Dear Parents,

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our street stall today by bringing in something to sell or by buying from the stall. Word on the street is that we have the best baking of all the street stalls! Your support with our fundraising efforts is what allows us to purchase some of the extra things for our school, which then makes school even more fun and engaging. A special thank you to Gwen Turner, Melina Lawler & Fiona Flynn, who manned the stall. We made approximately $430 – another awesome effort. The lucky winner of our beautiful vegie tray raffle was Linda Simpson.

It’s been a busy time here at school lately - last week we had crazy hair day and tomorrow we have our Book Character parade. Please help your child to know something about the character they are dressing as because we are going to conduct an “interview” with them from the perspective of their character. This will require them to have read the book or have had the book read to them. This is to help the children gain some insight into the characters they dress up as. The parade will take place at 12:30pm tomorrow (not 11:30am as was advertised in last week’s newsletter) and parents are invited to bring their favourite books along and share the stories with their children after the parade. Parents are then invited to have lunch with their children and look at the wonderful selection of books available at our Book Fair.

This week’s readings at Mass remind us all of the central purpose of our gathering at Mass and the heart of our faith, which is the receiving of Jesus through the Eucharist. It reminds us of Jesus’ selfless giving, fulfilled on the cross. It is both a gift and an invitation to each of us. The Eucharist strengthens us for our daily trials and tribulations and opens us to seek the grace and beauty that also exists in our world. Jesus set the example, as he often gave of himself – he healed, preached, fed, listened, taught, forgave and prayed. All of us can be self-giving like Jesus because we are strengthened for this journey through the Eucharist. The greatest thanks that we can give God for the gift of Jesus is to give of ourselves in service to others. By doing this we help ‘God’s kingdom to come on earth’ every day, and we become the face of God to others.

Wishing you all a happy and safe week and the joy that comes from helping others.

Sue Darby
Acting Principal
NAPLAN RESULTS: NAPLAN results for Year 3 & 5 students have been sent home today. If parents would like to talk to their child’s teacher or to Mrs Darby about these results please give us a call to make a time.

BOOK CHARACTER PARADE: Tomorrow we are having our annual Book Character dress-up day. Students may come to school dressed as their favourite book character. The parade will begin at 12:30pm (changed from 11:30am) then parents can stay for lunch and share their favourite book after lunch. This will be followed by class gatherings, which will take the place of our Assembly this week.

BOOK FAIR: Our Book Fair has been set up beautifully in the library by our Leaders of Learning. Students took their wish lists home with them yesterday. The Fair will be open to family and friends at lunch time tomorrow and again on Friday – please come along and have a look, as every sale made enables us to receive free books for our school library.

FIRST RECONCILIATION: First Reconciliation takes place at 5pm tomorrow (Thursday) afternoon at the Church. All are welcome to take part in this liturgy as Kassidy, Paris, Jorja, Payton, Angus and Cooper prepare to accept the Sacrament of Penance.

SPELLING BEE: Trials for the first round of our Spelling Bee will take place on Monday of next week (Monday 24th August). Children will be quizzed individually on their words and given a chance to practise any they get wrong. First round eliminations will then take place on Thursday 27th August. In this round children can be eliminated. Children in Kinder and Year 1 will be given a piece of paper and will be able to write the words down to check if they look right. Other grades will need to do this process in their heads. Children who pass this round will then be given a grade-appropriate extension list to learn. The finals will take place on Monday in the last week of term and will involve four or five students from each grade.

SPELLING BEE NEWS FROM OUR LEADERS OF LEARNING: On Monday 14th September we will be holding the 2015 Spelling Bee. We will be asking the students to spell the words which are from their year’s core list. In the finals we will ask the students to spell any words which are from any year’s core list. We will also put in a few challenge words for the last people in the finals. The Spelling Bee finals will be elimination and the last speller will be the winner.

By Ellie and Darcy H

KIDS IN THE KITCHEN: Thank you to Mr Harrison, Tom, Connor and Ashleigh for the amazing pizzas and fruit salads they prepared for us on Friday. They were bellissimo!!

FRUIT & VEG MONTH 2015 – Let’s Go Green!
Our school is participating in the fun of Fruit & Veg Month, which runs for the last 4 weeks of this term - Monday 24th August to Friday 18th September. As part of Fruit & Veg Month, students will be involved in various classroom and school based activities that aim to encourage them to eat more fruit and vegetables. Watch this space for updates. Or, better yet, ask your child what activities they have been involved in. It is a great way to bring the healthy eating message home! If any students have allergies to particular fruit or vegetables, please let us know at school.

Richard Harrison, Fruit & Veg Month School Coordinator

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY: Staff travelled to St Mary’s Bellingen on Monday of this week to take part in the unpacking of the new History Syllabus. It was a very informative day and filled us with eager anticipation as we continue to plan for its implementation in 2016.

