Dear Parents and Carers,

We are now in the final week of preparations for Easter – Holy Week.

Jesus spends this night with his friends. Before the meal he demonstrates to his Apostles what leadership should look like – to lead you must serve. Jesus got on his hands and knees and washed the filthy, dusty feet of his followers. Then Jesus took bread and wine, blessed it and shared it with his friends saying ‘This is my body, this is my blood do this in memory of me’. More than 2000 years later we still do this in memory of Jesus every time we are at Mass. Jesus then goes to the Mount of Olives to pray. He takes friends with him but they are too tired to stay awake at the very time that Jesus really needed them. Jesus is arrested and lead away.

The Mass of the Last Supper will be celebrated at St Raphael’s Church at 7.30pm.

Jesus carries his cross to Calvary. He is battered and bruised facing the taunts of many. He also had to bear the heartache of seeing his mother and the others that he loved in distress. Jesus is hung on a cross between two criminals. One joins in the taunting the other asks Jesus for forgiveness and in return he is assured that he will be with Jesus in paradise. Darkness came over the whole land until three in afternoon, while the sun’s light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus in a loud voice said, ‘Father into your hands I commend my spirit’. Having said this, he breathed his last

Good Friday Passion Liturgy will be celebrated at St. Raphael’s Church at 3pm.
From the Principal......

**PRAYERS:** We offer our love, prayers and support to Melissa, Simon, Patrick and Joseph following the death of their very much loved daughter and sister last Sunday. Alexis was indeed a precious gift to her family and will be very missed. The funeral for Alexis will be held tomorrow (Wednesday) at St Raphael's Church at 11:30am.

**CONGRATULATIONS:** The students and teachers of 2Gold and 2White for the presentation of their assembly last Friday. The students were very active in their participation singing loudly. The students who read are to be congratulated on their clear and easy to hear and understand reading. The message about forgiveness was very clear. It is certainly much better to grow beautiful flowers than it is to collect heavy rocks. My thanks to the teachers Kelly Delaney and Sarah Cook and the wonderful students of Year 2.

**CROSS COUNTRY:** Yesterday was perfect weather for the running of the Cross Country. I do appreciate that long distance running is not a favourite for everyone but I do admire the many students who gave of their best and completed the race some distance behind the winners. Perseverance is a wonderful quality. My thanks to Matt Maloney and all the teachers who contributed to the success of the carnival. The top 6 finishers will now represent St Gregory's in the Northern Region Cross Country to be held in Crookwell on Friday 29th April. Well done!

**Easter Liturgy:** This year our Easter Liturgy on Holy Thursday will include elements of a Pilgrimage. The Lowe Street Students will begin at midday and then process to the Bicentennial Hall where they will meet up with students from MacQuoid who will have started at 11:45am. After a time of prayer in the hall we will all process to St. Raphael's Church. Our time of prayer will conclude at 1:30pm. On Tuesday next week we will celebrate with a Resurrection Liturgy at 12:30pm in the Hall. Parents, Carers and Friends are invited to join us as we celebrate Easter.

**WYD:** Ryan Matchett teacher of 3Gold and our Aboriginal Contact person has been invited by Catholic Education to attend World Youth Day this year. This year the event will be held in Krakow, Poland in July. St Gregory’s Parish is fundraising so that other young people from Queanbeyan can attend. They currently have a raffle with the First Prize a Quilt that is hand appliqued plus machine pieced 165cmx160cm. Second prize is Porcelain Dolls. Tickets are $3 each or 2 for $5 and are available at school offices.

**Walkathon:** Only 16 days left to collect sponsorship. The Walkathon was officially launched at our Whole School Assembly last Friday. Mayor Tim Overall was at the assembly to help announce that our walkathon will also include a walk against Bullying and Violence. We thank Mayor Overall for sharing his thoughts about bullying. Please encourage your children to safely seek sponsorship for this fundraising initiative. I did receive some feedback in relation to the Walkathon from a parent and would welcome any further feedback that could be discussed at our next School Community Council Meeting to be held next Tuesday.

