Dear Parents,

This week in our readings from St Paul’s letter to the Ephesians and in the Gospel according to John, we are reminded of God’s love for each of us. We are reminded that we are always welcomed and forgiven. Sometimes we are so quick to blame or judge others, holding them to a higher standard than that to which we hold ourselves. This double standard can and does destroy community. It robs us of opportunities to build on our own character and to build empathy for others so that we can truly live in community with one another.

One of the hardest things as a parent to teach our children is to own their faults; to accept their part in conflicts and disputes. If we constantly join them in the “blame game” it quickly becomes the status quo and this valuable lesson of ownership is never learnt – life’s mishaps are always someone else’s fault. We find that this pattern is repeated over again and again in their lives and ours… the same scene with new extras. Pain and blame clips our wings and when it is left unresolved for very long, we can almost forget that we were created to fly, to be happy, and so we can lose sight of God. Jesus said, “God loved the world so much he gave his only Son” so we could fly into His presence. Life and friendships can be challenging, sometimes agonizingly so, but Jesus is the Good Shepherd who tells us that wherever we happen to be along the road on our journey, however confused or lost we may be, if we take the very next step it can bring us closer to the compassion, tenderness, true friendship and sheer love of God and one another. It can help us accept each other for who we are and truly find goodness there – the goodness that comes from God, as we were all created in His image.

Sue Darby, Acting Principal

KIDS IN THE CANTEEN DAY: This Friday the environmental group leaders and Mr Harrison are preparing our lunches in the canteen – delicious baked potatoes with bacon, cheese & chives ($2 each) are on the lunch menu. Baked potato order forms went home yesterday. Ordering and some preparation will take place on Thursday so orders need to be returned to school by tomorrow. If you could spare some time on Thursday morning with the preparation it would be very much appreciated; please let Cathy know. Please be aware that there are no other hot or bakery foods available for this Friday – snacks and drinks only.

CONFIRMATION: Tonight we are celebrating the Confirmation of Angus and Cooper at St Mary’s in Bellingen. This is a very special time in their lives as they take the next step in their faith journey. Congratulations to you both and may God bless you always. Bishop Jarrett is in Bellingen today in preparation for Confirmation tonight. All are welcome to attend and the service will be at St Mary’s Church at 6pm tonight.

NO LENTEN PROGRAM THIS WEEK: There will be no Lenten program running this Thursday afternoon because Mrs Darby has to sit on an interview panel in Coffs Harbour. This program will continue on Thursday next week. Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause. Please feel free to continue through this week’s activities in the booklet.
JUST MACBETH: Thank you to those parents who have returned permission notes and payment for this event on Tuesday 31st March. We are so lucky to have a theatre group of this standard visiting our area, so please take advantage of this opportunity. We need to get these permission slips in ASAP so that we can finalise transport. Cost per family (includes performance & bus fare):  
1 child - $10  
2 children - $17  
3 children - $25  

DANCE FEVER DANCE-OFF: Don’t forget to keep the evening of Monday 30th March free, dust off your glad rags and get ready to groove at the stadium with your children. We will be having a sausage sizzle for dinner and ask parents to bring a plate to share for supper. Entry by gold coin donation for hire of the stadium. If anyone has any disco lights or fairy lights we could borrow so we don’t have to boogie under the glare of the overhead fluorescent lights, please let us know.

INCITÁRE: This Friday Annie, Ben, Darcy H & Kassidy from Year 6 will be travelling to Sawtell to participate in a youth group retreat. A reminder that those children will need to be at school by 7:45am to enable us to arrive in Sawtell by 8:45am, and we will be back at school at about 3:30-3:45pm.

FATHER JIM’S MASS: Next Friday 27th March at 12 midday we will be holding Father Jim’s farewell Mass with the children. It would be good to have as many people in attendance as possible; please let ex-students know that they are most welcome to attend. He will not be staying for lunch but parents who attend Mass are always welcome to share lunch at school with their children.

