Dear Parent/Carer, Students & Friends of San Clemente

Mr Keiran Williamson arrived at San Clemente in 2001. He has devoted fourteen years of dedicated service to our school community. Next term will be Keiran’s last term at San Clemente, indeed his last term teaching. Keiran has decided to resign and explore other opportunities and adventures. Keiran’s contribution to life at San Clemente has been meaningful and varied. Apart from his love and passion for science teaching. Keiran has fulfilled the following leadership roles at San Clemente in his fourteen years—Acting Principal (2013), Assistant Principal Curriculum, Science Coordinator and Year 10 Student Coordinator. Whilst we are all sad to be losing a dear friend and valued colleague, we are happy for Keiran as he embarks on the next exciting chapter in his life. All at San Clemente wish Keiran, Margaret and his family all the very best for the years to come. You will be missed!

Mr Marc Romano has recently been appointed to the position of Assistant Principal Curriculum for 2015. Marc is currently Coordinator of Administration, PD/H/PE and sport at St Paul’s Catholic College, Greystanes. We warmly welcome Marc to our school and he will be spending sometime with us in Term 4 to familiarise himself with San Clemente.

We received some great news about recent ex students of San Clemente this week. Kadisha Haines was elected School Captain of St Francis Xavier College, Hamilton, for 2015 and Paul Kelly was elected Vice-Captain.

Congratulations is extended from all at San Clemente to Kadisha and Paul. We are very proud of you both!

A piece of paper came my way some time ago bearing the heading “Eternal Truths”. In case it didn’t come your way, here’s a sample of its offerings:

◊ A parent’s love gives a child the hope and energy to grow
◊ A child’s heart requires their parents, friendship and love as surely as their body requires food
◊ A child wants their parents to notice the good things they do and to communicate affection and love
◊ A parent’s love for a child is a basic requirement for the development of a healthy caring adult
◊ A child can be likened to a flower. They open up when their parents’ love shines on them

We need to keep in mind that love is more than a feeling, for there might be times when we don’t feel very loving towards our children. Love is a commitment to be with, to understand and to support the development of another human being—our child. Sometimes we can focus most of our parenting energy on correcting and disciplining our children. Unfortunately, this focus can take over and the relationship and the rapport between parent and child can be lost. Consequently, when a child does not feel loved they are more likely to misbehave, so a negative cycle is set up.

Because loving children is a long term commitment, it might not return immediate rewards. Robert Louis Stevenson, besides delighting a previous generation with the likes of ‘Treasure Island’ and ‘Kidnapped’, left us this thought: “Don’t judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds your plant”. If, perchance, you have not had a successful outcome in a relationship with a child, then Henry Ford, who was not a stranger to set-backs, might have the thought of encouragement you were looking for when he wrote, “Failure is the opportunity to begin again more intelligently.”

Of course, Christian parents know that God is co-creator with them and that God’s Spirit is with them, as are the gifts of the Spirit. It can be comforting to know, that in a time of need, we can ask God to activate within us His gift of Understanding or Courage or Counsel or Wisdom to assist us to be loving parents to our children.

By the way, one other “Eternal Truth” read like this: “I know God won’t give me more than I can handle. I just wish he didn’t give me so much.”

Holy Spirit, Illuminate my life’s horizon with your light. Light the fire of love in my heart so that I have a clear understanding of how to love my children. May my love for them be your gift given through me. Amen

Peace and Best Wishes

Tony Kelly, Principal

7 Oct Staff Inservice Day
8 Oct Parent Teacher Interviews
9 Oct Students Return to School

P O Box 405, Havelock Street Mayfield NSW 2304  P: (02) 4014 7300  F: (02) 4960 2782
E: admin@mayfieldsanc.catholic.edu.au  W: www.mayfieldsanc.catholic.edu.au
Assistant Principal (Pastoral Care) writes

Have you ever, as a parent, asked your teenage son or daughter “Just what were you thinking?!”

I have mentioned in the past that I subscribe to a newsletter with Generation Next (www.generationnext.com). Generation Next is a social enterprise dedicated to protecting and enhancing the mental health and wellbeing of young people and their community. The recent edition of this newsletter contains an article titled ‘Judgement Call: Maturity, Emotions, And The Teenage Brain’. It is an interesting commentary on the fact that teenage brains are wired differently and this is reflected in their illogical behaviour at times.

