

# ST PHILOMENA'S SCHOOL, MOREE

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2009

55 Boston Street, Moree NSW 2400  
Phone: 6752 1577 Fax: 6752 4250

Term 3, Week 1



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

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

In life, personal best is the inspiration that motivates us all; to be the best that we possibly can; in the biggest and the smallest of matters. Some great examples of this have emerged in the last two weeks with our athletes from Years 3-10, who have participated at very competitive levels at Combined Catholic College (Secondary) and Polding Athletics (Primary) events. Some tremendous results have been achieved, but most importantly of all, the commitment from our students and their passion to be there and do the best they possibly could, is significant. *Nothing in this world can take the place of persistence.* This fundamental concept is how we all learnt to ride a bike! You will read our students' stories in this newsletter, of how persistence brings rewards.

To the **Year 7 TAFE woodwork class**, congratulations! This group has been highly commended by Steve Harris, their teacher, for their commitment to their learning tasks and the responsible behaviour they show while at TAFE.

This week is the last week of Term 3. School officially concludes on Friday.

### TERM 4 DATES

**Pupil Free Day:** Monday 19<sup>th</sup>  
October

**School resumes:** Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup>  
October

**Term 4 ends** for K-9 students on  
Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>

*Karen Jagers*

Principal

## WEEKLY REFLECTION

26<sup>TH</sup> WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B

### **"In forgiving others we may find it possible to forgive ourselves"**

How often do we hear of people after their family have suffered some accident or foul play say that **they will never forgive** that person for what they have done? Well, here we are at the last week of Term Three of school for 2009, and it is close to time to have all our work complete, and settle all debts.

**We may find ourselves indebted** to our teachers, our mentors, our sponsors, our spiritual directors and even our students, for pointing out the basics by which we are expected to live and expected to give.

**Christianity is an adult faith;** it is not really for children. I say this in the light of each of us having to say yes to our faith when we come of age, when we are fully conscious and responsible for our actions. **We are called to love**, which in essence is also to forgive those who are indebted to us, and to celebrate a Jubilee Year, much like our Jewish fathers in faith.

The Psalm for Sunday speaks of the law and how we may be able to find joy through it. Through adherence to the law of the Lord we find a great reward, and by following the law we are told that we will be blameless.....we will be free or **"clean from grave sin."**

Apart from the psalm on Sunday some of our students last Friday visited Fairview Hostel and Nursing Home. There I witnessed one young person see the need of an elderly man and **poured out for him a cup of water** because he belonged to Christ, then, the Gospel reassures us that that person will not lose their reward.

If we, who are good, are unable to do good works of charity, deeds of mercy, then we are no longer able to claim Christ as our salvation! We, who are called to do "good works" as the Vinnies Motto goes, need to be prepared to step up and do good for others, placing ourselves second to what we are called to do. Moses realised that by sharing the gifts (of leadership) given us by God allows us to realise that **we are not the only instruments of God** – there are others called by that same Spirit, called to do the exact same work as ourselves; and if God is the one who has called us to good work, then surely, God will reward all who share in **God's law of Love.**

### Our Prayer:

*We are not to be obstacles set in each others' paths;  
We are called to love God and neighbour,  
As we are called to love ourselves.  
May we who are held in the palm of God's hand  
remember  
God alone suffices.  
Every good wish, Pat Clancy.*

## WHOLE SCHOOL NEWS

### GRANDPARENTS' DAY

Recently at St Philomena's we held our first Grandparents' Day. We were very excited to see so many people turn out for the day. We would like to thank all the Grandparents and special friends who visited our school and made it such a special occasion. The children really enjoyed showing of their school and talents to those who had travelled from near and far. A thank you to our choir, who sang beautifully. We look forward to holding another grandparents day in 2010.

Grandparents' Day Committee

### Library News

I would like to thank Bronte and Caleb Marshall and Bridie Hunter for their generous donations towards books for the library. Amy Carrigan is to be thanked for her generous spirit in donating the books she was rewarded with for entering the MS Read-a-thon, to the school library for everyone to share.

Loyce Bruce

## SECONDARY NEWS

### Year 10 Semester Examinations

This week Year 10 are sitting their Semester Two examinations. So far they have completed the English and Science exams. Tomorrow (Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September) they will sit the HSIE and Religious Education exams and will finish with the Mathematics exam on Thursday morning. Prompt attendance at school this week will be most beneficial.

### Year 10 Trial School Certificate Examinations

A reminder to parents, guardians and students that the Year 10 Trial School Certificate Examinations will be conducted during Term 4, Week 2. The exam structure will follow the pattern of that utilised for the School Certificate later in the year. On Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October, students will sit the English and Science exams; on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October, students will sit the Mathematics and HSIE exams; and, on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> October, students will participate in a trial run of the Computing Skills Test which is conducted online in the computer laboratory.

