



St Philomena's School, Moree

Tuesday, 30th June, 2009

55 Boston Street, Moree NSW 2400

Term 2, Week 10

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

2010 ENROLMENTS are invited from siblings of current students for Kindergarten and Year 7. Please obtain enrolment forms from the office and submit as soon as possible with original documents. Interviews for Year 7 and new families will take place at the commencement of Term 3.

Our **Parents' and Friends' Association (P&F)** works in many ways, financially and socially, for the benefit of our students and our parents. I would like to acknowledge and thank the achievements of our St. Philomena's Association, which is working very effectively for the school and its community. The association takes on all challenges as a way to build community and to generate income for the needs of the school. In particular, I would like to congratulate and thank the hosts; Jody and Andrew Pitman, organisers and helpers of our Saturday night **bonfire**, complete with pig on a spit and camp oven food! The rain held off to produce a fabulous night for the great Australian pastimes of bonfire. The canteen has taken advantage of opportunities to cater for various CSO and community occasions, receiving many compliments for its fine food and service. People have enthusiastically responded to Kristy's calls to cook, serve food and clean up. Thank you to all parents involved in this aspect of our P&F activities. If you find your time is restricted to assist in other active ways with the P&F, this is a method that parents could consider as a way of involvement. Kristy Gray (canteen manager) would welcome calls indicating a willingness to cook a slice or casserole for these occasions. Give her a ring (67511349) so she can compile a data base of cooks. Perhaps grandparents may like to contribute here. After all, it is well known nannies are the best cooks!

This Friday, July 3rd is our **St Philomena's School Promotional Day**, an opportunity for the community to come inside the gate and see us in operation. If you know people who have children who are commencing Kindergarten or Year 7 next year please be sure to tell them about us and our Promotional Day.

Existing families who are enrolling for Kindergarten and Year 7 2010 are asked to have their enrolment forms completed and returned, prior to the end of this term. I will be working on 2010 enrolments on return to Term 3.

The Health Department has a new response or phase to H1N1 Influenza **Human Swine Flu** This new response has come about as the disease has been mild in most cases and moderate overall. The new phase is called "Protect". The basic implications for schools are:

- Widespread school closures or school exclusions for students who have travelled to areas of high prevalence are **no longer** appropriate and **will not be continued** on a national basis. *However, the emphasis will remain on excluding school children with acute respiratory illness from school.*
- Measures that will **not be** used include the cancellation of mass gatherings and widespread school closures.
- Contacts of people with human swine influenza **will no longer** be required to go into quarantine.
- Those who are sick with influenza should not go to work or school. People who are sick should wash their hands regularly and practice good cough and sneeze etiquette.
- Advise that those with mild symptoms should stay at home until their symptoms resolve.

To assist us to minimise the spread of colds and flu, we ask you to keep your children at home, while they are unwell. We have no hesitation to call parents for collection of sick children, especially those who have cold and flu symptoms. Unwell students are more comfortable in their own home environment with their own personal nurse, addressing their needs! Thank you to the parents who have responded positively to SOS calls. While it is something all working parents are conscious of, it is necessary, on occasions, to be absent from the workplace to respond to the health needs of your child. This is one of those high need occasions and we ask you to be proactive, for the benefit of your child and the school community.

Associated with H1N1 Influenza **Human Swine Flu**, we have made some postponements to scheduled events. Over the next two weeks we were to have hosted staff and students from St Joseph's Sydney to undertake their Ministry Work, volunteer work. Confirmed cases of H1N1 Influenza Human Swine Flu have occurred at St Joseph's School and to assist minimise any further spread, the sensible option is to postpone their visits.

I remind all parents of the process for entry on to the school grounds; that is to sign in at the front office. Additionally, where disagreement arises we have resolution processes in place based on respect for all involved. Procedures have been put in place to respond to a playground incident at the school, last Friday.

Next week we celebrate **NAIDOC Week** and recognise the **centenary of the death of Blessed Mary McKillop**. Please see invitations to these celebrations elsewhere in this newsletter.

