Dear Parents/Guardians, Teachers & Students,

Tuesday’s Catholic Education Week celebrations at Good Counsel College provided the opportunity for over 1200 students from the Southern Deanery Schools to join together for a special Mass and activities. There was a real sense of genuine Catholicity amongst the participants, with the Vicar for Education Father Neil Muir concelebrating the Mass. Good Counsel College students facilitated the activities in the afternoon. I congratulate Mrs Wells for her instrumental role in facilitating the very busy day. Our students thoroughly enjoyed the day which has evolved to become a highlight of the school year for our students. On another note I also acknowledge our staff who had no opportunity for a break throughout the day. This is yet another example of the extra mile that our staff regularly walk in order to provide quality educational opportunities for our children.

Next weeks SMCSA Field Events (Wednesday) and Track Events (Thursday) Carnivals are certain to challenge our athletes against the 5 other schools in our SMCSA cluster. Good luck to all students who have been training for several weeks now. Parents are encouraged to attend to support our students. The carnival is due to commence at 9:30am.

I extend a special thank you to David and Danielle McTaggart for organising the construction of two Shot Putt rings on the Athletics field. These rings will complement our existing athletics infrastructure which is widely appreciated in the local area.

The implementation of eMinerva, Dynamix, Web Self Serve (WSS) and Student Reporting Service (SRS) continues to evolve. It was with much trepidation that staff attended training yesterday that also incorporated an introduction to our state of the art Staff Portal! Whilst there has been some very early mornings and late evenings to accommodate the implementation process, we can see the light at the end of the tunnel.

Recently, the office has received phone calls from parents wishing to confirm arrangements that have been published in the newsletter. I urge parents to engage the newsletter to alleviate the necessity for these calls.

Yours sincerely,
Andrew Maley
Principal, M Ed (ICT), B Ed, Dip T

Term 3 Week 3 – 31st July, 2014

DATES TO REMEMBER
27th July - 2nd August
♦ Catholic Education Week
1st August
♦ Jeans for Genes day
♦ Music fees due
5th August
♦ Year 4-7 Camp mtg 3pm
6th - 7th August
♦ SMCSA Athletics
11th August
♦ School Fees due
12th August
♦ School Photos
13th August
♦ Southern cluster Library day at St. John’s
16th - 22nd August
♦ Book Week
22nd August
♦ Kindy fees due
29th August
♦ Mini Vinnies Sleepout

TUCKSHOP ROSTER
06/08/14 SPORTS CARNIVAL
Peta, Julie, Nicole, Odette

07/08/14 SPORTS CARNIVAL
Peta, Julie, Nicole, Michelle

“ The secret of change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new!”

Anon

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

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Yours sincerely,
Andrew Maley
Principal, M Ed (ICT), B Ed, Dip T
This week at Kindy we have been busy getting our garden started. We now have lettuce, tomatoes, beans, strawberries, ginger, basil and marigolds planted in our Kindy garden. We are looking forward to harvest time and sharing a big garden salad with the produce from our garden and strawberries for dessert, at the end of the term!

The children are currently looking after six Chrysalis, eagerly awaiting their transformations into butterflies or moths. They are also feeding the wild birds that visit our garden. The children are enjoying learning about their natural world. We have had a spider, grasshopper, shells, flowers, coral and other interesting items for Show and Tell. Thank you to George and Andrea Downard for their help in preparing the garden and their generous donation of soil and lettuce plants. Thanks also to Gabbie and Kodi for the tomato plants!

Mr Stuart Russell

St John’s Jeans For Genes Day
Tomorrow (Friday), St John’s will be participating in Jeans for Genes day. Prep/Year 1 were very excited to make fantastic posters which have been displayed around the school to remind students to wear their jeans.

Students will wear their sports shirts with their jeans as there will be sports in the afternoon. Please bring along a gold coin donation and money to purchase cake which will be on sale at second lunch for 50 cents. Children will also participate in some activities such as skipping to celebrate being healthy. For parents or students who wish to purchase merchandise, badges $5 and pens $6 are for sale at the office.

Thank you for your support. The money raised is going to a great charity.

Mr Stuart Russell

What’s Happening in Year 6/7
The year 6/7 students have made an enthusiastic start to a most eventful term. Over the next couple of weeks there are many things happening in and out of the classroom, including our visit on Tuesday to Good Counsel College for Catholic Education Week celebrations. The students had an enjoyable day meeting students from other schools in the southern deanery and especially enjoyed the tours of the College where they got a glimpse of the many exciting things awaiting them in high school next year!

