Dear Parents and Friends of St Clare’s

Tonight we held a ‘meet and greet’ for our Year 7 parents of 2016. The gathering was calendared in response to suggestions made at our P & F meetings, and was designed to make our newest students and parents feel welcome to the St Clare’s community. I am delighted to say that the crowd was large, enthusiastic and most appreciative of the efforts that our staff have made to ensure our Year 7 students and their families have been made to feel welcome to the St Clare’s community. I would like to thank Marian Parvin our Year 10 Coordinator and Year 10 students: Saxon Anderson, Sam Richardson, Zane Scott, Toby Jones, Connor Page, Jennifer Wesley, Ruby McIntosh, Matthew Parvin, Teisha Farr, Hannah Dormor and Liam Jennings for their excellent work in cooking a BBQ and feeding our visitors. They did a first rate job. I thank also our teaching staff and RE group 10-2 for their work in setting up the hall to welcome parents and students and School Captain, Thomas Dormor, for ‘busking’ throughout the event.

2016 has seen the rollout of a Bring Your Own Device Policy at the school in Years 7 and 10. This is a departure from previous procedures and reflects the practice of schools across New South Wales. Any change presents challenges and often means that people have to adjust their ways to ensure that they comply with new practices and procedures. Can I ask that you ensure that your sons and daughters in Year 7 and Years 10 – 12 attend school with their devices each day, that they are fully charged and ready to use as tools for learning. Any student who presents at school without the tools necessary to complete classes to the best of their ability can expect to be held accountable for their decision making. It is important to remember that being a student is your son or daughters “fulltime job” and events or other commitments, that interfere with your young person’s ability to complete homework and formal assessment tasks, need careful consideration. This is particularly true of part-time jobs. A young person working any longer than 10 – 12 hours in Year 11 and 12 and more than 15 hours in Year 10 is bound to experience a negative impact on their grades and as a consequence could find their opportunities more limited than expected in their post school years.
Week 7 is Catholic Schools Week, and Year 7 Camp Week. Staff who attend camps give up significant family time and essentially work 24 hours a day for the duration of the camp. I thank, in advance, Tim Masters our Year 7 Coordinator and staff who will accompany our 2016 cohort of Year 7 students and wish them well as they continue to establish good relationships so that everyone’s learning can be successful, this year and the years to come.

This week three staff members of the Mathematics Department, Mr Neal McKendry, Mrs Laura Boere and Miss Tara O’Sullivan joined 15 Primary School colleagues from across the Manning in some Professional Development designed to help them further foster Gifted and Talented Mathematics students in our Catholic schools. St Clare’s and our feeder schools in Taree, Forster, Wingham, Bulahdelah and Gloucester are committed to ensuring that our gifted maths students continue to grow and flourish. This week’s gathering will be the first of many over the next few years as we continue to ‘stretch’ ourselves and our students and help our young people be the best they can be.

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: 8:30am

**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:** The universities of Australia rely heavily on the ATAR as the strongest indicator of academic success at the tertiary level. Despite this, more than 50% of first year university offers are made without the reference to the ATAR with entries being based on direct offers through various school recommendation schemes (SRS), disadvantaged student status (EAS), elite athletics program (e.g. Australian representatives), overseas student access and mature-age students. Students from St Clare’s High School use all but the final two.

Universities have also steered away from having prerequisite subjects for entry to particular courses: **Sydney University (USYD)** is changing this for the current Year 10 cohort (university intake in 2019). USYD has serious concerns regarding 15/16 year-old school students deciding not to study mathematics in Year 11/12. At present, it is not clear what subject pre-requisites USYD will put in place but others in the high status Group of eight universities may follow:
This concern is based on the expectation that:

- **STEM** (science, technology, mathematics, engineering) will be involved in 75% of all future jobs (including foot soldiers whose equipment is becoming increasingly technical)
- students will have eight different careers and this does not mean eight different locations within the same career,
- of the 12,000 USYD computer science/software students, 8,000 are from overseas and only 4,000 are Australian.

