Dear Parents and Carers

The new St Finbarr’s website goes live tomorrow, Wednesday, with details of the new SchoolStream app to be found on the home page. The app is updated throughout each day with live streaming directly from the website and will continue to be expanded to provide a valuable communication tool between school and home. Content on the website will also be expanded over the remainder of the year. Your feedback and suggestions over the coming weeks would be very much appreciated as we tailor the content to the needs of our families.

As preparation gets underway for the 2013 Christmas Fair (25th Anniversary Fair), Stage 1 students investigate multiplication strategies using the school’s new iPads purchased through funds raised at the 2013 Fair. We thank all of our parents and local community sponsors. Through your generosity you have enriched our students’ learning.

Baby Bonus
A huge congratulations from the school community to Mrs Whittingham and Mrs Wade who are both due to become new mums in early 2014. We wish you every blessing in the lead up to this wonderful event. The Kinders excitedly announced the news to the school last week!

Regards

John Wilson
Principal
Assistant Principal Message

THE CREATIVE ARTS SHOWCASE
Dear Families and Friends,
You are cordially invited to attend the St Finbarr’s Creative Arts Showcase on Wednesday 18 September at 5:00pm in the school hall. This is the last Wednesday of Term 3. The theme for our showcase is “Journey” and each class is currently working on a piece to present to you across all forms of the arts (Music, Drama, Dance, Visual Art).
This night is not a fundraiser, it is purely a celebration of all the wonderful work our students create and produce within the arts at St Finbarr’s. Because of this, there is no cost to attend, but we do ask for the following:
- Please bring along a cushion/pillow to sit on
- There will be minimal costume requirements – but more info will come home at a later date
- There will be a sausage sizzle available on the night (for a small fee)
- Feel free to bring along a small picnic (food and/or drinks) to share with your family before the showcase begins
- Students will not be seated with their families – they will be with their class teacher

The showcase will be a culmination of all of the creative arts our students have undertaken so far this year, some of which has been filmed or photographed. Please note, this is a not a “play” or a performance similar to that of the past. The students are very excited about presenting the showcase in a new and different format, and we hope you are able to join in the celebrations with us on the night. Stay tuned for more information to come in upcoming newsletters.

Carolyn Wade
Assistant Principal
Leader of Pedagogy

PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE 2013
Register Now
With the countdown to the end of the 2013 challenge being 23 August, it’s still not too late to register for the 2013 Premier’s Reading Challenge! Any books read by students since 1 February 2013 can be counted towards their challenge total. The reading period closes on Friday 23 August 2013 with students reading records being validated by our coordinator by September 1.
What is The Premier’s Read Challenge?
The Premier’s Reading Challenge (PRC) is available for all NSW students in Kindergarten-Year 9. The Challenge aims to encourage in students a love of reading for leisure and pleasure, and to enable students to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely.
To register
Email our PRC coordinator Louise Capper at ljcapper@gmail.com

BOOK WEEK
The theme this year is READ ACROSS THE UNIVERSE!
That means St Finbarr’s is a ‘gravity free zone’! So wear your brightest smile, your best space suit, create your alfoil antennas, perfect your moon walk and join the fun on Wednesday 21 for our Book Week parade.
This year our Book Week parade will be happening in the hall – and every class will have an opportunity to show off their creative space themed outfits. Parents are welcome to join in this special assembly at 9am where we will be celebrating Book Week and giving out prizes to the best dressed students.

A big congratulations to Tobyn Burvill on his well deserved selection as Trinity’s male school captain.

CANTEEN NEWS - there will be no pizzas this Friday as Denise will be away.
Why We Do The Things We Do

Why do we make the sign of the cross?

Do you rush through the sign of the cross as if swatting a fly? Don't! This gesture contains powerful symbolism connected with the Trinity and with baptism. Indeed, it can be viewed as a prayer in itself. By making this sign you are identifying yourself with generations of Christians, for the common usage of the familiar formula - In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen - can be traced back to the second century.

First Eucharist – Jesus’ Table Ministry

Jesus carried out much of his ministry over a table. He gathered around a table with tax collectors and sinners so that they might feel accepted. (Lk.15:1-2, Mt. 2:15). He ate and drank with all kinds of people, and invited all to share at his table, to partake of his food and drink. On that night of nights, when Jesus wanted to leave his friends something to remember him by, he gathered them around a table. He gave them the gift of himself when he broke the bread and shared the wine. He told them, "Do this in memory of me." Eucharist is a time of sacred celebration when we are called to gather as a community of disciples around the table of the Lord to once again receive the life of Jesus in the form of bread and wine.

