Messages from the Principal

Dear Parents & Carers,

WELCOME to Mrs Karen Faber who will be replacing Lyn Kenyon while she undergoes her treatment. Karen works one day a week at St Joseph’s Coraki. We also welcome our Southern Cross University Practicum students: Mikaela Leece in Kinder and Claudia Beattie in S3. They are here until the end of February then back again in May for another month.

MEDICAL UPDATE
Anaphylaxis is an allergic reaction to food, insects, animals, fabrics, etc. The reaction can be severe causing swelling and inability to breathe, or more minor with swelling or welts on the skin. Severe reactions are most worrying and people with severe reactions have an epipen to administer. We have several students and staff who have epipens for a variety of allergies, most common being peanuts.

We follow the advice of the Health Department to NOT banning nuts at school but rather making sure EVERYBODY is aware of these people and ensuring we all wash our hands after eating food.

All epipens are stored in containers in the office so they can be reached swiftly to be administered if required. Staff are trained in administering an epipen (& some have personal experience).

We keep a list of these students in prominent places at school.

We also have a number of students and staff that are gluten intolerant or coeliac. This makes it very difficult at birthday times when parents bring in cakes to share or even some ice blocks.

In moving to stages the number of cakes or ice blocks needed was becoming too high for parents. Last year we decided it was far safer to ask parents, if they wish to celebrate their child’s birthday at school, to simply bring in one patty cake for their child. The children will sing and celebrate and your child will receive their cake. There is NO necessity to bring in a patty cake BUT we will not be accepting larger cakes or ice blocks any more.

Should your child require their puffer during the day OR if we had to apply substantial first aid they will be given a yellow slip to bring home to alert you.

Other medications eg Ritalin, that are daily doses at school, are noted each day in our classroom.

Anaphylaxis — a severe allergic reaction to food, peanuts, etc. It is an allergic reaction to food, insects, animals, fabrics, etc. The reaction can be severe causing swelling and inability to breathe, or more minor with swelling or welts on the skin. Severe reactions are most worrying and people with severe reactions have an epipen to administer. We have several students and staff who have epipens for a variety of allergies, most common being peanuts.

We follow the advice of the Health Department to NOT banning nuts at school but rather making sure EVERYBODY is aware of these people and ensuring we all wash our hands after eating food. All epipens are stored in containers in the office so they can be reached swiftly to be administered if required. Staff are trained in administering an epipen (& some have personal experience).

We keep a list of these students in prominent places at school. We also have a number of students and staff that are gluten intolerant or coeliac. This makes it very difficult at birthday times when parents bring in cakes to share or even some ice blocks.

In moving to stages the number of cakes or ice blocks needed was becoming too high for parents. Last year we decided it was far safer to ask parents, if they wish to celebrate their child’s birthday at school, to simply bring in one patty cake for their child. The children will sing and celebrate and your child will receive their cake. There is NO necessity to bring in a patty cake BUT we will not be accepting larger cakes or ice blocks any more.

Should your child require their puffer during the day OR if we had to apply substantial first aid they will be given a yellow slip to bring home to alert you. Other medications eg Ritalin, that are daily doses at school, are noted each day in our classroom.

In Brief...
- Parish School Forum (PSF) nomination for groups form accompanies this newsletter.
- Jubilee Year & Ash Wednesday information with Learning Assistance Program info (LAP) flyer on back
- AFL Auskick Registration form

Pope Francis says, “We need constantly to contemplate the mystery of mercy. It is a well-spring of joy, serenity, and peace. Our salvation depends on it. Mercy: the word reveals the very mystery of the Most Holy Trinity. Mercy: the ultimate and supreme act by which God comes to meet us. Mercy: the fundamental law that dwells in the heart of every person who looks sincerely into the eyes of his brothers and sisters on the path of life. Mercy: the bridge that connects God and man, opening our hearts to the hope of being loved forever despite our sinfulness.

At times we are called to gaze even more attentively on mercy so that we may become a more effective sign of the Father’s action in our lives. For this reason I have proclaimed an Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy as a special time for the Church, a time when the witness of believers might grow stronger and more effective.