**ANZAC DAY:** I appreciate that we are still in March but I invite families to note that once again the students of St Gregory’s will participate in the Anzac Day March in Queanbeyan. Anzac Day is on the 25th April and is the Monday before school resumes for students for Term 2 on Wednesday 27th April. (Tuesday 26th April is a Teacher Professional Development Day)

**NAPLAN:** As noted in other sections of the newsletter the NAPLAN testing will be held 10th–13th May – Week 3 of Term 2. If for some reason you wish to withdraw your child from the testing regime, please contact Mrs Erin Taylor.

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The women go to the tomb in the early hours to discover the tomb is empty. Jesus is alive!

**Easter Vigil Mass will be celebrated at St Raphael's at 7.30pm on Saturday.**

**Easter Sunday Masses will be celebrated at 8am and 10am.**

It is my prayer that everyone has a happy and holy Easter!

*May you always be aware of the great Mercy of God,*

Claire Frazer
Principal

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**Focus Value for March - ‘Showing Mercy by Practising Forgiveness’**

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**Easter Vigil Mass** will be celebrated at St Raphael’s at 7.30pm on Saturday.

**Easter Sunday Masses** will be celebrated at 8am and 10am.
PRINCIPAL AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who received a Principal’s Award at the last whole school assembly.

K Blue  Jackson Ward
K Gold  Cooper Giteau
K Red  Olivia Dwyer
K White  Luke Amey
1 Blue  Oliver Morgan
1 Gold  Briony Gagliardi
1 Red  Hamish Reid
1 White  William Hall
2 Blue  Flynn Lovekin
2 Gold  Cadence Cunningham
2 Red  Slater Hollis-Millwood
2 White  Dakota Berry and Ivy Butterfield
3 Blue  Geordie English
3 Gold  Bridget Carroll
3 Red  Ella Mossfield
3 White  Harry Croker
4 Gold  William Ireland
4 Red  Maddy Dale
5 Blue  Rachelle Nairne
5 Red  Rose Taylor
6 Blue  Isabelle Bauer
6 Gold  Brie Allinson-Brasser
6 White  Wynn Hickey
Gold Bands  William Ireland

PROJECT COMPASSION

Dhaniram is driven to help create change in his village. Through the grassroots Hamara Haq (‘Our Rights’) project, run by Caritas India and supported by Caritas Australia, he’s gained the skills to help his community claim what’s rightfully theirs and develop their plan for a better future.

Project Compassion continues this week up to Easter.

YOUTH FUNDRAISER

St Gregory’s Parish are holding a Youth Fundraiser on Sunday 24th April at St Raphael’s Church after 9am mass. There will be morning tea, a bbq, kids activities, entertainment and mothers day stalls. Funds raised will go towards Youth activities in the Parish such as; Little Sparks, Youth Groups, Sacramental Programs and World Youth Day. The Parish are seeking donations of used toys and books that are no longer wanted by your children. Please send all donations to Ryan Matchett at MacQuoid Street or leave at the front office of either campus to be collected. Thank you, Ryan Matchett.

WORLD’S GREATEST SHAVE

Peter Taloni (5 White) has registered with the Leukaemia Foundation World’s Greatest Shave. The ‘GREAT SHAVE’ will take place at the 9am morning assembly at MacQuoid Street on Wednesday, 30th March. Please sponsor Peter by sending in donations to school or donating online at http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/petertaloni

LIBRARY NEWS

Premiers Reading Challenge 2016

We currently have 240 students enrolled with 10 students finished and 37 completing online records. What a great start!!! Congratulations to the following students who completed their challenge this week Phoenix Hamlin 1Red, Sienna Hamlin 1Gold, Sean O’Brien 2Gold, Danielle Quinones 2Blue, Sophia Watson 4White and Armand Saad 6Gold. The processing of PRC registrations is complete. If you have sent in a registration form and haven’t received a user name and password, please email. It is not too late to register. Forms are available from the Notes tab of St Gregory’s website http://stgregsps.nsw.edu.au/notes/ Any queries can be directed to rosalind.wythes@cg.catholic.edu.au but please ensure you include your child’s name and class in your email.

