



ST GREGORY'S QUEANBEYAN NEWSLETTER

Week Ten, Term Two, 2015
23 June, 2015



Share the Spirit....

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following the registration panel visit on the 19th and 20th May the Registration Report has been finalised by the director for Catholic Education, Mrs Moira Najdecki, and I am delighted to share with the community the Key Commendations and Recommendations from the panel.

KEY COMMENDATIONS:

The Panel makes the following key commendations:

- St Gregory's Primary School is a dynamic Catholic community
- The significant, productive partnership between the school and the Parish. This unique model emanates from the drive and leadership shown by the Parish Priest in collaboration with the Principal. The strong and mutually supportive relationships nurture a faith filled community.
- The initiative that focuses on the wellbeing of students, staff and the wider community, this has fostered positive relationships which are supported through a team approach and effective programs tailored to meet the needs of the community.
- The leadership structure of the whole school practices which enable St Gregory's Primary School to effectively operate as one cohesive community across two campuses
- The collegiality of staff and their commitment to continued improvement which is evident in their level of energy and enthusiasm
- The friendly, welcoming students who are clearly very proud of their school and engaged in their learning
- The implementation of the Understanding by Design (UbD) model within programming which has influenced and enhanced curriculum assessment and pedagogy
- The generous and ongoing support provided by parents to enhance the educational outcomes for their children
- The structural improvements to the school's building and facilities since the previous registration.

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Panel makes the following key recommendations:

- That the delivery of the Inquiry learning places the focus clearly on the students taking responsibility for their own learning. This will require a deeper understanding of and commitment to the Inquiry Process which is fundamental to the implementation of the NSW K-10 Syllabus for the Australian Curriculum
- That the school enters a phase of consolidation to embed current evidence-based practices to further improve teacher practice, programming and assessment
- That a more rigorous model of program supervision is implemented to provide a structure for teachers to gain formative feedback on their programs. The full report is available for parents on request from the beginning of Term 3.

Please be assured of my prayers and thoughts whilst I am away from St Gregory's next term. My thanks to all the staff, particularly Julie Wiley, who will be acting in my position whilst I am on LSL.

May you know the many gifts you possess and have the courage to share them,

Claire

**Claire Frazer
Principal**

IMPORTANT EVENTS

Monday 15 June - Wednesday 15 July
Registration for Sacrament of Confirmation

Tuesday 23 June
School Council Meeting
6pm Lowe Street Staffroom

Wednesday 24 June - Friday 17 July
Bookings OPEN for optional Parent/Teacher Interviews

Wednesday 24 June
Sullivan Shield Round 2 - Kambah

Year 6 volunteers to George Forbes House
11:15am to 1:15pm

Semester One Reports sent home

Thursday 25 June
Year 3 Prayer Celebration
St Gregory's Church - 2:00pm

Friday 19 June
Whole School Assembly (3 Gold & 3 Red)
St Gregory's Hall - 12:30pm

END OF TERM TWO

Monday 13 July
Pupil Free Day

Tuesday 14 July
Students return for Term 3

Tuesday 14 July - Friday 17 July
1 Red Parent/Teacher Interviews

Thursday 16 July
Year 2 and 1 Blue Prayer Liturgy
St Gregory's Church - 12:45pm

Friday 17 July
100 Days of Kinder celebrations

NSWPSSA Cross Country
Eastern Creek

Sunday 19 July
Fr Pat Power 50th Anniversary Mass and morning tea - St Raphael's Church - 9am

Monday 20 July
Second Hand Clothing Pool Open
Lowe Street MPR - 9am to 10am



Focus Value for June - "Believe In Yourself"

From the Principal.....

PRAYERS: Please hold in your prayers all those in the world who experience violence – in their homes, in the local community or in their country. I have been inspired by the parishioners of the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston following the tragic shooting last week. "I acknowledge that I am very angry," said Bethane Middleton Brown, who said her slain sister, Middleton Doctor, would have urged love "She taught me that we are the family that love built," Middleton Brown said. "We have no room for hating, so we have to forgive." Sympathy is extended to Makayla Crotty (6 White) and family on the death of her Grandfather.

CONGRATULATIONS: Yesterday I attended the Accelerated Readers' Millionaires Club Party. This was a wonderful celebration for the 7 students from Years 4 – 6 who have now read 1 000 000 words in the reading program. Well done!

