Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2013 school year! In particular we welcome all our new families and staff (see pictures) to Mt St Patrick Primary and we trust that your association with the school will be a long and rewarding one!

At the beginning of the school year goals are set and plans are drawn up. For plans / goals to be successfully implemented they generally need the cooperation and enthusiasm of more than one person. The cooperation and support of a school community is reflected in the story about geese! Have you ever wondered why migrating geese fly in a V formation? Each goose which flaps its wings creates an upward lift for the goose that follows. When all the geese do their part the whole flock has a 71% greater flying range than if each bird was to fly alone.

The geese really have something when it comes to a community functioning for the benefit of all its members. Each person in the school community, whether they be student, parent, teacher, priest is a unique person, individual in the gifts each has been given. The differences in people give richness to the expression of the community. However, the efficiency of the community depends very much on how these differences can be brought together for the benefit of the whole group.

I encourage all parents to take an active role in their child’s education. In the first instance this can be achieved by attending the upcoming Parent / Teacher evening and the Parent Forum Meeting on Monday night. I would also ask you to consider how can I assist the school throughout the year in meeting my child’s needs and goals? Consider not only their academic achievements but your hopes and dreams within the social, emotional and spiritual context of their lives as well.

As with the geese, if we work together and support each other we can achieve much more.

Certainly the start to the school year has again been an eventful one! The school grounds had significant flooding (see photos inside) resulting in minor damage within the school. The new classrooms, whilst they took water, were not affected and have been designed to cope with such an event. Insurance claims have been lodged and rectification to the shade cloth and the removal of trees / debris and repair to the fence will take place in the very near future. I thank all families for your understanding in supporting the decision to delay the start of the school year by a day.

With respect to the new classrooms it is anticipated that they will be completed within three weeks. Once this occurs Kindergarten will move into these rooms, allowing the school to have a designated Music room, a designated Art room and a new location for Out of School Care.

Again, welcome back and I look forward to catching up with you in the near future.

Regards,

Brian Laybutt
PRINCIPAL
SAFRED HEART PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2013

FIRST RECONCILIATION
Parent Meeting – Tuesday 19th February
Retreat Day – Thursday 21st March
II Rite of Reconciliation– Thursday 21st March

FIRST EUCHARIST
Parent Meeting – Tuesday 8th May
Inscription Ceremony – (weekend of 11th & 12th May)
Retreat Day – Thursday 30th May
Sacrament of First Eucharist – Sunday 2nd June

CONFIRMATION
Parent Meeting – Tuesday 30th July
Inscription Ceremony – TBA
Retreat Day – Tuesday 27th August
Sacrament of Confirmation – Tuesday 27th August

Parents of any new students who wish for their child to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation please contact Mrs Dixon at the school.

SAFRED HEART PARISH

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES
Tuesday 5.30pm Sacred Heart
Wednesday 5.30pm Sacred Heart
Thursday 9.15am OLPS, 5th M’bah
Friday 12.00noon Sacred Heart

WEEKEND MASS TIMES
Saturday 6:00 pm Sacred Heart (Children’s liturgy)
Sunday 8:00 am Sacred Heart (Children’s liturgy)
10:00am 1st Uki
2nd & 4th OLPS – 5th M’ba h
3rd Burringbar

VIRTUE OF THE WEEK – COURTESY

WHAT IS COURTESY? Courtesy is to be polite and to have good manners. It is to be considerate of others. It is a way of speaking and acting with people which gives them a feeling of being valued and respected. “Please”, “Thank you”, “Excuse me”, and “You’re welcome” are courteous expressions which let people know you appreciate them and care about their feelings. Being courteous to elders, parents and teachers is a good way to show respect.

Our School Prayer
Heavenly Father, we thank you for the great gift of life. We thank you for the opportunity to live and grow in a free country.
Thank you for the blessings that you give to Mt St Patrick Primary.
Help us to appreciate your love which is given freely to each one of us.
We make this prayer through Christ Our Lord. Amen.
Our school prayer is read at Monday morning assembly & Friday afternoon assembly

LITURGICAL SEASON

We have been in the season of Ordinary time. Ordinary time is the name given to the thirty-three weeks in the course of the year outside of the seasons of Lent/Triduum/Easter and Advent/Christmas. During ordinary Time, no particular moment or aspect of the Christian mystery is celebrated or commemorated.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Next Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. It is a special time for us to try a little harder to become more like Jesus. By receiving the ashes we show a desire to turn away from sin and to follow the Gospel. It is a day to reflect on God’s goodness and his willingness to love and forgive us always.

