



St Augustine's PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL



TUES 8 FEBRUARY 2011

WEEK 3 TERM 1 2011

LEADERSHIP TEAM NEWS

Dear Parents,
Welcome to this week's edition of the St Augustine's newsletter.

Silver Anniversary

We congratulate Fr Kevin who celebrated 25 years since his ordination on Monday 7 February. We thank Fr Kevin for all the work, the visits and the assistance that he has given to us all at St A's since his arrival in the parish.

Fr Kevin, we pray that God will continue to bless you for the next 25 years and more!!! Take care and enjoy the well deserved trip to Israel and enjoy the celebrations next Sunday. Our prayers are for you this week.

Cyclone Yasi

We have all seen many images and reports of the most recent natural disaster to hit Queensland. We are probably at the point of being numbed to the devastation that families have had to endure over recent months. Let us continue to keep all those affected in our prayers.

Queensland Floods

Thanks to all of the children for their wonderful effort in bringing in gold coins last Thursday for the Qld Flood Appeal. Under the leadership of Jane Marrison and the Year 7 leaders, all of the classes put the coins on an outline of the words 'St.A's Army'. The children raised \$1000 which is a mighty effort! The money will go now to support families from St. Augustine's Springfield who were affected by the recent floods.

Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to all of the children who swam at the Swimming Carnival on Friday. The weather was very hot but the children were enthusiastic and well behaved. Thanks to Mr Shaun Dolan and the teachers and parents who ensured the carnival was a great success. Thanks also to the P&F for the yummy sausage sizzle.

Parent Nights

Each Year level will be conducting Parent Nights this week and next. Dates and times were in last week's newsletter and are also in the Coming Events. We strongly encourage you to come along to the relevant night so that you are able to hear what the program and expectations are for the year. Your attendance and support will show your child that you value the parent/teacher partnership and their education. The nights and starting times have been staggered to allow as many families as possible to attend.

Building Progress

We took possession of the Staff Room and Uniform Shop last Wednesday. We are very lucky to have such great facilities at the school and the next part – the Undercover Area and Hall will also be wonderful when they are completed.

Beginning School Liturgy

The liturgy and presentation of school leaders is on this Wednesday at 11:30am. Congratulations to all of the children who were nominated by their peers and to the children who were selected to the official positions.

School Fee Accounts

School fees accounts were posted out last week. If you have already set up a direct debit with Mr Sheahan please disregard the statement. Thanks to those families who have been so prompt in organising payment of fees. Please contact the school if you are needing to make arrangements regarding fees.

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

GENERAL NEWS

SchoolCare Accident Insurance

Included in school fees each year is Student Accident Insurance. This insurance is 24 hours / 7 days per week. Please contact the office for a form to claim. Please also refer to the document at the bottom of this newsletter to read the detailed flyer.

St Augustine's School Prayer

God our Father

We thank you for the gifts that you give us today.

Bless us in all that we do and guide us in the choices that we make.

Help us to care for one another and look after those who need special care.

May we learn something new today and when things get hard help us to keep trying.

Fill our day with peace.

AMEN

Chess

Chess lessons recommenced today (Tuesday) in Room 14 and times are as follows:

Girls:	8.40 – 9.40
Year 4/5 Boys:	9:40-10:40
Year 2/3 Boys:	11:20 – 12:20
Year 6/7 Boys:	12:20 – 1:20

A replacement coach will be coming in over the next 4 weeks as Mr Hart will be away during this time. We congratulate Nicoli and his wife of the arrival of their new baby boy, born prematurely and with some complications. Please keep baby Hart and family in your prayers.

Music Department

This last week all the children at St A's have enjoyed the wonderful new facilities that are the new music and art rooms. They are just wonderful – spacious, fresh and new. The looks on the faces were priceless as they entered the room for the first time ... and as you can see Year 2 have had a great time dancing during a recent lesson! We are really so blessed to be given such wonderful facilities!

For those parents who have been contemplating some music lessons for their children there are still opportunities available for lessons in violin or 'cello. Mr David Su-Yek (phone: 0413 782 886) teaches on Mondays and there are instruments available through the school for a very reasonable hiring fee of \$20 per term.

