Dear Parents,

This week I have been spending time checking in with classrooms and I have had the privilege of having some of the children share their writing with me. It never ceases to amaze me how clever our students are. Nothing is more rewarding than seeing the look on a child’s face as they share something with you that they have worked hard to produce or solve and that they are proud of. Seeing children make the connection between the effort they put in and the results they achieve is truly one of the highlights of teaching. I have also been giving a few impromptu spelling quizzes to help with the preparation for our spelling bee and I am pleased to report that most are doing very well. The words they have been asked to learn are from essential lists for their grade so thank you to the parents who have been supporting their children with this learning; the dividends from this exercise will reap rewards for years to come.

Today is Crazy Hair Day, an initiative put forward by our Mini Vinnies group. We certainly do look crazy!! The $65 raised goes to supporting the St Vincent de Paul Winter appeal. Thank you to everyone for your amazing support.
Our second painted rubbish bin is due to hit the streets of Dorrigo this weekend with Year 2/3 putting the final touches on their bin on Thursday. It looks great! They have taken on the theme of promoting all the wonderful things you can do while visiting Dorrigo, which is just perfect considering it’s set to go at the bus stop area near the National Bank. Then it will be Year 4/5/6’s turn to wow us with their design ideas.

Our readings this week remind us what a privilege and a gift it is to know God’s call in our lives as we are reminded that ‘No one can come to me unless he is drawn by the Father who sent me.’ John 6: 41-51. This phrase reminded me how lucky I am to have been called and also how important our job is when working with children, whether we are teachers, parents, grandparents, friends or carers. We must keep providing opportunities for the children in our care (and for ourselves) for moments of quiet, moments to be still so that each of us has time to hear God’s call in our lives instead of filling each moment with pointless busy white noise.

This week as you go about your business, I ask you to reflect on ways that you can be a presence of God’s love in the world today.

Wishing you all a week filled with special moments.

Sue Darby  Acting Principal

VISIT FROM NEW PRINCIPAL: Today we had the opportunity to meet with our new Principal for 2016, Mr Trezise, as he called in to visit with us. It was great to get to know him!

PUPIL-FREE STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY: Don’t forget the pupil-free day this Monday 17th August. Staff will be in Bellingen learning about the new History curriculum and there will be no staff at school.

DIOCESAN ATHLETICS: Congratulations to Holly Smith for her efforts in representing us at the Diocesan Athletics Carnival on Thursday in shot put. She performed well but was amazed by the refined level of techniques other competitors used. It certainly helped them to throw incredible distances.

MINI VINNIES WARM CLOTHING APPEAL: Thank you to everyone who supported our Mini Vinnies warm clothes for winter appeal. All of the donated items have now been delivered to the St Vincent de Paul store down town and they were very gratefully received.

KIDS IN THE CANTEEN THIS FRIDAY: Our Environment group is serving pizza for lunch in the canteen this Friday, at $1.80 per serve. There are two types of pizza available:

- ham, cheese & pineapple, or
- chicken & vegetable.

Orders and money need to be sent in to school tomorrow. Fruit salad will be available for recess to help promote fruit and veg month. A small serve of fruit salad will be $2.00.

BOOK WEEK: We are celebrating Book Week with our annual Book Fair next week. This will be set up in the Library, and families and friends are invited to come along to look at the books available to purchase. Children will bring home “wish lists” during the week. Every sale made from the Book Fair entitles our school to free books for our school library, so please come along and have a look.

BOOK CHARACTER PARADE: as part of our Book Week celebrations, students may come to school dressed as their favourite book character on Thursday of next week. We will have a parade at 11:30am and family and friends are welcome to come and watch the parade. This is always a really exciting day, so make sure you come along and join the fun!

STREET STALL: Our P&F Street Stall for Term 3 will be held next Wednesday 19th August. Thank you to Gwen Turner, who has volunteered to help.
man the stall. We will need at least one more helper, so please contact the school if you are available to assist. It usually takes about 3 or 4 hours from 8:30 to around midday. We are calling for items to sell at the stall, such as baked goods, craft items, garden produce, plants, white elephant items etc. There will be another load of firewood for the Street Stall raffle, so if you’d like a ticket ($2 each) please send the money in to school.

**RECONCILIATION:** Please keep Kassidy, Jorja, Paris, Payton, Angus and Cooper in your prayers as they prepare for the Sacrament of Reconciliation next Thursday evening at 5pm. All are welcome to come along to this prayer service and support these children and their families as they celebrate this special Sacrament of forgiveness.

