Dear Parents and Friends of St Clare’s

Our Year 10 Religious Education classes are studying the unit “Living in a Just World.” The focus is on the many gifts that God has created in the world and how we, who are made in the image of God, share these gifts and opportunities with each other.

Catholic Social Teaching is very clear on the need for people to be treated respectfully, afford dignity to others and to be given access to resources so they can lead a good, useful and happy life.

My Year 10 students are examining the Australian National Anthem through the lens of Catholic Social Teaching. It is fascinating to sit and put the words of this significant national value statement to the “test”. How well do we welcome the stranger? Do all Australians have equal access to work and education? Should we be uncomfortable that 10% of people control more than 80% of our nation’s wealth? Is it right that less than 4% of our population make up more than 40% of people in jail?

Airing these questions allows our young people to begin to think deeply and make responses to important issues in society that take into consideration our Christian beliefs and values.

These thoughts were very much in my mind yesterday, as I attended the local ceremony to mark the anniversary of Kevin Rudd’s apology to the first citizens of our country. St Clare’s students Taneeka Simon, Year 12, Caine Tubnor, Year 11, Corinna Mundine and Donyai Saunders, Year 7, spoke at the large gathering of local people. It was clear that Prime Minister Rudd’s words, spoken some years ago on our behalf, are still a source of great healing and hope for many in our community. I was very proud of the way in which our young people conducted themselves and thank staff member Michelle Case for preparing them for the event.
We are very fortunate to be able to call on the services of three Parish priests who have agreed to hold regular weekly class masses throughout the school year. At present we plan to ensure that, in addition to our usual services and religious celebrations, each student in Years 7 to 10 will attend at least one mass with their classmates over the course of the school year. My thanks to Denise Ryan, St Clare’s Ministry Coordinator and the team for their work in this area. Special thanks to our hardworking Parish priests: Fr Greg, Fr George and Fr Dereck for their support of our school community.

The Lions Youth of the Year award is a wonderful challenge for those students interested in public speaking. A little further into the newsletter you will read about Year 11 students, Kylie Neilson and Sarah Ward’s recent success in this competition.

Next week we welcome two new staff members to our school community. Mr Jeremy Hobbes, an experienced HSC HSIE teacher will cover Eloise Thomas’ classes while she is on maternity leave and Adelina Hall will work in the Science and Mathematics Faculties Years 7 to 10. I welcome Adelina and Jeremy on your behalf and wish them well for their time in our community.

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.
**PRAYER POINT**: Each week of Lent this year I have been privileged to receive a copy of a short prayer to share with staff. This week’s is particularly beautiful and I’d like to publicly thank Mrs Bernadette Gibson from the CSO for preparing these each week. I’ll share with you the beautiful Universal Prayers.

“In universal prayers:

**For the common care of our world:**
Response: So that we may see you in all creation.

**For those who suffer depression:**
Response: So that peace may settle like a benediction of hope.

**For those who experience domestic violence**
Response: It is in the shelter of each other that people live (Irish Proverb)

**For those who have felt left out, overlooked or belittled**
Response: Where once fear and darkness lived, let there be light.

**For those who live a life in pain**
Response: That healing be poured in abundance with the coolness of living water.
Amen.”

You may also wish to read this week’s Gospel: John 4: 5-42 (‘The Woman at the Well). The response to the Psalm is: “If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts”

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
Sunday: 9 am
(Mass is celebrated on alternate weekends – please speak to Deacon Vince or Mrs Denise Ryan at school for information on which weekend mass will be celebrated)

**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
CAREERS CORNER: Charles Sturt University (CSU) is hosting a Parent Information Evening in Port Macquarie on Thursday, 17 March 2016 at 6:00 pm.

The evening will serve to answer questions about university including:

- important dates,
- application information and
- how to support your child.

For more information visit www.csu.edu.au/parents

OR

Charles Sturt University
Bathurst, NSW 2795
Australia
Tel: +61 2 6338 6010
Email: infoevents@csu.edu.au
www.csu.edu.au

St Clare’s High School enjoys a long and fruitful relationship with CSU as evidenced by the number of School Recommendation Scheme (SRS) offers we receive each year. CSU has multiple campuses with the largest being at Albury-Wodonga and Bathurst. Smaller locations include Canberra, Dubbo, Melbourne, Manly, Orange, Parramatta and Wagga Wagga.