Musicorp offers lessons in concert band instruments on Tuesdays (flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, saxophone) with a view to forming a school band ensemble.

Mr Scott Davies also offers drumming lessons after school on a Tuesday (phone: 0401 873 410) in the music room.

Please contact Mrs Pullen for any further information.

Susy Boyer Art Classes – Try the first class for free before you sign up!



Art classes commence Wednesday 9 February, 3:00pm to 4:30pm with illustrator, Susy Boyer. **First lesson is free for students wishing to before signing up.** \$19.80 per class (incl GST). Lessons are held in the new art classroom. For further details you may contact Susy on 0413 134426, www.susyboyerart.com; susy@susyboyerart.com

School Bus Timetable

Please see the school website

<http://www.sa.qld.edu.au/files/file/Reporting/Surfside%20School%20Bus%20Timetable.pdf> for a copy of the school bus timetable. Further queries may be directed directly to Surfside on 55716555 or www.surfside.com.au. Currumbin Valley bus queries may be directed to Brims Buslines on 02 66795533.

2011 Fundraising Kickstart initiative Celebrating 80 years of School Banking in 2011

For 80 years the School Banking program has been improving the financial literacy skills of students. To celebrate this milestone the Commonwealth Bank is contributing \$1.5 million to primary schools across the country to kick start their fundraising for the new school year.

\$300 Kickstart

As our school currently participates in the School Banking program we will be receiving a \$300 contribution from the Commonwealth Bank to kick start our 2011 fundraising efforts. Thank you to all the students that participate in the School Banking program.

For more information please visit <http://www.commbank.com.au/personal/youth-students/school-banking/default.aspx>

THE LEARNING CENTRE NEWS

The Learning Centre (TLC) is the home of St Augustine's Learning Support Team. The Learning Support Team includes our two Support Teachers, Inclusive Education - Sue Murray and Debbie Hyland. Sue, for Term 1, will be on Long Service Leave. Debbie will work 4 days each week (Monday - Thursday) and Bridget Beasley will work Monday – Wednesday (Weeks 4-10) for Term 1. School Officers are also members of the Learning Support Team, working in partnership with the class teachers and support teachers to assist specific students and programs within the school.

TLC room is used for assessment of small groups and individuals, teaching intervention groups, meetings, training tutors, storing resources etc.

Support team members are often busy in classrooms supporting teachers and students so there will not always be a staff member in TLC room. All are welcome to visit TLC at any time but you are encouraged to make an appointment if you wish to speak with Sue (Term 2-4) Debbie Hyland or Bridget Beasley (Term 1).

We try and have as many children as possible experience some time in TLC. It is important that the school community view TLC as an integral part of the school and talk positively of experiences in the room.

One of the ways we support students at St Augustine's is by offering long and short term Learning Centre Intervention Programs. If these programs involve withdrawing your child from class for lessons you are always notified in writing.

Types of Learning Support

Some of the things that Sue and Debbie do as Support Teachers: Inclusive Education

Assessment: Formal and informal assessment including: observation, individual, class /year level groups, diagnostic assessment and screening.

Consultation: Teachers, parents, school officers, administration, school support team, BCE consultants and other agencies.

Cooperative Planning: Programming, IEP development; curriculum.

Coordination/Facilitation: Educational Adjustment Program (EAP) and Verification process, ICAS; Student Support Teams; Volunteer Programs; Funding applications; Enrolment Application and Support Procedures.

Monitoring Progress: School screening; Assessment of individuals and groups; record keeping and collating information.

Professional Development: Staff meetings; workshops and staff update

Referral and Reporting to BCE and EQ Personnel and Outside Agencies: Referrals can be made to; paediatricians, psychologists, speech and language therapists, occupational therapists, EQ advisory visiting teachers (vision and physical impairment) and BCE school support services (guidance counsellor, consultant- inclusive education, speech pathologist - inclusive education) etc.

Reporting: Written formal reports for referral and verification purposes, informal and formal reporting to parents.

Resource Provision: Developing, purchasing, monitoring, demonstrating, sharing and trialling resources including reading materials, assessment materials and teaching programs.