CAR PARK: The area near the front of the school is no longer a “nose to wall” parking area. This is to avoid reversing where children are walking. Dotted arrows have been painted in a semicircle around the drop-off zone. Parents can park along these dotted lines when the car park is full but are not allowed to overtake a car in front of them while in this area. A reminder also that all children must be accompanied by an adult in the car park. You can’t wait in the car for your children; you must accompany them to the car.

CHILDREN’S MISSION PARTNERS: Children need to start to return their children’s Mission Partners boxes. It doesn’t matter if there is only $1 in them; every bit helps with the work this tireless charity does all over the world.

P&F AGM: The P&F Association AGM will take place next Wednesday afternoon at 3:25pm. All welcome! Nominations for members of the P&F executive must be emailed to school by this Friday. Our P&F is a valuable link between home and school. To build a strong sense of community we need to have open lines of communication and to work for a common cause, so please try to be involved in our P&F. Meetings are short and to the point and can be a platform for your ideas to help us fundraise & socialise to make our school even better for the most important people in our lives, our children.

ST PATRICKS DAY: On Tuesday 17th March our school celebrated St Patrick’s Day. You were able to wear green if you had any at home, if you chose to wear green the gold coin donation went to the Children’s Mission Partners (Caritas). So thank you to those people that came to school in their green clothes. Everyone made a limerick in class. They were all amazing and amusing to listen to. We had green jelly for recess sticking to our clothes. Everyo

FIGURE 6: Annie Sibanda and Ben Ridge

jelly also went to the Children’s Mission Partners. After lunch we read out our limericks to the other classes and had a treasure hunt. The teams at the end that managed to finish all the questions and find the gold received a lolly for their hard work and participation. At the end of the day we raised $108.05. Thankyou for participating and helping get so much money. St Patrick’s day was a fun success.

Leaders of faith- Annie Sibanda and Ben Ridge

ASSEMBLY: Tomorrow’s assembly will be held at 2:40pm and will be led by the K/1 class. All are most welcome.
INSIGHT SRC SURVEYS: Insight SRC Surveys went home last week to each family and need to be returned to school by Friday 27th March. Please take the time to complete these either online or in the paper form and return as soon as possible.

BULB FUNDRAISER: The P&F Association is holding a spring-flowering bulb fundraiser again this year. Catalogues are available at school. Please note that there’s a printing error in the catalogue – item #34, Rannunculi Mixed has been incorrectly priced; it should read 40 bulbs for $14, NOT 10 bulbs for $14. All orders should be returned to school by Friday 27th March.

WORLD AUTISM DAY, 2nd APRIL 2015: Autism is a lifelong condition that affects, amongst other things, the way in which an individual relates to his or her surroundings and their interaction with other people. Some of our school community have a diagnosis of autism and so in school we will raise awareness of this important medical condition by wearing blue ribbons on World Autism Day, which is Thursday 2nd April 2015.

CAR BOOT SALE: If anyone else is interested in being part of this sub-committee, please let us know at school.

LINK TO SCHOOL WEBSITE: http://moodle.dorplism.catholic.edu.au/

PARISH MASSES: Sunday Mass – 10:00am. All are welcome.

CONTACT INFORMATION UPDATE: Don’t forget to complete and return your green contact information update form, which was sent home with each family.

MUSIC LESSONS FOR 2015: Expressions of interest are invited for music lessons at Mt St John’s. Last year’s piano and guitar lessons were a great start. This year I hope to provide private lessons at competitive prices and offering discounts for struggling families. The details are yet to be decided but we hope to deliver quality tuition everyone can participate in. Please talk to Sue Darby or Cathy at reception to indicate your interest. Sincerely, Rob Harpley (last year’s Music Stars tutor)

SCHOOL FEES: Term 1 school fees are now due, unless you are paying regular direct deposit amounts. Please see Mrs Darby in confidence if you anticipate having trouble finalising your fee account by this date.

LEADERS’ AWARDS: Congratulations to the following students, who received awards from our school leaders: Sports award – Jade Ellis, for trying 110% in the cross country; Environment award - everyone who helped out at the school clean-up day; Behaviour award – Paris Hyatt – for following teacher instructions and playing sensibly in the playground; Faith award – Sirennah Kahl – for singing so beautifully at the World Day of Prayer; Learning award – Andrew Towns – for listening very attentively in class and not letting himself be distracted by pupils at all.

