Dear Parents and Friends of St Clare’s

I offer the following thoughts as reports, major tasks and HSC Exam Trials begin to arrive home after being corrected by your sons and daughters teachers.

A person can gain a lot by reflecting on what they learnt about themselves and their abilities following a time of stress or strain. This is particularly true for students following a busy work period or exam block. It is a time when they find out if they are an “owner” or a “blamer”.

Owners take full responsibility for all their actions and even their emotional responses. Blamers shift the responsibility on to others – either people or things. Owners get to know themselves because they are in contact with their own inner workings. Blamers never get to know themselves because they live in a world of denial, and unreal world.

Often the difference between being an owner and a blamer can be recognised in our language patterns. An owner uses the phrase, ‘I’ve decided to…’; a blamer the phrase ‘I have to …’

Inform No.15, Catholic Adult Education Centre, Sydney

The person who takes responsibility for their behaviour and ‘owns it’ is someone who is engaged in good learning. Their attitude makes it possible to reflect on past decisions and experiences and make changes to the way they do things if needed. A student who decides to see exams as a challenge to overcome rather than an event to be feared has launched themselves on the road to success; not because they will do well in the exam but because they have adapted an attitude that embraces life and all that it offers. So “… the place to improve the world is first in one’s own heart and head and hands – then work outwards from there.” [Robert M Pirsig]
During the holidays a group of students and staff completed two three-day walks in the Northern Territory as part of the schools Duke of Edinburgh Award Program. The ‘Dukes’ trips take a great deal of organisation and the fact that the bulk of the trip takes place in term holidays places a lot of extra work and expectation on staff who participate. I have received a lot of positive feedback from parents and students regarding the walk and on the schools behalf thank Mr Bernie Holland, Dukes Coordinator, Mr Phillip Carney and Mrs Karen McCann who walked with our students and ensured the expedition was a wonderful learning experience for all involved.

God Bless

Principal

**PRAYERS:** Please pray for those who are currently experiencing health difficulties and continue to pray for community members experiencing challenges, pain, sickness and grief in their lives at this time.

**CHAPLAINCY/PASTORAL CARE:** A reminder to all that the school has a Chaplain. Please feel free to contact our Chaplain, Deacon Vince Ryan, through the school office if he can be of assistance to you or any member of our whole school community.

**SUNDAY, 2 AUGUST - 18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

“What sign will you give to show us that we should believe in you?”
Sometimes, when things aren’t going so well, we do want a sign. But how many signs do we need when we already ‘have’ so many? What does God have to do each day to show us? I try to see it in those I love and who love me. There’s a magpie that sits under my kitchen window that reminds me of the Creator’s presence. I’m sure there are signs in your life too.

Have a good week

Denise Ryan, Ministry Coordinator
Mass Times

Our Lady of the Rosary, Taree
75 Albert St, Taree
Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm
Sunday Mass: 9:30 am

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Wingham
8 Farquhar Street, Wingham
Sunday: 8:30 am

St Bernadette’s, Krambach
Bucketts Way, Krambach
Saturday: 6:30 pm (On the weekend of a 5th Sunday, a Liturgy of the Word with Communion is held at Nabiac Church)

Our Lady Star of the Sea, Harrington
Pilot St, Harrington
Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm
(1st, 3rd and 5th Saturdays in each month)
Saturday Liturgy of the Word and Communion: 6:00 pm
(2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month)

St Therese’s, Lansdowne
Cundle Rd, Lansdowne
Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm
(2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month)

Our Lady of Fatima, Old Bar
20 Hall St, Old Bar
Sunday Mass: 7:30 am

St Patrick's, Cundletown
River St, Cundletown
Sunday Mass: 6:00 pm

Forster-Tuncurry Catholic Parish
Holy Name of Jesus Parish Church, Forster
33 Lake Street, Forster
Sunday Mass: 9:00 am

St Mary, Star of the Sea Church, Tuncurry
15 Peel Street, Tuncurry
Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm
Sunday Mass: 7:00 am

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS FOR YEAR 7 ENGLISH:  As many Year 7 students have changed English classes this semester, there might be some confusion as to which teacher you should request for an interview next Thursday afternoon.  Please request an interview with the teacher who made the comment on your child’s Semester 1 report.  If your child is in a new class; their teacher will not be able to comment on your child’s academic progress as the changes are quite recent.  Maureen Busby, English Studies Coordinator

FROM THE SENIOR SCHOOL:

Year 12 students have commenced their Trial HSC Examinations which will continue until Monday, 10 August.  Curriculum Coordinator, Mrs Theresa Avery, has expressed her pleasure with the manner in which students have attended and attempted the examinations to date.

