Dear Parents and Carers,

Fr Troy came back from his recent holiday feeling very refreshed and rejuvenated. Now for most of us when we return from a break this means we settle back into our work and routines, feeling relaxed and ready to “get back into it”. For Fr Troy though, this means he has lots of ideas he wishes to implement as soon as possible! So, he came straight up to me after his time away and said, “I have ordered you a book!” I was, of course, intrigued. It turns out the book is titled, “Will there be faith?” by Thomas Groome. (Just as well he also explained the reasoning behind suggesting I read the book, otherwise I would’ve been worried).

I have started reading the book. Although I am only a quarter of the way into it, much of what Groome talks about makes sense for current times. He begins by saying everyone needs a worth, or a significance, around which to place their lives and that given the spiritual nature of the human person, the universality of faith should not surprise. In other words, people today are looking for something more – something that answers our questions, or something that gives us meaning.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is a program that is run in most parishes, including ours. It is a program that prepares adults who wish to be baptised into the Catholic faith. The reason behind the book referral is that it impacts on the way we would normally run the RCIA program. According to Groome we need to be reaching out to people using another perspective - one that involves faith. The RCIA program in the last few years has been heavily scripture and church teaching based. Although this is still important, it’s faith that people are looking for and desiring to know more about. “Since the dawn of history people have reflected a capacity and a desire to reach for something beyond themselves.” (Groome, 2011).

In his homily at the Confirmation Masses last week, Archbishop Christopher Prowse spoke about how faith is all about reaching out. So often today we think, “What’s in it for me?” The Archbishop reminded the congregation about the bible verse from the Gospel of Luke, “Give, and it will be given to you.” The Holy Spirit is working in us when we are of service to others. Faith is our Christianity working through our humanity.

As Catholic Christians, authentic commitment is the key to living the Catholic faith. So, as we reflect on where we are in our faith, let us consider, “How can we give ourselves to others?”

May peace be in your families,

Julie Wiley
Principal (Acting)
From the Principal…….

PRAYERS: Sympathy and prayers are extended to the Mossfield family (Archer - 6Gold and Ella - 2Blue) on the death of their Grandmother. And to the Mills family (Ethan - 6Gold) on the recent death of his Grandfather.
Please pray for David Nelson (K White) who is recovering from surgery.

CONGRATULATIONS: To the school choir. They represented our school with great pride last Friday night as they sang in the Northern Region Singfest carnival. I could be biased but I thought they were by far the best on the night!
Congratulations to Shanaathanan Srimanobhavan (2 Gold) who received two first places at The National Eisteddfod. One for 8yrs and under prose recital solo and the other for 8yrs and under poetry recital solo.

SEPTEMBER THEME: Look On The Bright Side – Three easy ways to look on the bright side……
1. Look at the situation from a tourist’s point of view.
2. Rephrase to reframe your state of mind.
3. Say, “The good news is…….” and complete your sentence.
Some classes at St Gregory’s do a Gratitude Journal. This is a great way to recognise and name all the blessings in our life.

KIDS MATTER: Support for Parenting - Parenting can be very challenging and difficult. Today’s parents often have to sift through a wealth of advice and opinions on parenting, and somewhere in the middle lies what might work for you. The goal is to maintain happy and healthy family relationships and that takes a lot of hard work, commitment and love.

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART: Lowe street children will be participating in a jump off for Jump Rope For Heart this Wednesday. This will take place during PE lessons with Mr Maloney. Any sponsorship money please hand to Mrs Tanti. Thank you.

WALKATHON: We will be holding our annual Walkathon on the first Friday next term. In the past Peter Blackshaw Real Estate have provided fruit for all our students at the halfway mark. Unfortunatley they are unable to do it this year. I am wondering if there is anyone in our community who might be able to do it this year? We will require 650 pieces of fruit. Please contact me if you can help. We are also in need of more parent helpers on the day. If you can help please contact Erin Taylor, erin.taylor@cg.catholic.edu.au

HOMEWORK SURVEY: The Curriculum Team are in the process of reviewing the current Homework Policy for St Gregory’s students. You are invited to complete a short survey regarding homework. The survey is available online at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8F9282X until the end of term (paper copies are also available at Lowe/MacQuoid St office). All surveys are anonymous. Thanking you in advance for your participation - your thoughts are vital to the process.

UNIFORM: The holidays provide an opportunity for parents to ensure their children are wearing the correct school uniform in Term 4. Please see our website for further clarification. There are still a small number of students wearing incorrect footwear. Black sneakers/runners are not a replacement for school shoes and basketball shorts are not permitted.

ST GREGORY’S RAFFLE: Ist prize $1,000 Coles Myer voucher, 2nd prize $500 Coles Myer voucher and 3rd Prize $200 Coles Myer voucher. Tickets are only $10 each. The raffle will be drawn at the school disco on Friday, 30th October. If you would like to purchase a ticket please visit either school office or send money to school in an envelope with your name and contact details clearly marked.
ST GREGORY’S QUEANBEYAN NEWSLETTER

OUR SCHOOL RULES

Stay Safe, 
Be Fair, 
Show Respect.

LOST PROPERTY

All lost property without names will be sent to clothing pool if not claimed by end of this week. Please check you are not missing any items. There is a quite a lot of clothing in Lost Property at both Lowe St and MacQuoid St. Thank you.

SEND YOUR NAME TO MARS

You and your family have an opportunity to send your name(s) to Mars on next NASA Mars Mission which is due for launch in March 2016. The spacecraft is called INSIGHT. NASA is currently collecting names to be placed on a microchip which will be placed in the spacecraft.

HOWEVER, THE LAST DAY TO REGISTER IS SEPTEMBER 8, 2015 (11:59PM ET [US time]) It takes one minute to register.

