Dear Parents and Friends of St Clare’s

Last Sunday the Forster/Tuncurry Parish celebrated the Blessing of the Fleet at John Wright Park, Tuncurry.

The open air mass was attended by over 350 people. A great feature of the celebration was the life that took place around the mass. Traffic passed. People in the high-rises ventured onto their balconies to enjoy the view. Workers on the shipway continued their repairs of a fishing boat, joggers jogged and inquisitive walkers dropped in to see what was going on.

A number of students and staff from our Catholic schools, including St Clare’s, were involved in the mass, music and subsequent parading of the statute of Madonna Dei Martiri Patron of Fishermen and the lunch that followed. It was a beautiful day – made more special by the fact that our faith practise was not separated from the world but fully immersed in the activities of life and the community.

On Tuesday I had the privilege of attending our Trade Training Centre to look at a cupcake assessment task being undertaken by Year 10 students. The aim was to produce a specially decorated cupcake that exhibited outstanding decorating skills. The standard of student responses was excellent. Students and their teacher, Mr Laurent, were very proud of their efforts. The young people’s artistry and imagination is to be admired.

Leah Deudney  
Jasmine Cowan  
Kiara Andrews
I have been visiting our peer reading program on a regular basis. There is no better sound to a teacher’s ear than to hear the hum of students working together on a task. Our Year 7 and Year 9 students, who are part of this pilot scheme, are doing a great job and I am really looking forward to discussing the program with staff and participating young people, in the middle weeks of Term 4

Our Year 12 Drama class was assessed by HSC examiners recently. The examiners visited the school and students performed a personally scripted performance and then took part in a group performance. I am delighted to announce that the entire HSC Drama class have been nominated for possible inclusion in ‘OnSTAGE’ a selection of the best projects and performances for 2016. OnSTAGE is presented by the Board of Studies. This is a great compliment to the commitment of our Drama students and their teacher, Mr Callam Howard. Congratulations to all!

There was a strong St Clare’s presence at St Joseph’s, Wingham’s JAFA performance night held at the Manning Entertainment Centre on Wednesday evening. Year 10 Drama students, Hannah Dormor, Samuel Holliday, Hamish Ross, Millie Webber, Samanther Annetts, Kyle Chapman, Matilda Jones, Samuel Richardson, Finn Fagerstrom & Zac Reid did a great job working as stage hands, moving props and ensuring the steady flow of the performances. St Clare’s Creative Arts Coordinator, Jason, Koenig, was the adjudicator on the night.

Given that many of these young people will find their way to St Clare’s in the years to come it is clear that our excellent results in the area of the Arts are sure to continue.

Thanks to the students and staff of St Joseph’s, Wingham and our St Clare’s students for their excellent work. It was a very entertaining evening.
Last week the school received the news that our colleague Jenny McKendry had been forced to retire on medical grounds.

The retirement was to take place immediately.

Aside from her work in the classroom, Jenny has stimulated student interest in music, public speaking and debating. Her work with the singing group Cadence and her promotion of public speaking and debating skills (at which the school excelled) will be sorely missed.

We wish Jenny well for the future and thank her for her committed efforts on behalf of our community’s young people.

It is with sadness that I notify the school community of the death of Mr Joe Zarb. Joe served St Clare’s as a casual teacher over a good number of years. A committed teacher and true gentleman. He will be missed.

Prayers also for Mr Phil Jirman and his family on the death of his father Joe.

We pray that their families find peace at this sad time.

God Bless

Principal

P & F – NEXT MEETING, WEDNESDAY, 26 OCTOBER 2016
VENUE - TBA

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

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

FROM THE SENIOR SCHOOL: The Preliminary Course is almost over and there is one week to go until the holidays. It will be a much needed break for everyone.

For those students who have to do catch up exams, these need to be done as quickly as possible. The general rule is that a missed exam has to be completed at the next available opportunity, during the exam block if possible. There are some students who have been unable to complete their exams and provisions are made for this where necessary.

At this point in time there are seventeen (17) students who did not bring notes to school with permission to be absent when not doing an exam. Of these seventeen, five students have been at school the whole time. The note and information regarding the School Policy relating to the use of private motor vehicles by students, was emailed to all students well before the start of the exams. I also reminded them each day for a week that this note had to be handed in. As you can appreciate, we are legally responsible for the students during school hours and without this note, the students are technically truanting if they are not present. Thanks to those who have done the right thing and returned their notes before the exam period.

