Dear Parents

On Monday, it was great to hear the children speaking about how they celebrated Father’s Day with their dads. Children often write cards or poems to describe their feelings about their dad, just like this example:

“A dad is a person who is loving and kind,
And often he knows what you have on your mind.
He’s someone who listens, suggests and defends.
A dad can be one of your very best friends.”

Children who can write poems like this are saying that they feel that they really matter and are important in the lives of their fathers. A father can do a lot for a child but it is the emotional bond that the child feels, that their dad is really there for them and that their welfare and progress socially, intellectually and emotionally really matter to their dad.

As men have become more concerned about balancing work and family, they have recognised the enormous benefits, rewards and satisfaction from being a good parent. They see that the emotional investment they make in their children comes back to them in terms of making them more open and more satisfied as an adult human being.

There is no doubt that every child has a longing to be held and loved by a father-figure and to be mentored through to their adult life by a father who is there for them. Like our heavenly Father he is our loving guardian and a guide.

So, how about some more of that poem:

“Thank you dad, for listening and caring,
for giving and sharing’
but, especially, for just being you.
Happy Father’s Day!”

“God, our Father, we ask you to be fully active with all fathers, to be ever available to them to prompt them to involve You in all aspects of their privileges and responsibilities of fatherhood. Amen.”

Over the last two weeks, we have certainly been hit by a virus that has resulted in a large number of children and staff members having to take time off school. While it is unfortunate to miss school, it is important that when people are sick, they need to stay home for their own benefit to recuperate and also to ensure that the sickness is not spread to others. It is a good time to remind everyone about good hygiene, especially covering our mouths when we cough and washing our hands regularly, especially before eating.

Hoping we are all well enough to enjoy the student disco on Friday evening!

In Christ’s peace,

John Phillips
SCHOOL MASSES
There will be a school Mass this Friday 11 September at 9:10am. All are welcome.

POLDING ATHLETICS
Congratulations to the following students who represented St Joseph’s School at the Polding Athletics Championships at Glendale, Newcastle on Friday 4 September: Alex Baker (Relay Team & Shot Put), Charlotte Murrell (Relay Team), Angela Ryan (Relay Team), Ronald Boxsell (Relay Team) and Daniel Murrell (AWD 100m, 200m, 800m, Long Jump, Shot Put & Discus). Results were 4th in the Relay Event and a Gold Medal for Daniel Murrell in 800m. Daniel also came 3rd in shot put and discus and will represent our school at the state level in Sydney. Well done Daniel.

WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN
The Woolworths Earn & Learn promotion has now finished. Thank you to all the families who sent stickers in. We will be handing the stickers in on Friday 11 September, so please send in any last minutes stickers by then. At the conclusion of the promotion we will use the stickers to purchase educational resources for the school.

ASSEMBLY
Our next Assembly will be held on Friday 11 September at 2.45pm. All are welcome.

PUPIL FREE DAY
Term 3 concludes on Friday 18 September. There will be a pupil free day on Tuesday 6 October which is the first day of Term 4. Therefore students will return to school on Wednesday 7 October and should be wearing their summer uniform. (Weather permitting).

ARMIDALE LITTLE ATHLETICS
Armidale Little Athletics will hold its registration days on Thursday 10th and 17th September from 4:00pm to 6:00pm at the Harris Park Clubhouse in Kirkwood Street, Armidale. Cost is $80 per child plus uniform. Must provide proof of age. For further information phone 0427 752 022.

GIRLS MiniRoos SOCCER PROGRAM
Northern Inland Football will be conducting a MiniRoos soccer program for girls aged 4 to 12 years of age in Term 4. It will run for 10 weeks from 10 October to 12 December each Saturday morning from 9:30am to 10:30am at the Rologas Fields in Armidale. Cost is $120 which includes a backpack, ball and drink bottle. Each session consists of 30 minutes skills and 30 minutes matches with an emphasis on fun and friendship. For further information email norm.lockett@gmail.com
**CURRICULUM CORNER**

**Week 9 - Curriculum Corner**

**Inquiring Using the 5E’s**

This term, both Studios are studying the theme of ‘Habitats’. Students have been engaged in learning experiences that explore Science and HSIE outcomes using ‘Habitats’ as a framework to apply their skills, develop their knowledge and imbed their findings.

One approach to teaching the Inquiry process within Science is the 5Es instructional model (Bybee, 1997). Teaching and learning experiences progress through five phases: Engage, Explore, Explain, Elaborate and Evaluate.

**Engage** - Each sequence of learning begins with a series of experiences that mentally engage students with an activity or question. It captures their interest, provides an opportunity for them to express what they know about the concept or skill being developed, and helps them to make connections between what they know and the new ideas.

**Explore** - Students carry out hands-on activities in which they can explore the concept or skill. They grapple with the problem or phenomenon and describe it in their own words.

**Explain** - Only after students have explored the concept or skill does the teacher provide the concepts and terms used by the students to develop explanations for the phenomenon they have experienced. The significant aspect of this phase is that explanation follows experience.

**Elaborate** - This phase provides opportunities for students to apply what they have learned to new situations and so develop a deeper understanding of the concept or greater use of the skill.

**Evaluate** - The final phase provides an opportunity for students to review and reflect on their own learning and new understanding and skills. It is also when students provide evidence for changes to their understanding, beliefs and skills.

The Infants Learning Studio have been looking at the loss of habitats and the threat it has on species. They have looked at why the Panda is considered an endangered animal. Infants have found that there are only about 900 Pandas left in the world. They have researched features of different habitats, and what one animal needs to survive. Infants students have also been drawing and painting animals in different habitats.

The Primary Learning Studio have started to specifically look at the endangered Grevy Zebra. Students have collected and analysed data on this animal’s habitat and also on their own choice of animal’s habitat. By exploring Grevy Zebra habitat and their own animal’s habitats, students will be able to identify key features, compare data and observations. Students will continue to explore and explain the habitats of all the class’s habitats and begin to make links with sustainability in their world.

Kelly Walters  
Project Teacher

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**PT&F CORNER**

The next PT&F meeting is on the 17th September at 5:30pm where we will be discussing the upcoming Thunderbolt festival and the Fete.

Everyone is invited to come along and help with ideas.

Hoping to see you on the 17th with some great ideas!

If you are unable to attend our meetings but would like to know what is going on, copies of the minutes from our meetings are available in the office at any time.

Kathy Dodd (President)  Phone 6778 4774 or Mob. 0423 418 467
**DISCO**

Our school disco will be held this Friday 11th September at 5:30pm till 7:30pm in the school hall. Entry of $3 per person will cover food, drink, face paint and glow sticks. The theme is neon, so wear white or fluorescent colours as these show up best under the neon lights.

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**Dates to Remember**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 11th Sep</td>
<td>School Disco 5:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 17th Sep</td>
<td>PT&amp;F Meeting 5.30PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 18 Sep</td>
<td>Term 3 ends</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 6 Oct</td>
<td>Term 4 begins Pupil free day.</td>
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<td>Wed 7 Oct</td>
<td>Students return.</td>
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**JUMPSTART**

DVD ORDER FORMS TO BE RETURNED TO SCHOOL BY FRIDAY 11 SEPTEMBER. SPARE ORDER FORMS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE OFFICE.

**CANTEEN ROSTER**

Mon 14 Sep: Kathy Dodd

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

14 Sep: Kaitlyn Walters