

ST ANTHONY'S PARISH SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

29th August 2014



Back Yard Rugby League



Principal: Mr Scott Whitters
principal.dimbulah@cns.catholic.edu.au

Assistant Principal Religious Education:
Ms Rachelle De Iacovo
rdeiacovo@cns.catholic.edu.au

Ball games



Museum Trip



Rotary Speaking Contestants



FNQ Heat Clinic



COMING EVENTS.....

August 27	Rotary Public Speaking Event
August 30	Mareeba Multicultural Festival
Sept 02	Cake Stall in front of Foodworks
Sept 02	Flavours of Spring Christmas Fair Meeting in the Library at 2pm
Sept 14	Feast of Our Lady of The Chain St Thomas's Mareeba Mass at 2.30pm
Sept 15	Under 8's Day - Chillagoe POSTPONED until further notice!
Sept 19	Last day of term
Nov 15	Flavours of Spring Christmas Fair



Student of the Week

Prep & Year One Class

- ◆ Caitlyn - including others in games.
- ◆ Hazel - using strategies to read difficult text
- ◆ Georgia - sounding-out and careful reading
- ◆ Ricki - for careful editing of her writing
- ◆ Dustin - for persisting with sounding out words

Year Two/Three Class

- ◆ Julius - Working diligently throughout maths
- ◆ Danae - persisting with 2-digit division

Year Four/Five Class

- ◆ Danae - for persisting with 2-digit division
- ◆ Julius - for working diligently throughout Maths
- ◆ Kaitlyn - for contributing effectively to class discussions
- ◆ Max - for persisting with 3-digit subtraction

Year Six/Seven Class

- ◆ Rhyanna - for fantastic contributions towards her team debate and diligent work habits
- ◆ Hope - for fantastic ideas and effort on her Rotary speech and diligent work habits
- ◆ Jason - for his organisational skills and watching out for the wellbeing of his class mates
- ◆ Karl - for his great organisational skills and producing a creative advertisement for his religion task



School Prayer

God made us a family.
 We need one another,
 We love one another,
 We forgive one another.
 We work together,
 We play together,
 We worship together.
 Together, we use God's word.
 Together, we grow in Christ.
 God bless our school.
 St Anthony of Padua, pray for us.
 Amen





**From the
Principal
Scott
Whitters**

Dear Families and Friends,

In weeks eight and nine, St Anthony's will transition to the use of a new School Information System. We have been gearing up for this change for months. During this two week period, all of our school data will be transferred into a new and more modern system. This will create some issues for us as our data systems will not be able to be accessed as per usual. I ask that during this time you exercise some patience with our front office as we will all be learning the new system. The transition should be complete by week ten with all data fully accessible again. For this process to run smoothly, all family data must be 100% accurate on our current system. If you have not yet replied to our request for updated family details can you please act on this as a matter of urgency. Any discrepancies in our system will create issues that will not allow the transition process to be completed. I certainly appreciate your assistance with this process. All Catholic Education Schools in the Cairns Diocese will soon be running from the same system, making interschool transactions very smooth.

Parent / Teacher Discussions

As you all know, I am a firm believer in strong parent / teacher relationships. Now is a good time to check on the progress of your child. Many families last spoke to their class teachers back in Term One. It may be useful to know how your child is progressing and how you may assist them with their studies.

NAPLAN Results

The 2014 Naplan results have arrived and staff have had some time to interpret the results to see which areas of the curriculum our students have succeeded in understanding and which areas need greater attention. I am a converted believer of the Naplan process and feel the 2014 tests were well designed and presented. I do however believe that Naplan should be used as a helpful tool from which to gauge student academic progress and not as a be all and end all. Naplan was designed for educators to check learning against the curriculum, not as a tool for parents to select a school. Whilst we value Naplan at St Anthony's, it is only one tool in our tracking program. Academic progress is tracked in numerous ways at St Anthony's and Naplan only helps to reinforce what our staff already know. This year's results have indicated that the vast majority of our students are sitting within the National average for all four areas tested. This is comforting to know that our teaching is enabling students to reach a level which has been prescribed by the National Curriculum. I would like to remind families that the best way to find out where your child is academically is to speak to their class teacher/s.

