“TO BE WITNESSES OF CHRIST’S LOVE:
IN FAITH, CULTURE, EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE AND HOPE FOR THE FUTURE”

Friday 11 November 2016

St Agnes’ Fair
Dear Parents and Carers

FAIR: I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our school community for their great support in promoting the School Fair again this year. We were blessed with beautiful weather, and there was a great sense of community spirit and pride present throughout the day.

A huge thank you to the Fair Committee, P&F and Stall Coordinators who worked tirelessly for months in the lead up to the Fair. Also, I would like to acknowledge all the outstanding parent volunteers, staff and students who helped with the Friday set-up (both during the day and evening) and with the running of the stalls on the day, to ensure that everything ran smoothly. Your dedication and commitment to the fair guaranteed that everyone had an enjoyable day.

Finally, I would like to thank our sponsors and those who generously donated items to the fair. To show our gratitude, we would encourage school community members to support all our sponsors that are mentioned in this week’s newsletter.


There will be a Fair wrap-up meeting next Wednesday in the Staffroom from 5:30pm. We look forward to celebrating the success of this year’s School Fair at our next P&F Meeting which will be held on Monday 21 November.

2017 SCHOOL DELAYED START: Last Monday, all families would have received a note outlining a change to the way Diocesan schools will commence in 2017. All Year 1 - 6 students at St Agnes’ will start school next year on Friday, 3 February and our new Kindergarten students will begin on Monday, 6 February. These changes are required to provide staff time to conduct a one on one Mathematics Assessment Interview (MAI) with each student, between Monday 30 January - 2 February. We have included a copy of the letter in this week’s attachments. Later this term, you will receive more information on how to book your child’s interview and free care arrangements. Please feel free to contact me at school if you have further questions or concerns.

EMU: It was lovely to see so many parents attend our EMU Information night last Wednesday. The evening was a great follow on from our Family Maths night (MKR) that was held earlier in the year. The night provided information about how to use concrete materials effectively in the classroom to further develop mathematical understanding, the intervention process for our students, as well as, discussing the benefits of this approach for both teachers and students. A big thank you to our EMU Leadership team and Specialist teaching team for presenting on the night.

KINDERGARTEN TRANSITION & ORIENTATION DAYS: Kindergarten transition commenced this week, and we have thoroughly enjoyed getting to meet our new students and help them settle into the school environment. There will be another Book Time transition session next Monday from 10:00am followed by our first Orientation Day on Wednesday between 9:30am - 12:00pm.

REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY: Our SRC members represented St Agnes’ at the Remembrance Day Commemoration Ceremony at the Town Green Cenotaph today. We thank them for representing our school with pride at this important community event. We also held our own Remembrance Day dedication at school with a short assembly before Lunch 1. The students remembered the service and sacrifice of past and present Australian Defence Force men and women with a prayer and by observing a minute’s silence.

Our community does it again: The Fair is always a highlight on our school calendar and this year was no exception! It was a spectacular day where our true community spirit shone once again. Thank you so much to the Fair Committee and the stall coordinators and helpers that made the day possible. I would also like to thank the entire school community for supporting the Fair, through many donations, including lollies, hamper items, groceries and baked goods.

A special thank you to Leanne Hatherly, who again took on the role of Fair Coordinator this year and worked tirelessly to ensure that our Fair was the success that it was. Leanne put in countless hours and the success of the day was a true reflection of her hard work.

A big thank you must also go to our staff. Many people commented to me how amazing it is that so many staff members are not only present, but are running stalls and helping out, a lot of them doing so for the entire day! Numerous staff came to me in the lead up to the Fair to let me know that they would be there on the day and were happy to help out wherever they were needed - this is a true reflection of the amazing culture that we have here at Aggies!

Parish Hampers: With Christmas fast approaching, St Agnes’ will once again be supporting families in need through the organisation of the Parish Hamper Project. This year we...
have decided to have an Out of Uniform Day, where each child brings in something for their class hamper. This will take place next Friday 18 November. There will also be a lot of discussion in classes on this day about making an effort to help those less fortunate, especially around Christmas. A note went out on Tuesday listing the family members that your child’s class will be supporting, as well as suggestions for the items that can go into hampers. Please note that NO ALCOHOL, 2ND HAND TOYS OR OUT OF DATE FOOD should be sent in for inclusion in the hampers. We thank you for your support of this initiative and for sharing the true spirit of Christmas with your children.

