Dear Parents & Friends of St Clare’s

Today, on St Clare’s Feast Day, as we enjoy the various fun and festivities, we also take the time to honour and reflect upon two significant people in the life of our school and to ponder their influence on our community. St Clare and Mary MacKillop were followers of Jesus. They learned of his words and example and tried their best to live a life that reflected the teachings Jesus gave us.

Today we launch our Positive Education Framework named CLARE:

Connect
Learn
Aspire
Respect
Engage

I congratulate Mr Gibney, members of the CLARE Professional Learning Team, the SRC Representatives and Mrs Polson and the Student Coordinators on their commitment and hard work over the past two years to get us to this point. Thanks also to Elise Rourke, Year 9 and Mr Howard for their thought, art and expertise. It is now up to us to put their good work into action.
In the past few days we have seen North Korea and America become involved in name calling and aggressive behaviour, and, in Australia we are about to experience a very emotional period as people debate the marriage equality issue. No matter where people stand (a wide range of people with different beliefs and perspectives will be heard) it is important to recognise that people matter and that it is ok to disagree about an issue, so long as we agree to disagree in a respective and caring manner.

Our CLARE framework is built upon the example of Jesus and the teachings of our Catholic Church. It captures the thinking and example of St Clare and Mary of the Cross MacKillop and calls on us to be at our best even when circumstances we find ourselves in are at their most challenging, or when we are feeling least ready to follow the example that Jesus gave us.

Below you will find the text of a speech given to our school community this morning by Sr Marie Hughes on behalf of the Josephite Sisters, founders of St Clare’s High School.

It gives a great overview of the foundations of the CLARE Positive Education Framework launched today at St Clare’s.

**CLARE**

Firstly congratulations to all involved in preparing the CLARE Positive Education Framework – it is very inspirational but also a great challenge to the whole school community.

As a Sister of St Joseph, I strive to follow the example of Father Julian Tenison Woods and Saint Mary MacKillop who knew the value of education to help young people especially those in rural areas to achieve in life. This CLARE framework taps into so many of the values that they lived by.

**CONNECT** – Both Julian and Mary had a strong faith and a strong love of God. Both travelled this land and ministered to families wherever they went. By their example they spread the good news.

**LEARN** – *to be positive, to think creatively, to be reflective.* In this regard Mary MacKillop can teach us many lessons. Many times throughout her life Mary experienced unfair and unjust treatment from Bishops, priests and others. She never let these circumstances get the better of her. She persevered in the face of adversity and was ever ready to forgive.

**ASPIRE** – Before becoming the first Sister of St Joseph in Australia, Mary MacKillop was a teacher. She had been taught by her parents and was eager that children had the opportunity to learn. We now know her as the first Australian Saint. Many people say that she was an extraordinary person but the Sisters who knew her and lived with her would say that she was an ordinary woman who did ordinary things extraordinarily well. *I see that quality spelt out in ASPIRE – to be the best you can be, to be an authentic person to have a sense of purpose.*
RESPECT – Paul Keating when he was Prime Minister said that Mary MacKillop embodied the qualities of openness and tolerance, courage, persistence, faith and care for others and that these are qualities for individuals, communities and nations to live by and we will serve our country well if we allow these qualities to inspire and guide our own. These qualities also help us to serve our school well.

ENGAGE – In one of her last letters to her Sisters, Mary MacKillop wrote:

“Whatever your troubles may be… accept them cheerfully. Do not be afraid, love one another, bear with one another and let charity guide you in all your life.”

I wish you every blessing in the implementation of CLARE Positive Learning Framework.

Speech by Sr Marie Hughes, St Clare’s Feast Day 2017

God Bless

Principal

| P & F – NEXT MEETING, WEDNESDAY, 30 AUGUST 2017 6 PM |
| ST CLARE’S SCHOOL LIBRARY |

CHAPLAINCY/PASTORAL CARE: A reminder to all that the school has a Chaplain. Please feel free to contact our Chaplain, Deacon Vince Ryan, through the school office if he can be of assistance to you or any member of our whole school community.

YEAR 9 2018 ELECTIVE SUBJECT INFORMATION EVENING: The Year 9, 2018 Elective Subject Information Evening will be held at St Clare’s on Tuesday, 15 August commencing at 7:00 pm in the hall.

