Dear Parents and Friends of St Clare’s

This week I received a letter from Selwyn Weller Vice President of the Manning River Agricultural & Horticultural Society thanking St Clare’s students, Chelsea Becker, Casey Griffiths, Abbey Workman, Lillie Oirbans and Emma McFadden for their effort and hard work at the local show. It is great to get such positive feedback. We should not underestimate the high level of personal growth that takes place when a person volunteers their time and works for the benefit of others. Giving a helping hand, especially to people we don’t know or to those with whom we have little in common, is living the commandment ‘Love thy neighbour’ and allows goodness to be present in people’s lives. People may forget what you said …..or what you did…..but they will never forget how you made them feel.

Our Year 12 students have equipped themselves well to this point in the HSC exams. We have had no hiccups and the feedback from students and staff has been positive.

Last Friday we hosted 134 Year 6 students to our Orientation Day for the Year 7 cohort of 2016. The students experienced a range of subjects and mixed freely with others in the playground. Feedback from the day has been excellent; my thanks to Tim Masters, Year 7 Coordinator for 2016, Sue Morris, current Year 7 Coordinator, teaching and support staff, student leaders and primary schools for their great work in ensuring all the young people had a great day of fun and learning.

A large number of students and staff attended the funeral of Lauranne Byrne on Monday. The service was a great celebration of a life well lead.

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.

Mass Times

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<th>Location</th>
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| **Our Lady of the Rosary, Taree**| 75 Albert St, Taree
Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm
Sunday Mass: 9:30 am |
| **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 |
| **Holy Name of Jesus Parish Church, Forster** | 33 Lake Street, Forster
Sunday Mass: 9:00 am |
| **St Bernadette’s, Krambach**    | Bucketts Way, Krambach
Saturday at 6:30 pm Liturgy of the Word or Mass |
| **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 Mary, Star of the Sea Church, Tuncurry** | 15 Peel Street, Tuncurry
Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm
Sunday Mass: 7:00 am |
| **St Patrick’s, Cundletown**     | River St, Cundletown
Sunday Mass: 6:00 pm |

The **St Clare’s Vocal Group** rehearses each Monday at lunch. You do not have to be the best singer, just be able to enjoy singing. It is a great way to meet other students whilst having fun. New members are still very welcome to join us.

WHAT: **St Clare’s Vocal Group**
WHERE: **Room 36**
WHEN: **Monday Lunch 1.**
Viva la Musica,
**Mrs Brown**
Year 12 students have made a very pleasing start to their Written HSC Examinations which continue for another two and a half weeks. The timetable for St. Clare’s students is as follows:

We continue to keep these students in our prayers but can offer pragmatic support by ensuring ALL family members are acquainted with the schedule – including starting times. In recent times, students have mis-read their own timetables for the date of an exam OR for the starting time.

Year 12 students are reminded to return the relevant HSC text books on the day of the examination of a subject. Year 11 students are about to commence HSC courses and, understandably, require these books.

During the next few weeks, Year 12 students should continue to monitor emails. Those few students who are yet to finalise Graduation tickets and seating should do so at the earliest opportunity.

Year 11 students continue their roll-over into HSC Courses with the Week 2 PDHPE Camp concluding today while Week 3 features the 3 day Senior Retreat. A copy of the final information letter regarding the Senior Retreat is included at the end of this week’s edition of our newsletter. Students from the Great Lakes/Nabiac/Krambach/Gloucester area who wish to leave the bus at Nabiac on the way home should have the relevant Permission Note completed and returned. As with Year 12, we also include Year 11 students in our thoughts and prayers as they undertake this challenging, formative and informative event. 

Ian Evans (Year 12 Student Coordinator) and Bronwen Davidson (Year 11 Student Coordinator)
HSC Textiles and Design

Congratulations to Rachel Berry, Bianca Heiss, Victoria Lee, Emily McKendry, Brooke Penfold and Shaye Whitton, our six Year 12 Textiles and Design students for 2015. These students put in many hours of work designing, making and evaluating their Major Textiles Projects. Each student worked to the best of their ability and can be very proud of their achievements in this course. The Major Textiles Projects have now returned from the BOSTES external marking process, and will be on display in the library for the next week or so. Congratulations to all of the girls and good luck for your final exam.