New Timetable

This week has seen the introduction of a new school timetable. There are two reasons for the new timetable. The first reason is to provide for greater emphasis on Literacy and Numeracy by ensuring all classes have the first two hours of the day as uninterrupted. The second reason is to ensure our children have a decent break after two hours of intensive and explicit instruction. Our students will now have two 30 minute breaks through the day. Each break will comprise of 10 minutes eating and 20 minutes play. This will ensure our students return to class refreshed and ready to learn. Curriculum areas such as PE and SAKGP have been moved back in the day to allow the focus to be on Literacy and Numeracy.

P & F Social night

I was pleased to hear we had a great turn out for the recent Parents and Friends Social Night. I would like to thank those families who organised this fabulous event and those who cooked and served drinks and dinner. The annual Adults v's Students soccer game was obviously the highlight of the night. The game was played with much enthusiasm and it would seem the rules were very flexible. I hear reports that there were up to 35 players on the field at one stage. I hope all the parents have recovered from their injuries. We are very lucky to have such great facilities so close to our school and I thank Bruno Fantin for allowing us to use the Soccer Club. I am already looking forward to next years event .

Light Up Rotary Public Speaking

Last night I attended the Rotary Public Speaking event in Mareeba. Two of our students (Kate Schincariol and Rhyanna Miller) were selected to compete in this competition and were accompanied by their families and friends. Both girls delivered brilliant speeches and performed exceptionally well on the night against great competitors from our region. Our girls are talented public speakers who have enormous potential in this field. Well done Kate and Rhyanna, we are very proud of you.

God Bless,

Scott Whitters

ST ANTHONY'S PARISH SCHOOL



Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Over a two-week period beginning 1st September our school will be implementing more applications from the School Information Systems. Over this time, the school office will not be 'business as usual' while we undergo data conversion, off-site training, and spend some time entering data into the new school and student and finance management systems.

Catholic Education Services is moving to an enterprise information management model, which will result in a range of new products for schools. The suite of products that our school will be using is:

- eMinerva** – student and family information management
- Dynamics AX** – financial management
- The Timetabler** – timetable management (secondaries and P-12)
- SRS** – student reporting system
- Business Intelligence (BI)** reporting tool
- SharePoint** – school portals

During the conversion process can we ask that our community be mindful that office staff will be working with staff from Catholic Education Services and Brisbane Catholic Education and will be very busy ensuring the move to the new systems goes as smoothly as possible. As a result, they may not be able to answer phones and deal with enquiries in as timely manner as usual. Also, the school will be using relief staff in our office who may not always know the answer to all questions immediately, so inquiries may take a little longer to be resolved.

There may also be some instances following the conversion when accessing and providing information from the new systems may be a little slower than normal as our staff become familiar with a new way of managing and accessing information. Again, we ask for understanding from our community in this time of transition.

We will keep you updated with progress about the conversion process and how this will affect our community members directly and indirectly.

Any questions can be dealt with by contacting Rena.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Whitters', is positioned above the name of the Acting Principal.

Scott Whitters (Acting Principal)

3 Hyde Street
PO Box 128
Dimbulah Qld 4872
p: 07 40935 319
f: 07 40935 413
www.sta.qld.edu.au
ABN 42 498 340 094/006



To seek, to strive, to find, for the love of God.



Please remember to send in the following forms:-

Revision of Information Supplied,

Additional Contact Information

Student Medical Details

These forms were sent out last month and we still have some outstanding. It is very important that we get your information correct when we start our new Computer Programme next week. *Thank you for your cooperation with this.*

SKOOLBAG

We are also encouraging as many people as possible have access to SKOOLBAG. This is an excellent smartphone school to parent communication tool, in the way of a mobile app which allows us to communicate directly to you. If there is ever an emergency that we need to advise you of quickly, eg. Bus broken down, roads closed, flooding, etc, this is the easiest and fastest way for us to get a message to you. For help with accessing Skoolbag, have a look at our website and you will find steps to help you set up the app on your iPhone/smartphone.

**AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM,
ASSESSMENT AND
REPORTING AUTHORITY**

acara

PRIVACY NOTICE

Information required to determine the *Index of Community Socio-educational Advantage (ICSEA)* for schools

This notice is from the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA), to advise you that ACARA has requested your child's school to provide ACARA with information about you and your child. Your school may disclose to ACARA information such as your child's gender, date of birth, country of birth, background language, residential address, parental occupation and parental education.

This information is disclosed to ACARA under the *ACARA Act 2008* for one or both of the following purposes:

- formulating national reports consisting of aggregated data on school performance; and assisting government to formulate policies in relation to education matters.

ACARA will not disclose this personal information to any third party. If you do not want your school to provide this information to ACARA, please advise your school within seven (7) days of receiving this notice.

