



ST GREGORY'S QUEANBEYAN NEWSLETTER

Week Ten, Term One, 2015
31 March, 2015



Share the Spirit....

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week is Holy Week and the most important week in the calendar of the Church.

Holy Week began last Sunday when the arrival of Jesus in Jerusalem was celebrated as the crowd gathered to wave palms. The crowd were pleased to see Jesus and not unlike the banner waving that happens at sporting events the people pulled branches from trees so that they could demonstrate how excited they were to welcome Jesus. How quickly the mood of the crowd can change when just days later the crowd were calling for Jesus to be crucified.



Holy Week

As a Jew Jesus was to celebrate the feast of Passover with his friends. Jesus knew that this may be the last time that he would gather with those he loved and loved him. As we will remember this Thursday, Holy Thursday was when Jesus demonstrated what servant leadership means. He dropped to his knees and washed the feet of his followers. Later during the meal Jesus took the bread and wine, blest them and gave them to his disciples saying – 'This is my body, this is my blood'. We do not understand how this can be but as Catholics Jesus gave and continues to give of himself in love.

The Holy Thursday Mass is a very special ceremony to attend. During the Mass Fr. Troy will wash the feet of parishioners. The congregation will then remember and celebrate the Last Supper as once again the bread and wine are changed into the

body and blood of Jesus. At the end of this Mass the church is made bare, flowers and cloths are moved and the church is left in darkness. This is to remind us that after celebrating the Passover Jesus was arrested. He was taken before the government and church leaders and condemned to death.

On Good Friday there are no Masses celebrated, it is a day of penance and reflection. A day when we recall Jesus carrying the cross to Calvary. The day when Jesus was nailed to a cross and died. Jesus died so that we may have life, Jesus came to earth as a man to show us how to love.

At the Saturday vigil Mass the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus begins. We know that the death of Jesus was not the end of the story. The reason we have Easter Eggs is to acknowledge that with Jesus we have the possibility of new life. The joy of Easter is that we can all start anew.

My prayer is that all members of our community will know the joy of Easter. I hope all our families have a very peaceful and relaxing break.

May you recognise the God moments in your life,

Claire

**Claire Frazer
Principal**



IMPORTANT EVENTS

Tuesday 31 March
School Council Meeting
6pm Lowe Street Staffroom

Wednesday 1 April
Netball NSW Schools Cup
Thornton Road Netball Courts

Thursday 2 April
Easter Liturgy
12:30pm St Gregory's Hall

End of Term One

Monday 20 April
Pupil Free Day

Tuesday 21 April
Students return for Term 2

Wednesday 22 April
Year 6 volunteers to George Forbes House

Saturday 25 April
ANZAC Day March
Students assemble at 10am outside Council Chambers, Crawford Street

Monday 27 April
Second Hand Clothing Pool Open
9am to 10am Lowe Street MPR

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Wednesday 29 April
Primary Touch Trials

Friday 1 May
Mackillop Winter Sport Trials

Saturday 2 May
Starting Schools Expo
Bicentennial Hall

Monday 4 May
Second Hand Clothing Pool Open
9am to 10am Lowe Street MPR

Monday 4 May - Friday 22 May
Catholic Schools 2016 Enrolment period



Focus Value for April - "Count Your Blessings"

From the Principal.....

St Gregory's Parish Easter Services – ALL WELCOME – St Raphael's Church

Holy Thursday 7:30pm with opportunity for quiet prayer until 10pm

Good Friday Stations of the Cross 10am The Lord's Passion 3pm

Easter Saturday vigil 6pm

Easter Sunday 8am and 10am

PRAYERS: Please keep in your prayers Erin Taylor, her sister Leanne, her brother Adam and families in your prayers following the death of their dad Keith Mundy last week. We continue to hold Anne Jochimsen in our thoughts and prayers. Anne is moving to Sydney this week to be closer to family and friends. Please pray also for a member of staff and two parents who are joining the Catholic faith community this Easter during the Easter vigil Mass on Saturday night.

CONGRATULATIONS: To all the students who competed in the Cross Country last Friday. Well done to the students who will now go on to represent St Gregory's in the Northern Region Cross Country in Braidwood on Thursday, 7th May. A word of congratulations to those students who finished the event when running is not really their thing! Thanks to Matthew Maloney and all teachers, parents and friends for your efforts in ensuring the running of an efficient and safe event.

FIRST RECONCILIATION: I had the honour of attending part of the First Reconciliation ceremonies held last week for the students of Year 3 in St Gregory's Church. The liturgies were beautiful and provided a wonderful first experience of this sacrament for the children. My thanks to Lauren Macdonald and the Year 3 teachers for ensuring that the liturgies ran so smoothly. Again my heartfelt thanks to Fr. Troy, he is so generous with his time being at the school so many days in a row. Fr. Troy is so very supportive our school providing spiritual and practical support to all.

