Dear Parents and Friends of St Clare’s

The Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership was created by the Federal Government in response to the increasing need for teachers and other professionals to continuously update their skills in order to meet the needs of their students. The Institute has developed the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers and, with the various state Boards of Education, has the responsibility to improve student outcomes by enhancing teaching practice.

The requirement for teachers to meet externally monitored standards in their teaching practice, in order to maintain their teacher registration, has created some great opportunities for teachers to undertake training that makes them more effective when working on behalf of your sons and daughters. However, in order to have access to professional development, our staff often has to take time from their face-to-face teaching duties to travel and learn. Their absence from class can be a cause for concern. While we make every attempt to keep our dedicated staff in the classroom, we also recognise that the world is changing and that in order to be the best of practitioners, our staff must take the time to “work with the best to be the best”.

Parents of Year 7 students have been invited to attend a meet and greet their son or daughters’ Year 7 teachers on Wednesday, 2 March. This initiative was put in place following parental representations to the Parents & Friends Association concerning the need for some early dialogue between parents and teachers following the first few weeks of secondary school. The evening, which will run from 4 pm to 6:30 pm, presents an additional commitment by our staff to the teaching and learning process at St Clare’s. Due to the short notice to staff of this year’s function some staff members will not be available after 5 pm. Should the evening not have a high level of attendance then the need for it to occur will be reassessed.

Becoming cyber literate; a safe, respectful cyber citizen is a learned behaviour. Our increasing reliance on technology in our lives makes it very important that we understand our rights and responsibility at an early age. To this end Steven Jeffery, Police Youth Liaison Officer, Taree Police, visited Years 7, 8 and 9 students to explain their legal and moral responsibilities regarding the use of the internet and social media. He did a great job and left our students in no doubt as to the “dos and don’ts” while visiting the cyber world.
It is important to know what use your sons and daughters have made of the net and social media. While the cyber world offers many opportunities for excellent learning it is also the habitat of some reprehensible people and degrading web sites. A parent who monitors their young ones use of this great resource can be sure that they are reaping all the benefits the net has to offer while steering clear of its more negative aspects.

As I close I would like to thank Mr Dale Clacherty and the team, staff and students who made the swimming carnival a great success.

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.

---

**P & F – NEXT MEETING (AGM), WEDNESDAY, 9 MARCH 2016**

6 PM SCHOOL LIBRARY

**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

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
Sunday: 9 am
(Mass is celebrated on alternate weekends – please speak to Deacon Vince or Mrs Denise Ryan at school

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

FROM THE SENIOR SCHOOL: The end of Week 4 is fast approaching which means the finalisation of subject choices. Everyone should be well into study routines and settling into their subjects at this point.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Sam Mudford on his “Sportsperson of the Year” Award for 2016. In an excerpt from the Manning River Times:

“Australian All Schools representative Sam Mudford became the seventh hockey player to win the Manning River Times-Greater Taree-Ken McDonald Sportstar of the Year Award – or the ‘Kenny Mac’ as it is known.

Sam is the first male hockey player to get his name on the trophy. Sam was named in the Australian side to tour South Africa next June following the Australian All School Championships held in Perth. He was a member of the NSW side that dominated the championship until the final when beaten by Queensland.” Manning River Times Jan 26th 2016.

Congratulations to Sam for this wonderful achievement.
Congratulations must also go to two other Year 11 students who were nominated for this award. Sean Page and Sam Thompson were nominated for their amazing Dragon Boating achievements at the World Championships last year. Well done, boys!

We are in the process of trying to obtain more seating and umbrellas in the Year 11 area. At the moment there are 124 of us. It is vitally important that the area is kept clean and that there is no fighting over the existing umbrellas.

I unfortunately have to remind Year 11 students about skirt lengths for the girls and hair for both the boys and the girls. Long hair is expected to be tied back and this is in the uniform policy.

Obviously some of the girls have grown over the holidays and need to lengthen their skirts. Please don’t put teachers in the position of having to challenge this. Some of the skirts have become quite indecent and we don’t want any of the girls to be embarrassed by this. The rule is 5cm above the knee.

Please contact me if there are any issues and problems and remember:

“Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever.”

Mahatma Gandhi

Karen McCann, Year 11 Student Coordinator

CAREERS CORNER: We are already approaching the midpoint of Term 1 – Year 12 students soon commence HSC Mid-Course Examinations and Year 11 students will soon be commencing their first Preliminary HSC assessment tasks. TAFE classes have commenced and other students are completing registration for traineeships, apprenticeships and work experience.

For Year 10 students, it will not be long before they choose their Stage 6 (Years 11 and 12) subjects. In order to facilitate an informed approach during this process, small groups of Year 10 students will be withdrawn from Thursday Afternoon Sport on a rotational basis in order to undertake careers training so that appropriate subjects can be selected.

