



St Clare's High School

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NEWSLETTER 40/2016

9 DECEMBER 2016

Dear Parents and Friends of St Clare's

You may have heard that St Clare's has been awarded a \$3.4 million grant from the federal government to help pay for a major building project at the school. Very exciting news. The project will commence in 2017 and will be completed in 2018. Along with new buildings, the project will include major remodelling of the student toilets (something that is long overdue) and the re-establishment of the school's basketball courts alongside the school hall.

The design of the building, which incorporates the equivalent of eight plus standard classrooms, is intended to be a flexible learning space. The building is capable of housing 140 students in an open space, which then can be quickly realigned to house four classes in standard classroom space.

The design is open in nature and reflects the idea that learning is best completed in a space designed specifically to enable a collaborative approach to student centred learning.

A major focus of the design brief was to ensure that the inside and outside spaces be supportive of student learning. Hence the incorporation into the design of an 'outside classroom' and an amphitheatre designed for performance, group work and study.

While \$3.4 million is a great deal of money, the project could not be completed without approximately \$1.5 million dollars from the diocesan building fund (money that has been contributed by parents from our school). All in all the project is expected to cost something above \$5 million and will certainly supply a wonderful resource for our young people and staff to continue to supply a quality Catholic Education in the Manning Region.

Over the past week our Year 9 and 10 students have spent considerable time with primary students from our feeder schools.

The Year 9 Reflection Day included Year 5 students from Holy Name and incorporated the dual themes of problem solving and personal resilience. All students gave positive feedback about the day especially the younger people from Holy Name Primary School who had a great day.



Thanks to Ministry Coordinator, Denise Ryan and Year 9 Student Coordinator, John Chapman and primary school colleagues, Amy McGarry and Pam Extrem, for their organisation and support of the day. A very big thank you to our Year 9 students who showed impressive leadership skills throughout the day.



On Thursday Year 10 hosted the Year 6 students who will become our cohort of Year 7 students in 2017. Again the day was a great success and served to settle any nerves among the younger students about to advance to secondary school.



On Monday night I attended the Year 6 Graduation Ceremony at St Joseph's, Wingham. It was a wonderful celebration. The Year 6 students clearly love their school and their teachers and see themselves as ambassadors for their school community. The young people joining us from Wingham will, I am sure, make a significant and positive contribution to life at St Clare's High School.

You may be aware that Ray Collins, Director of Schools, Catholic Schools Office Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle, will retire at the end of the year. Ray has spent a lifetime in Catholic Education and has served communities in Bourke, Dubbo and Maitland-Newcastle as a teacher and a leader. Assistant Principal, Phillip Gibney, and I attended a mass in Ray's honour on Tuesday in Newcastle. The Cathedral was packed with folk who gathered to wish Ray, and his wife Annette, all the best as they entered a new phase in their lives. The liturgical music and the gathering after the mass was a wonderful tribute to Ray and all he has done for Catholic Education in our region. He will be missed.

We continue to interview for positions at the school. I will publish a full list of staffing when we have completed the recruiting process.

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.

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

6:00 pm
(2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month)

Our Lady of the Rosary, Taree

75 Albert St, Taree
Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm
Sunday Mass: 9:30 am

St Therese's, Lansdowne
Cundle Rd, Lansdowne
Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm
(2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month)

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Wingham

8 Farquhar Street, Wingham
Sunday: 8:30am

Our Lady of Fatima, Old Bar
20 Hall St, Old Bar, Sunday Mass: 7:30 am

St Bernadette's, Krumbach

Bucketts Way, Krumbach
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)

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

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:

St Mary, Star of the Sea Church, Tuncurry
15 Peel Street, Tuncurry
Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm
Sunday Mass: 7:00 am

ST CLARE'S BYOD SCHEME 2017: Students in Year 7 and Year 10 next year will join the BYOD scheme at our school. This will mean that the phased introduction of the scheme is almost complete with next year's Year 9 being the only class yet to have their own devices in the classroom.

Meetings for these Years were held last month and letters explaining the scheme were sent to each Year 7 and Year 10 parent (next year's groups). To give an additional purchasing option we have been assisted in setting up an educational purchasing Portal with JB HIFI. No commercial agreements exist between the school and this company. The offer is made to parents and the school is **NOT INVOLVED** in any manner other than specifying with the company the type of computer that meets our requirements.



JB HIFI Purchasing Portal: <https://www.jbeducation.com.au/byod/>

School Access code: schsbyod2017

Delivery of devices is scheduled for early February.

12 Months finance is available.

3 year warranty and insurance is available as suggested by the school.

