**PRINCIPAL’S NEWS**

**BOOK FAIR**
Our Book Fair has been an outstanding success with masses of parents and students filling the Library to purchase books. It is great to see everyone so excited about books and reading. We are very blessed to have Mrs Lopez and Mrs Munro in our school, as they organise the most exciting Library events. Thank you to the staff members and parents who helped out with the Book Fair. I would also like to thank everyone for supporting the Book Fair, because of your support the Library will be able to purchase more books for our students to read.

**ARRIVING FOR SCHOOL ON TIME**
We have noticed that a number of students are arriving late for school. It is essential that students arrive before the bell goes in the morning. This enables the students to begin their school day in an organised and settled manner. Teachers also go through essential information at this time of the morning to set the students up for the day, so it is important that the students are at school on time in the morning.

We have included at the end of this newsletter an article from the Parenting Ideas about the importance of students attending school and arriving on time.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**
This weekend, our Year 4 students and children from the parish will celebrate their First Communion. The children, their families and their teachers have been preparing for many weeks for this important occasion. The Sacrament of the Eucharist is one of the three sacraments of Initiation in our Catholic faith – the other two are Baptism and Confirmation. The Eucharist is the continual celebration of our Christian life.

In Holy Communion, Jesus comes to each one of us. Sharing this mystery together makes us one with each other and one with Jesus. We are joined in a special way with Jesus and the family of God. For our Year 4 students, this weekend will be a special time when Jesus comes to be one with them as they continue on their faith journey and grow into strong and loving people in the family of God.

Holy Communion is an incredible gift and the amazing thing about the gift is that it can be unwrapped time and time again in our lives and every time we do this, the gift will be brand new. Each new unwrapping gives us the opportunity to gain a better understanding of what the gift actually is.

As a school community we keep in our prayers the students and their families from the school and parish who will be receiving the Sacrament of the Eucharist over the coming weekend and celebrate the communion it brings to us all.

**CROSS COUNTRY**
We invite parents to join us for the Junior Cross Country Carnival. This will held on Monday 15th June between 2.00pm and 3:00pm on the school oval and the Senior Cross Country Carnival will be held on Wednesday 17th June between 11:30am and 2pm at Piney Lakes. We wish all our students much enjoyment and success as they participate in the Cross Country Carnivals this week.

God bless,
Carmel Costin
Principal
**MERIT CERTIFICATES**

*Week 8*

Friday 19 June

Grace Yau 1B
Ryan McCarthy 1B
Gemma Budiman 1G
Cameron Cavaney 1G
Carys Gourlay 2B
Noa Grbelja 2B
Chelsea Ernst 2G
Tom Cmrlec 2G
Mia Andersen 4B
Zac Ravlich 4B
Alyssa Kenny 6B
Tyrrell De Alvis 6B

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**P&F NEWS**

**P&F MEETING**
The next P&F meeting will be held on Monday, 27 July in the Library at 7.30pm, everyone is welcome!

**YIDARRA FOOTY TIPPING - ROUND 11 WINNERS**
Winnings can be collected from the office.

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**LIBRARY NEWS**

What wonderful time we had in the library this week at our June Book Fair.

Parents, Grandparents and students were very keen to snap up some bargains and great new books. The final tally was just over $6000 which gives us a commission of about $1200 to spend on new books and library resources.

In addition, many parents took the opportunity to donate a book from our lovely selection from Westbooks. When processed, those books will bear the name of the family who donated them. Thank you to those families.

Many thanks to all families who supported this event and a special mention to parents, staff and year 6 students who assisted with sales and setting up. Your help is invaluable.

**Cheryl Lopez**
Teacher Librarian

**Catherine Munro**
Library Technician

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**PE NEWS**

**LITTLIES LAP-A-THON**
Good luck to all those students in pre primary, year 1 and year 2 that will be participating in the Lapathon that will be held this afternoon. Thank you also to the cross country captains for volunteering their assistance with the event.

