It was lovely to hear about the success of our Paul Kelly Cup team that played in the AFL Gala Day last Thursday, 26 February. The students were selected from Years 5 and 6 after a training morning with an AFL development officer. They won their pool and were undefeated! This means they have qualified for the next stage of the competition which will be held on 1st or 2nd week of Term 2 at Centennial Park. What is even more lovely to hear is that they showed good sportsmanship and represented their school with pride. Well done St Joey’s AFL squad!

In the season of Lent it is important that we take time to reflect on ourselves and what we can do to become more Christ-like, not just during Lent, but everyday! I was reading a ‘Top Ten Lenten Promises’ list that someone gave me and it really made think about realistic ways we can try and change our behavior every day. I thought I would share a few with you. They were put into two lists of ‘Things to Surrender’ and ‘Things to Embrace’.

**Things to Surrender**

- **Grumpiness** - Irritability is a choice. We can choose to be grumpy and hang onto our right to be foul tempered, or we can choose to be pleasant and good humoured.
- **Cynicism** - It’s easier to be cynical than it is to be optimistic and hope-filled. Take the path less travelled.

**Things to Embrace**

- **Gratitude** - give thanks every day, all day. Thank God, thank others. Gratitude is one of the most effective ways to lift your spirit and increase your awareness of God’s presence.
- **Forgive and let live** - set yourself free. Forgive someone against whom you hold a grudge. Let them go. Let yourself go and start living again. (I feel a song coming on...!)

Brenda Paul
Assistant Principal

**Sunday’s Gospel Reflection**

When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple courts he found people selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple courts, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He said, “Get these out of here! Stop turning my Father’s house into a market!” The Jews asked him, “What sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?” Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.”

John 2: 13-25
Religious Education News

Caritas- Project Compassion
This Lenten season, Caritas have taken the theme ‘Food For Life’ for Project Compassion.

The theme throws a spotlight on global food issues and how Caritas Australia is empowering the world’s poorest people to establish sustainable food sources for life.

Twenty-five years ago, married couple Eric and Ma worked hard, but their farm was unprofitable. They had a very limited income and diet, until they took a training course at the Tutu Rural Training Centre (supported by Caritas Australia). Using the skills they learnt there, the couple have built a successful family life, and a thriving farm that provides them with a healthy diet and sustainable source of income.

Your donation to Project Compassion helps people in isolated areas of Fiji gain the skills they need to grow food for life. If you need a box, please do not hesitate to ask.

World Prayer Day
The World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement which brings Christians of many traditions together to observe a common day of prayer each year. Through preparation and participation in the worship service, we can come to know how our sisters of other countries, language and cultures understand the Biblical passages in their context.

We can hear their concerns and needs and can feel ourselves in solidarity with them as we pray with and for them. In this way, it is possible to enrich our Christian faith as it grows deeper and broader in an international, ecumenical expression.

This Friday 6th March, Year Six will be joining the special service held within our church, with classes taking part in sharing a prayer during their Religious Education lessons.

The Journey of Reconciliation
We take this time to pray for all of those who are preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Loving God,
Giver of life and all the gifts we share,
we offer you praise and thanks.
Look upon those children, their families and our parish,
with love and tenderness as they continue their sacramental journey.
May the light of Christ shine in their homes.
Send your Holy Spirit to strengthen and encourage them.
Draw all of us ever more deeply into the mystery of your life and love.
Amen

Stef Thom
Religious Education Coordinator
Library News

PRC: If you wish your child to participate in the Premier’s Reading Challenge this year please let me know by next Monday 9th March so I can enrol them and give them their user names and passwords. Then they can log on to https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html and begin to enter the books they have read online.

Redgum Book Club: If you wish to order books from this catalogue you need to do it online. Orders close on 9th March. Do not send orders to school. Thank you

Fran Jones
Teacher/Librarian

School News

Leadership Camp

Congratulations to all the Stage 3 students who attended the Leadership Camp in Week 2. The students had a very busy time doing activities such as sailing, fishing, canoeing, rock climbing, bush survival and go karting, just to name a few. On the first night the teachers were entertained with some very talented acts which made it difficult to choose the winners!