Important Note: It is important to note that the student themselves need to be an administrator of their computer when user accounts are set up so that they can load free software at school and make the necessary changes to their systems in order to use the school network and the Wi-Fi system at school.

A reminder that whilst apple systems are good devices, the entire infrastructure of our Diocese is PC based and bringing an apple device will cause many issues for your child. I don't believe this is your wish but I do know retailers will suggest apple. I cannot recommend Apple at this stage due to system conflicts. Even though MS Office 365 is available for apple, it does not function fully with the main tool teachers will be utilising being MS OneNote Teachers Classroom. **Phillip Carney, Network Administrator/LT Coordinator**

TEXTBOOKS: A reminder to all students in Years 7 to 10 that textbooks and library books are now due back to the bookroom for processing for 2017. If text books are lost or damaged they have to be paid for before any books for 2018 will be issued to students. **Karen Kelly, Bookroom Supervisor**



LOCKERS: Can students please ensure that they take their locks and clean out their lockers before Friday, 16 December 2016. New lockers will be allocated in 2017 for students who have paid the locker fee.

FROM THE SENIOR SCHOOL: The end of Week 11 is upon us and there is only one week left of school for 2016. Most students have now completed their first HSC tasks in their subjects. There are a couple of tasks next week.

I have contacted several parents regarding high rates of absenteeism over this term. Now that we have begun the HSC course in all subjects the Board of Studies has very strict guidelines regarding attendance. If a student misses more than 15% of school, they are deemed to be ineligible for the award of the Higher School Certificate (unless they can satisfactorily prove otherwise).

So far this term there have been 12 students who have been absent for more than 15% of school. If you are absent, it is very important that a note comes in immediately. The Board of Studies will consider medical certificates and other extenuating circumstances, however, if the absence rate is high they can refuse to consider this and deem a student ineligible for the HSC. Any instance of “late to school” or “leaving early” counts as a half day absence. It is very important that students attend as much as possible.

I would like to give all the students who have had study lessons in the library a huge “pat on the back”. Mrs O’Donnell has let me know that she is so impressed with your concentration and behaviour in the library. Many other teachers are also telling me that they are very impressed with your attitude and application to your studies. Keep up the great work!

Students have been asked to bring in a note by Monday, 12 December if they wish to leave school after the Award ceremony next Friday. If they do not return the note signed by a parent or guardian, they have to remain at school until the end of the day.

The Year 11 students must also include on that note or on a separate note to be handed to me if they will be leaving in another student’s car. Both the student who is driving and the student who is getting in another student’s car must have parent permission. This has been in place for quite a few years now.

Enjoy the next week and remember

“You can’t connect the dots looking forward; you can only connect them looking backwards.
So you have to trust that the dots will somehow connect in your future.
You have to trust in something – your gut, destiny, life, karma, whatever.”

Steve Jobs

Karen McCann, Year 11 Student Coordinator





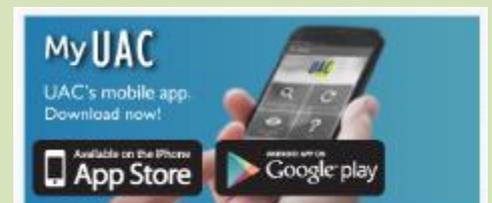
CAREERS CORNER: "The time has come," the Walrus said, "To talk of many things: of shoes--and ships--and sealing--wax--and kings--and HSC results--and ATARs." (With apologies to Lewis Carroll)

By the time next week's *Term 4 Week 10* issue of *Careers Corner* is released, our 2016 Year 12 cohort will have received their HSC subject marks - unfortunately, the ATARs are issued just after the close of press so information relating to ATARs and the 2016 St Clare's Dux will be reserved for the final edition of our school newsletter in Week 11.

HSC subject results – HSC results will be delivered to students **via email and text message** from **6 am on Thursday, 15 December 2016**. Students will also be able to access their results at the same time via Students Online.

Accordingly, it is important that BOSTES has accurate student contact details. Students need to log into Students Online and check that their **email addresses** and **mobile telephone numbers** are recorded correctly. If it is our school email address that is recorded, students should consider changing it to their personal one.

ATAR - 2016 Year 12 students can access their ATAR on the website <http://www.uac.edu.au/atar/> or the *My UAC app* from 9 am, Friday, 16 December 2016. Students will need their Year 12 student number and UAC PIN to log in. These ranks are NOT available to schools, so it is critical that the school is contacted so that:



- **Advice** can be given to students about **IMMEDIATE actions** and actions to be taken prior to the **MAIN ROUND UAC** offers (on Wednesday, 18 January 2017 – more about this next week);
- **Information** can be obtained to aid future students, especially those currently in Year 11;
- Our **2016 Dux** can be determined;
- **Statistics** can be produced for our school records, Maitland-Newcastle CSO records and media release.