Further information about ACARA can be obtained from the ACARA website at www.acara.edu.au.



Ball Games Carnival

Students and Parents displayed their ball handling skills at our Inter-House Ball Games Carnival last Friday. Mulligan won the day over Wolfram, 125 points to 115 points. This year Wolfram has won the Athletics and Cross Country Trophies and Mulligan hold the Swimming, Marching and Ball Games Trophies. Thank you to all parents who were able to attend and participate, helping add to the fun and excitement of the day. We hope those parents who put their bodies to the test (especially Deni Serafin) have recovered from their efforts. Congratulations to Spike Risley and Mia Gargan who were awarded the Good Sport Medallions for their enthusiasm and achievements on the day.



P&F Parents v Students Soccer Match

The Parents once again showed how experience, cunning (and intimidation) can still sometimes beat speed, youth and skill in a wonderful display of soccer talent at the P&F Social Match last Friday evening. Determined parents (Nipper Brown—suspected broken toe), put their bodies on the line to deny the students shots at goal. The game was well controlled by referee Raimond Bin until he issued a 'credit card' for a foul against Rony Serafin which initiated a spate of infringements from players who thought they would cash in on this new penalty system.



FNQ Heat Soccer Clinic

A number of our Yr 5-7 Students along with students from Mutchilba and Dimbulah took full advantage of a soccer clinic conducted at the Dimbulah Barras Soccer Grounds last Thursday. Two FNQ Heat Players (Josh and Jamie) put the students through intense skills sessions throughout the day and were impressed with the talent on display. The work put in by students and local coaches over a number of years was certainly evident in the 50+ children who participated on the day.



Swimming Program (Prep - Yr 3)

Swimming notes for our Term 4 Swimming Program will soon be coming home. We will be looking for helpers so if you are available and able to assist please let me know.

Back Yard League

Year 4-7 students have been participating in football sessions over the past 5 weeks which will culminate in mini games to be convened by Mr Alby Anderson (NRL Development Officer) this Thursday.

Auskick

Year 6/7 Students have been invited to join with the State Schools on Friday afternoons to participate in a 5 week Auskick Program. More details will be sent home about this.



Congratulations Toby Brown:-

Last weekend at Little Athletics, Toby broke another shop put record! His first throw beat the record and then when we asked the official to stay and watch as it was only his first throw, Toby laughed and said that it was extremely lucky! Toby's second shot broke the record he had just set!!!

Old Record: 9.37 m - First Throw: 9.44m - Second throw 9.59m

This was a long standing club record of 20 years! This makes a total of 7 new records that Toby has set this season for shot put and discus in Athletics.

Toby worked very hard all season for this particular record and he achieved his goal. Toby will now be competing at the ANQ Regional Championships in September and at the LAQ State Championships in Townsville in October.

Well done Toby!!



Last week at Mass, I found the sermon delivered by Deacon Madigan to be particularly thought provoking and it brought me back to my years as a child growing up. The question he posed to us was: Have we ever thought really long and hard about the question - Who am I? This reminded me about an article I read recently by Deepak Chopra. Deepak speaks about how we use the word “I” more often in a day than any other word except “a” and “the” without really knowing who “I” is. Ancient thinkers, both East and West, considered the self to be the highest mystery. The ultimate question, then, is “Who am I?” I imagine that other people find this question to be very interesting and meaningful as well. Human beings are hyper-social creatures. We care a lot—at times, too much—about what other people think of us. As such, it seems natural that we should care about who we are and what we think of ourselves.

But how does one get to the bottom of "who am I?"

To me, the only way to find the answer is that of going beyond the mind. Almost all spiritual traditions involve a practice of silence that encourages exploring the space of "no thought." The idea is to switch off the mind such that you can get to know the reality "as it is"—that is, perceiving reality without the filter of the mind. Meditation and prayer can be one way to switch the mind off and allow God to be present in our lives. It is at these times that we can truly find our real selves and explore the question of “who am I?”

I challenge everyone to explore this question as I have done. It is a very complicated question with no set answer. Often when we question who we are, we question our actions and behaviours.

Father’s Day

Father's Day is just around the corner and is the day to honour fathers and the father figures in our lives. This day is celebrated with immense enthusiasm across the World. The date and style of celebrating this day differs from country to country but one thing that remains noticeably same is the spirit of this occasion. So, everybody on Sunday 7th September, take the opportunity to honour your father and tell them how much they are loved and appreciated.

