



# St Philomena's School, Moree

Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2009 55 Boston Street, Moree NSW 2400

Term 1, Week 2

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## FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

As Australians, this week we are both touched by strong senses of both sadness and joyous celebration. The victims of the Victorian bushfires, their families and communities are firmly in our prayers and hearts. Without a doubt, it is incomprehensible for us to feel their loss. With a sense of incredible achievement, Dame Elisabeth Murdoch, a wise and generous matriarch, celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. Her son, Rupert Murdoch, in his toast to his mother said "For each of us you are symbol of what is good and beautiful and big hearted about our country." St Philomena's School, along with many Australian Schools, will be big hearted in our manner to assist to the **Victorian Bushfire Appeals**. Next Monday will hold an out of **out of uniform day with a gold coin donation**, as our first means to assist this appeal.

Please accept an invitation to our **Opening School Mass and Prefect Induction** on Friday. This will be celebrated at the Town Hall commencing at 9:30am with a morning tea to follow in the school hall.

Our **swimming carnivals** are scheduled for this week, again with an invitation to the parent community to attend for all or some of the day. These days cater for all swimmers and if the current weather conditions prevail, the water will be exceptionally enticing. As a school day, attendance is compulsory.

**Information Nights** will be held across the school next week. More detailed information will be found in the newsletter. *Please take particular note of the starting times, for very particular reasons grades differ.* As part of this evening I would highly recommend to you the opportunity to be part of the seminar by Ron Halliday on **Cyber Bullying**. Following information sessions, this seminar will feature in the hall at 7:00pm. Workshops for students from Years 5-10 will take place next week.

Despite the heat, our first week of school has been relatively smooth. Our grounds look great and are quenched by bore water. Seven more classrooms now have **Smartboards** installed, keeping well abreast of educational technology. The school now has a total of nine **Smartboards**. Effective school budgeting and an active P&F body have made this possible.

Lastly, we are now classified as **CAP** (Country Areas Program) school. Elaboration of this concept will be shared in coming weeks. For St. Philomena's School it will bring significant opportunities and benefits for students and staff.

**Karen Jagers, Acting Principal**

## **WEEKLY REFLECTION 5<sup>TH</sup> WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME GOSPEL: Mark1:29-39**

The ministry of healing continues to demonstrate the power of Jesus whilst he lives like us, among the needs of a suffering world. From the beginning and the end of the passage two compelling points can be highlighted. It is the urgency in Mark's gospel that is highlighted, especially through the words 'straightaway' and 'immediately'. In this gospel one of these words is used at least forty times.

Like ourselves, Jesus needed to replenish his own inner spiritual resources:

*"In the morning, long before dawn, He got up, left the house and went off to a lonely place to pray there."*

Like our children at Saint Philomena's School this year, Jesus went aside from the hustle and bustle to take some time-out to meditate, to pray and reflect on his life and goals. Your child will be given time in class to develop a spiritual side through prayer and meditation.

The power of prayer can be seen when Jesus took Simon's sick mother-in-law "by the hand and lifted her up", he helped her out of bed and then she began to wait on them. We will be raised both physically and spiritually when our time comes.

Jesus was called at the end of the day to heal those who were sick. The people and even the Apostles we see could never leave Jesus alone. At the end of the Gospel, Simon says, when he finds Jesus, "Everybody is looking for you," but Jesus realises His calling to the greater community and says to the Apostles that the reason he is here is to preach to the whole countryside, to us simple folk, the people who live beyond the great cities.

*Prayer: Lord, we leave in your care Those Australian who have lost their lives in the devastating bushfires in New South Wales and Victoria over the past few days. We pray also to those suffering in the deep north in flood ravaged societies. Comfort their family and friends as you comforted all who came to you in your earthly life. Give us rest and peace from our labours. Bless us in your love. Teach us, by your grace, to help and love all who call to us. Amen.*  
*Every good wish, Pat Clancy*

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## SECONDARY NEWS

### SECONDARY BOOK BAGS

#### **Coloured Key Tags**

As part of the secondary book bags all secondary students were allocated a coloured key tag. The key tag should be labelled with the student's name and pastoral group and is to be used for securing their locker keys to. The key tag and locker key are then to be stored in a pocket of the uniform.