GOOD LEARNING AWARDS: Class awards went to Rylan Kahl for excellent work and questions in Talking and Listening; Hugh Thomas for always giving 100% effort to work and friendships; Mikaylah Miller for great effort in home learning; and Tom Colquhoun for taking a special interest in the design process for science initiative and innovation.

COMING EVENTS:

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<td>Wed 18th</td>
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<td>Wed 25th</td>
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<td>Fri 27th</td>
<td>• Final Mass with Father Jim</td>
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<td>Mon 30th</td>
<td>• Insight SRC surveys due</td>
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<td>Tues 31st</td>
<td>“Just Macbeth” performance in Bellingen</td>
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GFS KIDSPLUS meets every Wednesday during term time from 3-5pm in the Anglican Church Hall. There is food, fun, games, worship and craft. Students from Kinder
through to Year 10/11 are welcome. Cost is $1 per session – new pupils always welcome. Contact Rev Mike on 6657 2015.

CREATIVE KIDS IN APRIL SCHOOL HOLIDAYS: Tuesday 7th, Friday 10th, Monday 13th, Tuesday 14th, Friday 17th April 10.00am – 12.30pm All sessions offer some outdoor playful active time and the opportunity to explore clay and draw using a variety of mediums. Small groups - $25 per child per session Call Jenni Francis on 66572625 jennifrancis2453@gmail.com Diploma of Initiative Art Therapy; Diploma of Clayfield (Sensorimotor Trauma Release) One-to-one Clayfield sessions 2pm – 4pm each day - $50

MINIROOS SOCCER: It’s now time to register for MiniRoo Soccer with the Dorrigo Highlanders Football Club. MiniRoo is a smaller version of soccer that provides boys and girls aged 5 - 7 with a fun introduction to the world game of football. MiniRoo is designed for kids; it is all about having fun, learning new skills and making life-long friends. The size of the field, the ball and goals all assist with the development of skills and techniques in our younger players. MiniRoo play in Dorrigo each Saturday morning (there is no travel away at this level) and enjoy an after-school training run each week….. just like the big kids!! Play for our MiniRoo will begin after the Easter holidays. Get online now to nominate your MiniRoo – head to www.myfootballclub.com.au and select “Register Now” from the homepage. MiniRoo need to be turning 5 this year to play and all new MiniRoo receive shin pads and a ball to get them started. For further details please contact Rosalie Smith on 6657 5255 or Barbara Webster on 6657 2703.

DORRIGO RSL SUB BRANCH CENTENNARY OF ANZAC: This year’s ANZAC Day will commemorate the Centenary of the Landing at Gallipoli on the 25th April 1915. Our ANZAC Day is on the Saturday after Term 2 commences. The Dawn Service will commence at 5.30am at the Dorrigo Monument. The march & wreath-laying service will commence at 11.00am with the march from the Dorrigo Memorial RSL Club. There are some changes to the Order of March this year; the Dorrigo Schools’ contingents will be towards the head of the march, and the

schools will end up in Cudgery Street behind the Veterans Group near the bus shelter. A feature of this year’s Service will be a re-enactment of a World War 1 Recruiting March, with Dorrigo High School students taking part with vintage vehicles and horse-drawn vehicles. Families and members of the public are invited to dress in period costume and line Cudgery Street and welcome these marchers to the monument. Dorrigo Dramatic Club has items of period clothing for hire. After the march, young marchers are invited for refreshments at the Dorrigo Recreation Pavilion, NOT the Girl Guide Hall as in previous years. For further information contact Bob Denner on 6657 1145 or rdenner@bigpond.net.au.

Physical Activity

Physical activity can greatly benefit children between 5-12 years old.

Physical activity:

☑ Promotes healthy growth and development
☑ Builds strong muscles and bones
☑ Improves balance & develops skills
☑ Maintains/develops flexibility
☑ Improves cardiovascular fitness
☑ Helps relaxation
☑ Improves posture
☑ Provides opportunities to make friends
☑ Improves self-esteem

For more information and ideas go to: www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au