FAIR CRAFT: Just a reminder that fair craft can still be purchased from the school office. The children put a lot of time and effort into this craft and all money will still go towards the final amount raised at the Fair. Most of the gifts are personalised and are a great keepsake from your child’s years at St Agnes’.

PRAC STUDENTS: This week we farewell Tahlia Watts, who has been completing her university practicum in 4H, with Mrs Halloran. We wish Tahlia all the best for her future studies and teacher experience. She has been an asset to the Year 4 team and has developed some amazing relationships with the Year 4 children. Thank you also, to Mrs Halloran for her mentorship during this time.

CLASS PARENT GET TOGETHER: All kindy parents are welcome to come for another night out on Tuesday 15 November at Cafe 66, 7:00pm. Hope you can make it.

LEADERS OF CATECHESIS (ACTING) & SCHOOL EVANGELISATION
DANIELLA O’BRIEN & MATT BUSHE

On Tuesday, 22 November all children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will participate in an Advent Liturgy of the Word and Penitential Rite. This celebration will take place in the school hall at 9:00am. The liturgy provides an opportunity to ask for God’s forgiveness and ready our hearts for the season of Advent and the coming of Jesus at Christmas.

We would like to extend an invitation to all parents, carers and families to come along and share in this celebration.

LEADER OF PEDAGOGY’S REPORT
STACEY MULLIN

Thank you to the parents that came to our EMU night this week, that gave background information on EMU - Extending Mathematical Understanding and MAI - Mathematics Assessment Interview.

As you are aware, we are conducting interviews for every student from the 30 January to 2 February. This will give them one on one time with their classroom teacher to discuss their mathematical thinking through the use of hands on materials and for them to get to know their new teacher for 2017.

Over the coming newsletters, we will answer the questions that were posed by parents on the information night. A question was raised about the extension of students at the top end.

EMU in classrooms works to extend students thinking through open-ended tasks that have more than one answer or strategy to solve the problem. All students are encouraged to answer these questions at their level, providing differentiation at every individual student level. Those at the top end are asked to think in more effective and creative ways and to share their thinking with others. Students are encouraged to justify their logic and prove their deep understanding, a much more complex way of thinking in mathematics rather than giving them an increased number of problems to solve, or work from grades above.

LEADERS OF CURRICULUM/DIGITAL PEDAGOGIES
CYNTHIA NOSWORTHY & KRYS TEN JONES

On Wednesday night, Billy Gleeson (3OK) and Bohdi Maloney (4U), represented St Agnes’ at a Mathletics live challenge at Westport Bowling Club. The two boys showed great spirit and made the school proud as they competed against other Stage 2 students from the local area. The results are to be celebrated, with Billy finishing 2nd in his competition and Bohdi coming 3rd in his heat. We would like to thank Westport Bowling Club for their continued support of this program in our school.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT (PBS) LEADER
KATE DE BRESSAC

The PBS Team would like to acknowledge the P&F for their support and feedback on behalf of the parent community. After extensive consultation with staff, students and parents the team have worked together to form our Clearly Defined Expected Behaviours. We are excited to announce to the parent community that our new positive behaviour statement will be:

“Centred in Christ, and with love for one another, St Agnes’ learners are; RESPECTFUL, RESPONSIBLE, RESILIENT and RESOLUTE”

This statement will form the basis for all of our explicit behaviour teaching and learning in 2017. The qualities that they encapsulate are life-long skills that our children will carry on with them after their 7 year journey at St Agnes’. The essence of being a respectful and responsible person are the very foundations on which we base our relationships as modelled to us by Christ himself. In a world full of ‘busyness”, technology and consumerism, we have identified a strong need to support our children to be independent risk takers, who are able to challenge themselves, learn from their mistakes, strive for growth and stand up for what is right, no matter what the crowds around them say.

We are in the process of developing all of the positive ways that we can support and congratulate our students’ for making the correct choices, as well as developing units of teaching that enable us to explicitly teach the skills necessary to be people who are respectful, responsible, resilient and resolute. Resilience is being able to bounce back and move on from a difficult situation. Being resolute is defined as being admirably purposeful, determined and unwavering. This means being
someone who stands up for what they believe in, is focussed, leads by example and who supports others.