TERM 2: The first day for students for Term 2 is Tuesday 21st April. The staff will begin on the Monday with a full day of Professional Learning. Staff from the office of Catholic Education will be presenting to staff about Inclusive Education and the Disability Discrimination Act. Following this the staff will be working on School Registration preparations. The registration panel will be visiting St Gregory's on the 19th and 20th May.

ANZAC DAY: As in past years St Gregory's have been invited to participate in the annual Anzac Day March. This year is of particular significance as we commemorate the 100th anniversary of the landing of the troops at Gallipoli. I encourage all families to encourage their children to participate in this wonderful tradition. The students of St Gregory's have always represented the school in a very positive way during the march. Students are expected to wear the full winter uniform and should meet outside Queanbeyan City Council Chambers in Crawford Street at 10am. Any family members who are current or former members of the defence force are warmly invited to march with us.



KIDSMATTER: This week's brochure is about the emotional development of children and offers suggestions as to how we can help our children to manage their emotions.

WINTER UNIFORM: The students change to winter uniform as of the beginning of second term. There will be a 2 week period where the students may wear either summer or winter. It will be expected that all students will be in full winter uniform as of the beginning of Week 3 – Monday 4th May.

FRUITASTIC: Congratulations to the Year 6 Spirit Team who raised \$771-75 for Project Compassion last week by selling biscuits and fruit. A wonderful effort!



LIBRARY NEWS

PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE Congratulations to these 6 students who finished this week Ned O'Neill K White, Ivy Butterfield 1 Red, Sean O'Brien 1 White, Lucy O'Neill 3 Red, Elizabeth Sinclair 3 Blue and Bridgette Sinclair 4 Blue. We have a total of 244 students participating, 72 are already completing online recording and 14 have completed - a great start!!

It is not too late to register. Flyers with registration details can be found on the school website under the Notes tab (<http://stgregsps.nsw.edu.au/notes/>). The PRC site is now working and I have completed all current registrations. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have trouble with your logon - there were a group of 15 new registrations which got caught up in the problems with the site and they may need to be reset.

Any questions to rosalind.wythes@cg.catholic.edu.au

MOTHER'S DAY STALL



Don't forget to continue sending in your donations for the Mother's Day Stall please. Gifts are required at school by **Friday, 24 April**. Some ideas for donations include: candles, note books, diary, journals, pens, wooden spoons, kitchen gadgets, cook books, tea towels, coffee mugs, candles. For every donation students will receive a raffle ticket to win a wonderful prize basket.

PIANIST REQUIRED

We are needing an accompanist for the school choir. The rehearsal times are each Wednesday from 1:40pm until 3pm. Need to be able to sight read music, be able to play multi part music and willing to get a working with children clearance. We will require them to be available for some school masses, the massed choir in September and other school occasions. If you are interested please contact Dee at dee.mcfaul@cg.catholic.edu.au - Thank you.

CANTEEN

Helpers at Lowe Street this week are:

Thursday 2 April Erika O'Brien

Volunteers are always welcome at MacQuoid Street, even if you are only available for an hour. Thank you.

BPAY PAYMENTS

On the 19 March 2015 a BPay payment of \$85 was made with the wrong reference number of 343152 - which is the Biller Code. I am unable to allocate this to a Family Account so this payment has been reversed back to the account it came from. If you made a BPay payment on the 19 March can you please check the details you entered are correct as this amount has not been deducted from your School Fee Account. Thank you Emma McAuliffe - Bursar Ph: 6297 1396 or emma.mcauliffe@cg.catholic.edu.au

OUR SCHOOL RULES

**Stay Safe,
Be Fair,
Show Respect.**

Congratulations to the following students who received a blue band in March for exceeding school rules.

Isla D'Souza, Cohen Goodchild, Amelia Mansell, Tyren Smith, Orlando Blazeski, Phoenix Hamlin, Riley Hambrook, Alessio Kositcin, Hayden Lasker, Naomi McInnes, Alexandra Jeffery, Edward O'Neill, Stella Rosin, Caleb Birch, Angus Edwards, Imogen Hales, Cecilia Welch, Ivy Butterfield, Stella McKinnon, Ryan Ossato, Charli Stokes-Oldfield, Lily Tilden, Alexander Dormer, Madison Cachia, Claude Carino, Kimberlee Collins, Jasmine Dolbel, Jack Herbig, Curtneey Mangipay, Jesse Robinson McEvoy, Aiden Seivers, Lachlan Eagles, Bridget Carroll, Lucas Goodwin, Matilda Howell, Charlotte Murphy, Mia Taylor, Grace Irilli, Rhiannon O'Brien, Chloe Amey, Sienna Harajli, Elizabeth Sinclair, BJ Fitzpatrick, Charlotte Hill, William Ireland, Emily O'Grady, Elizabeth Gruber, Zac McMahon, Sophia Watson, William Fitzgerald, Brayden Verran, Jayden Clayton, Bharat Sharma, Lilly Thom, Angelina Brown, Erin Burstow, Eden D'Souza, Mason Molloy, Euan Celaya, Brad Sliwinski, Neve Watts and Brijesh Kumar.

