



TUESDAY 30 NOVEMBER 2012

NEWS 4 TERM 4 2012

LEADERSHIP TEAM NEWS

Dear Parents,

Welcome to this week's newsletter.

We continue the series of articles on school funding again this week. Please take a moment to read the article in *blue* below.

Catholic students achieve more with less funding



On average, it costs the government 20 per cent more to teach students in government schools, compared to Catholic schools.

Even with the fees that parents pay in Catholic schools, it is still cheaper to teach students in a Catholic school.

Even in the toughest communities, and with less money, Catholic schools are acknowledged for sowing the seeds of high expectations and discipline in students, while developing well-rounded learners who get better results.

The Australian Government's NAPLAN results show that, on average, Catholic schools continue to show improvement in their most needy students. These students are more likely to study at university after they finish school.

According to the My School website, the success of Catholic schools comes at a saving to the Australian taxpayer of around \$2.2 billion each year.

Catholic school funding must keep pace with rising government school costs. Catholic schools cannot afford to have their funding frozen, as any funding freeze would really be a cut. This is unfair to Catholic school parents because their schools are already saving the government money.

For more information about Catholic school funding visit fundinginfo.catholic.edu.au (Click on vide on electronic version of newsletter.

Tuckshop Survey

There will be a survey sent home this week for you to feedback information on this service to the ladies who run the tuckshop. Please take a moment to give us your views.

Farewell

Last Friday we said thanks and farewell to Jane Powell who has been teaching Year 1 while Kerrie Chudleigh has been on long service leave. We welcomed back Kerrie this week who will take no time at all to settle back into the routine of Year 1.

Art News

Congratulations to the 9 children who were shortlisted in the **Brisbane Catholic Education Art Competition**. Abbey H, Matthew T, Jack R, Ainsley C, Kirra P, Erin W, Lilly B, Molly K and Henry D went up to Suncorp Piazza on Monday for the announcement of the winners. Congratulations to all of these children and to Matthew T who came 2nd in the competition and won a prize for himself and the school.

The **St Augustine's Art Show** last Thursday night was a great celebration of the work being done at the school. Thanks to Tania Wood (Art Teacher) and the P&F for supporting this evening with a sausage sizzle and the raffle.

Whole School Term Mass

We will celebrate the **Term 4 School Mass** on Thursday 8 November at 9am in the Mary MacKillop Centre. All community and school family are welcome. The theme for the Mass is "We Strive to be Saints."

Thursday 1 November begins with the Feast of All Saints and follows with the Feast of All Souls on 2 November. November is the month of 'All Souls,' a month when we remember family and friends who have died. A **Remembrance Book** has been placed in St A's front office. In this book you are invited to write the names of loved ones, those you have lost recently as well as those you may have known many years ago. This book is for all students, staff, family and friends from our school community. Each day this book will be taken from the front office and placed near the prayer cross. As a united group we will pray for all those who are written in this book as well as all those who are written in our hearts and our minds.

We also have a special prayer board in the chapel and whenever prayers are requested the name of that person is written on a small card. You may find a special person that you know is already on this board from earlier in the year. The cards are available from any teacher or from baskets in the front office or in the chapel. Your special person will be remembered throughout the month and prayed for by the St Augustine's community.

SOCKTOBER for Children's Mission

Thank you to all who participated in, or donated to, the 'Crazy Sock Day' last week. We raised \$430 for children in need. Many thanks.

Annual Drive for PNG

Start collecting! Sort out those cupboards and start getting the bags ready to send this year. This final Mini Vinnies event for 2012 will be held during the week of 29-30 November. Start putting aside any items that you do not need for the HUGE week of collection. Clothes, books, shoes, medications and SOAP are all in great demand to this group of less fortunate people. Donations can be dropped off in the tunnel behind Rooms 3 and W (Year 3 classrooms). MAD (Make A Difference) St A's! We are so blessed, let's share some of what we have with others.

Don't forget the SOAP! You can start sending in cakes of soap to the office from tomorrow. A competition will be held for the closest guess this year!

Child Care Rebate

Families who have children in Prep are able to apply for Child Care rebate. There are several criterias for eligibility and I suggest that you contact your Family Assistance Office to see if you are able to apply. If so, then contact Mr Sheahan in person and he will then issue receipts for your school fee payments. These are produced to a FAO format so will take a couple/few weeks to produce for you. You can find out more information on the Family Assistance website www.humanservices.gov.au

Direct Debit Discounts

Families who have paid their fees by direct debit throughout the year (without hiccups) will shortly have their fee accounts credited with the 2.5% discount (1 child \$64.80; 2 children \$96.00; 3 children \$116 and 4 children \$116.) A total of 157 families received the discount totalling up to \$13,000.

