Halfway to Easter! This week we passed the half way mark on our journey through Lent. It has been wonderful to see how our students have responded to the call to help others through their generosity in giving to the Caritas Mission appeal. So far they have raised more than $200 and other activities are planned leading up to Easter. I encourage parents to continue to talk to their children about other things they can do during Lent, such as saying extra prayers, or going without something (it doesn’t have to be food) in order to build empathy with those who have little in their lives on a daily basis. May Lent continue to be a spiritual journey for all us that will bring us closer to our loving Father.

New P&F Committee: Following the P&F AGM this week we have a new committee of parents who will work on your behalf for the remainder of the year. The new committee is: (photos below L to R) President - Gayl Ellis (formerly Vice President); Vice President – Magda Tazbir-Buckley; Secretary – Amie Pump; Treasurer – Bronwyn Burke. It was great to see some of our new parents coming along to support the school at the meeting and for some to put their hand up to take on a leadership role. I would especially like to thank the outgoing committee members of Belinda Dykes (President), Maree Reeves (Secretary) and Jenny Raczka (Treasurer) who have done such a marvellous job in assisting to move our school forward by being actively involved. Over the past year in particular, this eager group (along with Gayl and other parents) introduced some new ideas into our school with a strong emphasis on not only fundraising, but importantly providing a voice for parents and also initiatives for building our school community for all. The next P&F meeting will be held on Wednesday 6 April at 6pm – hopefully we will once again see a good roll up of interested parents.

Pool Night: A special family fun night will be held at Kendall Pool on Wednesday 16 March from 5pm to 7pm. The evening event is intended to be a social occasion to meet other families, especially those that are new this year. A BBQ dinner will be cooked by the staff. Please see the note sent home this week for more information. Hopefully we will see you there!

PUPIL FREE DAY: The last day of this term, Friday 8 April will be a Pupil Free Day to enable staff to participate in the annual Staff Spirituality/ Retreat Day (requirement of the Catholic Schools Office). Child care for the day may be provided if enough parents are interested – please contact the school if you would like to take up this offer.

Catholic Schools Week will be celebrated in many schools next week but we are holding our activities off until the following week when our major event will be the celebration of our school feast day which will be combined with a thank you to Sr Fran whose association with the school is ending after 30 plus years. Please see our invitation on page 2. A full list of activities will be in next week’s newsletter.

Kind Regards, David Hughes (Principal)
Fr Paul Hopper visit
On Tuesday afternoon, Year 5 and 6 had the privilege of attending a talk by Fr Paul Hopper. Fr Paul came to speak to the students about his amazing overseas missionary work and share his vast experiences, knowledge and wisdom with them. The Year 5 and 6 children enjoyed this experience, especially his interesting stories and pictures from his mission.

NEW CANTEEN HEALTHY TREATS!!!
Today, Bronwyn Burke has added a bit of pizzazz to our canteen menu with a colourful selection of healthy treats for sale to tantalize the taste buds – items included fruit & yoghurt cups, homemade muffins & cheese n bickie tubs 😊

Please join us for a special commemorative:
St. Joseph’s Day Liturgy
to celebrate the career of

Sister Frances Slack

Friday 18 March
School Hall
10 am – St. Joseph’s Day Liturgy
10.45 am - Sister Fran’s Farewell
11.15 am - Morning Tea

CALENDAR

<table>
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<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Week 7</th>
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| MONDAY | CBA Banking  
Canteen  
Band & Music lessons |
| TUESDAY | 8:15 a.m. Staff Meeting  
Yr 6 Incitare Spirituality Day Port Macq. |
| WEDNESDAY | Library Years 1 & 4  
3:15 p.m. Staff Meeting |
| THURSDAY | Sport: Swim & Survive program Yr 1-6  
Library Kinder & Year 5  
Yr 2 morning prayer at assembly |
| FRIDAY | Library Years 2, 6 & 3  
Canteen  
K & Yr6 to midday Mass  
Guitar lessons |

Future Events
Pool Night: 16 March  
St Joseph’s Day celebrations: 18 Mar  
Stations of the Cross: 24 March  
Pupil Free Day: 8 April
CHILDREN’S CROSSING AT FRONT OF SCHOOL...

