Principal’s Report

It was wonderful to see so many of our parents at the information night last night. The sessions held in the classrooms were informative and provided a snapshot of curriculum and routines for each class. It was a wonderful opportunity for parents to meet the teachers and to welcome new teachers to Trinity. If you were unable to attend the session, information will be sent home with your child today. If you ever have any questions or concerns, please remember that we have an open door policy here at Trinity and we welcome you as parents to contact the teachers or myself via email or phone to arrange a time to make an appointment.

Last night we had a very successful launch and booting of our BYOD iPad program. We were very fortunate to have had Brendan Park and Simon Maher, Western Regions IT school support technicians, to assist us with this process. After much consultation in 2015, very capably led by Mrs Penny Lucas and a committee of parents, a thorough investigation of options were explored for future directions for Information Technology at Trinity. During Term 4 the decision was made to introduce BYOD iPads into Year 5 and 6. The school are providing covers for the iPads and once they have arrived, the students will be bringing their iPads to and from school each day. The parents and students read and signed the iPad agreement and a copy will be sent home tomorrow. Thank you parents for supporting this initiative and Rebecca Cooper for her organisation.

Family Mass this Sunday: This Sunday the Year 6 students will be inducted as leaders and receiving their badges. New and existing teachers will also be inducted and the students receiving the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist will have their commitment ceremony. Parents we would love to see you and your children at the Mass at 10am at St Anthony’s Church. Afterwards you are all invited to the Terracotta Restaurant for morning tea. Each month, on the fourth Sunday is Trinity family Mass day when the children are invited to partake in the liturgy.

Medical Plan and First Aid-URGENT: if you have a child who requires daily medication at Trinity, needs a puffer regularly or occasionally, is an asthmatic or diabetic you are required to provide the school with a new action plan and photo for your child each year. If you haven’t already done so-can you please make arrangements to see your GP and get a plan and send it to Leanne at the front office. Information was sent home in Week 1 and many have not been returned.

Absentees: In the event your child is absent from school, it is a legal requirement that a note is provided to the class teacher within 4 days. This can be done via the Skoolbag APP or by sending a note to the teacher. If in the event your child/children are absent due to illness or family circumstances for more than two days, please contact or email the class teacher.

Signing children in and out of school: When children are late to school-arriving after 9:10am please sign the children in at the front office and hand the absentee slip to the class teacher. If you are collecting children throughout the day, please sign them out at the front office and state the reason for being late to school or being collected from school early. Unfortunately, there are parents and children who are still entering and exiting through the side gate during the school day.
**Fundraising:** Every year fundraising is a major focus at Trinity but this year with the refurbishment of the classrooms occurring shortly, there is an even greater need. Fundraising will assist with the purchase of resources and furnishings for the new classrooms. If you have some innovative ideas for fundraising or would like to get involved, please contact Mrs Kate Squire-Wilson on 63862093 (home) or 0418133432 (mobile).

**Parent representatives:** At Trinity we are seeking parent representatives for Kinder, Year 3/4 and Year 6. This job is not too demanding but involves the organisation of a social activity/activities for parents and families during each term. This could be as simple as coffee downtown or a picnic in the park. The role would also involve looking after the pastoral needs of families in the class e.g. organising a roster for meals for a sick parent should the need arise. If you think you would like to be the parent representative for your child's class, please contact Leanne at the front office by Monday February 15. Thank you to parents who have offered for Year 1/2 and 4/5.

**Professional Development Days Term 2:** Next Term, I have organised for the staff of Trinity to participate in Kagan training on Tuesday April 26 and 27 so the children won’t return to school until Thursday April 28. This training is innovative and will assist teachers when working collaboratively with teachers and students and will support the transition into open learning spaces when the new classrooms are finished later this year. You may be wondering what Kagan is all about. Kagan is based on cooperative learning. Cooperative learning is one of the most extensively researched educational innovations of all time. There are approximately one thousand research studies which document its effectiveness and show that Cooperative Learning produces gains across all content areas, all grade levels, and amongst all types of students including special needs, high achieving, gifted, urban, rural, and all ethnic and racial groups.