To ensure duty of care by the school during the Trial HSC Examination period, Year 12 students are reminded:

•  to SIGN IN and SIGN OUT of the premises if they are here at times other than an actual examination – the SIGN IN/OUT BOOK will be kept in the Library, AND
•  NOT to use vehicles to make multiple trips from the school to and from other venues.

Year 11 students have commenced the process to determine 2016 School Leaders.  Intending candidates are reminded to submit an application form by the deadline, FRIDAY, 31 JULY, 3PM, to the Principal’s Secretary, Ms Anne Little.
Successful applicants to Round 2 will be notified by Friday of Term 3 Week 4. These students will need to start preparing a speech to be presented to the whole school - a draft of the speech is to be submitted for scrutiny by Monday, Week 6 at 3 pm. If a student has any questions regarding this process, they are to contact the SRC Coordinators (Mrs Eady or Miss Pearse).

The Year 11 Senior Retreat will be held at the Uniting Church Conference Centre at Elanora Heights in northern Sydney. It is a MANDATORY EVENT which will be held from Wednesday, 21st October until Friday 23rd October. Detailed information regarding the organisation and importance of this event has been sent home with students. The cost is $250 per student. Families are asked to either:

- Pay the $250 by Friday, 14 August 2015, OR
- Pay a $100 deposit by Friday, 14 August 2015, with the $150 balance to be paid by the last day of Term 3, Friday, 18 September 2015.

If there are any concerns with your ability to meet this cost, please contact Principal, Peter Nicholls, at school (6552 3300).

All Seniors are currently registering for a USI (Unique Student Identifier). A USI is a reference number made up of numbers and letters which creates a secure online record of nationally recognised training that can access be anytime and anywhere, and it's yours for life.

The USI history
In April 2012, the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) agreed to the implementation of a specially designed tool called the USI to provide students with the ability to obtain a complete record of their VET (Vocation Education Training) enrolments and achievements from a single source.

About the Unique Student Identifier (USI)
Every year, an estimated three million Australians of all ages and backgrounds build and sharpen their skills by undertaking nationally recognised training. From 1 January 2015, all students doing nationally recognised training need to have a Unique Student Identifier (USI). This includes students doing Vocational Education Training (VET) in schools.

The USI is linked to the National Vocational Education and Training (VET) Data Collection, and this means an individual’s nationally recognised training and qualifications gained anywhere in Australia, from different training organisations, will be kept all together. The USI will:

- link a student’s VET achievements, regardless of where in Australia they did the course
- let students easily access secure digital transcripts of their achievements (transcripts will be available from April 2016)
- give students more control over their VET information.

There is a possibility that, in the future, the USI might include educational courses offered by providers other than the VET system.

Ian Evans, Year 12 Student Coordinator and Bronwen Davidson, Year 11 Student Coordinator
CAREERS CORNER: Year 10 work experience was held this week and from all reports the students represented the school and their families in such a way that we can be very proud of them. This will be the last work experience in this format due to changes in insurance requirements and curriculum.

