

Mt St Patrick College Murwillumbah



The Winners Celebrate

Winners in Adelaide

Mt St Patrick College won the Australian final of the Secondary Social Science Division of the Tournament of Minds which was held in Adelaide on Saturday 21st October, 2006. The result meant that the Mt St Patrick College team is the best team in Australia and Singapore in this particular section of the competition. Schools from both the government and non-government sectors were eligible to enter, as well as teams from New Zealand and Singapore. Having won the Queensland State Championship in September this year, Mt St

Patrick College competed against champion teams from Victoria, South Australia, ACT, New South Wales and Western Australia as well as a team from Singapore.

The Mt St Patrick College team, consisting of Nikki Core, Jessica Mason and Liam Heyen of Year 9 and Dylan Graham and Marcus Brincat of Year 7, were given three hours to prepare a ten minute presentation to a packed auditorium of over one thousand people at Flinders University. They handled the pressure extremely well by incorporating music and humour in their performance. The problem they were required to solve was titled "Out Damned Spot."

In their adjudication, the judges made particular reference to the 'loud applause and much laughter' their performance engendered from the audience.

The experience was a wonderful opportunity for the five students who were exposed to many people and places, made new friends and impressed everyone they met. They were a credit to themselves, their families and their College. Congratulations Nikki, Jessica, Liam, Marcus and Dylan on a job well done!

Mt. St. John's Primary Dorrigo



Students enjoying a story in the relocated library

A year of growth and development



2006 has seen many changes take place at Mt St John's.

New signage at the front of the school reflects our School Vision. It was designed with input from the students, describing what they like about our school. Another sign recognises the Presentation Sisters who founded the school in 1924. They still retain a presence in the parish with Sisters Mary and Bride Baldwin.

The Federal Government, through its Investing In Our Schools Program, has funded the recarpeting of all areas, improved heating in all classrooms, new lighting and an updated computer lab. The process also saw the relocation of both the computer lab and library. A very big thankyou goes to all parents and students who assisted with the various movements of furniture during the refurbishment.

Enrolments increased from 63 students in February to 75 in October, with many new families moving into our area. We are hoping this growth is sustained in 2007, allowing us to provide another class group next year. In the meantime, staff and students continue working, learning, caring and praying, together.

Inaugural Tweed District Catholic Primary Schools

Inaugural Catholic Primary Schools Public Speaking

On Friday, 8th September, the Inaugural Tweed District Catholic Primary Schools Public Speaking Competition was held at and sponsored by Twin Towns Services Club.

Six Catholic Primary Schools in the Tweed District were involved: St Joseph's Tweed Heads, St James Banora Point, St Anthony's Kingscliff, Mt St Patrick Murwillumbah, St Joseph's South Murwillumbah and St John's Mullumbimby.

Each school nominated two representatives in each of the four sections.

Depending on their category students spoke for either 1, 2 or 3 minutes. The level of competition was of an extremely high standard and a wide variety of topics were presented.

Congratulations to the following students who were winners of their category:



Stage Three Representatives - Back Row: Hannah Clarke, Taylor Johnson, Ester Larkin, Morwenna Merley Front Row: Riley Chaffer, Maccalla Fenn, Mairead Geary - 1st, Louis Monaghan - Runner Up, Joseph Scott, Julia Walker



Kindergarten Representatives Back Row: Erin Van Amstel, Nadia Wicks, Harrison Smith, Jessica Dichiera, Isabella Michael, Eloise Ralph, Maddison Stovin Front Row: Georgia Buch, Mia Carlin, Brianna Clarkson Andrew Manning - 1st, Portia Rope - Runner Up

- Early Stage 1 (Kinder)
1st: Andrew Manning, St Anthony's Kingscliff
Runner Up: Portia Rope, St Anthony's Kingscliff
 - Stage 1 (Yrs 1 and 2)
1st: Jessika Scott, St Joseph's Tweed Heads
Runner Up: Ivy Thomas, St Joseph's Tweed Heads
 - Stage 2 (Yrs 3 and 4)
1st: Luke Chaffer, Mt St Patrick Primary Murwillumbah
Runner Up: Matthew Spiller, Mt St Patrick Primary Murwillumbah
 - Stage 3 (Yrs 5 and 6)
1st: Mairead Geary, St Joseph's South Murwillumbah
Runner Up: Louis Monaghan, St Joseph's Tweed Heads
- Due to the resounding success of the day, the Tweed District Catholic Primary Schools Public Speaking Competition will now become an Annual Event.
- Our thanks are extended to the Tweed Valley and Murwillumbah Toastmasters, Southern Cross Uni and St Joseph's College for providing adjudicators on the day. A very big thanks go to all those parents and friends who came along to support the students. Our sincere thanks must go to Twin Towns Services Club for their continued support because without their generosity, events like this would not take place.