It is extremely important that ALL STUDENTS check their emails every day as important information is sent to them in this manner. As we move into the HSC Course, it is imperative that this occurs so that the students do not miss deadlines etc.
Unfortunately, there was an incident last week in which several students, all in St Clare’s uniform, were seen just after an exam in another student’s car. None of these students had written permission to do this and have contravened the school rule regarding driving during school hours. While it was not meant to be a deliberate breach of school rules, this rule has been made very clear to all the students both verbally and in written form. Please read and encourage the students to read what is being signed and handed in to school.

Again a huge thank you to all those who have handed in notes regarding this over the last few days.

All students will be back in class on Thursday morning and there will be a very important meeting for all of the students in Room 19, Period 2.

They will be receiving information on the Senior Retreat and will be choosing their rooms for this. As has been previously stated, this is a compulsory activity and an integral part of our Senior School Faith Development and Educational Program. I am looking forward to the opportunity to work with all of our young people at this time. Please do not hesitate to contact me if there are any issues regarding this Retreat.

I would like to remind everyone about our “Christmas Shoebox” appeal. The aim is to fill five boxes per PC class and lists have been distributed for possible articles to bring in. We will be packing up these boxes on the last night of our Retreat ready to be delivered to the Catholic Church at Old Bar.

Thank you very much to all those who have already donated such fantastic items. Please remember that you are only asked to bring in one item. Some of you have already brought in several things.

Other information will be given regarding the discontinuation of subjects, and Mrs Avery will be outlining the process for this. All students will be required to follow the correct procedure in order to discontinue a subject. They must stay in the subject until they receive their amended timetable.

I will be speaking to the students about Special Provisions for exams. Anyone who now has Special Provisions and would like to continue with these will need to see Mrs Bernadette Boere. Anyone who thinks they might qualify for Special Provisions will also need to see Mrs Bernadette Boere to check.

About 40 Year 11 students will be on Work Placement next week for Construction and Hospitality. I hope you enjoy the experience and get a good taste of what it is like to work in these industries. I am confident you will proudly represent St Clare’s.
Next Friday we are holding the Year 12 Graduation Mass. Our new Senior Leadership team will be inducted on this day and parents have been invited to attend.

“I used to want the words ‘She tried’ on my tombstone. Now I want ‘She did it.’”

*Katherine Dunham*

Karen McCann, Year 11 Student Coordinator

**CAREERS CORNER:** Year 12 there is an important word for you and that word is **NOW**. As Term 3 draws to an end, it is important that all deadlines are met so you do not miss out on any of your options. But you must act **NOW** as most late applications are not taken and, if they are, it is very expensive so **NOW** is the time to act. Although the closing date is 30 September for many applications, any of those applications that need school comment must be **completed by Monday, 19 September.**

**University – What you should do NOW**

- **UNE Direct Early Entry** – work out your three choices, name of course and course code – this is not part of your UAC application but you need to apply via UNE website – direct early entry. This is a good backup as it does not rely on ATAR results.
- **UAC Application** – UAC has 9 choices and application is via www.uac.edu.au
- **SRS** – most universities are involved in this early entry program but target different aspects e.g. equity, rural etc. and use a range of selection criteria.
- **University of Technology, Sydney** – If you are you applying, remember this must be your **first choice:** 10 extra points are given to selected schools if you score an ATAR of 70+. St Clare’s is one of these selected schools. There is no application process as it is automatic for UTS first preferences when Main Round offers are made.
- **Scholarships** – Apply for scholarships in courses for which you are applying. Each Uni has a scholarship icon on their website e.g. if you are applying for engineering, business, construction management or science at NSW Uni, you may be eligible for a Coop Scholarship. Other universities have similar programs. Scholarships mean financial help and less stress.
- **Southern Cross University** – STAR program – two choices they must also be choices on UAC application once again a good backup plan.
- **Interstate Universities** – research options closing dates vary.
- **Accommodation** – All universities that have on-campus accommodation have information on how to apply on their websites. Many have residential scholarships. Apply **NOW**
- **Read your UAC book it contains important information on deadlines, how, what and when to apply.**
Equity Scholarships

- Information and application forms are on the UAC site: this needs school information added when you apply act NOW

Educational Disadvantage scheme EAS

- Information and application form on the UAC website and this application needs supporting documentation from the school act NOW

TAFE

- Using TAFE NSW and North Coast Institute of TAFE websites and direct contact with TAFE to complete application process. This varies according to course and TAFE.
- Research scholarships and ‘Smart and Skill’

Entry into work force – act NOW before other students do so you have the opportunity to impress employers before others.

