



# St Philomena's School, Moree

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2009

55 Boston Street, Moree NSW 2400

Term 1, Week 7

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

We again have access to a **counsellor** for the school, via Centacare. Barbara Briggs Levit has been appointed to St Philomena's School and will commence next week. This service incurs no expense to those who utilise it. Individual counselling is available for students, parents and staff. Referrals are made via the school. Please contact me should you require more information.

After a short time to resettle into the rhythms of school life, the **Primary Choir** will be back in action soon under the tuition of Marty Roberts and Michele Maurer. Through the course of the year, we will have opportunities to hear their sounds and watch their moves!

Reports from staff who participated in **professional development opportunities** via CAP and Jolly Phonics last week are very positive. This Friday, along with other diocesan teachers, our new teaching staff have the opportunity to engage in a one day retreat, in Armidale. I totally support this day. It has no link to curriculum and no preparation to participate. It will be deep and meaningful and all about *them*; reflecting on their important role as educators. They will leave feeling valued and inspired.

Last week we gathered as a school to celebrate Mass and **farewell Patrick Roohan**. We acknowledged Patrick's contribution to our school over the last 4 ½ years and importantly over 30 years to Catholic Education across many towns, several dioceses and states. In the evening the School Board, Parents & Friends representatives (on your behalf) and staff joined together to again acknowledge Patrick's great work and contributions to education.

Please keep the **Winter family**; Peter, May, Liam, Tom and Johnny in your prayers. A recent fall has resulted in spinal injuries for Liam. Pray for them as they anxiously pass through this critical waiting period of time.

The **Parents and Friends Association** will hold its first 2009 **Garden Working Bee** on Friday. See further into the newsletter for more information.

**Student late arrival** across K-10, in particular, by some of the secondary students, is a matter which requires addressing. When this becomes a common feature of a student profile, it requires investigating and rectifying. Your support with this will be appreciated.

Again, two important **date reminders** for your planning.

- March 27<sup>th</sup> is a Pupil Free Day. Staff will be updating their First Aid qualifications.
- April 28<sup>th</sup> is a *gazetted holiday* for schools.
- Term 2 first day is therefore April 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Karen Jagers – Acting Principal**

## WEEKLY REFLECTION 3<sup>RD</sup> WEEK OF LENT, 2009

Parents and Guardians of Year 2 students and members of St Francis Xavier's Parish are most welcome to attend the Parish celebration of **Reconciliation (the Sacrament of Penance)** next Monday evening 23<sup>rd</sup> March, beginning at 7:00pm in the church. For our younger members of the parish, it will be their First Reconciliation. Everyone is most welcome to receive this Sacrament.

**Jesus angry? Yes! Why not?** Most of us have the opportunity to let off a little steam in front of others; and sometimes that's not a bad thing!

Our friends give us the opportunity to do that in front of them, without judging us. In the end it is appreciated by us.....**we value friendship**. No matter the content of the message that Jesus gave, he made a very clear statement: he valued the place, the Court of the Gentiles (the outer court of the Temple precinct).....**we value the clarity of Jesus' message**. If we were to follow closely the zeal that Jesus portrayed.....**we value the fact that Jesus took a stand** on what he believed the infraction: My Father's House is a house of prayer.

I was in Inverell for the weekend and found that wherever I went, hundreds of others had been there before me. **Richard Torbay** and a fellow parliamentarian organised a cricket match under lights on Friday evening. **Opera in the Paddock** was in full swing on Saturday night – **Father Joe** attending after Mass. **The place was abuzz and awash with visitors**. I was impressed with the way the weekend was organised. There was a cuppa after Mass and most people were on the move! The place was deserted after the markets were held on the pavement outside of shops between 9:00am and 12 Noon. The afternoon was given-over to rest and possibly sleep in a "holy hour" atmosphere. I was back in Moree by 4 pm. In John's Gospel (2:13-25) for the Third Week in Lent, Year B, **we know of Jesus' three (at least) visits to Jerusalem**. Jesus put himself on the line. He stated His case. He told of His intentions. He backed Himself and His Father's power to "make all things new". The Temple would be destroyed, but Jesus faith would raise it – His own body – to new life! Jesus now knew what had to happen. **The Resurrection of the body and life everlasting were His**; He trusted in Himself, His Father and the Spirit to bring new life to the world which so desperately needed to believe. So I offer you this morsel of belief today; "**Trust in God and trust in Me**", says Jesus to our moments of weakness. This Lent I have vowed to myself to pray intensely for all those in this school community who cannot pray for themselves.