The article states that “Specifically, teens make irrational decisions because their brains are processing thoughts and emotions differently ... the good news is that being a teenager doesn’t inherently mean being rude or disrespectful. The bad news is that teenagers are essentially not fully equipped to deal with certain real world problems”. The following link provides an infographic that demonstrates why the teenage brain is what it is and how it affects judgement: https://s3.amazonaws.com/Efgh/Judgementcall.png.

This article highlights the importance of adults in the lives of young people, and how they manage adolescents who are experiencing brains that are going through growing pains, resulting in at times confusing behaviour that can leave us scratching our heads! Our teenagers today are living in a global world that is ever changing and it is little wonder they can experience difficulty navigating life’s journey. We have all heard the saying “Patience is a virtue”. Our teenagers need their parents and teachers to understand that their brains are not yet fully developed and risky, impulsive and irrational behaviour can unfortunately be a by-product. Peer pressure, during the teenage years, is very common.

I have said before that our school is blessed with a staff that has a good understanding of adolescents and how they behave and learn. Like any school, we witness students make poor choices. Whilst inevitably these can have clear consequences, there is an understanding that mistakes will be made and the response by our staff is vitally important in terms of ensuring our young people learn from these mistakes. Sensitivity and compassion are two essential ingredients, which if delivered in an environment with clear boundaries, allow young people to understand their wrongdoings and the impact they may have on those around them. Restorative Justice, for instance, provides an opportunity to restore the harm between our students when there has been conflict. While this takes time, it is invaluable in nurturing quality relationships at our school. It also develops that important quality in life - empathy.

I wish you all a very happy, safe and enjoyable holiday with your families.

Mr Scott Donohoe, Assistant Principal, Pastoral Care

Assistant Principal—Curriculum Report

The end of a busy term is here. For most students the last few weeks have been busy with assessment tasks as they have been for staff. I hope all have a restful and relaxing holiday.

Part of what some students need to do over the holidays is to make sure their school equipment is ready for the next term. It is an expectation that students will bring all equipment needed for their classes. Some students are coming to class without their tablet. San Clemente has in place a policy that requires each student to have a device. If the student does not have a device it can be difficult for them to participate effectively in the lesson. Staff will be taking a firmer approach to this problem next term. Some students may find themselves on detention if the problem is ongoing.

Planning is well under way for the 2015 school year. Part of the planning for next year is the establishment of Elective classes. Year 8 students have received their allocated classes for next year. San Clemente offered more elective subject choices than ever before and unfortunately some subjects did not receive sufficient nominations from students for us to be able to form classes within the limitations of staffing. Some students chose subjects that ended up being timetabled at the same time and have had to make further choices which is often disappointing for students with passions in particular areas. In other cases there have been very popular choices and because there is a limit to class sizes some students have been allocated their 3rd choice. The whole process is quite a juggling act and we appreciate the compromises that students and parents have been prepared to make. If there is an obvious error, please let us know - we know a few have sneaked through. We do not allocate students to subjects that were not in their three choices without consultation.

Interim reports have also been sent. These are a less formal report than the semester reports, and are provided to give parents an idea of how students are travelling at this stage. They are not always based on assessment tasks; there can be a more subjective element to the judgment by the teacher as to the student’s progress and attitude. Enclosed with the report were instructions for accessing the online parent-teacher booking for the day to be held on Wednesday, October 8. This day provides a good opportunity for parents to discuss firsthand with teachers how their child is progressing.

Have a great holiday. Come back refreshed ready for a good last term of 2014.

Mr Keiran Williamson, Assistant Principal, Curriculum
Year 10 News

This week brings the end to a rather busy and at times hectic Term on both a personal and professional level. I have spent the last two weeks trying to catch up on Year 10 arrangements since spending some personal leave last month. I would like to thank all members of the SCM Community for your well wishes with the birth of our third child, Paddy James. The time spent away from school made me appreciate even more the wonderful and warm community in which I have the pleasure of being a part of every day. I thought of SCM often when visiting the hospital to see my wife and child. Hospitals are obviously very busy and sometimes stressful environments, not unlike schools. I noticed that one of the ways that stress was reduced was in the simple interactions between workers, patients and visitors. The warm welcome from a parking attendant, the smile and nod from admin staff, or the caring and genuine greeting from a nurse were the small things that made an anxious new father calmer and happier. On the days that these small greetings were absent, I could sense my unease.