We have also been carefully developing a consistent flow chart for managing behaviours that challenge our expected behaviours. We have had conversations with staff and our senior students regarding the definition of minor and major behaviour incidents, and how these will be managed consistently across the whole school. The PBS team are currently reviewing and trialling this process and we will be sending more information home for your feedback, after the staff trial has concluded.

We look forward to sharing more with you soon - The PBS Team.

LEADER OF PDHPE - CLAIRE MICHELL

ZONE BASKETBALL: Congratulations to the students in Years 4 and 5 who trialled at Zone Basketball on Monday. The following students will be joining the Zone team at Coffs Harbour for the Diocesan Summer Sport Trials on 25 November - Zayn Galea, Lacey Grainger, Ella Mannion, Treilestone Kirkby and Luca Prior.

SPORTING SUCCESS: Have a sporting success you would like to share with the St Agnes community? Please let us know - clmichell@lism.catholic.edu.au. Congratulations to our students who have been involved in Surf Life Saving Tournaments recently.

CAFE RISSEL & JODIE DUCK

Monday

JOANNE LEE

Tuesday

MORRIN BAILEY/KYLIE VATALIDIS

THURSDAY

HELP PLEASE

FRIDAY

KATHRYN ARCHER/CARISSA DWYER

Thank you to our helpers - Belinda Rodger, Jane Thompson and our Year 6 students for your assistance on our pizza day. 584 slices of pizzas were consumed by the students, who enjoyed this special treat.

The canteen is currently holding leftover birthday iceblocks from class celebrations. These need to be collected by parents by next Friday please, otherwise they will be sold at lunch times. We are in desperate need of the space that these iceblocks are taking up.

CALENDAR: WEEK 6, TERM 4 2016

SUNDAY NOV 13 * 32nd Sunday of Ordinary Time

MONDAY NOV 14 * Morning Meditation - 8:40am - Drama/Music room
* School Prayer - 1T hosting
* 2017 Kindergarten Transition Booktime - 10:00am to 11:00am
* Year 7 2017 Parent Information evening - MacKillop College

TUESDAY NOV 15 * Sports Day - Students in Years 4 and 6
* Year 5 Girls - SRC speeches - 9:00am - 10:00am
* Year 5 Boys - SRC speeches - 11:35pm - 12:35pm
* Year 7 2017 Parent Information evening - St Joseph’s Regional College

WEDNESDAY NOV 16 * Sports Day - Students in Years 1, 2, and 3
* First 2017 Kindergarten Orientation 9:30am - 12:00pm
* Fair wrap up meeting - 5:30pm - Staffroom - All welcome

THURSDAY NOV 17 * Sports Day - Students in Kindergarten
* Year 6 Graduation Meeting - 5:30pm - 6:30pm

FRIDAY NOV 18 * Sports Day - Students in Years 5
* OUT OF UNIFORM DAY - Christmas Hampers
* School Assembly - 2:10pm - All welcome

ADVANCE DATES

NOV 21 * Thank you Morning Tea for Parent Helpers
* P&F Meeting - last for the year

NOV 23 * Second 2017 Kinder Orientation - 9:30am to 1:15pm

NOV 25 * Year 6 students High School transition day - MacKillop College and St Joseph’s Regional College
* Mum’s Night Out - River Princess

NOV 27 * St Agnes hosting Family Mass
7 November 2016

Dear Parents and Carers

Due to the implementation of the Diocesan initiative - Extending Mathematical Understanding (EMU) there will be a change to the way school commences in 2017. All Year 1-6 students from St Agnes’, St Peter’s and St Joseph’s Primary Schools, will start school in 2017 on Friday, 3 February and our new Kindergarten students will begin on Monday, 6 February. These changes are required to provide time to conduct a one on one Mathematics Assessment Interview (MAI) with each student, to provide a more personalised understanding of their Mathematical thinking.

You may remember from our Maths Kids Rock (MKR) family night earlier in the year that a large component of the EMU program is the use of hands-on materials and different strategies to encourage a deeper and more personalised classroom experience for all mathematical concepts. These strategies and games have also been outlined regularly in the school newsletter. Already, we have seen a significant improvement in the depth of understanding and our students’ ability to verbalise their strategies and thought process as a result of this approach.