K-10 reports will be distributed on Thursday, 11th July.

~~~~~Blessed Mary MacKillop~~~~~

This year on August 8th, Australian Catholics will mark the centenary of the death of Mary MacKillop. It is firmly believed that this will be the year of her Canonisation; final processes for this cause are in progress. We anticipate her elevation to Saint, Australia's first.

Parish and school recognition of the centenary of her death will take on Sunday and Monday. On behalf of the school and parish, I warmly welcome you along to these events, to celebrate as a Catholic community and to recognising work undertaken by the Sisters of St Joseph, founded by Mary MacKillop.

PARISH CELEBRATIONS

5th July, Sunday 9:30am **Parish Mass**

- 9:30 Mass to celebrate the life and work of Blessed Mary
- School Choir to sing
- Presentation about Mary MacKillop
- Parish Morning Tea in hall
- St Philomena's student display of representations of Blessed Mary MacKillop



SCHOOL CELEBRATIONS

6th July 2:15 pm Whole **School Liturgy** in church inclusive of:

- Mary MacKillop creative representation
- Talk by Sr. Margaret Cusack RSJ (or delegate) re Mary MacKillop
- Afternoon Tea with the staff, sisters and other members of the school community, who wish to join us

Karen Jagers.

SECONDARY NEWS

Secondary Reports

The Secondary reports will be distributed to students next Thursday, Week 11. The envelope containing your son's / daughter's report will be addressed to the parent / caregiver and should not be opened by the student.

Within the envelope will also be an information and booking sheet for our Term 3 three-way interviews between Parent / Student / Teacher to be conducted during Week 2 (and possibly Week 3) of Term 3 on a Monday and Tuesday night (3rd and 4th August). Please familiarise yourself with this information. Teachers will be accepting interview times as of Week 1 Term 3. Interview times will be allocated on a 'first in first served' basis via a booking schedule between the teacher and the student.

Secondary Disco

All Year 7 to Year 10 students are invited to the Secondary Disco to be conducted on **Thursday night 2nd July (this week)**. Term 2 has been a long term, so why don't you come along and let your imagination run wild as you try to come up with a suitable costume to satisfy our 'Winter Wonderland' theme for this disco? Be prepared to be dazzled by the efforts of our Secondary Prefect body to decorate the hall for your enjoyment.

Theme: Winter Wonderland

Cost: \$5.00 per single and \$8.00 per family

Location: School Hall 7pm – 10pm

Food and drinks available throughout the night.

Alana Goldman

CRL Gala Day

Due to lack of response by the due date St Philomena's will not be sending teams to compete in the Country Rugby League Gala Day on Thursday 2nd July at Inverell. Refund cheques will be sent home this week.

CCC Cross Country

On Friday 19th Brendan Murray (Year 8) competed in the NSWCCC Cross Country Championships held at Eastern Creek Raceway. Competing in the 14 years boys' race, Brendan finished in a respectable 62nd position. The Eastern Creek track is quite vertical in parts and a real test of an athlete's strength and endurance. Also, recent wet weather made the course very difficult. Brendan's time for the 4 kilometre course was 1 minute faster than he ran at the Diocesan Championships held here in Moree.

Competing in the State Championships is a great honour as well as an excellent experience. Brendan will only get better. Well done.
Sean Baldwin

PRIMARY NEWS

Year 1B Guided Reading

This week will be the last week of Guided Reading for this term. Thank you to all our wonderful helpers for giving up your time each week. Guided Reading will commence again in Week 2 of Term 3.

Belinda Bremner

Junior Josephites

There is a Junior Josephite Associate Meeting this Tuesday, 30th June at 1.30pm. On Sunday, 5th July all Junior Josephite Associates, past and present, are invited to come to the 9.30am Mass and sit up the front with your family if you are not helping in the choir. Of course, anyone who would like to attend this special Mass for the 100 years anniversary of Mary MacKillop, is very welcome to attend.

Sr Margaret Cusack

K-6 Semester One Reports and Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews.