I explained this to Year 10 students at our first Year meeting since returning. The smallest of gestures between staff and students can go a long way to creating an atmosphere of community, care and calmness. The polite and warm welcome of a teacher entering the room, the greeting by name of a student or staff as we pass on the playground or even the smile and farewell as you leave each day make a huge difference. It is a simple gesture that demonstrates a huge amount of RESPECT.

There is also a strong Catholic link to this simple tradition. Consider the salutations that occur before, during or at the end of any Christian ceremony. The links to greeting each other stem back to Biblical times and were essential for developing a sense of community. So my message is simple - don't dismiss the value of a simple hello or goodbye. Take this cultural custom and make something as a simple greeting a part of your everyday life. You'll feel happier for doing so and the community you live in, whether it's the school, workplace or neighbourhood, will be a much friendlier, accepting place.

I hope that all students enjoy this break for the end of Term 3. Please spend this time resting and enjoying yourself in preparation for a very busy Term 4. Your last one at San Clemente!

**Important Dates:** A letter will be sent home this week outlining details in regard to the final weeks of school for Year 10. The following dates will be important times for students:

- **Year 10 Exams:** Nov 10-12 (Catch Up Exams Nov 13-14)
- **Work Experience:** November 17-21
- **Normal School Days:** November 24/25
- **Awareness Week:** November 26 – December 5
- **School Assembly/Farewell:** December 8
- **Graduation/Formal:** December 9

**Shout Out: 10-1 RE class.** I enjoy EVERY class I have with this group and they are wonderful ambassadors for this community.

Nathan Beckett, Year 10 Coordinator

Year 7 News

I am always amazed how fast the weeks fly by. We are now three quarters through the school year. This term, Year 7 have focused on 'The Three Ps' being punctual, polite and prepared for school. They have been impressive at ensuring every time I raise the bar in expectations they meet the challenge. I am very proud of them.

As I mentioned last newsletter, Parent Teacher Day will take place on the 8th October. Bookings can be made via the online program over the break. It is such a valuable experience for your child and you to assess where they are at, know their strengths and set some goals. I encourage you to attend this day with your son or daughter.

In Week 2 next term Year 7 will have their final round of immunisation. No forms are required to be returned as it will follow on from the last two rounds.

Also in Week 2 we will celebrate Loud Shirt Day. This is to raise awareness and funds for deaf kids. This is a very worthy cause, so drag your Hawaiian shirt out of the cupboard.

Congratulations to Audrey Curry, Austin Mackay and Carinah McAllister for their wonderful performance at assembly this week. It is great to see Year 7 showcasing their talent to the rest of the school.

The ability to relax is becoming harder and harder to do. I have found that Year 7, at times, find this difficult. The holidays are a great time to completely switch off and practise some tools to unwind. A few techniques are:

- Learn breathing techniques. The ability to slow down your breathing acts as a catalyst to relax your body and mind.
- Write in a journal. Get out your worries or even just write about your day.
- Have some ‘me time’. Take time to do something you really love just for you.
- Do gentle exercise, like go for a walk or swim. This will assist with more energy through the day and better sleep at night.
- Have some ‘no technology’ days.

I wish you and your family a great holiday! Enjoy the beautiful sunshine that has emerged of late. Relax and rest up ready for an exciting Term 4.

Year 7 Quiz: What date is Parent Teacher Day?

The first person to see Miss Cram in the playground with the answer will receive a prize.

If you have any questions or queries please email on Meredith.cram@mn.catholic.edu.au or call on 40147300.

Meredith Cram, Year 7 Coordinator

Cheer Squad
Year 8 News

First of all Congratulations to year 8 on a great term! It has been a very busy one with many activities available inside and outside the classroom. There have been Athletics days, Walkathon, St Dominic’s Day, Music performances, Netball gala days, Football gala days, Bill Turner Cup and we are not finished yet! At Drama night on Thursday a lot of our students participated in both music and drama performances. Excellent performances.

I had the pleasure of accompanying the students to Luna Park last Monday and what a fun day we had! It was a beautiful and sunny day and the students’ behaviour was excellent. Big thanks to the Maths department especially Mrs Murray for organising the day.