A Prayer for Fathers

God our Father,
in your wisdom and love you made all things.
Bless these men,
that they may be strengthened as Christian fathers.
Let the example of their faith and love shine forth.
Grant that we, their sons and daughters,
may honour them always
with a spirit of profound respect.

Grant this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Amen



In the words of Saint Mary MacKillop ***“There where you are you will find God”***

May God’s Spirit be with you always

Rachelle De Iacovo



We need your Help!!

St Anthony's Fathers Day Cake Stall

Funds raised for Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden
Program

Tuesday 2nd September, 10am

(In front of Dimbulah Foodworks)

Goodies can be dropped off at school

Please ring Belinda 40935462



**There will be a Christmas Fair meeting in the Library next Tuesday
at 2pm,
everyone welcome.**



**Supporting and enhancing social/emotional learning at
St Anthony's School.
Resilience- Being able to bounce back after a negative or
hurtful experience.**

In an edition of the Kids Helpline Newsletter, one of the focus areas was on **resilience**, which is commonly defined as “a person’s ability to deal with or cope with and overcome negative life experiences”. Some people take on the challenges at hand but others find obstacles difficult to overcome and can take much longer to recover (if at all).

People generally respond differently to a crisis or a distressing situation, but those who have been taught the skills to being resilient, cope better than others.

The Clinical Practice Manager at Kids Helpline, Kathryn l’Hanson says that, “young people who are resilient, tend to be optimistic, confident and have a high sense of self worth”. In schools teachers and counsellors place tremendous emphasis on teaching resilience to students, focusing on self- esteem, self-control, social skills, problem solving, realistic expectations and optimism.

Ms. l’Hanson states that “resilience is a powerful tool for coping, adjusting and innovating and it provides young people with the resources to handle all kinds of adversity”.

Things that can really prevent young people from developing resilience are:

- ◆ Poor self esteem.
- ◆ Poverty and /or neglect.
- ◆ Unstable accommodation (moving from house to house or town to town).
- ◆ Low school achievement.
- ◆ Poor school attendance and disconnection from the school community.
- ◆ Parental separation/divorce.
- ◆ Family violence.
- ◆ Abuse.
- ◆ Few friends or associating with high risk young people.
- ◆ Absence of goals.
- ◆ Substance abuse and other risky behaviour.

FATHER'S DAY LUNCH
7TH of September 2014
DIMBULAH BOWLS CLUB.
12 NOON

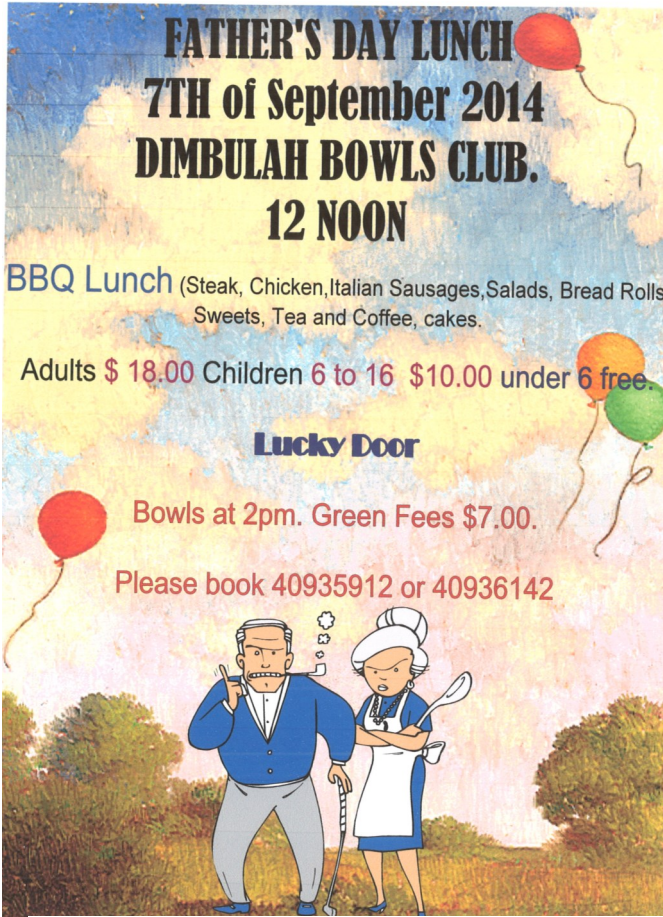
BBQ Lunch (Steak, Chicken, Italian Sausages, Salads, Bread Rolls
 Sweets, Tea and Coffee, cakes.