- Update résumé
- Work out the type of job you are interested in – apprenticeships and traineeships can be sorted by looking for employers in the phone book and writing a letter of enquiry
- Plan a letter of application – generate your own general application letter that can be adapted according to the business to which you are applying
- Visit employers and enquire about upcoming positions – leave a copy of your résumé
- Check back at these places to show interest

Private Providers/Other Tertiary Providers

- Using websites to develop a list of courses you are interested in
- Research scholarships – ‘Smart and Skill’ and provider scholarships
- Update resume NOW

A final reminder about applications – some that require school support/comment, need access to staff members who will be on holidays after the end of next week – some take more than 30 minutes to complete AFTER all available support documentation has been collated.

You are at a very exciting and ‘full on’ time of your lives – but to optimise your opportunities for 2017, act NOW.

Ian Evans, Careers Adviser
CREATIVE ARTS NEWS: Over the past couple of weeks our Creative Arts HSC students have completed practical Music and Drama performances as well as the submissions of all Visual Arts Body of Works.

This year our Visual Arts students have created a diverse variety of works including Nicole Tisdel’s Aboriginal inspired lino printing, Taryn Earle’s Heather Hilliard inspired paintings, Natalie Webster’s designed object ‘Icarus falling’, Eve Gregory’s Underwater photography and Melanie Malakou’s designed object ‘Alternate Evolution’.

Congratulations Year 12 for all of your hard work and discipline in completing all of your artwork. Jason Koenig, Creative Arts Coordinator

On the creative process: Melanie Malakou

Creation is the development of an idea, the research and the implementation of researched techniques but in between this is the creative process – a more demanding and dynamic phenomena, which explores the self and the reaches of our imagination. This is the difference between producing and creating – the little bits of ourselves that are hidden amongst the stitches of our art. Creation and the creative process is, in essence, presenting a dream as reality. Viewing the final product is perhaps the most challenging of the whole journey. Something we had dreamed about for 12 months now stands before us, and even if it is not a mirror of our original dream, perhaps it is better. And now the dreaming is finished.

Thank you to Mr Koenig, Mrs Laurie and to our parents and friends for supporting our wild ideas and allowing us to experience the ups and downs of the creative process.
YEAR 12 DRAMA: Congratulations to Year 12 Drama who have had the whole class nominated for OnSTAGE, a selection of outstanding performances and projects from HSC Drama students. If selected for the program, the students will perform at the Seymour Centre, Sydney in February 2017. All nine of our students were nominated this year for their exceptional pieces. The Group Performance, titled There Is No Space For You, centred upon four men dealing with the fact that a woman had joined their prestigious gentlemen’s space club. This piece was a comic yet powerful examination of the equality issues facing woman in the workforce and was devised by Isabella Blenkin, Cheyenne, Fitzsimmons, Dylan Hardcastle, Alexandra Nicholls and Luke Nash. The second group, consisting of Declan Moylan, Samuel Reis, Jacob Sandilands and Nicholas Smith, were nominated for their piece This Town Is Mine. This performance focussed on the citizens of Woop Woop, a town who face a mining crisis. They proceed to debate whether to sell the town to the mining company or sabotage the mine in the name of town pride.

Additionally, Nicholas Smith and Declan Moylan both received individual nominations for their monologues Bronson and King George The Something. To be nominated for both performances is a wonderful achievement and a credit to their talent and diligence.

Lastly, I would like to thank the class for their constant dedication during the rehearsal process and their willingness to trust in my guidance. I have never seen a reaction of such jubilation and excitement when they were informed of the good news. It is moments like this that make teaching so rewarding and it has been a privilege to work with such a gracious and well-deserving group of young people. Callam Howard, Drama Teacher
YEAR 12 HSC INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY MAJOR PROJECTS: Congratulations and well done to all Year 12 Industrial Technology students. John Chapman, Industrial Technology Teacher

Kane Dayoub – Chess Table Storage Cabinet

Tom Steedman – Dart Board Cabinet
Dennis Connolly – Sewing Box

Lachlan Daczko – Hall Table
Chris Parley – Jewellery Box

Callan Wilson – Jewellery Box
DEBATING NEWS: For many years now St Clare’s has been represented by a debating team for every year group and this year was no exception. We are very proud of our students as they do all the preparation in their free time, having practiced debating against each other. The Diocesan Debating Competition is very tricky for schools outside of Newcastle as it means we have to travel to five different venues on five different dates! Due to the support of other staff members, we were able to take all our teams. Their help is greatly appreciated.