The motto for the year, Merciful like the Father, serves as an invitation to follow the merciful example of God who asks us not to judge or condemn but to offer love and forgiveness instead.”
medications book. These require a special signed note to be administered. This note is filed at school. Please do not send your child to school with any medication unless you have advised the school.

CONGRATULATIONS to Will Barnes who trialled in Lismore last week in Polding Cricket. Although unsuccessful we are told Will made a big effort and showed his skills on the day. Well done Will.

GOOD LUCK to the following swimmers who will represent school at the Zone Swimming Carnival in Lismore on Friday 19 February: Will Barnes, Harry Condon, Lewis Trim, Oliver Condon, Lachlan Barnes, Oliver Allen, Taj Bednall, Cameron Rhodes, Teo Astone, Lewis Parker, Lucas Woolven, Danny O’Toole, Noah Glavoch, Seb Astone, Joe Tibbey, Mark Wright, Parker Moore, Murray Fivaz, Tom Simon, Damon Dwyer, Georgia Shirley, Niamh Thompson, Ainsleigh Woolven, Ava Allan, Ava Greensill, Zarli Currey, Hannah Lloyd, Eliza Lamas, Emily Eyre, Molly Hayes, Teila Bednall, Matilda Howe, Sophie Price, Holly Oates.

SCHOOL REVIEW & IMPROVEMENT
This year our school will participate in a School Review & Improvement, a process which occurs every 5 years as part of the registration process for schools and to ensure that all policies and procedures are in place. We begin with a compliance audit on Thursday 31 March. There will be an opportunity for ALL families to be involved as part of this process. More information will come later.

INSIGHT SRC
Once again we will be involved in the Insight SRC surveys, an initiative of the Catholic Schools Office, which is a school improvement survey tool. It looks at various aspects of school like curriculum, behaviour, parent involvement, communication, resourcing and school culture. This survey is completed each year and staff then work to improve results. This survey will be open to randomly selected parents and students to complete online later this term. A paper copy can be completed by parents instead of online if they wish. The staff also complete the survey.

All results are then returned to school in Term 2 to unpack, work on improving or investigate.

ICT AGREEMENT
All new students to school will receive an Information & Communication (ICT) Acceptable Use Agreement today to read and return signed as soon as possible.

Therese Seymour

LIBRARY BORROWING
All students have a weekly library lesson/visit. Students must bring a library bag (excluding S3) and their borrowed books each week to reborrow or swap. Library timetable is as follows:

- Stage 3 – Monday: may borrow 6 books/week from all sections of the library;
- Stage 2 – Tuesday: may borrow 6 books/week from non-fiction, junior fiction & picture book sections of the library;
- Stage 1 – Friday: may borrow 4 books/week from non-fiction, junior fiction & picture book sections of the library;
- Kindergarten – Tuesday: may borrow 1 book/week from the picture book section of the library.

The library is open to all students for quiet activities and borrowing on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Looking forward to a fantastic year in the library.

Ros Kingsford

School Banking 2016 is set for the outback.
Since 1931, the School Banking program has been introducing interactive and exciting new ways to teach students lifelong money skills. This year’s program invites your child to join the Dollarmites on a wild outback adventure through the Canyon of Savings.

Your school has received parent packs that include all the gear you need to get started. If you haven’t received a parent pack yet, please ask your School Banking Co-ordinator (Kylie Glavoch & Louise Doust)

Equipment smart savers with eight new reward items in 2016
The School Banking program continues to encourage good savings behaviour by rewarding students with thrilling reward items. For every 10 deposits made through the program, students can redeem a reward from our Outback Savers range. The first two reward items released in Term 1 include Flying Snake Tails and Wildlife Writer Sets. You could meet Bindi and Robert Irwin at Australia Zoo. This year, we’re giving students the chance to win a family trip for up to two adults and three kids to explore Australia Zoo and meet Bindi and Robert Irwin, plus: • A full day Platinum Zoo Adventure Tour, where you’ll get to pat wombats, cuddle koalas and feed wallabies, all while your personal photographer captures every incredible moment. • Domestic return economy airfares to Sunshine Coast, Qld, 4 nights’ accommodation, 5 days’ car hire and $1,000 spending money.

Students who make 15 or more School Banking deposits by the end of Term 3, 2016 will automatically receive an entry into the competition.