Special congratulations to ELLY BOLLARD (1 Blue) who received 2 blue bands in March!

Little Sparks Childrens Liturgy

Little Sparks is up and running! The kids are loving it. We feel this is an excellent initiative. We need some toys for the children to play with after they have finished their Gospel reflections and related activities.

If you have some unwanted puzzles, toys e.g. mobilo, duplex that are in good condition we would really appreciate it. Could you please drop off the items at the School or the Parish Office. Thank you - The Little Sparks Team

SACRAMENT OF FIRST EUCHARIST

An email has been sent to parents of children who celebrated the Sacrament of First Reconciliation in April 2014, inviting them to register their child for the Sacrament of First Eucharist which will be celebrated on 13th and 14th June 2015. Alternatively parents can register online via the parish website at <http://www.stgregorysparishqueanbeyan.com/sacred-room/sacraments/first-eucharist/>.

If parents have any questions regarding this sacrament please call the parish office on 6299 4611. Thank you.



SPORT NEWS

CROSS COUNTRY: Congratulations to all our Year 3-6 students who participated in the annual Cross Country Carnival last Friday. We were very thankful for our supportive parents and teachers.

Age champions were:

8/9 years: Angelina Brown and BJ Fitzpatrick

10 years: Skyla Robinson-McEvoy and Kalen Billiards

11 years: Megan Shand and Bailey Thornton

12 years: Isabella Barac and Christian Barac

MACKILLOP AFL: Congratulations to Josh Fahey who has been selected in the Mackillop AFL team.

LOST PROPERTY



LOST - Madison Everett (5 Red) has lost her school jumper – marked with her name. Please check it hasn't been taken home by mistake. Thank you.

NOTICEBOARD

MERICI COLLEGE



OPEN DAY: Wednesday 6 May 2015
9.30am to 7.00pm
Come and see the College in action!

INFORMATION EVENINGS:
For Year 7 Students for 2016
Tuesday 12 May 2015
6.00pm-7.15pm

For Year 11 Students for 2016
Thursday 14 May 2015
6.00pm-7.15pm
Careers Expo from 4.00pm

Wise Street Braddon – Ph: 6243 4100 – Fax: 6243 4199
Visit our website at www.merici.act.edu.au
or contact the Enrolment Officer
on email patricia.ryan@merici.act.edu.au

RIVERSIDE PLAZA SCHOOL HOLIDAYS



EASTER BUNNY VISIT: The Easter bunny will be visiting Riverside on Thursday 2 April between 4-7pm & also on Saturday 4 April between 11am-2pm. There'll be lots of free Easter eggs for the kids.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES: will be held in the food court area

Week 1:

Sand Play with kinetic sand, 11am-2pm weekdays (Free)

Water balls, climb into a ball & see if you can walk on water, centre trading hours Monday-Sunday (price TBC)

Treasure Hunt competition

Week 2:

Sand Play with kinetic sand, 11am-2pm weekdays (Free)

Treasure Hunt competition

RELAX KIDS

Now taking enrolments for Term 2 classes, 2015
For 5 to 9 years-Sat 1-2pm or 9 to 12 years – Wed 5:15-6:15pm
Each class includes: DYNAMIC warm-up and exercises, EXCITING games, RELAXING stretches, CALMING breathing exercises, SOOTHING peer massage, POSITIVE affirmations, CREATIVE visualisations, mindfulness and meditations



NEW - Meditation Classes for Parents – Sat 8:30 – 9:15am
(includes breathing techniques & meditation)

All classes are held at the Jerra Community Centre & commence Week 3 of Term 2 for 6 weeks @ \$60 total cost
Please book in early as spaces are limited
email simone.naturopath@gmail.com or phone 6299 8219

DARAMALAN COLLEGE



ENROLMENT DATES FOR 2016

Open Evening - Thursday 26 March 2015 - Tours 5pm to 6:30pm followed by the Year 7, 2016 information session from 7pm to 8pm.

Pre-Enrolment Day for Year 6 Catholic Primary School Students - Thursday 30 April 2015 from 10am to 1:45pm.

"Try Dara for a Day" - Tuesday 5 May 2015 (full or half day options available but the day is only for those who do not attend on 30 April.

Year 11, 2016 Information Evening - Wednesday 20 May 2015 from 7:30pm.

Contact the Registrar on 6245 6348 or find further information about enrolments on our website: www.daramalan.act.edu.au

GUITAR LESSONS

Whether you are a beginner or an intermediate student, I can help you learn the ins and outs of guitar! Lessons are \$35 for half an hour weekly. All lessons will be held in my home office in Crestwood. You don't need a guitar but it is preferred. Electric or acoustic!
Contact Alex Short on 0423 162 829 or alexshort23@gmail.com

QUEANBEYAN UNITED (BLUES) JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE



Queanbeyan Blues are still looking for players for various age groups (6 – 16) and for our Mighty Midgets (5 years & under) program. If you would like to find out more please contact our club at qbnblues@qlc.com.au or you can register online via Fox Sports Pulse – Queanbeyan United Juniors.