The St Clare’s High School Careers website (http://www.stclarescareers.com/) is up and running. Access is also available to jobjump (www.jobjump.com.au). Both these sites are sources of useful information and can also be accessed by parents. The password for jobjump is monkeys while the school Careers website has no password. Parents are encouraged to access these sites with their child.

Students in the three senior years are reminded that the Library is available for study from 7:15 to 8:45 each morning. The Library is also available each afternoon from 3:30 until 5:00 pm. Students wishing to use either of these opportunities should contact Careers Adviser, Ian Evans, for mornings, and Librarian, Marianne O’Donnell, for afternoons the day prior to attending in order to ensure that the facility and supervision is available.

Ian Evans, Careers Adviser
DEBATING: There will be a meeting in Week 5 on Tuesday, 23 February, in Room 24 to organise debating teams for the Taree Eisteddfod which will hold its Debating Competition in Term 2, Week 2, commencing on 2 May. Please attend this meeting if you are in Years 7 to 11 and are interested in debating, as the entries are due in next week and it is necessary to know how many teams we will be entering. Any number of teams can be in the Taree Eisteddfod, but for the Diocesan Debating Competition, only one team from each year can be chosen. The representative teams will be decided after this Eisteddfod.

Our school has a fine tradition spanning many years with debating both at the local level, the Diocesan level and at State level. If you want to be a part of upholding this tradition then come forward. Remember: Next Tuesday Lunchtime in Room 24. If you want to know more, then please see Mrs McKendry.

PUBLIC SPEAKING: The Diocesan Public Speaking Competition will be held in May in Newcastle at the CSO in Hamilton. Two speakers from each year will be chosen. If you are interested in trying out for this, please come to Room 24 in Week 5 on Tuesday, 23 February.

St Clare’s, for the past three consecutive years, has been presented with the trophy for the overall winning school. We hope to continue this pattern, so if you are a keen speaker, come forward. If you want to know more, please see Mrs McKendry.

Mrs McKendry, Debating and Public Speaking Coordinator
ST CLARE’S SWIMMING CARNIVAL 2016
FAMILY VERIFICATION FORMS

Over the coming week students will be bringing home a form that contains the family details held by the school on SAS (School Administration System). These forms will need to be checked and any changes noted on the form. **Once signed they need to be returned to the school promptly.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>22/2</th>
<th>Help Urgently Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TUESDAY</td>
<td>23/2</td>
<td>Sue Lythgoe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY</td>
<td>24/2</td>
<td>Lyn Simpson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THURSDAY</td>
<td>25/2</td>
<td>Wendy Moon, Glenn Weir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY</td>
<td>26/2</td>
<td>Jenny Chippett</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**VACANCIES STILL EXIST**
MORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS
IF YOU CAN ASSIST PLEASE CONTACT CHERYL KINGSFORD
AT ST CLARE’S: 6552 3300, HOME: 6552 1857 OR
VIA EMAIL: cheryl.kingsford@mn.catholic.edu.au

**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

### 2016

#### Term 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>26/2</td>
<td>♦ Catch-up day for School Photos&lt;br&gt;♦ Year 7 Vaccination&lt;br&gt;♦ Year 10 Reflection Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>9/3</td>
<td>♦ Year 7 Camp – Toukley departs&lt;br&gt;♦ P &amp; F Annual General Meeting – 6 pm (St Clare’s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>11/3</td>
<td>♦ Year 7 Camp returns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>14/3</td>
<td>♦ HSC Mid-Course Exams commence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>15/3</td>
<td>♦ Dio Swimming Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>23/3</td>
<td>♦ Sleep Out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>25/3</td>
<td>♦ Good Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>28/3</td>
<td>♦ Easter Monday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>8/4</td>
<td>♦ Last Day of Term 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Term 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>26/4</td>
<td>♦ First Day of Term 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>29/4</td>
<td>♦ Year 7 Vaccination&lt;br&gt;♦ CCC Swimming Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>10/5</td>
<td>♦ NAPLAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>11/5</td>
<td>♦ P &amp; F Meeting – 6 pm (St Clare’s High School)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>8/6</td>
<td>♦ P &amp; F Meeting – 6 pm (Holy Name Primary School, Forster)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>30/6</td>
<td>♦ NAIDOC Day Assembly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Term 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>3/8</td>
<td>♦ P &amp; F Meeting – 6 pm (St Joseph’s Primary School, Wingham)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>31/8</td>
<td>♦ P &amp; F Meeting – 6 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Term 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>26/10</td>
<td>♦ P &amp; F Meeting – 6 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>23/11</td>
<td>♦ P &amp; F Meeting – 6 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Are you looking for a great team sport to play? **Come to Taree Tigers Hockey Club & give Hockey a go.**

There is a free starters pack for all new junior players.

