

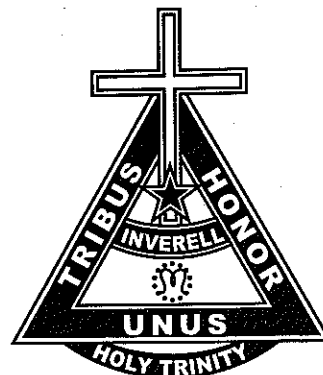
# TRINITY TALKS

## HOLY TRINITY SCHOOL

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### Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2009

*(newsletter also available on our website at [www.holytrinity.nsw.edu.au](http://www.holytrinity.nsw.edu.au))*

**Dear Parents,**

The secondary department's production, "Thoroughly Modern Millie", has been a sensational success on so many levels and for so many people.

To see more than 85% of our secondary students involved in some way – cast members, back stage, front of house, catering, lighting, sound, props, prompts, etc, etc – is testament to a desire to make things happen and to ensure that it all goes smoothly.

To see and hear the quality of the production – hair, makeup, costumes, staging, sound, music, props, etc – is simply amazing for a secondary department of our size (or any other size for that matter!).

To be immersed in the plot and wait eagerly for the next line, the next stage set, the next song or line gives weight to the quality of the musical and the delivery by the characters.

To see how the staff got in and backed each other up – often taking extra lessons, giving up lunchtimes and weekends so that some extra practice could be given, props completed, staging set and music rehearsed – is also proof of staff providing a quality experience for the students.

To hear the stories of things gone wrong in rehearsal only to be "right on the night" or words replaced with others and not missing a beat was testimony to a spirit of quality performances.

To see the pride of students and families alike; pride in their own performance and those around them.

There is just so much to appreciate from the musical! The kids continually amaze and surprise me with what they can produce. Yet I shouldn't be surprised because they amaze and surprise me almost every week.

To all of our students – congratulations and thanks! To our staff (especially Carrie Watchirs, Dom Gibson, Malynnda Hiscock and Jo Peel) – thanks for your enthusiasm, dedication, professionalism and talents!

I received the following email from Mark Palmer, our Board Chairman, on Friday morning following the musical performance the night before ...

Sometimes it's the things in life that you least think can inspire you that do. And so it was when Kate and I went to watch Thoroughly Modern Millie put on by our Secondary Department. Wow, and how inspired we were.

Apart from the sheer number of students involved, the standard of their performance, their costumes, their make-up, the set design....the list is endless, there was something else. It wasn't just the talent across the whole play, from bit parts to the main lead. It wasn't even the sight of boys plainly more at ease in the middle of the football field proudly strutting their stuff. It wasn't the beautiful young ladies in their magnificent costumes looking stunning when it only seems like yesterday when they were in kindergarten.

The stand-out for me was the pride and passion every single cast member, musician and behind the scenes worker displayed. Not only that but the enthusiasm was palpable and the respect they had for each other, paramount. At the end of the performance when it was time to introduce the entire cast and present some much deserved gifts for the staff that had done so much, the students displayed the most heartfelt, genuine appreciation possible. Those that were there didn't just witness a great musical; they witnessed teaching at its very best. Bravo!

## PRAYERS PLEASE

Your prayers and thoughts are asked following the sudden death of Lorraine Cox, mother of John and Joanne and grandmother of Logan (2L) and Benjamin (KM). She will be laid to rest later this week.

## PUPIL FREE DAY

A reminder that *Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September* is a pupil free day. Staff will be involved in faith formation activities throughout the day. Outside School Hours Care will run on the day – nomination form attached and must be returned to the Office!

## POSITION VACANT

Applications are called for the position of **ABORIGINAL EDUCATION WORKER**, 60 hours/fortnight (Term 4 2009). This is a specialised role offering learning support to students. An application package, including selection criteria, can be obtained from the school office. Applications close 3pm on Friday 18th September.

## TERM SOCIAL

Due to unforeseen circumstances the term social has had to be **postponed for a week. It will now be held on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September.**

Years 3 to 6 will dance from 5.30pm to 7.15pm.