Stage 2 (combined) Teaching Mass – 9.30am, Friday 23 August St Finbarr’s Church Byron Bay
First Eucharist will take place on Sunday, 8 September at 9.30am at St Kevin’s Church, Bangalow.

Yours in Christ,
Tom O’Dwyer
Leader of Evangelization

Diocesan Athletics Carnival:
On Friday 9 August several of our students competed at the Diocesan Athletics Carnival at Riverview Park Lismore. Successful athletes from this carnival will travel to Newcastle for the Polding Athletics Trials on Friday 6 September. Congratulations to these students for qualifying for the Polding Carnival: Riley Buckland (Snr Boys 800m) , Lola Neale (Jnr Girls 200m and Jnr Girls Long Jump) Caelan Maladay (11yr Boys Shot Put ) and Lucas Magree (Jnr Boys Long Jump).

Congratulations to these students for also competing at the Diocesan Carnival: Erin Boggis (Jnr 800m) and Phoebe Smiles ,Ebony Anderson , Erin Boggs and Lola Neale (Jnr Relay Team). Oliver Rojo (11yrs Boys Shot Put), Billie Bridle (11yrs 800m) and Tom Reynolds (Jnr Boys 200m).

Tweed Catholic School’s Gala Sports Day
It has certainly been a successful year for St Finbarr’s on the representative sporting arena this year. At Friday’s Gala Sports Day our Stage 3 students competed in several sports against 6 other Catholic Schools from our Zone. Our girls Netball Team finished 2nd in the final by the smallest of margins after leading for the majority of the game. It was a thrilling game and the girls were magnificent. Even though very disappointed after the game the girls should be very proud of their achievement. Congratulations also to super coach Donna Clark who spent many lunch breaks training and preparing the squad.

John Wilson’s soccer team matched it with the best all day, finally going down in the final round of 4 by a single goal. Well done to the boys who were so close to pulling off a memorable day for the school. Thanks to coach Wilson who trained and prepared the team so well in the weeks leading up to the carnival.

The Touch Footy team finished the day with a perfect 6 out of 6 success rate. The boys played with precision team work and were much too skilful for their opposition. Coach Wills handed out plenty of advice and coaching tips but the boys won anyway!!!!

The non- competitive netball and soccer teams also had a great day with several victories and some close defeats for a very successful day. Many thanks also to Coach Coleman and Coach Slattery for assisting these teams throughout the day.

Milo Cricket Carnival:
Stage 2 students today competed in the Milo Cricket Carnival at the Recreation Grounds in Byron Bay. Mr O'Dwyer will publish a review of the day in next week’s newsletter.

Stage 1 and Kinder Mini-Athletics Carnival:
Students from Kinder and Stage 1 will compete in our final stage of this year’s Athletics Program. The points won this Friday by the students for their respective teams will decide the champion team for 2013. Competition starts at 9am and concludes at 11am. A note with all details and a full program of events went home with the children on Monday. Parents are most welcome and your presence on the day will provide a great atmosphere for the children.

Kerry Wills
P.D.H.P.E and Sport.
School Fees
Fees are due Friday 30 August. If you didn’t receive them please contact the office.
Payments can be made by cash, cheque, credit card or forwarded direct to Bank account BSB 062-514 A/c No. 00900371. Please quote account number or child’s name as details.
BPAY facilities are also available using Biller Code & Reference No. from statement.
Please contact John Wilson if you are experiencing financial difficulty.

Keep us up-to-date
Don’t forget if you change any of your contact details i.e. address, work/home/mobile phone numbers, emergency contact details, email addresses you need to let the school office know immediately.

School Banking
School Banking is every Wednesday. Please hand bank books to class teacher.

Canteen
Rostered on for canteen this week is
Friday 23 August - Sue Hawkins
Tuesday 27 August - Volunteer needed

HAPKIDO CLASSES
Korean Martial Art of Self Defence
Have fun and get fit

Class Times
Tues 6:30-8:30pm (Adults and Teenagers)
Wed 3:45-5pm (Kids 8-12yrs)
Thurs 6:30-8:30pm (Adults and Teenagers)
Sat 9:30-11:30am (Adults and Teenagers)

Location
St Finbarr’s Primary School Hall
Opposite Byron Bay High School
For more info call 0404 489 781

General News - On Display - Parent Notice Board (Outside Library)