Shannon O’Mara
Textiles and Design Teacher
Year 7 2016 Orientation Day

On Friday 9th October, the St Clare’s community was joined by students from Moorland to Gloucester and all places in between, in preparation for the start of their High School journey. The day was a great success as students were given the opportunity to move around the school and try out a variety of classes. Students cooked up a culinary feast in Food Technology, played with fire in the Science rooms, demonstrated their theatrical flair in Drama and got scientific with paper planes in Design and Technology. Students concluded their day by participating in Sport.

All students enjoyed themselves tremendously and look forward to the challenge of navigating classrooms and corridors with us in the coming year. Thanks goes out to all teachers and student leaders who got together to put this day on. The success of the day is owed to the preparation and enthusiasm of your contribution.
Students in Science

Students in Drama
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.

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

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<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>19/10</th>
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<tr>
<td>TUESDAY</td>
<td>20/10</td>
<td>Brigitte Anderson</td>
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<td>WEDNESDAY</td>
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<td>THURSDAY</td>
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<td>FRIDAY</td>
<td>23/10</td>
<td>Janette Wright</td>
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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
COMING EVENTS

Term 4

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 10  Sunday  6/12 ♦ Carols by Candlelight, Our Lady of the Rosary, Taree
Activities commence 3:30 pm – Carols from 6 pm

Week 11  Wednesday  16/12 ♦ HSC results released

Whooping cough information for schools

There is an outbreak of whooping cough (pertussis) in NSW, mainly affecting school-aged children.

Coughing spreads the infection to others nearby. Whooping cough can spread to anyone at home, including younger brothers and sisters. Whooping cough can be especially dangerous for babies.

Whooping cough starts like a cold and progresses to bouts of coughing that can last for many weeks. The infection can occur even in fully-vaccinated children. Older children may just have a cough that is persistent and may be worse at night.

- Children with these symptoms should see a doctor.
- If your doctor diagnoses whooping cough in your school-aged child, please let the school know and keep your child at home until they have taken 5 days of antibiotics. Keep coughing children away from babies.
- Whooping cough vaccines give good protection against infection but immunity fades with time. Check that all your children are up to date with their vaccines, due at 6 weeks, 4 months, 6 months, 4 years and 12 years of age (offered to all Year 7 students through the NSW school-based vaccination program). A booster is also recommended at 18 months of age.

A booster dose of vaccine is also recommended for adults that are in contact with young children, such as school staff and parents. Pregnant women are recommended to have a booster dose during each pregnancy and this is funded by NSW Health. Those who are new parents or carers of babies should consult their general practitioner about appropriate immunisation.

Your local public health unit can provide advice about whooping cough on 1300 066 055 or visit the NSW Health website
Spring Parenting Conference 2015

You are warmly invited to attend one or both of these special events!

DINNER EVENT
An opportunity to gather and celebrate parenthood.
Enjoy a dinner with psychologist and parenting expert, Dr John Irvine and celebrate the partnership between parents and schools.

October 31 October
6.30pm for 7pm
Green Room, Wests New Lambton Hobart Road, New Lambton
Cost $80, includes 3 course meal.
Cash bar available.
Please advise of any dietary requirements.
Limited places available. For tickets phone
Cath Garrett-Jones on 4979 1200
RSVP by 10 October.

FREE EVENT LIMITED PLACES
PARENTING “SPRING CLEAN”
with psychologist and parenting consultant, ANDREW FULLER + other guest speakers. Learn about,
• unlocking genius and managing behaviour
• resilient parenting
• transitioning to Year 7
• navigating social media
• studying and time management.

November 01
Sunday 1 November
9.30am for 10am start - 2.30pm
St Aloysius Catholic Primary School
24 Heritage Drive, Chisholm

Registration essential. Visit http://domn.link/1JzLpj2
to reserve your place today.

For further info contact
Cath Garrett-Jones
Parent Liaison and Resource Officer
P 4979 1303
E cath.garrett-jones@mn.catholic.edu.au
Is your child at school or starting school next year? Would $500 assist you with education costs?

Join Saver Plus and match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to $500 for educational costs including:

- school uniforms and text books
- computers, laptops and tablets
- excursions and camps
- sports equipment, uniforms and lessons
- music tuition and instrument hire.

You may be eligible if you have a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, are at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner) and have a child at school or study yourself.

For more information
Phone or SMS your name and postcode to 1300 610 355
Email: saverplus@bsl.org.au

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is delivered by The Smith Family in Greater Taree. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government.
Dear Parents/Guardians

It is time to start finalising details for the Year 11 Senior Retreat.

