Dear Parents,

What great support we had for last week’s book character dress up and book parade. The children not only looked like the characters they were portraying but they also acted like them during our book character celebrity interviews. The children had obviously read the books that their characters had come from and gave responses for their point of view. Thank you to everyone for the support you give your children. Thank you also for your generous support of our book fair – we have lots of new books which are covered and ready to borrow during library tomorrow, thanks to your generosity. Studies show that kids with active exposure to language have social and educational advantages over their peers — and reading is one of the best exposures to language. Reading to toddlers sets the foundation for later independent reading. Reading problems can be challenging to fix when discovered later in school, but most reading problems can be prevented if exposure to reading starts in the toddler and preschool years. It helps children from a young age develop an ear for book language, develop empathy for characters, develop an extensive vocabulary and develop comprehension skills. So read to your children; the rewards you reap will be enormous.

Last Thursday night was a wonderful celebration for our children who made their First Reconciliation. It was good to see the support they had from family and friends. Thank you to Father Amila for his welcoming support. These children are now preparing for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion.

As I work my way through the ‘Resilience Doughnut’ training it becomes clearer to me how important the development of community is for our children. We can’t do it on our own; we need the friendship and support of many. In fact the more I read the more important I find it is to have a strong network with at least three other groups. I look forward to running this course with you next term – I’m thinking a Monday or Wednesday night might be the best time. Please let me know your thoughts.

In our readings from Mass this week we are reminded that in our lives we always have choice. We are also reminded of the need for commitment. So when we make a choice to have a family, that choice comes with the commitment to share our lives with our children. This means giving of your time and your love, actually giving of yourself and not filling that need we all have for love with stuff, material possessions. Today we can afford to buy the toys our children desire but as they get older the things they want become bigger and more expensive and we as parents can become the “money machine”. What we need to be is the “I’m always here for you support team” and this relationship is developed now in each child’s early years. It takes choice and commitment to keep our lives and the lives of our children in the right perspective and if we truly love one another this becomes clearer.

It is also good to let your children know why you chose to send them to Mt St John’s, and what it is that we offer that you value and want for them. Let them know the sacrifice you make to pay their fees and why you are committed to that. These conversations with our children help them develop a shared value which then becomes what we as a family value.

Wishing you all quality time with your families every day.

Sue Darby  Acting Principal
BOOK CHARACTER PARADE PHOTOS

DORRIGO LIBRARY VISITS: Thank you to staff of the Dorrigo library for the work they do to promote reading and support schools in their Book Week celebrations. Our students walked down to the town library today to participate in some Book Week activities. The children, as always, had a great time.

SEASONS FOR GROWTH: Mrs Darby will be running the ‘Seasons for Growth’ program next term for children who have suffered grief or loss of some kind. If any parents would like their child/children to participate in this program please let me know so that I can organise groups. If you would like more information about the program come and see me or give me a call.

CAKE TROLLEY: Organisation for our P&F Cake Trolley, which will be held on Thursday 10th September, is well under way. We will need donations of home-made fancy cakes, slices or biscuits sent in to school on that day, and a team of workers will slice them up and arrange them on trays. These trays will be sold at local businesses for $10 each. This fundraiser is always a popular one, so please
put it in your calendar. If your business would like to order a tray, please contact the school.

SPELLING BEE: First round eliminations for our Spelling Bee will 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 14th September in the last week of term and will involve four or five students from each grade. 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.

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

CANTEEN: Thank you to this week’s canteen volunteers, who are Susan Ellis & Alisha Fenton. 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 in hiatus for this week, but it will be on again next Thursday 3rd September. 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: Tomorrow’s assembly will be led by our school leaders, and will begin at 2:40pm. All are welcome!

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

TERM 3 SCHOOL FEES: Term 3 school fees are payable by next 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 finished the Premier’s Reading Challenge last week: Jed Capps, Emi Gibson, Taylor Gilbert, Beau Stockton, Eli Williams Van Rijn, Cooper Guest, Mikaylah Miller & Ellie Thornhill. The Challenge has now finished for the year. Well done to all those who completed it – certificates are sent out at the end of the year.

COMING EVENTS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEPTEMBER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 10th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 14th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 17th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 18th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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

ICHTHUS CAMP: Ichthus is a fun Christian camp for those in Years 4, 5, and 6 which will be held at Lennox Head from Sunday 27th September till Thursday 1st October. For more details and an application form please speak to Rev Mike, ph 6657 2015 or email him on michaelaridge@outlook.com

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.

DORRIGO JUNIOR RUGBY CLUB PRESENTATION: Dorrigo Junior Rugby will be holding their end of season presentation day on Saturday 5th September at the Rec grounds from 11am till 2pm. There will be a BBQ lunch (gold coin donation). All players and their families welcome.

9’S SOCCER GALA DAY: The Dorrigo Highlanders were represented at the 9’s Northern Storm Gala Day last weekend with the Dorrigo Dingoes playing on the day to wrap up their season. The Dingoes have played strongly throughout the North Coast Football season, working together in all their games to become a team that is hard to beat. The Gala Day, at the York Street Fields in Coffs Harbour, gave the Dingoes the chance to match up against teams from the North having played in the Southern competition for the season. The Dingoes played 5 games for the day against the Northern Storm Hurricanes, Coffs United Pride, Northern Storm Tornadoes, Boambee Bombers and the Woolgoolga Sharks coming away with 2 wins for the day. Game 4 against old rivals the Boambee Bombers was a close one (3-2) as has been the case throughout the season. Well done to Jed, Lincoln, Fraser, Callan, Ryan, Braylyn, Angus and Julian. The 9’s were joined by three of the club’s 8’s players to fill out the team. Thank you to Dorrigo Lyrebirds player Mikaylah who added an extra female touch and to Dorrigo Quoll’s players Scott and Marshall.

YOU ARE INVITED!
Dear Parents;
We have designed our family service especially for YOU! Families and children who are new to church and want to worship in an informal and relaxed way. Next week our teenagers are doing a play and your kids from little teddies are singing a song called “I’m Special”. I am specially inviting you to join us to support our children and young people as they help to lead our worship. I hope you will join us on Sunday 6th September 2015 @10am followed by a morning tea in the hall if you can stay afterwards.
Blessings in Jesus
Rev Mike Ridge
Anglican Rector, ph 66572015
michaelaridge@outlook.com