Our senior team lost in the semi-finals, held in June, to St Paul’s Booragul. Our team put up a magnificent fight and naturally we were disappointed that they just missed out on the finals. We are so thankful to these seniors, Sarah Ward, Thomas Dayoub and Matthew Heiss for taking the time out of their busy senior schedules to represent our school.
The next debate was held in July at San Clemente High School in Mayfield, with our Year 7 team. These students reached the finals, so we are very happy indeed. They are a very promising little team, who we are confident will win that final in the future, as they continue to work together.

WenYuan LimSchneider, Patrick Guthridge and Yvette Piscopo - Year 7

In August the Year 8 team travelled to St Pius X High School in Adamstown to debate against other teams of the diocese. These girls are very clever and good debaters so it was a surprise that they did not go through to the finals. However, we are very proud of them and they are excellent ambassadors for St Clare’s. These wonderful girls are Emily de Berg, Georgina Saad and Grace McCallum.

Emily de Berg, Georgina Saad & Grace

McCallum – Year 8
Two weeks later, our Year 9 team ventured to St Mary’s High School, Gateshead and we were delighted to know that they reached the Finals. Although they didn’t win, they did very well to reach this stage. A special thank you to our Year 8 student Elizabeth Heiss who debated in the team that day. So this fine team was comprised of Abbey Last, Elizabeth Heiss and Miguel Guthridge.

In September our Year 10 team went to All Saints College, St Joseph’s Campus, Lochinvar to debate. Due to the loss of two of our previous members, we were very happy that two wonderful students from this year group came forward so that our school could be represented. Overall they placed third in the diocese and we are very satisfied with that result. We admire students so much for coming forward to help so that we still have a team.

So the debating for 2016 is over and we really want to thank all these students for doing their best and we are so proud of ALL of you. Two of our teams reached the semi-finals, one team came third overall and two of our teams reached the finals. We also want to thank the staff members, Mr David Constantine, Mrs Jenny Tosio and Mr Neal McKendry who so kindly helped out by each taking a team down to Newcastle. This was greatly appreciated! Well done to each and every one of you! Jenny McKendry, Debating Coordinator
WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM: During Term 3 Domonique Power, a Year 9 student, has been participating in the weekly Work Experience Program at Valley Industries. This program gives students the opportunity to be involved in several of the organisation’s commercial activities – including the Valley Café, Secure Document Service, Beekeeping Supplies and The Nature Care Nursery. Working as part of a small team under the supervision of the friendly Valley staff they learn essential workplace skills such as the importance of keeping everyone safe in the workplace, communicating effectively with co-workers, customers and visitors to the sites, developing a good work ethic and being proud of their contribution to the success of a project. Pictured is Dom constructing the beehive frames. Congratulations Domonique on taking on this challenge and good luck with it as you continue through Term 4.
The Learning Support Team

DIOCESAN GOLF: On 19 August four students from St Clare’s travelled down to Newcastle to compete in the Dio Golf competition. It was held at Newcastle Golf Course in Fern Bay, a nice and challenging course for the participants. Travers Anderson and Rourke Banham from Year 9 competed individually in the event with Travers scoring 103 in the Scratch score and Rourke getting 106. Jett Bowen competed in the team event with other students from San Clemente, Mayfield. With a Birdie on a Par 3 and a few other pars at different holes they ended up winning the 7/8 team event. With a few members of the team being quite new to golf Jett was able to assist them throughout the day. Each member of Jett’s team won a $25 voucher and a golf ball. Pyper Hollis from Year 9 competed in the Girls event. She was able to reproduce her excellent achievements from this event last year, again successfully winning both the Individual Scratch and Net Score. Well done, Golfers!
Jenna Rowsell, Rep Sport Coordinator
HORSE SPORTS: Last Friday Year 9 student Emma Johnston represented St Clare’s and competed at the Dungog and District School Horse Sports Day hosted by St Joseph's Primary School, Dungog. Emma and her horse Marshdale Stud BMW competed against 130 riders from various primary and secondary schools in riding and sporting events and did extremely well over the whole day bringing home for St Clare's the Reserve Champion Trophy for the 15 years age group. Big congratulations to Emma on such an outstanding result. Thanks to mum Kylie Johnston for the report and photos. Tammy Woods, Horse Sports

VOLUNTEER READER/WRITERS: Year 12 HSC examinations - volunteers to be reader writers needed. If you have no other child completing the HSC and are available between 13 October and 3 November 2016 and can spare a few hours once or twice during the exam period I would love to hear from you. Please contact the Learning Support Coordinator by emailing Bernadette.boere@mn.catholic.edu.au or phone the school on 6552 3300.

