**General Messages**

**Women's Reflection Day**
St Francis Xavier Parish, Ballina invite you to join with us in a day of prayer and reflection with Sister Maureen McDermott.
When: 10am—4pm Sunday, August 31 2014
Where: St Francis Xavier Old School Hall, Swift St Ballina
Contact: For info & to register contact before 22 August: Ballina Parish 6681 1046 or Gemma Duffy - 0407 722 546 allgalat@bigpond.net.au

**Proclaim Lismore Parents 2014**
*"It takes a village to raise a child"*
Proclaim Lismore Parents 2014 - "It takes a village to raise a child".
- What do you want most from a Catholic education for your child?
- How are parents valued and respected as important educators by your school?
- What do you see as the greatest challenges for schools in the areas of parent partnership, education, student well-being, and faith formation?

If these are questions that concern and interest you as a parent or carer then you should register your interest for Proclaim Lismore Parents 2014. The Proclaim Parent Meetings will be held throughout our Diocese in October, only a few short months away. These meetings will be opportunities for vibrant discussion about your experience for Catholic schooling and the exciting possibilities for the future.

**Woodlawn Family Bingo Fundraising Night**
Saturday 26th July 2014
Doors open at 6.00pm
Dobbers and pens will be on sale
Come support our College while enjoying an evening of fun, family, food and prizes!!
Tea, coffee, cold drinks & snacks available to purchase – BYO if you wish Reserve your table of 8 and receive one free bingo dobber!!
Enquiries and table bookings contact Rose Smith call or text 0422337781 or rosesmith7@bigpond.com

**PRIMARY SCHOOL BASKETBALL TERM 3, 2014**
AUSSIE HOOPS, ages 4-8yrs, 3:30pm - 4:15pm. Tuesdays, Bangalow Public, starting 22/7/14
Thursdays, Byron Bay Public starting 24/7/14
Fridays, St. Finbarr's, starting 25/7/14
MINIBALL, ages 8-12yrs, 4-5pm - BRSCC, Ewingsdale Rd. starting 22/7/14
Just turn up & Register or info@byronbasketball.com
ph 66872246 a/h

**Greek Language Classes**
Each Saturday, 10.30am
At Byron Public School
Enrolment: Saturday 19th at 10.30am

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**Loving, Growing, Learning for Life**

**Principal's Message**

Dear Parents & Carers

**Sunday's Gospel**

"The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat." The slaves said to him, "Do you want us to go and gather the weeds?" But he replied, "No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn."

For the life of me I don't know where those camphor laurel seedlings appear from but every time I turn around a new batch appears in another part of our property. It literally drives me mad. I wonder if Jesus was making the point that, like the state of our fields and gardens, we will never be perfect. Like it or not the human condition is a constant process of growing, weeding, refining and growing some more. Perhaps the trick is to remember to notice, harvest and enjoy the wheat—the gold—while we're at it.

**Stage 3 Excursion to Sydney**
Thanks to feedback from Stage 2 parents we will be sending a daily update from Sydney via our school app. If you haven't already downloaded the School Stream app just go to the app store from your smart phone, search for School Stream and press download, but make sure you do so before Monday.

Students depart early Monday morning from Coolangatta airport for the three day excursion. Our itinerary takes in the Maritime Museum, Sydney Observatory, Parliament House, Hyde Park Barracks, Art Gallery of NSW, Taronga Zoo and Mary McKillop Place. I sincerely thank our wonderful teaching staff for the enormous effort and time they are contributing to the planning and leading of the excursion so as to enhance the learning for our students.

**The Fruits of Our PLC (Professional Learning Community)**
The PLC culture at St Finbarr's is growing every week so that that every child can ultimately achieve higher levels of learning. We are partners with you in this process and want you to understand the changes taking place so that you can support more powerful learning for your child and for all our students.

To be more transparent and to involve you more in the learning process the following new initiatives are taking place at St Finbarr's:
- Your child's teacher will send home a learning folder every 2nd Friday (beginning week 3) that contains samples of your child's learning and assessments from that fortnight. Please take the time to review, sign and return by the following Monday.
- The Maths essential learnings and proficiency scales (the specific targets that each child is working towards) for this term are being sent home by the end of this week. As you receive regular assessment check-ins you will be able to track your child's progress against the proficiency scale.

With best wishes,
Regards,

In a PLC our focus is on what has been learned rather than what has been taught.

From a focus on what is taught
To a focus on what has been learned

Today my teacher taught about multiplying fractions.

