



# ST GREGORY'S QUEANBEYAN NEWSLETTER

Week Nine, Term One, 2015  
24 March, 2015



*Share the Spirit....*

## Dear Parents and Carers,

There are a few students around the school who can recite back to me this mantra – **Your problem isn't the problem. Your reaction is the problem.** The poster reproduced below is on display in my office and is referred to quite often during the day.

One student found himself in my office when he spoke back to his teacher. His problem, or so he thought, was that he was being wrongly accused of doing something that another student had done. Following some discussion he was able to see that, in fact that was not the problem, but how he reacted was the issue. The discussion went something like this....the teacher is human, is in a room with 26 students and may make a mistake when trying to ensure that everyone is settled for optimum learning. If the student had not reacted by being disrespectful in the words chosen and the tone of delivery, the problem would not have escalated to the point where I became involved.

Another student came to my office following a hands on incident on the playground. She was adamant the problem was that another student had annoyed her by calling her names. The problem that brought her to my office however was that in reacting to the name calling she had lashed out to hit another. I am not for one minute suggesting that name calling is acceptable behaviour – though a fairly common childhood trait – however we need to teach our children that they can learn strategies to control their emotions and reactions.

I worry for our children who seem to think they can constantly blame others for their poor choices. I hear so often from children that they cannot be held responsible for their reactions – he made me hit him, she made me throw the ball away. It is even more disturbing for me when parents allow their children to use the excuse that it was somehow someone else's fault. I can often hear my dad in my head, whenever I told him a school story he would always say, how did you react? What did you do? What could you do next time? Whenever I tried to tell him about another kid and how they had somehow been responsible he would simply say to me – I am not their dad. My dad taught me very early the profound truth that I can't change anyone, but I can change how I react.



May you recognise the God moments in your life,

*Claire*  
**Claire Frazer**  
Principal

## IMPORTANT EVENTS

**Monday 23 - Friday 27 March**

Optional Parent/Teacher Interviews

**Tuesday 24 - Wednesday 25 March**

Fruitastic Crunch Lunch - MacQuoid Street

**Tuesday 24 - Friday 27 March**

Sacrament of Reconciliation  
during school hours

**Wednesday 25 March**

Matt Giteau Cup (Year 3/4 team only)  
University of Canberra

Year 6 volunteers to George Forbes House

**Thursday 26 March**

Fruitastic Crunch Lunch - Lowe Street

**Friday 27 March**

Cross Country  
Wright Park

Canberra/Goulburn Soccer Trials

**Sunday 29 March**

Palm Sunday

Family Portrait Fundraiser

9am - 5pm MacQuoid Street Library

**Monday 30 March**

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

**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



## Focus Value for March - "Be A Forgiver"

### From the Principal.....

**PRAYERS:** Please continue to hold in your prayers Anne Jochimsen. You may have seen Anne around the school as she has been coming in to do some voluntary work when she has felt well enough to do so. There are a number of parents who are currently being treated for cancer – please keep them and their families in your thoughts and prayers during this very challenging time.

**CONGRATULATIONS:** To the Francis family (Gabriel - 2 Red) on the birth of a baby brother, Stephen.

**THANK YOU:** To Karabar IGA and Maryanne Krnc for their generous donation of fruit for our Fruitastic Crunch Lunch fundraiser. All money raised from the sale of fruit and biscuits will be donated to Project Compassion.

**FIRST RECONCILIATION:** This week our Year 3 students will have the opportunity to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. This is at times a very misunderstood sacrament. I often hear people say that they don't have to go to a priest to say sorry. Which is of course true, but what we miss by not participating in this beautiful sacrament is the act of being forgiven.

**RECONCILIATION:** On Thursday the students of Year 5 will have the opportunity to participate in the sacrament of Reconciliation in St Gregory's Church. Father Troy has also very generously made himself available to all staff before school on Thursday morning.