All the students were well behaved and well-mannered from the time they got on the bus to when we arrived back at school. They were challenged within each activity and learnt about the leadership skills required to be a reliable and responsible leader. Parents you’ll be pleased to know that your child was able to help set up and clear up at meal times without any complaints! All the students were great role models in being able to look after their belongings and always be punctual for the group activities.

Overall a great camp in which we look forward to seeing the Stage 3 students putting into practice their leadership skills at school now.

From the School Office

♦ SCHOOL FEES
End of month Statements were emailed this week.
Prompt payment for overdue fees would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

♦ IMPORTANT NOTES AND FORMS
Please check that all school permission notes and agreement forms (sent home last week) have been completed and returned to the school office ASAP.
## Students of the Week

### Kindergarten
- **Bianca H:** for always walking in our classroom.
- **Carys H:** for trying hard to be an awesome listener.

### Year 1
- **Calan R:** for excellent answers during Literacy.
- **Lindsay T:** for great spelling attempts in writing.

### Year 2
- **Gabriella H:** for being careful and respectful at all times.
- **Jai S:** for excellent use of adjectives in his writing.

### Year 3
- **Ava C:** for taking up the challenge in her spelling.
- **Harry N:** for moving from school to the swimming carnival with care.

### Year 4
- **Lilly K:** for working hard during reading groups.
- **Angus B:** for being polite and a considerate member of Year 4.

### Year 5
- **Eliza B:** for wonderful effort in writing.
- **Samuel P:** for always being courteous to others.

### Year 6
- **Ava M:** for being a very kind, caring and thoughtful buddy.
- **Riley B:** for always being courteous towards others when moving around the school.

### St. Lucy’s
- **Startright 1**
  - **Eoghan L:** for working independently at his desk.
  - **Edie S:** for wonderful acting skills during drama.

- **Startright 2**
  - **Oscar J:** for being a fantastic role model during swimming.

## 2015 (ICAS) Competition Years 3-6

International Competitions & Assessment for Schools (ICAS) Years 3-6 flyer is attached to this newsletter. Please return form and payment by Wednesday 25th March.

## Important Dates

- **Wednesday 11th March**—School Open Day
- **Saturday 21st March**—Whole School Parish Family Mass
- **Thursday 2nd April**—Last Day of Term
Dear Parents

Next week we celebrate Catholic Schools Week and to coincide we are holding our annual Open Day. To ensure a successful day we need volunteers. **Open Day is on Wednesday 11th March.** The morning begins at 9.15am with a presentation in the library followed by group tours around the school. Volunteers assist by answering questions and providing information about the day-to-day goings on in the school. Following this will be an opportunity for a cup of tea or coffee outside the canteen.

A big thank you to all those who have already volunteered to help on the day. However, we are still in desperate need of **tour guides.** This job involves taking a small group of prospective parents around the school, answering questions and providing information.

Please complete the return slip if you are able to help. You can also email or phone if you have trouble printing the note for a return slip. Even if it is only for a short time I hope that you may be able to help out in some way or another.

Yours sincerely

Michael Gallagher
Principal

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**OPEN DAY VOLUNTEER**

FAMILY NAME: ___________________________________________

I am able to assist with Open Day on Wednesday 11th March by volunteering for:

- **Tour Guide:** taking a small group, answering questions and providing information
2015 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)

Dear Parent,

The University of New South Wales is offering your child an opportunity to participate in the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS).

ICAS assessments have taken place annually in schools for over thirty years and in twenty countries. Educational Assessment Australia (EAA), who design and deliver the assessments, is the not-for-profit arm of the University of New South Wales.