For more information, visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking...

SCHOOL STUDENT BANKING DAY IS WEDNESDAY.
THE FOLLOWING CHILDREN have celebrated their birthday since our last Newsletter:

Alyssa Wilson, Zane Braz & Madeline Vinall

HAPPY BIRTHDAY from all of us at St Joe’s.

COME AND PLAY FOOTBALL AT VILLA FC

Biggest participation sporting club on North Coast
first club in Australia awarded Level 2 for its organization—

Register ONLINE at myfootballclub.com.au
then SIGN ON at:
• Sat. 13 Feb (10am – 2pm ) at Geoff Watt Clubhouse
• Sat. 20 Feb (10am – 2pm ) at Geoff Watt Clubhouse
• Friday 19 Feb (2pm-5pm) Alstonville Plaza Football for Ages 5 years to Adult.
New players – please bring Birth Certificate. For all details, visit us at www.alstonvillefc.com.au

KAREN IRELAND DANCE centre

NOW TAKING NEW ENROLMENTS FOR 2016!!
Join our dance family now and you’ll progress into the best dancer you can be, and enjoy every step of the journey. Offering classes from 3yrs to advanced, with a variety of styles including RAD Classical Ballet, Contemporary, Jazz, Tap, Technique, Pilates, and Eisteddfod/Competition work. Contact Karen on: 0416094283. Email: karenireland@yahoo.com.au

PLAY RUGBY

New Players welcome Under 7’s to Under 18’s
Qualified Coaches: Safe, Friendly and Family Environment Great Club Amenities Professionally Administered. Inquiries contact 0477 398 985 or email: wollongbarrugby@gmail.com

Junior Sign on Days 2016
Friday 26 Feb, 6pm -3.30pm: Wollongbar Rugby Club, Cerreto Circuit
Saturday 27 Feb 9.30am -12 noon: Alstonville Plaza Shopping Centre—Fees payable at sign on (cash/cheque or bank transfers

Alstonville Hockey Club

Family friendly, Everyone welcome! Minikins, juniors, womens & mens All ages and skill levels welcome
U13’s & U11’s players needed for 2016 Enquiries: Glen Hunter, President 0402 674 525 Maria Morton, Secretary 0476 267 949 alstonvillehockeyclub@hotmail.com

CANTENE SPECIAL THIS WEDNESDAY

Oven fried fish and chips with tartare or tomato sauce $4.40

VOLUNTEER helpers required for Wednesday 10 and 17 Feb and Friday 19 February. Please phone Leanne 66281990

ALTAR SERVERS ROSTER

Saturday 13 February: Reuben Seymour, Cavan Thompson, Elise Hatchman, Patrick Thompson & Niamh Thompson
Sunday 14 February: Blake Penhey, Ella Penhey, Blair Hunt, James Penhey & Jacob Robinson

CONGRATULATIONS to the following children who received Awards at last week’s assembly: Locchie Allen, Arnika Hickey, Annabelle Mills, Isaac Spash, Rachel Wills, Andrew Barrett, Marley Rhodes, Matthew Wernowski, Ashton Wilks, Madeleine Donnelly, Klancie Freebody, James Barrett, Aliyah Tamlin, Anna Prodger, Ella Biggin, Jayden Binder, Harry Cunynghame, Mark Wright, Sam Gleason, Harry Condon

DOES YOUR DAUGHTER LOVE TO DANCE?

Come along and try Physie! Only 8c a class!

Alstonville Family Night

SIGN ON DATE: Tuesday 2nd February, Alstonville Leisure Centre, 4.45pm

CLASS TIME:
Tuesday 9th February
Phone Joint 0406714932

NEW LADIES CLASS IN 2016!

ALSTONVILLE UNITING CHURCH | WEDNESDAY 1:30 – 6:30 PM

ALSTONVILLE K - 6 WEEKLYS TERM 1

BOOK NOW FOR WED & SAT ALSO APRIL HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS
MOB 0402913561
EMAIL JANSBUCKETCLUB@GMAIL.COM CHECK OUT THE FACEBOOK PAGE JOIN US

JAN’S BUCKET CLUB ART & CRAFT = ADVENTURE!