Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our final week of Term 2!

Last Tuesday night, Associate Professor Kaye Lowe facilitated a very valuable workshop at St Greg’s on Reading and Writing with children. It was wonderful to see so many Parents and Carers who were able to attend. Some of the strategies that were discussed to assist children included Echo and Shared reading. More information about this can be found on our school webpage.

‘What did you do at school today?’ ‘Nothing…’ is often an answer that many parents describe as what their child will tell them at the end of their school day. In my role, I am privileged to be a part of your child’s educational journey. One of the key highlights of my day is being able to have conversations with students where they can share their stories about life and learning. They take great delight in telling me all about their weekend activities or what is happening in their classrooms.

Sometimes it’s about asking the right questions to get an answer… Often “What was the best thing about your day?” is a question to ask around the dinner table, in the car, on the way to training, dance, the shops etc… this can be a great conversation starter to share with your child and provide them with an opportunity to talk about their day at school. Maggie Dent provides some valuable ways for parents to engage children in conversations and strengthen communication. Particularly strategies on building emotional intelligence and resilience with your children. www.maggiedent.com.au

As the weather gets cooler, let us take a moment to come inside and provide opportunities to open up conversations with our children.

It Doesn’t Matter
It doesn’t matter what a child
Looks like,
Smells like,
Thinks like,
They still feel.
It doesn’t matter what a child
Learns like,
Speaks like,
Behaves like,
They still listen.
It doesn’t matter who a child’s parents are,
Where they live,
How much money they have,
What culture they follow,
Children don’t care.

What does matter in the lives of children,
Yours, mine and others,
Is that we feel, we listen we care.

Children are seedling in the garden of life.
They need sunshine and warmth
When they are cold and sad;
They need water and nourishment
When they are thirsty and hungry.
They need attention and care,
when they are challenged by life.
And they need to be loved, appreciated
And held in awe of their potential,
To be unique, beautiful and like no other.

Continued...
From the Principal......

Search for the hero within yourself
And then be there for our kids.
Please feel, listen and care
With your heart and soul and
You will become
A valued gardener in the
Garden of life one day,
A child may hold a special
Memory of you forever,
Hidden deep in their heart.

Maggie Dent

As we approach our final week of Term 2, may I take this opportunity to wish all of our children and their families a very safe, restful and rejuvenating break over the holiday period.

I look forward to seeing you all next term and continuing your child’s educational journey with you.

Erin Taylor
Principal (Acting)

PRAYERS: Please keep Ellie (1 Blue) and the Sweet family in your prayers following the death of Ellie’s Poppy.

CONGRATULATIONS: Congratulations to Dominic and the Dorahy family on the birth of their baby boy William last week. We wish them all the very best.

CONFIRMATION: Last Thursday our Year 6 Teachers, as well as Daniel Hunt, Amy Hazell (SOR) Ryan Matchett and Fr Troy participated in the Confirmation retreat at Bungendore. This was a very valuable experience for all involved to plan and prepare our Year 6 students for Confirmation.

Tonight we have our Sacrament of Confirmation parent evening. This is a wonderful opportunity for parents to understand the Sacrament at a deeper level and to discuss ways to support their children. We have parents; Kripa Antony, Michelle Welch, Carol Saad (Parent and Teacher at St Greg’s) and other members of the Parish who will speak to our school community about their experiences of Confirmation.

EUCHARIST: Over the weekend it was lovely to see our Year 4 students celebrate their First Eucharist. We pray that this first Eucharist will be the beginning of a life long intimate relationship with their God.

WORLD YOUTH DAY: We wish Ryan Matchett and the pilgrim group all the very best for World Youth Day. Ryan will be travelling from 17th July to 6th August to WYD in Krakow, Poland with 13 other teachers, CE staff and other members of the Archdiocese. The pilgrim group will be lead by Archbishop Christopher Prowse. During this time in Poland the group will be following in the footsteps of Pope John Paul the Second and learn about his spiritual journey to become a Pope. During WYD the pilgrim group will be participating in various catechesis sessions, communal masses, visiting spiritual sites and landmarks and deepening their connection with their faith in the Catholic Church. Safe travels Ryan.

AFTERNOON TOP & BOTTOM GATE DUTY: Please note that children who go to top and bottom gate in the afternoon need to wait INSIDE the gate with the teacher on duty until they are collected. Parents are encouraged to leave as promptly as possible when they have their children, so others can then park their car.

OPTIONAL PARENT TACHER INTERVIEWS: Located on the back of the School Report letter you will find your own log in pin to book on-line. Please note, interviews are in Term 3 from 25th - 29th July.

TERM 3: Please note- School resumes for Term 3 for students on Tuesday 19th July.