- Rosalind Wythes, Library Assistant.
ST GREGORY’S QUEANBEYAN NEWSLETTER

ST GREGORY’S QUEANBEYAN NEWSLETTER

Nude Food Wednesdays

Wrap Free Habits

St Greg’s are urging students to bring a Wrap Free recess and lunch every day but especially on Wednesdays. On this day, we ask that your child’s recess and lunch contain as few items as possible that must be thrown away. Ideally, your child’s lunch will only contain items that may be eaten or composted. By participating, students will have a better understanding of how we can take action to reduce our waste. Wrap free recesses and lunches also save money and promote healthy eating. http://www.wow.sa.gov.au/nude-food.html Thank you for supporting this initiative.

Sports News

Matt Giteau Cup - Students from St Gregory’s will be competing in the Matt Giteau Cup tomorrow at Campese Oval. We have two Year 3/4 teams and a 5/6 team. Good luck!

Congratulations - Lachlan Fitzpatrick (6 Gold) who has been selected in the MacKillop AFL team. Congratulations to the following students who have been selected to attend the MacKillop trials. Boys Football - Ned Bennett and Armand Saad Girls Football - Taylor Green and Skyla Robinson-McEvoy. Netball - Eleni Lolesio

Canteen News

Helpers at Lowe Street this week are:

Thursday 24th March      Daphne Gagliardi

Volunteers are always welcome at MacQuoid Street, even if just for an hour or more. Please contact Rosemarie on 6297 2221. Thank you.

Our School Rules

Stay Safe, Be Fair, Show Respect.

Naplan

In May 2016 the National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. The tests will be conducted across Australia on the following dates:

Tuesday, 10th May - Language Conventions & Writing
Wednesday 11th May - Reading
Thursday 12th May - Numeracy
Friday, 13th May - A ‘catch-up’ day is scheduled for any students who missed a test or were absent on a test day.

Please contact Erin Taylor if you have any queries relating to these tests.

Walkathon

Our 2016 walkathon will be held on Friday 8th April... Last day of Term 1!!!
Our theme this year is to raise awareness against bullying and violence by naming our walkathon A Walk against Bullying and Violence. Every student is encouraged to collect donations, with your supervision. Money raised will go towards the purchase of more Google Chrome books for our school.

Mothers Day Stall

The Mother’s Day Stall will be held on Friday, 6th May, 2016. The aim of the stall is to give students an opportunity to purchase a gift for a special lady in their lives. We are asking all families to please donate a small wrapped gift (clear wrapping please) to the value of approx. $5-00. Please send your gifts to school by Friday, 8 April.

Some ideas for donations include: candles, face washer and soap, chocolates, notebooks, diary, journals, pens, photo frames, hand lotion, jewellery, kitchen gadgets, cook books, tea towels, coffee mugs, etc.

If you would like to volunteer to help with preparing gifts or on the stall on the day please email Di Smith at diannesmith82@gmail.com - Thank you.

Canterbury News

Volunteers are always welcome at MacQuoid Street, even if just for an hour or more. Please contact Rosemarie on 6297 2221. Thank you.
ST EDMUNDS COLLEGE OPEN DAY

Whole school Open Day will be held on Saturday 7 May 2016. Two session times available. Please ensure you register to assist with catering numbers. http://www.stedmunds.act.edu.au/open-day-registration

We look forward to welcoming you to our College.