At the full school assembly three Year 8 students were presented with certificates. Silver awards for Janine Ndisegaye and Elshaday Mehari, Well Done girls. Congratulations to Chloe Charlton on receiving GOLD. This is Chloe’s second GOLD here at San Clemente. A tremendous effort Chloe, you should be very proud of yourself.

With holidays starting on Monday it is a great opportunity for the students to rest and relax, this will allow them to relieve stress and help them to take stock of everything they have just studied. Research recommends students use this time to do things such as exercise, reading a book and socialising with family and friends. It is also good to reread school notes just before returning to school reminding them of work previously studied.

Term 4 start off on Wednesday the 8th October with Parent/Teacher interviews. The booking process for these interviews is now online and information on how to do this was sent home with interim reports. Elective choices were also sent home with the reports. If there are any problems with these please contact me at the school to discuss. Normal school lessons start on Thursday 9th October.

Once again, well done year 8 and I hope you have a relaxing and safe holiday.

Shout outs:

Lauren Mulholland is currently in Coffs Harbour representing Newcastle for Soccer. Her team also won the grand final in the grade A U16 competition.

Eliza Limn and Ainsley MacKay for making the rep squad for Newcastle Netball.

The year 8 netball team having a draw with SPX in the rep netball grand final.

Mrs B Denham, Year 8 Coordinator (Acting)

Year 9 News

It is hard to believe that it is the end of Term 3 and Year 9 has only one term left as Year 9 students. Term 4 will be a busy term. On Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd October Year 9 will be involved in two Leadership days. These two days involve the entire year group involved in leadership activities at venues away from school. The process for students being nominated to be school leaders at San Clemente in 2015 commences with these days. However, the leadership days are also about empowering all Year 9 students, as in my eyes they will all be leaders of San Clemente in 2015. A strong sense of community is also evident at these days.

Semester 2 examinations start on Monday 17th November and will run for most of that week. I ask parents to please avoid planning events/holidays/appointments during this week. Examination timetables will be released early in Term 4.

Over the last fortnight numerous Year 9 students have been very active. Last Friday 40 students attended the ‘Try A Skill Excursion’. This day allowed students an insight into the workforce and trades that may appeal to them. On Tuesday of this week the following Year 9 students, Lewis Mason, Jack Hendy, Jordan Clarkson, Shayla Martin, Maya Al Maree and Emma Higgins represented San Clemente at St Mary’s Gateshead in a day focusing on social justice activities. Many Year 9 students performed at the Civic Playhouse and showcased their music and drama skills—a great show.

Finally I would like to wish all of Year 9 and their families a relaxing and safe break. Year 9, I encourage you all to enjoy the outdoors during the holidays. Go for a run, a long walk on the beach, ride your bike/skateboard/surfboard or scooter. Turn your computer and television off, separate yourself from your phone and actually communicate with people in person, read a book even watch the sunrise. Use the break to revitalise yourself and I look forward to seeing you all next term full of energy and of course in your full school uniform.

A reminder to Year 9 and parents, if you have any concerns at all please contact me at school or on the following email address patrick.doyle@mn.catholic.edu.au

A final thought Year 9,

“Once you replace negative thoughts with positive ones, you’ll start having positive results.”

Patrick Doyle Year 9 Coordinator

English News

Term Three assessments are now complete and students have received their results and feedback from marking teachers. Generally, our students have worked hard, achieving impressive results. The English staff looks forward to discussing students’ progress with parents and carers at the Parent Teacher interviews next term.

Students are reminded to come to class next term with all of the correct equipment, including a pencil case with writing tools, an English exercise book, electronic device (Yr 7 and 9) and required texts. This way all students will be able to participate in lessons.

Next term students in Years 7 and 9 will move into new classrooms with new teachers for their final 2014 rotation. Year 8 and 10 classes will remain the same as Term Three. If you have any questions regarding Rotations please contact me.

The English Faculty wishes students, parents and carers an enjoyable, restful and safe holiday.

Ms K Brennan, English Coordinator

Maths News

Luna Park for Year 8 was a fun-filled day. All students really enjoyed themselves and thanks to the teachers and helpers who came along. Please check the school website for lots of great photos. Thanks to Mrs Wilks, our photographer, who did an excellent job!