Years 7 to 10 will have the floor from 7.30pm through until 10.00pm. Supervision is provided by teaching staff. Canteen will operate for both sessions.



## SCHOOL LEAVING AGE

An information sheet is included with this newsletter explaining the recent changes to the school leaving age. This information is particularly relevant to current years 9 and 10 students who have had this explained to them already.



## MILK SUPPLY CHANGE

Our canteen last week changed our milk supply to Dairy Farmers. As a result, there has been a decrease in price for all 300ml flavoured milk. Our original price was \$2.30 ... new price will be \$2.00. This price is effective immediately.

## TERM FEE ACCOUNTS

Term 3 accounts were due for payment on 31<sup>st</sup> August! Should any difficulties arise in making payment, please make contact with the Principal. Reminders will be sent out this week!

## P & F MEETING

Our monthly meeting will be held **TONIGHT** commencing at **7.30pm** in the Newberry Centre (behind the main office). All parents welcome to attend.

## HOUSIE HELPERS

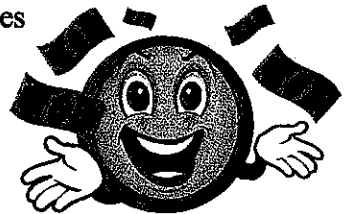
We are desperate for mums, dads, grandparents to help us out at Housie each Friday in particular. This fundraiser is significant for our school both in terms of the income and that the funds are raised outside of our school population. Names and enquiries can be given in to the office.



## SECONDARY BURSARY

Applications for bursaries for 2010 are now open. Grants are allocated on a needs basis, measured by the parents'/guardians' gross family income.

Students must be enrolled in year 7 (or other secondary years) in 2010 with assistance continuing until the student completes year 12 or leaves school. Applications forms are available at the front office and close on the 25<sup>th</sup> September 2009. Applications must be returned to Mr McNeale.



## ART UNION

Tickets are now on sale for the major fundraiser. First prize is a Holden Barina valued at \$14490.00 from Gaukrogers. Second Prize is \$400.00 open order from Country an' Workin' Gear. Third prize is an 80cm LCD Television from Retravision. Tickets are \$10.00 each and available from most businesses in town, many families in school and from the school office.

***Please start sending your sold books in to the School Office as soon as possible***

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David McNeale'.

David McNeale  
(Principal)

### **PUPIL FREE CARE RETURN**

My child(ren) will be attending the Pupil Free Day Care Program on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September.

Children \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### **From the R.E.C.**

#### **First Eucharist**

First Eucharist Parent Information Meetings –

**Tonight**, Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September, 6.00pm -7.00pm  
and **tomorrow**, Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September, 1.00pm  
– 2.00pm at the Sacred Heart Church.

Please remember that it is a requirement of enrolment for First Eucharist that you attend one of these meeting.

### **From K-6**

Thank you to all our parents and grandparents who made our open day last Wednesday such a success. Thank you to all families who sent in food for the shared morning tea.

#### **You Can Do It**

Students will be looking at “Organisation” over the next three weeks. Please read the attached information flyer.

#### **Good Luck to:**

Our Under 10’s Sevens Rugby League Team who are competing in a gala day today at Kamilaroi Oval.

Our three Chess teams competing in the North West One Day Chess Competition held in Armidale this Friday.

Our AFL team travelling to Sydney next Monday to compete in the finals of the Paul Kelly Cup.

#### **Year 3-6 Speeches**

Congratulations to all our students who have presented speeches in classes over the last two weeks. Thank you to our parents who have helped the students along the way by listening to the

speeches at home. Our finals will be held next Wednesday September 16<sup>th</sup> in the Hall from 9 am.

#### **Greenhouse Soil**

Thank you to Chris Pay who delivered a load of soil for our green house. Your support is appreciated.