**NSW ELECTION:** Accompanying this newsletter is a brochure with a summary of the Education Funding Policies for the major political parties. The main facts that you are encouraged to consider when casting your vote at the NSW State Election this weekend. 1. A significant public funding gap exists between Canberra-Goulburn's Catholic systemic schools and government schools in the same area. 2. Catholic schools save taxpayers billions of dollars each year by educating 251 000 – or one in five – NSW students. 3. Catholic schools require a more equitable share of capital funding to expand schools places to meet growing demand. 4. Parents of Catholic school students contribute to the NSW education system twice – a taxpayers and through school fees.



**KIDSMATTER:** The brochure outlines how temperament affects feelings.

**PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS:** Will be happening throughout the week. Please keep in mind there is a 15 minute time limit for these particular meetings. If there needs to be a longer discussion another meeting time will need to be made. If this week is not suitable or you have neglected to make a booking please contact the classroom teacher directly by email to set an alternative time for a meeting.

**TEACHER LEARNING COMMUNITIES:** Last Friday the teaching staff participated in the third of nine teacher workshops working on Formative Assessment and improving teacher strategies. The teachers work in pairs to set a learning plan to be completed before our next meeting. The teachers then make time to observe each other teaching and provide targeted feedback.

**CROSS COUNTRY:** The annual cross country will be held this Friday. This is usually a very community orientated day with lots of parents, carers and extended family members coming along to assist and cheer on the students. Cross Country running is certainly not everyone's preferred athletic activity but it is hoped that all students in Years 3-6 will give it a go. The St Gregory's team will then be selected to participate in the Northern Region Cross Country to be held in Braidwood on Thursday, 7 May.



## LIBRARY NEWS

**LOWE STREET BOOK FAIR** Congratulations to our winners. Guessing Competition won by Ashley Hewson from 4 White. His guess of 354 was correct! Runner up was Christopher Hodges 1White. Lucky Door prizes went to Anthony Oldfield 1Red and Kate Bartu 3Blue. Colouring Competition prizes : Milly Lawrence-Killaly KBlue, Aleisha Worner 1Gold and Maddy Dale 3White.

**PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE** Congratulations to our first 2 students to complete the challenge - Danielle Quinones 2Red and Lauren Russell 6White. We will award prizes at the next whole school assembly. These students also finished this week - William Hall KBlue, Marshall Phillips KWhite, Imogen Hales 1Gold, Charles Watson 1Red, William Hales 3Gold and Ivana Rodriguez 4Gold. We have a total of 235 students participating, 50 are already completing online recording and 8 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 still having trouble processing new registrations and some of the passwords I sent home last week, now no longer work. I am following it up but please do not hesitate to email me if you are having problems. I also have some new registrations I can't send in yet because site is having problems. I have now emailed our first Newsletter to all participants and hope it might help you get started online. Until we stop having problems on the site please encourage your child to read eligible books and keep a manual list. We have them on display in the Library. Any questions can be directed to [rosalind.wythes@cg.catholic.edu.au](mailto:rosalind.wythes@cg.catholic.edu.au)

## CANTEEN

Helpers at Lowe Street this week are:

Thursday 26 March Julie Worner  
Friday 27 March Lyn Smyth

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

## MOTHER'S DAY STALL



Don't forget to continue sending in your donations for the Mother's Day Stall. 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.

## ICAS COMPETITIONS

The UNSW is offering students an opportunity to participate in ICAS. These tests are voluntary.

Subject	Cost	Sitting Date
Digital Tech (Yrs3-6)	\$8-00	Tuesday, 19 May
Science (Yrs2-6)	\$8-00	Wednesday, 3 June
Writing (Yrs3-6)	\$17-00	Monday, 15 June
Spelling (Yrs3-6)	\$11-00	Tuesday, 16 June
English (Yrs2-6)	\$8-00	Tuesday, 28 July
Mathematics (Yrs2-6)	\$8-00	Tuesday, 11 August

Registrations close **Friday, 27 March, 2015**.

## FAMILY PORTRAITS

**Sunday, 29 March - MacQuoid Street Library.**

Only a few afternoon appointments left!

