**Principal’s News**

**First Holy Communion**
Congratulations to all our Year 4 students who made their First Holy Communion last weekend. The students were a credit to their teachers and parents as they reverently participated in the Mass and received the Body and Blood of Jesus. We would like to thank the following people who have worked so hard to make this celebration such a blessing:

- The celebrants: Fr Philip, Fr Mark, Fr Jeronimo and Deacon Bruce.
- The co-ordinators – Mrs Giovannangelo, Mrs Paparella and Mrs Figliomeni.
- The teachers – Mrs Hart and Mr Kubicek.
- Ushers & Cake servers: Yidarra Staff

**Reading Your Child’s Report**
School reports for Years 1 – 6 will be sent home next Monday. Please take the time to sit with your child, read it together and enjoy the successes and positive comments. However, before you do, I would like to share with you some advice from author, speaker and educationalist Michael Grose.

Student reports bring mixed feelings for parents. Pleasure and pride if they are performing well but considerable angst when children are not progressing as you hoped. Reports can mean anxious times for children too. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children. Kids of all ages take their cues from their parents, so your reaction to their school report can affect the way they see themselves as learners and as people. Before you rip open the sealed envelope containing the report, do a little self-check to see if you are in the right frame of mind:

1. **Are your expectations for your son or daughter realistic and in line with their ability?** Expectations are tricky. If they are too high then kids can be turned off learning. Too low and there is nothing to strive for. Pitch your expectations in line with your child’s abilities. A quick check of your child’s last report cards may provide you with a good yardstick.

2. **Do you believe that children learn at different rates?** There are slow bloomers, late developers and steady-as-you-go kids in every classroom, so avoid comparing your child to siblings, your friends’ children and even yourself when you were a child. Instead look for individual progress.

3. **Are you willing to safeguard your child’s self-esteem rather than deflate it?** Self-confidence is a pre-requisite for learning, so be prepared to be as positive and encouraging as possible. School reports come in different formats. Some are prescriptive while some use grading systems such as A, B, C, etc., with room for teacher comments. Regardless of the format school reports should provide you with an idea of your child’s progress in all subject areas, their attitude and social development. Here are some ideas to consider when you open your child’s report:

- **Focus on strengths:** Do you look for strengths or weaknesses first? The challenge is to focus on strengths even if they are not in the traditional 3Rs or core subjects.

- **Take into account your child’s effort and attitude to learning:** If the report indicates that effort is below standard, then you have something to work on. If your child is putting in the required effort, then you can ask any more than that, regardless of the result.

- **Broaden your focus away from academic performance** to form a picture of your child’s progress as a member of a social setting. How your child gets along with his or her peers will influence his happiness and well-being, as well as give an indicator to his future. The skills of independence and co-operation are highly valued by employers so don’t dismiss these as unimportant.

- **Take note of student self-assessment:** Kids are generally very honest and will give a realistic assessment of their progress. They are generally very perceptive so take note of their opinions.

- **Discuss the report with your son or daughter** talking about strengths first before looking at areas that need improvement. Ask for their opinion about how they performed and discuss their concerns. After reports are read and discussed celebrate your child’s efforts with a special activity or treat. In this way you will recognise progress and remind them that the holidays are just around the corner when they can forget about assessment, tests and reports for a while.

**Photographs of Students**
Parents are reminded to only take photographs of their own children when taking photographs at school events. Also please do not upload photographs of children at the school to Facebook and other forms of social media without the permission of the child’s parents.

**Farewell Fr Mark**
At the end of this week we farewell Fr Mark who is moving to Kalgoorlie after serving the St Thomas More Parish for the last 4 years. We thank Fr Mark for his support of our school.

**Term 2 Final Day**
The last day for Term 2 will be Friday 4th July.

God Bless,

Carmel Costin
Principal

**Health News**

There have been reports of Head Lice, School Sores, and Hand Foot & Mouth. For further information contact your child’s teacher or leaflets are available from the office.

**Parish News**

**Thank You**
On behalf of the Parish we would like to thank all the parents who came to help on Saturday morning, or assisted with cake cutting and made donations.

Your time and generosity is appreciated.
PE NEWS

LIGHTNING CARNIVAL
Congratulations to all students in years 5 and 6 who competed at the Lightning Carnival held on Tuesday, 24 June.
Particularly to division 'A' Soccer team who won the overall shield as well as to division 'D' Netball who also won the overall shield. Thanks to all teachers for their support as well as to those parents who gave up their time and coached as well as to those parents who showed their support for the students. Great job everyone, I am proud of you all.

Rob Debowski
PE TEACHER

MUSIC NEWS

This week we are featuring our Kindy classes and Year 1 classes!

Our Kindy children have learnt a song called Starlight Starbright and for this song we explored the glockenspiel. The glockenspiel belongs to the percussion family of the orchestra!

Our Year 1 classes explored the idea of a conductor! A conductor is the person who controls the orchestra. All of us had instruments in our hands and we had to watch the conductor carefully so we knew when to play. We also learnt that ‘tutti’ means “everyone play” Here we have conductor Ari and conductor Jay.

YIDARRA FEE ACCOUNTS

BPAY Payments
If any parents are making BPAY payments for their child’s fees, please check the current BPAY reference number on your account. We have received a payment of $300 on the 16th June that currently cannot be processed. Please contact the Bursar if you have made this payment. All accounts should now be paid by Direct Debit and we thank those families who have completed and returned their direct debit forms. All families with outstanding accounts will be contacted.

Mary Courtney
Bursar