



St Philomena's School, Moree

Tuesday, 28th April, 2009

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Term 2, Week1

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome back. There is always a sense of excitement on the first day of a new term! Everyone is renewed and keen to start again. Term 2 is an eleven week term. The extra week will be a test for all of us.

The recent St Philomena's Race Day was an outstanding success. Many people were part of this success and our thanks are extended to all involved. However, Sean Baldwin and Bill Poulous deserve huge recognition as the chief organisers and "go getters" of the day. Many weeks of planning were undertaken. Sean and Bill were well supported by the Parents and Friends Association, sponsors and the school parent community, along with the locals and Easter visitors.



Many of our students were able attend the town **ANZAC Day** March on Saturday, thank you. Today, as a united school community, we remember the soldiers of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps who landed on the Gallipoli Peninsula, Turkey, on the morning of April 25 1915. We remember those who have followed in their footsteps in the years since then. We remember the bravery and the sacrifice of all who have served Australia in war, overseas or on the home front. May their sacrifice never be forgotten and may we continue to cherish the freedom that they fought and died for. Our special guests were servicemen, Barry Brooks, Tony Bruce, John

Tramby and Darcy Hobday. John Tramby spoke to our school group inspiring us to follow the principles of the soldiers – work as a team and help make the weak strong. Karen Jagers

WEEKLY REFLECTION **THIRD WEEK OF EASTER**

Well, it is a funny welcome back but it is a mere fifty days until holidays again. **There is another fifty days celebrated in the liturgical calendar of the church: Pentecost. Pentecost occurs fifty days after Christ's Resurrection.** We, as a Christian community saw that in the ceremonies held at school on Holy Thursday, as well as in the ceremonies held in our local church at Easter-time. A big thank you goes to the staff and students who co-ordinated the ceremony, especially AJ Ramsamy. Well done! Pentecost is celebrated on the 31st of May this year.

This term we have our parish celebration of First Eucharist, celebrated in our local St Francis Xavier Church on June 14th (the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ). The school runs a unit of work for the students involved, but **at least one parent or guardian and the person wishing to receive Eucharist for the first time must attend a meeting, an hour a week for four weeks (11:00am-12Noon on Sundays), prior to receiving the Sacrament of Holy Communion.** This Parish Preparation Programme is designed to help parents in the duty as the "first and best teachers in the ways of faith." **(Registration and attendance is essential to understanding and receiving this Sacrament.)** *This is different from previous years.*

Parents, grand parents and friends are invited to each of the school masses held during the year and especially this term in the parish church. **The first Mass is next Tuesday, 5th May, 9:10am.** The group celebrating with the community is the K-6 Mass Group B; ask your child or your child's teacher and find out which group your child is in to join them on the day.

This week, the Gospel speaks about one of Jesus' Resurrection visitations to his disciples. We understand that some great change has occurred – Jesus' death and Resurrection – **but what we do not understand is how is it possible for Him to eat a piece of grilled fish!** He continues to hold the scars of His suffering and death, but He is Risen! Jesus expounds on what has been written of Him in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets, and in the Psalms. He opens their minds and our minds to help us understand the Scriptures. **Jesus suffered, died and rose from the dead!** Then Jesus reminds us that we are witnesses to this. How do you witness to your child at Easter-time?

*Our Easter Prayer Jesus, you have given us yourself this Easter, fully human, fully divine.
Give to us a faith that matches the action of your words and deeds. May you bless every family at St Philomena's School
and bring us into union with you in all things. We ask this in your name. Amen.*

Pat Clancy.

WHOLE SCHOOL NEWS

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS BLOOD DONATION

Would you consider being a donor?

Recently, we had Mark Coulton MP and a representative from the Australian Red Cross Blood Service speak to our Year 10 students about the opportunity they have to contribute to an important community service.

On the weekend of **May 30th and 31st**, the Australian Red Cross Blood Service will be in town. Intending donors need to complete paper work, prior to the event. These are available at the school office and are required to be returned to Mark Coulton's office well in advance of the weekend.

Additionally, the service is in need of people to assist providing refreshments to donors. If you can assist in this way, please contact Barbara Johnson (67523150) who will appreciate your generosity.

Karen Jagers

Centacare Counselling Services - Secondary Self Referral Process- Important Information.

Many students in the secondary, supported by their parents, now have the opportunity to access the counsellor via self referral. Self-referral enables a student to see the counsellor on the day they self-refer (if that is possible). As part of this process, and following the visit, The Principal is required to fax a *Request for Counselling Form* to Centacare Tamworth. The form needs to be completed as per usual, which means that parent(s) signatures are mandatory, as is the section outlining why the service has been requested. In accordance with the program, the reasons for referral are to outline how the student is impacted within the school environment. Confidentiality is of course part of this process.