Teaching: Long and short term programs, classroom programs, team teaching

Tutoring Programs: Peer tutoring, MULTILIT; Support-a-Reader; volunteer programs

Parent/Volunteer Workshop

The first workshop this year will be held on: Thursday 24 February, 2:00pm – 3:00pm in the Learning Centre (TLC – Room 16).

TOPIC: Using Pause, Prompt and Praise to Help Low Progress Readers.

Recommended for:

- Parents/Volunteers who support the reading of students with reading difficulties
- Parents/Volunteers who are interested in becoming TLC and/or Support-a-Reader tutors

If you are planning to attend this workshop, please send a note to TLC with your child.

TLC Volunteers

Wanted: Learning Centre helpers, tutors or specialist tutors

Helpers work in The Learning Centre with the Support Teacher(s). This might involve listening to children read, helping with story writing, publishing stories on the computer, preparing or making resources etc. Helpers need to be patient, flexible and resourceful.

Classroom Helpers/Literacy Block Volunteers

Class teachers may call for volunteers to help with literacy blocks; Support-A-Reader and other classroom activities. This is a great way to support the school in a practical way and become more involved with your child's education. Class teachers will provide more detailed information at their parent information sessions.

ICAS Competitions

ICAS stands for the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools, developed by Educational Assessment Australia (EAA) of the University of New South Wales (UNSW). The competitions are conducted during school hours and require no special preparation over and above the class work students cover with their teachers each day.

Entry into any of the ICAS competitions is open to all students from Year 3 to Year 7. As ICAS competitions are not being held until terms 2 and 3 this year, further details about entry will appear in the newsletter towards the end of this term.

SUBJECT	SITTING DATE	APPROX. COST
Computer Skills	Tuesday 24 May	\$6
Science	Wednesday 8 June	\$6
Spelling	Tuesday 21 June	\$8
Writing	Tuesday 21 June	\$14
English	Tuesday 2 August	\$6
Mathematics	Tuesday 16 August	\$6

For further information on ICAS and sample tests please visit: <http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/>

Qld Association for Gifted and Talented Children (QAGTC)

QAGTC is an open association of people who share a common interest in gifted and talented children. The Gold Coast Branch of this association holds regular activities/workshops. Please visit <http://www.qagtc.org.au/> for more information.

Deb Hyland (Support Teacher, Inclusive Education)

SPORTSCENE

St A's 2011 Swimming Carnival

Another great day was had by all last Friday at PBC pool. Congratulations to all the students who attended, cheered and swam for their respective house teams. It was pleasing to see many students having a go in races irrespective of their swimming ability.

The day would not have been possible without the assistance of many people. Many thanks to our dedicated teachers in their many roles on the day who did a great job. In particular, I would like to thank Rob White (set up), Mrs Louise Ryan and Year 7 Parent helpers (BBQ), Mr Sanders, Mrs Todarello, Mrs Rutland, Mrs Marrison and Mr Barrett (computer and recording area), Mr Dick (starter), Mr Hallinan and Ms Dick (marshalling), Miss Sampson (Chief Timekeeper/Judge) the remaining staff that were timekeepers, Mr Montgomery, Mrs Rohanna and Mr O'Shea (House Colour supervision). They all did a brilliant job under extremely hot conditions. Thank you to our Year 7 students who helped organise their House Colour teams on the day. Through their great example of leadership skills, we were able to finish the carnival on time.

This Friday morning (11 February) we will be announcing the House Colour champions for 2011, along with the age champions and the school male and female champion. This will take place at our usual assembly time of 8:40am.

Once again, congratulations to all on another good first up St A's carnival for 2011.

District Swimming Carnival

Students aged 10-12 years and have gained selection to represent St A's at District, will have their names placed up on the front school noticeboard by Wednesday afternoon. Selected U13 students will only be going to district if they have beaten qualifying times for high school. These students will be notified by Mr Dolan if successful. These students will compete at the Somerset College Pool on Thursday 17 February. A note will accompany home all these students this Friday. More details in next week's newsletter.

