**Important Dates**

**May**

**Thursday 19th**
12noon Mass Stage 2

**Friday 20th**
‘Walk Safely to School’ Day;
10.30am Year 6 Assembly;
Last day for School photo orders

**Monday 23rd**
9.15am Catholic Q & A in the Parish meeting room (garage)

**Tuesday 24th**
6pm First Reconciliation in the Church

**Wednesday 25th**
School photo day from 9am

**Sunday 29th**
4pm Parish Family Mass followed by a Pasta/Pizza meal.

**Friday 1st July**
Last day of Term 2

**Monday 18th July**
Term 3 commences

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**NEWS FROM YEAR 3/4M**

3/4M have made an excellent start to Term 2. We have been working hard on our reading, concentrating on understanding what we read.

In maths we had fun tallying up colours of m&m’s and placing this data onto a graph.

Year 3 have had a busy couple of weeks, with NAPLAN last week and Reconciliation next week. We have been working hard learning all about the Sacrament of Reconciliation! Keep up the great work 3/4M!
Message from Mr Hunter

The glory of friendship is not the outstretched hand, 
nor the kindly smile, nor the joy of companionship;  
It is the spiritual inspiration that comes to one when  
he discovers that someone else  
believes in him and is willing to trust him with friendship.

Dear Parents and Carers,

“So what’s changed?” We’ve all used this expression one time or another to state that what we have just been told, is simply “old hat”. Could it be that the people who first read the following lines penned by the ever witty poet, Ogden Nash, in 1933, might have used the very same words?

“Children aren’t happy with nothing to ignore,  
And that’s what parents were created for.”

No doubt, there is some truth in the poet’s words or at least he thought so, for in his poem “Children’s Party” we find these lines:

“Shunned are the games a parent proposes,  
They prefer to squirt each other with hoses.”

Fortunately, psychotherapist, Abigail Nathenshon, comes to the defence of parents who have the power to be influential, when she writes: “Parents who maintain healthy attitudes about their own bodies, who model healthy eating behaviours, who provide nutritious food for their family by preparing, serving and sitting down with their children as frequently as possible, virtually immunise their children from developing eating disorders.” Well, it seems that achieving worthwhile outcomes for our children requires us to apply ourselves to our parenting role in a “full-on” manner.

From this example, we can see the advantage parents have as adults with our accumulated experiences of life, so that these experiences can be used in a positive nurturing way. Our lives, in some way, can be an inheritance to our children to enrich them and to provide confidence in their abilities to develop life skills.

Part of our parenting role is to patiently, slowly, even painstakingly, nurture and guide our children, so that they increasingly feel capable and optimistic about taking responsibility for their own choices and decisions and the general direction of their lives. This will demand dedication and perseverance from us and lots of “no strings attached” love. It is important for us as parents to maintain high levels of self-belief and confidence, to have belief in our own giftedness to be parents and to ask God that the Spirit work through us for the benefit of our children.

There is no area more important to our children, than the home our children share with us. It’s not the size nor the material comforts our home provides, it’s the nurturing environment that really matters. Home is a place of great opportunity for emerging young people for it is the home, amongst family, that values systems can be established and God’s love can be experienced through the love that family members express to each other. Mistakes can be made without the fear of ridicule and with the real expectation of true compassion and forgiveness.

On some occasions, we might find it helpful to be partially deaf and blind and to screen events through the prism of good humour. Sometimes, we might have to accept what our children have to offer as their best effort; we need to take it “on board” as such, and encouragingly reshape it with their assistance, so that the outcome is a positive experience for all concerned. We all “run the danger” that if positive messages are not forthcoming from our home, then our children will look elsewhere for direction and comfort, perhaps to peers or to the media and so out of our influence.

Peace and best wishes for a great week.

Tony

Tony Hunter
Principal
**Catholic Identity**

**PARISH FAMILY MASS:** On Sunday, 29th May at 4pm there will be a mass which will be followed by a Pasta/Pizza meal. Please see the flyer with this newsletter for details & return slip.

**CATHOLIC Q & A:** This session has been changed to 23rd May at 9.15am. The 7pm session has been cancelled due to lack of interest. Please meet in the Parish Meeting Room (garage). RSVP by 20/05/2016 to Catherine Rixon on 6667 1078.

**Community**

**CANTEEN HELPERS:** We URGENTLY need more volunteers for our Monday Canteen days. Please contact the school office if you are able to help.

**SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS—Wednesday 25th May:** Please contact the office for a family photo order form if required, or extra student order forms if misplaced or lost.

From 128 students there have been only 30 orders placed! All orders with payment must be returned by this Friday, 20th May.

