



ST GREGORY'S QUEANBEYAN NEWSLETTER

Week Seven, Term Two, 2015
2 June, 2015



Share the Spirit....



Dear Parents and Carers,

Last Wednesday our Indigenous and Year 6 students participated in the Reconciliation Walk as part of the activities to acknowledge National Reconciliation Week. Reconciliation literally means 're-establishing friendly relations' or 'healing old wounds'.

When I made my First Confession as it was called back in the old days the emphasis was definitely on the wrong I had done and my need to confess. When the Catholic Church changed the name of this powerful sacrament to Reconciliation the emphasis changed from confessing to repairing, restoring and renewing my relationship with my God which in turn has to affect my relationships with those around me.

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is celebrated across Australia each year between 27 May and 3 June. The dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey—the anniversaries of the successful 1967 referendum and the High Court Mabo decision. The week is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures and achievements and to explore how each of us can join the national reconciliation effort.

May 27 marks the anniversary of the Australia's most successful referendum and a defining event in our nation's history. The 1967 referendum saw over 90% of Australians vote to give the Commonwealth the power to make laws for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and to recognise them in the national census.

On the 3 June 1992 the High Court of Australia delivered its landmark Mabo decision which legally recognised that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have a special relationship to the land – that existed prior to colonisation and still exists today. www.reconciliation.org.au
The theme of Reconciliation Week this year is 'it's time to change it up'. Some of the changes might be to refrain from making derogatory, generalising comments about people according to their race. It might be that we refuse to find jokes funny that are based on race. It might be that we speak with our children about everyone having the right to be treated with respect.



May you always be treated with respect,

Claire

**Claire Frazer
Principal**

IMPORTANT EVENTS

Monday 1 June - Friday 5 June
Sabbath Week

Wednesday 3 June
Sullivan Shield Round 1 - Kambah

Wednesday 3 June
ICAS Science Competition

Monday 8 June
Queen's Birthday Public Holiday

Friday 12 June
CCC/CPS Cross Country - Eastern Creek

Friday 12 June
First Eucharist Students Retreat
St Gregory's Hall - 12:30pm to 3pm

Saturday 13 June
First Eucharist
St Raphael's Church - 5:30pm

Sunday 14 June
First Eucharist
St Raphael's Church - 9am and 11am

Monday 15 June
Second Hand Clothing Pool Open
9am to 10am Lowe Street MPR

Monday 15 June
My Body My Life Year 6 night
7pm St Gregory's Hall

Tuesday 16 June
ICAS Spelling Competition

Wednesday 17 June
Sullivan Shield Round 2 - Kambah

Thursday 18 June
ICAS Writing Competition

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

Monday 22 June
CPS Rugby Trials - Forbes

Monday 22 June
Second Hand Clothing Pool Open
9am to 10am Lowe Street MPR

Monday 22 June
My Body My Life Year 5 night
7pm St Gregory's Hall



Focus Value for June - "Believe In Yourself"

From the Principal.....

PRAYERS: Last week I spoke to Anne Jochimsen who is now living in Sydney. Anne was, as always, in high spirits and wanted to know all about the news from school. I know Anne very much appreciates your prayerful support, I assured her that she continues to be very much in our thoughts and prayers.

SABBATH WEEK: Week 7 every term is set aside as 'Sabbath Week'. During this week no homework is set, however reading should continue as normal. Maybe families could celebrate Sabbath Week by setting aside technology and everyone sits together to read! It is such a powerful message to our children to read in front of them. During this week the Year 6 students will be running prayer and assisting teachers in all other classes.

THEME FOR JUNE: *Believe in Yourself!*

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL: My thanks to all involved with the Athletics Carnival last Thursday. Unfortunately the number of parents volunteering to assist with the various events was low which meant more pressure on our teachers. I do appreciate that it was not the best weather conditions for the carnival. One thing we can't control is the weather, the days either side were glorious. The students were constantly on the go and it was decided to continue despite the light sprinkling of rain throughout the morning. Cancelling events is problematic as we need to confirm the St Gregory's team to participate in the Northern Region Carnival in Goulburn.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE: Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential to your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. A very important element of my role as principal is to work in partnership with families to encourage and support regular attendance of your children at school. If your child is refusing to come to school please contact me so that we can meet in order to develop strategies to address this issue. I am obliged to make reports to the relevant government agencies if a student is absent from school without reasonable explanation. I can also request that a medical certificate be supplied. If a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of primary school they'll have missed over a year of school.

ARRIVING TO SCHOOL ON TIME: There are a number of students who are regularly late to school. Arriving at school and class on time: Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning and activities scheduled early in the day, helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine, give students time to socialise with friends before classes begin and perhaps most importantly reduces classroom disruption. Any students arriving after morning assembly need to be signed in at the office by a parent, carer or guardian.