STAFFING ANNOUNCEMENTS: As advised last week Mrs Breen Fox has been appointed as Acting Assistant Principal at St Michael's Kaleen. I am taking long service leave for Term 3 and Julie Wiley will be Acting Principal and Erin Taylor will be Acting Assistant Principal. Following an expression of interest and panel interview process I am delighted to announce that Mrs Kate McManus-Green has been appointed as Acting Curriculum Coordinator (Breen Fox) for the rest of the year and Mr Garreth Wigg has been appointed as Acting Administration Coordinator (Erin Taylor) for Term 3. Mrs Veronica Hall will be taking on the teaching load in 2White for Breen. Mr Michael Kinnane will be taking LSL weeks 2-9 inclusive and Mrs Kellie D'Souza will be teaching 1Red. We will welcome back from maternity leave Mrs Kristi Lloyd who will be providing release on Thursdays and Fridays. Mr Vince Walsh is also taking some LSL during Term 3 and Mr Rod McMullan will take on the groundsman position during Vince's absence.

SEMESTER 1 REPORTS: I have very much enjoyed reading the Semester 1 Reports that will be sent home on Wednesday. The comments indicate to me that teachers know their students and current achievements very well. The reports also offer some advice to assist in further growth. If I was to identify one aspect that was most repeated in reports it was – READ! Read to your children, with your children and hear them read. Talk to them about what they are reading and most importantly do it every day! Again I highly recommend to you the suggestions offered by Kaye Lowe to assist your children on her website. <http://www.read4success.com.au/>

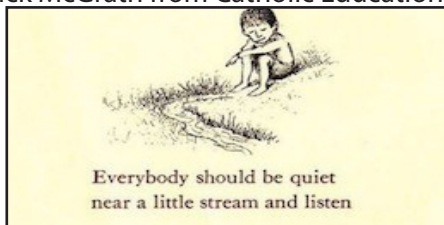
OPTIONAL PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS: In Week 2 of next term teachers will be available for interviews. If this week is not suitable please contact the classroom teacher directly to set an alternative time for a meeting. 1 Red interviews will be held during Week 1 as previously advised. Students are welcome to attend these interviews if parents feel that would be beneficial. There is some wisdom particularly in the upper grades to have the students involved in discussions about their learning. Bookings can be made online. Click on the PTO logo on the school website <http://stgregsps.nsw.edu.au> Your PIN is the same as used earlier this year. Please contact Jane King (6297 2221) if you are unsure of your PIN or have misplaced it. Teachers are generally available in the mornings from 8:15am and after school till 5:00pm provided they do not have a duty or are not involved in meetings.



KIDSMATTER: The last of the series of brochures on Discipline is available. This one discusses what effective discipline in classrooms is. Parents of St Greg's are perhaps too young to remember the cane that could be used whether or not you were guilty. I have memories of being slapped by a ruler in Year 2 because I didn't stand up to say I had been talking when the teacher left the room – I guess she was right I was probably talking?

ILLNESSES: As has been advised in separate communications the following illnesses have been diagnosed in students – Mumps, Chicken Pox and Shingles. Parents are advised to be mindful of the symptoms of all these illnesses. There are mandatory school exclusion times in place.

TERM BREAK: I hope that families are in a position to have a rest during the upcoming term break. It has been a hectic term for everyone and I know that many of our students are very tired and in need of a rest. Term 3 begins for students on Tuesday 14th July. The staff will be participating in a retreat day on Monday 13th July at the National Botanic Gardens facilitated by Mr Patrick McGrath from Catholic Education.





LIBRARY NEWS

PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

The PRC continues until August 21st when all online recording needs to be completed. However, some parents of students in Kindergarten and Year 1 have reported difficulties in completing the number of books required to qualify for the PRC completion certificate.

The following suggestions may help if this is the case in your family.

Firstly, parents are most welcome to come to the Lowe Street Library and read PRC books with their children after school between 3.00pm and 4.00pm each school day. These books are easily identified with the appropriate level stickers. If you are able to take up this opportunity on a day when Mrs Carroll is not present, please let another staff member know that you will be in the library.

Secondly, local town libraries are a valuable source of wonderful literature suitable to be included in the PRC. Most libraries are able to identify books included in the PRC through a labeling system.

Thirdly, books on the PRC reading list may also be in your home libraries. These of course will not be identified with labels. By going onto the Premier's Reading site at <https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html> and choosing 'Booklists' from the side menu you will be able to search for the titles of books you have read from your own home library.

Kindergarten students are only able to borrow 1 school library book each week. Students in Year 1 are able to borrow 3 books each week. Each student is encouraged to borrow a PRC book each week if they are in the challenge. However, we are not able to force students to borrow something if they really do not want to.

In library next term Mrs Carroll will be reading 6 books to her classes (K, Year1, Year2) that are on the PRC list. These will be printed in the newsletter and may be added to your child's PRC reading list to go towards gaining their certificate.