Next term will be very busy at San Clemente, with yearly exams coming up from week 5. I will be taking leave for the term, so Mrs Wilks will be stepping up as Maths Coordinator. If there are any maths problems, please contact her. Mrs Julie Ware will be replacing me as a classroom teacher. I wish students, parents and carers a great Term 4.

Mrs. Patricia Murray, Maths Coordinator
Creative & Performing Arts Faculty

We have some very talented Drama students and this is a fabulous opportunity for our community to see the work done in our classroom. Students from Year 9 and 10 have spent one term researching, developing and rehearsing scenes from a number of Australian theatre’s contemporary playwrights. It has been an enlightening experience for students as they have been pushed to look beyond the ‘Aussie’ stereotypes, to discover, sometimes raw and very real human beings. On Stage—Civic Playhouse, Thursday 18 September at 6pm.

Mrs E South, CAPA Coordinator

New Caledonia Excursion

This week we wished Bon Voyage to our French students going to New Caledonia: Carmen Chapman, Max Gilbert, Alex Kitchingman, Lauren Proctor, Isaac Shaw and Isaac Vautier. We hear that everything is ‘tres bien’!

Library

Next term the Library will have a brand new internet search program, so everyone can look up books on any device. The program is called Oliver, and it’s very exciting to be able to offer this service to our community. Oliver has an app for ipads and iPhones as well as Android devices, which makes it even more user-friendly.

Year 10 students, please find any outstanding Library and Bookhire books so you can return them next term.

And happy reading over the break to all.

Mrs Hart & Mrs Huber

Cheerleading Success at State Comp

The San Clemente Cheer Team – the Panthers - 25 girls and 2 boys, met at the Olympic Stadium Homebush in the early hours of Sunday the 7th September, to compete in the AASCF STATE Cheerleading competition. In this growing sport, our level 2 team competed against other school-based cheerleading teams. Our students worked beautifully as a team, utilising lunch time rehearsals in the week leading up to the competition to ensure they presented their best possible routine. They were outstanding in performance and sportsmanship, representing San Clemente with pride. Despite a great effort, they had a couple of fumbles - which they’d nailed in practice. San Clemente Panthers finished up ranking 4th in the State!

The team were commendably gracious in defeat. They have had a very intense term with new coaches, a number of new team members and a reworked and challenging routine. They have shown leadership, team work, commitment and dedication. And they’ve had fun!

CONGRATULATIONS PANTHERS!


Ms Julia Nolan, Coach

Japanese Exchange Program

Konnichi wa! All is going well—is the report from Japan. Students have settled well with their Host Families and are having a wonderful time. Henry George, Jeremy Grant, Daniel Barry, Taylor Stirling, Paige O'Neill, Rebecca Cutler, Samantha Callan, Abby Rooke, Madi Norton, Trinity Worley, Aysha Arnold, Caleb Faragher, Boyd Wil- styles

Ms Julia Nolan, Coach
Welcome to the 2014 World Mission Appeal

When I grow up I want to be... Alive

This year, parishioners and school children across Australia are invited, as part of the Catholic Mission World Mission Appeal, to reach out to support the crucial work of the Jamaican Catholic Church in helping people turn away from violence and crime to seek a new future through the power of education and the spirit of Jesus Christ.

Sadly Jamaica is a nation deeply troubled by violence and crime. With the second-highest rate of gun-killing anywhere in the world*, communities across Jamaica live in constant fear. To just be alive might seem like a simple dream to us, but for many of the Jamaican youth born into the ghettos, they know chances are high that they will never achieve their dreams or that their life will be cut short as a result of the violence.

Together we can help the youth of Jamaica, and throughout the world, grow up to be fully alive, and achieve their dreams of a positive and hope-filled future.

The SRC have decided to adopt ‘When I grow up I want to be ALIVE’ as their Socktober focus with many activities planned for 30 October.

P & F News

The SCM P & F Committee held its monthly meeting on the 16th of September. An enthusiastic bunch of parents and friends attended the evening. The Committee has TWO MAJOR fundraising events confirmed for the remainder of 2014 – a BBQ and a Movie Night. The BBQ will be held on Saturday, 1st of November at Masters in Heatherbrae. We have had a fantastic response from parents, grandparents and staff, who have volunteered between 1-2 hours of their time that Saturday to help raise money for our school. We are still in need of more volunteers, to cook the BBQ, serve and sell on the day, in particular from 2pm onwards. If you can spare a small amount of time on that day, please email me at anne-marie.kelly@mn.catholic.edu.au or more information or to register your willingness to help out.

