Dear Parents and Carers,

This year the teachers have been focussing very much on Literacy. We have had the privilege of working with Adjunct Professor Kaye Lowe and Mrs Therese Nolan the Literacy – Teaching and Learning Officer from Catholic Education. Kaye and Therese are regular visitors to our school where they work alongside the teachers in the classroom and in workshops outside the classroom. This intensive work has resulted in a shift as to how Literacy Blocks operate in classrooms. Every class has Literacy Blocks of at least 100 minutes and include periods of reading and writing. The classroom teachers also have the opportunity to conference with individual students in regards to their reading and writing.

As well as focusing on the academic progress of our students their social and emotional development is also a high priority. To this end we have 2 frameworks that assist us in this area. St Gregory’s is a Kidsmatter School. KidsMatter is a mental health and wellbeing initiative for primary schools and is a framework that helps staff, parents and carers to work together to create settings that better support children’s social and emotional wellbeing needs. School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) is the second framework. SWPBS is a whole-school approach to creating a positive, safe and supportive school climate in which all students, including students with additional needs, can learn and develop. SWPBS is about teachers, support staff and family members working together to teach and support behaviour expectations at school. We are all responsible for knowing the behaviour expectations and providing consistent feedback to students. One way that this happens at St Gregory’s is using our School Rule Bands. SWPBS is a system approach to achieving twin outcomes of academic and social success. We continue to focus on these significant areas. In an organisation that has 60+ staff, 600+ students from 400+ families there is no doubt that there are mistakes made and issues unresolved. However, we continue to refocus and go back to the important elements that these frameworks provide.

May you always be aware of the richness of God’s mercy.

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

PRAYERS: Please keep in your prayers the members of our community who are grieving the loss of a loved one. May they know the peace and comfort of Jesus.

CONGRATULATIONS: To everyone involved in the Athletics Carnival on Friday. My thanks to the staff who ensured a safe and happy day – I know that it can be a very long day with little opportunity for down time. Well done to the students who were successful in qualifying for the St Gregory's team that will compete at the Northern Region Carnival on Friday 3rd June in Goulburn. Congratulations to those students who don’t particularly enjoy athletic pursuits but gave it a go anyway!

WELCOME BACK: We welcome back from family leave Mrs Kristy Poole. Kristy is working full time and will be teaching 3 Red. We thank Miss Bella Duke who has been teaching 3 Red whilst Kristy was on leave and wish her every success and hope she knows she is always welcome at St Greg's. I have been remiss in welcoming back from family leave Mrs Kate Wigg, who started back at the beginning of the term. Kate is working a five-day fortnight assisting as a relief teacher.

FIRST EUCHARIST: Yesterday the Year 4 teachers participated in a Retreat Day with members of the Parish including Father Troy. Setting this time aside indicates how important we believe it is for our teachers to be suitably prepared to prepare the students for this most precious sacrament. My thanks to Father Troy for all he is a does for our community. Don't forget that the First Eucharist Parent night is tonight at 7pm in the hall.

ROAD SAFETY: I had contact from a parent last week very concerned about the actions of some drivers around our school particularly at morning drop off. It is not safe to double park and allow students to alight. It is not safe, nor lawful to park in the bus zones – even if there is no bus there. It is not safe to use driveway entrances for parking. I know that mornings are really busy and finding a park must be extremely frustrating however the possible outcome of unsafe actions does not bear thinking about.

DIRECTOR’S VISIT: Next Tuesday 31st May the Director of Catholic Education will be making her annual visit to St Gregory’s. During her visit Moira Najdecki will be meeting with Fr. Troy our PP, Peter Welch the Chair of our School Community Council and staff. She will also be visiting our Year 6 classrooms to see how our students using their google chrome devices to enhance their learning.

ENROLMENT PERIOD: The official enrolment period ended last Friday. If you have a child who is due to begin school next year (that is turning 5 before the end of April 2017) please contact the office as soon as possible to secure the enrolment.

PARENT WORKSHOP: Last Friday morning Mrs Lauren Macdonald who as well as being our Religious Education Coordinator, is also our Reading Recovery Teacher conducted a workshop for parents. The workshop held at Lowe Street was about making the most of Home Readers. I understand that parents found the information very helpful. Lauren will be repeating the workshop.
**LIBRARY NEWS**

**Premiers Reading Challenge 2016**

We currently have 267 students enrolled with 46 students finished and 153 completing online records. Congratulations to the following students who completed their challenge this week Oliver Donnelly KG, Lola Middleton K, White, Harris Rhule K, Red, James Solomon KG, Jessica Bojko 2White, Ava Rhule 2White, Bridget Carroll 3Gold, Yashmeen Dandiwal 3Blue, Nihal Antony 4White, Bradley Newman 4Red and Daniel Ossato 4White. 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.

