Dear Parents and Carers,

The following is taken from the Australian War Memorial (AWM) website.

The Anzac Spirit

The legend of Anzac was born on 25 April 1915, and was reaffirmed in eight months’ fighting on Gallipoli. Although there was no military victory, the Australians displayed great courage, endurance, initiative, discipline, and mateship. Such qualities came to be seen as the Anzac spirit.

As I visited classrooms last week I talked with students about these values. We discussed that this ‘spirit’ is something that we strive to demonstrate to each other at school.

Whilst we are not fighting in armed combat the students are called upon to show courage. Students talked about standing up for others being picked on. One year 6 student spoke about being a good role model even when his peers might refer to him as a ‘goody two shoes’.

Perseverance, endurance or resilience are values that we wish for all our students. As adults we know only too well that life will sometimes be challenging and may even seem unfair. Those young men landing on the beach at Gallipoli certainly demonstrated these values in horrific circumstances. There is at times an inclination to want to protect our children from hardship or disappointment. No one likes to see their children hurting however if we are not empowering them with skills to overcome hardship then we are only creating an environment for them that will be even more challenging. I am often in awe at the resilience that some of our students demonstrate day after day.

Initiative is one of those things that you notice missing more readily than when it is evident in others. It can be frustrating when working with others when you feel that you must give second by second instructions in order to have tasks accomplished. I see students every day that demonstrate incredible initiative. I can be doing duty and someone will say will I get the microphone, will I empty that bin, or do you want me to take this person to the office.

Discipline! I had the great honour of spending time in a Year 4 classroom today when their teacher was needed somewhere else. This class as a collective displayed amazing self-discipline. They knew what they had to do and did not need anyone there to remind them. As I was growing up I was instructed to do the right thing so that I could avoid punishment. Certainly the God I was taught about was a punitive God. Thankfully the God I know now is a God of love and forgiveness. We are not called to do right out of fear but out of love. Similarly I don’t want our students to follow rules out of fear but because they have self-discipline and in doing what they know to be right makes them feel good.

I am just back from an ANZAC liturgy held in St Raphael’s Church. The students behaved in an exemplary and reverent way and I was, as is often the case, extremely proud of the students. I would recommend that if you have the chance you visit the church to see the remembrance walls that have been created.

May you recognise the God moments in your life,

Claire Frazer
Principal
From the Principal......

**PRAYERS:** We hold in our hearts and prayers members of our community who are sick. Please keep Audrey Keillor in your prayers.

**NEPAL EARTHQUAKE:** Caritas Australia is currently accepting donations in relation to the devastating earthquake in Nepal. Students are encouraged to make a donation this Friday. As a sign of support students are encouraged to wear something Blue or Red the colours of Nepal. Alternatively parents may wish to make a donation directly to Caritas [http://www.caritas.org.au/](http://www.caritas.org.au/)

**ANZAC DAY PARADE:** Thank you to the many, many families who supported the school in such numbers on Saturday morning. I am not very good in estimating but I would guess that there were close to 200 students who marched. Along with the students 30 staff attended the parade. This is indicates a strong sense of community.

**ENROLMENT PERIOD:** If you have a child due to turn 5 before the 30th April in 2016 you are invited to collect an enrolment package from the office. Packages can be sent home with siblings on request. If you know of families considering St Gregory’s please let them know that we are now accepting enrolments.

**KIDS MATTER:** The articles continue to focus on Children’s Emotions. This week - how thinking affects feelings.

**ROAD SAFETY:** I do appreciate that everyone is busy but I implore parents to lead by example and use pedestrian crossings. Our children are watching us all the time.

**SCHOOL UNIFORM:** Students should now be wearing winter uniform. There have been some issues with some upper primary students not wearing full uniform (usually shoes). This term students who continually refuse to wear the full uniform will be on attention. Consideration will also be given to refusing permission for students to represent the school at various functions including sporting if the uniform policy is not followed.

**HEAD LICE:** Like any school we continue to have regular reports of head lice from families. It is an incredibly frustrating experience to complete the treatment only to have other infestation days later. Parents are encouraged to be diligent in checking and treating for head lice. It is also important that long hair is tied back; lice do not jump but can swing Tarzan like from hair to hair.

**ABSENCES/EXEMPTIONS:** Any unplanned absences of students need to be explained in writing as soon as practical after absences. This note should include the date of absence. A reminder that it is a requirement that any planned absences require parents to apply for exemptions. Exemption forms are available on the school website or paper copies can be sent home on request.
OUR SCHOOL RULES

Stay Safe,
Be Fair,
Show Respect.

MOTHER’S DAY STALL

Thank you for all your wonderful donations. Students will have the opportunity to purchase gifts on Friday, 8 May.

9am to 11am at Lowe Street
12pm to 3pm at MacQuoid Street

Gifts will be available for $2 or $5 (and a limited number of $10 gifts). **Cupcakes will also be for sale in packs of 2 for $5.**

We look forward to making the Gwen Bell Mother’s Day Stall a great success!