Session 1
10:00am Registration
10:15am Principal’s Welcome
10:30am Tour
11:30am Morning Tea

Session 2
12:30pm Registration
12:45pm Principal’s Welcome
1:00pm Tour
2:00pm Afternoon Tea

ST MARY MACKILLOP COLLEGE ENROLMENT

Year 7 2017 Information Night: 6.30pm, Monday 2 May @The Wanniassa Campus (Mackinnon Street, Wanniassa).
Try Mackillop Day: Thursday 5 May @The Wanniassa Campus (Mackinnon Street, Wanniassa) during school hours. An online registration form will be available for Try MacKillop Day in April.
Year 11 2017 Information Night: 6pm, Wednesday 11 May @The Isabella Campus (Ellerston Avenue, Isabella Plains).
Includes the Careers Expo and Curriculum Stalls.
First day of enrolment period: Monday 2 May. Enrolment forms will be accepted from this date. Final day of enrolment period: All enrolment forms for Year 7 2017 & Year 11 2017 are due to the College by 4pm Friday 20 May.
If you require further information, do not hesitate to contact the Enrolment Secretary 6209 0100 or by emailing enrolments@mackillop.act.edu.au

NORTHERN MISSION

Incorporating Queanbeyan, Michelago, Bungendore and Braidwood Parishes

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<tr>
<th>Northern Mission</th>
<th>1st Weds 10:00am</th>
<th>George Forbes House</th>
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<tr>
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<td>2nd Weds 11:00am</td>
<td>Warrigo (Kanaree)</td>
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<td>3rd Weds 11:00am</td>
<td>Queanbeyan Nursing Home</td>
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<td>Saturday 9:30am Morning Prayer at the Church, St Raphael’s</td>
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<td>Friday 11:00—11:30am</td>
<td>Exposition &amp; Adoration, St Raphael’s Church</td>
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<td>Fri 11:30—11:50am, Sat 4:30—5pm</td>
<td>Reconciliation, St Raphael’s Church</td>
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<td>Sunday during 3pm Mass</td>
<td>Children’s Liturgy Aga 3-9 yrs</td>
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<td>Sat &amp; Sun 10:00am</td>
<td>Baptisms, St Raphael’s Church</td>
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<td>2nd and 4th weekends (Sat) 5:30pm (Sun) 6pm</td>
<td>Baptism Presentations, St Raphael’s Church</td>
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<td>By Appointment</td>
<td>Marriages</td>
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<td>Mondays 10:00am—12noon</td>
<td>Craft Group, Parish Mtg Room</td>
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<td>2nd Weds 12:30pm</td>
<td>Cancer Support Gr 4697 983</td>
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<td>Weds 1:30—3pm</td>
<td>Prayer Group, Parish Meeting Room</td>
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PARISH OFFICE DETAILS:
Open: 9-3pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday (Closed for lunch 1-1:30pm and all day Wednesdays)
Address: 47 Lowe St, Queanbeyan
Postal: PO Box 175 Queanbeyan 2620
Phone: 6299 4611
Email: queanbeyan@cg.org.au
Web: www.stgregorysparishqueanbeyan.com

NOTICEBOARD

MERICI COLLEGE OPEN DAY

Wednesday 4 May 2.00pm-7.00pm

YEAR 7, 2017
INFORMATION EVENING
Tuesday 10 May 6.00pm-7.15pm
Enrolment forms will be available

YEAR 11, 2017
INFORMATION EVENING
Thursday 12 May 6.00pm-7.15pm
Careers Expo 4.00pm-6.00pm
Senior Information Handbooks will be available.

ADDITIONAL SCHOOL TOURS
Saturdays 30 April and 7 May
Visit www.merici.act.edu.au for more information.

MASS TIMES

THE THREE DAYS OF EASTER

Holy Thursday, 24th March
7:30pm
Mass of the Lord’s Supper
Adoration until 10:00pm

Good Friday, 25th March
St Raphael’s Church
10am
Stations of the Cross

The Lord’s Passion

Saturday, 26th March
7:30pm
Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday, 27th March
7-7:30am
St Mary’s Bungendore
Something New
(A “He has Risen” Liturgy)
St Gregory’s School Hall,
Molonglo Street, Queanbeyan.
Followed by coffee & hot cross buns

Sunday, 27th March at 8am & 10am