The forty days of Lent prepares us for the great feast of Easter. In Lent the Liturgical colour is purple and the symbol is the cross. On Ash Wednesday we receive the ashes on our forehead as a reminder of the season we are now in. You are welcome to join Mt St Patrick Primary School on Wednesday 13th February at 12.15pm in the Sacred Heart Church for the special liturgy which the whole school will attend.

This Friday February 8th the Beginning School Mass will be held at 12pm in the Sacred Heart Church. All are welcome to join us at this celebration where the school leaders will be inducted into their various leadership roles for 2013.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

During Term 1 the classes will be studying these topics in Religion:

Early Stage 1 – Kinder
K.1 Welcome K.2 Lent and Holy Week K.3– The Easter Season.

Stage 1 – Years 1 and 2
2.1– Images of God
2.2– Lent and Holy week. 2.3- The Easter Season

Stage 2 – Years 3 and 4
Reconciliation Unit
3.2– Lent: A time for reaching out in Love. 3.3– Easter
Stage 3 – Middle School
6.2– Lent– A time for Building a Just World
6.3– Easter

The children will be bringing home the to Know, Worship and Love books regularly throughout the term. We would encourage you to share this special Religion book with your child and complete the set homework task relating to the unit of work they are doing in class.

As part of the Religious Education Curriculum each of the stages will prepare and celebrate a mass this term as part of the units of work they are studying.

The dates for these special celebrations are:-
-MS Mass– Friday 22nd February
-Stage 1– Friday 1st March
- Stage 2– Friday 8th March

Please note that all parents and friends and parishioners are welcome to join us for these Masses which will be held in the Sacred Heart Church at 12pm.

There will be other liturgies and masses throughout the term that the whole school will attend. These will be advertised in the school newsletter as the time approaches.
**IMPORTANT SCHOOL CALENDAR DATES FOR 2013**

**TERM 1**

**February**
- Wed 6th: Information Night: Stage 1 @ 6pm
- Thurs 7th: Information Night: Middle School @ 6pm
- Fri 8th: Beginning School Year Mass @ 12noon
- Mon 11th: Parent Forum Meeting
- Wed 13th: Ash Wednesday
  - Kinder Information Night 6pm
  - *Kinder Parent / Teacher Interviews during Week 4
  - Fri 15th: School Assembly @ 2.20
  - Mon 18th: Tweed Zone Swimming
  - Tues 19th: Sacrament of Reconciliation Parent Meeting
  - Fri 22nd: Middle School Mass @ 12 noon
  - Sun 24th: Infants Picnic Day

**March**
- Fri 1st: Stage 1 Mass @ 12noon
- School Assembly @ 2.20
- School Disco
- *Stage 1 & Stage 2 Parent / Teacher Interviews during Week 6
  - Fri 8th: Stage 2 Mass @ 12noon
  - School Assembly @ 2.20
  - Diocesan Swimming—Coffs Harbour
- *Catholic Schools Week (Mon 11th – Fri 15th March)
  - Tues 12th: Book Week Parade
  - Wed 13th: Mass—St Anthony’s (Year 6 students to attend)
  - Fri 15th: Open Day & School Assembly @ 2.20
- *MS Parent Teacher Interviews during Week 8
  - Mon 18th: St Patrick’s Day Liturgy & Mur’bah Pool Treat
  - Thurs 21st: Sacrament of Reconciliation
  - Fri 22nd: School Assembly @ 2.20
  - Wed 27th: Easter Bonnet Parade
  - Thurs 28th: Holy Thursday—Stations of the Cross
  - Fri 29th: Good Friday

**April**
- Mon 1st: Easter Monday
- Tues 2nd: PSSA Swimming—Homebush
- Fri 5th: Cross Country & Skill a thon
- Fri 12th: students last day Term 1

**TERM 2**

**April**
- Thurs 25th: ANZAC day
- Mon 29th: Staff Development Day (Pupil Free Day)
- Tues 30th: First day Term 2 for students

**May**
- Tues 7th: School Photos (all classes)
- Thurs 9th: Mother’s Day Stall
- Fri 10th: Tweed Zone Cross Country
- Tues 14th: Naplan (Years 3 & 5)
- Wed 15th: Naplan (Years 3 & 5)
- Thurs 16th: Naplan (Years 3 & 5)
- Fri 24th: Diocesan Cross Country
- Thur 30th: Eucharist Retreat Day
- Fri 31st: Staff Development Day (Pupil Free Day)