John Wilson
Principal

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**WINTER WONDERLAND NARNIA DISCO**

**THURSDAY 14TH AUGUST**

DRESS: ANYTHING WINTER WOOLLY/WINTER WOOLLY DISCO HATS & PULLOVERS NARNIA

TIME: 5.30-6.30PM - KINDER, YEAR 1, 2 AND 3 6.30-7.30PM - YEAR 4, 5 AND 6

ENTRY $.75 PER CHILD OR $2 A FAMILY

SWAGGA TURKEY SNIFFER & SWEET & GLOW PRODUCTS FOR SALE

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**BANGALOW SWIM SCHOOL**

Learn to swim for Babies to Pre School children
Stroke Correction for older children
Enclosed Heated Pool Year Round

6687 2911
www.bangalowswim.com.au
swim@bangalowswim.com.au
168 Binna Burra Road, Bangalow 2479

165 Bangalow Road Byron Bay NSW 2481 tel: 6685 6342 fax: 6685 6784 email: slfbryon@ism.catholic.edu.au www.slfbryon.lism.catholic.edu.au
Learning
High Expectations - Striving for Excellence
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. We are extremely proud of the emphasis that is placed on learning and the supportive structures we have in place to ensure we are able to maintain our focus on learning. It is essential that we not lose sight of the fact that the school’s purpose in learning, is to develop in students a love of learning for life and a desire to strive for excellence.

Effective teachers do three things to establish high academic expectations for all students. At St Finbarr’s we are focussed on:
1. Establishing and articulating clear learning goals for students.
2. Tracking and monitoring progress for every student.
3. Celebrating success.

Effective teachers set high expectations for classroom practices and procedures that promote positive learning behaviours and maintain a focus on learning at all times. At St Finbarr’s we use the following high impact expectations:

1. Act- clearly articulating the learning intention and what student is need to do to achieve this.
2. Talk- clearly articulating what kind of discussion and collaboration needs to occur to achieve the learning intention.
3. Move- clearly articulating what kind of movement within the classroom will allow students to achieve the learning intention.

As teachers it is essential that we also have high expectations of ourselves. Several key questions that we reflect on as we strive to improve our teaching practice include:

1. How effective is my teaching and learning in ensuring every student is actively engaged and focussed on their learning?
2. What strategies do I teach my students to support them to take responsibility for their own learning?
3. How do I differentiate my teaching to ensure every student can learn?
4. Do I give timely feedback to my students that is directly linked to learning goals?
5. How is learning celebrated in my classroom?

Michael Piccoli
Assistant Principal

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**Evangelisation News**

**First Holy Communion**

On Sunday September 14th, students from St Finnes and our friends at Bangkok Public School will be celebrating their First Holy Communion. If your child is in Year 3 or above, and has received the Sacraments of Confirmation and Reconciliation, they are invited to receive their First Holy Communion.

Through the Sacrament of Holy Communion, we remember the Last Supper, the final meal that Jesus shared with his disciples. At that meal, Jesus gave the Eucharist so that we could remember him in a special way. Through Communion, we receive Jesus into our being and become one with Him, and one with each other. As a community we become 'the Body of Christ'. We believe we are nourished spiritually and brought closer to God through receiving Holy Communion.

If you would like your child to receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion, please attend the Parent Information evening on 29th July at 6pm to register your child and receive all the required information to partner your child through their sacramental preparation at home.

**Knitters Wanted: Wrapped with Love**

Last week, we began Mini Vinnies at St. Finbarr’s for 2014. This is an ongoing group of 17 students from Years 4-6 who are committed to working for social justice in our school community. As a group, the students would like to knit squares which will be sewn together to make blankets for homeless people through the St. Vincent de Paul 'Winter Appeal'. This project is called 'Wrapped with Love'.

We warmly invite parishioners, parents and grandparents to partner with us on a casual or ongoing basis for the next 6 weeks to teach our enthusiastic students how to knit. If you would like to join this project, I invite you to contact me via the school office or my email address katy.knightley@ism.catholic.edu.au to organise a 'Working with Children Check' and Mini Vinnies group meeting times.

Many thanks to Mr Ian Leggo for coming along last week and speaking with the children about the work of St. Vincent de Paul in the Byron Bay community.

Kind regards,
Kate Jones
Leader of School Evangelisation and Catechesis

From the Parish

We say goodbye to Sr. Karan Varker and give our heartfelt thanks for the support she has given our school for the last two years.

**Special Mass’ and Events**

15th August: Mass for the Feast of the Assumption, Byron Bay at 9.30am and Bangkok at 5:30pm.
31st August: Women’s Reflection day at St. Francis Xavier Parish, Ballina at 10am. Contact the Ballina Parish Office on 66811048 for more information.

Weekend Mass Times

St. Finbarr’s, Byron Bay: Saturday 6pm
St. Kevin’s, Bangkok: Sunday 9.30am

**Band Practice**

**Note NO band practice on 31 July due to Stage 3 excursion**

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**Altar Server Roster - Saturday 26 July 2014**

Aydin & Camille Neighbour
Julie Brophy & Tom Reynolds

Please be at the church at 5:40pm.