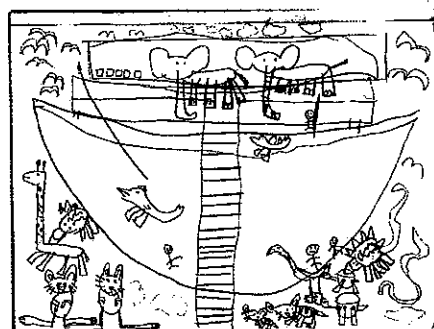
**The children in KW were recently asked “Why did Noah take two of each animal on the ark?”**

**Some of their answers:-**

Because there was a flood and it was raining and the rain made a flood. There wasn’t that much room on the boat. So he only took two of each animal. **Gabbie**

Just in case they can’t swim and in case they can’t breathe under water. **Georgia**

So if one dies and the mum is the one that doesn’t die, the mum can have more babies. **Charlie**



### **From the P&F**

#### **FATHERS DAY STALL**

On behalf of the P & F I would like to say a huge thank you to the mums who assisted with the Father’s Day stall on Friday...Kim Kelly, Lou Counsell, Mandy Powell, Sharon Taylor, Ashley McFarlane, Kylie Smith, Jane O’Brien, Kirsty Biddle, we all had a lovely morning and it was very rewarding seeing the excitement on the children’s faces as they made their purchases.

We hope all the dads had a fantastic Father’s Day...**Jen Bird**

**Lost:**



August 2009

## New School Leaving Age

Information for parents and secondary school students

As of January 2010, New South Wales will have a new school leaving age, meaning students will complete Year 10 and then have a number of options in which to participate until at least age 17.

From 1943 until 2009 it has been compulsory for students in NSW to attend school until the age of 15. In line with other states, NSW has now passed legislation to change the years of compulsory schooling.

There is a great deal of Australian and international evidence which demonstrates a high correlation between students' level of education and their prospects in life.

The research shows that early school leavers are two and a half times more likely to be unemployed, earn lower wages and have poorer quality of life outcomes.

The purpose of the new legislation, therefore, is to ensure that all young people have the best possible chances in life.

Under the new arrangements, once students have completed Year 10 there are a number of options from which to choose.

You can stay at school and continue into Year 11. You can choose to do an apprenticeship or a traineeship. You can study vocational courses at TAFE. You can do a course in higher education. You can do other approved education or training. You can be in employment, as long as it is full-time, paid work. You can also do a combination of a number of these.

If you are in Year 10 or below you need to start thinking about the best pathway for you.

**Discuss your options with your parents, principal, careers adviser, year coordinator or teachers.**

### ***What's New?***

1. From 2010, all NSW students must complete Year 10.
2. After Year 10 and until the age of 17 students must be:
  - a. in school, or registered for home schooling OR
  - b. in approved education or training OR
  - c. in full-time, paid employment (average 25 hours/week) OR
  - d. in a combination of these
3. This applies to students who complete Year 10 in 2009 and to all subsequent years.

more information  
[www.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au)

**1. What choices does a young person have to meet the requirements of the new law?**

Students stay at school until the completion of Year 10 of secondary education.

In the participation phase until the young person reaches the age of 17, there are a number of options. They could be:

- enrolled in a secondary school or continue being registered for home schooling;
- doing a training course at TAFE NSW;
- undertaking an apprenticeship or traineeship;
- enrolled in a training course with a private training organisation; or
- in some combination of the above.

**2. Will current (2009) Year 10 students be affected by the changes?**

Yes, students who complete Year 10 in 2009 and are under 17 must choose a participation pathway, which may include school, further education or training or full-time, paid employment.

**3. What are the alternatives for current students who were planning on leaving school at the end of 2009?**

Students who had elected to leave school at the end of 2009 must choose a participation pathway, which may include further education or training or full-time, paid employment.

**4. Will a student who is 15 years of age, and had already left school before the end of the 2009, school year have to return?**

Students 15 years and over, who had already legally left school prior to the completion of Year 10 and prior to the end of 2009, do not have to return.

**5. What if parents don't have control over their child or the child doesn't live with them?**

The legislation will apply to all young people below the age of 17, regardless of whether they live with parents. However, a parent has a defence to a prosecution for their child's non-compliance with these changes where:

1. the child is over 16 and no longer lives with the parent; or
2. the absence from school was due to the child's disobedience

provided the child's absence from school was not due to any default of the parent.

**6. What if the young person has a job?**

Full-time paid employment (for 25 hours or more per week) is recognised as a legitimate alternative after the completion of Year 10 provided the child is 15 years old.

