

8th March, 2019

What is On!

Monday 11th March—Basketball Gala Day—Stage 2

Tuesday 12th March—Dio Sports Council Meeting—Mr Dougherty

Friday 15th March—Dio Winter Sports Trials—Grafton

Monday 18th March - Basketball Gala Day—Stage 3

Tuesday 19th March—McAuley Open Night for Parents Year 7 2020—5pm-7pm

Thursday 21st March—PL Day all staff—Pupil Free Day

Dear Parents,

It has been a big few weeks within our school community. Thank you to all the parents who made appointments to meet with staff. I know that in everyone's busy schedule it is not always easy but we are always pleased to look at the children in our care with fresh eyes.

We had a lovely (if hot!) day with the schools of the Clarence Valley celebrating Catholic Schools Week. The theme has been “Sown In Rich Soil” and this is certainly the case with the wonderful learners in our care.

I would like to acknowledge the staff and students of McAuley Catholic College who catered for an influx of 250 children from “down river”. At these times it is nice to join together particularly when we have much to celebrate and be proud of.

In two weeks time we will have Sydney University with us again looking at creative ways to use drama, story and puppetry in teaching history. We are excited because the Hyde Park Memorial Trust is sending two master puppeteers to work with our Stage 3 children on the morning of Friday 22nd. These opportunities are not common for schools outside Sydney.

Cheers

Ann

Sport News

Swimming

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, we had 7 students qualify for the Diocesan Swimming Carnival in Kempsey last Friday. They all swam well on the day and each child managed to finish in the top 10 in their respective races which was a great effort. Kydan Jones in particular was a standout as he won the 8yrs boys 50m Freestyle event. Kydan is now off to Sydney to represent the Lismore Diocese at the Polding Swimming Carnival and we wish him all the best.

Winter Sport Trials

Cooper Olsen, Noah Smith (Rugby) and Beau Edwards (Rugby League) have been selected to represent the Clarence Zone at the Lismore Diocesan Winter Sport Trials in Grafton next Friday 15th March. If successful at these trials the boys will then move on to the Polding Trials later in the term.

Good luck boys.

Good luck Stage 2 at the Basketball Gala Day on Monday.



RE News

This week we celebrated Catholic Schools Week. Catholic Schools Week is a time to celebrate our shared faith, educational excellence and the importance of every student. Catholic Schools offer an educational foundation for living life to the full through the development of the student's spiritual, intellectual, physical, moral and emotional growth.



On Wednesday we celebrated Ash Wednesday with a special liturgy at McAuley Catholic College, Grafton. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Lenten season. It derives its name from the placing of repentance ashes on the foreheads of participants to the words "Repent, and believe in the Gospel". The ashes are prepared from the burnt palm leaves from the previous year's Palm Sunday celebrations.

Incitäre: Our Year 6 leaders have been given the



opportunity to attend Incitäre on Friday 29th March. Incitäre means to stir up, incite, urge, spur, egg on - when the Holy Spirit comes into our lives we are incited to spread the good news to all we encounter.

Incitäre is a one day retreat experience for Year 6 students from parish primary schools based in regions of the diocese to celebrate their faith at a diocesan level.

The retreat will be a chance to bring students together to meet like-minded peers and to celebrate with other young people who practice their faith. The activities will be a mixture of large and small sharing groups as well as celebrating a liturgy together.

The activities and experiences will allow students to build relationships with other students from throughout their region of the diocese and allow the students the opportunity to talk about and share their faith journey. This will be a one-day retreat using various group processes and student discussion led by student leaders from local secondary schools. Students will experience faith nurturing activities and learn skills in being faith leaders in their respective schools.

Renee Howland
Leader of School Evangelisation & Catechesis

SCHOOL TIMES

Just a reminder. Children arriving on site before 8:20am will be booked into Before School Care and an account sent from the OSHC.

School staff hours of employment are 8:30am until 3:40pm and cannot be asked to supervise outside these times.

PUPIL FREE DAY

If there is enough interest, OSHC will open for bookings on the **Pupil Free Day on THURSDAY March 21st.**

Being a Thursday is unusual but as our course is 2 days in duration as we will still have Sydney University staff and Diocesan Schools with us on Friday March 22nd.

Please contact Ann or Sue Smith in the Office if you require care.

Term 1 Week 6 Awards Assembly

St James' Award- Benjamin Hunt

Sassafras Sports Awards

ES1- Ashton Miller - Being a fabulous dancer!

S1- Kydan Jones - Outstanding swimming results

S2- Dexta Jones - Outstanding representation of our school in swimming

S3- Christian Lovell- Always showing great sportsmanship.

Principal Award- Cooper Olsen

ES1 Class Awards

SOW- Rhaya Brash

Achievement- Ella Carolan

Encouragement- Rhys Johnson

MJR- Austin Dougherty

Be Your Best Self - Ekam Khabra

S1 Class Awards

SOW - Isabel Duckett

Achievement- Henry Miller & Reevean Harding

Encouragement- Sailor Short & Mignon Espag

MJR - Severin Griffin

Be Your Best Self - Rhys Owen

S2 Class Awards

SOW- Jesse Daley-Malone

Achievement- Millie Crouch, Heath Ferguson

Encouragement- Sam Brailsford, Willow Bews

MJR - Rohan Chivers-Smith

Be Your Best Self- Amelia Greenaway

S3 Class Awards

SOW- Eve Van Leest

Achievement- Mellodee Kempnich, Ashley Rutkowski

Encouragement- Aaron Renee- Ellis, Frazer Stokes

MJR - Lani Cole

Be Your Best Self- Millie Day

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Sam Brailsford—10th March, Willow Seivers—10th March, Lola Dougherty—12th March, Clarence Dougherty—12th March, Mrs Lewis—12th March, Sol McInnes—13th March, Anzac Williams—21st March, Ari Felsch—22nd March

Stage 3 Newsletter Item

So far this term in Stage 3, we have been learning all about Matter (solids, liquids and gases), with our focus being that everything around us is made of matter. We have been conducting a wide range of experiments to help us understand that the state of matter can be changed and manipulated.

During Week 2 and 3, we learnt how to conduct a scientific experiment, creating a hypothesis, and using water and table or epsom salts to create crystals. Our first attempt failed, so as scientists we discussed why this occurred, and altered our method for attempt two, which this time was successful! In Week 4 we observed a wide range of different objects, classifying and describing their matter and observable properties (texture, colour, odour, mass, etc.). These objects included flour, mascara, shaving cream, sand, ice and soft drink.

In Week 5 we focused on changing a solid to a liquid, through melting. We hypothesised the best way to change ice back into its liquid water form and then recorded our results. Methods included rubbing the ice against a metal bench, placing it on black paper in the sun, rubbing it between hands, and using a magnifying glass. In Week 6 we conducted experiments that helped us prove that even though we can't see it or feel it, air takes up space and has a mass. We proved it took up space by keeping a piece of paper towel in a jar dry as we pushed the jar into a bucket of water, and we proved air has a mass through creating a balance beam with two balloons.