Our school Careers website is currently undergoing maintenance and it is hoped that it will be updated and fully functional shortly. Events, such as the one mentioned above, will be listed on this website.

Appointments for career interviews can be made by phone (6552 3300) and are available on most days from 7:00 am until 9:00 am EXCEPT Tuesdays. Appointments can also be made after school. Ian Evans, Careers Adviser

2016 LIONS YOUTH OF THE YEAR QUEST: On Wednesday, 24 February, Manning River Lions Youth of the Year was held. The program is designed to encourage student interest in leadership and the qualities required to take an active and constructive role in the community. Students were required to attend an interview and judged on their general knowledge of Australian current affairs, personality, academic record and community involvement both in and out of school. The next stage involved public speaking, a prepared speech on a topic of their choice and impromptu questions. Students from St Clare’s and Chatham High School competed. Our representatives were Sarah Ward and Kylie Neilson. They were excellent ambassadors for the school, both in presentation and in their public speaking.
The joint winners of the Public Speaking section were Bella Clements of Chatham High and Kylie Neilson from St Clare’s. The overall winner of the Manning River Lions Youth of the Year was Kylie Neilson. Congratulations and well done Kylie. Kylie now proceeds to the regional finals at Forster on 19 March. St Clare’s would like to thank Manning River Lions for their continued support of our students. Carol Healey

MATHEMATICS HOMEWORK AND HOTMATHS: All mathematics students will receive homework each lesson. This may include the completion of each day’s work, a worksheet or set tasks from HotMaths. If your child expresses that they do not have any homework, they can utilise the HotMaths website to play games, attempt quizzes or follow through lessons on the topic they have covered in class for revision. Each student has a login and password to use this site and may need assistance or encouragement to begin using this program. Please record your child’s login and password details for future reference. Mathematics Workshop is also available on Wednesday’s at lunchtime in Room 10 and has been well utilised by students from all year groups.

USING HOTMATHS
Step 1: Google HotMaths, click into this website.
Step 2: Enter your username & password.
Step 3: Complete tasks set by your teacher or attempt any section that is relevant to your course - Course Group: Cambridge NSW Syllabus
Step 4: Select the correct Course List: For example, Cambridge Maths NSW Year 9

What’s Available:
1. Walkthroughs help students with each step required to solve a problem
2. Scorcher gives questions to revise the basics. Students are timed and corrected instantly. A leader board is available as students can compete against their classmates, their year group or the world.
3. Questions are available in 3 Levels with a challenge level.
The **School Portal** has past papers that students can utilise for revision prior to assessment tasks. All information relevant to your child’s Mathematics course will be available on OneNote in the near future. The Portal is available for use now.

To access the portal:

**ONLINE INTERNET ACCESS FROM HOME**
1. Go to [http://mn.catholic.edu.au](http://mn.catholic.edu.au)
2. Enter your school username and password
3. **Click** on **MN Links** top of the page
4. **Click** on **MNLive** (in the drop down box)
5. **Click** on **KLA LAUNCHPAD** (on the left hand side)
6. **Click** **MATHEMATICS**
7. **Click** on **TEXTBOOKS** (to access your textbook) or
8. **Click** on your course to access past papers.

Hoping this will assist your child to achieve their potential in Mathematics.

**Mrs Julie Rowsell, Mathematics Coordinator**

**SYDNEY DRAMA EXCURSION:** On 10 February Year 11 and 12 Drama students travelled to Sydney for the annual Drama Excursion. The trip offers students the opportunity to hone their acting skills through practical workshops, view examples of exemplary HSC works, and engage with theatre that is not available in our area.
On the first day students attended the Sound of Music at the Capitol Theatre before watching Sydney Theatre Company’s production of The Secret River, an Australian Drama about two families divided by culture and land. The piece was moving and beautifully crafted. It provided students with new perspectives on colonisation through its powerful images and experimental stage techniques.