Among the most strongly supported findings:

Cooperative learning improves:

* Academic achievement among students, especially for low achieving students.
* Race relations among students, including frequency of cross-race friendship choices.
* Social skills and relations, including empathy, diversity skills, leadership skills, caring, sharing, helping, and feeling cared about.
* Self-esteem among students, including intellectual/academic self-esteem, and peer self-esteem.
* Class climate, including liking for class, content, and teachers.
* Higher-level thinking, including questioning and synthesising diverse viewpoints and data.

In their recent book, Classroom Instruction that Works, Robert Marzano, Debra Pickering, and Jane Pollock (2001) advocate Cooperative Learning as one of the most proven approaches to increasing achievement. The staff are looking forward to participating in the training and implementing Kagan at Trinity. Please note the dates for next term for your forward planning.

**KidsMatter:** This year Trinity is a KidsMatter school. Staff will be participating in training over the next few weeks at staff meetings. For more information please go to: [https://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/](https://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/)

**Community Council:** This Monday the Community Council will meet at 6pm. If you have any items or issues which you’d like to raise please contact a council member or myself. Council members contact details are available further on in the newsletter.
**Working With Children Check**: if you are interested in helping out at school in the classroom, at school carnivals or sporting events, driving children to school activities etc. you are required to obtain a Working With Children Check. This is free for volunteers and can be easily obtained by completing an online form then taking it to the RTA. If you require more information it will be discussed at the Parent Information Night.

**Uniform Committee**: We are currently exploring options for girls uniforms. If you would be interested in being involved, can you please contact Leanne Davis or myself at Trinity.

God Bless  
Marylou Gorham

**PENDING EVENTS TO NOTE ON YOUR CALENDER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location/Requirements</th>
<th>Start Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 12th February</td>
<td>Summer Sports Trials</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 14th February</td>
<td>Opening School Mass Induction of Year 6 Leaders Commitment of Reconciliation and First Eucharist Candidates</td>
<td>St Anthony’s Church</td>
<td>10:00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 15th February</td>
<td>Swimming K-6</td>
<td>Harden Pool</td>
<td>1.45pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 18th February</td>
<td>Western Region Swimming</td>
<td>Temora Swimming Pool</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 18th February</td>
<td>Year 3/4 Open House</td>
<td></td>
<td>9:30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 22nd February</td>
<td>Swimming K-6</td>
<td>Harden Pool</td>
<td>1:45pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**School Community Council**

Chair Person: Sam Lenehan  
Deputy: Brendan McKay  
Secretary: Fiona Collins  
Treasurer: Brendan McKay  
Principal: Marylou Gorham  
Bursar: Leanne Davis  
Parent Representative: Kate Squire-Wilson  
Parish Representative: Ev Shea  
Staff Representative: Helene Boller  
Canteen Manager: Jennifer McKay  
Grounds & Maintenance: Charlie Lucas

Council Email Address: trinityschoolcouncil@hotmail.com
BE MERCIFUL LIKE THE FATHER

Wednesday was Ash Wednesday which marks the beginning of the forty days of Lent. While traditionally Lent was a time ‘giving up’ - of penitence and fasting, the Church encourages us to focus more on DOING – praying, giving and reaching out to others. In this Year of Mercy, Lent can be a particular time to focus on works of mercy.

‘It is important to remember that Lent is a joyful season. The first Preface for the Mass in Lent makes the point very elegantly: ‘Each year you give us this joyful season when we prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery with mind and heart renewed.