It is a great team sport for boys and girls from 5 years of age. Taree Tigers Hockey Club is looking for players in 2016 for both Junior & Senior competitions. No matter what your age or ability we have the junior Boys or Girls or senior team just for you. **We have a registration day on Tuesday February 23rd 5.00 to 6.30pm, then a Registration and first training day on Monday February 29th from 4.45pm to 6.00pm at the Taree Hockey Centre.** If you would like to just come and try before you decide you are very welcome also. Contact Karl Williams on 0413333383 or Tony Lewis on 0418510986 for more information. So come on, give hockey a go in 2016.
SHARKS HOCKEY CLUB

REGISTRATION DATE
24th FEBRUARY
WEDNESDAY 4.30pm- 6.00pm
AT THE CLUBHOUSE
ALL WELCOME

Proudly sponsored by The Junction, McDonalds, Manning River Hotel, Taree Produce,
Taree Pet Barn, and Ray White.

FREE Come & Try Day
Sunday 21 Feb
10am - 12pm
Boys & Girls ages 5-13yrs
Johnny Martin Oval, Taree

Manning Valley AFL Club will be holding a free Come and Try day for boys and girls aged between 5-13yrs this Sunday the 21st Feb. Commencing at 10am to 12pm at the Johnny Martin Oval Taree. Registrations will also be taken.
TINONEE EAGLES
TINONEE SOCCER CLUB INC
PO BOX 16 TINONEE NSW 2430 ABN 91225267071
Email tinoneesoccer@hotmail.com
tinoneesc@footballmidnorthcoast.net.au

Who is ready to play some football?

Boys & Girls turning 5 years old in 2016 & above are invited to come & play the world game

Tinonee Soccer Club-registrations
2016
REGISTRATIONS ARE NOW OPEN

Registrations for Tinonee Eagles are now open online at www.myfootballclub.com.au. We will be holding registration days on the following dates –please note, that on registration days we will have a limited number of computers on hand to assist with registrations. So to assist, if at all possible, please try to register online prior to these days. If you register and pay online there is no requirement to attend these days in person unless you just register online and want to pay manually.

Registrations days for those who cannot register online
Bob Collier oval, Bucketts Way Tinonee
Saturday, 13th of February 9.00am to 11.00am
Saturday, 27th of February 9.00am to 11.00am

MUSTER DAY

This year’s muster information day will be held on Sunday, 3rd of April 10.00am to 12.00pm at the Club’s home ground.
For further information call registrar John on 0432659340 or our president Laurent Gonfond on 0428 920 417
SONG COMPETITION

Our annual Aspire Songwriting Competition is a diocesan wide initiative designed to encourage creativity and self-expression through songwriting. Entries will be judged on creativity, originality, lyrics, melody and overall likeability. The winning entry will feature in our August season at the Civic Theatre.

This year’s production is titled ‘There’s Something Strange about Marvin McRae’. The show centres on a young boy that thinks he’s weird and questions just what it is to be normal. We are looking for songs that not only reflect this theme but also promote acceptance of others and embracing what makes us unique!

Video yourself singing and or playing your composition (no matter how rough or unhearsed) and send it to: cathy.ogorman@mn.catholic.edu.au

Alternatively, by post - on CD/USB to:
Cathy O’Gorman
St Paul’s High School
Primrose Street
Booragul NSW 2384

The selected song will be digitally re-recorded at Tommyrock Studios Newcastle and will feature in this year’s production at the Civic Theatre.

We are looking forward to hearing your amazing music!

Aspire Committee

CLOSING DATE IS FRIDAY 8TH APRIL 2016
WINNER’S PRIZE: A $600 VOUCHER FROM MUSOS CORNER

ENTER NOW TO WIN
Improvisation
Collaboration
Playbuilding

A competition for secondary school students in the Maitland/Newcastle Diocese

Thursday
10th March
10am to 2pm
@The Factory, St Pius X
CARERS EDUCATION & INFORMATION DAY

Carers and friends are invited to attend an Education and Information Day organised by the Great Lakes Mental Health Family and Friends Support Group on Wednesday, 9th March 2016 from 9am to 3.00pm in the Great Lakes area (venue to be advised)

Registration and a cuppa from 9am
Presentations will begin at 9.15am
Morning tea & a light lunch will be provided

Professionals from Manning Mental Health, Community Mental Health & RichmondPRA will speak about their roles in the community and the services available for adults and adolescents. There will be an opportunity to raise questions about mental health issues and services.

RSVP by 7th March to Mydie at Carer Assist on (02) 6551 4333 or mydie@carerassist.org.au
(Office Hours: Monday – Wednesday 9am to 4pm)

A gold coin donation would be appreciated

“A service of The Schizophrenia Fellowship of NSW Inc.” “Understanding Through Experience”