Mr Shaun Dolan (Sports Co-ordinator)

P & F NEWS

Swimming Carnival BBQ

Thank you to all the parents who helped with the BBQ at the Swimming Carnival last Friday. It was great to see so many parents supporting the staff and children during the day. The monies raised will go towards the purchase of the Year 7 T-Shirts and resources for the Year 7s Canberra trip.

P & F AGM

The P&F AGM will be held on Wednesday 16 February at 7.00pm at the school. Come along and meet our Principal Mr Steven Montgomery who will give an update on the building works at St A's and the goals of the school for 2011. After many discussions as a P&F committee we have put together "Key Dimensions of the St Augustine's Parents and Friends' Associations contribution to the School Community" and ask that you read the attachment below and understand the role of the P&F further. Attached also is a call for nominations for the 2011 P&F committee. Please complete and forward to the office before the AGM.

Key Dimensions of the Of the St Augustine's Parents and Friends' Association's Contribution to the school Community

At St Augustine's the Parents and Friends' Association see their role as having 6 Key Dimensions that sometimes overlap:

These dimensions are listed below.

Our aim is to support the school Principal and staff in providing a high quality inclusive Catholic Education for our children within a nurturing environment. Keeping the 'community spirit' alive is important to us. In addition to the 6 dimensions that have been identified, support is given to the school community in terms of volunteering at the tuckshop (baking and serving) and helping in the classroom. We also have parents in each class who volunteer as Class Representatives- these assist with enlisting volunteers for various activities and promoting events. Please nominate to join the P&F committee for 2011 and join us at the AGM Wednesday 16 February 2011.

SOCIAL	PASTORAL	RESOURCING	FINANCING	FUNDRAISING	EDUCATION
Welcome Evening; Cocktails Under the Stars	Sympathy cards Cards on birth of baby	Class resources	Skip bins for school yard blitz	Beachathon	Parent education opportunities; Guest speakers
Father child camp	Monetary support for those in need	Art supplies	Buses to some events	School Discos	Curriculum updates & discussions
Footy Picks	Casserole bank	Sports equip	T-shirts for Year 7	Sausage sizzles At school events	NAPLAN tests
Christmas Pageant	Playgroup	Uniforms	Buses for camps	Litterless lunch promo	National Curriculum
State of Origin Night	Welcome letters to new families	Equipment			Religious Education Promoting of the Teaching Profession



St Augustine's P&F committee call for nominations

Please nominate for the following positions and return to Mrs Clare Zuber in the office by Monday 14 February 2011. A nomination box will be on the front counter.

Executive with voting rights (to be elected at the AGM)

President _____
 Vice President _____
 Secretary _____
 Treasurer _____

Committee members with voting rights (to be elected at the AGM)

Social & Fundraising _____
 Pastoral _____
 Education _____
 Resourcing & Financing _____

PARISH NEWS



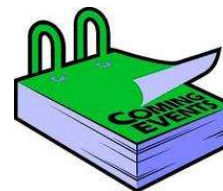
Little Angels Playgroup

Parents with preschoolers (0-5yo) are invited to "Little Angels" Playgroup, which is held every Tuesday in the Outside School Hours Care building. This is an informal playgroup with various activities. Time: 9.00am to 11.30am

Day: Tuesdays Charge: \$2 per visit
 Coffee and tea provided with a rotating morning tea roster.

Please bring snacks for your child. For more information please contact Alex Bee on 0424 628 814

