Dear Parents and Carers

I recently came across an article ‘Advice From Teachers To Help Parents Help Their Kids Be Better Students.’ Here is an abbreviated version.

- Let your child see you making mistakes - Parents are their child’s first teacher and their lifetime teacher. Part of being a lifetime teacher is teaching your child how to deal with making mistakes. Make mistakes, and let them see that you can deal with it so they will know you can move on easily.

- Use e-mail to keep in touch - E-mail is a great way to reach your child’s teacher without having to play phone tag. E-mail is great for teachers because they can have a record of a conversation or print things out to put in a student’s file as a reminder. If parents are hearing where their students are struggling, they should feel comfortable talking to the teacher about it. Teachers want to know when students need more help. It’s important that there’s a lot of positive communication going back and forth.

- Don’t tell your child that you weren’t good at Maths or Spelling - Parents might feel intimidated by the thought of helping children with their Maths homework, especially in the upper grades. Never say, “It’s okay, I’ve always been bad at Maths, too”. Maths is here to make life easier, and a lot of that can start at home with parents showing that they’re not intimidated by numbers. Try to relate it to daily activities, whether it’s calculating statistics at a sporting event or working out the cost of groceries. Capitalise on those day-to-day things where Maths comes up rather than drilling children on Maths facts. That way you’re really engaging them and letting them see how what they’re learning matters in life.

- Get organised - Older students are expected to be more independent and manage their assignments themselves, but as they transition through primary school, they can find it hard to keep track of everything. Try using colour-coordinated folders and notebooks to help students keep their material for different subjects organised.

Dear Parents and Carers

A big thank you to our volunteer of the week

TAMARA BLAKE
• Check their homework, and then ask them to explain it to you - It’s not enough to just get the answers right. To make sure your children aren’t guessing or spitting back memorised information, ask them to explain what they did and why. If the child has to actually explain what they’re doing it lets the parent know their child’s level of understanding and also helps the child learn more deeply.

• Don’t compare your child with others - This applies to all children, but is especially important with kids who have learning disabilities or other special needs. Don’t put pressure on the child to be just like their sibling or child down the street. Every child is different. They all have strengths and weaknesses, they all have talents and challenges.

• Don’t do everything for your child - Sometimes it’s faster to do things yourself than wait for your child to complete a task. But by doing everything for them, you’re not preparing them to take care of themselves. If your child is having trouble with something, such as organising their schoolbag, stand next to them and have them do it while you talk them through the process. This goes for time management as well. Parents can empower their children to think for themselves and be more responsible for themselves.

• Ask about your child’s day – but don’t ask ‘What did you do today?’ because you will invariably get ‘I don’t remember’, ‘I don’t know” or my favourite, “Nothing!”. Ask them something specific: “What did you do in English today?”, or “What was the best thing about today?” Stick with the positives and focus on things that will get them talking about what they have learned.

HATS BACK ON
This Friday is 1st August so this means it is ‘HATS ON’ day. The ACT Cancer Council asks that we have the students back wearing their hats again until 1 June 2015. We will start reminding the students this week that as from today hats are to be wore again but you may need to ensure that your child has their hat with them.

ILLNESS
To assist in preventing the spread of illness, we seek your co-operation in regularly reminding the students about basic hygiene practices including:
• Hand Hygiene: frequent washing of hands with soap and water;
• Cough Etiquette: covering of the mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing, disposing of the tissue in the bin and washing hands. Alternatively, coughing into the elbow;
• Children are also encouraged to use antibacterial hand gel which is provided in every classroom.

STAFF LEAVE
Winter is a time when there are some staff absences at school. At times your child’s teacher will not be on class. This is not always due to illness or leave. Often class teachers are attending professional learning courses, curriculum development or leadership opportunities. I hope that your child’s teacher is communicating the purpose of any work related courses they are attending with you and I also appreciate your understanding that teachers occasionally take sick leave or personal leave of which they are entitled. If we cannot obtain a relief teacher for a particular class then the students are split between nearby classes with work to complete. In many cases these students are also able to join in relevant class lessons at their level i.e. Literacy Block.
SCA EUCHARIST RETREAT DAY
Tomorrow our Year 3 students and their teachers participate in this important lead-up day to them receiving the Sacrament of the Eucharist. Thank you to their teachers, Carmen Myles, Lisa-Marie Ciuffetelli and the Parish Team for preparing the children. The students will receive this sacrament at a Parish Mass over the next few weeks. Good luck to everyone involved.