It is a great way to meet other parents and support our kids. We are also hosting a Movie Event on Friday, 21st November at Scotty’s Cinema Raymond Terrace. It is the official release date in Australia of The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 1 – we have secured a private cinema just for our event. EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND: Students, parents, friends, family, neighbours, groups, couples, etc. The cost is $15 per person, which includes the movie ticket and the possibility of winning some amazing Lucky Door Prizes, like an hour personal styling session at Charlestown Square + a $50 voucher, $50 vouchers at Supermarkets, Hardware & 4 wheel Drive shops, bottles of wine, café & restaurant vouchers, beauty treatments and MANY, MANY more prizes. Tickets will be on sale from Week 1 Term 4 – they MUST BE purchased before the evening and from the school. More details to come via VERITAS newsletter and SCM Facebook page.

Social Justice

On Tuesday 16th, six Year 9 SRC students Lewis Mason, Jack Hendy, Shayla Martin, Jordan Clarkson, Emma Higgins and Maya Al Maree travelled to St Mary’s Gateshead to attend a gathering about Social Justice in the market place and to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Caritas. We met several guests from different Catholic organisations such as Caritas, Mum’s Cottage, Penola House, St Vincent De Paul, House of Hospitality as well as many others. We learnt about Catholic Social Teachings and what social justice issues were within those teachings. The day was attended by most Catholic High schools in the Maitland-Newcastle diocese. It was a pleasure to meet and discuss social teachings with other students. We enjoyed the day and got a lot out of it.

Art Mania Studio

September School Holiday Programme

View this email in your browser [Link] September School Holiday Programme Try some clever crafts......

Fantastic fabric art exploration
Mosaic a suncatcher
Learn basic book sculpture
Create an amazing mixed media self portrait
Create an air dryed clay treasure box

Anne-Marie Kelly, P & F Secretary
Dear Parent/Carer,

Each year the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has to review and adjust the fees for students in our diocesan schools for the coming year. By far the greater part of our schools’ funding now comes from State and Federal government funding, but the commitment and continuing financial contribution of parents and parish communities is still essential to fill the gap between the funds provided by government and the actual cost of running our schools. This letter is to inform you of the fee arrangements for 2015. The following rates and discounts have been reviewed by the Catholic Schools Council, the Federation of Parents and Friends Associations and the Diocesan Finance Council. Upon the advice of those bodies, they have been approved by Bishop Wright.

1. Family Model for Diocesan Tuition Fees
The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle is very conscious of the financial challenges facing parents. In 2013 a new approach was taken to easing the burden for families with more than one child in diocesan schools. Broadly, the change was to apply the discount to each school child in the family, whether they attended the same diocesan school or not. For example, a family with one secondary and two primary school children in diocesan schools now receives a 20% discount on the secondary school fees and on the primary school fees of both the younger children. Previously, this family might only have received a discount on the second child in the primary school. The discount rates are set out below.

2. Diocesan Tuition Fees 2015
In 2015 the Diocesan Tuition Fees, full rate, will be:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kindergarten</th>
<th>Year 6</th>
<th>Year 7 to 10</th>
<th>Year 11 to 12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$1,107</td>
<td>$1,524</td>
<td>$2,343</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

In 2016, the Family Discount on Diocesan Tuition Fees will be:

- 1 child family: 0% - full rate applies
- 2 child family: 10% off each child’s tuition fees
- 3 child family: 20%
- 4 child family: 40%
- 5+ child family: 50%

3. The Diocesan Family & School Building Levy (DF&SBL)
The DF&SBL is a diocesan levy, charged on the oldest child in each family. The DF&SBL assists in financing capital works in existing schools and the establishment of new schools. Historically and for a considerable period, our schools were built and maintained by the voluntary contributions of the people of the Diocese through their parishes. Part of the DF&SBL, therefore, now helps support the Diocese in its pastoral ministries, including various Pastoral Workers, the Parish and Aboriginal ministries, the Hospital Apostle, and Seasons for Growth, the change, loss and grief program.

The DF&SBL rate for 2015 will be $639 per family. This amounts to an increase of about 30.58 per week per family. The DF&SBL rate is reviewed, recommended and approved in the same manner as mentioned earlier for the Tuition Fees and Discounts.