Staff News

Stephen will be away at a Principal's Meeting on Tuesday afternoon. Sue Murray and Deb Hyland are attending a network meeting on Wednesday. All teaching staff will be attending a twilight in-service session here at the school on Wednesday evening. Lonnie Rutland will be attending a Teacher Librarian network on Thursday. Deirdre Pullen will be at a Music Workshop on Friday.

Stephen Montgomery, Lynne Rohanna and Jane Marrison (Leadership Team)

GENERAL NEWS

St Augustine's Public Speaking Competition

The St Augustine's and Kate Pagano Public Speaking finals are being held this week (Week 4) and in Week 6 of this term. The teachers are guiding the children and students are busy preparing their speeches. Students from each class will be chosen to present their speeches to adjudicators. The finals details are listed below:

Thursday 1 November: Year 6 – 11:20 am; Year 7 – 12:20 pm

Monday 12 November: Year 3 – 9:40 am; Year 4 – 11:20 am; Year 5 – 12:20 pm

Wednesday 14 November: Year 1 – 9:40am; Year 2 – 11:20 am

Mrs Anne Louise Allen (Public Speaking Co-ordinator)

Christmas Gifts from the Pious Goods Store

Have a look at the goods that are available for Christmas gifts this year. You can purchase these from the Mini Vinnies Pious Goods table at the Friday Assembly held in the hall each week. Great stocking fillers!

Uniform Shop Addition

With the swimming classes beginning this week the students will be needing bags to store their swimming gear before and after lessons. We have 50 only of these swimming bags available in the Uniform Shop for \$5 each. You can also use them as a book bag when the reading lessons are over. Very economical!

Lost Sports Shirt: 1 x brand new size 10 sports shirt. Missing since last Friday. If found please hand into the front office or to Peppia S in Year 5. Thank you.

TERM DATES

Term dates 2012: Term 4: Monday 8 October to Friday 7 December (9 weeks)

Term dates 2013: Term 1: Wednesday 30 January - Thursday 28 March

Term 2: Monday 15 April – Friday 21 June

Term 3: Monday 8 July – Friday 20 September

Term 4: Tuesday 8 October – Friday 6 December

LIBRARY NEWS

St A's Annual Book Fair and "Wine n Cheese" Evening

We are holding our annual book fair in November this year (**November 12-16**) and it will be held in the Drama Room, next to the Music and Art and near the Prep classrooms. The Fair will be open each morning from 8:00 am and each afternoon until late. On Monday 12 November, we will host late night shopping until 7:00 pm with a Wine n Cheese and music evening! This will be a great chance to view the books, have a drink and bite to eat and buy some early Christmas presents. I'll also have some books suitable for donation put aside for the library Wish List. All welcome!

RIBIT (Read In Bed It's Terrific!)

Congratulations to this week's RIBIT readers: Oliver W, Sophie B and Natasha W. Great work! Enjoy your prizes.

Remember...Children are made readers on the laps of their parents!

Mrs Lonnie Rutland (Librarian)

SPORTSCENE

QLD All Schools Touch Championships

This weekend, St A's is sending a senior boys team to compete at the QLD All Schools Championships at Redlands. The team has been training very hard, every school day for five weeks. We wish the boys all the very best in their games.

Swimming lessons P-5

This week, students from Prep to Year 5 will be involved in an intensive swimming lesson program at Palm Beach Pool. These lessons will be held focusing on all aspects of learning to swim, stroke correction and confidence in the water. Please remember that rash shirts are compulsory, caps will be issued at the pool, goggles are a good idea to be worn, no boardshorts to be worn by boys, and bring along a towel. St A's rash shirts are available for purchase in the uniform shop. Good luck to these students!

G.C. Catholic Schools Aquathon

St A's will again be hosting the annual Catholic Schools Aquathon Carnival at Currumbin Beach on Wednesday 14 November. Students aged 10-13 years will have the opportunity to trial and make the squad this Wednesday 7 November, with a fitness run around the oval. Students who achieved Age Champion awards (10-13 yrs) in 2011 are automatic entries unless otherwise advised to Mr Dolan prior to the trial date mentioned above. Each age division consists of 4 boys and 4 girls competing in the flagship race the Aquathon (Run-Swim/wade-Run), Flags and Beach Relay. The day starts at 10:00am and concludes approximately 1:00pm. Once the squad is finalised this week, a note will be sent home with successful trialists outlining specific times and all necessary details.