### Essential Secondary Science Assessment (ESSA) Test

Parents and guardians please be advised that on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November (Term 4, Week 6) all Year 8 students will sit the ESSA test. A letter explaining the ESSA test was distributed to Year 8 students yesterday. More information regarding the ESSA test can be obtained from the ESSA Internet pages at:

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/7-12assessments/essa/index.php>. This site includes:

- a brochure about the test
- a one page information sheet about the test
- a one page information sheet about the *Student report for parents/carers*

Students should not fear this test. They would be surprised by how much they could already answer, if asked to sit the test tomorrow. Specific preparation will be undertaken during Term 4 in preparation for the ESSA test.

### Study Skills Program

The Year 7, 8 and 9 Semester Two examinations and Year 10 School Certificate examinations will be conducted during Week 4 of Term 4. In preparation for these exams I am seeking expressions of interest from those students who would like to participate in a series of 'Study Skills Sessions'. I have run these sessions in the past, but not for a couple of years. The goal of this program is to teach students how to study. I am proposing that I run afternoon sessions on:

- Term 4, Week 1 - Wed 21<sup>st</sup> Oct: 3.20pm til 4.30pm
- Term 4, Week 2 – Wed 28<sup>th</sup> Oct : 3.20pm til 4.30pm
- Term 4, Week 3 – Thur 5<sup>th</sup> Nov: 3.20pm til 4.30pm (**possibly**)

If you would like to participate, please complete the slip below and return it to me before the end of this term.

✂-----

I, \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ (Pastoral Class) would like to participate in the Study Skills Program.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's / Guardian's name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's / Guardian's signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Alana Goldman**

## School Based Apprenticeships – Moree Plains Shire Council

I have received information from MPSC regarding school-based apprenticeships for students commencing Year 11 in 2010. One school-based apprenticeship – Automotive Mechanical and two school – based traineeships – Library and Information Services, and Customer Service (Indigenous) are being offered. If your child is interested in any of these opportunities please contact Mr May at school or Mrs Liz Pilon at Moree TAFE. Further details will be advertised in the Moree Champion in late October / early November.

Andrew May

## CCC Athletics

On Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> September I had the pleasure of attending the NSWCCC Athletics Championships at the Homebush Athletics Centre. Ten students from St Philomena's competed in the carnival. The standard of performance was extremely high. All our students performed to the best of their ability and achieved a number of personal best times and distances.

Some notable student performances were:

Brennan Sinclair: 6<sup>th</sup> 13 yrs boys javelin  
Lori Depczynski: 8<sup>th</sup> 16yrs girls 400m and triple jump  
Daniel Ryan: 8<sup>th</sup> 15yrs 800m and 15<sup>th</sup> in the 400m (Daniel ran 59 seconds for the 400m which is a great effort)  
Holt Cubis and Edward Onus finishing in the top 15 in their 100m and 200m sprints.

This year the relays were contested by the winning school teams from the various Diocesan Carnivals. Our 14/15yrs boys relay team finished 8<sup>th</sup> and were only 3 seconds from the winner. This was an excellent performance considering the team was made up of Edward Onus who is only 12 yrs old, Holt Cubis who is 14 yrs old and Danyon Heffernan and Daniel Ryan who are both 15.

Our 13 yrs girls relay team of Riana Wright, Geena Depczynski, Hannah Wareham and Jessica Munro finished 13<sup>th</sup> yet were only 4 seconds from the winner (1 second per runner was the difference).

I would like to thank the parents and supporters of our athletes who travelled to Sydney, supported them throughout the day and ensured they had a great experience in Sydney.

Sean Baldwin

## North West Film Festival

On Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> September, my fellow classmate, Kieran Lincoln and I travelled to the Roxy Theatre in Bingara to participate in the local film festival. It started at 10.00am, and from then to 12 noon we participated in an acting workshop. This consisted of group work, short scripted performances, and interaction with the other actors. We met a lot of interesting people of all ages, from different towns, schools, and backgrounds. The different types of people brought a variety of unique and interesting ideas to the acting workshop. It was a lot of fun and a very beneficial learning experience.

After lunch we observed a music video being filmed, and learned how to physically cut and insert effects into the overall production. After that we participated in a script writing workshop, in which we were instructed to draw or

describe images of creative scenarios. We were then taught how to take these images, put a storyline behind them, and therefore create the base of a possible film script.

Overall, the day was successful for both Kieran and me, and it definitely opened up a window of opportunity for us both. We've learned a lot from Saturday's experience, and had fun while doing so.

Talia Dyball

## **PRIMARY NEWS**

### 1R/2R Guided Reading

Guided Reading for 1R/2R has concluded for the term. A very big thank you to our reading helpers. Please watch the newsletter for the commencement of Guided Reading for 1R/2R in Term 4.