To find out more about the Insight Spacecraft and its Mission, follow this link: http://insight.jpl.nasa.gov/home.cfm

To register follow this link: http://mars.nasa.gov/participate/send-your-name/insight/

(If you have not registered with NASA before, you will need to fill out the ‘NEW FLYERS’ form).

If you register, you can also print off a “Boarding Pass” with the registered name on it as a momento.

Any questions please contact Greg Tarrant - gregory.tarrant@cg.catholic.edu.au

CANTEEN NEWS

Helpers at Lowe Street this week are:
Thursday 17 September  Erika O’Brien
Friday 18 September  Leesa Hughes

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

SCHOOL PHOTOS

In Week 2 of next term St Gregory’s school student photos will be taken. MacQuoid Street on Monday, 12th October and Lowe Street on Tuesday, 13th October. All students will need to wear their full school summer uniform for photos. Students will not be wearing their school jumpers. Envelopes were sent home with students today. Please complete and return to your child’s class teacher on photo day.

Family Photos - If you wish to have a family photo taken please collect an envelope from the office at either campus and return them back to the office.

* Families with all siblings at MacQuoid St will have family photo taken on Monday, 12th October.
* Families with all siblings at Lowe St will have family photo taken on Tuesday, 13th October.
* Families with siblings at both campuses will be taken at Lowe St on Tuesday, 13th October. (NB: Siblings will be walked over to Lowe St).

SPORT NEWS

BOOROWA TOUCH AND NETBALL CARNIVAL - Friday, 16th October. Students who have nominated to represent St Gregory’s at Boorowa have been given a transport note. Please return these notes by Friday, 18th September if you wish your child to catch the bus - Matthew Maloney, PE Teacher/Sport Coordinator.

WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN

As you know, St Gregory’s has been participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. The program has now finished for 2015; thanks to everyone who supported us. We’re now at the important stage of the program where the Sticker Sheets are collected and lodged as our Earn & Learn claim. We will then be able to get new educational equipment. The more we collect, the more we can redeem. So this week, please send in your Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheets and any loose Earn & Learn stickers you may have. Remember to check your handbag, the car glove box or they maybe stuck on the fridge. Every little bit helps. Thanks again for all your support!
NOTICEBOARD

Queanbeyan Little Athletics

Online Registration from 1 September at www.qlac.org.au
Registration Afternoons & Uniform Sales
Saturday 5th & Sunday 13th September 2015
12 noon to 4pm at Wright Park Sheds
*Proof of age is required for all new registrations

Season start, ‘Coma and Try’ Day & Age Marshall Training
Saturday 17th October 2015
8.30am to 11am at Wright Park

Competition Commences
Saturday 25th October 2015
8.30am to 11am at Wright Park

**Registration opens 1 September**

Family, Fun, Fitness Season starts 17 October 2015!

Wright Park
Old Sydney Road
Queanbeyan
(Queanbeyan Little Athletics Club Inc.
For further information visit our website:
www.qlac.org.au
For registration queries email:
registration@qlac.org.au

Queanbeyan Junior Cricket Club

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<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Rego Fee</th>
<th>Wednesday Time</th>
<th>Friday Time</th>
<th>Saturday Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MILO in CRICKET (4-8 years)</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>5.20pm-7.00pm</td>
<td>8.30am to 10.00am</td>
<td>Town Park (Wednesday), Bungendore (Saturday)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior Girls (8-15 years)</td>
<td>$140</td>
<td>5.30pm to 8.00pm</td>
<td>Various</td>
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<tr>
<td>MILO T20 Blast (11-12 years)</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>5.30pm to 7.00pm</td>
<td>9.00am to 10.30am</td>
<td>Stirling Oval (Friday), Phillip Oval (Saturday)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior Cricket (Under 10 to Under 18)</td>
<td>$140</td>
<td>5.30pm to 8.00pm</td>
<td>9.00am to 12.00pm</td>
<td>Various</td>
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*Discounts apply for multiple registrations*

To register please visit http://www.queanbeyancricket.com/site/juniors

CAR POOLING REQUIRED
Does your child train at Southern Canberra Gymnastics Club in Erindale? Are you interested in sharing pick-ups and drop-offs on Tuesdays and Thursdays? Please call Yvonne Carroll on 0490191723 or email mpc222@gmail.com

CAMP THUNDER
Learn to play like your T20 heroes these school holidays at Camp Thunder, Sydney Thunder’s school holiday camp designed by Sydney Thunder star batsman Aiden Blizzard.

Where: Town Park, Queanbeyan
When: 24th and 25th September, 2015
Cost: $99 includes shirt, drink bottle and wristband

For more info please contact matthew.paton@cricketact.com.au
To register your child go to www.sydneythunder.com.au
ST GREG’S & HOME IN QBN
TRIVIA NIGHT

A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS AND DONATORS

BUSINESS DONATORS

- Spoil Me Pretty
- Mini Bling
- Trendy Hair & Beauty
- Dan Murphy’s
- Lindbecks Butchery
- Queanbeyan Golf Club
- Cakes By AM
- Lollipotz
- Pink Frosting
- Win TV
- Canberra Raiders
- Coyote Catering
- Outdoor Power Centre
- JEM Creative
- Sapphire Waters Merimbula
- Canberra Capitals
- Little National Hotel
- Hotel Realm
- City Florist Queanbeyan
- Walsh’s Hotel
- Patissez
- Hats of Distinction
- Practically Perfect Portions
- Hallistic Hair
- Elward Interior Designs
- Play for Change
- Reframed
- Hi Class Auto Detailing

INDIVIDUAL DONATORS

Ryan Matchett
Bob Brady
The Haddin Family
Anna Green
Matt Maloney &
The McInnes Family
The Vangageldon Family
The Bower Family
Fr Troy Bobbin