**7. What if they have a part-time job?**

Part-time employment is not recognised as an alternative to school but it could be included as part of a mix of employment and education or training provided the child is 15 years old.

**8. Are there exemptions in relation to full-time employment for students with disabilities?**

Eligible students with a disability may have a part exemption from the 25 hour requirement in relation to employment. They adhere to guidelines set by the Commonwealth.

Guidelines set by Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations for the Disability Employment Network (DEN) (open employment) state that an employee is someone who works more than 8 hours per week.

FAHCSIA guidelines set 8 hours per week for a school leaver to have an employment outcome.

**9. If a young person who does not have a Year 12 or a Certificate II qualification, has left school and is looking for work will they still be eligible for youth Allowance?**

No, the Commonwealth has provided that from 1 July 2009, young people without Year 12 or a Certificate II qualification will have to be in education or training for at least 25 hours a week to be eligible for Youth Allowance.

Young people who are working or studying part time will need to complete 25 hours per week in a combination of paid employment, training or approved activities to be eligible for Youth Allowance. Find out about eligibility from the Department of Education, Employment, Training and Workplace Relations Youth Allowance website.

One school jacket belonging to Hannah Hunyh. Size 8. If found please return to Hannah in the Infants department.

One school hat with McFarlane on it. Please return to Tom McFarlane in 2L.

### **Housie**

Wed 9/9: M.McCosker, P.Gardner,  
G.Dodd, D.Alexander,  
S.Alexander

### **From the Library**

#### **Book Fair**

Many thanks to all those who bought books at the Book fair. It was our most successful ever – we sold over \$8,000 worth of books. This will mean a lot of new books for the library in commission. The winners of the lucky book buyer's prizes were:  
**1st: Declan Ridley Yr 1** -- \$500 book hamper donated by the Dust Jacket  
**2nd: Toby Hawkins Yr. 2** --\$200 book hamper also donated by the Dust Jacket.  
Thank you also to Tess Newmarch from the Dust Jacket who provided the stock for the fair.

### **Community Notices**

#### **Grafton to Inverell Cycle Carnival**

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2009

Highland Cycles & Sportspower RIPSTICK, BMX & Skateboard Challenge starts at 1:30pm. Registrations at 1:00pm in front of the Court House in Otho Street. Age divisions - Male and Female Under 10's. Under 13's and Opens. Take part in a range of challenges and be in running to win great prizes from Highland Cycles & Sportspower. Enquiries can be made to Jenny Thomas on 0447 225 776.

#### **Decorated Bike Competition – Pre School, Infants, Primary.**

Free entry. Decorate your bike and bring it down to the carpark behind the council chambers (opposite the court house) at 1pm to be a part of the decorated bikes in this year's Grafton to Inverell.

### ***This Week at Holy Trinity***

- Tues 8/9 P&F Meeting 7pm in the Newberry Cr.  
Eucharist Parent Meeting at the Church  
from 6pm – 7pm  
Catholic Primary Netball – Penrith  
Under 10's Rugby League – Kamilaroi
- Wed 9/9 Ctholic Primary Netball – Penrith  
Eucharist Parent Meeting at the Church  
from 1pm – 2pm
- Thurs 10/9 No Reconciliation or classroom  
Visits with Fr. Joe  
Rotary Public Speaking
- Fri 11/9 Secondary Mass 7H leading 9.15am  
at the Church  
SRC Milkshake Day. \$2 /shake  
Primary Chess Competition – Armidale  
Year 7 & 8 Debating – Kempsey

### ***Next Week at Holy Trinity***

- Mon 14/9 Primary AFL Team – Sydney
- Wed 16/9 Clergy / Principals' Meeting – Armidale  
Years 3-6 Speech Finals in the Hall at 9am
- Thurs 17/9 No Reconciliation or classroom  
visits with Fr. Joe  
Clergy / Principals' Meeting – Armidale
- Fri 18/9 No school Mass  
Principal's Retreat – Armidale  
Diocesan Library Presentation – Narrabri  
Year 8 Christian Living Day - Hall