Dear Parents & Carers,

So much has been happening of late it’s difficult to know where to start: new students, new playground equipment, chess coaching, Book Week visits and activities, the revamping of the school garden, cricket carnivals, gala days, public speaking, new netball and volleyball courts, school camps, Indonesian performances and assemblies. It’s not a school for sitting back and waiting for something to happen.

Thank you to the whole school community for your support with notifications, permission slips, payments and for your enthusiasm as we strive to provide a happy, safe, loving and dynamic learning environment for all children.

Clean fill
Available upon request. Please see Mr Bleakley

Indonesian Cultural performance
Friday 23rd August in the hall at 11.30-12.30. parents welcome

Crazy Camel Fundraiser
Your child has been invited to produce a piece of Art Work which can be turned into a card, calendar or diary cover. Blank pages have been sent home with the children and need to be returned by Monday 9th September. Information will then be sent home giving you the option of purchasing an item which could make a wonderful Christmas gift for a loved one.

ICAS Assessments
We have received the results for our first round of ICAS assessments. This week students will receive their certificates and a summary of their results for the ICAS Writing at Assembly. We had twelve participants in this assessment with seven of these students receiving Credits. This means that our students achieved scores in the 89 – 75% range. This is a fantastic effort for our small school.

Tim Bleakley
Principal

Premier’s Reading Challenge – FINAL DAY TOMORROW
The Premier’s Reading Challenge closes tomorrow. Please see Miss Crouch as soon as possible with written entries. All Reading logs need to be lodged online or be given to Miss Crouch by Friday August 23rd.

Important Dates

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<th>August</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 23</td>
<td>Indonesian Cultural Performance 11.30 Assembly hosted by 3/4C 2pm</td>
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<td>Sun 25</td>
<td>Children’s Liturgy and Morning Tea: Our Lady of Lourdes, Brunswick Heads 9:30am</td>
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<td>26-29</td>
<td>Yr 5/6 Camp</td>
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<td>Tues 27</td>
<td>Forum Meeting</td>
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<td>29-30</td>
<td>Yr 3/4 Camp</td>
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<th>Sept</th>
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<td>Sat 7th</td>
<td>Election Day Sausage Sizzle</td>
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<td>Wed 4</td>
<td>21st Century Learning Information Session 7pm in Kinder Room</td>
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<td>Wed 11</td>
<td>SCHOOL DISCO</td>
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<td>Sat 14</td>
<td>Hotshots Tennis Open day, Ocean Shores Tennis Club</td>
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<td>Sun 15</td>
<td>First Eucharist</td>
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<td>Wed 18</td>
<td>ST JOHN’S DAY MASS &amp; FUN ACTIVITIES</td>
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<td>Fri 20th</td>
<td>Last day of Term 3. School resumes TUES 8th October</td>
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Excitement as work commences on the new playground site.
Australian Curriculum Update
Our staff are deep into preparations for the implementation of Phase 1 of the Australian Curriculum in NSW, English and Science. Over the coming weeks, our teachers will be involved in several collaborative planning days with other smaller schools within our region. We are very excited to have this opportunity to share ideas with a bigger group of professionals and begin to plan some engaging units of learning for our St. John’s students in 2014.

Our Professional Development in preparation for the Australian Curriculum in ongoing. Currently, staff meet regularly in several different formats including Tuesday afternoon staff meetings, our Leadership meetings on Monday afternoons, Learning Team meetings before and after school on various days, and with colleagues outside of St. John’s at Professional Learning Days. These meetings will increase in number as we lead up to the roll out of our Science and English curriculums next year.

For more information about this exciting change in our learning, please come to our parent information session. See below for details.

Technology Talk
NASA Star Child
Many of our classes are looking at Space in science this term. It is a fantastic topic and gives students a lot of wonder at what is out in space. There are lots of fantastic websites available to support learning in this area of the curriculum, one in particular is http://starchild.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/StarChild/StarChild.html. This NASA site has fantastic information at two different reading levels. Also available are Apple and Android apps like NASA and APOD NASA (Astronomical Picture of the Day).

ABC Splash
This fantastic site was mentioned earlier this year. It is worth looking at again as since the beginning of the year a huge amount of content has been added. http://splash.abc.net.au/home

PRAYER SPONSORS FOR MT.ST.PATRICK HSC STUDENTS
Prayer Sponsors have been proposed for the Year 12 students of Mt St Patrick College during their HSC exams. A prayer sponsor is someone who prays for another person at specific times with a specific intention in mind. Knowing that someone is praying for you at a difficult time is a source of great strength and consolation. If you are interested in being a Prayer Sponsor for a Year 12 student from Mt St. Patrick College, please phone during office hours in the next few weeks (66722340), and leave your name and name of student (if specific student wanted) with Lisa or Jan at the office.

The following prayer may be of use.

Today I wish to remember ____________ from Mount St. Patrick College.

During her/his HSC Exams, give them the strength to complete the exams to the best of her/his ability. Help them to remain calm and to think and write clearly so that they remember the things which they have learned and studied.

Give them the opportunity to show what they know and to have acceptance of her/his efforts after the exam. Fire up in them the determination of St. Paul who ran the good race till the end and who proclaimed 'If God is for us who can be against?'

We pray this through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

What does the implementation of the new Australian Curriculum mean for learners at St. John’s?

Information Night 4th Sept
The implementation of the NSW version of the National Curriculum has huge implications for learning at our school. St. John’s is in the process of adjusting our pedagogy, our learning environments and developing learning communities which support a contemporary approach to learning in the 21st century. Our new curriculum is an exciting opportunity to prepare our students for the challenges that they will face in the later part of this century.

If you would like to know more about Catholic Schools’ Contemporary Learning Framework, or about the NSW version of the Australian Curriculum and how it will affect your child, please come to our information session.

Wednesday 4th September, 6.30pm
St. John’s School Hall
Followed by supper
All parents and friends welcome
Congratulations Charlie Burton for 2nd place at Tweed District public speaking.

Yr 1/2 and Kindy at the local library

The big chess challenge.

Abi and Quinn face off in Chess.
**DISCO TIME**

Our first School Disco for 2013 is happening soon

**When:** Wednesday 11th September @ 5.30pm

**Theme:** Rainbow Colours

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**Canteen News:**

Thanks to Suzie Reilly for donation of frozen raspberries. We sell them for 50c a bag and they are very popular.

At the moment we need volunteers for next week (26th and 30th August).

Please call Robyn on 0402 758 971 if you can help.

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**Kindergarten 2014 Information Evening**

Tuesday, 10th September at 7.00pm

In the Kindergarten classroom

Enrolling now

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**Orders due**

Wednesday 28th August

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This community postcard-sized art show is the seventh curated by C.A.S.E. Inc. It is an opportunity to express ideas about life in your neighbourhood as this year the theme is “Up and down around town.”

The exhibition is open to ALL inhabitants, lovers, and visitors of the Northern Rivers. Its aim is to foster and encourage creativity in all forms of art practice. Entries can be in any medium including: painting, drawing, printmaking, photography, digital, mixed media, textiles, sculpture and assemblage.

Maximum dimensions: 20 – 10cm x 15cm or 10 – 15cm x 10cm

Enquiries: ph: 0421 478 628 email: caseumullum@gmail.com