During the meeting Subject Information Books will be distributed and the process of selection explained. Subject Coordinators will be available to speak with parents/guardians regarding the selection of Elective subjects. Theresa Avery, Curriculum Coordinator
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
1st and 3rd (Krambach) and 5th Sunday (Nabiac) of the month – Mass is celebrated on Saturday evening at 5pm
2nd (Krambach) and 4th Sunday (Nabiac) of the month – Mass is celebrated on Sunday morning at 9:00am

**Our Lady Star of the Sea, Harrington**
Pilot St, Harrington
Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm

**St Therese's, Lansdowne**
Cundle Rd, Lansdowne
Sunday Vigil: 5:00 pm
(2nd and 4th Sunday 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: 5:00 pm

**Forster-Tuncurry Catholic Parish**
**Holy Name of Jesus Parish Church, Forster**
33 Lake Street, Forster
Saturday Vigil: 6:00 pm
Sunday Mass: 7:00 am
Sunday Mass: 9:00 am
FROM THE SENIOR SCHOOL: There are only two more days of exams left before everyone is back at school. (Apart from the Music Practical on Wednesday at 12:30 pm). I hope you have all survived.

Now is the time to get stuck into your revision and iron out any issues you may have in your subjects.

PLEASE, PLEASE check your emails every day!!!

Mr Evans and I will be emailing any information we have regarding Apprenticeships, TAFE courses and University entry requirements.

If you miss out it will be your own fault.

Take the time to improve your health and get some sleep. If you are disappointed with your Trial results, don’t “cry over spilt milk”, get on with improving your understanding with some revision. If you don’t understand something then ask. If you have any concerns, come and see me.

Mr Evans has sent everyone the information to register for the RSA and RCG courses being run at the end of the term.

Next week several notes will be handed out regarding the activities at the end of this term. We will have your final “Assembly” at school on Thursday which will run for an hour and then you will have the opportunity to travel to the Big Buzz for a relaxing and fun afternoon.

The Year 12 Mass will be held on Friday morning and then you will be dismissed.

We will have a meeting for interested students regarding the organisation of the Graduation Ceremony at the Winning Post Function Centre on Friday, 17 November. We have to decide on colours, theme, tickets etc.

I have sent an email to all of Year 12 regarding the final exams next week. These will be held in Room 14 rather than the Hall.

Have a wonderful weekend and look after each other.

Karen McCann, Year 12 Student Coordinator
Above - We are stronger when we work together!
CAREERS CORNER

Apprentice and trainee completion rates increase
Our latest report Completion and attrition rates for apprentices and trainees 2016 tracks the outcomes of apprentices and trainees who started their training in 2012, recognising the time it takes to complete an apprenticeship/traineeship. Latest data shows 61% of apprentices and trainees, who started training in 2012, completed their training.

Individual completion rates have increased to 59% for trade occupations and 61% for non-trade occupations. Across occupations, individual completion rates range from 73% for hospitality, retail and service managers to 42% for food preparation assistants.

NCVER has also released Apprentices and trainees 2016: Annual, a yearly summary of apprenticeship and traineeship activity. It shows that 2.2% of Australian workers were employed as an apprentice or trainee as at December 2016, a slight decline from the previous year.

STEM and VET
Each year in August, Australia celebrates National Science Week. This year, it runs from 12-20 August. The event highlights the contribution of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) to the economy. While much of the literature on STEM education is around higher education qualifications and the pathways between secondary and higher education, vocational education and training (VET) also plays a significant role in the development of STEM skills for the workplace.

VOCEDplus

Late last year, NCVER completed a project, Defining STEM knowledge and skills for vocational occupations, that sought to identify the place of VET in delivering the STEM skills and to provide clarity around the definition of STEM competency. Reports from this project are: What is STEM? The need for unpacking its definitions and applications and Measuring STEM in vocational education and training.

If you’re looking for more information about the role of VET in STEM skills development, both Australian and international, go to NCVER’s VOCEDplus website. A good place to start is the STEM skills Podlet which contains links to research and resources on the topic.