Just a reminder, that when travelling along the front of our school, there is a Children’s Crossing with orange flags near the Pre-School. The speed limit is 40km and must be adhered to.

The crossings and speed limits operate just before and after school hours (8am – 9.30 am and 2.30pm – 4pm). The crossing is highlighted with orange flags with CHILDREN CROSSING on them.

**When the flags are displayed you must slow down and stop before the stop line if a pedestrian is on or entering the crossing.** You must not proceed until all pedestrians have left the crossing you must not stop on or within 20 metres before a children’s crossing.

When crossing the road with your child, **please hold their hand** and do not allow them to run ahead. Stop in the centre island, check for traffic before crossing to the other side. Do not assume that all cars will stop and see you.

*Mrs Steep.*

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SPORTING NEWS

**SCHUBERT SEvens**

A reminder for all Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 boys and girls interested in taking part in this day in Port Macquarie on Wednesday 16th March that permission notes need to be returned to class teachers by Monday 7th March, if not already returned.

**DIOCESAN SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

Summa Clare, Mackenzie Dietrich, Keira Hetherington, Sienna Gill, Sarah McIntosh and Maddi Goodridge represented the Hastings Zone at the Diocesan Carnival held in Lismore last Wednesday. Sarah and Maddi both qualified to represent the Lismore Diocese at the Polding Carnival being held at the Homebush Aquatic Centre later this term. Well done girls!

The Junior Girls 4x50m relay team finished a close 4th to narrowly miss out on qualifying for the Polding Carnival.

All 6 girls reported having an enjoyable experience in Lismore as they competed against the best swimmers in our Diocese.  

*Mark Bullock (Sports Co-ordinator)*

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**From the Office**

**UNIVERSITY TESTS for Yrs 3-6:**

Please send money with entry form, otherwise entry will not be valid.

**PERMISSION FORMS & PAYMENTS:**

To avoid increased administration, it is requested that any permission forms going home requiring payment for an event (in particular external sports or excursions) **need the money to accompany the signed note.** If payment is not received with the form, the form will be sent back home. Payment at time of nomination ensures that the students’ entry is validated. Thank you for your understanding in this matter ☺️
Let's Pray...

Lord, we thank you for our daily bread. Give us the strength to take action and help our brothers and sisters around the world.

We thank you for the Caritas Australia who are helping children, women and men who are the most poor to make sustainable food sources.

We ask your blessing on poor communities around the world that they may be able to grow, share and have food for life. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Project Compassion...

Update!! We have now raised just over $200 towards our Project Compassion fund! Thank you to everyone who contributed to our class competition last week by generously donating money. The winners of our class competition were:

Infants- Kinder & Primary- Yr 6

CAN YOU HELP?

"Bill" is a 2 y.o. Cockatiel.... looking for a new home!

He can talk and will sit on your shoulder.

For more details please contact our Principal David Hughes.

Thank you to Mr Marshall last week for taking the time to mow a cricket pitch for our students – there were lots of smiling faces & eager participants ready to use the new area.

Caritas AUSTRALIA

Covering of Dictionaries
The P&F have kindly helped to purchase some Dictionaries and Thesaurus's for our infants and primary classes. Before we can put these to use, we would like to have them covered in contact. If you are able to assist with covering these books, please contact me or leave a message with Mrs Muller at the office. With thanks, Mrs Steep 😊

CAMDEN HAVEN BOMBERS AFL TRY OUT DAY

WHEN: Sunday 6th March. 9:00-10:00am
WHERE: Laurieton Oval
WHO: Boys and Girls aged 5-11
COST: Come and Try day is FREE. If you would like to sign up for the Auskick season, it is $70 which includes a backpack full of goodies.

CONTACT: Paul Mance on 0413 938 361