Adults \$ 18.00 Children 6 to 16 \$10.00 under 6 free.

Lucky Door

Bowls at 2pm. Green Fees \$7.00.

Please book 40935912 or 40936142



IT'S Our Dusty DOO
 With Slim's Yarns & Songs Sung by Me & You

Walkamin Sports Club
Sat' 13th September 2014, Midday 'til late

Taste Budz D'elites Food Van , & Hot Chips

Keith Bagley **Licensed Bar** **Kelly Dixon**
 look, sounds & plays like Slim

Singer
John Kilcullen

Singer
Dave Kirk

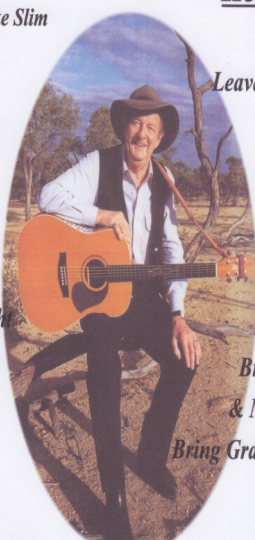
Camping \$5.00 A Night
Sunday 14th
Bush Poets Brekky
& Sing along

Writer of Classic
Leave Him in the Longyard

So hitch your
camper van,
tent or swag
Bring the Kids
& Mum & Dad,
Bring Granny & Granddad

From Midday
Slims Songs ; Keith Bagley , John Kilcullen , Dave Kirk
From 3pm ; Slims Songs by Local Artists

\$5.00 donation to help with rising costs. Performers & Kids free
 For more information or to **Nominate** your songs
 Please Phone **Comper Marie Kirk** on 0740 911548
 Bar profits to Walkamin Sports Club



Far North Queensland
Family Law Pathways Network
 Proudly presents

Separated parents' dispute pathways.
Can we make it easier for the children?


Featuring
Lawrie Moloney
Former Director, Family Court Counselling Service
Senior Research Fellow, Australian Institute of Family Studies
FIRST TIME IN CAIRNS!!

Target audience: Practitioners in the family law and family relationships sector
 In this workshop, Lawrie will summarise what we know about how separated parents work out arrangements for their children, the circumstances in which parents use FDR and with what results. Lawrie will demonstrate a relational child-focused approach to FDR and reflect with you on what this might mean for your practice. He will also describe the positive findings and the challenges coming from research into collaborative arrangements between lawyers, FDRPs and family relationship practitioners.

Friday 19th September, 2014, 9am – 3.30pm
AT RYDGES ESPLANADE RESORT, 209 ABBOTT STREET, CAIRNS

A fee of \$70 (including full catering) is payable on registration. \$50 for rural attendees & full-time JCU students.

 Professor Lawrie Moloney is a senior research fellow at the Australian Institute of Family Studies and holds an Adjunct position in the School of Public Health at La Trobe University. A former Director of the Family Court Counselling service (as it was then known), Lawrie is a practising psychologist and family therapist who has published more than 200 articles, chapters, books and reports mainly in the area of separation, parenting and children. Editor of the Journal of Family Studies between 2003 and 2013, Lawrie is interested in the theory and practice of dispute management and dispute resolution, especially within a family context.


Queensland
Government

FREE Well Women's Clinics – Mareeba Hospital
Thursdays 4th & 18th September 2014

Service includes Pap Smears, Sexual Health Screening, Breast Awareness, also info on Contraception, Continence, Menopause, Lifestyle Issues, Bowel Health, Domestic Violence, etc. All services are provided by a specially trained Women's Health Nurse.


 Safety Training

**** PROVIDE FIRST AID ****
 1 Day COURSE (Includes First Aid Manual, Workbook & CPR Training)
DIMBULAH COMMUNITY CENTRE
Saturday 4th October 2014
 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Cost \$121.00 per person
You must complete the Course Workbook
before the Training Day

TO REGISTER call Alan on 0447 249708
Closing date to register is Thursday 25th September 2014

Tel: 07 4093 5319 Fax: 07 4093 5413
 Website: www.sta.qld.edu.au

PO Box 128, Dimbulah Qld 4872
 Email: secretary.dimbulah@cns.catholic.edu.au

Photos



FNQ Heat Clinic



**Mareeba
Heritage Centre
Excursion**