4. Special Fee Reductions
To assist families with limited financial resources, Catholic schools in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle offer a lower tuition fee to 'means tested' low income families such as Health Care and Pension Card holders. This rate is 50% of the Diocesan Tuition Fee full rate for each child. This discount applies only to the Tuition Fee, not to the DF&SBL or special purpose fees charged by the school itself.

Please note, however, that it is our policy that financial hardship should not prevent a child from attending a Catholic School and no child will be denied a Catholic Education because of a family’s genuine inability to pay the required school fees. This does not apply only to the eligible Health Care/Pension Card holders mentioned above. Any family experiencing financial difficulties is entitled to fee assistance. The Principal of the school can be contacted to discuss such situations.

Together with parents, clergy and school staff, we are committed to offering the children and young people in this diocese schools in which their faith can be nurtured in outstanding learning environments. We seek to assist young people to realise their full human potential, spiritual, intellectual, physical and social. We value the opportunity to work in partnership with you to that end, and thank you for your continuing support of Catholic Education in this Diocese.

Most Reverend William Wright
BISHOP OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE

Ray Collins
DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS
Leader Laptop Program—Year 7 & Year 9 Students 2015

All orders are to be made online by going to the Computer Doctor Newcastle shopping Portal at http://computerdoctor.cart.net.au/

Can you please register and order by October 17 2014.

Payment can be made immediately OR deferred - however all payments must be settled by December 1st 2014

Parents with genuine financial hardship concerns, can you please organise an appointment with Mr Kelly ASAP to make alternate arrangements for payment.

The laptops will be delivered to the school at the start of term 1 2015. They are yet to be manufactured.

For a step by step video on how to place an order please go to http://youtu.be/sNo0Pg6iSfs

If you have any questions, please contact Mr Newman by email steven.newman@mn.catholic.edu.au

Leader Laptop Program 2015 - Year 8 & Year 10 Students 2015

This year, your child participated in our 1:1 program with the Surface RT as the device to be used for our curriculum at San Clemente.

Whilst many students’ devices are still functioning there are many that have been damaged. An unforeseen issue with the Surface RT is that the device is unable to be repaired. Once damaged, they need to be replaced and this is not covered under warranty. If your child’s device is damaged, it is expected that it be replaced so they can access the curriculum on offer at San Clemente.

Next year, the 2015 Year 7 and Year 9 groups (current Year 6 and Year 8) are required to purchase the LeaderTab W220 from the Computer Doctor Newcastle.

We are extending this offer for next Year’s Year 8 and Year 10 (current Year 7 and Year 9) that have devices that are damaged and need replacing. It is preferred that you purchase the LeaderTab W220 from the Computer Doctor Newcastle rather than another device. It costs $659 and it is highly recommend the case be purchased as well for $28.

We have opted for the LeaderTab W220 as our preferred device at San Clemente as it is a more robust device than the Surface RT, it is a full functioning Windows 8 computer and it can be repaired. Also, by going through one retailer students can bring the device to school and we can arrange for the repair from a centralised location rather than parents travelling and organising repairs.

If your child’s Surface RT is still functioning then there is no need to purchase another device. However, please consider purchasing a robust case for it. If you do want the LeaderTab W220 you are more than welcome to purchase it.

If you need to replace your child’s device please visit the San Clemente Cart at http://computerdoctor.cart.net.au/. Register and then place an order. Orders are due by October 17 and payment finalised by December 1st. The laptops will be delivered to the school at the start of Term 1 2015. They are yet to be manufactured.

For a step by step video on how to place an order please go to http://youtu.be/sNo0Pg6iSfs

If you have any questions, please contact Mr Newman by email steven.newman@mn.catholic.edu.au

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

Keiran Williamson
Assistant Principal (Curriculum)
Careers......

Try-A-Skill: On Friday 12 September 40 Year 9 students attended the 2014 Try-A-Skill at Broadmeadow Jockey Club. Try-A-Skill is an event where students get to ‘TRY’ different jobs or trades. Traditionally local employers volunteer their time to come along and show students what tasks they undertake in their trades on a daily basis. Students were able to have a look at trades ranging from Automotive and Spray-painting to Hairdressing and Tourism. 2014 saw a different format and students were able to wander around and spend as much time as they liked at the trades. The bus trip back to school was filled with many conversations about how to get apprenticeships and what employers look for in their apprentices. If any parents employ apprentices and would like to come to school to continue the conversation with students please contact me on 0407 304322. Young people are full on enthusiasm and really benefit from community mentors.