Do you, as Parent or Guardian, teach those in your care how to **pray the basic prayers** of our faith and the basic prayers of the Mass? Sending your child to a Catholic school means that you hold and believe that **your child's spiritual development** is the first priority for themselves. You are including them in the development of a prayer life for themselves, setting them up for the next sixty to seventy years, so that they are able to exercise independence in the spiritual life. Give them something that will last into eternity.

*Our Prayer Lord, we see your hope in us as we pray each day. Strengthen our words into prayers, our hopes into fulfilment of your will, and give us a perfect love of you in all we do. Amen.*

**Every Good Wish, Pat Clancy**

## WHOLE SCHOOL NEWS

### APPEAL FOR DONATIONS FROM GUNNEDAH PARISH

Donations are urgently needed to enable the Diocese to retain use of the former Mercy Convent/Emmanuel Centre at Gunnedah Please see and brochure on display at the School Office.

### Report on Family Mass on 15<sup>th</sup> March

Special thanks to those who took reading parts so well on Saturday/Sunday:

Saturday Evening: *Brittany Tucker, Ryan Humphries and Elliot Dean*

Sunday Morning: *Allison Quirk, Regan and Claire O'Connor and Brendan and Nicholas Murray.*

**Sunday Morning Singing:** Thanks also to the gifted students who led the **9.30am Singing** for the whole Mass in such an alive and inspiring way:

*Regan O'Connor, Allison Quirk, Meg Spain, Bonnie Morris, Claire O'Connor and Bernadette Morris*

A special word of thanks goes to *Meg Spain* for her inspiring singing from the ambo of the Responsorial Psalm: "Do Not be Afraid" (C. Willcock) Thanks also to those who helped take up the collection and the gifts. These students are among our many **Youth Leaders** in the Faith in this Parish, and deserve our special encouragement and praise. Well done! Congratulations!

*Mrs Nora Carrigan and Sr Margaret Therese Cusack rsj*

### **P & F GARDEN WORKING BEE**

FRIDAY 20<sup>th</sup> March commencing at 4:30 pm and continuing until dark to trim hedges and edges Please bring along wheelbarrows, chainsaws, hedge trimmers, shovels and gloves.

Refreshments to follow.

## SECONDARY NEWS

### Oxygen Factory

Notes have been given to all male students for the Oxygen Factory visit on Tuesday March 24<sup>th</sup>. The theme this year is 'Men of Honour.' The presentation will provide excellent direction and advice for our young men and our presenter Glen Gerryen is well respected by our students. Students will walk from the school at 9.10am to the MPC. The presentation will begin at approximately 10.00am and conclude at 12 noon. Students will then walk back to school for lunch and periods 5 and 6. The cost for the Oxygen Factory is \$7.00 per student.

Sean Baldwin

### School Performances this term:

March 30<sup>th</sup>: Arrive Alive NSW Wheelchair Sports Group: 9.00am to 10.40 in the hall

Motivational Media: 1.30 to 3.00pm in the hall.

Costs for both performances are covered in the performance section of school fees paid by parents. I am aware that both performances are on the same day but both provide powerful messages for students. The contents of the NSW Wheelchair Sports group presentation cover the road safety outcomes and respect for your body outcomes in both Stage 4 and Stage 5 PDHPE.

Sean Baldwin

### Youth Insearch Camp. Kurrajong Heights, Sydney

This Friday I will take three students from St. Philomena's School away on a Youth Insearch camp in Sydney for the weekend. This is the third year I have been offering the camps to students; with the aim to attend three camps each year. The camps are held at various locations throughout Australia and are run most weekends of the year.

The mission of Youth Insearch is to empower young people to take control of their lives, by giving them the opportunity and skills to develop their self esteem and play a positive role in society. The website [www.youthinsearch.org.au](http://www.youthinsearch.org.au) provides further detail about the role of Youth Insearch in helping teenagers and families manage difficult life situations.