Have a good week.

Brad Gaynor
Principal
brad.gaynor@cg.catholic.edu.au

As we come close to celebrating the 20th Anniversary of St Clare of Assisi Primary School I would like to share with you some of the things that have been happening quietly behind the scenes. You will notice some creative construction happening on the wall outside the hall. An amazing mosaic will be created by the St Clare of Assisi School Community in commemoration of the 20th Anniversary.

The mosaic is a replica of our school emblem. The tiles to create this mosaic have been generously donated by Beaumont Tiles “... all the best”. We thank Lloyd and Tiffany Jones from Beaumont Tiles located in Fyshwick and Mitchell, for helping to source the best product for the mosaic and then supplying the tiles and everything else needed for the construction of the mosaic.
By striving to ‘Be the Light’, the community of Saint Clare of Assisi believes that Jesus Christ challenges us to excellence, in a united and caring environment.

**SCHOOL FEES**

*From Term 4 School Fees will be emailed out to all parents.*

If you could please email shari.cooper@cg.catholic.edu.au with your email address that you would like your school account forwarded.

**XT-NRG Kids Program...**

**Kids Boot Camp**

**Fitness Outdoor Fun**

Tuesdays and Thursdays 4-5pm at Saint Clare of Assisi school oval.

Trial the 1st two weeks for free (Tuesday 19th & 26th August 2014) then $15 per child starting Tuesday 2nd September every week.

Casual and no lock in contracts.

I will focus on nutrition, staying active, moving and having fun. Book to confirm your spot.

First in best dressed. I will be capping numbers.

Enquire and book in now Grace Hayes 0414754126 (local mum looking at making a change) xtnrgfit@gmail.com.au. Spring fun, get your kids moving and healthy.

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**Tuggeranong Bulldogs Trivia Night!**

**Friday 15th August**

Tuggeranong Town Centre Vikings Club

7:00pm for a 7:30 start

$20 per head  Nibbles provided

For more info about the night visit our Facebook page or email us at tuggbulldogs@bigpond.com

Please note: This is a kid-free event

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**Canteen Roster**

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We are having a 20th Anniversary Special Lunch Day

Kinder - Year 2 13th August
Year 3 - Year 6 - 14th August

If you can help on either days please contact the canteen on 6294 1860.

There will be NO OTHER LUNCH ORDERS on these day.
**SPORTS NEWS**

**BASKETBALL DRIBBLE**

**UNDER 10’S**
This term we have 2 girls teams - the Smurfettes and Mignons and in the Boys we have merged together and are called the Kings. The website wasn’t updated and therefore it appeared our two boy teams were still in the competition but that should be rectified now.

**UNDER 12’S**
Our girls team had a bye last weekend and our boys had a close game. Although they out-scored their opposition in the second half, we still fell short of the overall win. Well done to our boys for their sportsmanship.

SUE GEH AND JAMIE PEARLMAN CUP
Next Tuesday we have 9 teams entered in this carnival - 5 for Years 3/4 and 4 for Years 5/6. This is the most teams we have ever entered and due to some issues with ACT basketball, I have had to change the teams around a little for the day. All players will receive a playing top on the day but are reminded to organise blue or black shorts for the day. Hopefully it will be a fun day for all! Mrs Young will meet the teams at the Tuggeranong stadium at 8.15am.

NSW CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL BASKETBALL CARNIVAL.
Currently we have one team for the Year 3/4 girls, one team for the Year 5/6 girls and one team for the year 5/6 boys. These teams will be travelling to Wollongong on the 18/19th October to compete against other Catholic Schools in the Southern region of NSW. For those who have not returned money or notes, please do so ASAP.

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**Netball Natter**

**Netball 26 July**

**Player of the Week and Match Reports**

- Smurfs – Bye
- Superstars – The Whole Team
- Smiggles – Karuna Adhikari and Alisha Crowle
- Stars – Kiara Viney and Ashlee Elphick
- Swifts – Maebelle Lawson
- Sparkles – Ebony Hardwicke, Tahlia Paciorek and Brea Rodgers
- Smarties – Tijana Hlevnjak
- Skittles – Ella Baker and Lily Richards
- Saints – Kayla Blue and Tanesha Singleton

**Skittles Match Report**
This week the Skittles played a great game against SFA starshots. Every player had a turn at shooting, defending and centre court. The girls showed real improvement in finding space and their passing skills. The defence was outstanding, the girls had arms up at every opportunity and they stuck to their players. They were fantastic at chasing the ball and getting free for passes.