It is not acceptable for any student to use the old method of storing their locker key – i.e. by wearing a fashion or fundraising rubber arm band.

#### **Year 7 – USB Drive and Calculator**

This week all Year 7 students will be given their USB drive and calculator. This equipment needs to be present for all lessons. The USB drive is for storing any school related computer based work that may be completed during school hours or at home for any assignment based work.

It is important for students to take care of this equipment as both the USB drive and calculator is to be used from Year 7 to Year 10. Students need to find a way to label this equipment so that it is easily identified as their own and able to be quickly returned to the owner when misplaced.

**Alana Goldman**

### Swimming Carnival

A reminder to students and parents that our secondary swimming carnival is on tomorrow commencing at 9.15am. Students are allowed to make their own way to the pool on Wednesday morning. Please do not arrive at the pool before 8.35am as staff will be busy setting up the pool grounds. All students who come to school in the morning will be transported to the pool by bus at 9.00am. Cost for the bus is \$2.50.

Students are required to pay a \$3.00 entry fee to the pool. Any parents who wish to attend are required to pay a \$2.00 entry fee. Students are expected to attend the carnival in their sports house colours or the school sports uniform. Events will continue throughout the day until approximately 2.45pm when the carnival will conclude. Parents in attendance at this time can leave the pool with their sons and daughters. **Students will not be given permission to leave the carnival before all events and the presentations have been completed.** All other students will be transported back to St Philomena's by bus.

Our swimming carnival is an enjoyable day for all students. Considering the recent hot weather, I am certainly looking forward to a day at the pool. With these thoughts in mind I would like to reiterate that student attendance at our swimming carnival is compulsory.

### Student Lockers

Lockers have been allocated to students over the last week. Students now have total responsibility over their text books and personal items. I would advise students to have a number of copies of their locker keys so as to avoid the big red bolt cutters throughout the year.

### Thursday Afternoon Maths Classes

A reminder to parents and Years 7 to 10 students that we conduct an after school maths class in the school library every Thursday, commencing at 3.40 pm and concluding at 4.20 pm. The class provides an excellent opportunity for students to revise the work they are currently covering in class or to undertake some accelerated learning. Students who attended regularly last year were rewarded with improved results in the yearly exams.

### St Philomena's Race Day

An informal gathering/meeting of interested racegoers will be conducted this Thursday, February 12, at the Moree Golf Club commencing at 4.30pm to discuss the organisation for this year's race day. We only have 8 weeks to go so all help will be greatly appreciated.

### Ron Halliday Visit/Secondary Information Night

Ron Halliday is the North West Regional Liaison Officer for NSW Police. He will be at St Philomena's next week to conduct workshops with our students from Years 5 to 10 covering the issues of cyber bullying, texting, mobile phone use. These issues are integral to today's society and students need to be well informed about these behaviours and the risks they undertake. Ron will hold a 90 minute presentation to students and only takes them in groups of approximately 20 so that all students hear and understand his message.

I am aware that parents also have particular interest in these areas and would like to extend their knowledge and understanding of the behaviours and issues. Thankfully, Ron will conduct a parent information session on Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup> commencing at 7.00pm in the school hall. From 6.30 – 7pm prior to the workshop, Secondary staff will be available in the hall to meet parents and provide curriculum information which is pertinent to individual parent needs. Please take advantage of this opportunity.

## Careers Information

The school has received information from Woolworths and TAFE regarding school-based traineeships in Certificate 2 (Retail). Students who are in Year 10 and intend to complete their HSC in Moree are eligible to apply for these traineeships. Students will be required to undertake the appropriate Vocational Education and Training course as part of their HSC studies. The traineeship will require students to complete an average of 10 hours paid work per week as well as half of all school holidays full-time. If you are interested please contact Mr May at school for further information. **Sean Baldwin**

## SPORTS UNIFORM - SECONDARY

Secondary PDHPE lessons involve students wearing their sports uniform for practical lessons. Below is a list of the days that students are required to wear their sports uniform.

