General Messages

School Fees
Payments can be made by cash, cheque, credit card or forwarded direct to
Bank account BSB 082-514 A/C No. 00900371.
Please quote account number or child's name as details.
BPAY facilities are also available using Billing Code & Reference No. from statement.
Please contact John Wilson if you are experiencing financial difficulty.

Canteen Duty
November allocated to Stage 1J
Contact: Cyra on
Friday 21st — Help needed
Tuesday 25th — Help needed

Xavier Book Packs
Reminder that yr 7/2015 Resource Pack is available to purchase online www.officecentre.com.au (search/ select Xavier Catholic College, Skennars Head NSW / Password: 2AXCAYTD88).
To save $9.95 off delivery fee please place order before 19th December 2014.

RRISK (Reduce Risk Increase Student Knowledge)
Health Promotion presents...
ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS:
What people working with adolescents need to know...
Paul Dillon has been working in the area of drug education for 25 years and works with young people across the country. Paul is the keynote speaker at the 2014 RRISK seminars. In this free presentation for parents, health workers, teachers and anyone who works with young people, Paul will share information on:
> Alcohol related violence
> Changes in attitudes towards cannabis
> Novel ways of smoking — sheesha and e-cigarettes
> Methamphetamine
> Changes in the way people are purchasing drugs
LISUMORE:
Where: Southern Cross Uni. Whitebrooke Theatre (Y block)
Date: Tuesday 25 November 2014
Time: 4.00pm—6.00pm

Lennox Head Sports Camp
Australian Youth Football Institute has partnered with Sports Camps Australia to provide 3 day soccer camp in the upcoming school holidays.
Being held at the Lennox Head Sport & Rec centre, Lake Ainsworth, this camp will be held in the school holidays from the 12th - 14th January, where players will be grouped according to age and ability.
Details for this camps and others can be found on our website www.sportscampsaustralia.com.au, where camps are also able to register. Attached to this email is a marketing postcard with the camp details.

Learn to Swim
Bangalow — swam School
Lessons for Babies to Pre School Children
Stroke Correction, and Swim Fit
6687 2911
www.bangalowswim.com.au
swimbangalowswim.com.au
88 Boo BArd Road, Bangalow 2479
Encyclicted Holfed Pool, Yar Room

Term 4  18 November 2014  Week 7
Loving, Growing, Learning for Life

Principal’s Message
Dear Parents and Carers
Christmas Fair 2014 Launched
Thank you to all students, parents (and grandparents) and teachers who contributed to the 2014 Christmas Fair launch on Friday. It was a memorable, magical and meaningful celebration that highlighted the tremendous talents of our children and the terrific spirit within our community. The Fair is now three weeks away and I am asking you to consider your involvement.
As you know, the Christmas Fair is our major fundraiser for the year and an important local community event. More than this however the Fair is our one opportunity each year to come together as a Catholic School community to create a wonderful family day of fun and celebration: a day where we invite the whole Byron community to experience the warmth, creativity and generosity of spirit that is StFinbar’s. It is a day where the sum of our collective efforts is significant because of the way we work together. Please, if you haven’t already, get involved at some level in the Fair over these coming weeks.
Your involvement, even for one hour on Saturday 6th December, will make a difference and will be greatly appreciated. It will also demonstrate to your child the value of community involvement in a very practical way and enable you to meet other parents! Best of all it’s lots of fun!

Parent Participation Survey
The Parent Participation Survey, mentioned in a recent newsletter, was emailed to families on Friday. If you did not receive one it is likely to be because the school does not have your current email address on our system. A letter will be forwarded to those families tomorrow asking that you please just email Rachel (rkeary@lism.catholic.edu.au) with a current email address. The survey will close Friday week, 28 November.

Thanks to the many who have already completed the survey. This is a great opportunity for the school to find out what assists our partnership and to learn what we can do differently to communicate more effectively and to support active parent partnerships in our school.

Fees and Funding
Many parents would not be aware of the significant difference traditionally in funding between Catholic and Public schools.
The new funding models introduced since the Gonski Review are aimed at closing this gap where, even with parental contributions included (school fees, fundraising), Catholic schools have been operating at 90% of the recurrent resources of government schools. Currently the school has $50,273 owing in outstanding school fees. This is an enormous amount that is affecting the school’s ability to meet operating expenses. If you are in arrears with fees and currently experiencing financial difficulty please contact Mrs Packham in the school office this week. If you are just behind with your payment would you please make this a priority and arrange payment this week so that the school can meet its financial commitments.