Lily was excellent at finding space and pulling the ball in quickly. Ella R did very well at getting away from her player, she was always moving around. Jaida chased down the ball successfully many times and always stayed on her player. Ella B got some fantastic rebounds and was great at running out away from her player for the centre pass. Maddi used her arms to defend the whole game and had some amazing intercepts. Mia showed us her strong and accurate passing skills, and had an attempt at a goal. Phoebe did excellent in defence, getting many rebounds and she shot an amazing goal! Well done Skittles. You always show so much enthusiasm and play your best every week!!

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**CHANGE OF SPORTS DAYS YEAR 2:**
**YEAR 2 SPORTS DAYS ARE NOW MONDAY AND THURSDAY**

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By striving to ‘Be the Light’, the community of Saint Clare of Assisi believes that Jesus Christ challenges us to excellence, in a united and caring environment.
Numeracy News
School and Home in Partnership

Well I’m back and I must say I’m feeling refreshed and ready to get into it. So I wonder what we have up our sleeves today to help you, help your child, learn better problem solving techniques?

The winning strategy today is…. Checking for relevant and Irrelevant Information! This strategy is one of the most useful strategies in your tool box and it can be used in many different situations. It can save you loads of time and allows for efficient time management.

This strategy allows the student to pick only the relevant information that is necessary to help them solve the problem. Many problems have loads of information that is simply not needed in order to solve the problem that gets problem solvers bogged down in unnecessary thinking. The skill here is teaching students to identify the necessary information as apposed to the unnecessary.

Example
Dana’s Pizza sells small, medium, and large pizzas. Yesterday, they sold 19 small pizzas. They sold 16 medium pizzas and 24 large pizzas. The medium pizzas have 19 slices each. The large pizzas have 21 slices. I personally love the ham and pineapple pizzas. How many total pizzas did Dana’s Pizza sell yesterday?

Relevant information
Irrelevant information

Remember this is one of the handiest tools that we can teach our children and again it applies to many aspects of our lives, not just to problem solving. Enjoy!

Annie McArthur
Numeracy Coordinator
20th ANNIVERSARY FEAST WEEK ACTIVITIES

ST CLARE OF ASSISI 20TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL LUNCH

Kindy – Year 2 Wednesday 13th August
Year 3 – Year 6 Thursday 14th August

Order on line before 8th August at www.flexischools.com.au

1 Piece of chicken  Small Chips  Orange or Apple Juice  Treat  (Extra piece of chicken $2.00)
TOTAL COST $6.00

CLASSROOM SHOWCASE
12 AUGUST - SCA FEAST WEEK
Parents, family and friends are invited to visit classrooms on Tuesday 12th August 3:30pm - 6:00pm!

Come along and view your children's work, play some music or read a book in the Library

20th ANNIVERSARY FEAST WEEK COMPETITION

As part of our 20th Anniversary celebrations we will be running a competition during Week 3.

Children from Kinder to Year 6 are invited to pretend they are designing a new logo for our school. Designs can be sketched, coloured in, painted, modelled in clay or anything your creative children can think of. Please clearly label your child's artwork with their full name and class and send artworks to Mrs Myles via the Front Office. All artwork needs to be in by Friday 8th August Week 3. All artworks will be displayed in the Library during Feast Week please come and have a look.

Day                  Activity
Monday               Feast Mass @ HFC 10am
                      All Welcome
                      Lunchtime activities in the Library
Tuesday              Lunchtime activities in the Library
                      Classroom Showcase 3:30pm - 6:00pm
Wednesday            Year K-2 Special Lunch
                      Lunchtime activities in the Library
Thursday             Year 3-6 Special Lunch
                      Lunchtime activities in the Library
Friday                Feast of the Assumption Mass 9:30am
                      SCA Hall
                      Lunchtime activities in the Library
                      Letter 'A’ - Dress Up Day (Dress Up as anything starting with the letter 'A' eg: Apple, Athlete and Animal
                      Peer Support Fun Activities
Saturday             20th Anniversary Dinner @
                      Southern Cross Club  Tuggeranong