Congratulations to the following students who have finished this week Jessie Willis KRed, Christopher Hodge 1White, Mia Duff 2Red, Joshua Ireland 2Red, Jorja Nicolson 2Gold, William Ireland 3Gold, William Bate 4White, Talia Da Silva 4White, Sophie Fleming 4White, Molly Girvan 4White, Ashley Hewson 4White, Amara Hynes 4White, Kelven Ng 4White, Pircy Cameron 4White and Ashlee Smith-Roberts 4White. We have a total of 255 students participating, 143 are already completing online recording and 69 have completed - fantastic!! The class pizza challenge is running and 4 White are in front with 14 students completed, 1Red and 1White are runners up with 5 students completed.

It is not too late to register. Flyers with registration details can be found on the school website under the Notes tab (<http://stgregorysp.nsw.edu.au/notes/>).

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have trouble with your logon or other queries - include your child's name and class. Any questions can be directed to rosalind.wythes@cg.catholic.edu.au

ACCELERATED READING WORD MILLIONAIRE



Congratulations to Blake Hambrook 5Red and Lara Burstow 5Red for becoming Accelerated Reader Millionaires. Welcome to the most exclusive club in the school!! Our most exclusive club Clay Eldridge, Jacynth Blakney, James Hill, Gabby Reynolds, Rose Taylor, Blake Hambrook and Lara Burstow celebrated with Morning Tea in the Library yesterday - Helen Carroll, Teacher Librarian & Ros Wythes, Library Assistant

ST VINNIES WINTER APPEAL



A huge thank you to the St Gregory's community for their donations of warm clothing, blankets and food for the 2015 Mini Vinnie's Winter Appeal.

Your generosity will help many families in our local community.

A very special thanks to the members of Year 2 and the Mini Vinnies team for organising and promoting this successful drive.

All items will be collected this week by a St Vincent dePaul member. Thank you for your support.

SPORT NEWS

Good luck to the Sullivan shield team competing at Kambah District Playing Fields tomorrow.

CANTEEN NEWS

Helpers at Lowe Street this week are:

Thursday 25 June Michelle Welch
Friday 26 June Tamara Palmer

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

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

REGISTRATION - YEAR 6 CHILDREN

Parents of Year 6 students are invited to register their child for the Sacrament of Confirmation which will be celebrated in St Gregory's Parish, Queanbeyan on Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th September 2015.

The children must have already celebrated the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist.

Please log onto the parish website to download the necessary paperwork at:

<http://www.stgregorysparishqueanbeyan.com/sacred-room/sacraments/confirmation/>

Please download, complete and return the registration form to stg.sacramental@cg.catholic.org.au

Please print out the schedule of events and keep it handy for important dates in preparation for this sacrament. Payment of \$40 can be made via the online payment option at our parish website:

<http://www.stgregorysparishqueanbeyan.com/engine-room/online-payments/>

Please call the parish office on 62994611 if you have any further questions regarding this sacrament.

NB: Clash of dates with Confirmation & Wakakirri

The Confirmation dates are Tuesday 8th AND Wednesday 9th September, 2015.

The FINAL for Wakakirri awards are the 9th ONLY. We may not get in to the finals, but just in case parents may wish to choose the Tuesday for the sacrament!

Thank you - Lauren Macdonald REC.



NOTICEBOARD



Free School Holiday Craft Morning

- WHERE:** The SaCC building, in the grounds of Queanbeyan Public School, Isabella St
- WHEN:** Thurs 9th July
10am-12pm
- BRING:** Nut-free morning tea

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

Kellie on 0427415917 OR Brooke on 6297 2167

For families with children 0-5 yrs and their older siblings

Bogong Boori's Playgroup
Age 0-3
When: Every Thursday
Where: Munjuwa- 28 Rutledge Street
Time: 11:30am— 1:30pm
Free Lunch Provided
Transport can be provided

Siblings are more than welcome to also attend
Come along let you babies interact and play with other kids and have FUN.
If you require transport please contact Skyan Fernando 0467 780 353



QUEANBEYAN JUNIOR BASKETBALL

Register now at www.aussiehoops.com.au
Commencing 8th May 2015 Fridays 4:30-5:30pm
Ages: 4 - 10yrs Cost: \$85 includes basketball pack
7 weeks clinic Venue: Queanbeyan Basketball Stadium



ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

(Please complete and return this note to the office)

I would like to receive the weekly newsletter by email please.

Email:.....
(please print clearly)

Eldest Child's Name:.....Class:.....



2016 ENROLMENTS

Please complete and return this note to the office if your child (except Year 6 students) is not returning to St Gregory's School in 2016. Thank you.

My child/ren.....

in class/es.....will not be returning to St Gregory's School in 2016.

He/She/They will be attending
(please insert name of school)

Signed:.....Parent/Guardian Date:.....