With such changes, it is timely that **Year 10 students at St Clare’s have commenced Careers Lessons** on Thursdays and can be made aware of impending changes. Careers Lessons will involve 20-30 students being withdrawn from Sport on a sport-by-sport basis rotation. It is envisaged that all Year 10 students will have 2/3 lessons prior to undertaking the process of subject selection for Year 11 in 2017.

**USYD** is also concerned with the lack of **soft skills** of graduating students: soft skills is a term associated with a person's "EQ" (Emotional Intelligence Quotient), the cluster of personality traits, social graces, communication, language, personal habits, interpersonal skills, managing people, leadership, etc. that characterise relationships with other people.

Another change is that the NSW Police Force has also introduced a **new application process EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY**. It includes an Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) administered entrance examination – high ATAR, SRS, completion of Justice Studies at university are no guarantee of entry - go to [http://www.police.nsw.gov.au/recruitment/application_process](http://www.police.nsw.gov.au/recruitment/application_process)

Unfortunately, the only way we become aware of changes is by students/parents/other Career Adviser’s finding out and passing the information on – please do likewise. **Ian Evans, Careers Adviser**

**FROM THE SENIOR SCHOOL**: Week 6 is almost over which means we are more than half way through first term. All subject changes have now been finalised apart from those students who decide to drop a level in Maths or English. The students are certainly recognising the importance of a regular timetable of study and work.

I cannot impress upon the students enough about getting a regular pattern of work and study implemented. If anyone would like some assistance in doing this please do not hesitate to come and see me so that we can work something out. It is also very important to factor in some physical activity and leisure time.

I would like to remind the students about the importance of supporting each other as we continue on our “senior education” pathway. It has come to my attention that some of the girls especially are treating others in a non-respectful manner. The more we help each other the better off we will be.

I would like to congratulate **Kyle Neilson and Sarah Ward** on their recent Rotary Youth Leadership competition results and to wish **Kylie** all the best in the upcoming regional finals to be held at Forster.
The Senior Jacket orders have been finalised and will be sent away this week. It will apparently take about six weeks for them to be delivered.

I am happy to see that the students are beginning to abide by the “long hair is to be tied back at all times” rule. We need to set an example as senior students in the school.

Our quote for the week reflects the importance of treating others in a respectful and kindly manner and I am sure that all of us have the potential to be “great minds”.

“Great minds discuss ideas; average minds discuss events; small minds discuss people.”

*Eleanor Roosevelt*

**Karen McCann, Year 11 Student Coordinator**

**SCIENCE NEWS:** On 24 February 2016, the 7SCI2 Science class completed their first practical lesson identifying, collecting and using some of the Science equipment. They were exceptionally well behaved and worked cooperatively in their small groups to complete the task.

Their enthusiasm was matched with their excellence in recording and analysing the results, then discussing and writing their conclusions.

Well done to the scientists of tomorrow! **Mrs Larbalestier, Science Teacher**
YEAR 10 HISTORY EXCURSION TO PORT MACQUARIE: On Tuesday, 1 March, the Year 10 History classes travelled to Port Macquarie to investigate the history of the local area. Students were split into groups with each group rotating through three venues/activities. At the Heritage Museum, students examined artefacts from the early settlement of Port Macquarie as a penal colony. From washing machines to toys and games, students gained a valuable insight into life in the early 1900s. Then to the Historic Courthouse, students were given some history about the application of law and order of the early settlement, and an opportunity to re-create a court case and consider a verdict. Finally, led by local heritage officer, Mitch McKay, the students had a short walking tour of some sites of interest including visits to: the archaeological remains under the Glasshouse; the Barton Sculpture; an aboriginal burial site. Aspects of restoration, conservation and heritage were key themes in discussions throughout the day. Thanks to Mr Solomon, Mrs Parvin, Mr Hobbes and Mr Bielby who attended on the day. All venues commented on the excellent conduct of our students, and a good day was enjoyed by all. Bruce Bielby, HSIE/LOTE Coordinator
Please Note:

