General Messages

Hapkido
Korean Martial Art of Self Defence
Adults & Teenagers
Tues & Thurs 6.30pm-8.30pm
Sat 9.30am-11.30am
Kids 8 - 12 Years
Tues & Weds 3.45pm-5.00pm
Location St Finbarr's Primary School Hall, Byron Bay
For more info call: 0404 489 781

Trinity Catholic College Lismore
OPEN NIGHT
2014
Thursday, 15th May 6.00pm
Trinity Sports Centre

OASIS 2014: ‘Light the Fire Within’
Lismore Diocesan Young Adult Weekend
Age suitability 18-40yrs
The weekend will be held from
9am Saturday 31st May - 2pm Sunday 1st June 2014
At “Koinonia by the Sea” Terrace St, EVANS HEAD NSW 2473

DIOCESAN CO ORDINATOR Fr Richard Foley
02 6681 2051/0417 699708; catholicchurch.corr@gmail.com

All parents and parishioners are warmly invited to attend
An afternoon retreat with Fr Richard Leonard SJ
From Darkness into Light: holding onto faith through rough times
The Upper Room, St Francis Xavier Parish, 53-57 Cherry St, Ballina
Thursday May 15th 1.30-3pm

School Fees
Invoices for school fees for Term 2 were sent home to families last week. If for some reason you did not receive your invoice could you 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.

Term 2  6 May 2014  Week 2

Loving, Growing, Learning for Life

Principal’s Message
Dear Parents & Carers

Sunday’s Gospel  Luke 24:30-32

Now while he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, ‘Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?’

The church continues through the Easter season with further gospel accounts of Jesus appearing to his disciples after the resurrection. Luke’s account of Jesus meeting the two men on the road to Emmaus highlights those everyday experiences of awareness (their eyes were opened) and passion (did not our hearts burn within us). Are there moments in our week when our eyes are opened to a real truth or beauty or when our hearts burn with a deep love, when we experience the divine in the ordinary?

Mothers Day
I look forward to sharing breakfast with your family this Friday and trust that it will be a wonderful celebration for our amazing mums, grandmas and mother figures. You are so important in the lives of our children! Our prayer and assembly take place in the hall immediately following the breakfast at 8:30am. Thanks to our organising team and the Stage Three parents for your hard work.

Regards,

John Wilson
Principal

Learning
It’s all about Learning
At St Finbarr’s we are committed to creating a learning environment that allows all students the best opportunity to achieve high levels of learning. A very strong emphasis is placed on learning and the supportive structures that will ensure we are able to maintain this focus.

Parent Teacher Interviews
Parent/Teacher interviews are scheduled to happen during the week Monday 19th May to Friday 23rd May, Week 4. Next week parents and guardians will receive an interview booking sheet that will need to be completed and returned to the class teacher. Interview times always fill up quickly and it is very important to return this form promptly.

Interviews will be 15 minutes in duration. To ensure that all interviews run smoothly and on time it is essential that the time allocation be adhered to and follow up meetings arranged if necessary. To ensure that interviews are productive and teachers can focus directly on the areas that you would like to discuss, we request that you fill out the questions attached to the interview booking sheet. This will allow teachers to maximise their time with you.

The purpose of Parent/Teacher interviews is to facilitate parents and teachers working together as a team to ensure that all students achieve high levels of learning.

165 Bangalow Road, Byron Bay NSW 2481  tel: 6685 6342  fax: 6685 6754
email: tfbpbyron@ism.catholic.edu.au  www.stfbangalow.catholic.edu.au
**Learning**

NAPLAN

Students in Years 3 and 5 will complete NAPLAN (National Assessment Program-Literacy and Numeracy). This is a government initiated assessment program aimed at checking student levels of proficiency against national benchmarks. The results give the school and education authorities a snapshot of how students are meeting educational goals.

The NAPLAN tests will be conducted from the 13th – 15th May (Week 3). Tuesday 13th May - Language Conventions and Writing Wednesday 14th May - Reading

Parent and Guardians will receive their child’s level of achievement during Term 3, 2014.

School Photos

School photos will take place on Monday 26th May, Week 5. Today you would have received an envelope from Classic Colour Studios along with the newsletter. If you would like to purchase school photos for the 2014 school year, please complete the form on the back of the envelope and return to the school office with your payment details by 16th May, 2014.