NSW Higher School Certificate – On **Wednesday, 21 December 2016**, students will be able to download all their BOSTES credentials from Students Online as a PDF. Eligible students will receive their **HSC testamur** (*the HSC certificate itself*) **in the post between 18 and 20 January 2017**. Students will be able to order a further copy of their HSC testamur or a printed copy of their Record of Achievement (RoA) and course reports at a cost of \$17.00. Alternatively, they can print all of the documents themselves from Students Online.

What students need to do when results and ATARs are obtained.

This can, understandably, be a confusing time – better results than expected, not as good as wanted.

- **Contact the school** (in person if possible, else by phone on 6552 3300) **with ATARs and intended 2017 destination. Help will be available from Mr Evans and Mrs Healey for ALL students and ALL ATARs on Friday, 16 December from 9 am** – there is little point in seeking assistance unless their ATAR is known.
- **Those seeking assistance with gaining employment/traineeships/TAFE should make attendance at school on this day an URGENT priority.**
- **Choose the most appropriate course** to set you up for life rather than choose a course that is the one which is the highest available with your ATAR.
- If you have received a **firm early entry offer AND** you have **carried out the instructions** to accept the offer, **you can change your preferences** for the UAC Main Round (18 January 2017).
- **Some offers** e.g. E12 Sydney University **must always be number one preference** in ordered to be considered.
- Final date for **changes for the Main Round preferences** - Friday, 6 January 2017.
- **Main Round Offers** - Wednesday, 18 January 2017 – students requiring assistance at this time should ring **0424 374 620**.

Students should be aware that there can be **a discrepancy of up to +/- 5 in the entry ATAR** from the entry figure given in the current UAC book as these figures apply to entry into university at the beginning of 2016. **Ian Evans, Careers Adviser**

YEAR 11 BUSINESS STUDIES EXCURSION: Year 11 enjoyed a hot Friday visiting three very different and interesting businesses in the local area. Firstly we went for a tour and talk at Edstein Creative Stone with Alan. He always provides the students with great information about how a business operates and gives the students important advice on job applications and employment. Edstein's still make headstones; they also manufacture kitchen benchtops and pavers for landscaping. They are a very successful local business that will be expanding soon.



Edstein Creative Stone: Left to right Lillie Oirbans; Brooke Berg; Thomas Debenham; Jessica Cheers; Hannah Burley; Timothy Daczko; Abbi Towers; Sarah Earley; Jacob Cribb and Alan

Next we went to Oxley Island and we met Darren Croker who showed us the shed where they make their world famous Olympic oars as recently seen in the Brazilian Games. They also have diversified into seats especially for female rowers. It was much cooler by the river in the shed where we could sit and hear about the business from Darren.



Croker Oars: Left to right - Brooke Berg, Darren Croker, Jessica Cheers, Hannah Burley, Timothy Daczko, Abbi Towers, Sarah Earley, Jacob Cribb, Thomas Debenham, and Lillie Oirbans, plus two of the friendly dogs who love our visits

Finally to top off our day we went to visit Neville and his family owned business at Green Patch Organic Seeds. This is a good contrast to the other manufacturing businesses where most of the work is still labour intensive. We saw the biggest zucchinis growing, as Neville grows them for their seeds not to eat. They process the seeds in a small shed and package them for sale. It was a very hot afternoon and we enjoyed the cool of the beautiful trees and the cold drink during our visit. The students learn a vast amount of information on the day about business operations and can apply their knowledge from the experience into their assessment task and HSC. Huge

thanks to all the businesses involved and especially to Alan, Darren and Neville who freely gave us their time and shared their knowledge of business with us. Thanks to the students who attended and who were attentive and polite on the day.
Mrs Tilbrook,
Business Studies
Teacher



Green Patch Organic Seeds gets the thumbs up: Back left to right - Timothy Daczko, Jessica Cheers, Hannah Burley, Abbi Towers, Neville Donovan, Thomas Debenham, Sarah Earley, Jacob Cribb, Lyn Tilbrook and Darren Croker
Front left to right - Stephanie Poole; Brooke Berg and Lillie Oirbans

WHITE RIBBON DAY: White Ribbon Day was held last week and it was a major success! The day's purpose was to raise awareness for domestic violence against women. There was overwhelming support for the cause and the day ran smoothly. Thank you to everyone who helped in organising White Ribbon Day and all the students who participated by wearing the White Ribbons.

