Dear Families

Much has been written in the media in the past fortnight about the findings of the Royal Commission’s investigation into child abuse in institutional organisations over the past thirty-five years. The statistics were very disturbing to say the least but the future hopefully will see no such behaviour occur again. If you haven’t already done so I recommend you read Fr Paul’s words in last Sunday’s parish bulletin.

In Broken Bay schools there are processes in place to protect children from such behaviour occurring. Contrary to what was written in last Saturday’s SMH, I consider our Catholic schools to be safe places for our students.

If you haven’t already heard me say it, you will hear me say it often; the education of our students is achieved through a trusting and respectful relationship between home and school. This partnership ensures that each child knows that school is a place of learning, growing and trust. This is reinforced by the relationship between home and school.

This year I would like to develop this concept of partnership and trust built on quality relationships. One-third of our School Improvement Plan (SIP) centres on Wellbeing. It is not only the children’s wellbeing that we are talking of but that of the parents and teachers. KidsMatter is an initiative that St Kieran’s has been part of for the last 3 years. This year, the focus of KidsMatter is on the involvement of the parent community in the school. When this is working well there is a significant beneficial impact on student learning. There are many initiatives this year that we will provide for this to happen.

In the meantime, I encourage you to be involved in your child’s learning and to show an interest in school. Your attitude towards school and learning is easily recognised by your child and will impact on their own attitude towards school. If you have concerns or questions regarding the classroom or your child’s progress, make a time to meet with the class teacher. Clear, open and respectful communication can go a long way to nip issues in the bud! The Parent Handbook outlines further steps to take if you feel the issue has not been resolved.

Looking Ahead

**February**
- Tues 21: Parent Education in Literacy 6.30pm
- Wed 22: Yr 3 Rugby League Reading Program
- Fri 24: Yr 2 & 3 Yoga
- Sun 26: Yr 2 Family Mass 9.30am
- Mon 27: Yr 5 Robotics
- Tues 28: Northern Beaches Swim Carnival
- Fri 24: Cross Country
- Mon 13: 9.30am Open Morning
- Thurs 16: Yr 4 Family Mass
- Fri 17: Start Smart Yrs 4 & 6
- Sun 19: Yrs 2 & 3 Yoga
- Mon 20: Gala Day Clinics
- Fri 24: Yrs 2 & 3 Yoga
- Fri 31: Gala Day Clinics
- Fri 6: Yrs 2 & 3 Yoga
- Mon 3: Yr 3 to Hyde Park Barracks
- Fri 10: Yr 3 Rugby League Reading Program
- Sun 4: Yrs 2 & 3 Yoga
- Sat 5: 7.30pm P&F Welcome Evening
- Wakehurst Golf Club
- Mon 6: Catholic Schools Week commences
- Fri 7: Holy Week Liturgy – Yr 5
- Thurs 6: Soccer Gala Day Yrs 3 & 4 – Rat Park
- Wed 26: Term 2 commences
- Tues 25: ANZAC Day
- Mon 24: Staff Development Day – Pupil Free
- Fri 17: 9 – 11am Gala Day Clinics
- Fri 24: Yrs 2 & 3 Yoga
- Fri 31: 9-11am Gala Day Clinics

**March**
- Wed 1: Ash Wednesday Mass 10am
- Fri 3: Yrs 2 & 3 Yoga
- Sat 4: 7.30pm P&F Welcome Evening
- Wakehurst Golf Club
- Mon 6: Yr 6 Robotics
- Catholic Schools Week commences
- Thurs 9: Broken Bay Swimming – Mingara
- Fri 10: 9 – 11am Gala Day Sport clinics
- Final date for ICAS entries

**April**
- Mon 3: Yr 3 to Hyde Park Barracks
- Mon 4: Soccer Gala Day Yrs 3 & 4 – Rat Park
- Fri 7: Holy Week Liturgy – Yr 5
- End Term 1

**Issues:**
- Issue: 3
- 17 February 2017
I hope that all our new families have settled into the new school year and our existing families are continuing to enjoy our wonderful St Kieran’s community.

Michael Gallagher
Principal

⭐⭐⭐ AWARDS ⭐⭐⭐

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<td>Siobhan K and Jordan W</td>
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<td>Band</td>
<td>Scarlett P and Jackson Q</td>
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FROM THE ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

Royal Commission: To read the Bishop’s letter regarding the Royal Commission click [here](#).

Sibling Enrolments 2018
Enrolments are now open for Kinder 2018. If you have a child starting next year please download Enrolment forms from the school [website](#) and come along to the Open Morning 9.30am Thursday 16 March.

SCHOOL NEWS

Northern Beaches Cluster Swim Carnival
Timekeepers needed for the Northern Beaches Cluster Carnival on Tuesday 28 February. We need parent volunteers to time-keep at the Swimming Carnival as it is St Kieran’s responsibility to be in charge of one lane. Unfortunately if we don’t get enough volunteers, our students are unable to compete. The more helpers, the less time the shifts will be! Please notify Miss Scott Fell if you are able to assist on the day. Thank you in advance.

Religious Education: A Sacramental Term!
This term most classes are studying a module of learning based on a Sacrament. Year 1 students are learning about Baptism and Year 3 children are studying their final Sacrament of Initiation, The Sacrament of Reconciliation. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers.