**SENIOR CROSS COUNTRY**
Good luck to students in years 3-6 who will be participating in the senior cross country carnival. Thank you also to all those parents who have volunteered their services for the day. A reminder that the first race is due to be held at 11.30. May the best faction win.

**Robert Debowski**
PE Teacher

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**NEW REPORTING WEBSITE**

Dear Parents,

By now you should have received a letter with your log in details and password for the new reporting website CONEQT.

If you are having trouble logging on, please use the web browser ‘Firefox’. It is easy and free to download to your computer. If you haven’t received your letter, please email me at Courtney.mary@yidarra.wa.edu.au

**Mary Courtney**
Bursar

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**WEBSITE NEWS**

2015 Calendar is available via the Yidarra website web.yidarra.wa.edu.au and will be updated weekly.

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**SCHOOL BANKING**

Tuesdays
8.15-8.45am

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**CANTEEN ROSTER**

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Manager Jo Court
Preferred contact via email: cafeteria@corpus.wa.edu.au
6332 2520

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**REFLECTIONS OVER A CUPPA**

All mothers and grandmothers are invited to ‘Reflections over a Cuppa’ morning tea with Sr Ann on:

**Wednesday 24 June** in the Parish Meeting Room from 9.15am to 10.30am.

For more information, please contact Sr. Ann on 0418 130 200
It’s not okay to be away ... nor to be late to school

When kids miss school, not only is their academic progress impeded, forcing them to catch up on missed work (which some never do), they often miss important interactions with their peers which can compound issues of social isolation and low self-esteem.

One of the most important things you can do to ensure your child has a bright future is to make sure he or she goes to school every day—and gets there on time.

It sounds simple, but it’s true. The correlation between school attendance and children’s achievement levels is well-established. The more time kids spend at school, the more likely they are to experience school success.

Conversely, according to a report from the Victoria Auditor-General, students who are regularly absent from school are at the greatest risk of dropping out of school early, and of experiencing long-term unemployment.

When kids miss school, not only is their academic progress impeded, forcing them to catch up on missed work (which some never do), they often miss important interactions with their peers which can compound issues of social isolation and low self-esteem. Also, many teachers tell me, it’s often the kids who can least afford to take time off school who are most likely to be serial absentees.

Of course, most people know this intuitively, yet school absenteeism is a huge problem in Australian schools—and much of it is parent-condoned. It’s hard to get an accurate picture across the country but it would appear that Australian students miss an average of between 12 and 15 days per school year, with parent-condoned absenteeism highest among young primary-aged children.

That adds up to a year’s lost schooling over the school life of a child. In today’s highly competitive world, this rate of absenteeism is alarming, putting our kids at a distinct disadvantage.

That’s not a reason to be away!

I’ve come across a number of research studies which would have been unheard of just twenty years ago. There’s evidence to suggest that missing a single day can have a cumulative impact on a child’s school performance. In fact, children who are absent even once a week have lower test scores and poorer graduation rates.

It’s not for nothing that I go to school today because Australia is coming to visit.” Nice try. But the answer should be “No!”

As parents, we need to make a commitment that our kids make the most of their precious time at school. That means that we send them to school every day, on time and ready to make the most of the school day.

Of course, there will be times, such as illness or a genuine extracurricular family circumstance, when kids should be away but these need to be a rarity rather than the norm.

It’s reassuring to know that you increase your children’s chances of future success just by making sure they turn up to school every day. And of course, regular school attendance also helps kids prepare for the workplace, where it will be expected that they turn up each day work-ready. The real world is unforgiving of those who stay away with NO EXCUSE.

As a parent:

- Commit to sending kids to school every day.
- Make sure kids arrive at school and class on time.
- Inform the school when they are away, sending medical certificates and other evidence of genuine absence.
- Consider catching up on missed work.
- Make kids who are away stay in their bedroom — that is where ill kids should be.