Michael Piccoli
Assistant Principal

Parent Reading Workshop

Parents, Grandparents and Carers are warmly welcomed to attend a parent reading workshop next Wednesday 14th May 2014 from 3.30pm to 4.30pm. Mr Nic Constable, Catholic Schools Education Consultant, will run this invaluable workshop. The role of parents in speaking and listening to children in storytelling and providing to books cannot be overestimated. Books, read to and shared with young children, provide the richest literacy experience and are vital to future success. As parents in partnership in your child’s learning journey we would love to see you there.

Lisa Conte
Leader of Pedagogy

Amended ICAS Dates

Please be advised that two of the ICAS dates have been changed. The Writing assessment will be conducted on 11 June 2014 and the Spelling assessment will be on 18 June 2014.

Waste Workshops

Last week Tashi and Sally from SOLO waste conducted recycling workshops with every class in the school to prepare us for our new and improved recycling (and composting) program that will roll out over the next couple of weeks.

Keep an eye out for 2 new bin stations in the playground that will include the recycling of metal, hard plastics, paper and cardboard as well as fruit and veggie scraps. We were given a free compost bin and worm farm to start us on our journey!

St Finnie’s staff will be participating in a composting workshop in the coming weeks too. There will also be a “Waste Warriors” student group that will form to begin and maintain a number of environmental initiatives at St Finnie’s.

If any parents have any ideas or particular skills in this area that you would like to contribute please contact Mrs Walters.

**Sport news**

School Sport

All classes will commence a 6-week Gymnastics program in Week 4 with North Coast Gymnastic Kindergarten, Stage 1 and Stage 2 each week with Stage 3 on Thursday.

Athletics

Term 2 is when our focus moves to Athletics. Children in Kindy and Stage 1 will be preparing for the school carnival with Mrs Clark during their weekly P.E sessions. Qualifying events for this year’s carnival will be held during lunch in the lead up to the big day at the end of term.

Zone Sport News

Cross Country

St Finbarr’s returned home on Friday once again clutching the Aggregate Trophy we won last year. Overall we finished a credible 4th and performed so well to once again win the shield for the school with the better point/school size ratio.

Several students won age champion medals and a host of students gained selection in the zone team to compete at the Diocesan trials in Lismore on 23rd May.

Age Champions:

- Ethan Staunton : First 8/9 Boys Division
- Erin Boggis : First 11 year Girls Division
- Billi Bridie : Runner up Senior Boys Division


Congratulations to all our team who contributed to this wonderful result but also for their determination, sportsmanship and pride in our school. Thanks to Mrs Boggins who served as Team Manager for the day in trying conditions.

Thanks to the parents who put in hours of training with their children in preparation for the day. The children, due to your encouragement, can see the rewards gained through effort and hard work.

PDHPE News

The focus this term in all stages is “Keeping us safe around Drugs and Medicines”.

Kerry Wilks
Sport and PDHPE

**Evangelisation News**

This Sunday, we celebrate Mother’s Day. It is the time of year where children make cards and thoughtfully choose presents that best say ‘I love you’ to the mothers and mother figures in their life.

The commercial possibilities for Mother’s Day are endless; there are tributes in magazines about mothers, hallmark cards in every shop and gifts everywhere that celebrate the love between mother and child. On this day, it’s also important to reflect on how distinctive and important the love of a mother is for who we are and whom we become. After all, motherhood is not just about bringing biological life, but the fullness of life also through love, sustenance, and nurturing.

The greatest example we have of this is Jesus’ mother Mary. Mary is often remembered as the well sculptured plaster version of herself which sits in the corner of the church, but the real Mary was a woman who can teach us so much about the highs and lows of motherhood. She said yes to motherhood when she didn’t really understand why, she had to get to know her child whom she didn’t fully understand, confront her fears about how to protect him, face the pain of his suffering and be there when nobody else was. Her human qualities remind us so much of our own; gentle yet determined, joyful and sad, frightened yet trusting. Most of all though, Mary modelled a love for her child that was entirely unconditional.

As Mothers Day 2014 approaches, let’s celebrate the love of a mother for her child, which bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things and endures all things.

Kate Jones
Leader of School Evangelisation and Catechesis

katejones@lism.catholic.edu.au

**Professional Development**

The following professional development activities are being undertaken by our teachers during the coming weeks.

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tr>
<td>16/5</td>
<td>John Wilson</td>
<td>Primary Principals Meeting, Lismore</td>
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**Evangelisation and Catechesis Noticeboard**

Confirmation Preparation program continues this Thursday at 3.30pm in the hall.

Mrs McGloin will be leading the children’s liturgy and Mr Piccoli, Ms Blatter and Mr Wilson will be playing the music at Mass this Saturday, 10th May.