During this week (Monday 30 January – Thursday 2 February) all families will be required to book a one on one interview time slot for each child with their teacher (Years 1 to 6 - 30 minutes and Kindergarten -1 hour). The interview will include the Mathematical Assessment Interview, which is part of the EMU process. Kindergarten will also undertake the Best Start Literacy Interview. These assessments allow your child’s teacher to gain a comprehensive insight into your child’s capabilities and learning needs before full-time classes begin. They also assist the teachers to plan targeted and individualised teaching strategies for your child.

Later this term, you will receive more information on how to book your child’s interview online. Students will only be required to be at school for the specific assessment interview time that you have selected.

St Agnes’ will offer free care arrangements for those who are unable to organise alternative care for their children. A booking arrangement to assist our associated planning will be provided in the coming weeks.

Outside vacation care providers have been contacted and plan to extend their options to include this time at the normal advertised rates. Please keep an eye on the newsletter for details or contact these organisations directly:

Port Macquarie Surf School                 6584 7733
Port Macquarie Tennis Club                6584 9940
Crazy Maze                                          6584 0260
Jumbos                                                6581 0909
Port Macquarie Basketball Stadium     6583 2573
Port Macquarie Performing Arts            6583 3753

St Agnes’ is holding a parent education evening on Wednesday, 9 November at 5:30 pm to help parents understand the purpose and potential of EMU and the significant difference it will make in developing your child's mathematical understanding.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about this exciting new initiative.

Yours sincerely

Rick Galvin
Principal(Acting)
St Joseph’s Primary School in Laurieton is holding their School Fete on Friday 18th November from 4pm.

Jeeps, Rides, Boy/Girl Stall, Chocolate Toss, Lots of Lollies and Face Painting, are just some of the fun things to keep the kids busy all night ....

Santa arrives at 5.30 ...

Heaps of Stalls and raffles will keep Mum and Dad happy too! For a fun filled family night we’ll see you there.... (For more information call 0422 558 933)
St Joseph's Primary School is hosting SANTA PHOTO’S!

Sick and tired of paying for 1 Santa photo and not being able to print as many as you want? Now you can have a photo with Santa and receive all digital images taken before December to make as many prints as you like and send them to everyone!

1x family photo with Santa $20 (that’s 1 digital image taken of your family for $20)

2x family photo’s with Santa $30 (that’s 2 different family combinations for $30)

3x family photo’s with Santa $40 (that’s 3 different family combinations for $40)

**WHEN:** Sunday, 20th of November between 2:00-5:00pm
Monday, 21st of November between 4:30-7:00pm

**WHERE:** St Joseph’s Primary School, MPA

**HOW:** Follow the instructions below

Type into your web browser bar:


click “search” then follow the prompts from our Santa Photo’s homepage. At the end of the process you will be required to print your booking receipt/ticket.

If you have problems with the above links type “trybooking.com.au” into the Google homepage. Click on “Buy Tickets”. In the Search section type in the Event Name “Santa Photo’s”, click “Search”. Scroll down to the bottom of the screen and type in the Event Name Box “Santa Photo’s”. Click “Search”. Click on “Santa Photo’s” which has St Josephs Primary School as the Venue underneath it. Then follow the prompts. At the end of the process you will be required to print your booking receipt/ticket.

Families that do not have internet access or a credit card can call into the school office with cash or a cheque to organise booking a session time.
A PROUD SUPPORTER OF LOCAL SCHOOLS

$5 IS DONATED BACK TO YOUR SCHOOL FROM EVERY PAIR OF SHOES PURCHASED*

Ask one of our friendly staff in store for more details!

- APEX
- ADELA
- SUSTAIN JNR
- GEL-540TR
- GT-1000 5 GS
- GT-1000 5 PS

The Athlete's Foot

PORT MACQUARIE - 86 HORTON STREET
Ph: (02) 6583 7177
FIESTA de AMIGOS

A fundraising evening where friends come together at a Mexican inspired ‘Festival of Friends’ in support of ‘Stars of the Hastings’ dancing contestant Carissa Dwyer.

FRIDAY 18 NOVEMBER AT 6PM

FLYNNS BEACH SURF CLUB BAR
(FULLY LICENCED NO BYO)

$40 pp Mexican inspired light meal by XS foods

MC - Adam Barbuto
Music - DJ Healey & acoustic acts

Loads of prizes donated by local businesses

Grab your gringos and join us for a night of fun, games and laughter on the deck.....

BUT HURRY TICKET SALES CLOSE MONDAY 14 NOVEMBER

Find ticket info @ FaceBook page -Stars of the Hastings -Carissa Jane Dwyer