Dear Parents and Carers,

How wonderful it is to be back at St Gregory’s. Whilst I had an amazing time away I can say with sincerity that I am pleased to be back!

If I needed a reminder as to why I love St Greg’s it was evident in so many ways on Friday at our annual Walkathon. The students pushed themselves to participate some to the very limit, many were tired but very proud of themselves. I believe that raising funds should be challenging and for many it was a challenge – I was very proud of the effort that students made for their school.

I do not know how many parents and grandparents were involved in the day – walking with classes, handing out fruit, supervising checkpoints and preparing and serving lunch. Our helpers were so enthusiastic in their participation in this vital fundraising initiative.

Finally our staff. Walkathon is a big day where teachers are really on duty for the best part of the day. I watched as they ensured each person had a break and that supervision duties were covered. My thanks to everyone for your support of this day. I look forward to seeing the outcome of the fundraising side of the day. Certainly most of the funds from last year have been put to great use with the upgrading of the playground at Lowe Street – it looks fantastic.

Our theme for October is to ‘be generous in all you do’ well that was certainly evident on Friday. I think that to be truly generous means that in some ways it is a challenge. A millionaire can appear to be generous in donating thousands of dollars to charity but it may not be as generous as the average family donating $50 simply because the loss is felt more. It is my experience often that the busier a person is the more prepared they are to be generous in sharing their time.

Generosity inspires gratitude, and gratitude inspires generosity. God is generous to us and our generosity, as St. Paul tells us, gives proof of our gratitude towards God (2 Cor. 9:11).

I had a wonderful time overseas – a few days in Dubai in 40+ heat exploring the sheer opulence of the place. Snowfields and ice rinks in shopping centres not to mention the world’s tallest building. Attending The Learner Conference in Madrid followed by a few days in Barcelona. A 6 day silent retreat in Dublin, with a 5.30am start each day with meditation. Travelling around Ireland seeing castles and cathedrals and of course the Guinness factory! Some time in London and then a tour around England and into Edinburgh. How blessed. I have been asked what I liked best and of course that is impossible to answer. I did on a few occasions participate in evening prayer in cathedrals hundreds of years old. These times were very precious and be assured the community of St Greg’s were always in my prayers.

The view from the 125th floor of the Burj Khalifa in Dubai.

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

**PRAYERS:** Please pray for those members of our community who are sick or having treatment for illness.

**CONGRATULATIONS:** Emily O’Grady (3 Gold) came 7th (out of 51 dancers) at the Australian Irish Dancing Championships held in Sydney during the holidays.

Congratulations to our students who represented Queanbeyan YMCA at the NSW Gymnastics Championships held at Orange over the school holidays. Queanbeyan once again retained the club trophy with fantastic results from Grace Jenkins (4 Blue), 4th overall, Level 5 sub junior; Bridgette Sinclair (4 Blue), 5th overall, Level 3 sub junior; Elizabeth Sinclair (3 Blue), 6th overall, Level 3 sub junior and Rachelle Nairne (4 Blue), Foundation 2, silver pass. Well done girls!

**THANK YOU:** A big thank you to Kristy Ryan (Jonathon - K White), and the Ryan family for covering all our new guided readers!

**OCTOBER THEME:** *Be Generous In All You Do*

**CLASS PLACEMENTS 2016:** Soon the teaching staff will begin the process of creating the class groups for next year. When compiling classes, teachers are asked to take into consideration a number of factors; learning styles and abilities are a first concern, behavioural issues and special needs are also a high priority. Friendships are of less importance as children do establish new friendship groups with students in their class. As has been our policy for the last few years students will not be asked to suggest friends they might like to have in class with them. The classroom is a learning space and the break times provide ample opportunity for socialising. The teachers are in the best place to determine which students should be together in order to ensure the best learning environment for all. If you have a specific request in regards to class placement that you would like to discuss with me please contact Jane King to make an appointment. I do not take requests for specific teachers.

**JUNIOR SWIMMING LESSONS**

The Junior SWIMMING program will begin on Monday 2nd November and end on Friday 27th November, 2015. Students will need to wear their sports uniform every day for the two weeks. They will bring their swimmers and a towel in a separate bag. Please apply sunscreen before coming to school.