You give us a spirit of loving reverence for you, our Father, and of willing service to our neighbour. As we recall the great events that gave us a new life in Christ, you bring to perfection within us the image of your Son’

Perhaps it is unnecessary to emphasise this joyful aspect of Lent, but older Catholics may remember the more negative emphasis. There was a strong emphasis on giving up lollies, ice-creams and other special treats during Lent. Various pleasures, such as watching films and eating special foods were also ‘given up.’ Norman Tanner SJ – Thinking Faith

Project Compassion is an important fundraiser for Caritas one of the Church's organisations responsible for assisting the poor and marginalised throughout the world. In 2015, $11.57 million was raised to help the world’s poorest communities. During Lent many people choose to ‘give up’ something and put the value of the item into the Project Compassion box. Boxes can be returned to school prior to Easter or taken to the church.

The theme for Project Compassion 2016 is “Learning more, creating change”.

‘As Pope Francis says “Education is an act of hope”, so this year Project Compassion celebrates the power of learning, and the many ways in which Caritas Australia is working with local partners around the world to provide vital learning and renewed hope to children, women and men most vulnerable to extreme poverty and injustice.

Project Compassion boxes will go home over the coming days and if you have a sacred space in your home perhaps the box could be placed there. Children can be encouraged to do chores and in return money is placed in the box. For more information you could go to the Project Compassion website which has a wealth of information: http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion/about You might also like to download the Lent Calendar on your phone or iPad http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion/lent-calendar
Making Jesus Real - MJR is not a programme, but a way of life - Christ's way.

In essence MJR assists students to develop positive thinking and behaviours; to and accept responsibility for their actions and fosters an attitude of giving. A key element of MJR is looking for the good and recognising Jesus in the people we meet every day. Recognising positive actions creates balance in our lives and can help develop resilience.

Thought for the Week ‘During Lent, we ask ourselves: “How am I bringing Good News to the world? How am I sharing God's love with the world?”

Peace and Blessings

Helene Boller

STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS

Kinder: Thomas Edwards and Grace Rushton
Year 1/2: Samantha Daken and Will James
Year 3/4: Bella Cooper
Year 4/5: Zarlie Quinn and Hamish Minehan
Year 6: Patrick Davis and Tykieta Leitner
Harden Soccer Club Registrations

The 2016 football season is fast approaching and Harden Soccer Club is ready!! Registrations are now open and online through the myfootballclub system, Australia’s biggest online sports registration portal. Players and their parents/carers must visit myfootballclub to register online following the prompts. Harden Soccer Club has not increased its fees, staying at $60.00 per player, the same as 2015! Registrations will close on 10th April, 2016. This is to allow SWSSA time to determine competition age groups for the 2016 season which will start on 7th May, 2016. For all players that have been selected to represent SWSSA this season you must also download a current digital photo of yourself.


For further information or help please call Allison Manwaring, Registrar on 0429 193 453, email hardensoccerclub@gmail.com or ring FFA myfootballclub Support Centre on 8020 4199 between 12 noon and 9.00 pm Monday to Friday or on Saturday from 10.00 am till 2.00 pm. There is also a Self Registration Guide available.

HARDEN HISTORIC TRUCK & TRACTOR SHOW

Sunday 20th March 2016 at the

Harden Murrumburrah Show Ground

We welcome, trucks, including working trucks, buses, fire engines, military vehicles, tractors, stationary engines, classic cars. Camping is available on site at cost of $15.00 a night. A free BBQ on Saturday night for exhibitors who are staying overnight. There will be food stalls, market stalls, indoor displays including Model trucks and Quilts etc. Exhibitors Free Entry. Public Admission By Donation From 9am Sunday

For further details please contact Kevin Sharp (02) 63865136 or Tim O’Keeffe (02) 63862164 STALL BOOKINGS PLEASE CALL Loraine Brown (02) 63862555

Also a childrens competition for the best model of a truck or tractor in Lego or Meccano.

Happy Birthday!

Madison Simpson 5th
Letitia Tyrrell 22nd
Hunter Ings 22nd
Lotte Muldoon 24th
Melanie Beal 26th
Daniel Minehan 27th