Summer Sport: The Year 5-7 students have had three fantastic weeks, enjoying the sports offered on Friday afternoon. From Dancing, to Ozsports, Skating and Surfing, these students are having a great time.

Students are reminded to bring two drink bottles each week as the days have been quite hot. We look forward to another 5 weeks of fun and exercise!

St A's AFL Auskick Program: A reminder to all parents of students attending, that you are expected to attend for supervision purposes each week please. Cars are also not permitted down the side road or on the oval for safety reasons. Students are to be ready and on the oval by 3:05 p.m. for a 3:10 p.m. start each Thursday. For more information, you can contact Kieran Daley on 0424 136 494.

Mr Shaun Dolan (Sports Co-ordinator)

TUCKSHOP ROSTER		
Date:	Tuckshop Helpers:	Home Baking:
<i>Wed 31 October</i>	<i>T Jones</i>	<i>M Suddes</i>
<i>Thurs 1 November</i>	<i>M Dellar, R Strotton</i>	<i>B Smith</i>
<i>Fri 2 November</i>	<i>C Johnston</i>	<i>K Dick</i>
<i>Tues 6 November</i>	<i>Help please!</i>	<i>A Meehan</i>
<i>Wed 7 November</i>	<i>C Lanham, D Power (8:30 - 11:30 am)</i>	<i>A Finn</i>

Melbourne Cup Day Meal:

Cheese burger meal includes cheese burger, popper and freddo frog. \$4.00. Order as per normal on the day.



COMING EVENTS

Thurs 1 Nov	Mass in Chapel, 9:00 a.m.: 3Navy
Thurs 1 Nov	Kate Pagano Speech Finals (Year 6 - 11:20 a.m.); (Year 7 - 12:20 p.m.)
Mon 5 Nov	Piano and Violin students' concert, 6:00 p.m. in the Hall
Wed 7 Nov	Prep 2013 Information Evening, 7:00 p.m.
Thurs 8 Nov	Whole school Mass in school hall
Fri 9 Nov	P & F School Disco
Mon 29/10-Thurs1/11 Mon 5/11 - Thurs 8/11	Swimming lessons, PBC Pool (Prep - Year 5): Prep - 11:00 a.m. Year 4 - 11:30 a.m. Year 2 - 12 noon Year 3 - 12:30 p.m. Year 5 - 1:00 p.m. Year 1 - 1:30 p.m.
Mon 12-16 Nov	St A's Annual Book Fair held in the Drama room. 8am - 4pm each day
Mon 12 Nov	Kate Pagano Speech Finals: Year 3 - 9:40am.; Year 4 - 11:20am. Year 5 - 12:20 pm
Mon 12 Nov	Wine n Cheese Night 5pm-7pm at the Book Fair.
Tues 13 Nov	Gold Coast Catholic Readers' Cup
Wed 14 Nov	Catholic Aquathon, Currumbin
Wed 14 Nov	Kate Pagano Speech Finals: Year 1-9:40 a.m. and Year 2-11.20 a.m.
Thurs 15 Nov	Mass in Chapel, 9:00 a.m.: 1White
Thurs 22 Nov	Mass in Chapel, 9:00 a.m.: 3White
Sun 25 Nov	Welcome Mass for 2013 new students and families, St Monica's Church, 9:30 a.m.
Tues 27 Nov	Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas concert, 6:00 p.m.
Thurs 29 Nov	Mass in Chapel, 9:00am: 7Navy and 7White
Thurs 29 Nov	Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas concert, 6:00 p.m.
Thurs 29-Fri 30 Nov	PNG collection.
Thurs 6 Dec	Years 7 final assembly and farewell to the school - DVD and song.
Fri 7 Dec	End of term 4. Awards and Liturgy commencing at 10 am
Thurs 24 January 2013	Uniform Shop Open 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Wed 30 January 2013	Term 1 commences, 8:30 a.m.

P & F NEWS

Art Show

Thank you to everyone who attended the art show last Thursday afternoon / evening. It was a fantastic night that showcased the children from Year 5 - Year 7 artistic talents. Congratulations to all who won prizes and we hope you all enjoyed your night. The art department raised necessary funds from the evening to supply the children with much needed art supplies.

