



# St Philomena's School, Moree

Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2009

55 Boston Street, Moree NSW 2400

Term 2, Week 3

Phone: 6752 1577 Fax: 6752 4250 Canteen: 67511349

Website: [www.stphilomenasmoree.nsw.edu.au](http://www.stphilomenasmoree.nsw.edu.au)

Email: [stph\\_mor@arm.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stph_mor@arm.catholic.edu.au)

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

In schools across the nation, this week is an important one as the NAPLAN (National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy) external assessments for Years 3, 5, 7 & 9 take place.

In early September, we can look forward to “**The Phillies’ Factor**”, a **concert of music and dance** presented by the K-6 students! More information will be forthcoming in the future weeks. Ideally, block your calendars out for the evenings of September 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> as these are performance nights.

Technology has so much potential for good; however used unwisely it leads to all manner of problems referred to as **cyber crime**. This year in the news, there have been several profiled cases where mobile phones have been misused by students *on the school grounds* and breached school rules. These have been mainly for storing and passing on digital images of a sexual nature (referred to as sexting) or bullying/ harassment to other students. Having received specific information from the Catholic Education Commission about such misuse we are in the process of ensuring this information is acutely shared with our students. In an undiluted delivery, the Secondary students will receive information to clarify what constitutes indecent filming and the Crimes Act in relation to dissemination of inappropriate material. The Yr 3 -6 students will access this information in a modified manner, according to the age. At all ages, the message however will be clear; in the real world cyber crime has consequences. This latest information sharing is a reinforcement of Ron Halliday’s “Cybersmart” presentation to students and parents in Term One. We are actively educating and attempting to protect our students from the pitfalls of cyber misuse. With this newsletter is an information sheet for parents containing important information. The school is happy to provide the supplementary sheets; *Crimes Act* and *Indecent Filming by Students* on request to any parent, please phone the office. It is eye opening information. It is clearly obvious why we have restriction on phone access at St Philomena’s School.

Karen Jagers

## WEEKLY REFLECTION

### FAMILY MASS – 31<sup>st</sup> May

The date set for the Family Mass is Sunday 31st May. Volunteers are needed for the Readings, Singing, Welcomers, Collection, Procession of Gifts, and Morning Tea organisers. If you think you can help, Please contact the Presbytery on 67522886, Sr Margaret 67527945, or Nora Carrigan on 67542247. Thank you, **Sr Margaret T. Cusack rsj**

### 5<sup>TH</sup> WEEK OF EASTER

As we enter into **the time of Pentecost** toward the end of this **Month of Mary**, we pray fervently for our students, our children who this term will receive their **First Holy Communion on the 14<sup>th</sup> of June**. That day is also set aside in our Diocese as a remembrance day of the **Episcopal ordination of our Bishop, the Most Rev. Luc Matthys (1999)**.

**Later this term we will engage in the celebrations of both the centenary of Mary MacKillop and during that last week of term we will celebrate NAIDOC Week**. These are very special times for all Australians. We hope and pray especially for the possibility of Mother Mary MacKillop entering into a state of universally recognised sainthood. Maybe this year!

**Dennis Kurtz** writes of this week’s Gospel when he states that Jesus as the vine and his followers as the branches is a great and powerful simile. Life is given and received. Do we take this simple understanding for granted. **Cut off from Jesus we are nothing, we cannot grow; we cannot bear fruit.**

**God cares for us as the vinedresser, guides and prunes** so that we do bear a fruit that will last. This is a life-long image of our God, at our every turn, God is there, shaping our lives continuously.

“We are members of (Christ’s) Body, which is the Church, branches grafted onto the vine which is Jesus(**Catechism of the Catholic Church, # 1988**). In this way we are connected. Saint Augustine said that we become what we eat; **if we receive Communion, we become the body of Christ (CCC #2837)**. As the Body of Christ we act as Jesus would act, we love as Jesus loves. **We are called to share a life of grace with others**, called to nurture others as Parent, Partner, Priest, Brother, Sister, all in Christ. If we enter into the Divine Mystery, we are belonging to Christ, belonging to God, called by the Holy Spirit to exercise our will in harmony with our God.

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.

*Let Us Pray  
Living Christ, You have travelled through the deepest depths,  
You have Risen to the highest heights;  
Keep us in Your love, Your grace, so that in time  
We may return to You as the wonder-filled creation we are meant to be.  
Amen.*

Every good wish, Pat Clancy

## WHOLE SCHOOL NEWS

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

The NAPLAN testing is this week. **It is extremely important that ALL Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students are at school this Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.**

Tue 12<sup>th</sup> May Language Conventions and Writing Tests

13<sup>th</sup> May Reading Test

14<sup>th</sup> May Numeracy Tests

- Primary Numeracy Test – ONLY one test
- Secondary Numeracy Tests - one test where the calculator will be allowed; and one test where the calculator will NOT be allowed

Alana Goldman & Cathy Downes

### 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 22<sup>nd</sup> May. If any students are interested in participating could they see Miss Goldman or Mrs Downes.