**June**
- Sun 2nd: Sacrament of Eucharist
- Thurs 20th: Infants (Years K-2) Athletics Carnival
- Mon 24th: Primary (Years 3-6) Athletics Carnival
- Thur 27th: students last day Term 2
- Fri 28th: Staff Development Day (Pupil Free Day)

**TERM 3**

**July**
- Mon 15th: Staff Development Day (Pupil Free Day)
- Tues 23rd: Tweed Zone Athletics
- Sun 30th: Confirmation Parent Information Night

**August**
- Sun 4th: Banana Festival (date TBC)
- Tues 27th: Sacrament of Confirmation
- Tues 31st: Father’s Day Stall

**September**
- Thur 19th: *Middle School Excursion (date TBC)
- Fri 20th: Staff Development Day (Pupil Free Day)

**TERM 4**

**October**
- Sat 19th: Father / Son Camp

**November**
- Fri 1st: Grandparents Day
- *Kinder 2014 Orientation (Mon 11th & Tues 12th)
- Sat 30th: Parish Tableau

**December**
- Fri 6th: Primary Swimming Carnival
- Tues 10th: Primary Presentation Night
- Tues 17th: Infants Presentation Morning
- Wed 18th: End of Year Mass
- (last day of formal classes)
- Thurs 19th: Clean Up Day (No formal classes)

**PARENT REPS**

At the Parent Information Nights teachers will be asking for parents to become Class Reps. Role and expectations for Parent Reps will be outlined at these meetings. You may wish to consider becoming a parent Rep for your child’s class.

**PARENT INFORMATION NIGHTS**

Parent Information Nights will allow you the opportunity to meet with your child’s teacher and gain a greater understanding of the expectations and day to day running of the class. It can never be understated the importance of parents taking an active participation in your child’s education. If your child sees that you value their education and take an active role in it, it will reinforce the importance of education and inevitably have a positive effect. The dates for these evenings are:

- **Wednesday 6th February**
  - Stage 1: 6:00pm venue: Room 11 (Miss Nelson’s Room)
    - (Miss. Prichard, Miss. Nelson, Mrs. Dixon & Mrs. Trevithick)
  - Stage 2: 7:00pm venue: Library
    - (Miss. Mathews, Mrs. Morosini, Miss. Powell, Mr. Holmes & Mr. Houllahan)

- **Thursday 7th February**
  - Middle School: 6:00pm venue: Library
    - (Mrs. Pearson, Mrs. Markham, Mr. Forrester & Mr. Spiller)

- **Wednesday 13th February**
  - Kinder: 6:00pm venue: Library
    - (Miss. Mackney & Mrs. Levick)

Please note that these meetings are to provide parents with a general overview of the class and year. Individual one on one parent teacher interviews will be held later in Term 1. If you have any concerns or issues you would like to raise with your child’s teacher please make an appointment via our School Office.
WELCOME NEW STAFF
(left—right) Miss. Jessica Mathews (Stage2D), Mrs. Sonya Pearson (MS P), Mr. Jason Holmes (Stage2H), Mrs. Maureen Lill (Additional Needs & Well Being), Mrs. Liz Levick (Kinder M) & Mrs. Annabel Westhoff (Music—absent)

WELCOME NEW STUDENTS 2012
Year 1
Caleb Doble, Bryon Randall
Year 2
Isabella Anderson, Amelia Cooper, Talyn Nix, Finn Walsh
Year 3
Amelie Lapworth, Will Ryan-McGinn, Azalea Sattler, Billy Walton
Year 4
Joshua Anderson, Morgan Burgess, Brodi Cook, Blake Jelancic
Year 5
Flynn Everall, Jaedon McCulloch, Cameron McCulloch, Sophie Ross, Oliver Walsh, Reece Walton
Year 6
Zoe Lillis, Luca Molinari

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL (SRC)
Congratulations to the following students who have been selected to be members of the SRC:

SCHOOL CAPTAINS
Anthea Warne
Ben Champley

SCHOOL VICE-CAPTAINS
Montana Taylor
Cooper Leslight

SRC TERM 1 & 2
Stage 2D Evie Falkner
Stage 2H Darcy Reinke
Stage 2M Darcy Hannah
Stage 2P Corey Grossman
MS F Hayley Smith
MS M Yasmin Charilaou
MS S Finn Whitney
MS W Brooke Saddler