ICAS:
- is an annual skills development assessment program in key areas of learning for students in Years 2–12; assessments are available in Digital Technologies, English, Mathematics, Science, Spelling and Writing
- gathers performance information through a 30–60 minute supervised in-school test
- provides a continuous, independent and comprehensive record of a student’s performance, and maps their development over the full period of primary and secondary schooling
- enables the progress of each student to be mapped in each skill against their previous performance, demonstrating personal improvement no matter the starting point
- uses fellow students’ results as a reference point; results are mapped against all students sitting at the same year level in Australia
- provides an excellent preparation for national testing
- enables students at all levels of ability to participate; ICAS contains questions designed to specifically explore the abilities of students of all standards – this includes those of both lower and higher levels of achievement
- medals are awarded to the top students per state in each subject and year level (when sufficiently meritorious and the test was sat on the official sitting date)
- achievement certificates are awarded to all students at a range of levels: 1. **High Distinction** to the top 1% of students 2. **Distinction** to the next 10% of students 3. **Credit** to the next 25% of students 4. **Merit** to the next 10% of students 5. **Participation** to all other students
- results are available to parents and students online; these online reports and analyses remain available indefinitely. ICAS reports indicate which questions were answered correctly, compare student performance to that of the other students tested and are highly suitable for inclusion in a student’s portfolio for future tertiary entrance or job opportunities
- entries are administered through the school, so teachers can also access the information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competition</th>
<th>Sitting Date</th>
<th>Entries Close</th>
<th>Cost per child</th>
<th>Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies</td>
<td>Tuesday May 19</td>
<td>Wednesday March 25</td>
<td>$ 8.80</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science (Year 2-6)</td>
<td>Wednesday June 3</td>
<td>Wednesday March 25</td>
<td>$ 8.80</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>June 15-19</td>
<td>Wednesday March 25</td>
<td>$18.70</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>Tuesday June 16</td>
<td>Wednesday March 25</td>
<td>$12.10</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Tuesday July 28</td>
<td>Wednesday March 25</td>
<td>$ 8.80</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Tuesday August 11</td>
<td>Wednesday March 25</td>
<td>$ 8.80</td>
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My child / ren ......................................................................................
......................................................................................
......................................................................................

Class: ........................................
Class: ........................................
Class: ........................................

Would like to participate in the Competitions as indicated above.

Signed: ......................................................... Amount enclosed: $ ............. (cash / cheque)

Parent / Guardian

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM AND PAYMENT BY Wednesday 25th March 2015
DO YOU HAVE A CHILD DIAGNOSED WITH AD/HD?

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR POSITIVE STRATEGIES TO HELP MANAGE YOUR CHILD’S BEHAVIOUR?

Is your child between 6 and 12 years old?

You are invited FREE OF CHARGE to attend a well-known parenting program at Macquarie University.

The program is part of an evaluation study and participants will be asked to:

- attend evening sessions
- fill in questionnaires (anonymously)

This study has been approved by the Human Research Ethics at Macquarie University.

For more information or to express interest in this study please contact:
Julie Chesterfield (Department of Psychology, Macquarie University)
E-mail: julie.chesterfield@students.mq.edu.au
Phone: 0412 414 114
One of the best parts of parenting is having fun with your kids.

Most of the time, it’s easy, but sometimes it’s not. Unleash your “inner child” with these playful ideas to help encourage confidence, support emotional-intelligence and grow connections.

After all, “creativity is the greatest gift of human intelligence” (Robinson, 2011)

Play creates that magical bond in and around your home – it is not about spending money but spending quality time.

There is no cost for workshops and all are welcome. Following the 1 hour workshop, you are invited to ‘stay and play’.

**Peninsula Cluster**

**Time**

**Daytime**

9.30 – 10.30

1 Hour workshop with option to ‘stay and play’

**Evening**

7 – 8.30pm

1 Hour workshop with option to ‘stay and play’

**Venues**

**Monday 9 March**

St John’s Catholic School

166 Alfred St, Narraweena

**Thursday 19 March**

Sacred Heart Catholic School,

Cnr Waratah & Keenan Sts, Mona Vale

**Thursday 19 March**

St Kieran’s Catholic School,

63 Gordon St, Manly Vale

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Proudly presented by the Diocesan Parent Council (DPC) in conjunction with the Diocese of Broken Bay Catholic Schools Office (CSO).

RSVP: Via DPC Website www.brokenbayparentcouncil.com