE TURNED AWAY IF NUMBERS ARE HIGH AND NO BOOKING HAS BEEN MADE.

**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.
SPORT NEWS

YEARS K-2 SPORTS CARNIVAL
Congratulations to Gold House - the winning house on the day with 309 points! Second was Blue House, closely followed by Green House then Red House.

CHAMPIONS
5 Years Girls: Hannah Higgins
5 Years Boys: Malone Canning
6 Years Girls: Eve Guy
6 Years Boys: Mading Mou
7 Year Girls: Jayda Kachel
7 Years Boys: Cayden Close
8 Years Girls: Gabbi Kolic-Clarke
8 Years Boys: Bennet Reech

A big thank you to Stephen Appleton, Alan Bailey and their helpers for the barbecue and thank you to all the parents for their support for the children!

POLDING ATHLETICS TEAM
Congratulations to the following students who were successful in making the Polding Athletics Team; Joel Guy, Joshua Guy and Sophie Scott. Joel, Joshua and Sophie will travel to Sydney next Term to trial for the NSW State Team.

TONY POLACK TENNIS
Tony Polack will be commencing a quality Tennis Program using the facilities at St Augustine’s School in Term Four. The program will start off with small group lessons (numbers strictly limited to 6 per coach), so as children gain maximum benefit from lessons. Tony is coming to the school for TWO weeks FREE at lunch times in Term Four to carry out Talent Identification Days. If you would like your child to participate in the Talent Identification Days please collect a form from the office.

RUGBY UNIFORMS—Please return to office
Dan Hammond—Sports Coordinator

LARC MATTERS
On Thursday we had a visit from well-known author Deborah Abela. Deborah is an internationally acclaimed author whose own life adventures have contributed to the adventures of the characters in her books. She spoke to all grades from Year 3-6 and shared a writing workshop with some students from Year 5 and 6. Deborah was impressed with skills of our students and the enthusiasm for her books and stories. She shared the inspiration for her ideas and how she goes about creating her own story lines.
Her visit was made possible by Mr Madden for all students from Years 3-6 as a celebration of the National Year of Reading. To visit her website for more fascinating information and adventures, please go to www.deborahabela.com/

Curriculum Corner

PUBLISHING NEWS

YEARS 3
Her visit was made possible by Mr Madden for all students from Year 3 and Year 5. In short our results are above the national average year to year, it is suffice to say that our staff are extremely satisfied with the continued improvement in results for both Year 3 and Year 5. While caution should be exercised when comparing results from conducted in May and assesses aspects of literacy and numeracy.

2012 NAPLAN RESULTS
Parents of students in Year 3 and Year 5 received their child’s 2012 NAPLAN results this week. The NAPLAN tests were repeated at regular intervals for interested students. Certificates were presented at Friday Assembly, to all players who completed the playoff rounds this term as the culmination of Chess Week 2012. The winners and runners-up in each grade have been presented with trophies to commemorate their achievements.

Wednesday 5 September saw keen players engage in a team game of chess using the giant chess pieces and the Wet Weather Area chess board. This was an enjoyable activity that will be repeated at regular intervals for interested students.

Please let me know if you have any ideas for celebrating Chess Week 2013 during our Centenary Year.

Stephanie George—Chess Coordinator

2012 ICAS Competition Results

ENGLISH COMPETITION
This year, 47 students participated in the English Competition. Four Distinction, 17 Credit and 26 Participation Certificates were awarded. Congratulations and thank you to all the students who participated.

Distinction: Claudia Charles (Year 6); Brigitte Boyse (Year 5); Maeve Urquhart, Kyah Humphries, (Year 3).

Credit: Sienna O’Carroll, (Year 6); Ciara Barry, Grace Beech, Siena Bordignon, Darragh Duggan, Lily Mei Goodacre, Lauren Hutchinson, Benjamin Schultz (Year 5); Zachary Clarke, Jack McCormack (Year 4); Ailish Barry, Alyssa Golding, Alexandra Harrison, Grace Hartsuyker, Lachlan Lewis, Lena Lo Tam, Sefo Lo Tam (Year 3).

Congratulations to these students.

Stephanie George—Coordinator Pedagogy

CHESS WEEK NEWS

Congratulations to our champions and runners-up in the Chess Week finals, held on Tuesday 4 September. Thank you to the supportive group of friends who came along to watch and enjoy the great chess being played.

A Grade Champion: Lachlan Golding
A Grade Runner-up: Adam Bain
B Grade Champion: Zachary Clarke
B Grade Runner-up: Sefo Lo Tam
C Grade Champion: Charlie Catling
C Grade Runner-up: Kye Grant

Congratulations to Gold House - the winning house on the day with 309 points! Second was Blue House, closely followed by Green House then Red House.

A big thank you to Stephen Appleton, Alan Bailey and their helpers for the barbecue and thank you to all the parents for their support for the children!