A current working with children check is required but this costs nothing and can be done online at https://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au

Thank you

SPECIAL PROVISIONS: Year 11 2016 - If you feel your child requires Special Provisions for Year 12 please have your child see the Learning Support Coordinator Mrs Bernadette Boere in the SCIL Hub for the appropriate forms to be filled out, so that assessment of eligibility can be determined. If you have any questions in regard to this please email Bernadette on bernadette.boere@mn.catholic.edu.au or ring the school and ask for Bernadette.

Thank you. Bernadette Boere, Learning Support Coordinator
SCHOOL BUCKET HATS & SCHOOL CAPS: It is compulsory that either the school bucket hat or school cap be worn in PE and sport. Commencing in Term 4, if a student does not have the school hat/cap parents will be emailed and they will be placed on a low zone which involves collecting rubbish at recess.

Bucket hats are available from WorkWise Clothing, 49 Whitbread Street, Taree or a limited number are now available from St Clare’s High School at a cost of $19.50 each.

Karina Hogan, PDHPE Studies Coordinator

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.

WHERE? Room 10

Bring your lunch!

WHERE? Room 10

We hope to see you there!

Mrs Julie Rowsell, Mathematics Coordinator

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VACANCIES STILL EXIST
MORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS & THURSDAYS
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

Heartfelt Thanks

To all Year 12 students who gave up a recess or lunch break to volunteer in the Canteen
Your generosity is very much appreciated – thank you
Good Luck and Best Wishes – Mrs Kingsford
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 3

Week 10 Tuesday 20/9 ♦ School Social – 6:45 pm to 9:45 pm School Hall
Theme - “the first letter of your name”
Thursday 22/9 ♦ Year 12 Farewell Assembly
♦ Year 12 Big Buzz
Friday 23/9 ♦ Year 12 Graduation Mass
♦ Last Day of Term 3

Term 4

Week 1 Monday 10/10 ♦ First Day of Term 4
Wednesday 12/10 ♦ Year 11 PDHPE Camp
Thursday 13/10 ♦ HSC Written Examinations commence
Friday 14/10 ♦ Year 7 2017 Orientation Day

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

Week 4 Friday 4/11 ♦ HSC Written Examinations conclude

Week 5 Monday 7/11 ♦ Year 9 & 10 Yearly Examinations commence
Friday 11/11 ♦ Graduation Evening

Week 6 Friday 18/11 ♦ Year 9 & 10 Yearly Examinations conclude
Week 7
Monday 21/11 ♦ Year 7 & 8 Yearly Examinations commence
Wednesday 23/11 ♦ P & F Meeting – 6 pm
Friday 25/11 ♦ Year 7 & 8 Yearly Examinations conclude

Week 10
Thursday 15/12 ♦ HSC Results released
Friday 16/12 ♦ ATAR Results released
♦ Annual Awards Ceremony
♦ Final Day for Students

Week 11
Monday 19/12 ♦ Pupil Free Day
♦ Parent/Teacher Interviews (by request)
Tuesday 20/12 ♦ Final Day for Teachers

2017

Term 1

Week 1
Friday 27/1 ♦ Staff Development Day – Pupil Free Day
Monday 30/1 ♦ Years 7, 11 & 12 Students Commence
Tuesday 31/1 ♦ Years 8, 9 & 10 Students Return

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.

Contact John Edwards, Saver Plus Coordinator
(02) 6882 3329
John.edwards@thesmithfamily.com.au

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is delivered by The Smith Family in Dubbo. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government.
THE BASICS OF ACTING

Are you fairly new to acting and want to develop new skills or are you a seasoned performer looking to get back to basics? Do you find yourself constantly playing the same characters? If the answer to any of these questions is yes, then join ASPIRE Artistic Director Anna Kerrigan in this engaging 4 week course for young actors. The focus of the program is you, the actor, with a focus on developing skills in voice, movement and how we turn these skills into characters and best serve script with them. It’s a great opportunity to learn new things, enhance existing knowledge and skills and just have fun with like-minded performers. Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis, so call Anne Atkins on 02 4979-1331 or email anne.atkins@mn.catholic.edu as soon as possible to secure your space.