CANTENE

Helpers at Lowe Street this week are:

- Thursday 30 April: Michelle Welch
- Friday 1 May: Tamara Palmer

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

MATH MOMENTS

Please take the time to explore this fabulous website [http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/home](http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/home). It has many fantastic articles on most subject areas, but I would like to bring to your attention the Math help sheet [http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/mathematics/help-sheets](http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/mathematics/help-sheets). The Math dictionary and easy to read help sheets are a valuable resource for knowing the strategies used in Math today. This website is also available as an app for your iPad or smartphone. - Kate McManus-Green

LIBRARY NEWS

OVERDUE LIBRARY BOOKS

Library Over dues were sent out on Friday. We are asking that you look at home for these books and return them - it is not a demand for payment. The books are often found in the classrooms and it is not until the end of the year when classroom books come back and we check our shelves that we consider the book truly lost. Thank you for looking around at home for us.

PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE

Congratulations to these 6 students who have finished this week Vivian Tao KWhite, Alyce Greentree 1Blue, Madalyn Johnson 1White, Riley Picker 1White, Lucy Lasker 2White, and Cassandra Griffiths 6Blue. We have a total of 251 students participating, 96 are already completing online recording and 28 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 can be directed to rosalind.wythes@cg.catholic.edu.au

LAMONT BOOK CLUB

-Brochures have been distributed to students. Ordering is done online. Please do not send any orders to school. Closing date for Issue 3 is 11 May 2015. Thank you.

ST GREG’S FIRST ACCELERATED READER MILLIONAIRE!!

A big congratulations to James Hill (4 Red) for his massive achievement in reading one million words since starting the Accelerated Reader (AR) program in Term 1 this year. James will be the first to have his millionaire picture up in the library and hopefully it won’t be long before other AR students from Years 4 to 6 will join him. Well done James!! At the time of going to print Gabby Reynolds (6 White) has just completed reading one million words as well!

EARPHONES FOR LIBRARY AT MACQUOID

Any Year 3 to 6 student that has not already brought in their earphones to use on the computers at MacQuoid Street please do so ASAP? They need to be the small ear bud type and sealed in a small snap lock bag with child’s name and class. Please note size is important because we don’t have much storage space for them. Thank you.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

The Library is a very busy place and to ensure smooth running of Library, it would be great to have some parent volunteers. Jobs would include covering books, shelving, tidying the library and making small displays. We also have lots of Accelerated Reader books and Premier’s Reading Challenge books to locate and label. If you could help please email melissa.greentree@cg.catholic.edu.au (MacQuoid St).

ST GREGORY’S PRIMAR SCHOOLS

QUEANBEYAN

COME ALONG AND DISCOVER WHAT ST GREGORY’S SCHOOL CAN OFFER YOUR CHILD!

Enrolment forms available from either School Office:

- Lowe St Campus: Ph: 6297 1366
- MacQuoid Campus: Ph: 6297 2221
- [www.stgregsps.nsw.edu.au](http://www.stgregsps.nsw.edu.au)

Students enrolling in Kindergarten must turn 5 years of age by 30 April, 2016

STREGS PS NEWSLETTER

ACCESS TO STGREGSPS.NSW.EDU.AU/NOTES

Students can access the school notes by using the new password: 123ABC or their Accelerated Reader passwords. Please contact the school office if you have forgotten your password.

ST GREGORY’S QUEANBEYAN

NEWSTELLS

Library Over dues were sent out on Friday. We are asking that you look at home for these books and return them - it is not a demand for payment. The books are often found in the classrooms and it is not until the end of the year when classroom books come back and we check our shelves that we consider the book truly lost. Thank you for looking around at home for us.

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PLAY RUGBY LEAGUE FOR THE QUEANBEYAN KANGAROOS

The Junior Roos are still on the lookout for players especially those eligible for under 9 and under 10. Most age groups have space so anyone interested should contact roossecretary@hotmail.com

DARAMALAN COLLEGE

ENROLMENT DATES FOR 2016

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 info about enrolments on our website: www.daramalan.act.edu.au

ST MARY MACKILLOP COLLEGE

Year 7, 2016 Information and Open Evening: Monday 4 May 2015 6.30pm Wanniassa Campus

"Try Mackillop Day" [for Year 6 students] Thursday 7 May 2015 9.00am to 2.30pm Wanniassa Campus [registration via www.mackillop.act.edu.au]

Careers Expo and Year 11 2016 Information Evening Wednesday 13 May Isabella Campus Careers Expo from 4.30pm Presentations from 6.00pm

Contact the Enrolment Officer on 6209 0100, email enrolments@mackillop.act.edu.au or visit the College website www.mackillop.act.edu.au for more information.

Wanniassa Campus – Mackinnon Street, Wanniassa Isabella Campus – Ellerston Avenue, Isabella Plains

ITALIAN FOR KIDS AT ST GREGORY’S

Start date & time: 23rd April 2015 at 3.30 pm
End date & time: 25th June 2015 at 4:30 pm
Venue: St Gregory’s Parish Room Term Fee: $160 per child (10 weeks)

For enrolment and more information, please contact Sarah on 0431 252 768 or email sarah.mak@lcfclubs.com.au and visit us at www.lcfclubs.com.au

EXPERIENCE QUALITY PROPERTY SERVICE

For all your property needs contact Alex Dennison, your local agent and past St. Gregory’s student.

QUEANBEYAN & JERRABOMBERRA

0434 484 393 | adennison@peterblackshaw.com.au