Practical Lessons:

7R: Mondays	7B: Tuesdays
8M: Mondays	8H: Tuesdays
9C: Fridays	9B: Mondays
10W: Tuesdays	10M: Wednesdays

Please ensure all secondary students have a school bucket sports hat. It is required for all practical lessons. **Angela Wilde**

## **PRIMARY NEWS:**

### INFORMATION EVENINGS K-6

On Tuesday of next week, February 17<sup>th</sup>, the school will organise short evening Information Sessions for each grade. The purpose of the evening is to offer to the parent group information about curriculum, excursions, homework tasks or perhaps sacramental programs that will form your child's learning and development over the course of 2009. Parents who have more than one student in K-6 may choose to send both husband and wife. Alternately, parents should choose the grade for which they believe they are most in need of information. Parents who wish to meet more formally with their child's teacher will need an alternative appointment time to address this.

Times for this night are as follows, please note the different times for grades.

#### 6.00pm

Kindergarten (in the cluster)  
Year 1 (in 1R/2R)  
Year 5 (in 5MD)

#### 6.30pm

Year 2 (2SO)  
Year 3 (M10)  
Year 4 (4PV)  
Year 6 (5D/6D)

We look forward to seeing you next week.

**Amanda McLeod**

### St Philomena's Primary Swimming Carnival

The St Philomena's Years 3-6 Swimming Carnival is on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2009. I am sure everyone has been training very hard over the holidays. All students must be at the Moree Pool by 8:45am with the first race to begin at 9:00am sharp. All students are encouraged to wear house colours, bring sunscreen, extra water and lunch. The entry cost will be \$4.00 for students. This year we will trial a new carnival procedure - students will nominate for **50m or 25m** events on the day. We welcome as many parents as possible to come along, as it is a fantastic fun filled day of inspiring and courageous efforts by our students.

Following are the age categories for swimming events:

- \* **Freestyle 50m Boy/Girl- 8yrs/9yrs/10yrs/11yrs/12yrs/13yrs**
- \* **Form Strokes, IM and 100m Freestyle Junior Boy/Girl 8yrs - 10yrs**  
**11yrs Boy/Girl**  
**Open Boy/Girl 12yrs - 13yrs**

(These age categories are set down by NSW CPS Polding)

Thank you to all parents who have offered to help in some way on the day. Without your very generous support we would not be able to host carnivals of such high standards. Could all helpers please be at the pool by 8:40am.

If any parent requires their child / children to travel back to school at the end of the carnival could you please fill out the form below and return to school as soon as possible so we can organise a bus. The cost of the bus is \$2.50, payable to the driver.

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My child \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ (class) will require a lift back to school at the conclusion of the Primary Swimming carnival.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Toni Munro**

## HOUSE CAPTAINS

Last week each house voted for their house captains for 2009. These students will aid in running meetings for their houses and helping with swimming and athletics carnivals. Congratulations to the following students.

### MERCY

Sam McKnight  
Bonnie Morris

### McAULEY

Lachie Smith  
Netia Dillon

### GORETTI

Callum Bourke  
Heidi Jones

### SAVIO

Nic Gartshore  
Tileah McGrady

Amanda McLeod

## 1R/2R Days to Remember

This term, the children in 1R/2R will be required to wear their sports uniform on Wednesdays and Fridays. Their library day this term will also be Wednesday. Could you please ensure that your child brings their library bag in each Wednesday as regular borrowing from the library is a wonderful way to support literacy development. Some children have currently not brought in a paint shirt or chair bag. If these items could be sent in as soon as possible it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you Dayna Raulston

## Life Saving

From Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February, all students in Years 3 – 6 will be participating in a Life Saving Aquatics Program for Thursday sport. It is an expectation that every child shall participate in the program as aquatics is a compulsory unit of the PDHPE program. Students will travel by bus to the Moree Pool at the following times:

Years 5/6 9.00 - 10.30am

Year 4 10.30 – 12.00am

Year 3 12.00 – 1.30pm

Students will be required to wear full sports uniform on these days. Years 5 and 6 are expected to wear their swimmers to school with Years 3 and 4 getting changed into swimmers before travelling to the pool. **Students will need \$2.50 for pool entry and \$2.50 for the bus.** Students will need to bring sunscreen, towel and extra water on these days.