Dayna Raulston - 1R/2R Teacher

### Norco Milk Bottle Caps

A very big thank you to all of the children to have brought in Norco caps to raise money for our school. This is the final week for these caps to be brought in before the prizes are announced. So if you have any spare Norco 10c caps at home, please send them in with your child's name and class on the bag. I wonder who will be the winning class?

Dayna Raulston - K-6 Coordinator

### K – 2 Water Awareness

As a requirement of the PDHPE curriculum all students in Years K – 2 will be participating in a Water Awareness Program in Term 4. Due to circumstances beyond our control the program shall only run for five weeks. The dates are as follows:

Week 4 Friday – 13/11/09

Week 5 Friday – 20/11/09

Week 6 Friday – 27/11/09

Week 7 Thursday – 3/12/09 and Friday 4/12/09

Session Times are: Year 2 10.00 – 11.00

Year 1 11.00 – 12.00

Kinder 12.00 – 1.00



For this program to be successful we are again asking for the invaluable support of our parent body. Any parent who is willing to help (formal swimming qualifications not essential) on any of these days, either in or out of the water, could you please fill out the form below, identifying times and dates and return to the school office.

✂

I \_\_\_\_\_ am able to assist with infant water awareness on the following days and during the following sessions.

Phone No: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please circle your preference:*

Week 4 Friday – 13/11/09 Yr 2 / Yr 1 / Kinder

Week 5 Friday – 20/11/09 Yr 2 / Yr 1 / Kinder

Week 6 Friday – 27/11/09 Yr 2 / Yr 1 / Kinder

Week 7 Thursday – 3/12/09 Yr 2 / Yr 1 / Kinder  
Friday – 4/12/09 Yr 2 / Yr 1 / Kinder

### Polding Athletics

Last Tuesday eight of our students participated at the 2009 Polding Athletics Carnival. Thankfully the dust had settled and a great but tiring day was had by all. We had some fantastic results with:

Charlie Wells      **1<sup>st</sup> Shot Put / High Jump**  
Will O'Neill      **4<sup>th</sup> High Jump**  
Celine Depczynski, Jamie Clissold, Jessica Towns,  
Georgie Gray      **4<sup>th</sup> Junior Girls Relay**

Congratulations to all our students on performing so well. Charlie will now represent Polding at the NSW PSSA Athletics Carnival to be held in Sydney at Homebush Bay on 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of October.

### Infants Cricket Development Day

This Wednesday, Cricket NSW will be conducting a cricket skills Development Day for all K - 2 students. **Students will need to wear full sports uniform on this day.**

### Infants Crazy Socks Games Fun Day

This Thursday from 12:00 noon, all students in Years K - 2 will be participating in a Gala Crazy Socks games afternoon on the school oval. Students are required to **wear odd and / or colourful socks with**

**their sports uniform.** Students will have lunch as normal but will need extra water and sunscreen.

All students in Years K - 2 will need to wear blue uniform on Friday.

Toni Munro

### **UNIFORM SHOP NEWS**

**Tuesday 2—4pm      Thursday 8.30—10.30am**

### **CANTEEN HELPERS**

**Wednesday:** Amanda Fisher, Peter Sampson, Pat Sinclair, Joan Newnham

**Thursday:** Jenny Carrigan, Cath Cannington, Amanda Fisher

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

Term 4, Week 1:

**Monday:** PUPIL FREE DAY

**Tuesday:** Melissa Tzannes, Angela Walker, Sam Ledingham, Jenny Durack

*The new SUMMER MENU will come home early in Term 4.*

### **WEEKLY CALENDAR**

<b>Wed - 30<sup>th</sup> Sept</b> *Yr 10 Exams * Yr 9 Excursion – Lake Keepit *2010 Kindergarten Screenings	<b>Thursday - 1<sup>st</sup> Oct</b> *2010 Kindergarten Screenings *Portfolios Home *Yr 10 Exams * Yr 9 return *Apex Public Speaking *St V de Paul → Fairview 11.15	<b>Friday - 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct</b> *Term 3 Ends *Yr 10 Exams	<b>TERM 4 -- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October - PUPIL FREE DAY</b>	<b>Tuesday - 20<sup>th</sup> Oct</b> *Term 4 Begins *Yr 4 ½ day retreat – Catholic Centre
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### **P & F NEWS**

*The P&F would like to thank Helen Spain and Bernie Seery for their fabulous work Coordinating the Spring Fair. A special thanks to Jenny Carrigan for all her hard work organizing the Spring Fair P&F Raffle.*

*This year we have had a brilliant result with over \$17,000 being raised for the school.*

*The day was wonderful and we would again like to thank the school community for all their efforts in making it a successful day.*

*To all our sponsors a special thanks. Without your help the fair would not have been so successful.*

*We are still waiting on final receipts and sponsors names for the fair to finalize the sponsor lists and to thank everyone officially. This should be finalized this week and will be in the newsletter early next term.*

*Once again thank you everyone and we hope you all have a safe and happy holiday.*

**P&F Committee**

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Moree Junior Soccer Club Inc.