**ST MARY MACKILLOP:** We celebrated St Mary Mackillop of the Cross last Friday with a small prayer service. The children took home little prayer cards.

**SPELLING BEE:** Well done to all of those children who have been busy learning their lists in preparation for our Spelling Bee. Don’t forget there are paper copies of each grade’s lists at the office if you can’t access them on the students’ emails. Sponsorship are available from school.

**CANTEEN CHANGES:** The new canteen menu was very well received last Friday. A very big thank you to Megan, our canteen co-ordinator, who implemented these changes to a healthier menu, and to her sidekick Alicia, whose assistance helped with the transition.

**WINTER WARMERS RAFFLE:** Congratulations to the winners of our Winter Warmers raffle!
1st prize (load of firewood) - Heather Williams
2nd prize – James Corbett
3rd prize - Charlie Lower
4th prize - Lawler family
5th prize - Graeme Baldwin
6th prize – Patsy Green
7th prize – Cash Gibson
Thank you to everyone who donated prizes or bought tickets, we really appreciate your support.

**MINI MOUNTIES:** Mini Mounties is starting tomorrow! It is a “Big School” experience open to all children who will start Kindergarten in 2016. Mini Mounties will be held on Thursdays from 9:00am to 11:00am on the following dates: 13th & 20th August and 3rd & 10th September. The sessions will recommence in Term 4 on 15th, 22nd & 29th October. Children who then enrol at Mt St John’s for 2016 will continue in the Mini Mounties program for the next two weeks.

Children will need to bring a hat and a snack to eat at recess. All sessions are free of charge. Please confirm your child’s attendance by contacting Mt St John’s School on 6657 2552.

**WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN:** The Woolworths Earn & Learn promotion gives our school the chance to earn new educational resources. Simply shop at Woolworths and you will receive one sticker for every $10 spent. Stick the stickers on to an Earn & Learn sticker sheet (we have some here at school) and drop them in the collection box at the school office.

**ASSEMBLY:** Tomorrow’s assembly will be held at 2:40pm and will be led by our Year 4/5/6 class. All welcome!

**TERM 3 SCHOOL FEES:** Term 3 school fees are payable by Friday 4th September, unless you are paying regular direct deposit amounts. For Internet banking payments, the school’s details are:
Bank name: Banancoast Community Credit Union
BSB no. 704-328   Account no. 76986
(if paying from a BCU account, please specify our S10 account)
When using Internet banking, please use your child’s surname as a reference.
Suggested Direct Deposit amounts (from beginning of February 2015)

1 student – $252.50 per term
$40.40 per fortnight (x 25 fortnights)
$20.20 per week (x 50 weeks)

2 students – $430.00 per term
$68.80 per fortnight (x 25 fortnights)
$34.40 per week (x 50 weeks)

3 or more students – $530.25 per term
$84.84 per fortnight (x 25 fortnights)
$42.42 per week (x 50 weeks)

PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE:
Congratulations to Brydi Fittock, Savannah Martin, Will Parker and Annie Sibanda, who all finished the PRC this week. The PRC finishes on Friday of next week, so keep up all that reading!

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

CAPTAIN’S AWARD: Congratulations to Brydi Fittock who received this week’s Captain’s award for working extremely hard in class.

GOOD LEARNING AWARDS: Class awards went to Cash Gibson for having a great attitude towards his learning and cooperating during group activities; Myra Sibanda for excellent description writing on Jackals; Mikaylah Miller for putting in a great effort in all writing tasks; and Kayla Smith for taking part enthusiastically in all camp activities.

COMING EVENTS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AUGUST</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Wed 12th | • Crazy Hair Day
|         | • Book Club orders due
| Fri 14th | Kids Day in canteen
| Mon 17th | Pupil-free Staff Development Day
| WEEK 6 | Book Week & Book Fair
| Wed 19th | P&F Street Stall
| Thurs 20th | Book Week book character parade
| Fri 21st | Premier’s Reading Challenge finishes
| Tues 25th | P&F Meeting, 3:25pm

STUDENT ABSENCES: If your child is absent from school for any reason, please make sure you notify the school.

There are several ways you can notify us:
1. By phone
2. By email to msipdorr@lism.catholic.edu.au
3. Via Skoolbag app
4. By written note

MUSIC LESSONS: Rob Harpley is conducting lessons in guitar or keyboard at school on Wednesday afternoons from 1:30pm. Cost is $20 for a half hour lesson. For more information call Rob on 6775 9282.