Classes will walk to and from the pool and will leave approximately 1/2 hour before their lesson.

- **K Blue, K Gold, K Red, K White and 1 Blue (10 lessons) Monday 2nd Nov – Friday 13th November.**
  - 9:30am – 10am 1 Blue
  - 10am – 10:30am K White
  - 10:30am – 11am K Red
  - 11am – 11:30am K Gold
  - 11:30am – 12:00pm K Blue

- **1 Gold, 1 Red, 1 White, 2 Blue, 2 Red and 2 White (10 lessons) Monday 16th Nov – Friday 27th November.**
  - 9:30am – 10am 2 White
  - 10am – 10:30am 2 Gold
  - 10:30am – 11am 2 Red
  - 11am – 11:30am 2 Blue
  - 12pm – 12:30pm 1 Gold
  - 12:30pm – 1pm 1 Red
  - 1:00pm – 1:30pm 1 White

**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:..............................................
WASTE FREE WEDNESDAY

This week we are starting our waste reduction project at St Gregory’s by making every Wednesday a nude food day.

Schools nationwide are embracing the nude food revolution and encouraging children to bring a rubbish free lunch to school. For the uninitiated, ‘nude food’ is food that comes to school without disposable packaging – extra plastic bags, paper bags, wrappings, plastic water bottles or cling wraps.

Australia is the second highest producer of waste per person in the western world! And school lunches are contributing to this, with the average lunch-toting child generating around 30kg of litter a year.

You can do your bit to reduce this by packing a school lunch without any extra packaging or juice packs. Please support us by making Wednesdays ‘WASTE FREE’ day.

Thanks for your help!

ST GREGORY'S QUEANBEYAN NEWSLETTER

OUR SCHOOL RULES

Stay Safe,
Be Fair,
Show Respect.

CANTEEN NEWS

 Helpers at Lowe Street this week are:
    Thursday 15 October    Michelle Welch
    Friday 16 October      Tamara Palmer

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

A new price list for MacQuoid Street canteen has been distributed to students with this newsletter.

LIBRARY NEWS

Welcome to Library for Term 4.

Premier’s Reading Challenge is finished for 2015 and we expect the Certificates to arrive in late November. I would be grateful if you keep you user ID and password somewhere safe for next year. The Challenge for next year begins from 1st September 2015 - end August 2016, so you can keep a record of any reading you do at home for next year.

We will be sending out overdue notices next week - they are just meant to remind you of what your child has and we would ask you to look at home for them. If you can’t find them it is possible they are at school and at the end of the year, we will check classrooms and our shelves.

This term many of our Library classes are focusing on research skills.

- Melissa Greentree, Helen Carroll & Rosalind Wythes.

SPORT NEWS

BOOROWA TOUCH AND NETBALL CARNIVAL - Good luck to the students representing St Gregory’s School at Boorowa this Friday. A reminder that the buses will depart MacQuoid Street promptly at 6:50am.

Our estimated time of arrival back at school will be posted on Twitter and Skoolbag as we depart Boorowa to return - Matthew Maloney, PE Teacher/Sport Coordinator.

RE NEWS

All Souls Day Mass will be held at St Raphael’s Church on Monday, 2 November from 12pm. Students from Years 2 to Year 6 will attend.

Families are invited to write a prayer, a poem, draw a picture or send in a photocopy of a photo to include in the class folder which will be used at the All Souls Day Mass.

- Lauren Macdonald, REC.
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 starts, ‘Come 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

Wright Park
Old Sydney Road
Queanbeyan
For registrations and fees email registration@qlac.org.au
For further information visit our website www.qlac.org.au

QUEANBEYAN BASKETBALL
Registrations contact Rosie by email at: pete35@tpg.com.au
for Grades - Kindergarten to Year 6 and contact Carole E: cjduvall@hotmail.com
for High School and Senior Men & Women

Register now at www.aussiehoops.com.au
Commmencing 23rd October 2015
Fridays 4:30-5:30pm Ages: 4 - 10yrs
Cost: $85 includes basketball, backpack & singlet plus 7 weeks clinic
Venue: Queanbeyan Basketball Stadium