**STUDENT BANKING:** This term we are excited to announce that we are running a deposit blitz competition within our school. It will run for 3 weeks, commencing Week 6. All you have to do is bank 3 times between Weeks 6—9 and you will go into a draw to win a prize, which has been donated by the Commonwealth Bank. This prize is on display at the office. Don’t forget there is a major competition being run by The Commonwealth Bank, where by if you deposit 15 times through school banking, you will automatically be put into the draw to win a family trip to Australia Zoo. Please contact Fiona Pratt on 0428 211 622 for any further enquiries to School Banking. Students need to have their deposit books to the office by Tuesday afternoon. Don’t forget there is a major competition being run by The Commonwealth Bank, where by if you deposit 15 times through school banking, you will automatically be put into the draw to win a family trip to Australia Zoo. Please contact Fiona Pratt on 0428 211 622 for any further enquiries to School Banking. Students need to have their deposit books to the office by Tuesday afternoon.

**UNIFORM SHOP**

Open MONDAYS (after Canteen) 2:30pm—3:15pm
All enquiries about uniforms to:
SUZIE SMITH
Phone 6632 2958 or 0422 415 520
Uniform order forms are available from the school office at any time.

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**GROOM STREET PICK UP AREA SAFETY:** It has come to my attention that some parents/carer are preferring to opt for convenience rather than children’s safety when picking up their children at the Groom St Pick Up Area in the afternoon. People must stay in their cars when parked in the pick up zone. It is illegal to double park, let alone asking your children to walk between cars to get into a car that is illegally parked. We parents and carers are responsible for setting a good example for our children to witness and to follow.

Unfortunately, I have also noted children sitting in the front seat unrestrained. This is the ideal opportunity to draw your attention to the laws regarding child restraints. Please refer to the link which outlines the safety of children in restraints and booster seats. [http://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/stayingsafe/children/childcarseats/](http://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/stayingsafe/children/childcarseats/)

Although it may be legal for your child to ride without a child restraint from 7 years old, this may not be the safest option. A booster seat is designed to position the lap sash correctly over a child’s lap and chest avoiding major impact to the internal organs in the case of an accident. It is recommended to continue to use a booster (or harnessed seat your child fits) until they reach the 5 step test as outlined in the link.

I ask for your co-operation and patience in this important issue. The safety of our children is Number 1 priority.

**WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL DAY:**

This year our school is participating in National Walk Safely to School Day on Friday 20 May 2016. Walk Safely to School Day asks that we all consider our transport habits and try to incorporate more walking as part of a healthy, active way to get around.

I extend an invitation to all parents and students to meet with staff at the Netball Clubhouse in Norton Street (behind skate park) from 8:10am and we will walk to school together at 8:15am. Students who catch the bus will be supervised in a skate park) from 8:10am and we will walk to school together with staff at the Netball Clubhouse in Norton Street (behind skate park).

Regular exercise like walking with your child not only helps them (and you!) beat chronic problems like obesity, heart disease, behavioural and mental health issues and diabetes. It also gives you a great opportunity to teach your child safe ways to behave around roads and traffic. Remember, Active Kids are Healthy Kids.

**PARENT FORUM UPDATE:** A huge vote of thanks is extended to Tilly Beetge and Renne Rogan who have volunteered to take on the shared leadership of the Fundraising Team.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY to**

Sabine H
Aysia H
Bella H
Isabelle N

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**Curriculum**

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**PARENT FORUM UPDATE:** A huge vote of thanks is extended to Tilly Beetge and Renne Rogan who have volunteered to take on the shared leadership of the Fundraising Team.

You may have already noticed that planning is underway for the Fun Fair. We are still looking for a Team Leader/s of the Community Events Team. **The next meeting of the Parent Forum is Tuesday 31st May commencing at 6pm.** If you would like to assist on this team or any of our Forum teams, please do not hesitate to contact either myself or the Team Leaders. “Many hands make………………”or so the saying goes.

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**Year 6t**

**ASSEMBLY**

**FRI 20TH MAY**

*Please join us!*

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**Community Events Team.**

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Isabelle N
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Also supplying from our yard at
20 ANDREW STREET
Garden Soil—Top Soil—T Tree
Mulch—Sands—Metal Dust
— Gravel & Road Bases.

SCHOOL CANTEEN
MONDAY 23rd: Leanne Copeland
Please sign in at the office before going to Canteen.
If for any reason you cannot attend on your rostered day, please swap days with another person or contact Suzie.

THANK YOU

COMMUNITY NEWS
National Youth Week
Manga art themed “Pizza & Pages” event
Celebrating at Kyogle Library on Wednesday, 25th May from 4pm-5pm for children from 10-18 years.
FREE pizza.
Contact the library to book on 66321134.
Bring along your Manga or other artwork, show ’n share your ideas and get cool drawing tips from others.

HALL HIRE
Please contact the Parish office on 66321074 regarding hiring of the hall.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY
We would like to invite you to ‘Christmas in July’, a Parish School event to be held on Saturday 23rd July in the hall, following 5pm Mass. Please gather up some friends and come along. Cost - $15 per head.
Dress - Wear Christmas colours.
Enjoy Christmas carols and lucky prizes. BYO drinks.

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phone 6633 7280
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andrewhills@y7mail.com
Lessons are held during school time each Tuesday
Individual lessons: $21 per lesson
Group of two: $16 per lesson
Group of three: $13 per lesson

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⇒ Yard building
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