Karen Jagers

YEARS 3, 5, 7 AND 9 - 2009 National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy

Just a reminder to parents and students that the 2009 National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) for Year 7 and Year 9 students will be conducted on the following dates during Week 3 of Term 2:

12th May Language Conventions and Writing Tests

13th May Reading Test

14th May Numeracy Tests

- one test where the calculator will be allowed; and one test where the calculator will NOT be allowed

It is extremely important that ALL Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students are at school on these days. The information gained from these exams is very informative and allows tracking of literacy and numeracy ability from Year 3 to Year 9 (if your child has been enrolled at St Philomena's during these school years). It is of significant use in directing further teaching and in providing the necessary additional teaching for children who may be struggling in a particular area.

Additionally, during Week 9 of Term 1 all Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 parents should have received a letter which provided further detail about the above testing. This letter is published by the Educational Measurement and School Accountability Directorate which is part of the NSW Department of Education and Training. If you did not receive a letter and you would like one could Years 7 and 9 students please see Miss Goldman and could Years 3 and 5 students please ask their classroom teachers or see Mrs Downes.

Alana Goldman

ANZAC DAY SCHOOLS' AWARDS 2009

The ANZAC Day Schools' Awards is an exciting competition that encourages students to learn about ANZAC Day and why veterans are commemorated on this special day. Submissions can include things like:

- researched history of names that appear on a school military roll of honour
- commemorative quilts
- photo essays
- musicals
- theatrical/dance performance
- research based essays
- historical movies starring students as main characters
- talking books
- comfort packs
- art activities
- murals
- scrap-books of students at work learning about ANZAC Day
- a movie about Simpson and his donkey, featuring clay models and props designed by students

Entries close on Friday 22nd May. If any students are interested in participating could they see Miss Goldman or Mrs Downes.

Alana Goldman/Cathy Downes

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

Opening hours

TUESDAY 2.00pm—4.00pm

THURSDAY 8.30am—10.30am

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Wednesday 29th April: Tamworth ADF Careers Expo
Friday 1st May: *Primary Polding Winter Trials
*Secondary Diocesan Soccer Gala Day - Tamworth
Monday 4th May: *Yr 6 Reconciliation
Tuesday 5th May: *K-6 Mass group B
*Mothers' Day Stall – wrapping

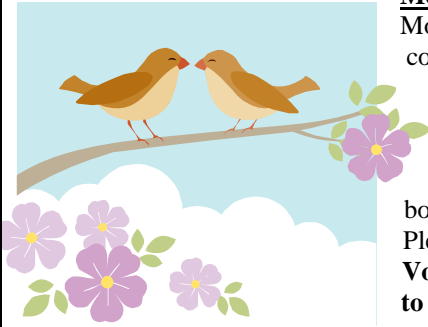
P&F NEWS

Mother's Day Stall

Mother's Day is fast approaching. The long tradition of the P&F Mother's Day Stall continues. This year's stall will be held next week, Thursday 7th May.

For all our Mums to be given a gift we need donations from all students. Donations can include wrapped gifts, unwrapped gifts, clear cellophane, sticky tape or gift ribbons. Every donation is greatly appreciated however big or small.

Gifts received in past years include magazines, mugs, frames, candles, garden items, books, cooking items & many more. Items will be sold for \$5 or less. Please hand all donations into the Front Office or to your class teacher by Monday 5th May. **Volunteers will also be needed to help wrap, display and sell the gifts. If you are able to help, please circle your preferred time & return to the front office.**



Wednesday 6th May

9.00am – 11.00am wrapping

11.00am- 1pm wrapping

Thursday 7th May

9.00am – 11.00am selling

11.00am – 1pm selling

1pm – 3pm selling

Name _____ Ph No _____

Jenny Carrigan – Mother's Day Stall Co-Ordinator

P&F News

Welcome back to a new term everyone.

The S&T Haddad Mower Sales St Philomena's Easter Race day was a great success and the turn out was wonderful. Thank you to every one that attended and supported the school and made the day great fun.

The P&F and the school community would like to give a special thank you to Bill Poulos and Sean Baldwin who organized the day for the third year. Without their invaluable knowledge of horse racing the event would have been very difficult to organize.

Thank you to all the other helpers and coordinators that made the day possible. Stay tuned for the finalised list of all sponsors and supporters next week.

St Philomena's have been asked to participate in Moree on a Plate again this year. The P&F are asking for helpers for the stall on Saturday, 9th May and Bernie Seery has kindly agreed to organize this stall.

Please support **Jenny Carrigan** with help and donations on the **Mother's Day stall on 6th and 7th May 2009**

The next P&F meeting will be on Wednesday 20th May at 7pm in the staff room.

Helpers for Moree on a Plate please send in form by Wednesday 6th May 2009

NAME : _____

CONTACT DETAILS : _____

I would be willing to help on the St Philomena's **Moree on a Plate** stall

Please circle time

10.00 am to 11.00 am

11.00 am to 12.00pm

12.00pm to 1.00pm

1.00pm to 2.00pm

2.00 pm to 3.00pm

3.00pm to 4.00pm

Coordinator **Bernadette Seery** 0427 228 803 or Lidia Mathews 0427 608 130