KIDSMATTER: This week is about focusing on using effective discipline, which means setting limits for children's behaviour.



LIBRARY NEWS

PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

Congratulations to the following students who have finished this week Ella Dawes 4White and Emily O'Grady 3Gold. We have a total of 254 students participating, 131 are already completing online recording and 44 have completed - fantastic!! **We have our class pizza challenge running again and we have two classes KWhite and 1Red each with 4 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://stgregsps.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 rosaling.wythes@cg.catholic.edu.au

Important Rule for PRC Readers

PRC encourages students to read widely and it is for this reason that with the series books (eg, Zac Powers, My Australian story) on the PRC booklist you can only read any 2 books as PRC books. You can read up to 5 other books from the same series as Personal Choice books. Therefore a student can only read 7 books in one series for PRC and then only 2 from various series after this. Please remember this rule when recording online. Thank you - Rosalind Wythes, Library Assistant.



ACCELERATED READING WORD MILLIONAIRE

Congratulations to Jacynth Blakey (5Gold) and Clay Eldridge (5White) for becoming Accelerated Reader Millionaires. Welcome to the most exclusive club in the school!!

ST VINNIES WINTER APPEAL



During the month of June, the Year 2 students and the St Greg's Mini Vinnies team is asking the whole school community to **DONATE** any **WINTER ITEMS** (blankets, beanies, scarves, jumpers, gloves, socks, sleeping bags, etc) and a **CAN OF FOOD** to help out the less fortunate families in our local Queanbeyan area. Please go through your wardrobes and cupboards and donate to this very worthwhile appeal. All items will be collected from classrooms each week, with the final collection on Thursday 18th June. Thank you for your support.

CANTEEN NEWS

Helpers at Lowe Street this week are:

Thursday 4 June Julie Worner

Friday 5 June Lyn Smith

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

SPORT NEWS

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL: Last Thursday St Gregory's hosted its annual Athletics Carnival at Wright Park. The day was a great success, with everyone behaving themselves, as we know they can, participating in all of the events and displaying excellent sportsmanship throughout.

The highlight of the carnival was the track final events at the end of the day, as well as the running of the third annual St Greg's Gift, which was taken out by Madeline Bennett in a photo finish!

Students have been notified about the results of the carnival, and notes will be sent home regarding the Northern Region Carnival when dates are finalised.

A huge thankyou needs to go to our parent volunteers on the day, without them, days like this aren't possible and both the staff and students really appreciated their presence.

The High Jump event will be held through the week at lunchtime and students can see the notice board for times when their age group will be participating.

SULLIVAN SHIELD: Good luck to the team competing tomorrow at Kambah.

- Matthew Maloney, PE Teacher/Sport Coordinator

CONFIRMATION DATES

Warning about a clash of dates with Sacrament of Confirmation and 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.

OUR SCHOOL RULES

Stay Safe,
Be Fair,
Show Respect.

JUVENILE DIABETES

The sweetest way
to raise awareness and
funds for type 1 diabetes



Jelly Babies - it's the sweetest way to raise awareness and funds for type one diabetes. For only \$2:00 you can support medical research to help improve the lives of over 120,000 Australian kids and adults living with type one diabetes. To support the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation St Gregory's will be selling jelly babies lolly packets at the school offices for \$2:00 each.



NOTICEBOARD



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

St Gregory's Parish will be hosting their first ever Winter Sleep-out!

This will be done in collaboration with the St Vincent de Paul Society in Canberra. Open to all school children from Years 4-12.

The event will run from 5pm Friday 19th June until 9am Saturday 20th June.

See fliers at MacQuoid office with permission slip on the back.

Children without a signed permission slip and required donation, unfortunately will not be allowed to attend.

Contact: William Mathieson's Mobile: 0403 614 911

Volunteers are required to cook and supply a pot of soup for this event. Please let the parish know if you are able to help out - 6299 4611. Thank you.

Australia's Sandwich Generation: Effects of Stress and Coping on Subjective Well-Being

[Survey Link](#)

If you are currently:

Assisting an elderly parent or relative with everyday activities such as shopping, cooking, help with medication, help with finances, personal hygiene, eating, and mobility.

While also supporting and caring for financially dependent children...

You are invited to take part in a research project investigating stress levels and the subjective well-being within Australia's Sandwich Generation in order to identify adaptive coping strategies to assist such individuals.

Participation in the study involves completing an online survey which should take 10 minutes to complete.

If you are interested in participating in this study please visit http://canberrahealth.az1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_cJbzDBUeF6Ely0J

The survey does not require any identifying data therefore your responses will remain confidential and anonymous.

This study is being conducted by Jade Gillett and will contribute to a thesis as apart of a Bachelor of Science in Psychology (Honours) degree at the University of Canberra. The study has been granted ethics approval by the University of Canberra Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC 15-77).



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:.....