1. Catch-ups will be done on the first day of your return in order of exam roster; you may also be requested to complete 2 exams in one day if you have missed more than one exam.
2. You may receive a zero mark if you do not follow this guideline
3. All exams are conducted in the school hall unless otherwise stated
4. You must be present at exam hall 15 mins prior to exam starting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Morning Session - all examinations start at 9.00am</th>
<th>Afternoon Session - all examinations start at 1.30pm</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 14 March</td>
<td>Paper 1&lt;br&gt;English Standard – 2hrs&lt;br&gt;English Advanced –2hrs</td>
<td>PDHPE– 2hrs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 15 March</td>
<td>Mathematics – 2.5hrs&lt;br&gt;Mathematics General –2.5hrs</td>
<td>Ancient History – 1.5hrs&lt;br&gt;Engineering Studies – 2hrs&lt;br&gt;Music Aural – 1.5 Rm 36</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 16 March</td>
<td>Studies of Religion 1 – 1.5hrs&lt;br&gt;Studies of Religion 2 – 2.5hrs&lt;br&gt;Catholic Studies – Oral Task</td>
<td>Biology – 2hrs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 17 March</td>
<td>Community &amp; Family Studies – 2hrs&lt;br&gt;Software Design &amp; Development – 1.5hrs&lt;br&gt;Mathematics Extension 1 - 2hrs</td>
<td>English Extension 1 – 1.5hrs&lt;br&gt;Society and Culture – 1.5hrs&lt;br&gt;Industrial Technology– 1.5hrs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 18 March</td>
<td>Physics – 2hrs&lt;br&gt;Economics –3hrs&lt;br&gt;Business Studies – 1hrs</td>
<td>Hospitality - 2hrs&lt;br&gt;Construction – 2hr&lt;br&gt;Drama Theory – 1hr</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 21 March</td>
<td>Legal Studies – 2hrs&lt;br&gt;Visual Arts –1.5hrs&lt;br&gt;Modern History – 2hrs</td>
<td>Earth and Environmental Science – 2hrs&lt;br&gt;Chemistry - 2hrs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 22 March</td>
<td>Extension 2 Mathematics - 2hrs</td>
<td>Food Technology– hrs</td>
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<td>Wednesday 23 March</td>
<td>English Orals all day.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 24 March</td>
<td>Drama Practical –4hrs Rm 32</td>
<td>Music Practical –3hrs Rm 36</td>
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All Year 12 back in class except Drama and Music students
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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<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>7/3</th>
<th>Help Urgently Required</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TUESDAY</td>
<td>8/3</td>
<td>Help Urgently Required</td>
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<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY</td>
<td>9/3</td>
<td>Karen Larkin, Monica McMullen</td>
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<tr>
<td>THURSDAY</td>
<td>10/3</td>
<td>Help Urgently Required</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRIDAY</td>
<td>11/3</td>
<td>Pam Squires, Jenny Chippett - ½ day</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: 6591 2104, 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 $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 textbooks
- computers, laptops and tablets
- excursion fees 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 studying yourself.

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

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IMPROVISE

COLLABORATION

PLAYBUILDING

A COMPETITION FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN THE MAITLAND/NEWCASTLE Diocese

THURSDAY 10TH MARCH
10AM TO 2PM
@The Factory, St Pius X

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

SONG COMPETITION

ASPIRE
MUSIC.DANCE.DRAMA

Our annual ASPIRE Songwriting Competition encourages creativity and self-expression through composing. Entries will be judged on creativity, originality, lyrics, melody and overall appeal. The winning entries will feature in our August season at the Civic Theatre.

This year, productions titled ‘Thee’s Something Strange About Martin McFly’ and ‘Missy is the New K.Ma’ will be featured. The dance element on a young boy that thinks he’s hot will have questions just what it is he is normal? We are looking for songs that not only reflect these themes but also promote acceptance of others and embracing what makes us unique.