Written by Sid Joon on behalf of the St Clare's Human Rights Group



YEAR 7 TECHNOLOGY (MANDATORY): “Throughout Semester 2 Mr Constantine’s Year 7 tech mandatory class decided to grow some of their own vegetables in conjunction with the nutrition component of their course. This was a very rewarding experience for all of them as they were able to link together the total process of from “paddock to plate”. Students were able to take ownership of the food they eat and have an understanding of what it takes to produce food on a larger scale”. **David Constantine, Hospitality Teacher**



MONDAY	12/12	Jenny Chippett – ½ day
TUESDAY	13/12	Help Urgently Required
WEDNESDAY	14/12	Karen Larkin
THURSDAY	15/12	Help Urgently Required
FRIDAY	16/12	Help Urgently Required
 <p>THANK YOU TO ALL PARENT/GUARDIAN & STUDENT VOLUNTEERS FOR YOUR HELP THROUGHOUT THE YEAR</p> <p>MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR</p> <p>CHERYL KINGSFORD</p> 		

COMING EVENTS - 2016

Term 4

Week 10	Monday	12/12	◆ Year 10 Excursion to Tree Tops Challenge Adventure Park
	Wednesday	14/12	◆ Year 10 Social – 7 pm
	Thursday	15/12	◆ Year 10 Awards Ceremony ◆ HSC Results released
	Friday	16/12	◆ ATAR Results released ◆ Years 7, 8, 9 & 11 Annual Awards Ceremony – 10:15 am ◆ Final Day for Students

Week 11	Monday	19/12	◆ Pupil Free Day ◆ Parent/Teacher Interviews (by request) 9 to 11am and 1 – 3pm
	Tuesday	20/12	◆ Final Day for Teachers

2017

Term 1

Week 1	Friday	27/1	◆ Staff Development Day – Pupil Free Day
Week 2	Monday	30/1	◆ Years 7, 11 & 12 Students Commence
	Tuesday	31/1	◆ Years 8, 9 & 10 Students Return
Week 3	Wednesday	8/2	◆ Year 11 & 12 Visual Art & Drama Excursion
Week 5	Wednesday	22/2	◆ School Photographs
	Thursday	23/2	◆ Year 7 Immunisations
	Friday	24/2	◆ Swimming Carnival
Week 7	Tuesday	7/3	◆ Dio Swimming Carnival
Week 8	Wednesday	15/3	◆ Year 7 Camp

Term 2

Week 3 Friday 12/5 ♦ Athletics Carnival

Week 9 Thursday 22/6 ♦ Athletics Carnival (backup)

SCHOOL UNIFORMS: Workwise Clothing will be closing on Friday, 23 December at 12 noon and reopening on Monday, 9 January 2017

FORSTER/TUNCURRY CATHOLIC PARISH MASS TIMES

Tuncurry

Christmas Eve Vigil Mass – Saturday, 24 December - 6 pm

Christmas Day Mass – Sunday, 25 December – 8 am

Forster

Christmas Eve Vigil Mass – Saturday, 24 December - 10 pm

Christmas Day Mass – Sunday, 25 December – 10 am



Taree & Wingham Catholic Parishes

Fr George Anthicadu

Parish Priest

CHRISTMAS 2016 MASS

RECONCILIATION - WEDNESDAY 21ST DECEMBER

6.00pm Our Lady of the Rosary, Taree (for both Taree & Wingham)

CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL MASS - SATURDAY 24TH DECEMBER

5.30pm Our Lady of the Rosary, Taree - Fr Bill Burston

5.30pm Star of the Sea, Harrington - Fr George

8.00pm Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Wingham - Fr Bill Burston

8.30pm Our Lady of the Rosary, Taree - Fr George

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS - SUNDAY 25TH DECEMBER

8.00am Our Lady of Fatima, Old Bar - Fr Bill Burston

9.30am Our Lady of the Rosary, Taree - Fr George

HOLY FAMILY MASS - FRIDAY 30TH DECEMBER

9.00am Our Lady of the Rosary, Taree - Fr George

NEW YEARS EVE VIGIL MASS - SATURDAY 31ST DECEMBER

6.00pm Our Lady of the Rosary, Taree - SCAE

6.00pm Star of the Sea, Harrington - Fr George

NEW YEARS DAY MASS - SUNDAY 1ST JANUARY

7.30am Our Lady of Fatima, Old Bar - Fr George

8.30am Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Wingham - SCAE

9.30am Our Lady of the Rosary, Taree - Fr George

6.00pm St Patrick's, Cundletown - Fr George