Any parents of teenagers (13 to 18 years old) who would like further information regarding Youth Insearch can contact Meg Bourke at school.

Meg Bourke - Additional Needs Teacher

## PRIMARY NEWS

### Bang! Crash! Tap!

Due to the number of students who wanted to be involved in Bang! Crash! Tap! workshop we had to hold a ballot draw. Ten students from across Yrs 3-6 were chosen. This afternoon a note will go home with your child to inform them if they will attend the workshop. The workshop will be held on the 26<sup>th</sup> March at Moree Secondary College Multi-Purpose Centre.

Amanda McLeod

### Super Smiles

For those of you who received dental notes please return them to your class teacher by the end of this week (Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March).

Thank you.

Amanda McLeod

### National Assessment Program: Literacy & Numeracy Plan (NAPLAN) - Yrs 3 & 5

The National Assessment Program: Literacy and Numeracy for Year 3 and Year 5 students will be held in Term 2. The NAPLAN tests will be held on Tuesday 12th May, Wednesday 13th May and Thursday 14th May. It is crucial that all students in Years 3 and 5 are present at school on these days.

Amanda McLeod & Cathy Downes

### K-2 GAMES NIGHT-Crazy Hair/Crazy Wig

On Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March there will be a K-2 Games Night. This will be held in the School Hall from 5.30pm until 7.00pm. The cost for the evening will be \$4 per child or \$8 maximum per family. This cost covers entry, a cup drink and a packet of chips. The children are asked to come to the Games Night wearing a crazy wig or crazy hair.

*If your child is going home with another parent, a written note is essential. Both sets of parents need to be aware of this.*

**We will not allow children to leave with someone else unless notification has been received.**

Years K-2 Staff

### **3-6 Disco- Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March**

*A time for grooving and moving to the latest tunes with your mates!*

**THEME : 'P' Party.** Students are able to dress as something starting with P, for example a princess, pirate, policeman, pineapple etc

**Cost: \$5:00 per student (maximum \$ 10:00 per 3-6 family)**

This cost covers entry, drink and chips and is payable on the night.

**Time: 7:15 - 9:15pm** *Please do not arrive prior to 7:05pm.*

Bring your child to the back door of the hall where teachers will greet them at 7:15pm.

We ask all parents to return to the grassed area at the back of the hall at 9:10pm to be ready to collect your child.

*If your child is going home with another parent, a written note is essential. Both sets of parents need to be aware of this.*

**We will not allow children to leave with someone else unless notification has been received.**

Years 3-6 staff

### **Year 6 Assembly**

This Friday Year 6 will hold the first assembly for 2009. The children have been working hard on this assembly and are very excited! 6D & 6M along with their teachers would like to invite parents and friends to watch this assembly. It will take place in the school hall at 2.15pm on Friday afternoon. We look forward to seeing you there.

**Amanda McLeod & Cathy Downes**

### **SPORT NEWS**

#### **Secondary Diocesan Rugby League**

Congratulations to Matthew Jarratt and Daniel Ryan who were chosen in the 15 years Diocesan rugby league team to contest the CCC Championships, to be played in Tamworth on Friday May 22<sup>nd</sup>. The two boys were chosen from the trials held in Inverell on March 6<sup>th</sup>. Sean Baldwin

#### **Secondary Diocesan Swimming**

Last Friday I had the pleasure of taking our Secondary swimming team to the Diocesan Carnival held in Gunnedah. A total of 14 swimmers represented St Philomena's. Luke Stahlhut, Heidi Morris and Jayden Walker have been chosen to represent the Armidale Diocese in Sydney at the CCC Swimming Championships to be held on Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. Sean Baldwin

#### **Primary Swimming**

This Thursday Years 3 - 6 will be participating in Life Saving for sport. As well as swimmers, students will

need to remember to bring old clothes. Years 5 and 6 will need to have a long sleeved shirt and long pants. Years 3 and 4 will need a short sleeved top and shorts. These clothes need to be suitable to swim in. Any parents willing to help their child's class would be greatly appreciated.

Toni Munro

#### **Cross Country Training**

Primary Cross Country training will be held at Ron Harbourne Oval this afternoon at **5.00pm**. All students are welcome, but please bring extra water.