Submit your song (5 minutes) or play your composition, the no more than 2 minutes and send it to:
cafe.openman@rem.catholic.edu.au

Alternatively, by post - c/-CMG8 8x
Cathy O’Reilly
St Paul’s High School
Princes Street
Brisbane NSW 2254

The selected song will be digitally recorded at CC 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

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The provision of the opportunity to gather information from Service Providers present does not constitute an endorsement of their services from the Catholic Schools Office or Federation of F.T. Associations – Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle. It is the matter for each individual to determine the appropriateness of any service provider for their own needs.
Color Me Rad 5k is Coming to Forster
Early Bird Entries open for a limited time

This hugely popular event has already stopped off at all corners of Australia and on Sunday April the 30th it’s time for the whole family to party! The Color Me Rad 5k is coming to Forster and party animals of all ages, shapes and sizes will be running, dancing, singing across 5k of colour. Our volunteers will coat participants with liquids, powders and gels of blue, green, pink, purple, and yellow until their faces, shirt and body come out silkscreened like a tie-dyed hippie on the other side.

Each section of the run adds a new explosion of colour until participants cross the finish line into a final rainbow of colour with the main event, the “Color Throw”. During the “Color Throw” participants will dance, party and sing to a Dj playing the latest tunes whilst throwing packets of colour into the air! Entry includes a Color Me Rad 5K T-shirt, colour pack and a photograph from our professional photographers.

The Color Me Rad 5k is a run that is derived from an ancient Hindu festival based on Holi which is also known as the festival of colours or the festival of Sharing love

Early bird tickets are available for a limited time; up to $35 per ticket can be saved! Go to the website for more pricing information

To register for the event go to

Quick quiz: Which sport will have you soaring like a jet plane, cornering like a rally car and sprinting like a drag racer, and it’s one of the fastest growing sports in Australia? The answer’s easy - it’s BMX RACING!

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to race a BMX bike? Here’s your chance to find out, because the Manning Valley BMX Club is holding its annual ‘Come And Try BMX Day’ on Sunday the 13th of March as part of BMX Australia’s National Sign-on Days.

You will have the opportunity to learn how to ride your bike like the pros on one of NSW’s best BMX racetracks - the Manning Valley BMX Club Racetrack, located at Urara Lane just 1.5km from the Bushland Drive railway crossing and roundabout.

Club members will be on hand to show you how to use the start hill, ride the berms (corners) and safely negotiate obstacles like jumps and rhythm sections. And you don’t even need a bike. The club has bikes, full-face helmets and full-fingered gloves you can use on the day. All you need to bring is a long sleeved-shirt, long pants and enclosed shoes. Of course, if you have a bike, full-face helmet and full-fingered gloves it would be a great idea to bring it, so you can learn how to ride the track on your own steel steed!

Join in on skills sessions, have fun playing BMX-based games and meet new friends. And after all the fun is done you can join us for a free BBQ! AWESOME! Bring the whole family, because mums, dads, brothers and sisters can ALL join in on this true family orientated sport.

See you at the Manning Valley BMX Club ‘Come And Try BMX Day’.

When: Sunday the 13th of March 2016, between 10.00am and 12.00pm

Where: Manning Valley BMX Club Racetrack, Urara Lane Taree.

Directions: Travel 1km past the Kanangra Drive/Bushland Drive roundabout along Kanangra Drive towards St Joseph’s Primary School, then turn right onto Urara Lane. The racetrack is at the end of the lane

What to bring:
- **BRING IF YOU HAVE THEM:** A bicycle, full-face helmet and full fingered gloves. If you don’t have these, we have some you can borrow.
- **MUST BRING:** A long sleeved shirt, jumper or jersey
- **MUST BRING:** A pair of long pants, trousers or track pants
- **MUST BRING:** Enclosed shoes (like joggers, no thongs or sandals!)
- **MUST BRING:** A big smile and all of your family and friends!

More info and updates: Follow us on Facebook by searching for ‘Manning Valley BMX Club’. CONTACT: MICHAEL EYB, 0468 455 759