Staff at St Gregory’s will be joining together on Monday, 18th July, (Pupil free day) at Greenhills for retreat and reflection. This will be led by Phil Billington from Catholic Education and Fr Troy, the theme being ‘Year of Mercy’. This is an opportunity for team building as a staff and personal reflection.

MESSAGE FROM CATHOLIC EDUCATION - PRINCIPAL’S REVIEW: As part of the review process for Ms Claire Frazer, Catholic Education encourage you to please click on the following link to complete the survey.
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8GQYJK7 Thank you for being part of this process.
ST GREGORY’S QUEANBEYAN NEWSLETTER

LIBRARY NEWS

Premiers Reading Challenge 2016

Premier’s Reading Challenge 2016
The July holiday break is a great time to start or complete your reading records. I have 50 students who haven’t begun recording yet. We currently have 280 students enrolled with 88 students finished and another 142 completing online records. Congratulations to the following students who completed their challenge this week Gustavo Souza 4White and Lara Burstow 6White. I’m able to email Loan histories for students to help you complete on line reading records. 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.

PARISH NEWS

St Gregory’s Parish will be running the ALPHA course starting 22 June 2016. The ALPHA course is a CD based course exploring your individual faith. The course comprises of ten, 20 minute sessions presented by Rev Nicky Gumbel from Holy Trinity Brompton in London. Each session will involve a welcome, CD Presentation and small group discussion for 20 minutes.

Who can attend? ANYONE
How long is each session 1 hour
Do you have to attend all sessions? No only the ones you are interested in!
Is there a cost? Gold coin for tea, coffee and muffin

Sessions - 7:30pm Parish Centre, St Greg’s Primary MacQuoid Street.

Sessions are:
29 June Who is Jesus?
6 July Why did Jesus die?

For further information please contact the parish office 6299 4611.

FIRST EUCHARIST

Congratulations to all students who received their First Holy Communion over the weekend. The masses were a very special and spiritual occasion for these students. A special thanks to Father Troy and the Year 4 teachers for their dedication to preparing students for this sacrament.

Ryan Matchett REC (Acting)

CANTEEN NEWS

Helper at Lowe Street this week are:
Thursday 30 June Daphne Gagliardi
Friday 1 July Betty Ivanos

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

PARISH NEWS

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

COME HOLY SPIRIT FILL THE HEARTS OF THE FAITHFUL

CONFIRMATION preparation is about to begin in our Parish here at St Gregory’s. I would like to extend an INVITATION to any people who are Baptised Catholics but for whatever reason have not completed the Sacraments of Initiation, for example Communion and/or Confirmation, if you are interested please contact me by Tuesday 28 June at the parish, on 6299 4611.

I have a few young adults who have expressed an interest so I am very happy to run an adult preparation programme. Confirmation is the weekend of 10 and 11 September 2016.

Thanks Fr Troy

DATES TO REMEMBER

Parent Info Night Thursday 28 June
7pm St Greg’s Hall

Thank you
Rita Pelle,
Sacramental Officer St Gregory’s Parish

LOST PROPERTY

There is still a large number of items in the lost property at MacQuoid Street and Lowe Street.
If you are missing any school uniform items please come and check. On a regular basis we do check for items with names which is then returned to the children, but there is a lot without names. Anything unclaimed at the end of term will be donated to the Cloting Pool.
ST GREGORY’S QUEANBEYAN
NEWSLETTER

NOTICEBOARD

Q One Indoor Sports
Holiday Program

Registration forms available at the Front Office - Lowe & MacQuoid

Queanbeyan Basketball
Cal BRUTON CLINIC-1 Day
Sunday 3rd July 2016
Venue: Queanbeyan Basketball Stadium
Time: 9-3pm
Cost: $75 includes T-shirt

YMCA QUEANBEYAN
School Holiday Program

We are running our July school holiday program from 2 locations

When: 4th July - 18th July
Where: Queanbeyan YMCA, 2 Southbar Road, Queanbeyan
Bungendore Primary School
Time: 8am - 6pm.
Cost: $44 per day CCB available
Program available at our office or on our website

Phone: (02) 6297 2334
2 Southbar Rd, Queanbeyan
www.queanbeyan.ymca.org.au

QUEANBEYAN SHOW 2016
Although this year’s Queanbeyan Show isn’t on until 12th – 13th November 2016, now is the time to start thinking about the wonderful things that you can enter into the various categories. Full details can be found on their website: www.queanbeyanshow.com.au
Enquiries can be also be emailed to: secretary@queanbeyanshow.com.au
So…let’s start creating, designing, drawing, painting, writing, planting, Lego building, sewing an knitting! There’s only 5 months to go!!