Disco ... Friday 9 November

The St Augustine's disco is fast approaching on Friday 9 November. If you have not received the disco RSVP form / Volunteer form, you will find one attached to the newsletter or Mrs Clare Zuber has copies with her in administration. It is going to be the last one for the year so make sure you put your RSVP forms in! We appreciate any parents who can assist on the night, so if you can help out please let us know by completing the volunteer form which is on the bottom of the RSVP form. Many thanks.

Sue Wood (P & F Treasurer)

GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR NEWS

Worried about the teen years? Best to prepare now!

As parents, we often worry about the adolescent years. We struggle to parent our infants and young children only to be told by others, "Wait until they're teenagers!"

Well, the best way to prepare ourselves and our kids for the adolescent years is to start early ... the earlier the better!

The key to success is sound planning, regular review of strategies and constant adjusting as children gradually develop towards more independence. Establishing an effective system of rules and consequences and positive relationships within the family is the foundation for successful transition from childhood, through adolescence and into adulthood.

Some suggestions to achieve this:

Ensure your home environment is safe and loving ... be determined to eliminate behaviour that is violent or abusive (sibling rivalry is no excuse for violent or bullying behaviour and parents need to be good role models, too).

Expect all family members to participate in the various chores and tasks. As children grow towards independence, they need to take greater responsibility for chores and tasks ... make their own beds, take out rubbish, pick up their own clothes, wash and/or wipe up, etc.

Provide positive feedback when children behave appropriately ... "you have picked up all your dirty clothes and put them in the basket, good on you!"

Listen to your children **more** than you talk to them.

Avoid invalidating children's feelings (if a child says "I'm dumb", we tend to react by pointing out "that's ridiculous, look how good you are at ...". Instead, we can begin to explore the child's feelings ... "you think you're not good at things" and then listen without trying to judge or rescue. Work together to get to solutions.

Try to avoid being personal about inappropriate behaviour ... rely on the established system of rules and consequences to address the behaviour and work at keeping the relationship positive.

Behaviour is usually predictable, plan for it.

Work at, and practise, remaining calm when challenging behaviours occur. Try to 'think through' your response, rather than reacting emotionally.

Remember that we are all human and we do make mistakes even with the best made plans ... work on the 80/20 principle ... if we manage well 80% of the time, we can forgive ourselves for the other 20%!

We want to be in relationships with our children so that they believe they can talk with us about their problems. The development of these relationships takes time, persistence and understanding. It is important that we make the most of opportunities to be with our kids ... walks, mealtimes, reading and story telling, games, holidays and celebrations and give them the message that we will listen and will not always judge and lecture them.

A parent-child relationship that is very stressful or troubled during the pre-adolescent years can be a significant indication that professional help may be needed. Our investment of time and energy in our kids' early years is much more effective than trying to save the day in the more difficult-to-manage adolescent years.

Have a great week.

Tony (aposhea@bne.catholic.edu.au)

COMMUNITY NEWS

Class of '83 Reunion

The 30 year Reunion for the Year 7 - Class of '83, will be held on the southern end of the coast early July 2013. We will be including students who were in this Grade in the preceding years also. Formal invitations to be sent out closer to the date. We are still trying to find the following people: Greg Bond, Damian Grabowski, Maree Deehan, Andrew Preen, John Connolly, Jamie McLaughlin, Debbie Glynn and Kim Flynn. (Email [Ang Lowe ricange@bigpond.com](mailto:AngLowe@bigpond.com) for further details or if you have contacts for the above.)

Surfside Buslines – Bus numbers are changing!

From Monday 5 November, some Qld School Buses numbers will be changing. See the website for bus number changes. These are bus number changes only, Bus routes and times will remain the same. School bus drivers will be handing out notices and the information will also be available on our website www.surfside.com.au from close of business Monday 29 October. **Number change is effective from Monday 5 November 2012.**

Applications for 2013 Bus Passes Due Now!

A new application is required for a 2013 bus pass if your child

- is moving from Primary to Secondary School.
- is repeating a grade.



Reminder: A new application is required for all other instances where a child's home address or school changes.

Information on the School Transport Assistance Scheme (STAS), eligibility and application forms is available from the Department of Transport and Main Roads <http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/Travel-and-transport/School-transport.aspx> or by contacting your local School Transport Office on 5630 8857

Looking for a Cleaner?

I am doing general housework (\$25 – 2 hours minimum). Will be using your cleaning products. If you are interested, please call Michi on 0424 432 082.