Please note participation in this course does not guarantee acceptance into the ASPIRE performing arts program.

This 4-week course will be held at the Factory, St Paul X High School, Adamstown from 4.30 pm – 6.00 pm at the start of Term 4. Dates are as follows:

- Tuesday 11 October 2016
- Tuesday 18 October 2016
- Tuesday 25 October 2016
- Tuesday 1 November 2016

The cost for this 4 week course is $80.00 and can be paid via the new Qkr APP. If you require assistance in using this app please contact us. Please note payment is not required until acceptance into the course.

BIOGRAPHY OF ANNA KERRIGAN

Anna trained at Bretton Hall in the UK and gained a BA (Hons) in Theatre Acting in 2002. As an actor Anna has worked with a number of companies in the UK and Australia including Wigan Pier Theatre Company where she was a company member for two years, Whiplash Theatre Company (Production: Oh What a Lovely War), Powerhouse Theatre (Production: Company) Experimental Theatre (Productions: East, A Dolls House), Pickles Productions (Production: Schools Tour), Catapult Theatre Company (Production: Catapult Cream) and the New Theatre (Productions: A Servant of Two Masters, Bazaar and Rummage). She has also featured in a number of short films and commercials and has extensive experience as a singer in cabaret. As a director Anna has worked on a large number of scripted and devised productions with and for young people, through Wigan Pier Theatre Company, Barking Gecko Youth Theatre Company, Tantrum Theatre Company, Mad Cow Theatre Company, Australian Theatre for Young People, Stone Gang Show (Musical Direction) and as an assistant director for Sydney Theatre Company - Next Stage.

Anna has extensive experience in the youth theatre sector working as a freelance facilitator for a large number of companies and schools over the past 10 years. She has held positions with Barking Gecko Theatre Co (Participation Co-ordinator), Tantrum Theatre Co (Workshop Co-ordinator) and Australian Theatre for Young People (Workshop Manager)
it's not ok to be away!!!

Compulsory School Attendance: Information For Parents

Why must I send my child to school?
Education in New South Wales is compulsory. This means all children from six years of age and under the minimum school leaving age of 17 are legally required to attend school.

Must my child attend all activities, including daily fitness and sport? YES.
Sport and other physical activities help to keep your children healthy. Children are expected to attend all regular school activities, including sport. Do not keep your child away from school for the following:
- birthdays
- shopping
- minding other children
- routine checkups or care such as hair cuts
- minor family events
- sleeping in.

Medical and other health appointments for your child should be made either before or after school or during the school holidays.

Why is regular attendance at school important?
Regular school attendance will help your child to succeed in later life. Attending school every day makes learning easier for your child and helps children to build and maintain friendships with other children. If your child doesn’t learn the basic skills in the early years of school, they may develop learning problems in later years.

Must I send my child every day? YES.
It is a condition of enrolment that you send your child to school every day. A small number of absences may be justified if your child has to:
- go to a special religious ceremony
- is required to attend to a serious and/or urgent family situation (eg a funeral)
- is too sick to go to school or has an infectious illness.

What should I do if my child has to stay away from school?
If your child has to be absent from school, it is important to tell the school and provide a reason for your child’s absence. To explain an absence parents and carers may:
- send a note, fax or email to the school
- telephone the school, or
- visit the school.

Principals are legally responsible for keeping accurate records of student attendance.

The Principal of the school has the right to question parents/’ or carers’ requests for their child to be absent from school. Principals
It's **not** ok to be away!!!

are also responsible for deciding if the reason given for an absence is justified. For this reason, Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation for long or frequent absences explained by parents as being due to illness. If Principals don't consider an explanation to be satisfactory, they will record the absence as unjustified.

What should I do if our family is going on holiday in school time?

Parents and carers are encouraged not to withdraw their children from school for family holidays. Families should try to arrange holidays during school vacations. If your family holiday is during school time, inform the school Principal in advance and request leave and/or an exemption from school. Depending on the circumstances and how long the leave will be, you may ask the school to provide tasks that can be completed while your child is absent.