The following day students were able to experience OnStage (a showcase of the best performances from last year’s HSC). From this, students came away with a wealth of ideas and inspirations for their group and individual performances that they will commence this year.

On the final day students visited Sydney Theatre Company again, in order to tour back stage and witness the collaborative approach taken to produce theatre. The day finished with a workshop at the Australian Theatre for Young People to participate in a playbuilding and devising session which was excellent for building teamwork and expressive skills. After such a successful excursion I cannot begin to describe the importance of this learning opportunity for our students.
Thank you to the students for their exceptional conduct and Miss Jamaya Pearse for all her help over the three days. Additionally, I would like to thank the office staff for their assistance with organisation before the trip. Callam Howard, Drama Teacher
AUDITIONS FOR THE SINGING GROUP CADENCE: There will be auditions for the singing group ‘Cadence’ in Room 14 on Friday, 4 March, in Week 6. Students will not be asked to audition in front of other students. It would be pleasing if part of a song could be performed to a CD backing (no vocal track please) or unaccompanied. Certain aural skills will be very quickly tested as reliable pitch is a necessity. Last year the group was asked to perform at the Grand Concert for the Taree & District Eisteddfod so we hope to continue this pleasing level of performance. So if you have a passion for singing and want to be a member of ‘Cadence’ please come along and share your talent! Mrs McKendry, Cadence

DISABILITY PROVISIONS FOR EXAMS: (Formerly known as “Special Provisions”) I would like to advise that if your child has a learning difficulty or disability that may, in a normal examination situation, prevent him/her from reading examination questions, and/or communicating his/her responses you may make an application to the school for your child to receive disability provisions for exams.

Some of the provision options may include:
- reader
- writer
- extra time
- coloured exam paper
- larger font size
- rest breaks
- and/or separate supervision

All applications for disability provisions must be made annually and be supported by current medical and/or academic assessment reports. To make an application for disability provisions for your child, please contact the Learning Support Coordinator, Bernadette Boere, at school or return the slip below, no later than Friday, 4 March 2016.

DISABILITY PROVISIONS
Please return to Mrs Boere, Learning Support Coordinator (Via Front Office) by Friday, 4 March

I would like to make application for my child ______________________ of PC___ to receive Disability Provisions for exams in 2016.

Parent/Carer Signature: __________________________ Date: ________________

Parent/Carer Name: ______________________________
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>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
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<td>Help Urgently Required</td>
<td>Ros Hia, Monica McMullen</td>
<td>Jackie Wiseman</td>
<td>Help Urgently Required</td>
<td>Lisa Starling, Janette Wright</td>
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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

**Week 7**  
Wednesday 9/3 ♦ Year 7 Camp – Toukley departs  
♦ P & F Annual General Meeting – 6 pm (St Clare’s)  
Friday 11/3 ♦ Year 7 Camp returns

**Week 8**  
Monday 14/3 ♦ HSC Mid-Course Exams commence  
Tuesday 15/3 ♦ Dio Swimming Carnival

**Week 9**  
Wednesday 23/3 ♦ Sleep Out  
Friday 25/3 ♦ Good Friday

**Week 10**  
Monday 28/3 ♦ Easter Monday

**Week 11**  
Friday 8/4 ♦ Last Day of Term 1

#### Term 2

**Week 1**  
Tuesday 26/4 ♦ First Day of Term 2  
Friday 29/4 ♦ Year 7 Vaccination  
♦ CCC Swimming Carnival

**Week 3**  
Tuesday 10/5 ♦ NAPLAN  
Wednesday 11/5 ♦ P & F Meeting – 6 pm (St Clare’s High School)

**Week 7**  
Wednesday 8/6 ♦ P & F Meeting – 6 pm (Holy Name Primary School, Forster)

**Week 10**  
Thursday 30/6 ♦ NAIDOC Day Assembly  
Friday 1/7 ♦ Last Day of Term 2

#### Term 3

**Week 1**  
Monday 18/7 ♦ First Day of Term 3

**Week 3**  
Sunday 31/7 ♦ Year 9 Snowy Excursion Departs  
Wednesday 3/8 ♦ P & F Meeting – 6 pm (St Joseph’s Primary School, Wingham)  
Friday 5/8 ♦ Year 9 Snowy Excursion Returns