On Thursday 9th July, Semester One Reports will be sent home. The Report follows the Australian Government requirements for reporting. This is the first of two written reports you will receive this year. The Report indicates student achievement at this point in time using the **Common Grade Scale A-E**. The grades that have been allocated to a student have been determined using a **combination of data**, gathered by the teacher. To help each parent fully understand and appreciate their child's/children's Report, *it is essential that parents take the time to read and understand the grading scale*. To this end it has been provided for you to ponder over and become familiar with. There are key words which clearly differentiate achievement.

Supporting each other the Report, Portfolio and Parent/Teacher/Child Interviews have been designed:

- 1 To keep you informed about your child's progress throughout the year.
- 2 To make you aware of your child's level of skills.
- 3 To enable you to take the opportunity to share in your child's achievements and discuss them at home.
- 4 To give you an opportunity to communicate with teachers and comment on your child's progress.

Three way interview opportunities (**parents / teacher / child**) will be held on **Thursday 30th July. This is the first Thursday back at school for Term 3.** Each teacher will be available from 3:30 pm onwards into the evening. This interview occasion is

an opportunity to affirm student progress, however specific concerns should also be addressed on this occasion. An allocation of 10 minutes has been made for these interviews. **Where possible, please allow the interview time to be free of siblings with parent/ / teacher / child only.**

All students and parents are required to be part of the interview process. Please complete the slip below and return it to the school within the next few days to ensure your preferred time can be organised. It is important that comments made about your child's work are phrased in a positive and encouraging manner, during discussion at home and school.

In summary, our reporting process in the K-6 school will be:

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| Term 1 | Portfolio containing work samples/Term 1 Progress Report |
| Term 2 | Semester One written Report / highly recommended parent/teacher/students interviews |
| Term 3 | Portfolio containing work samples |
| Term 4 | Semester Two written Report / optional parent/teacher/student interviews |

Amanda McLeod

For an explanation about the Common Grade Scale (Reference: NSW Board of Studies) please access last week's newsletter on www.stphilomenasmoree.nsw.edu.au

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Please complete by listing all children's names and return to the school as soon as possible.

Return all requests to one child's class teacher to ensure the same time slot is allocated to your family. *Notes confirming interview time will go home with your child on Thursday July 9th.*

Preferred time: (Please circle).

Thursday July 30th
3.30 – 4.30pm 4.30 – 5.30pm 5.30 – 6.00pm 6.00 – until finish

Please list ALL the names of your children, so that we can place the times as close together as possible.

Child's Name _____ Class: _____

Child's Name _____ Class: _____

Child's Name _____ Class: _____

Child's Name _____ Class: _____

All responses are processed on the day they are returned. Earlier responses have the most potential to be slotted into the preferred times.

OUT OF REGULATION UNIFORM FOR K-6

On an occasion when full uniform cannot be worn we ask that parents validate this by a short note to the class teacher to sight and which then can be kept in their pocket for the remainder of the day. The following is a *summary* of what students are permitted to wear to school and how they should be worn in terms of jewellery and uniform. A more explicit statement can be found in the School Handbook.

- *Ear piercing -one set* with either *small* sleeper type rings or *plain* small studs. *Any additional piercing will require plastic keepers.*
- *No facial piercing.*
- Necklaces of **religious significance** only
- Ring – **simple** signet
- No nail polish
- Hair to be groomed neatly, not extreme in length or colour.
- Shirts (with the exception of sport shirt) tucked in

Jewellery other than this does not fit within the boundaries. Your continued support will be appreciated.

Amanda McLeod

St Philomena's K-6 Athletics Carnival