Any parents wishing to help please ring Toni Munro on 0428657036.

Toni Munro

## SCHOLASTIC BOOKCLUB

The school is looking for a new Scholastic Bookclub Co-ordinator. After several years Terry-Anne Sharples has decided to call it a day.

This is a volunteer position and perfect for someone wanting to help out in some way. There are about two issues per term to give out to classes, collect, collate and order. Anyone willing to take up the challenge, or wanting more information, please call Maree at the school office.

Many thanks to Terry-Anne for the wonderful job she has done.

Maree Lovett

## **P&F News**

The St Philomena's P&F are sure that at this time all our thoughts are with those affected by the bushfires and the floods. May God give those affected the strength to turn this tragedy around and rebuild their lives. Our prayers are with them.

The P&F committee would like to welcome back everyone and hope you all had a great Christmas break. Welcome to all the new families and staff. We hope this is the beginning of a long association with St Philomena's.

The P&F will be holding its Annual General Meeting on **Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> February 2009** in the staff room at 7.00 pm or in the Science room depending on attendance. After the AGM there will be a short general meeting.

At the AGM all positions are declared open and a committee is elected for 2009.

**Nominations for the following positions will be sought at the AGM.**

**President:** Chair of meetings and represents the school at official functions.

**Vice President:** Supports the President and committee and chairs meetings where necessary.

**Secretary:** Deals with all P&F correspondence and takes minutes at meetings.

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- Treasurer:** Deals with and handles all monies with regards to the P&F.
- Canteen/Catering Support:** Supports and assists Kristy Gray in her role as Canteen Supervisor.
- Fundraising/ Social Coordinator:** Coordinates P&F fundraising and social events at the school.
- Gardening/Maintenance Coordinator:** Assists and coordinates P&F working bees at the school.

The P&F is a fabulous way to get involved with the school, meet and make new friends and learn more about the school. It is a great way to support staff and the future of our children. Come along and join in the fun. All welcome.

The P&F is looking forward to a great participation and attendance of parents and friends of St Philomena's in 2009.

For more information please contact Andrew Pitman on 0427688377

**Lidia Mathews**

### Moree Junior Rugby

Moree Junior Rugby Club would like to advise all potential players that our sign up for the season will be at the Weebolla Rugby Grounds on **Thursday the 12th and 19th of March 2009**. However the Central North Zone Representative season will start on Sunday the 15th of February at the Barraba Rugby Union Grounds with a training session to begin at 9:30 for a 10:00am start. Training is for all players aged between 11 and 18.

If you are unable to attend on that day there will be further training days at Gunnedah on Sunday 1st of March 10am – 2pm and again at Barraba on Sunday the 15th of March 10am – 2pm. Please bring to training a water bottle, hat, training cloths and fruit. *Anyone interested in playing or requesting further information, please contact the club secretary Lisa Slack on 0428546525.*

### MOREE JUNIOR TENNIS Autumn 2009 Comp registrations

Registrations: Friday 13<sup>th</sup> Feb 09 at Clubhouse 3.30 – 5.30 pm OR register at Freeman's Jewellers (attaching fees).

Registrations close: 4.00 pm Monday 16<sup>th</sup> Feb 09 Grading: for new players from 5.15 pm Fri 13th Feb 09

Fees: \$55 per player (\$25 Comp Fee +\$30 M'ship) Comp starts: Friday 27 Feb 09 for 10 weeks