**Week 7**  
Wednesday 31/8 ♦ P & F Meeting – 6 pm

**Week 10**  
Friday 23/9 ♦ Last Day of Term 3

#### Term 4

**Week 3**  
Wednesday 26/10 ♦ P & F Meeting – 6 pm

**Week 7**  
Wednesday 23/11 ♦ P & F Meeting – 6 pm
Is your child at school or starting school next year? Would $50 assist you with education costs?

Join Saver Plus and match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to $50 for educational costs ranging:
- school uniforms and text books
- computers, laptops and tablets
- resources and maps
- sports equipment, uniforms and leotards
- music tuition and instrument hire.

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

For more information
Phone or SMS your name and postcode to 0300 680 355
Email: saver.plus@bol.org.au

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**Special Needs Information Day**

Come along and hear Catholic Schools Office representatives speak about support available for children enrolled in our Catholic schools.

CatholicCare Social Services will also come along to offer information about their services.

Morning tea provided.

**March**

15: St James' Primary School
   “Get Ready” 3-5pm

16: St James' Primary School
   “Get Ready” 3-5pm

22: St Joseph's Primary School
   “Get Ready” 3-5pm

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**Old Bar Beach Junior Pirates Rugby League**

U6’s – U16’s

2016 Teams must be finalised by March

If you are interested in playing for the mighty Old Bar Pirates please call:
Deborah Dodd - 0419 610 627

or visit our Sporting Pulse Website or Facebook Group

“Old Bar Beach Junior Pirates RILFC”

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**Aspire Music, Dance, Drama**

**Song Competition**

Our annual Aspire Songwriting Competition is a fantastic opportunity to encourage creativity and self-expression through songwriting. Stories will be judged on creativity, originality, lyrics, melody and overall likability. The winning entry will feature in our August season at the Civic Theatre.

The area’s production is titled “I’ve Got Something Strange About You in My Hair!”

The show centres on a young boy that thinks he has paranoid delusions but is actually just normal. He is looking for songs that will not only reflect this theme but also promote acceptance of others and combating what makes us unique.

Submit your songwriting or playing your composition via email to the address and send it to:

[Email provided]

Alternatively, by post - 23rd April to
Calie O’Donovan
St Paul’s High School
Hobart Street
Bengella NSW 2384

The selected song will be digitally re-recorded at “Tremendous Sounds Newcastle” and featured in this year’s production at the Civic Theatre.

We look forward to hearing your amazing music!

Aspire Committee

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**DIO THEATRE SPORTS**

**Thursday 10th March**

10am to 2pm

@The Factory, St Pius X
The ‘Loud Fence’ movement is growing in the Catholic community with another two schools recently encouraging students and parents to tie coloured ribbons to their school’s front fence in support of survivors of child sexual abuse.

St Mary's Church in Buderim on Queensland’s Sunshine Coast and Damascus College in Ballarat are the most recent schools to make the very public demonstration of support.

Francis Sullivan, CEO of the Catholic Church’s Truth Justice and Healing Council, said the Loud Fence movement is growing.

“This is a very practical and clear way of showing support for child abuse victims in their own communities,” Mr Sullivan said. “Over the past couple of years we have seen many schools and parishes encourage this very effective way of demonstrating support.”

From Queensland to Victoria schools and parishes are making it clear just how horrified they are with the scale of the abuse that has been revealed in so many different institutions.

St Clare’s Year 10 students established a ‘loud fence’ at the back of the school, as part of their reflection day on Friday, 26 February.

The Loud Fence movement is one way of breaking down the silence that surrounds sexual abuse and letting people show their support.

“Through the Loud Fence movement parishioners can stand with survivors in solidarity. Hopefully this will add to the healing process,” he said.

Photo: Sunshine Coast Daily

RELEASE Loud fence movement grows in Catholic community
(Edited version)