Some recent publications in VOCEDplus:
- Attrition of women in STEM: examining job/major congruence in the career choices of college graduates
- Engaging the future of STEM: a study of international best practice for promoting the participation of young people, particularly girls, in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM)
- From school work to real work: how education fails students in the real world
- Strengthening school-industry STEM skills partnerships
- Technology-driven productivity improvements and the future of work: emerging research and opportunities

Ian Evans, Careers Adviser
MATHS WORKSHOP - Mathematics Workshop provides the opportunity for every student to obtain assistance and support in improving their understanding of mathematics. Four mathematics teachers are available each week to explain the concepts you are finding difficult or give assistance to enable you to complete your homework, assignments or any work that you may have missed due to absence from class.

**WHEN IS IT ON?** Wednesday lunchtime - every week.

Bring your lunch!

**WHERE?** Room 10

We hope to see you there!

Mrs Julie Rowsell, Mathematics Coordinator

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**STUDENT ABSENCES:** If your child is absent from school, it is important to tell the school and provide a reason for your child’s absence within 7 school days. After this time the absence, by law, must remain as **unexplained**.

To explain an absence parents and carers may:
- send a note, fax or email to the school
- telephone the school, or
- visit the school

**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.

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**VACANCIES STILL EXIST**
**MORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – MONDAYS & FRIDAYS**
**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**
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 - 2017

Term 3

Week 5 Tuesday 15/8 ♦ HSC Trial Examinations conclude
♦ Year 9 2018 Elective Subject Information Evening, Hall – 7 pm
Wednesday 16/8 ♦ Japanese Exchange Parent Meeting, Room 32 – 6:30 pm
Thursday 17/8 ♦ Dio Athletics

Week 6 Monday 21/8 ♦ Vietnam Veterans Day Service
Thursday 24/8 ♦ Year 10 & Year 11 Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews

Week 7 Wednesday 30/8 ♦ P & F Meeting
Thursday 31/8 ♦ Years 7, 8 and 9 Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews

Week 8 Monday 4/9 ♦ Year 11 Final Exams
Thursday 7/9 ♦ Year 7 Immunisations

Week 9 Thursday 14/9 ♦ Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) – Year 12
Friday 15/9 ♦ Responsible Conduct of Gambling (RCG) – Year 12
♦ Japanese Exchange Program Commences
♦ Japanese Exchange Program Concludes 30/9/17

Week 10 Friday 22/9 ♦ Year 12 Graduation Mass
♦ Term 3 Concludes
### Term 4

#### Week 1
- **Monday** 9/10 ♦ Term 4 Commences
- **Wednesday** 11/10 ♦ Year 11 PDHPE Camp
- **Friday** 13/10 ♦ Year 7 2018 Orientation Day

#### Week 2
- **Monday** 16/10 ♦ HSC Examinations Commence
- **Wednesday** 18/10 ♦ Senior Retreat

#### Week 3
- **Wednesday** 25/10 ♦ P & F Meeting

#### Week 5
- **Monday** 6/11 ♦ Year 9 & 10 Examinations Commence
- **Friday** 10/11 ♦ HSC Examinations Conclude

#### Week 6
- **Friday** 17/11 ♦ Year 12 Graduation

#### Week 7
- **Monday** 20/11 ♦ Year 7 & 8 Examinations Commence
- **Wednesday** 22/11 ♦ P & F Meeting

#### Week 8
- **Monday** 27/11 ♦ Year 7 DigiEd

#### Week 10
- **Wednesday** 13/12 ♦ Year 10 Social
- **Thursday** 14/12 ♦ Year 10 Awards Ceremony
  ♦ HSC results released
- **Friday** 15/12 ♦ Annual Awards Ceremony
  ♦ **Final Day for Students**
  ♦ ATARs released

#### Week 11
- **Monday** 18/12 ♦ **Pupil Free Day**
- **Tuesday** 19/12 ♦ **Pupil Free Day**
  ♦ Final Day for Teachers
Could $500 help you with high-school costs?

Join Saver Plus and we’ll match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to $500 for school costs.

- laptops & tablets
- uniforms & shoes
- sports fees & gear
- specialist subjects
- books & supplies
- camps & excursions

To join Saver Plus, you must have a Centrelink Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, be at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner), and have a child at school or attend vocational education yourself.

Contact
Kristiana Darling
your local Saver Plus Coordinator

Phone
0438 648 670

Email
kristiana.darling@thesmithfamily.com.au

Web
www.saverplus.org.au

Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with Mercy Jobs, The Benevolent Society, and The Smith Family and other local community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to www.dss.gov.au for more information.