Dear Parents and Carers,

Reconciliation involves building positive, respectful relationships between the broader Australian community and the Aboriginal and Torres Islander peoples for the benefit of all Australians.

National Recognition Week is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures and achievements, and to contribute to building a reconciled Australia. National Reconciliation Week started as the Week of Prayer for Reconciliation in 1993 and was supported by Australia’s major religious groups – including the Catholic Church. Under the guidance of the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation (now Reconciliation Australia), it evolved into the week-long celebration that it is today.

St Gregory’s will be celebrating Reconciliation Week in a number of ways. Today students from our school participated in the Queanbeyan Reconciliation Walk. Each year Council holds a Reconciliation Walk which sees students from local schools, Aboriginal elders, Councillors and community members walk from the river’s edge at Trinculo Place, over Queen's Bridge to the Reconciliation Garden in Queanbeyan Park.

Tomorrow and Thursday the students will attend performances by Larry Brandy. Larry is a Wiradjuri man from Condobolin, New South Wales. He now lives in Canberra and have been performing since 1996. Larry is regularly invited to schools, libraries, museums and festivals. He has performed at many of the cultural institutions in Canberra, including the National Museum of Australia, the National Gallery of Australia, the National Portrait Gallery and the National Botanic Gardens.

Sadly, we often hear condescending and judgemental comments made in relation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. This attitude is usually born out of ignorance. As a school community we do not tolerate discrimination in any form and we encourage our families to teach children about tolerance and respecting the dignity of every human being. Catholic Social Teaching states that each and every person has value, are worthy of great respect and must be free from slavery, manipulation and exploitation. “Catholic social teaching believes that human beings, created in the image and likeness of God (Genesis 1:26-27), have by their very existence an inherent value, worth, and distinction”. Daniel Groody “Globalization, Spirituality and Justice.”

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

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

PRAYERS: Please keep in your thoughts and prayers the children of our parish who are currently preparing to receive the Eucharist for the first time. We pray that this time of preparation for the children may also be a time when those parents who have not been regular recipients of Holy Communion may feel the Holy Spirit inviting them back to a closer union with God.

CONGRATULATIONS: To the following students who have been selected to represent the Archdiocese in Cross Country on the 17th June at Eastern Creek Raceway – Angelina Brown, Shantay Trotter, Megan Shand, Niamh Billiards, Keeve Robinson McEvoy and Skyla Robinson McEvoy. Well done girls and good luck!

THANK YOU: Lauren Macdonald for the parent workshops conducted on the last two Friday mornings. The first Friday five parents attended but last week there were ten! The focus was on making good use of home readers. I know Lauren will be very pleased to run the workshop again if there was interest. Please contact Lauren directly – lauren.macdonald@cg.catholic.edu.au

SEASONS FOR GROWTH: My thanks and appreciation to the following teachers who are facilitating the Seasons for Growth workshops for our students dealing with loss. Caroline Tanti, Jessica Musgrave, Keryn Thiele, Des Gomez, Veronica Hall, Brad Brown, Kate McManus-Green, Ben Mockler and Lauren Macdonald. The workshops are usually conducted during the teachers release from face to face teaching. This is testament to how valued this particular program is in our school.

PRINCIPAL CONTRACT RENEWAL: A message from Catholic Education. It is the policy of the Catholic Education Office to provide a process for the review of all Principals’ performance towards the end of each contract period. Ms Claire Frazer, St Gregory’s Primary School, Queanbeyan will participate in this review process during June and July of this year. A review panel has been appointed by Moira Najdecki, Director Catholic Education, comprising of Helen Casey, Deputy Director and Head of Human Resource Services and Dr William (Bill) Maiden, a former school Principal with 23 years’ experience working across all sectors. As part of this review process members of the school community will be invited to complete an online survey. Links to this survey will be in Newsletter next week.

SCHOOL UNIFORM: During June and July the wearing of hats will not be mandatory. This is in line with the advice from Cancer Council NSW – Sun Smart Policy. Students can of course wear hats if desired. Please note that Canberra Goulburn sporting apparel is not appropriate for normal school uniform. Parents assistance in ensuring that students are wearing the correct uniform is appreciated. Please note however that I am very conscious of those students who have identified sensory issues that may make some parts of the uniform intolerable. Thanks to those parents who have made contact with me regarding these sensory issues.

COMPLAINTS POLICY: If you have a complaint or grievance about any aspect of the school I encourage you to come and speak to me regarding your concerns. Sometimes it might be that I am unaware of an issue and bringing it to my attention can be of great assistance. It might also be that I can explain why certain things happen in certain ways.

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR KAYE LOWE: Kaye will be visiting our school again in week 9. During this time Kaye will be working predominantly with the Year 4 students and their teachers. On the Tuesday evening – 21st June Kaye will be presenting a parent workshop. Parents who went last year found the workshop very helpful and I know of some parents who intend attending for a second time.

ICAS SCIENCE TEST: Will be held this Thursday 2nd June instead of Friday due to the Northern Region Athletics Carnival.

LOST PROPERTY: The growing mound at Macquoid Street is reaching mountainous proportions. When we have time we do go through the pile any labelled items are returned to classes. Sadly lots of items are not labelled or have out of date labels belonging to previous owners. Lost property includes a pair of Clarks School Shoes size 4E+. If you are able to drop by and sort lost property that assistance would be much appreciated.
**ST GREGORY’S QUEANBEYAN NEWSLETTER**

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**LIBRARY NEWS**

Premiers Reading Challenge 2016

We currently have 271 students enrolled with 55 students finished and 153 completing online records. Congratulations to the following students who completed their challenge this week: Harvey Canestrari, Jake Davis, KWhite, Jake Davis, KRed, Amelie Kruger, KWhite, William Luketic, KWhite, Liam Carroll, 1Blue, Isla D’Souza, 1Gold, Briony Gagliardi, 1Gold, Angelo Staltari, 1Gold, and Chloe Mansell, 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.

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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 TEACHER

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**CANTEEN NEWS**

Helper at Lowe Street this week are:

- Thursday 2 June: Daphne Gagliardi
- Friday 3 June: 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.

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**PARISH NEWS**

REGISTRATION FOR THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Dear Parents/Carers of Year 6 children

Your child will be bringing home a registration form the Sacrament of Confirmation to be returned to the parish before the 27 June. If you do not get a registration form, they can be downloaded from the parish website at: http://www.stgregorysparishqueanbeyan.com/sacred-room/sacraments/confirmation/

Thank you

Rita Pelle,
Sacramental Officer St Gregory’s Parish
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 sunrissecretary@outlook.com

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

SMALL UNIFORM ALTERATIONS
If you require small alterations to your child’s uniforms please contact Betty Crowe 0408 842 992

NORTHERN MISSION

Incorporating Queanbeyan, Michelago, Bungendore and Braidwood Parishes

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day &amp; Weekend</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Details</th>
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| Monday 10am   | St Raphael’s | Student Mass
| Tuesday 11am  | St Raphael’s | Sunday School
| Tuesday 6pm   | St Mary’s Bungendore | Dinner Party
| Wednesday 7pm | St Raphael’s | Dinner Party
| Friday 9am    | St Raphael’s | Parish Council
| Saturday 10am | St Raphael’s | Parish Council
| Sunday 9am    | St Joseph’s | Mass

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