Welcome Back to Term 3! I hope all children and any parents lucky enough to have some time off during the holidays had a restful and enjoyable break. Many children I spoke to had a wonderful holiday and were fortunate to do some very exciting things. It is great to see that the students were happy (well most) to come back to school to interact with their friends and get back into the classroom for some fun learning.

During prayer this week we watched a clip about paying forward an act of kindness. One act of kindness can lead to many. Random acts of kindness become contagious. We are hoping the video clip has inspired children in our school to do random acts of kindness this term and pay it forward.

Once again we have a very busy term ahead with some exciting activities which include: Gymnastics for sport every Friday, Confirmation for Year 2 students (Week 3), Year 5 & 6 Leadership Day (Week 5), “Being Brave” welfare program that uses educational theatre to provide simple strategies to build resilience and emotional wellbeing (Week 6), District Soccer and Netball Gala Day hosted by our school (Week 6), Father’s Day Liturgy and breakfast (Week 7), Naidoc celebrations (Week 8), Grandparents Day (Week 10), Walk-a-thon (TBA depending on tides but will be later in the term). We hope you are able to join us for as many of these events as possible. For specific dates please view the calendar and keep looking out for them each week in the newsletter.

We have been very fortunate to be able to employ Mrs Fiona Hayward to work at our school for 2 days a week for the rest of the year. To start with, she will be working with all students for one hour in the primary classes for “Genius Hour”.

**Genius Hour**

**Genius Hour** is a movement that allows students to explore their own passions and encourages creativity in the classroom. It uses inquiry to motivate students in their own learning and provides opportunities for them to learn at their maximum potential. It gives students a choice in what they learn during a set period of time during school. **Genius Hour** has been inspired by Google’s ‘20%Time’ explained below by Katherine Von Jan:

‘Google’s “20% Time”, is a philosophy and policy that every Google employee spend 20% of their time (the equivalent of a full work day each week) working on ideas and projects that interest that employee. They are encouraged to explore anything other than their normal day-to-day job. As a result 50% of all Google’s products by 2009 originated from the 20% free time, including gmail. Real break-through happens when we are free from other’s expectations and driven by individual passion’.

We will keep you informed on the progress of our ‘Genius Hour’ so some rich discussions can occur at home.

Sonya Steep – Acting Principal
Welcome to Kingsley (Yr 5), Layla (Yr 2) and parents Andrew and Sarah Threlfo, who have moved to the mid-north coast & commenced at our school this week. We wish these students and their family all the best for future happiness in our local community. Note: there will be a ‘coffee catch-up’ on Monday 1st August at Top Spot (formally Café Buzz) in Laurieton from 9.30am for our recent new Yr 2 mums. A note has been sent home to Yr 2 parents this week, please return the slip ASAP.

Yr 6 Report –
Mini Vinnies Volunteers:
During the holidays some of our students (Eden, Maddie, Brydie & Brooklan) volunteered at our local St Vincent de Paul with President, Beverley. Beverley gave us a tour of the well organised store and showed us how everything worked. Then we went out the back to see how products were sorted. We had a cuppa with Robert, Paul and Veronique. There was also another room that was used to interview people suffering hardship e.g. not being able to pay their bills. We also saw the ladies working next to the room with about 200 bags. They were going through all the clothes that they got through the St Vincent de Paul donation bin to sort. We went down to Coles with Beverley to buy jars of spreads, savoury soups, cereal etc. and came back to help make up packs for families, couples and singles. Later Veronique told us about the twinnies. Laurieton Vinnies is twinning with India. “Twinnies” is another Vinnies store somewhere in the world and whatever our local Vinnies doesn’t need they send it to India. Brooklan also accompanied Beverley to the Local Anglican Op-Shop and talked to the volunteers there and got some great ideas about a Warm Clothes Line for Vinnies. All the volunteers and workers were so kind and had a great sense of humour. We all had a great time and we can’t wait to do it again. It was a fantastic opportunity!

Brydie, Eden, Maddy B and Brooklan.
CanTEEN Fortnightly $5 Meal Deals

This term the canteen is offering a **$5 meal deal** every second Wednesday.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Meal Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 27th July</td>
<td>Hot Dog (Cheese, mustard and/or sauce) plus a blue or red Quench</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 10th August</td>
<td>Chicken and gravy roll plus a warm Milo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 24th August</td>
<td>2x homemade mini pizzas (pizza sauce, cabanossi slices and cheese on an English muffin) plus a popper (apple or tropical)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 7th September</td>
<td>Bacon and egg roll (with choice of sauce) plus cup of chocolate milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 21st September</td>
<td>Hamburger (lettuce, tomato and cheese, mince patty with choice of sauce) plus a popper (apple or tropical)</td>
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**Note:** The canteen will not be operating for normal recess and lunch items on meal deal Wednesdays. Only meal deals are available on these days.

*INVITATION TO OUR SCHOOL MUMS*

We are planning a get together for the St. Joey’s mums on Friday 29th July from 5 pm at the Bonny Hills Surf Club. Please bring a plate to share and come along for a chat to meet our amazing Mums. For more info call Amanda Bartlett on 0422 558 933.

**CANTEEN VOLUNTEERS FOR TERM 3 NOTE SENT HOME THIS WEEK – PLEASE FILL OUT & RETURN TO THE OFFICE IF YOU CAN ASSIST**
XMAS IN JULY – St Joseph’s Street Stall Saturday 30th July
from 2pm – 7.30pm?
(detailed note going home next week - Chamber of Commerce initiative like last year)
We are looking for food donations and/or help with running the stall.
Please contact Gayl Ellis on 0422 407 736.
We are in need of Xmas themed treats i.e. cupcakes, cakes, biscuits & lollies etc.
to sell on the day. All funds raised go directly to our school.