Library Books
Similarly there are a huge number of library books outstanding. We are seeking all overdue returns by Friday of this week. If your child has a book overdue he or she will have brought home a reminder notice. Please help us to maintain the high quality of our library resources and processes.

With best wishes for the week ahead.

John Wilson
Principal

School Day Start/ Finish Times 2015
Currently many children wait for approximately 20 to 40 minutes each afternoon for buses and two buses regularly arrive after the school day begins each morning.
As a result we are considering adjusting the school start time to 9:00am and the finish time to 3:20pm in 2016. Current before school supervision arrangements would continue. If this change would present a problem please let me know via an email to the school office.

165 Bangalow Road Byron Bay NSW 2481
Phone: 6685 0342 Fax: 6685 8574
email: stfpbyron@lism.catholic.edu.au www.stfpbyron.lism.catholic.edu.au
Learning

Learning in Action – 1J's Editing Empire
Students in Stage 1 are studying Toys this Term. 1J students, Lani and Lily, enthusiastically shared their descriptive writing with me. They are writing descriptions of toy characters and informed me of the proof reading process they follow when editing their own writing. After planning and writing the first draft they checked their writing for correct use of capital letters, organisation, punctuation and spelling. After editing their writing they wrote a second draft, ‘Take 2’, which is then displayed for further feedback. This process allows the students to read, reflect on and revise both their own and others writing.

Our Editing Empire

Lisa Conte
Leader of Pedagogy

Sports News

Stage 3 Gala Sports Day
Students from Stage 3 will join students from St John’s Mullumbimby in a day of sport this Thursday 20th November at school. The children will come together in several sports during the morning with two Representative Challenge Matches, Netball and Soccer, to be held from 12 noon. Parents are most welcome to attend the Challenge Matches. A note with all details went home last Monday.

Surf Safe Stage 2 & Stage 3
Stage 2 and Stage 3 have enjoyed magnificent conditions for the first 2 weeks of their surf program. The team from Surfing Byron Bay have established some great rapport with the students and all are having a wonderful and productive time.

Infants Swim and Survive Program
Notes went home last week with all the details of this year’s program. Efforts have been made to run the program over small consecutive time slots to better reinforce the skills learnt from the previous session without becoming too tiring for the younger students. Due to a large demand for pool space from other schools it was also necessary to organise our groups by age to better use the 3 x 45 sessions available to us. The students have all been placed into small groups with a trained instructor. Parents are most welcome to attend your child’s session. Parents are also requested to complete all consent and medical forms (if needed) and return to school.

Your child’s teacher will go through with their class all the procedures for the program. However it is compulsory for all children to wear a wet suit during the program.

Kerry Wills & Lisa Clark

Important Dates

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Evangelisation News

Many thanks to all the families who have bought in donations for the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal. Donations will continue to be collected up until 10 December, below is a reminder of what each class has been allocated.

- Kindergarten: Toothbrushes, toothpaste and soap.
- Stage 1 & 1B: Canned goods. Eg soup, fruit, milo.
- Stage 1J: Christmas treats. Eg bonbons, candy canes, puddings, chocolate.
- Stage 2H: Savoury Biscuits. Eg shapes, water crackers, sultanas.
- Stage 20: Chips and drinks. Eg chip packets and cordial/ juice/soft drink.
- Stage 3P: Other toiletries. Eg shampoo, conditioner, body wash, moisturiser.
- Stage 2W: Sweet Biscuits. Eg tiny teddies, timtams, scotch fingers.
- Stage 3S & 3C: Jars. Eg vegemite/peanut butter, nutella, relishes, coffee.

With many thanks for your generosity,
Kate Jones
Leader of School Evangelisation & Catechesis

Religious Education Noticeboard

- 27th November: Stage 2 Liturgy of the Word
- Ongoing: St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

Weekend Mass Times
St Finbarr’s, Byron Bay: Saturday 6pm
St Kevin’s, Bangalow: Sunday 9:30am

Altar Server Roster - Saturday 22nd November 2014

This week’s value: Make it Lifelong
(Weekly virtues: Confidence, Emphasis, Excellence, Patience)

Confidence is feeling sure of your self and being able to try new things.

Signs of success
- Remembering that you are a worthwhile person even when something you do doesn’t work out.
- Being willing to try new things.
- Thinking positively and making the most of your talents.