Alana Goldman/Cathy Downes

### **UNIVERSITY COMPETITION DATES:**

Computer Skills	Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> May
Science	Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> June
Spelling	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June
Writing	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June
English	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> August
Maths	Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> August

Cathy Downes

## SECONDARY NEWS

### **Year 7 – 10 Assessment Calendars**

Term 2 Assessment Calendars will be distributed to all secondary students today. Please look out for this document which outlines all the assessment tasks to be completed within all Key Learning Areas during Term 2. It should be kept in a prominent area (e.g. the fridge at home or your son's / daughter's study desk) to allow for time management to meet assessment deadlines.

Alana Goldman

### **Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA)**

This weekend four year 10 students will represent St Philomena's and the Moree On Gwydir Rotary Club at MUNA in Narrabri. The Model United Nations Assembly is a gathering of Years 10, 11 and 12 students from throughout NSW. Students attend the assembly in groups of two and represent a country from around the world. From St Philomena's we have Keiren Lincoln and Tom Sharples representing the United Arab Emirates and Maddy Herbert and Alice Heffernan representing Zambia. Throughout Saturday and Sunday morning, students will be debating numerous topics affecting the world at present. Each student country has

to argue the point from their countries perspective so plenty of research has taken place to prepare our students. We hope they enjoy their experience at MUNA.

**Sean Baldwin**

### **NSWCCC Swimming**

Congratulations to Heidi Morris who travelled to Sydney to represent the Armidale Diocese in the CCC Swimming Championships. Heidi competed in the 50m and 100m breaststroke events, finishing 4<sup>th</sup> in her 50m heat and 7<sup>th</sup> in her 100m event. Heidi deserves congratulations for continuing to train over the holidays and into term 2 whilst many swimmers have finished their season. Also a big thankyou to Angela Walker who has trained Heidi throughout the season.

### **Rugby League**

Year 9 students from 2008, Kurtis McDonald and Jai Knox played in the curtain raiser before the Australia vs New Zealand Test Match last Friday night. Both boys wore the sky blue of NSW against Queensland in an under 16 years match. This would have been a fantastic experience for both boys. Kurtis and Jai attend Palm Beach Currumbin High School on the Gold Coast and have been signed by the North Queensland Cowboys for the next 4 years. It just shows us all that dreams can become reality if you work hard enough.

**Sean Baldwin**

### **Some Sports Dates for May:**

**May 29<sup>th</sup> Diocesan Cross Country, Tennis, Golf and Debating: Moree**

**May 30<sup>th</sup> Bingara All Schools Carnival: Rugby League, Netball**

## **PRIMARY NEWS**

### **PRIMARY PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION**

The Primary Public Speaking Competition will take place again this term. This program, introduced to the Primary School in 2005, is very worthwhile and rewarding for every student. Students will present a speech to their class/grade on their own chosen topic. I would like to encourage all students to begin thinking about a topic and preparing their presentation. Students in Yrs 3 and 4 are required to prepare a 3-4 minute speech and students in Yrs 5 and 6 a 4-5 minute speech. The Primary Public Speaking Competition will commence in Week 5 (25<sup>th</sup> May - 29<sup>th</sup> May) and the finals will take place on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June in the school hall.

**Cathy Downes**

### **AEDI - Kindergarten**

The Australian Early Development Index (AEDI) is a new initiative being implemented by the Rudd Government. The program will enable the Government to provide better targeted services and support for all children in their early years. The AEDI information will be collected through a questionnaire, completed Kindergarten teachers. The questionnaire will cover physical health and wellbeing, social competency, emotional maturity, language and cognitive skills, communication skills and general knowledge. The data collected through the AEDI can be used to inform communities about the health and development of children in their area and can be used to better target and develop support and services that can help children in their first five years of life.

Parents with children in Kindergarten should have received a letter last week with further information regarding this program. If you did not receive a letter please contact your child's teacher.

**Amanda McLeod**

### **Year 4 Excursion**

This term, students in Year 4 are studying a unit in Human Society and Its Environment called "People and their Beliefs". To assist the achievement of outcomes in this unit, an excursion to the Moree Regional Library has been organised for Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> May. Mrs Briggs-Smith will talk to the students and answer any questions about the Dreamtime and what this means for the Aboriginal people, particularly in this area. Students will have an early lunch and walk to the Library at 1pm and return at approximately 2.30pm. They will be required to wear full school uniform.

Your child has received a note regarding this excursion. Please ensure that the permission slip is returned to the class teacher by tomorrow.