Toni Munro

#### **Football Development Day**

On Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March, the Australian Football Federation will be conducting a 'Skills' Development Day for all students, boys and girls, in Years 4 - 6. On this day students will be required to wear full sports uniform. Further information will be given to students later in the week.

Toni Munro

### **UNIFORM SHOP NEWS**

#### **OPENING HOURS**

**TUESDAY 2.00PM—4.00PM**

**THURSDAY 8.30AM—10.30AM**

### **CANTEEN NEWS**

Apples for sale at \$1 each

Slinkies - 10c extra (can bring your own apple)

**Wednesday :** Kate Ledingham, Bernadette Fernance, Lyn Hamilton, Louise Alchin

**Thursday:** Penny Jones, Helen Livingston, Felicity Manchee, Sara Greer, Karen Gall, Ruth Matthews

**Friday:** Joan Newnham, Christine McCumstie, Coral Spens-Black, Toni Haddad, Gabrielle Prices, Nicole Davidson, Jane Angus

**Monday:** Sandy Dillon, Nerida Finlayson, Zelj Cikota, Helen O'Neill

**Tuesday:** Katrina Squires, Colleen Knox, Sarah Sampson

### **WEEKLY CALENDAR**

Wed Mar 18: Yr 8 Nymboida Excursion  
P&F Meeting

Thu Mar 19: Yr 8 Nymboida Excursion  
Primary Swimming

Fri Mar 20: Yr 8 Nymboida Excursion  
Mon Mar 23: First Reconciliation 7pm  
Yr 10 Reconciliation

Tue Mar 24: Oxygen Factory - Sec boys: \$7  
Yr 3 excursion - Narrabri  
K-2 Games Night  
3 - 6 Disco - 'P' Party  
Yr 7/8 Mass

### Rising Sun Film Society

For over 25 years the Rising Sun Film Society has been bringing films from all over the world to Moree, and are now, providing that experience through the St. Philomena's School Hall. Last night was an easy-viewing, light start to the year's programming with the showing of 'Mama Mia!' The movies are shown in collaboration from the Rising Sun Film Society, Moree Apex Club (who provides the DVD projection equipment) and St. Philomena's School. Attending the monthly movies is an enjoyable evening's entertainment with a light supper included.

I have included the flyer of upcoming films for the interest of parents. Any contact to the Rising Sun Film Society can be made on the number on the attached flyer, or for a more detailed synopsis or review of any of the films - go to [www.abc.net.au/atthemovies](http://www.abc.net.au/atthemovies).

Meg Bourke.

### Moree Junior Cricket Saturday 21st March

Parents: Please note the different starting times for each division. Please have the children arrive 10 minutes prior to start time.

8.30am Division 1 & 2

9.00am Division 3

10.00am Division 4

There will be a free bbq and drink for all registered players at the end of their games. This will be followed by the presentation of trophies at 12 midday.

All Division 3 & 4 players will receive a trophy. Please read the Moree Champion for draw details. Any queries phone Anne Maree Cubis on 67521312 or 042731999

2009 S&T Haddad Mower Sales St Philomena's P&F

# RACE DAY

Easter Saturday, April 11, 2009 . . 25 more sleeps



# Game on!!



**Bennyblaise  
VS  
Noakes  
VS  
Ramsamy  
&  
Swan**



A MATCH-RACE between pedal-power, horsepower and running power showcases the Haddad Mower Sales St Philomena's P&F Family Race-Day on Easter Saturday.

Internationally-acclaimed duathlete Andrew Noakes takes on smart galloper Bennyblaise—the horse that licked Nathan Blacklock, Barry McGrady and

Liam Gander on St Phillies race-day two years ago—and is keen to notch a win for humankind against all things equine on April 11.

Add to the mix St Phillies 100m and 200m champion Ayrton "AJ" Ramsamy and Moree Boars' winger Ian Swan to the three-way mix and the Irritek Moree-sponsored event is destined to become

firmly embedded in bush-racing folklore.

Noakes will be sponsored by Bikes In Balo; Ramsamy and Swan will carry Pitman Deakin colours; and Bennyblaise, to be ridden by Jimmy Bryans, will be sponsored by Peter and Nathan Sinclair Racing Stables—the team that won a similar match-race in 2007.



## Count on it

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