There are many other students who have expressed an interest in the challenge but have not yet enrolled. The enrolment form has been sent home with those interested students last week. It is not too late to enter the challenge. All Lowe Street (and Year 2) students already have books that can be added to their list towards completion because teachers are reading quite a number of PRC books in class. Also, student borrowing records are kept from September last year so that those books can immediately be added if they have chosen to read PRC listed titles. If you require a borrowing list for your child please contact Ros Wythes and she is able to email it to you.

**Monster Book Fair - Lowe Street**

We have had two exciting weeks at Lowe Street Campus with the Monster Book Fair in Week 3 and the book fair competition prizes being given out in Week 4. Thank you to all the families and students who involved themselves in the fair and were able to enter the competitions. The winners are as follows.

**Build a Monster Competition**
Milly Lawrence-Killaly in 1G, Will Hall in 1W and a Sophie McIntyre in KR.

**Monster Colouring Competition**
Sienna Hamlin in 1G, Oliver Morgan in 1B, Roland Terry in 1G, Jacob Newman in KB and Caitlin Sibraa in KB.

**Guess the Eyes Competition**
Rhys Ioppi in KR

**Lucky Door Prize**
Stella Rosin in 1R

Helen Carroll, Melissa Greentree and Ros Wythes

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**RECONCILIATION WEEK**

**National Reconciliation Week**

**NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK**

**27th May - 3rd June**

The theme of National Reconciliation Week this year is Our History, Our Future, Our Story. Throughout the week students will explore this theme with their teachers and discuss the importance of Reconciliation in our world. St Greg’s will also be involved in several exciting activities during this week. On Tuesday 31st May all Indigenous students in years 2-6 and all of year 6 will be attending the Queanbeyan Reconciliation Walk. On Wednesday 1st and Thursday 2nd June Larry Brandy, an Aboriginal performer and storyteller will be visiting. All grades will participate in a 1 hour workshop with Larry. On Friday 3rd June we are inviting students to celebrate Reconciliation and cultural diversity by allowing students to wear their National dress or clothes for the day. This is not a mufti day and all students are expected to wear full school uniform if they ARE NOT IN CULTURAL DRESS. LOOKING FORWARD TO A GREAT WEEK!

RYAN MATCHETT - ABORIGINAL CONTACT

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**HOME READER SESSION**

Getting the most out of home readers session.
Friday 20 & 27 May
9:10 am
MPR Lowe Street Campus
NO NEED TO RSVP CHILDREN ARE WELCOME

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**CANTEEN NEWS**

Helper at Lowe Street this week are:

Thursday 26th May  Michelle Welch
Friday 27th May  June Lawrence

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

**SUNRISE NETBALL**

Sunrise Netball Club are looking for more players.

If you are interested in playing netball and are either 8 turning 9 or 7 turning 8, contact the club secretary on sunrisesecretary@outlook.com or 0428 004 202.

**KARABAR HIGH SCHOOL**

**Performing Arts Program**

Applications for placement in Karabar High School’s Performing Arts Program in 2017 are now open. Application forms are available from St Greg’s office. Completed application forms are due to Karabar High School by 3rd June.

Any queries phone Alison Cronan at Karabar on 6298 4333 or by email alison.cronan@det.nsw.edu.au.

**ITALIAN FOR KIDS @ QUEANBEYAN**

Start Date & Time: 28th April 2016, Thursday
End Date & Time: 30th June 2016, Thursday
Venue: St. Gregory’s Parish, 47 Lowe St.
Time/Fee (Lowe st students): 3.00 to 4.30 pm; $165.00 per child
Time/Fee (McQuoid st students): 3.20 to 4.30 p.m.; $155.00 per child
Sibling discounts apply. Please make a request at enrolment.

Note: The LCF Italian Teacher will accompany your child at Lowe St Campus to St. Gregory’s Parish from 3.00 p.m. Please prepare some snacks for them.

For Enquiry and enrolment, please contact LCF Fun Languages
www.lcfclubs.com.au - Sarah Mak @0431252768
Email sarah.mak@lcfclubs.com.au

**SMALL UNIFORM ALTERATIONS**

If you require small alterations to your child’s uniform please contact

Betty Crowe 0408 842 992

**OUR SCHOOL RULES**

Stay Safe,
Be Fair,
Show Respect.