Our athletes are continuing to ready themselves for the District Athletics Carnival being held at St. John’s next week. For inspiration, we have been learning about the history of the Commonwealth Games. To date we have learnt, not only about the many sports being played but also the geography, history and political significance of the games. In addition, students have been demonstrating their humour writing funny limericks in writing lessons. Students have also been out and about the school using shadows to successfully measure the heights of many buildings and objects in the school during some practical Maths lessons.

In history this term the Year 6’s are learning about the struggle in early Australian life and the Year 7’s will learn about Ancient Egypt. Our Science for term three will start with both grades looking at different types of energy forms. The year 6 students are looking at electricity, whilst the year 7 students are exploring force and motion.

Finally, the 6/7 class is preparing to show their creative and artistic side whilst practising their skit for the Mini Vinnies Variety Night. As the office bearers of the Mini Vinnies Association, the pressure will be on to produce the best skit on the night so you will have to be present on the night to see our Year 6/7 ‘extravaganza’!

Mr Stuart Russell

School photos
Our School and Kindy photo day has been scheduled for Tuesday 12th August. Order forms have been sent home with every child today. Sibling order forms are available for families to collect from the school office. Parents can also access student or sibling order forms at any time from the website www.ngschoolphotography.com.au Orders and money can be sent to the school office by 12th August.

Fees
School and Music fees have been generated in the new system and sent home this week. If parents have supplied an email address to the school office, invoices have been emailed, however this term paper statements have also been printed and sent home with students as well. Due dates are

- Music fees due 1/8/14
- School fees 11/8/14
- Kindy fees due 22/8/14

Please endeavor to settle your school account by the due date. If any parents have difficulty with fees an appointment can be made with Mr. Maley.

Mr Stuart Russell
31st - Hannah

Silkwood Junior Soccer Draw
2nd August
U6 - 3.15pm        U 8 - 2.00pm  U9 - 3.00pm                     U10 - 1.00pm & 3.00pm U11/12 - 1.30pm     U13/14/15 - 1.00pm

Social Emotional Learning Awards
Persistence
Kelsey - Writing a fantastic poem on kittens.
Eva - Working well with your class mates on set tasks.
Tegan - For trying all the activities, including dancing at GCPS.
Arvind - Always being an enthusiastic and co-operative student.
Jacob - For a super effort writing limericks this week in English. Well done.

Inquiry and Reflective Learners Awards
Leader & Contributor
Kyle - For sitting and listening so nicely during Catholic Education Mass.
Active Investigator
Kent - Showing great inquiry skills in areas of research.
Community Contributor
James - For always being a key contributor in the organisation of the school and classroom.

Reading Awards will only be presented at assembly for 50, 100, 150, 200 etc.

Mini Vinnies News
The date for our Mini Vinnies Sleepout has been set for Friday 29th August so please keep this date free and join us for a night of reflection, light food and activities.

SMCSA Athletics
St John’s will be hosting the SMCSA athletics next Wednesday & Thursday on our school grounds. Please be aware of additional buses, cars and visitors will be accessing school grounds and facilities. Buses and visitors’ cars will be parking on the old athletics field (weather permitting). To streamline the day, our Thursday tuckshop has been modified for all St John’s School and Kindy students, as well as other participating SMCSA schools. Donations of cakes would be much appreciated - please ring Julie 0417 492 644. There will be extra sausage rolls, pasta & ham & salad rolls and drinks available for sale. Please remember to return all SMCSA raffle tickets by next Monday so they can be collated and drawn by the end of the week.

P & F Monster Raffle
Congratulations to Mrs Peta Bromilow for her wonderful organisation of the 2014 Monster Raffle. To date Peta has collected approximately $1000 worth of prizes for this fundraiser with support from many others. Please assist with this fundraiser by selling the Monster Raffle tickets. This raffle will be drawn at the locally famous Mini Vinnies Variety Night concert scheduled to be held on Friday 12th September.

Parent Camp Meeting
The 2014 Year 4-7 camp is close to being finalised ready for the parent camp meeting. The camp has direct alignment with the Year 4/5 and 6/7 curriculum as in past years. This meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday 5th August at 3pm in the Year 6/7 room.

Face Painting at Catholic Education Week

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