COMING EVENTS



Wed 9 Feb	Beginning School Liturgy at 11:30am.
Wed 9 Feb	Year 7 Parent Information Evening, 6:00pm
Wed 9 Feb	Year 1 Parent Information Evening, 6:30pm
Thurs 10 Feb	Year 3 Parent Information Evening, 6:30pm
Thurs 10 Feb	Year 4 Parent Information Evening, 6:00pm
Fri 11 Feb	Assembly: 8:40 am – Announcement of Swimming Champions 2011
Fri 11 Feb	School Fees due
Sun 13 Feb	Mass at St Augustine's Coolangatta for Fr Kevin(25 years as a priest) 4pm
Tues 15 Feb	Prep Information Evening, 6:00pm
Tues 15 Feb	Year 6 Parent Information Evening, 6:00pm
Wed 16 Feb	P & F AGM, 7:00pm
Thurs 17 Feb	District Carnival on Thursday 17th February.
Wed 23 Feb	Medical Alert Meeting
Tues 22 March	Parent Parent Information Meeting, St Monica's Tugun, 7:00 – 8:30pm (Parents of Years 3 and 5 who are planning to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation this year).
Wed 23 March	Cross Country Carnival
Tues 5 April	Athletics Carnival – Field Events
Wed 6 April	Athletics Carnival - Track Events
Tues 24 May	Computer Skills Competition
Wed 8 June	Science Competition
Tues 21 June	Spelling Competition
Tues 21 June	Writing Competition
Tues 2 August	English Competition
Tues 16 Aug	Mathematics Competition

GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR NEWS

At this time of year, I usually include some information on school refusal and separation anxiety. I have already received a number of emails about this problem and also have been directly involved in helping kids stay at school while the parents 'do the exit'. This situation is not too much fun for any of the participants, as there is often quite a scene. In my experience though, it is usually the parent who suffers the most, because within five minutes of their departure, the child is happily going about her business, almost as if nothing happened.

So, what is the best way to manage this reluctance?

School Refusal/Separation Anxiety

Respond to any protests about going to school using an understanding, positive and reassuring voice: "I know you would prefer to stay home today, but everyone has to go to school and even if it is hard for you, I know you will be able to manage". Stay calm, confident and matter-of-fact. Use a 'broken record' strategy, if necessary, by repeating your response, especially if your child escalates the protests. Economy of language works best, even when you are tempted to over-explain or over-justify.

Make a plan with your child about the drop-off arrangements and insist on your exit strategy: "We will walk together to the gate, you can give me a cuddle, then I will leave straight away, as I have to go to work (get home to finish the cleaning, go to the gym" etc). "I (or dad, or grandma) will collect you again at 3:10". If you expect any further problems (ie your child will run after you), then have a back up plan: "If you make a scene, I will take you to the office and leave you with the principal, APA, APRE, Guidance Counsellor" (you may have to pre-arrange this). Ask him is there anything else that would make this easier for him. If his request is reasonable eg if he asks if his mate can meet him at the gate and you can make this arrangement, then by all means do so. Otherwise, let him know firmly that you expect him to follow the plan.

On the way to school, remind your child of the plan, respond to protests as above and communicate that you expect her to follow the plan. Do not make promises that you cannot keep.

Above all, make sure that you follow your part of the plan, including the back-up if required. There may be lots of tears and protests, but continue to communicate your confidence in your child to manage this and exit immediately according to the plan. While you may think all eyes are upon you as you leave with screams echoing in your head, be aware that most parents have had some experience of this, and therefore, will be understanding. Teachers and school personnel respect parents who act responsibly in dropping their children, giving a quick cuddle and a brief word of reassurance and exiting without a backward glance.

Don't hesitate to ring the school to check how your child has settled, but only after you have left the school environs.

The most important thing is to ensure that your child does not avoid school. If a child is effective in getting the parent to give in, then remedying the situation later becomes so much more difficult. Avoidance only serves to reinforce the anxiety and make it harder the next day, next week and even next year, despite any promises your child may make.

Have a great week,

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

OSHC NEWS

Enrolment/Bookings

Welcome to all families and children attending Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) this year. Thank you to all those who have returned 2011 Enrolments and Booking Forms to date. We must have these to accept your child/children's attendance. Please keep this in mind if you need us occasionally (i.e. if you are running late or have an appointment) as we cannot accept your child unless we have a current 2011 enrolment.

At OSHC we have a permanent booking and a casual booking for attendance. Permanent means you have stated on your Booking Form that your child will be attending certain days every week and you are booking to secure that that day is definitely available to you. Casual means you have notified OSHC that the attendance will be a one off and please note that you may not always have that request for attendance confirmed as we have staffing availability and ratios to adhere to. Please see our Fact Sheets for more information (on the school website).

Active After School Communities

Active After School Communities (AASC) will be joining us again this year for this exciting Australian Government initiative for children to Get Active After School.