**Miss Clifton, Mrs van Velthuisen & Mrs Philp**

### **IB Guided Reading**

IB will begin their Guided Reading again this week. It will be held on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 10.30 – 11am. We look forward to seeing all our wonderful helpers back again.

**Belinda Bremner**

### **Cross Country/Athletic Training**

Cross Country / Athletics training for students in Years 3 – 6 will be held on Tuesday afternoon on Ron Harbourne Oval at 3.30pm. All students are welcome.

### **Years 5 -6 Rugby League Training**

Rugby League training begins this Wednesday afternoon at 3.30pm on the school oval for all boys interested in playing in the Legends of League Carnivals. All boys must wear appropriate clothing and a mouth guard is essential.

### **K – 2 Rugby League**

Last Wednesday students from Years K -2 participated in a Rugby League Development Day. The students were exposed to the finer skills and drills associated with Rugby League. It was extremely positive and fun for our boys and girls to learn about this sport from the knowledgeable Development Officers of this region. The posters handed out to the students were a huge success.

**Toni Munro**

### **CANTEEN ROSTER**

Wednesday: Jenny Bingham, Helen Spain, Kathryn Corderoy, Lou Grellman  
Thursday: May Weal, Shaun Bussell, Margot Marshall, Toni Kirkman, Maree Smith  
Friday: Joan Newnham, Kelly Rae, Coral Spens-Black, Toni Haddad, Nicole Davidson, Jane Angus, Gabrielle Price  
Monday: Rebecca Bailey, Susan Long, May Winter, Melissa Pollard  
Tuesday: Melissa Tzannes, Angela Walker, Sam Ledingham, Jenny Durack

### **UNIFORM SHOP NEWS**

#### **Opening hours**

**TUESDAY 2.00pm—4.00pm**

**THURSDAY 8.30am—10.30am**

### **WEEKLY CALENDAR**

<b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May</b>
* 3 5 7 9 NAPLAN test	*Yr 3, 5, 7, 9 NAPLAN testing	*Walk Safely to School Day (TBC)	*Primary Diocesan Cross Country - Gunnedah	*Yrs 5 & 1 Mass *NSWCCC Soccer-Glenwood *Zone PSSSA Cross Country - North Star

# Mother's Day Stall 2009



Happy Mother's Day to all our mums last Sunday! I do hope that the gift you received from your child was received with much enthusiasm and love. The care and thought that went into their purchase from the stall was touching, each child wanted to purchase something that was pretty, sweet smelling or delicious to eat; not to mention something that mum needed or would like!

The stall was again a wonderful success on so many levels. We raised approximately \$1500 which will go towards the P&F fundraising account.

Each year I am overwhelmed with the generosity of so many people.

- ♥ Thank you to all the families who donated gifts, without your donations my co-ordinating the stall would be hard work.
- ♥ Again the ladies at the front office are always willing to solve my problems, collect and store the gifts, sell the remaining gifts, all with a smile. Thank you.
- ♥ To the many volunteers who helped wrap, set-up and sell the gifts, thank you for your time and effort.
- ♥ Thank you to the teaching staff who had the classes move quickly through, allowing the stall to run smoothly.
- ♥ Finally to the children, thank you for being courteous and thoughtful.

**Jenny Carrigan**  
*2009 Mother's Day Stall Co-ordinator*

## **P&F News**

The P&F would like to thank everyone who helped and supported the Mother's Day Stall. A special thanks to Jenny Carrigan who co-ordinated the stall again this year.

The P&F would also like to thank all those who helped out with the 'Moree on a Plate' stall. It was a great day. Thank you to Bernie Seery for co-ordinating this stall.

The next P&F meeting will be held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00 pm all welcome.

The St Philomena's P&F Association would like to thank all the school community for all their help and the following for their sponsorship and support at:

### **The S&T Haddad Mower Sales St Philomena's P&F Easter Race Day on Easter Saturday April 11 2009.**

Assefs Moree  
Balo Square Newsagency  
Beauty Matters  
Bikes in Balo  
Boomi Party Hire  
Brighann Ginning  
Brittane Nash and Family  
B&W Rural  
DSM Haulage  
Freemans Jewellers  
GM & KM Squires Building  
Contractors  
Gwydir Valley Irrigators Association

Haddad Bulk Services  
Irritek  
Jock's Hire  
Keith Haddad and Sons  
Kenway and Clark  
Landmark Moree  
McGregor Gourlay  
Mitre 10  
Moree Golf Club  
Moree Real Estate  
Moree Veterinary Hospital  
New Bo Wa Restaurant

Peter & Nathan Sinclair Racing  
Stables  
Picone Brother's Bookmaking  
Pitman Deakin  
SG & KJ Smith  
Simply Stuck  
Steve O'Hara Retravision  
S&T Haddad Mower Sales  
The Shoe Box  
Webb & Boland  
Video Ezy/Shoe Elegance  
Yara Nipro