This week 4K celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation with Fr Paul to be followed by 4G next week. Year 5 are learning about the Sacraments of Service; Anointing of the Sick and Holy Orders. Year 6 were in the church today for a “Show and Teach” as Fr Paul walked the children through the Sacrament of the Eucharist, showing and explaining various parts of the Mass. Thank you Fr Paul for the time and consideration you extend to our school community.

“Sacraments 101” by Busted Halo is a great You Tube site where parents and older children can brush up on the meaning, symbolism and application of the various Sacraments. Google “Sacraments 101” for these two minute information packed videos.

Yours in Religious Education,
Mrs Kerrie Wetzlar

Book Club
Orders for the current issue of Book Club are now closed. No late orders will be accepted.

International Football Exchange
Thank you to all the children who donated old/unused sports gear today! Mr Juric had left the school three large containers to fill, but needed lots of plastic bags to carry away all the gear. Well done St Kieran’s!

You might want to keep an eye out in the Manly Daily were you will soon see an article about our school’s contribution to this initiative.

ICAS Competition
Educational Assessment Australia (EAA) conducts an Academic Competition called ‘International Competitions and Assessments for Schools’ (ICAS) for students in Years 3 – 6 who are achieving at a high level and wish to participate in the competition. If you would like to know more and/or enter your child please click here.

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Valentine’s Day 2017

What better way to show loving and caring!

You’ve done it with flowers, you’ve done it with chocolates….why not do it with undies!

The Wayside Chapel is seeking your generosity this Valentine’s Day by asking for the donation of new undies (any size) to be distributed to the homeless after they have been able to use the shower facilities offered by the Chapel. They go through roughly 60 pairs of undies each day. Hard to believe, isn’t it?

So, throughout the month of February we will have a box outside the office area that new undies can be placed inside ready to send to the Wayside Chapel.

The generosity of the St. Kieran’s Community is always astounding so, if you can assist, that would be awesome.

Many thanks in anticipation of your support.

Wendy Rose, Mary Brown, and the Mission Team.

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PARENT NEWS

Canteen

Pancake Tuesday is on 28 February. Pancakes will be $1 each with a choice of either maple syrup or a spread of jam. Orders available soon through FlexiSchools.

We are trialling a new delicious, creamy, low fat SORBET in real fruit shells. These are also gluten free. The two flavours we will stock initially are Passion Mango which comes in an orange skin, and Lemon which comes in a lemon skin. These will sell for $2.20 each, and are available now. For further information on the product please visit their website: http://www.islandwaysorbet.com.au

Thank you to all the Volunteers, without you our Canteen could not operate.

Volunteers Needed - We still have a couple of gaps on the Roster to fill, if you are able to help out Termly for these below dates it would be greatly appreciated.

- 1 x volunteer required for Week 7 of each term on a Wednesday, morning shift, 9.00am to 11.15am, March 29, June 21, September 13 and December 7?

NEXT WEEK’s ROSTER (Term 1 - Week 4):

Wednesday 22 February: Ali Malone, Ally Browne
Thursday 23 February: Gayle Connor, Jennifer Lee
Friday 24 February: Nicole Covich, Sania Saady, Lou Heneville

- Full day Volunteers are required from 8.50am to 1.50pm.
- Morning Volunteers are required from 8.50am to 11.15am (M).
- Lunch Volunteers are required from 11.15am to 1.50pm (L).

Any changes to the canteen roster, please contact: Jo Nesbitt - joanne.nesbitt@dbb.catholic.edu.au or text 0410 629 135.

**Uniform:**
To order please go to the Pickles website.

**School Banking:** school banking commenced today, Friday 17 February.

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**PARISH NEWS**

**Sacramental Program News**

- The next **Baptism of Young Children Program (for children aged 7 – 11 years)** will commence in **May 2017**, prior to the beginning of the 2017 – 2018 Children’s Sacramental Program;
- **Parents new to the school** with children in Year 3 (and older) who would like their children to join the **First Reconciliation** program are asked to contact me;
- Advance notice - The **Sacrament of Confirmation** will be celebrated by Bishop Peter A Comensoli on **Friday 25 August 2017 at 5.30pm OR 7.30pm**.

All relevant forms can be downloaded from the parish website at [www.northharbourcatholic.org.au](http://www.northharbourcatholic.org.au) under the Sacraments tab.

For further information please contact Janette on 0408 866 521 or at sacraments@northharbourcatholic.org.au.

Janette Davidson, Family and Sacramental Minister - Catholic Community of North Harbour

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**COMMUNITY NEWS**

- **St Paul’s** Open Evening Thursday 2 March 4 – 7pm [here](#)
- **Mater Maria** Open Evening Thursday 9 March 4 – 7pm [here](#)
- **Marist** College North Shore Open Day Saturday 11 March 10am – 2pm [here](#)

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**Welcome to a new school year,** all new and returning families please join the **Parents and Friends Committee** to meet each other, as well as **Principal, Michael Gallagher** on Saturday 4th March 7.30pm
Wakehurst Golf Club
Upper Clontarf Street, Seaforth
Cost: $25pp (includes canapés only)

rsvp by 24th February