Term One at OSHC sees Rugby Union Gold Coast hosting a one hour clinic of game based skills at After School Care (ASC) on Thursdays from 3:30 to 4:30pm. This is of no extra cost on the normal ASC fee.

Lost and Found

Quite a few items are in the OSHC lost and found crate ... mostly left from Vacation Care. Please check if any items are belonging to you.

Welcome new Staff Members

OSHC would like to introduce you to our new staff members Rachel, Cathryn and Julia who have started over the Vacation Care break and will continue on a casual basis throughout the year.

Have Fun! Play Safe!

Vikki Sturt and Staff at ST A's OSHC

CANTEEN ROSTER

Date:

Canteen Roster:

Baking:

Wed 9 Feb

Thurs 10 Feb

Fri 11 Feb

Mon 14 Feb

Tues 15 Feb

Wed 16 Feb

C Wildman (11:30-2:30), K Burns, K Harrison

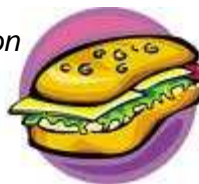
A Wilson, B Bergman, J Beggs

S O'Grady, M Laybutt, R Bulkely, J Fing

F Boyle, J Harriden

K Neumann, J Taylor

G Dietrich



H Hohn

E O'Halloran

M Pearson

M Suddes

COMMUNITY NEWS

Wanted to Buy

Medium size fridge in good working order. Please phone Nicole on 0415 729624.

PARENT JOB DESCRIPTION

POSITION :

*Mom, Mommy, Mama, Ma
Dad, Daddy, Dada, Pa, Pop*



JOB DESCRIPTION :

*Long term, team players needed, for challenging,
permanent work in an often chaotic environment.
Candidates must possess excellent communication and organizational skills
and be willing to work variable hours,
which will include evenings and weekends and frequent 24 hour shifts on call.
Some overnight travel required, including trips to primitive camping sites
on rainy weekends and endless sports tournaments in far away cities!
Travel expenses not reimbursed.
Extensive courier duties also required.*

RESPONSIBILITIES:

*The rest of your life.
Must be willing to be hated, at least temporarily, until someone needs \$5.
Must be willing to bite tongue repeatedly.
Also, must possess the physical stamina of a pack mule
and be able to go from zero to 60 mph in three seconds flat in case, this time,
the screams from the backyard are not someone just crying wolf.
Must be willing to face stimulating technical challenges,
such as small gadget repair, mysteriously sluggish toilets and stuck zippers.
Must screen phone calls, maintain calendars and
coordinate production of multiple homework projects.
Must have ability to plan and organize social gatherings
for clients of all ages and mental outlooks.
Must be willing to be indispensable one minute, an embarrassment the next.
Must handle assembly and product safety testing of a half million cheap,
plastic toys, and battery operated devices.
Must always hope for the best but be prepared for the worst.
Must assume final, complete accountability for the quality of the end product.
Responsibilities also include floor maintenance and janitorial work throughout the facility.*

POSSIBILITY FOR ADVANCEMENT & PROMOTION :

*None.
Your job is to remain in the same position for years, without complaining, constantly retraining
and updating your skills, so that those in your charge can ultimately surpass you*

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE :

*None required unfortunately.
On-the-job training offered on a continually exhausting basis.*

WAGES AND COMPENSATION :

*Get this! You pay them! Offering frequent raises and bonuses. A balloon payment is due when
they turn 18 because of the assumption that college will help them become financially
independent. When you die, you give them whatever is left. The oddest thing about this
reverse-salary scheme is that you actually enjoy it and wish you could only do more.*

BENEFITS :

*While no health or dental insurance, no pension, no tuition reimbursement,
no paid holidays and no stock options are offered;
this job supplies limitless opportunities for personal growth,
unconditional love, and free hugs and kisses for life if you play your cards right.*

**** AND A FOOTNOTE... "THERE IS NO RETIREMENT -- EVER!!! ****

TERM DATES 2011



25/01 - 15/04

27/04 - 24/06

12/07 - 16/09

03/10 - 02/