VOLLEYBALL/ NEWCOMBE BALL: For sport on Friday last week we did some whole school training in preparation for our parent / staff /
student round robin challenge and we were very impressed with the development of the children’s skills. They will certainly be a force to be reckoned with! If you have a ball at home, take it outside and do some throwing and catching with your children. The skills needed to do this will not only help in sport but are also very useful in reading, writing and planning, as they all require hand-eye coordination, timing, concentration, tracking and perseverance… and it is fun!

CACTEAN: Thank you to this week’s canteen volunteers, who are Megan Francis & Alicia Miller. A reminder that canteen volunteers should be at the school by 9:00am to tally up orders. If you are unable to do your rostered day, please organise to swap with another volunteer.

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

MINI MOUNTIES: Mini Mounties is on again tomorrow. It is a “Big School” experience open to all children who will start Kindergarten in 2016. Sessions will be held on Thursdays from 9:00am to 11:00am on the following dates:
- 13th August
- 20th August
- 3rd September
- 10th September
- 15th October
- 22nd October
- 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. Don’t forget to bring a hat and a snack to eat at recess. All sessions are free of charge.

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: Instead of an assembly this week, we will be having class gatherings following our Book Character Parade tomorrow.

PARISH MASSES: Sunday Mass – 10:00am. All are 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
- 2 students – $430.00 per term
- 3 or more students – $530.25 per term

PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE:
Congratulations to the following students, who have finished the Premier’s Reading Challenge this week… Rylan Kahl, Tiernan O’Leary, Lily Sibanda, Rocco Stockton, Jade Ellis, Montanna Fenton, Tully Gibson, Charlie Lower, Lewis Parker, Marshall Parker, Myra Sibanda, Lara Smithers, Hugh Thomas, Beau George, Darcy Hartin and Holly Smith. The PRC finishes this Friday, so keep up all that reading!

CAPTAIN’S AWARD: Congratulations to Rocco Stockton, who received this week’s Captain’s award for always being polite.

GOOD LEARNING AWARDS: Class awards went to Ryleigh Miller for persistence with tasks and helping other people; Charlie Lower for excellent application during maths games; Jasper Fischer for a great effort during all classroom activities; and Ellie Thornhill for working technologically with coding in Science.

COMING EVENTS:

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<th>AUGUST</th>
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<td>Book Week &amp; Book Fair</td>
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<td>• Book Week book character parade</td>
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<td>• First Reconciliation, 5pm</td>
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<td>Fri 21st</td>
<td>Premier’s Reading Challenge finishes</td>
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<td>Tues 25th</td>
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<td>Fri 18th</td>
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**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 dorp@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 will be $20 for a half hour lesson. For more information call Rob on 67759282.

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By Michael Grosse

A friend told me recently how his neighbour’s 9-year-old daughter used to sell him a dozen fresh eggs each week. At 50 cents an egg the young girl made a neat profit. The catch was that she had to feed the chickens, collect the eggs and clean out the pen in return for the money she made from selling eggs.

After a couple of years she had enough and passed the job on to her 7-year-old brother.

The handover wasn’t straightforward. Miss 9 was a confident visitor, politely knocking on the front door before entering and placing the eggs in the fridge. She even knew where he kept his cash. After a friendly chat about school, the neighbourhood and spilling the beans on what her parents were up to she usually departed. Job done.

Her younger brother, however, needed a lot of help when he took over. He was anxious about going in next door on his own and wasn’t sure about what to do once he got there. His mum did step up to help him out. Here’s what she did.

The first time, his mum accompanied him inside the neighbour’s house, prompting him about what he should say and do. He did and said what needed to be done. Mum just coached him along the way.

On the second visit his mum gave him some handy reminders about what he should do but she waited at the front door and left him to go inside. She was there when he came back out.

On the third visit she walked him to my neighbour’s door, made sure he felt comfortable and then she left so that her neighbour could greet the ‘Eggman’ on his own. (Yes, the neighbour gave him the ‘Eggman’ moniker on the first visit)

The ‘Eggman’ spent some time chatting to my neighbour as he put the eggs in his fridge, before coming home and greeting his mum with a triumphant grin. He was on his way to independence as a fully-fledged ‘Eggman’ and budding entrepreneur.

This is just one example of this boy’s mum scaffolding her son to independence. She makes it easy for him to succeed by being close but not too close when he needs her, and then gradually stepping back to give him the space to succeed on his own. Scaffolding is a deceptively simple strategy that works well with nervous, anxious kids as well as for granting independence when there is an element of risk involved.

Here are 3 ways to build scaffolds to independence for your child:

1. **Look for simple, safe options to start.** Allowing your son to go to the public toilet on his own at the local swimming pool is easier and safer than in a large shopping centre.

2. **Do activities together.** Making a cup of tea with your daughter is a great way to teach her about safety.

3. **Break complex activities into simpler activities.** Catching trains with friends on short trips is good practice for kids who are itching to do some activities with friends without parental supervision.

My suggestion is to be on the lookout for opportunities to use scaffolding to move your kids towards independence, without smothering them and also keeping them safe.