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected as House Sport Captains for 2012

SPORT CAPTAINS
Dalton - GOLD
Cecilia Ryan Harris McLean
MacKillop - RED
Georgia Buch Zayne Stewart
Nagle - BLUE
Madeleine Northeast Angus Stratton
Doyle - GREEN
Jordan Tilsley Joel Antonelli
SCHOOL FEES FOR 2013

RECURRENT:

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<td>4</td>
<td>$675:00</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$2025:00</td>
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</tbody>
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RESOURCE FEES: $ 125 per child per annum – payable by 28.2.2013

TECHNOLOGY LEVY: $75 per child per annum

FACILITIES & MAINTENANCE FEE: $255.00 per family per year

NB: * Term 1 Fees will be sent out in the coming weeks

PARKING
Parents are asked to please be mindful of parking restrictions around the school.

1. No Parking at the front of the school (Mooball St) is a “Kiss and Drop Area”. Parents may stop, let their children out and move on. The driver cannot leave the car. If you leave the car you face a fine over $250. Bus Zone: Please do not drop / pick students up in the Bus Zone (during the Bus Zone times as indicated in the sign) as it carries a very heavy fine.

2. Students are NOT permitted to walk over to Queensland Rd and wait for parents. This area is unsupervised and the school has no knowledge as to whether or not students have actually been picked up. Parents need to walk over to the school to collect their children.

3. Please do not park in the Church car park or use this area as a drop off zone as it is used for Church and school deliveries only.

Thank you for your understanding!!

BELL TIMES
Our new bell times have commenced for the school year. So far the transition to lunch first then recess in the afternoon has been smooth. Please refer to our school Moodle site for all new bell times for our school day.

STAFF SUPERVISION
School hours are 8:50am to 3:15pm. Children who live locally should not arrive before 8:20am. Staff are present at the school from 8:20am to 3:45 pm and no responsibility for the supervision of children is accepted outside these times. Children are not permitted to leave the school premises unless they have written permission from their parent/guardian. A direct phone call by a parent is not acceptable. It is not appropriate for parents to visit their children on the playground during breaks or to ‘hang around’ with children before school. Thank you for your support in this area.

LEAVE EARLY & LATE TO SCHOOL
To ensure that the school complies with State Legislation the school has a Leave Early slip and a Late slip. The late slip must be filled in by either the parent/child if arriving late to school. Students who arrive late to school WILL NOT be allowed to enter the class unless they present the class teacher with a late slip. Students who arrive late to school must first report to the office and must not be taken straight to class. The leaving early slip must be completed by the parent/guardian before a student can be taken from the school. The parent/guardian will then proceed to their child’s classroom and present the class teacher with a leaving early slip. The forms are located in the office. Essentially these forms are kept as a record of when students arrive and leave the school outside normal hours.

CANTEEN ROSTER
A copy of the new canteen price list was sent out last week. A copy of the price list is also available on our school web page. Carmel is also looking for volunteers to help in the canteen. If there are any parents willing – even for an hour – could you please complete the form below and return to school as soon as possible.

.................................................................................................................................

CANTEEN

Dear Carmel,

I would like to volunteer to work in the canteen and am available on

Monday [ ] Tuesday [ ] Wednesday [ ] Thursday [ ] Friday [ ]

Name___________________________________ Phone No:_____________________

.................................................................................................................................
‘BEST START’ KINDERGARTEN ASSESSMENT

Last week our 2013 Kindergarten students took part in the ‘Best Start’ Literacy & Numeracy Assessment.

What is the Best Start Kindergarten Assessment?
Children come to school with different levels of literacy and numeracy. Some are familiar with books, can recognise some letters, even write their name or count to ten, while others have not yet learned these skills.

Kindergarten teachers have always observed their new students and used different methods to find out what each child knows and can do so that they can plan and teach what their students need to learn next.

Best Start was developed by early learning experts in the Department of Education and Training. The aim of Best Start is to give Kindergarten teachers a common set of high quality assessment tools and professional training.

Best Start will build on the strengths of our teachers and give your child an even better start to school.

How will the Best Start Kindergarten Assessment benefit my child?
It is very important to emphasise that the Best Start Kindergarten Assessment is not a test. Its purpose is to help the teacher gather information to guide the teaching of each Kindergarten child.

