FROM THE PRINCIPAL

A FINE FINISH…..

This week we have finished the term with some very definite highlights, they need to be celebrated and recognised.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

We congratulate those students who celebrated their First Holy Communion last Saturday evening in what was a very prayerful and reverent ceremony. The evening was the culmination of many weeks of preparation and symbolised in so many ways God’s immense love for us. I thank Miss Marion Horton who prepared the children so beautifully and was supported by Mrs Jessica Pearman and Miss Kasey Miles. I thank Fr Dan who continues to provide such wonderful spiritual leadership for our students and families.

NAIDOC DAY

On Wednesday our whole school celebrated what it means to be immersed in the Koori culture and to view the world from a different perspective. The children enjoyed the science based program of Jolly Bops, delighted in the traditional dance from Steve Donovan and also sampled traditional bush tucker. We are pleased to know that Mr Seymour and Mrs Parsons are recovering well from their tackle with the croc on Tuesday evening! I thank Mrs Leanne Parsons who co-ordinated the day and for being such a positive presence within our school.

DANCE EISTEDDFOD

Last night Mr Toole and I, together with many parents, attended the Port Macquarie Dance Eisteddfod and watched our senior girls compete in the Primary School section. The girls danced with much energy and vigour, delighting the crowd. They were awarded a Highly Commended and were complimented on their use of the whole stage and transitions, as well as their ability to punctuate the music. I thank Miss Heidi who has worked with these girls for almost two terms.

STAFFING UPDATE

It is with much pleasure that I announce to the school community Mr Nigel Toole has been successful in replacing Mr Ken Ogilvie as our Assistant Principal. Up until this time Mr Tole’s appointment has been temporary, now he will join us as a permanent member of staff. I thank him for his contributions this term and compliment him on his smooth transition into our school community. I am sure you will all join with me in wishing Mr Toole heartfelt congratulations and welcome the opportunity to work with him more in the future.

Following a period of time of advertising and interviewing I am now in a position to announce the following appointments on staff. Mrs Petrina Lewis, Ms Sonia Solares and Miss Lauren Heginbotham have been successful in securing teaching positions into 2016. I welcome to our teaching staff for 2016, Miss Angela Sullivan and Miss Kate Agnew. Miss Sullivan has been a most valuable member of our casual staff this year, recently filling the role of Mrs Cleary whilst she was on Long Service Leave. Miss Agnew is currently
teaching in London, and comes with five years’ experience of teaching in Sydney at St Aloysius Milsons Point. Mr Owen Hamill will join us as our Gap Year Trainee for 2016. Mr Hamill is currently completing his HSC at MacKillop College. Mr Hamill will replace Mr Newell and Miss Johns as they head off to university at the end of this year.

I congratulate all and know our staffing team for 2016 will be strong and dynamic.

CHANGING FACE OF EDUCATION
Is your child working in our flexible and adaptive spaces???
Is your child in Year 3 or 4???
Want to know more about the future???

As we continue to proceed with our renovations and maintenance program here at St Joseph’s we are also very clear of the educational agenda for our children. In recent weeks we have had the opportunity to share with parents of children in Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 the routines, systems and behaviours in our flexible and adaptive environments. Having conducted these previous Learning Walks families were equipped with informed knowledge about what it is their child if doing and how they are learning. The success of these Learning Walks has led to a number of new enrolment enquiries.

On Monday 26 October 2015 we will be hosting another education evening around the Diocesan Contemporary Learning Framework and invite families to join us, particularly those families of Year 3 students who will move into our flexible and adaptive spaces next year. Further to this evening more Learning Walks will be conducted as an opportunity for families to see these spaces in action. Bookings for these will open early next term.

PRINCIPAL’S TOUR
As mentioned in last week’s newsletter I will be on leave for the first eleven days of Term 4 as I will be joining a number of other Principals travelling to California to visit high performing schools working in a collaborative manner. Mr Nigel Toole will deputise in my absence, all queries can be directed to him during this time.

PUPIL FREE DAY
As advertised in previous newsletters and our 2015 Parent Handbook, Tuesday 6 October 2015 has been set down as a scheduled Pupil Free Day. On this day all staff will be involved in professional learning in the new Australian Curriculum.

SCHOOL FEES
School fees payments (not on a Direct Debit or EFT payment plan) are now overdue for 2015. Please ensure all fees are attended to promptly. If you have any queries or concerns, do not hesitate to contact the Office or myself.

TRISH COELHO

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL REPORT

AMART SPORTS
Our school has joined the Amart Community Kickbacks Program. Under this program, the school can earn 5% of your purchases at any Amart Sports as in-store credit to spend on our school sports programs. All you need to do is join Team Amart, select our school from the list of participating groups and swipe your loyalty card every time you make a purchase at Amart Sports.

So how does it work?
Every time you shop and swipe your Team Amart card, they will capture your transaction and 5% of that sale will be credited back to the school. As long as you have selected our school as our nominated group on your loyalty account, you’ll be supporting us by earning credits.
CYBER SAFETY

Early next term students in Year 5, Year 6 and Kindergarten will be involved in a presentation from Constable Wendy Hudson about cyber safety. This will be an informative and eye opening experience for the children. As a school we encourage all parents take the time to outline home expectations regarding online activities and internet usage for your family and revisit safety discussions with them.