Please contact Jane King on 6297 2221 to book your appointment. **Don't forget to send in your \$20 photo fee before the end of this week.** Photos will take place this SUNDAY in the MacQuoid Library.

## MATH MOMENTS

Here are a group of terms that are unique to Math. These mathematical concepts are integrated throughout each unit taught and are essential foundation knowledge for all students - Kate McManus-Green, NIP Teacher.

### Math Terms to Know {in primary grades}

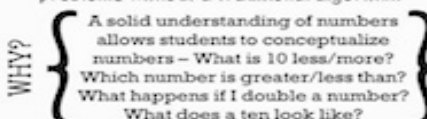
#### Subitizing

the ability to quickly identify the number of items in a small set without counting



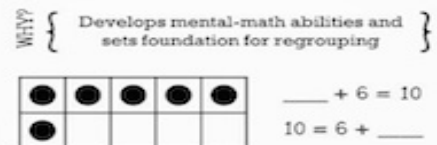
#### Number Sense

an understanding of number relationships that allows students to work mathematical problems without a traditional algorithm



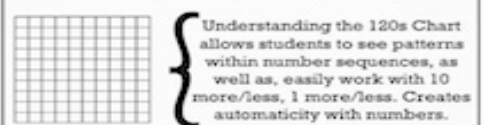
#### Ten Frame

a structured way to work with numbers within 10



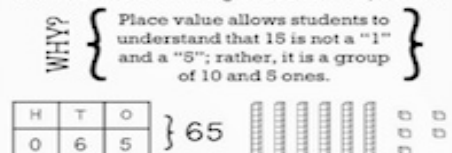
#### 120s Chart

a number line formatted so students can easily identify number patterns



#### Place Value

numerical value of a digit based on its position





## 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](http://www.merici.act.edu.au)  
or contact the Enrolment Officer  
on email [patricia.ryan@merici.act.edu.au](mailto:patricia.ryan@merici.act.edu.au)

### 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](http://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](mailto:alexshort23@gmail.com)

### Queanbeyan Festival of Ability 2015

28th March Queanbeyan Park  
Free Children's Activities 10am-12pm  
Face painting - Cricket - Bubble table - Jumping castle - Games  
LIVE PERFORMANCES Stage area 10am-2pm  
Bring your picnic rug for a family day out.  
BBQ available on the day. Let's celebrate ability!



### YMCA QUEANBEYAN - POSITION VACANT

The YMCA Queanbeyan After School Care program  
is currently looking for staff to work within it's  
programs which operate from 4 school sites within  
the Queanbeyan region. Each program operates  
from the YMCA core values of instilling honesty,  
caring, responsibility and respect with all children  
who attend our After School Care and our Holiday  
Programs.

YMCA OSHC Programs form a vibrant and essential  
part of our schools' communities. Our unique  
approach to programming, community links and  
commitment to children and their families who utilise  
our service are our real point of difference.  
The YMCA Queanbeyan aims to provide a warm,  
safe and nurturing environment.

**Qualifications:** Certificate III in Childcare • First Aid  
Certificate • NSW Working with Children number  
**Desired:** • Diploma or training towards •

Please send resume to Queanbeyan YMCA  
**Email:** [qbnymca@bigpond.com](mailto:qbnymca@bigpond.com)  
**Phone:** 02 6297 2334

### 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](mailto:qbnblues@qlc.com.au) or you can register online  
via [Fox Sports Pulse - Queanbeyan United Juniors](http://Fox Sports Pulse - Queanbeyan United Juniors).

### National Capital Orchestra

Conducted by Leonard Weiss  
with pianists James Huntingford and Andrew Rumsey  
Saint-Saens: Carnival of the Animals  
Rimsky-Korsakov: Scheherazade  
Dvorak: Slavonic Dances  
Gliere: Russian Sailor's Dance  
**3pm Sunday 19th April**  
**The Q Theatre**  
Tickets at [www.theq.net.au](http://www.theq.net.au) Phone: 6285 6290  
Adult \$30 Concession \$25 Child/Student \$15