Last Thursday was a wonderful start to the athletic season with lots of outstanding performances at our Field Events Finals. Congratulations to Charlie Wells who broke two old school records in the long jump and shot put. Charlie jumped 3.95m breaking the record held by Jordan Hunt since 2002, and additionally threw a massive 10.92m in the shot put to clear Thomas Orchin's record of 9.25m, held since 2001. Well done Charlie. **The track events will be held this Thursday, 2nd July from 8.45am.**

Athletics Training

All primary students are welcome to attend athletics training this Tuesday afternoon from 3.30pm until 4.15pm. Please bring suitable clothing and extra water.

Rugby League Training

Training is on Wednesday afternoon from 3.30pm until 4.00pm. All boys in Years 5 and 6 are welcome to attend. Students must wear appropriate clothing and bring a mouthguard.

Toni Munro

CANTEEN NEWS AND ROSTER

HELPERS URGENTLY NEEDED! If anyone can help on Wednesday and/or Thursday for the Secondary and Primary Athletics Carnivals, please phone the canteen on 67511349. Even half an hour or an hour would be a big help. The more the merrier!!

Wednesday - Secondary Athletics Carnival

Student lunches will be by order only and will need to be at the Canteen by 9am. However, a variety of snacks, drinks and hot food will be available from the canteen for morning tea.

K-6 Athletics Carnival - Thursday

Canteen will be run from our BBQ area for Thursday's K-6 athletics carnival. There will be a limited menu of Chicken Burgers, Hot dogs, Pies, Sausage Rolls and Pizza Rounders available with a selection of lollies, snacks and drinks. Tea, coffee and cake will also be available for the parents and grandparents. Chicken Burgers - \$2.80 Hot Dogs - \$ 2.00 Pies - \$1.50 Sausage Rolls - \$2.00 Pizza Rounders - \$2.20 See you there!! Kristy Gray

No lunch orders for Secondary this Thursday, but they may purchase from the canteen.

Wednesday: Margaret Catterall, HELPERS NEEDED

Thursday: Angela Wilde, Stepjanie Burrow, HELPERS NEEDED

Friday: Sonia Rowe, Kyle Smith, Shayne Quirk, Brenda Rees-Smith, Jane Angus

Monday: Rebecca Haddad, Chrissy Adams, Lisa McDouall, Natalie Cook, Peta Carroll

Tuesday: Bernadette Seery, Lila Fisher, Terri-Anne Turner

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

TUESDAY 2.00pm—4.00pm

THURSDAY 8.30am—10.30am

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Wednesday: *Sec Athletics Carnival *Musica Viva K-6	Thursday: *Primary Athletics Track events *Yr 7 – 10 Disco No Secondary lunch orders !!	Friday: * Promotional Day 12 – 2pm *000 Day Sec - MSC	Sunday: Parish Celebrations for Mary McKillop	Monday: *Mary McKillop Celebrations *Aboriginal CareersDay UNE	Tuesday: *NAIDOC Week Flag - raising and liturgy
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Our Mission is to provide students with a Catholic Education in a caring, disciplined environment where striving for excellence and respect for others are promoted.

P&F News

- Appointment of new principal

The P&F would like to congratulate Karen Jagers for being appointed St Philomena's school Principal as from Term 3, 2009. The P&F have always had a strong working relationship with Karen and are looking forward to their continued association with her.

- Bonfire night

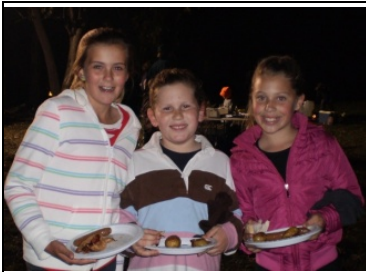
Last Saturday night a great time was had by all at the annual Bonfire night. Despite the shower of rain the night before, a happy crowd enjoyed a lovely night under the stars with delicious pig-on-a-spit and curries cooked on the campfire. The kids had a fantastic time exploring the bush by torchlight. There was a great turn out and the P&F would like to thank all those that helped and those that brought along nibbles and dessert. A very special thank you to Eric Scott and Lila Fisher for looking after the children and Chris Corderoy for being assistant chef



- P&F Quiz Night There will be Quiz night early next term. Stay tuned for further details.

- P&F Meeting The next meeting will be held on August 19th - after the school holidays.

P&F Committee





*The Principal and staff of
St Philomena's School*

cordially invites

*all parents and members of
our wider school community*

to

*St Philomena's School
NAIDOC Week
Liturgy and Flag Raising Ceremony*

on

Tuesday 7th July, 2009

at

9.30am - 11.20am

*to be held on the
bitumen area at the front of the school.*

*Morning tea will be provided
in the School Hall after
ceremony.*