NIGEL TOOLE

P & F NEWS

CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISER

Thank you to families who have supported our P & F Fundraiser for the Chocolate Drive. The response has been overwhelming and will see us now support the school into the future with 21st Century learning.

TRIVIA NIGHT TABLES

Have you organised your table for our upcoming Trivia Night on Saturday 24 October 2015? Tickets will be $10 per head with tables of 10 available. Gather your family and friends together and book a table early by contacting Mrs Mackay at the office. This year the Trivia Night will not only support our school but local Op shops as well; our theme is “Op Shop Challenge”. Come dressed in your favourite purchase from an Op shop. A flyer is attached to this newsletter with greater details. Tables are being booked quickly; don’t leave it too late.

CHRISTIAN GIBBS (P & F PRESIDENT)

FROM THE SPORTING FIELD

SPORTS ELECTIVES

Our Sports Electives come to an end this week. The participation of our children has been wonderful. I would like to thank the children for their enthusiasm and participation in their sport electives. If children would like to further explore these sports, please follow the links below. Thank you to our wonderful instructors who have visited our school the past four weeks. Don't forget AFL will have a make-up session in Term 4, Week 1.

Martial Arts - http://kenseikankarate.com/
Skateboarding - www.stompskateboarding.com
Dance - http://www.laviveclassique.net/

SUMMER SPORTS TRIALS

Thank you to students from Years 4 & Year 5 who nominated for the Summer Sports Trials to be held on Monday 26 October 2015. These trials are for Year 4 & Year 5 students only in the sports of Softball, Cricket, Touch, Basketball and Tennis. There are limited places for students in these sports and representatives will be announced early next term.

DAVID POULTON
TERM 4 – WEEK 1 CALENDAR

Monday OCT 05 Public Holiday – Labour Day

Tuesday OCT 06 PUPIL FREE DAY
Mrs Coelho on leave

Wednesday OCT 07 First Day Term 4 for students – Summer Uniform
Leader of Pedagogy Meeting – Mrs Wilson attending
Police Liaison Talk to Kindergarten, Year 5 and Year 6 students

Thursday OCT 08 School Sport
Faith Leadership Seminar – Mrs Pearman and Miss Miles attending

Friday OCT 09 Staff Prayer 8.40 am - Office opens approximately 8.50 am
Uniform Shop Open – 8.30am – 9.30am
Joey's Juniors
Faith Leadership Seminar – Mrs Pearman and Miss Miles attending

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCT 12 Exuro Experience
OCT 16 Uniform Shop closed
OCT 21 Making Jesus Real Parent evening
OCT 24 P & F Trivia Night
OCT 26 Contemporary Learning Framework Education Evening

COMMUNITY NOTICES

2ND WAUCHOPE SCOUT GROUP
Come along for a 3 week free trial. Boys and girls from 6 to 11 years of age. Join the fun of being creative through games, stories and craft, bushwalking and camping. For further information contact Heather on 0429 861 378

WAUCHOPE LITTLE ATHLETICS
During the school holidays Wauchope Little A's is conducting a coaching clinic, open to all ages with limited places. Wednesday 23 September 2015, 9.00 am to 2.30 pm (sing on at 8.34 am). Blackbutt Park, Peppermint Crescent, Wauchope. Cost per athlete is $35.00. Events – sprints, long jump, high jump, hurdles and discus. Closing date 17 September 2015 at midnight. Contact Little Athletics Sydney 1800 451 295 or register online. J Oster 0410 005 789

PICNIC IN THE PARK
Wednesday 30 September at 10.00 am. Findlay Park, Findlay Avenue, Port Macquarie (Next to Westport High). Free Bus from Wauchope Neighbour Centre, Waugh Street. Departs at 9.30 am and returns at 1.30 pm. $1.00 entry fee per person. For further information contact 6583 8044

SUMMER FUTSAL
Invitation to all Junior Players – Registration $55 - played at St Columba and Westport Campus Halls. Season starts October 5 - Contact Alison on 0412 191 923.

HSC PRAYER SPONSORS
Prayer sponsors are needed for the Year 12 students of St Agnes Parish Secondary Schools during their HSC exams. A prayer sponsor is someone who prays for another person with a specific intention in mind and at specific times. If you are interested in being a Prayer sponsor for a Year 12 student, please contact the respective schools – MacKillop College 6583 2632, St Joseph’s Regional College 5525 4100, Newman Senior Technical College 6580 3800.

KIDS HOLIDAY ARTS CAMP
22 – 25 September from 8.45 am to 1.30 pm at the Scouts Hall, Port Macquarie. Open to students in year 2 – 7. Contact Aimee 0447 114 796

PORT MACQUARIE SURF SCHOOL
Tuesday 22 September, Tuesday 29 September and Tuesday 6 October (Pupil Free Day). 8.30 am to 3.30 pm Cost $55.00 includes two surf lessons, marine discovery program and full day’s supervision. Huddo on 6584 7733