Comp format: will depend on numbers. Enquiries: Helen 67522827/Kerrie 0427511596

### CANTEEN ROSTER:

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> Feb: Jenny Bingham, Helen Spain, Kathryn Corderoy, Lou Grellman  
 Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> Feb: Mary Weal, Vanessa Parkes, Shaun Bussell, Toni Kirkman, Maree Smith, Margot Marshall  
 Friday 13<sup>th</sup> Feb: Michelle Tucker, Gillian Wallace, Susan Wells, HELPERS NEEDED  
 Monday 16<sup>th</sup> Feb: Rebecca Bailey, Susan Long, Margeurite Wyatt, May Winter  
 Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> Feb: Melissa Tzannes, Angela Walker, Sam Ledingham, Angela Wilde

### SCHOOL CALENDAR:

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> Feb: \*Secondary Swimming Carnival  
 Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> Feb: \*Primary Swimming Carnival  
 Friday 13<sup>th</sup> Feb: \*Opening School Mass & Prefect Induction-full school uniform- 9.30 Town Hall  
 Monday 16<sup>th</sup> Feb: \***Out of uniform day – donations to Victorian bushfire victims**  
 \*Ron Haliday Cyber Bullying Sec  
 Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> Feb: \*K-6 Parent Info night 6.30  
 \*Ron Haliday Parent Meeting 7.30  
 \*Ron Haliday Cyber Bullying  
 \*Primary information night

**OUT OF UNIFORM DAY**  
**DON'T FORGET!**  
**N e x t M o n d a y 16<sup>th</sup> February**  
 GOLD COIN DONATION TOWARDS  
**Victorian bushfire victims appeal**

## St Philomena's School 2009 Staff List

### Executive Staff

Karen Jagers Acting Principal  
Sean Baldwin Assistant Principal – Secondary  
Alana Goldman Coordinator – Secondary  
Andrew May Coordinator – Secondary  
Shelley Humphries Coordinator – Secondary  
Amanda McLeod Coordinator – Primary  
Dayna Raulston Coordinator – Primary  
Patrick Clancy Religious Education Coordinator  
Bev Northey Finance & Administration Officer (Term 1)  
Maree Lovett Finance & Administration Officer

### Secondary Staff

Shirley Reynolds 7R  
Kara Banson 7B  
Shelley Humphries 8H  
Casey McCowan 8F  
Sean Baldwin 9B  
John Conomos 9C

Andrew May 10M  
Angela Wilde 10W  
Fiona Harris  
Alana Goldman  
Douglas None  
Helen O'Neill

### Primary Staff

Amanda McLeod 6M  
Catherine Downes 6D  
Catherine Downes 5D  
Katrina McCumstie / Kellie Downes 5MD  
Kris Philp / Jody Van Velthuizen 4PV  
Samantha Clifton 4C  
Shannon Lea 3L  
Annie Forsythe 3F  
Tricia Siddins / Catrina O'Mullane 2SO

Dayna Raulston 2R  
Dayna Raulston 1R  
Belinda Bremner 1B  
Pamella O'Neill KO  
Catherine Moylan KM  
Toni Munro PDHPE / Primary  
Loyce Bruce Librarian K – 10  
Meg Bourke Additional Needs Teacher K-10

### Support Staff

Cathy Brown Teacher's Aide  
Vicki Haddad Teacher's Aide  
Rosemary McCormick Teacher's Aide  
Lucy Wareham Teacher's Aide  
Susan Wells Teacher's Aide  
Peta Ann Johnston Teacher's Aide

Gina Munro Aboriginal Education Worker  
Kiely Smith Aboriginal Education Worker  
Edward Saunders Aboriginal Education Worker  
Tammy Shearer School Assistant Science  
Fiona Chisholm School Ass't Numeracy / ICT

### Ancillary Staff

Bev Northey Finance & Administration Officer  
Maree Lovett Finance & Administration Officer  
Cate Bailey Clerical Assistant  
Tammy Shearer Clerical Assistant  
Simone Dahlstrom Clerical Assistant  
Kerrie Kitchen Clerical Assistant  
Terry Anne Sharples Canteen/ Uniform Shop Assistant

Kristy Gray Canteen Supervisor  
Wayne Tighe Groundsman  
Bill Bryans Cleaner  
Jackie Newick Cleaner  
Jessica Newick Cleaner  
Cheryl Guyer Cleaner