Dear Friends

It’s Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. As we begin this season of Lent, it’s tempting to decide what we will give up or what we will do extra to show God – and maybe other people – how serious we are about our faith. But the prophet Joel reminds us that what is most important is what happens deep within our hearts. What happens there will show in our daily actions. If we listen closely to Jesus during Lent, he will speak to our hearts and teach us how to make good choices, even if no one else notices a change in our behaviour.

God, help me to become a better person this Lent, change me, mould me, shape me from the inside out. Amen

By all accounts I missed a very exciting swimming carnival in Cumnock last Friday. It was fantastic to hear of the wonderful achievements of all students with many receiving a number of ribbons on the day. Special congratulations to Annabelle Englert who was named Senior Girl Champion on the day. Many thanks to all parents who were able to assist with transport on the day and be there to support the students and teachers.
A number of parents met in the School Library on Monday evening for the P&F Annual General Meeting. Congratulations and thank you to the following members for taking on executive roles:
President – Mr Dave Kiel
Treasurer – Mrs Alana Kerin
Secretary – Mrs Nicolette Vaughan

Please remember that all parents are members of the P&F (Parents & Friends) Association and all are welcome to attend meetings that occur during the year. Through funds raised the P&F contributes enormously to the school’s resources and maintenance and it therefore requires the assistance from all parents for the many fundraising events that take place throughout the year.

One agenda item at Monday’s meeting was the establishment of a school kitchen garden area for the students. It was decided that there needs to be a small sub-committee of people who can plan the garden and ‘make it happen’. If you are interested in being a part of this group could you please complete the attached note and return it to school. Your support is appreciated.

Yesterday we all enjoyed a pancake breakfast in readiness for our Lenten fasting. Many thanks to those parents who were able to join in the breakfast and share in the fun.
Opening School Mass - Look forward to seeing you then.

Junior Josephite Lunch Orders
Please remember that the Junior Joeys will be having a pizza & popper day this Friday. Please make sure orders are in. Congratulations to the Junior Josephites who have received a kind donation of an upright freezer from Electrolux Orange to assist with lunches.

Swimming
Swimming for sport has returned to Fridays. Thank you for your understanding during the past 2 weeks.

Student of the Week
Dakota Bunning
For her consistent effort in all areas

Merit Certificate
Congratulations to the following students who received Merit Awards this week.

Primary – Molly Arthur, Dominic Antaw
Infants - Maddie Keady, Tyler Simister

Homework Activities
All students have made a terrific start to the year with their nightly homework activities. Please ensure students return their folders with reading record books each Friday so that teachers can mark work and assist students where necessary.

Southern Region Swimming
Congratulations to Annabelle, Jorja, Sara and Jack who were selected from the Three Way Swimming Carnival last week to represent St Columba’s at the Southern Region Carnival to held in Orange next Wednesday, all relevant information will be sent home tomorrow with the students.

Kind regards

Glen Brown
Principal
Creative Play

All students are thoroughly enjoying the introduction of some new equipment in the playground. We certainly have some builders and