My child won't go to school. What should I do?

Here are some suggestions to help:
- Have a set time to be out of bed.
- Have a set time to go to bed.
- Have uniform and school bag ready the night before.
- Make lunches the night before.
- Have a set time for starting / ending breakfast. A routine is important.
- Set time for daily homework activities.
- Turn the television on for a set time and only if appropriate.
- Be firm, children must go to school.
- Provide lots of positive encouragement.
- Be firm, a birthday is not a holiday.
- Time arrival at school to coincide with bell time and leave quickly. If arranged with the teacher beforehand, place your child's hand into that of the teacher and then leave.

If you are still having problems after trying some strategies you should contact the Principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help.

What if my child continues to have unsatisfactory attendance?

It is important to understand that the Catholic Schools Office may take further action in cases where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unjustified absences from school. This can include requesting that parents and sometimes their child go to a compulsory attendance conference to help identify the barriers to the child's attendance and implement strategies with parents, the school and other agencies who might be able to assist. If all attempts by schools and systems to improve attendance have been unsuccessful, fines imposed by the Local Court can reach a maximum of 100 penalty points. This is equivalent to a maximum of $11,000.00.

At what age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10. After Year 10 and until they turn 17 years of age students must be:
- in school or registered for home schooling, or
- in approved education or training (e.g. TAFE, traineeship, apprenticeship)
- in full-time, paid employment (average 25 hours per week) or in a combination of work, education and/or training.

Further information regarding school attendance
info@mn.catholic.edu.au
Taree West Cricket Club Inc.

Are you interested in playing cricket this summer? You could be the next Steve Smith, Mitchell Starc or Ellyse Perry. Taree West Cricket Club is looking for players of all ages and skill levels.

Training begins on Tuesday 13th September 2016 at the Recreation Ground Nets located behind the Taree Basket Ball Stadium.

Training times are as follows:
Under 10’s, 12’s and 14’s commence at 4:30pm
Under 16’s commence at 5:15pm.

Registration for under 10’s is $60 and $100 from under 12’s up. This includes a hat and shirt.

For more details you can add Taree West Junior Cricket on Facebook or email trdgnam@gmail.com

Family COME AND TRY Day
Club-Taree Golf
FREE GOLF

- Fun Day for all the family
- Games and activities for the kids
- Prizes and trophies
- BBQ lunch
- Basic swing instruction
- All equipment provided
- All ages and skill levels welcome

Register online at www.golfmonth.com.au
... or contact professional 6552 1506 for more details.

Sunday 9 October 2016
9 am until 12 noon
Last Day of the School Holidays
Program for September October School Holidays 2016

**Tuesday 27 September** – no bookings required
Sand Art Fun – Any age $5.00 (plus $2 entry)
Drop in between 10am-12 noon and create a colourful sand picture

**Wednesday 28 September** – Booking Essential P 49516466
**Bush Skills** (8 – 12 years) $20 9.30am-12.30pm
Make (and eat) a damper and build a bush shelter. Take a guided walk and learn basic survival skills. Get up close and personal with some of our resident reptiles.

**Wednesday 28 September** – no bookings required
Plaster Model Fun – Any age $5.00 (plus $2 entry)
Drop in between 10am-12 noon and paint a plaster model

**Tuesday 4 October** – Bookings Essential P 49516466
**Dinosaur Ducks** (4 – 8 years) $20 10am-12.30pm
Meet our resident endangered Freckled Ducks also known as dinosaur ducks. Make a bird caller and see if they call back. Includes reptile encounter, craft and duck tales.

**Bush Skills** (8 – 12 years) $20 9.30am-12.30pm
Make (and eat) a damper and build a bush shelter. Take a guided walk and learn basic survival skills. Get up close and personal with some of our resident reptiles.

**Visit the Hunter Wetlands Centre**
Fun for all the family, walking trails, dip netting, children’s playground, climb the egret tower canoeing, reptile encounter. Bring your bike or hire one and ride around the site. Enjoy a picnic or BBQ or eat at Spoonbill Cafe (open 10am-2.30).
9am – 4pm general entry $5 children 3 to 12 years $2 (in school holidays) under 3 free

Please wear closed in shoes, shirt with sleeves, hat, sunscreen & insect repellent. Bring a bottle of water.

For more information [www.wetlands.org.au](http://www.wetlands.org.au)