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See you in the LARC—Mrs Madden—Teacher Librarian

Coffs Harbour Swim Club
Swim season Club nights start on
Friday 12 October at 5.45 pm at the
Coffs Olympic Pool
See our website for details: coffsharbourswimclub.com
Registration/grading info day - Saturday 6 October
**CANTEEN ROSTER**

**OCTOBER**

08.10.2012  
**Mon**  STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY  
**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

15.10.2012  
**Mon**  R Mott  
**Tues**  N Al-Athami, K Apps, R Kennedy  
**Wed**  K Close, S Hartsuyker  
**Thur**  M De Satge, N Ferrett, M Waugh  
**Fri**  J Arnold, 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_

**OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE**

**STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY**

Monday 8 October will be a Staff Development Day (school will be closed on this day). OSHC will be open from 8am-6pm and bookings are essential. YOUR CHILD MAY BE TURNED AWAY IF NUMBERS ARE HIGH AND NO BOOKING HAS BEEN MADE. Normal Monday OSHC bookings do NOT go automatically over to the SDD booking! Costs for this day are as per Vacation Care fees.

**WHAT ARE WE FAMOUS FOR?**

Sometimes it is so much easier to find things that are not working out or we don’t like and so much harder to find things we are happy with and grateful for. As we are getting closer to our assessment date and we are getting more anxious we welcome your answer to this question: WHAT IS ST AUGUSTINE’S OSHC FAMOUS FOR/ GOOD AT?

We will have a sheet on our sign-in desk for you to answer this question (anonymous if you want) or you can text us on 0417 666 494 or e-mail us on bklinkers@lism.catholic.edu.au

Please remember if you change your address, contact phone numbers or emergency contacts, please advise us at tlangler@lism.catholic.edu.au Thank you.

Bookings from Term 3 DO NOT automatically run on to Term 4 UNLESS CLEARLY MARKED on a previous booking sheet. If you are unsure of your booking, please contact Tess at tlangler@lism.catholic.edu.au

**VACATION CARE TERM 3 2012**

Please book your child in on time to ensure we have a spot available. There are many wonderful activities on; Kids Buskers Festival, Marine Science Centre, Hip Hop and Jazz dance lessons by a professional, a visit to and climbing of Muttonbird Island and much more. Take the hassle out of trying to organise a fun day for your child during the holidays and book your child in!! YOUR CHILD CANNOT ATTEND WITHOUT AN ENROLMENT FORM AND BOOKING SHEET PRIOR TO ATTENDING. Limited numbers are available.

You are required to bring your child in to the OSHC room to sign your child in yourself. IF YOUR CHILD’S NAME IS NOT ON THE ROLL PLEASE CONTACT A STAFF MEMBER. PLEASE DO NOT write your child’s name on the roll yourself, thank you.

**PLAYGROUP**

Playgroup will commence again on **Wednesday 10 October** from the OSHC room. We welcome all families with under school aged children. Bookings are not required, we just ask you to sign in on arrival, pay the fee and bring a contribution towards morning tea. It’s lots of fun for the children and parents. **Cost is $3.00 per family.** Playgroup is located in the OSHC room (Albany Street entrance) and if weather permits, the children play in the enclosed outdoor area surrounding the room.

_Brigitte Klinkers—OSHC & Playgroup Coordinator  
bklinkers@lism.catholic.edu.au  0417 666494_

**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, Cred and Spen  
- Dollarmites Drink Bottle  
- Book Light  
- Pen Pod  
- USB Drive

School Banking day is every Wednesday. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

Stone George—Banking Officer
KIDS DAY OUT
Wednesday 3rd October 2012
10.00am—1.00pm
Coffs Harbour Botanic Gardens (Pavilion Area)

FREE Family School Holiday Event for kids 0-12 yrs

At the stalls....
- Badge making
- Making stress balls & juggling
- Teddy bears picnic activity
- Face painting
- Decorating prints
- Storytelling
- Goori art & music
- Go4Fun activities & games
- Sock puppets
- Kite making
- Ball sports
- Beading and Rice Play
- Storybook characters
- Police & Fire Brigade

On the Stage....

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>Welcome</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.15</td>
<td>Circus Skills</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.40</td>
<td>Library story time</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.00</td>
<td>Zumba 4 kids</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.15</td>
<td>Music from the Conservatorium</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.45</td>
<td>Go4Fun</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.00</td>
<td>Yoga 4 Kids</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.15</td>
<td>AFL</td>
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Come along and join in the FUN!

Information for Parents:
* This is an outside event so unfortunately it will be cancelled if it's raining
* Food will be available for purchase on the day
* Please supervise children at all times
Men’s and Boys’ Camp
at Darlington Park
27 to 28 October 2012

***** Reminder*****

Men and boys interested in attending this year’s camp will need to book soon to reserve a site.

Please call Darlington Park direct on 66407444 and quote reservation number #122369 when booking.

The camp was great fun last year so don’t miss out!

Please call me on 0413 753255 if you have any questions
Jeremy Hill – Camp Coordinator

COMING EVENTS

OCTOBER
8  STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY—no children at school
9  FIRST DAY OF TERM FOUR
18  Year K Creation Liturgy in classrooms
20/21 Mothers’ and Daughters’ Weekend
23  Year 1 Breakfast 7:30—8:15 am
25  Year 1 Pet Liturgy at School 10:20 am
26  Book Fair
27/28  Men’s and Boys’ Camp

NOVEMBER
1  All Saints Day
2  All Souls Day
6  P & F Meeting 7:00 pm in the LARC
7  Year K 2013 Parents Wine & Cheese Night
13  Years 5/6 Chicken Burger Lunch
14  Year K 2013 Orientation morning
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 can always want 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.