Year 11 and 12 students visited the Careers Expo at Chatham High to broaden their knowledge in relation to future career paths. Universities, TAFE, Defence Forces, Police and many private providers were present. Carol Healey, Careers Adviser
HOSPITALITY STUDENTS: The hospitality students have been busy this week transferring their skills learned in class into industry. There were two functions - Christmas in July for the Parish and another for Taree North Rotary Club. The hospitality students, plus Declan Moylan added to the festive occasion. Carol Healey, VET Coordinator
PUBLIC SPEAKING: Last Thursday night, the Public High Schools Competition, run by the local branch of Toastmasters International in conjunction with Midcoast Water, was held at Club Taree. Each school from the region could only enter one student in each division and the topic was “What might our water future look like thirty years from now.” Each student’s speech was so impressive that the representative from Midcoast Water asked for their speeches to be emailed to her so that their company could ‘take on board’ what wonderful ideas our youth expressed. In the senior division, **Emily Lee**, Year 11 came 3rd and won $100 and **Luke Strong**; Year 9 in the junior division came 1st and won $300. The standard this year was very high and these two students need to be congratulated on being wonderful ambassadors of St Clare’s. **Mrs McKendry**

Emily Lee, Year 11 and Luke Strong, Year 9
CELLO LESSONS

“Education in Music is most sovereign because more than anything else rhythm and harmony find their way to the innermost soul and take strongest hold upon them, bringing with them and imparting grace if one is rightly trained” ... Plato  c. 360BC

This year St Clare’s is offering Cello lessons with Cheryl Meyers, a wonderful experienced teacher and cellist. There is a vacancy on a Friday morning for an interested student who would like to learn the cello. Please see Mrs Brown for further information.

Viva la Musica,
Mrs Brown

YEAR 10 PHOTOGRAPHY

Congratulations to all Year 10 photography students on their studio portrait excursion to The Photography Hub, Taree. Students have appropriated famous iconic images. See if you can guess who they all are…

Special thank you to Danni for applying all the students’ makeup and Danni and Linda from the Photography Hub for allowing us to use their studio space.

Jason Koenig, Creative Arts Coordinator
AUSTRALIAN DIRT TRACK TITLES: Kye Andrews, Year 7, competed in the Australian Dirt Track Titles at Kempsey earlier this month, where he placed 1st in the 85-150 Small Wheel class gaining his very first Australian Title!!! Kye also placed 2nd in the 85-150 Big Wheel class. Kye has been racing dirt bikes since he was 9 years old.

MATHS WORKSHOP - Mathematics Workshop provides the opportunity for every student to obtain assistance and support in improving their understanding of mathematics. Four mathematics teachers are available each week to explain the concepts you are finding difficult or give assistance to enable you to complete your homework, assignments or any work that you may have missed due to absence from class.

WHEN IS IT ON? Wednesday lunchtime - every week.
Bring your lunch!

WHERE? Room 10
We hope to see you there!
Mrs Julie Rowsell- Mathematics Coordinator

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>3/8</th>
<th>Jenny Garland</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TUESDAY</td>
<td>4/8</td>
<td>Monica McMullen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY</td>
<td>5/8</td>
<td>Jackie Wiseman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THURSDAY</td>
<td>6/8</td>
<td>Help Urgently Required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY</td>
<td>7/8</td>
<td>Help Urgently Required</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VACANCIES STILL EXIST
MORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
IF YOU CAN ASSIST PLEASE CONTACT CHERYL KINGSFORD
ST CLARE’S CANTEEN: 6591 2104, HOME: 6552 1857 OR
VIA EMAIL: cheryl.kingsford@mn.catholic.edu.au
PARENT & STUDENT REMINDERS:

LEAVE NOTES & STUDENT MESSAGES: It would be appreciated if parents/guardians would send in a written note if their child needs to leave early for appointments etc. Notes should be handed in at the front office in the morning before roll call. If parents/guardians need to notify their child of a change of afternoon arrangements, it is necessary to phone the school prior to 2:25 pm (End of Lunch – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday) or prior to 1:55 pm (End of Lunch – Thursday Sport) as it is often difficult to locate students if their last lesson is a PE Prac or there has been a room change.

Students cannot be collected from the school during school hours by anyone other than a parent or guardian without written permission. Thank you.

LATE NOTES: Lateness to school is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained to the school the same way as other forms of absence. Arriving Late for school requires a handwritten note from a parent/carer or a phone call from a parent/carer or the absence is recorded as an unexplained partial absence. Thank you.