Grand Final Day will be held on Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2009 at 5.30pm at Ron Harborne Oval. Presentation will commence at 6.30pm for Division 2 & 3. Division 1 will be at 7pm  
Terry-Anne Sharples

### Moree Junior Cricket Club

Registrations are still being taken. Please contact Anne Maree 67521312 or 0427319998, Debbie 67527461. Competition starts Saturday 24th October.  
Tammy Shearer



CatholicCare's Parent Line is a free counselling service for Parents and Carers of children 0 – 18 across NSW 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Our professional counsellors are available now to talk to parents about a wide range of issues.

### New Website for Parents

At Parent Line, we know that the joys and rewards of parenting are many. We also know that sometimes issues can crop up that can challenge families. Some of these include challenges with adjusting to going to school, transitions from primary school to high school, issues around family breakdown, helping a child who is being bullied at school, the stress of supporting children through the HSC to name a few. At times parenting can be tough!

It's during times like these, that we all need someone to listen to our story, help us remember and acknowledge our successes and strengths and help us find new ways of sorting through these challenges. Parent Line NSW provides exactly that.



Now just before our 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of going 24/7 we have launched a new website [www.parentline.org.au](http://www.parentline.org.au). This website is a great new resource for parents and carers that is easy to read and access and gives parents and cares the facility to email us with enquiries.

Of course the best way to get the best help from Parent Line is to talk to one of our professional counsellors. They can listen to your issues and tailor some strategies that could assist your family.

Last year Parent Line Counsellors helped over 8,000 parents and carers across NSW with a wide range of parenting issues. We are lucky enough to have 5 male counsellors on our team, if there are Dad's who prefer to speak to another male.

**Concerned about any parenting issue? Ring Parent Line NOW. 1300 1300 52 [www.parentline.org.au](http://www.parentline.org.au)**



**BARWON**  
DIVISION OF GENERAL PRACTICE LTD  
Funded by the Department of Health & Ageing



## Mental Health Week 2009

A Morning Tea for Parents from 10am

Wed 7 October, Max Centre, Balo St Moree

Local Psychologist Carrie Thomson Casey presents:

### “Building resilience in the playground: From the Schoolyard to the Corporate Sector”

- Impacts of chronic stressors children and adolescents
- Biological and psychological responses to stress
- Building resilience and resources

Morning tea is provided free of charge by the  
Barwon Division of General Practice

RSVP: For catering purposes

Friday, 2 October 2009

Carmel Sullivan email: [cosullivan@barwondgp.org.au](mailto:cosullivan@barwondgp.org.au) or

Debbie Downes email: [downdes@barwondgp.org.au](mailto:downdes@barwondgp.org.au)

**Barwon Division of General Practice Ph: 67 527196**

The Moree Plains Gallery Presents

# "A Thousand Colours"

## Art Competition

Celebrating diversity and colour in our world.

**What:** The Moree Plains Gallery is holding an annual art competition for young people to coincide with "Art Experience", a day of free art classes and activities for children held in the gallery gardens on **October 17**.

**GRAB:** Your canvas at The Moree Plains Gallery when you pay your entry fee of \$10.00.

**CHOOSE:** A country of the world that interests you (eg: Japan, Africa, India).

**SELECT:** A medium to work with (eg: paint, pastels, water-colours, charcoal).

**DECIDE:** On more than three bright colours to paint with.

### GET CREATIVE!

**PARTY:** **On Saturday 17 October** with snacks and drinks. (Following Art Experience 09).

Perhaps you could paint dancing camels in Northern India, or a city view of Paris, perhaps a dreamtime picture from Australia, or an underwater view of Sydney Harbour. The topic is really open! You could even look at art styles from around the world for inspiration. All entries must be painted/drawn/sewn on the canvas supplied.

**Categories:**

- 1: Under 7's
2. Under 12's
3. Under 18's

**Prizes:** First prize in each category will WIN a professional artists easel and art gear. Every person that enters receives a certificate of participation for entering the competition.

#### Dates to remember:

**Entries due:** Friday 09 October at The Moree Plains Gallery (cnr Frome and Heber St; opposite the Post Office)

**Opening Night:** Saturday 17 October

**Collection of works:** Friday 30<sup>th</sup> Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October

Contact the Event Coordinator Amanda on **02 6752 1141** OR **0400 297 316**  
or the Moree Plains Gallery to collect your canvas on **02 6757 3320**.