The teacher will observe each child and use tasks, such as talking about a book that has been read, and record what their students know and can do. The teaching of your child will be based on the information gathered in these ways.

What is being assessed?
The teacher will look at each child’s early reading and writing, their ability to communicate with others, and how they recognise and work with numbers, groups and patterns.

PARENTS WANTED FOR GARDENING
Mt St Patrick Primary was successful in receiving a grant last year to establish “Food Garden”. Consequently the school has purchased a number of garden beds and created a wonderful garden area (pictured). We are now looking for enthusiastic parents to assist in establishing the garden. If you are interested in assisting the students / school by taking an active role in the garden club could you please contact the Office so that we can contact you and discuss this exciting initiative.

This project has been assisted by the New South Wales Government through its Environment Trust

FLOODS 2013
Welcome to 2013!!!!

DANCE & CROSS COUNTRY
Our Sport lessons focus for this Term is dance and cross country. Enthusiastic primary students can begin a simple cross country training program to improve their opportunity to qualify for the school team in Week 10.

TWEED ZONE SWIMMING
We wish the 32 students representing Mt St Patrick Primary at the Tweed Zone Swimming Trials on Monday 18th February. Permission notes were distributed this week and should be returned by Monday 11th February.

FOOTBALL ACADEMY
The Football Academy will be conducting a demonstration for Kinder—Year 4 students on Monday 11th February.

CONGRATULATIONS ANTHEA WARNE
Anthea recently broke the 100m freestyle record for 11 year old at the Queensland Age Swimming Championships. Anthea then followed that up by winning four medals at the 2013 NSW Stage Age Championships held in Sydney. Congratulations Anthea!

Agnes Markham
Sports Coordinator

BIRTHDAYS (from January 1st - February 10th 2013)

REGISTRATION SIGN ONS FOR 2013
Boys, girls, men and women welcome Sat. 9th & Sun. 10th February, 2013 – 10-4pm Tuesday 12th February, 2013 – 6-8pm Family discounts for 3 or more players All ages and grades from U6s to seniors at Kingscliff District Football Club House, Cnr Shell Street, Kingscliff. For further info contact: Registrar – 0418 976 971

SOME SPACE AVAILABLE IN U13 JUNIOR PREMIER LEAGUE SQUAD
Murwillumbah Colts JRLFC; Sign On; Saturday 2nd & 9th of February 2013 Times; 11am to 1pmClubhouse – Dorothy St Murwillumbah All new players will require Original Birth Certificate and Medicare Card All enquiries to Brendon Hill (President ) – 0409 611 580
Murwillumbah Hockey Club Sign On: Saturday 9th, 16th and 23rd of February at Brothers Leagues Club 1:00pm to 4:00pm Ages 5 and up Contact Matt Palmer 0410 031 802.

TOTAL FOOTBALL ACADEMY will be running an after School soccer program in Term 1 2013 at Mt St Patrick’s Primary School. Registration forms will be distributed during a free demonstration. During the 6 week program games will be played inside an inflatable soccer field, which captures the imagination of students, giving them a great soccer experience. Training will take place inside a skills square focusing on different skills each week, such as dribbling, turning and shooting. Start date: Monday 18th February, Kinder - Year 4, 3:25pm - 4:25pm. Sign up online at www.totalfootballacademy.com.au or call Andy Robinson on 0413 888 643.

TWEED COAST RAIDERS JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUESIGN ON DAYS
When: 9th February, 2013Where: Les Burger Field, Cabarita BeachTime: 11.30am – 1.30pmRegos Fees: $130 – includes training shirt, shorts, socks, etc. All new players must show their original Birth Certificate or Passport, together with their Medicare Card. Any queries, please phone Tania on 0409 9986 81. N.B. Under 7’s players must be turning at least 5 years of age this year.

SURFSIDE BUS LINES: MANAGING QUERIES REGARDING SCHOOL BUS PASSES AND TIMETABLES. Queries regarding eligibility and application forms are available at all school offices. For queries about the issuing of a bus pass, timetabling, or route information please refer to Surfside Buslines at www.surfside.com.au then click on Schools Services tab – if you still need further information telephone 07 5571 6555, are staff are endeavouring to respond to your enquiry within 48 hours.
Mt St Pats - After School Care and Vacation Care
Rachel De Groot – Director
Phone: 02 66744487

Lee & Peter Smith
loadesbutchery@hotmail.com
www.loadesbutchery.com
PH: 02 6672 1944

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