SCHOOL CLINIC: Students are reminded that if they are unwell whilst at school they are to advise their teacher who will then send them to the Front Office. If necessary, the office staff will contact a parent while the student waits in the Clinic. Students are not to contact parents on their mobile phones as this leaves teachers and office staff unaware of the situation and is also in breach of the school policy – use of mobile phones. Thank you.

COMING EVENTS

Term 3

Week 4  Thursday  6/8 ♦ Years 7 to 9 Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews
         Friday  7/8 ♦ Year 9 Reflection Day
         Sunday 9/8 ♦ Vinnies Immersion Trip

Week 5  Monday  10/8 ♦ Trial HSC Examinations Conclude
        Tuesday 11/8 ♦ Dio Athletics
        Friday 14/8 ♦ St Clare’s Feast Day

Week 6  Thursday 20/8 ♦ Vietnam Veterans Day Service
        ♦ Japanese Exchange Parent Information Evening

Week 9  Friday  11/9 ♦ Year 7 Vaccinations – 3rd Dose

Week 10 Thursday 17/9 ♦ Year 12 Assembly and Big Buzz
       Friday 18/9 ♦ Year 12 Graduation Mass
        ♦ Japanese Exchange students depart (Return 2 October)
Term 4

Week 1  Monday  9/10 ♦ Year 7 2016 Orientation Day

Week 2  Monday  12/10 ♦ HSC Written Examinations Commence

Week 3  Wednesday  21/10 ♦ Senior Retreat – Year 11

Week 5  Friday  6/11 ♦ HSC Written Examinations Conclude

Week 6  Friday  13/11 ♦ Year 12 Graduation

Week 11  Wednesday  16/11 ♦ HSC results released

SPRING FAIR:  St Joseph’s, Taree are holding a Spring Fair on Saturday, September 5 from 10am - 2pm.

There will be plenty happening on the day – historic car display, skydiving display, jumping castle, camel rides, trackless train, food, craft, book, plant and market stalls, children’s activities, showbags, face painting and lots more!

St Joseph’s would love to see members of other school communities in our area there on the day.

Anyone who would like to hold a stall or find out more information can contact springfairatjoeystaree@outlook.com or call 0423 911 913.
Free ‘Teach a Learner Driver’ workshop

Teaching someone to drive can be a daunting experience for both supervisor and learner. Join a free workshop to learn some simple tips to make the experience a happier one.

Greater Taree City Council is holding a free two hour *Helping Learner Drivers Become Safer Drivers* workshop for parents and supervisors of learner drivers on Wednesday 19 August, 2015. Presented in conjunction with Roads and Maritime Services, the workshop provides practical advice to ensure the learner gets the most out of every driving session. And through improved quality of driver training, the ultimate aim is to improve safety on our roads.

Road Safety Officer, Chris Dimarco said “Roads and Maritime Services recognise the important role parents and supervisors play in supporting inexperienced drivers and developed the course to help them prepare for the role. We’ve had some really positive feedback from those who attended in the past, including being able to plan practice driving sessions that help their learner driver build their skills progressively.”

Some of the topics to be covered include laws that apply to L & P licence holders, completing the *Learner driver log book*, and the benefits of well supervised on-road driving experience. Attendees will leave armed with a range of strategies, techniques, and tips to more effectively supervise their learner drivers.

The workshop will be held at the Council building, in the Manning Room, 2 Pulteney Street Taree, starting at 5.30pm. Light refreshments will be provided.

Bookings are essential and can be made by calling Council on (02) 6592 5399, or email tareecouncil@gtcc.nsw.gov.au

---

**Helping learner drivers become safe drivers**

You can learn all the simple steps on how to teach a learner driver at a FREE two-hour workshop.

**The next workshop in your area will be held:**

**TIME & DATE:**
Wednesday 5.30pm
19 August, 2015.

**VENUE:**
Greater Taree City Council, Pulteney Street, Taree. Light refreshments.

**BOOK NOW ON:**
(02) 6592 5399, or tareecouncil@gtcc.nsw.gov.au

---

**Need More Info?** Check out our website at gtcc.nsw.gov.au
or call Council on 6592 5399