**MONIES DUE**
Firstly, all monies are now due. Please ensure that final payments are made as soon as possible and if there are any financial difficulties please contact Mr Nicholls on 6552 3300.

**TIMES OF DEPARTURE AND RETURN**
The bus will be **leaving** Wednesday, 21\textsuperscript{st} October at **8:00 am** from the front of the school. Please ensure that your child is at the school by **7:30 am** so that the buses can be packed and then leave promptly, as our schedule is very tight. I suggest that if any student is driving themselves to school and leaving their car that they arrange to leave it at a friend’s house that is close to school so as to avoid leaving it unattended whilst on retreat.

We will be stopping at the Wyong Twin Service stations both on the way down and back.

We aim to be **back at school** by **6:45 pm** Friday, 23rd October, and will let the school know times of arrival as soon as we can. I will ensure that students make a phone call on the buses to give you a friendly reminder of our expected arrival time. I am also aiming to have one of the buses drop off students at the service station at Nabiac (as for the Newcastle excursion earlier this year). I need the permission slip below completed to give me an idea of numbers and that a parent will be there to collect them. If no one is there to collect the nominated student then they will be taken to school for collection.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Drop offs at Nabiac on Friday evening **NOT** pick up students from Nabiac on Wednesday morning.

**MEDICATIONS**
Any prescribed medication from a Doctor will need to be placed into a labelled plastic bag (ie. resealable lunch bag) with your name and clear instructions of the name of the medication(s) to be given, the time it is to be given and how the medication needs to be taken ie with or without food. These then need to be given to Mrs Davidson in the morning prior to boarding the bus to leave St Clare’s.

**SPENDING MONEY (optional)**
While all meals are included in the cost of the camp once we arrive, students may need spending money to buy meals on the way to Sydney. Student will have the opportunity to purchase food at the Wyong Twin Service Station and Lunch at the Warriewood shopping square (you are able to bring your own recess and lunch on the way down). There may be an opportunity to purchase light refreshments during the students free time as a shopping centre is within walking distance of the venue. This will depend, however, on both availability and time constraints of activities. Students may also need money to buy afternoon tea/ early dinner on the return trip to Taree at the Wyong Twin Service Stations. The amount you choose to give your child is entirely at your discretion.

**TRUST ACTIVITY**
As part of the senior retreat, students will be asked to walk from the Warriewood shopping square to the conference venue. Student will be placed into their small working groups with each group given a teacher as a group leader. Students will also be given a map and teacher directions on how to locate the venue. It is about a 3km walk and should take approx 20-30 minutes to complete. Students will have access to a teacher’s mobile phone should they get into difficulties.
BANNED ITEMS
Alcohol and illegal drugs of any kind are completely banned. Students caught in possession of these items will be immediately sent home. Parents will be contacted and they will be responsible for collecting their child from Elanora Heights. All energy drinks are not permitted. Students caught in possession of these will have them immediately confiscated. iPods, mobile phones and any other electronic devices are the sole responsibility of the students. Our recommendation is that they are left at home.

This is a very important opportunity for Year 11, and I am really looking forward to spending a very rewarding 3 days with the year group.
If you have any concerns please contact me at school.

Yours sincerely
Bronwen Davidson
Year 11 Student Coordinator

YEAR 11 SENIOR RETREAT
PERMISSION TO BE COLLECTED FROM NABIAC SERVICE STATION
I acknowledge that my son/daughter_____________________________ of PC ___ will be collected by _______________________________ at the service station at Nabiac on Friday the 23rd October 2015.

I also acknowledge the following arrangement:

- If the nominated person is not present to collect the student that they will be placed back onto the bus for collection at St Clare’s.

Parent/Carer’s Name: ______________________________ Signature: ______________________________ Date: ______________

RETREAT ADDRESS
19 A Wesley Street
Elanora Heights, Sydney
Ph. 02 9913 8626

WHAT TO BRING TO RETREAT
- 2 complete changes of clothes (Thursday and Friday)
- Jumper
- Underwear and socks for every day
- Swimmers and a towel (optional- venue has a swimming pool)
- Appropriate footwear for a 30 minute walk (optional)
- Thongs
- Sleeping bag and pillow
- Toiletry bag and bath towel
- Personal items
- Any Prescription Medication needs to be clearly labelled, have instructions on dosage, where /when/ how it is to be taken and given to Mrs Davidson on arrival Wednesday morning.
- PJs
- Torch
- Water Bottle
- Hat, sunscreen and insect repellent
- Raincoat