SFX Interviews: Don’t forget Year 10 students enrolled to continue their education into Years 11/12 at St Francis Xavier’s College in 2015 MUST attend the COMPULSORY INTERVIEW in Week 3 Term 4- Monday 20 October – Friday 24 October. The interviews were booked on-line this year but if you have forgotten WHEN your interview is on, please contact SFX for clarification. Students MUST attend the interview with their parents in School Uniform. The interview looks at final confirmation of subjects, College happenings and procedures etc. All students who have chosen Advanced English or 2U (Advanced) Mathematics will be given their Christmas holiday Assignment to complete. I know the students really look forward to this as they find themselves lost over the extended holiday time and need something to fill in their time. The assignments provide SFX with knowledge of students ability in Maths and English and allow SFX to more accurately assist them as they transition to Senior School. Advanced English and Mathematics are challenging subjects and require some very intensive ground work in 7-10 to have been successfully completed. The assignments are a way of making sure that ground work has been entrenched to ensure future success for students at SFX.

Work Experience: After Year 10 Yearly exams ALL Year 10 students will be given the opportunity to complete Work Experience if they wish to. I encourage every student to consider a placement that allows them an opportunity to have a look at something that may interest them in the future. Information about the Work Experience program will come home in Week1 Term 4 but I would encourage students to start to THINK now about what/where they may go. No need to ring any employers just yet- but begin to think about opportunities. This week saw Brianna Graham, Alex Wicks and Caleb Snowdon on Work Experience with all 3 students having a wonderful time.

Indigenous Excursion to Blackbutt

Over the past few days, Mrs McInnes and myself have had the privilege and great pleasure of escorting our Indigenous students on a truly enjoyable excursion to Blackbutt Reserve for our very own Koala Encounter. Years 7/8 went on Tuesday and Years 9/10 went on Wednesday. Not only was it beautiful Spring weather, which enabled us to explore the beauty of Blackbutt and to have an up close and personal encounter with Chloe the Koala. Chloe stole our hearts, the encounter enable us to learn about her environment, her care and all the interesting facts about Australia’s most adorable little (non-bear) Koala. After our many walks, the koala encounter and a fantastic picnic lunch, we all spent the afternoon sharing our stories with one another and connecting as a community. Photos from the day can be seen on the school website and the SCM Facebook page. I would like to publicly thank the students for their wonderful, mature and respectful behaviour. On a personal note, I would like to wish all of our SCM community, a happy and safe holiday. See you all in Term 4.

Helen Wilks, Careers Advisor
Calendar Dates to note
School Year 2014
7 Oct Staff Inservice Day
8 Oct Parent Teacher Interviews
9 Oct Students resume Term 4
15 Oct Loud Shirt Day
16 Oct Immunisation Yr 7s & 9 boys
22/23 Oct Year 9 Leadership Days
25 Oct Deaf Pride Mass 5.30pm
30 Oct Socktober Day
10 Nov Year 10 Exam Week
17 Nov Year 9 Exam Week
19 Nov Elective 9 & 10 Drama Excursion
25 Nov Chris Doyle—Yr 8s
1/5 Dec Year 10 Awareness Week
9 Dec Year 10 Graduation
11 Dec Annual Academic Awards
16 Dec Community Day
17 Last Day Students

UNIFORMS FOR SALE AS NEW CONDITION
2 pair of near new size 14 formal boys shorts $20 each
2 size 10 formal shirts great condition $15.00 each
Mobile: 0421630008

Uniforms
If you have any used uniform items, still in reasonable condition, we would be grateful if you would donate them to our clothing pool. We are often able to help those less fortunate and maintain uniform standards at school. Thank you.

Wednesday 15 October

Indigenous News
There will be an induction day for all Year 10 Indigenous students at SFX on the 23rd October 2014 from 9:10am - 12:00pm, more information and permission notes will come out early Term 4.
Anne-Marie Kelly, Indigenous Coordinator

CANTEEN: Thank you to Students and Parents for your wonderful support during Term 3. We hope to see all of our volunteers and some new helpers next term.

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